

IBEW JOURNAL

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November 2005



Heating up the
Sunshine State



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stick Together

The Romans conquered an enemy by cleaving them into pieces and overpowering the smaller groups. The Nazis surrounded smaller European countries, cut off their supply lines and starved them into surrender. WE ARE AT WAR! They have more players on their team, more money and influence. Their weapons are political. They have bills written into law. They are misinforming the public by their media. They are trying to divide and conquer AND THEY ARE WINNING. Stay together! Support one another! The time is now, not during the next election cycle. Get involved in your local government, from the town board to the county executive. Think you don't have the time? Think about how much time you'd have if we lose. I'm a fifth-year apprentice and I've got your back!

Jason Spagnola

Local 43 member, Syracuse, New York

More Habitat Volunteers

I was pleasantly surprised to see your article in the September issue regarding IBEW and Habitat for Humanity. For about a year and a half, IBEW Local 520 has partnered with Austin's Habitat for Humanity and we've installed union quality built electrical systems in over 20 new Habitat homes. Local 520's name is proudly displayed as an "in-kind sponsor" on the Habitat signs in front of every new Habitat home under construction, listed in partnership with names such as City of Austin, Dow Chemicals, Whirlpool Corporation and Square D Electrical. Our volunteers have not gone unnoticed either.

This is what makes me so very proud to call IBEW Local 520 my home local and makes me proud to be a part of organized labor.

Delwin Goss

Local 520 member, Austin, Texas

The Real Story

In reply to Brother Roger Wray's September letter, the American labor movement and its values have not changed in the last 150 years. So, although Ted Kennedy and Nancy Pelosi believe in those values and have adopted them by no means do they control them. Brother Wray, it is you and the moral majority that DON'T GET IT. You have been lied to, conned and brainwashed by the Republican Party and their paid propaganda machine. Republicans drag out abortion and same-sex marriage. As soon as they get elected they forget it until the next election. They have had a lot of years in power and done nothing about it.

The Republicans have cut taxes for the rich, have helped ship thousands of good paying jobs out of the country, are doing everything they can to break the unions and the standard of living for Americans. The Bush administration has even helped corporations to drop employee pension plans.

NO, Brother Wray, we know what our UNION has done for our standard of living and continues to do for it. We get it—it is YOU and the rest of the so-called moral majority that don't get it!

William R. Mundt

Local 2295 retiree, Oelwein, Iowa

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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 *Journal* is mailed. Please keep letters as brief as possible. The *Journal* reserves the right to select letters for publication and edit all submissions for length.

Send letters to:

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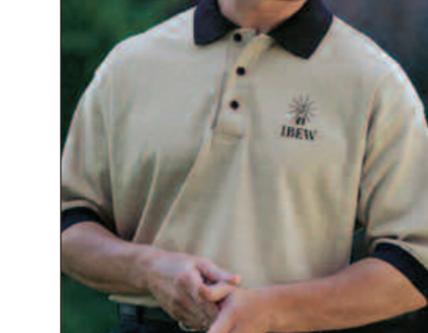
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Keeping Our Focus

Two major stories that have dominated our attention this year have been the disaffiliation of several unions from the AFL-CIO and the human tragedy of the hurricanes that hit the Gulf Coast, along with the political outrages that followed them.

We continue to work to hold the labor movement in the United States together. And we are certainly fighting the monumental injustice of denying jobs to the residents of the affected areas and giving them to low-bid, out-of-state contractors because of the suspension of prevailing wage laws.

Events demand our attention and action, even in the face of other critical needs. I hope that in the approaching holiday season, all of our members remember those who have lost so much due to the devastation of this year's hurricanes, especially our brothers and sisters in the IBEW. The need is still great, and our relief fund will remain active indefinitely (see page 5). Even though the IBEW has been forced to deal with both natural and man-made disasters, the task of organizing does not stop.

Over the course of the year, you have read in these pages about some of the IBEW's initiatives to promote organizing. These programs came about because we faced up to some hard truths about the way we have been doing business. The result has included new initiatives in referral procedures, drug testing and job classifications in construction and a new, coordinated push for selecting and pursuing organizing targets in all branches of the Brotherhood.

This issue's cover story tells about how the IBEW's initiatives have all come together in Florida through a massive mobilization effort to strengthen our presence in every major industry we represent.

Why Florida? The Sunshine State has the fourth-largest economy in the United States. When the Florida campaign began, the IBEW had less than a 10 percent, and shrinking, share in a fast-growing construction market. In looking at

construction, we also found that we needed to bolster our presence in all our major industries in the state.

We assigned full-time International staff to Florida in addition to the Fifth District staff already in the state. Local union business managers have had direct input, and the staff has met with—and listened to—employers throughout Florida to determine why they were reluctant to work with the IBEW.

We have forged new construction agreements designed to help us get more of the work in the booming residential and heavy and highway markets. We are pursuing voice-data-video work. We have made Florida the first stop on our utility organizing initiative to bring unorganized workers at our current employers into the Brotherhood. We have targeted new units of state and local government workers, some in conjunction with other unions. We have worked with our telecom locals to enhance our membership and seek new units. We are mounting a major drive to organize the Melbourne plant of Rockwell, a company that employs IBEW members at two plants in Iowa.

We are starting to see some positive signs. More of our construction members are working on projects where they formerly would not have been considered. We have seen new energy among rank and file members in our utility, telecommunications and manufacturing campaigns. While success is still not assured, the hard work and dedication of members, local union leaders and International officers and staff show that at least the essential ingredients are in place. A similar full-scale campaign is in the works for central Pennsylvania, and other such efforts will take place in regions across the continent where we have slipped to the point where

our future is in doubt.

The IBEW and the labor movement in general can become a footnote in North American history, or we can move our nations forward from this dark era. In Florida, the fight for the future is underway.




EDWIN D. HILL
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

**“A MASSIVE MOBILIZATION
EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN
OUR PRESENCE IS
UNDERWAY.”**

Opening Doors

would like to have seen the expressions on the faces of lawyers for the Argosy Casino in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, during their first meeting with Mayor Bill Cunningham, an IBEW member, and his city council, several of whom have union backgrounds. Who better to negotiate agreements holding corporations accountable to their neighboring communities than men and women who have spent their lives bargaining for workers?

As illustrated in our new series “IBEW in Public Office,” which begins on page 10 of this issue, when union members grab the opportunity to run for public office, we improve our communities, bolster our organizing and gain allies for future battles.

Lawrenceburg is far away from Washington, D.C., where sharp-edged issues divide our nation. There, along the Ohio River, citizens representing both sides of the national political divide often end up voting for the same candidates. They are primarily concerned with one question. Who can get things done? We can.

Michael Smart, a member of Boston Local 103, is vice president of the Weymouth (Massachusetts) City Council. Soon after being elected in 2002, he joined a council majority that passed Weymouth's “Responsible Employer Ordinance,” requiring contractors to pay prevailing wages and pension and health care benefits.

In Suffolk County, Long Island, former Local 25 Business Manager Bill Lindsay has been serving in the legislature for four years. Bob Dow, another former Local 25 business manager, is currently the county's labor commissioner. On September 27, the Suffolk County legislature, by a vote of 17-1, became the first county in the United States to pass a bill requiring large retail companies like Wal-Mart to provide health care to low wage retail workers.

Frank Weddig, a retired member of Denver Local 68 is another one of our stars. In public office for 24 years, today he is a county commissioner for Arapahoe County serving a population of 515,000 people. Frank was instrumental in passing legislation authorizing the building of Denver International Airport, creating thousands of building trades jobs. Labor owes a debt of gratitude to Frank and Local 68's John Soper, who serves in the Colorado Legislature, for helping to shut the door on right-to-work legislation in the state.

Tom George, president of St. Louis, Local 1, a four-term Missouri House representative has carried our banner in that state's battle over right-to-work laws. Tim Green, another Local 1 member, has just been elected state senator.

These are just a few of our members who have taken the initiative to change their communities for the better by running for public office.

While some in the labor movement see political campaigns as a distraction from the urgent necessity to organize new members, the IBEW considers these two activities to be complementary.

Our members in public office who have helped prevent right-to-work legislation have blocked an important obstacle to organizing. Political efforts like the Suffolk County health care initiative not only project a positive image for our organization, but seek to measurably improve the lives of working families. They help open doors to our organizers and raise living standards for everyone.

Our members in public office stress the importance of seizing opportunities to enter the political process where openings exist, from zoning boards to school boards

to scaling the walls of the U.S. Congress, like our esteemed member, Linda Sanchez (D-Calif.). Each level is a building block to the next and a way to reach out to broad numbers of citizens on the important relationship between local and national political developments.




JON F. WALTERS
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

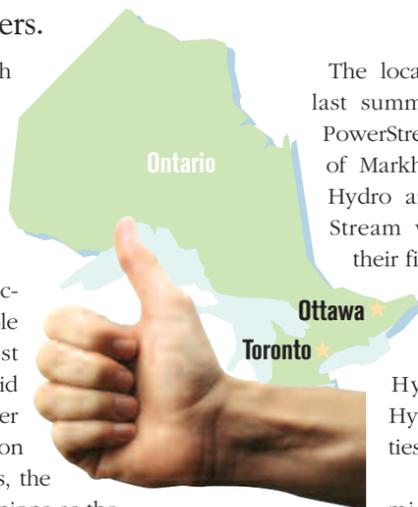
**“OUR MEMBERS
IN PUBLIC OFFICE
HAVE THE INITIATIVE TO
CHANGE THINGS.”**

Canada Utility Mergers Net New IBEW Members

While Ontario's government has set about streamlining the vast province's utility distribution network in the past five years, Toronto Local 636 has taken advantage of the consolidation to pick up hundreds of new members.

The mergers—which have so far consolidated 307 utilities into 93—have resulted in representation elections pitting the IBEW against other unions.

"We have been very successful over the past couple years in winning almost every one of the votes," said Local 636 Business Manager Rick Wacheski. After union presentations and elections, the IBEW has defeated such unions as the Power Workers Union and the Canadian Auto Workers. "When given a choice, brothers and sisters choose the IBEW."



The local picked up 120 members last summer with the reconstituted PowerStream utility, an amalgamation of Markham Hydro, Richmond Hill Hydro and Vaughn Hydro. PowerStream workers have just ratified their first contract.

Most recently, 80 members joined Local 636 after a merger of Hamilton Hydro and St. Catharines Hydro, forming Horizon Utilities Corporation.

Mergers will continue and might be mandatory since provincial officials have stated a final goal of nine or 10 utilities serving everyone in Ontario, Wacheski said.

CHANGES IN IEC

Stephen Schoemehl, business manager of St. Louis Local 1 was appointed IEC member from the Fifth District, effective November 1, 2005, to replace Robert Pierson who has become IEC Chairman.

Myles Calvey, business manager of Boston Local 2222 and of Telephone System Council T-6, has been appointed to the IEC representing the Second District, effective November 1, 2005. Brother Calvey replaces Rui Carrinho who has been appointed to the International staff and assigned to the IVP Second District.

Profiles of Brothers Foster, Schoemehl and Calvey will appear in the December issue. A profile of Brother Pierson appears on page 6.

MONTANA CITY WORKERS BARGAIN FIRST CONTRACT

Nearly three years after a majority of workers at Helena, Montana's, municipal water treatment plant signed IBEW authorization cards, they finally have their first ratified contract.

Now seven workers have the protection of a collective bargaining agreement and a means to pursue workplace safety improvements, said Helena Local 233 Organizer Keith Allen.

The bargaining process with the city that voluntarily recognized IBEW Local 233 was slowed by the filing of an unfair labor practice charge related to pay for emergency call-outs, which the IBEW eventually won.

Although contract negotiations had been slow for years, in the meantime the local was making progress on the political front. Forging closer ties with the mayor and the city commissioners, Local 233 is hoping for a change in city policy that will require the municipality to automatically recognize a union if it can show that 50 percent plus one worker has signed authorization cards.

Manitoba Utility Workers Compete, Raise Money

Nearly 60 IBEW utility members from across the Canadian province of Manitoba participated in a firefighter's rodeo in June, raising nearly \$2,000 for a children's burn fund.

The 26th Annual Nelson River Firefighters Rodeo is a friendly competition among more than 10 teams of utility workers, virtually all volunteer firefighters and members of Winnipeg Local 2034. Events like hose lay/change and bucket brigade tested firefighting skills. Participants, many of whom traveled up to 14 hours to attend, reveled in the once-a-year event that brings together workers from remote generating outposts and converter stations for Manitoba Hydro.

The vast majority of the 100 volunteers who put on the four-day event were IBEW members, said Local 2034 Business Manager Wally Chudo. Members enjoyed the camaraderie and the focus on their jobs. "These guys rarely get recognized in their own communities," he said.



Winners of the annual Nelson River (Manitoba) Fire Fighters Rodeo are Winnipeg Local 2034 members Roland Mousseau, left, Darren Walker, Ray Anderson and Sam Cocquyt, all employed by Manitoba Hydro.

Hurricane Katrina

The Need Is Still Great

Checks may be made payable to:
"The IBEW Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund"
and sent to:

The IBEW Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund

Chevy Chase Bank
7501 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
or contribute via credit card
at www.ibew.org

The IBEW has established
a hotline for members affected
by Hurricane Katrina
who need help.

Call

866-389-4239

TRANSITIONS

Robert W. Pierson was appointed Chairman of the International Executive Council effective November 1, 2005, to replace Milton Foster, who resigned and will assist in the organizing effort in the Ninth District.

Brother Pierson had been appointed on October 1 to represent the IEC Fifth District replacing Lyle Keith Querry, who retired.

Brother Pierson, currently business manager of Chicago Local 9, was initiated into the IBEW in 1966. After serving as a local representative and assistant business manager, Pierson was elected business manager of Local 9 in 1997. In his new role, he took charge of negotiations on behalf of hundreds of Chicago employees, including electrical workers in the city's transit, park

APPOINTED



Robert Walter Pierson

and water reclamation departments, contractors and line clearance tree trimmers. He also served on the executive board of the Illinois Electrical Conference and as co-chairman of the Inside/Outside Jurisdictional Dispute Committee and chairman of the Outside Task Force created by the International Office.

A Chicago native, Pierson and his wife, Shirley, have been married for 39 years. They have four children and five granddaughters. Three of their sons are members of Chicago Local 9.

The officers and members of the IBEW congratulate Brother Pierson on his new appointment.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For more information on other changes in the IEC, see page 4.

DECEASED



Bernard G. "Buck" Williamson

The IBEW is saddened to announce the September 23, 2005, death of retired Fourth District Vice President B.G. "Buck" Williamson. He was 79.

Brother Williamson served 16 years as vice president, retiring in 1988. An early love for electricity and electronics led to his 1947 initiation into Marietta, Ohio, Local 972, shortly after a

two-year stint as an electronic technician in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He became active in the local, serving on various committees and as a member of the examining board. He was elected business manager-financial secretary in 1951. During his tenure as Local 972 leader, he served on the bylaws and JATC committee, and taught in the

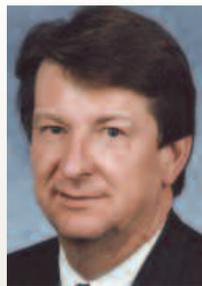
Norman "Ray" Cobb, Director of IBEW's Railroad Department, retired on October 1, 2005, ending a 43-year career.

Brother Cobb was initiated into Hamlet, North Carolina, Local 1923 in 1962. Cobb completed his inside wireman apprenticeship while employed at Seaboard Airlines Railroad, the precursor of CSX Transportation.

First elected to the Local 1923 executive board in 1969, Cobb became business manager of Local 1923 in 1973, serving for six years, and another term from 1983 to 1985. Cobb was selected to leading positions in railroad System Councils 32 and 9, rising to general chairman and assistant general chairman, respectively, before being appointed as an international representative in 1994.

Assigned to what was the Tenth District, covering all IBEW railroad locals, Cobb traveled across the United

RETIRED



Norman "Ray" Cobb

States organizing and representing railroad workers. In 2001, Cobb was appointed Director of the Railroad Department by IBEW President Edwin D. Hill.

Since his appointment, Brother Cobb has participated in ongoing negotiations with numerous Class I rail carriers and has worked hard to defeat the current administration's plan to deny Amtrak adequate funding. "I wish the brothers and sisters of the Brotherhood the best," says Cobb, who will relocate to Rockingham, North Carolina, where he plans to spend more time with his wife, Lela, and his family and attending church. He expects to enjoy golf and to make frequent visits to his beach home at North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

The officers and members of the IBEW wish Brother Cobb and his family good health, happiness and a fulfilling retirement.

apprenticeship school.

Five years later, Brother Williamson was appointed Fourth District international representative, serving Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. Appointed Vice President in 1972, he was re-elected at international conventions in 1974, 1978, 1982 and 1986. He was active in the labor community serving as Ohio AFL-CIO vice president, co-chairman of the Council on Industrial Relations, Cincinnati chapter president of the Industrial

Relations Research Association, and on the steering committee of the Ohio Citizens for Safe, Lower-Cost Electricity.

He attended Marietta College, and completed labor courses at the University of Wisconsin, University of Cincinnati, Cornell University, Ohio State and University of Illinois, among others. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and the Masonic Lodge.

The IBEW extends sincere sympathies to wife, Irene, and family.

THE IBEW ON DUTY

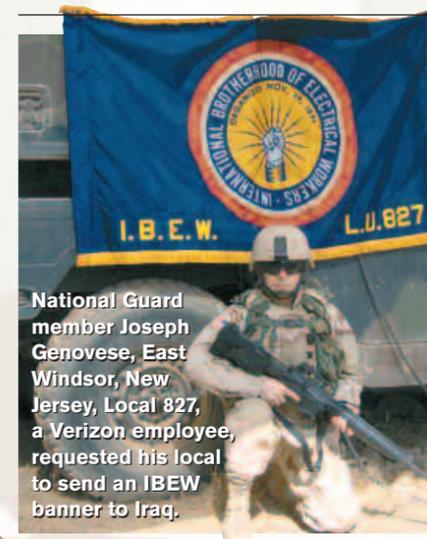
Asbury Park, New Jersey IBEW Local 400 Awarded

The New Jersey Army National Guard presented certificates of appreciation on July 5 to the Military Committee of Asbury Park, New Jersey, IBEW Local 400, the Monmouth and Ocean Counties Central Labor Council and the Monmouth and Ocean Counties Building Trades.

The certificates recognize the unions' efforts in raising funds and donations for troops serving in Iraq (See "New Jersey IBEW Mounts Massive 'Support Our Troops' Effort," *IBEW Journal*, July-August 2005, p. 5). Joining the National Guard in honoring the unions, the Township of Brick proclaimed July 13, 2005, as "IBEW Local Union 400 Military Day."



Members of Ohio and Pennsylvania IBEW locals who served in Iraq on air field projects with Red Horse construction units (Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operations Repair Squadron of Engineers). All have safely returned home.



National Guard member Joseph Genovese, East Windsor, New Jersey, Local 827, a Verizon employee, requested his local to send an IBEW banner to Iraq.

IN COUNTRY

Anthony (A.J.) Radesovech, and Paul Mahlik, members of Green Bay, Wisconsin, Local 158, were deployed to Iraq in June. Long Island, New York, Local 1049 members Michael Hengerle, Robert Kaine, Daryl Miller and John Monaco are currently serving in Iraq.



Don Jones, a member of the U.S. Army Reserve Headquarters Support Company 463rd Engineering Group, based in Wheeling, West Virginia, displays flag signed by members of Steubenville, Ohio, Local 246, where he is a fifth-year apprentice. Jones is due to return home in November.

Boston Local 2222 Supports "Local Heroes"

When Mike Burns, a member of Boston Local 2222, heard about "Local Heroes," an effort to support troops serving in Iraq, he knew that his fellow union members would be willing to help the cause. He contacted Chief Steward Steve Smith and together they got busy.

Burns and Smith, splice-service technicians at Verizon, sold 100 "Local Heroes" T-shirts at their local union meeting to raise funds for mailing pack-

ages of supplies to troops serving in Iraq. Then they set up boxes at several Verizon work locations, requesting members to donate essentials.

"Local Heroes" has already sent 1,006 packages to Massachusetts and New Hampshire soldiers, whose names are submitted by their families and friends.

Several Local 2222 retirees joined Burns and Smith in the troop support effort.

GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

IBEW[®] MERCHANDISE

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Price: \$7.50

Bronze with raised IBEW logo, 2 1/4" x 3 1/2", U.S. and Canadian flags.



Coffee Mug

Price: \$5.00

Blue glassware with fired 22k gold IBEW logo. 12 ounce.

IBEW Initials Watch, Women's

Price: \$90.00

Women's gold-tone watch with embossed IBEW initials on face, expansion band, stainless steel backing and water resistant.



Logo Silver Watch w/date

Price: \$70.00

Men's silver-tone watch with silver dial, silver IBEW logo with date.



Brass Money Clip

Price: \$8.75

Antique die cast clip with double spring attachments, raised IBEW initials.

National White Sport Shirt

Price: \$17.00

100% ring spun cotton pique knit sport shirt with embroidered IBEW initials on the left chest.



Hooded Blue Sweatshirt

Price: \$16.00

50/50 poly cotton blend hooded sweatshirt, IBEW silk-screened in white on the left chest.



Patriot Black/Khaki Sport Shirt

Price: \$31.00

100% cotton interlock satin stitch sport shirt with embroidered IBEW initials on the left chest.

Trailer Hitch Cover

Price: \$3.00

Trailer hitch cover in black plastic, 3 3/4" x 6 1/2" oval design, white raised IBEW initials. Fits 2" receiver.



Black Long Sleeve T-Shirt

Price: \$10.00

100% cotton, IBEW silk-screened in white on the left chest.



SHOP AT THE IBEW STORE!

www.ibewmerchandise.com

Indiana "Casino City" Hits the Jackpot with IBEW Mayor

IBEW IN PUBLIC OFFICE

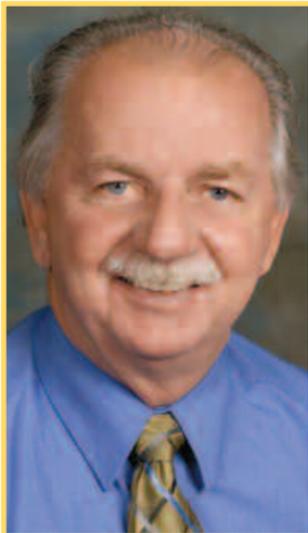
"Those politicians are all the same!" It's a refrain we've all probably said at one time or another. Some union members, however, have done something about it.

A growing number of union members, with IBEW in the lead, have run successfully for public office, learning valuable lessons about how to win and make a difference in their communities.

In this new series, "IBEW in Public Office," the *Journal* talks to some of our members about their elected positions so that others may repeat their triumphs as they seek to improve the lives of working families.

Whoever coined the phrase "all politics is local" must have taken a trip to Lawrenceburg, Indiana, a city of 4,700 on the Ohio River, home to the largest riverboat casino in the nation.

Last year, voters in this Republican-dominated county helped elect Democratic Mayor Bill Cunningham, retired business manager of Cincinnati, Ohio, IBEW Local 212, and a city council of Democrats, stacked with union members.



Mayor Bill Cunningham

The Lawrenceburg native and son of an IBEW member, he completed his inside wireman apprenticeship in 1968, served in the U.S. Army and then became active in Local 212. He was appointed business

agent in 1988 and was elected business manager in 2001.

"My experience as business manager prepared me for the job of mayor," says Cunningham. There is no better training ground than a local union, he says, for dealing with the roller coaster of expectations and frustrations of constituents.

Getting members involved in the political process is integral to both jobs; so is fund-raising. "We took Local 212's COPE contributions from \$2,000 per year to over \$100,000 and we saw the results," he says. "Now every candidate running for office shows up at Local 212's yearly picnic."

Republicans in Lawrenceburg, 90 miles from both Indianapolis, Indiana, and Louisville, Kentucky, in "red" Dearborn County, had some compelling reasons to stray from their party's line. They handed Cunningham 60 percent of their votes on Election Day.

First, there was Cunningham's record as a hands-on city councilman who helped negotiate a revenue-sharing agreement with the casino's owners. That program generates enough cash to

give each Lawrenceburg graduating high school senior up to \$1,800 per year to attend college or a certified apprenticeship program. Then there was a cornucopia of public improvements, parks, buildings and opportunities for growth.

If those reasons weren't enough, there was Cunningham's visibility and the sheer energy that drove him to knock on every door in the city during the mayoral primary and again during the general election campaign. He drew strength from his IBEW roots, the very source of his original plunge into the political arena.

Cunningham got involved in city poli-



Argosy Casino, Lawrenceburg, Indiana, constructed by local building trades.

tics ten years ago, when he spoke to his city council representative about securing a prevailing wage agreement for local building trades for the proposed casino project. She advised him to run for office. He ran a successful campaign for city council, served a four-year term and then left public office. Later, when another councilwoman resigned, Cunningham was appointed to serve out her term.

As he watched the counterproductive bickering between city leaders, Cunningham was convinced to run for mayor to unite the city's leaders and put the interests of its residents first.

Cunningham spent \$20,000 on his campaign, all contributed by organized labor, including the United Food and Commercial Workers, which represents workers and retirees from the city's once dominant distillery industry.

"I enlisted people that I could depend on and I campaigned hard," he says, noting that labor's help with get-out-the-vote efforts were critical to his success. Cunningham's wife, Rita, a social worker, and daughter, Tara, a special education teacher and member of the American Federation of Teachers, attended meet-

ings and social events on his behalf.

Cunningham went door to door twice during the campaign, promising to stay accessible to constituents and to involve them in the city's plan for the future.

"I got support in areas where I didn't expect it and lost in areas that I expected to win," he says. Cunningham's victory put him at the helm of a city that had gone through an extreme transformation.

Once called "Whiskey City" because of its six unionized distilleries (only one still operating), Lawrenceburg had become "Casino City" almost overnight. In 1995, Dearborn County voters approved the casino by a vote of 52 to 48 percent, with organized labor campaigning hard for its development.

Lawrenceburg's Argosy casino hosts 5 million visitors a year and has a monthly take of about \$120 million. The riverboat's patrons fill up an adjacent hotel and a five-story parking

garage. The gambling complex, which employs 2,500 workers, is currently undergoing a \$250 million expansion that will include a new Home Depot-sized riverboat and a 1,600-car parking garage.

Prior to the casino's opening, Cunningham worked with attorneys to negotiate the lucrative revenue-sharing program with casino owners to ensure that the city and its citizens were not left in the dust while the casino rolled up the profits.

Last year, Cunningham and the Lawrenceburg City Council renewed the

(Continued on page 28)

LEADERS PRAISE CUNNINGHAM'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"Bill and his city council have made endless infrastructure improvements that will serve the citizens of Lawrenceburg for the next several generations."

Republican State Senator Johnny Nugent, 27-year veteran legislator

"I worked with Bill when I was city attorney for Lawrenceburg. I was particularly impressed by his financial knowledge which he gained as a trustee for his local's pension fund. Bill isn't overwhelmed by big numbers."

His experience with the local also makes him a gifted manager."

"Bill Cunningham is a special guy, the kind of good citizen who is at every city event and shows up early each Memorial Day to set up the sound system."

Republican Bob Ewbank, Attorney for Dearborn County, Indiana



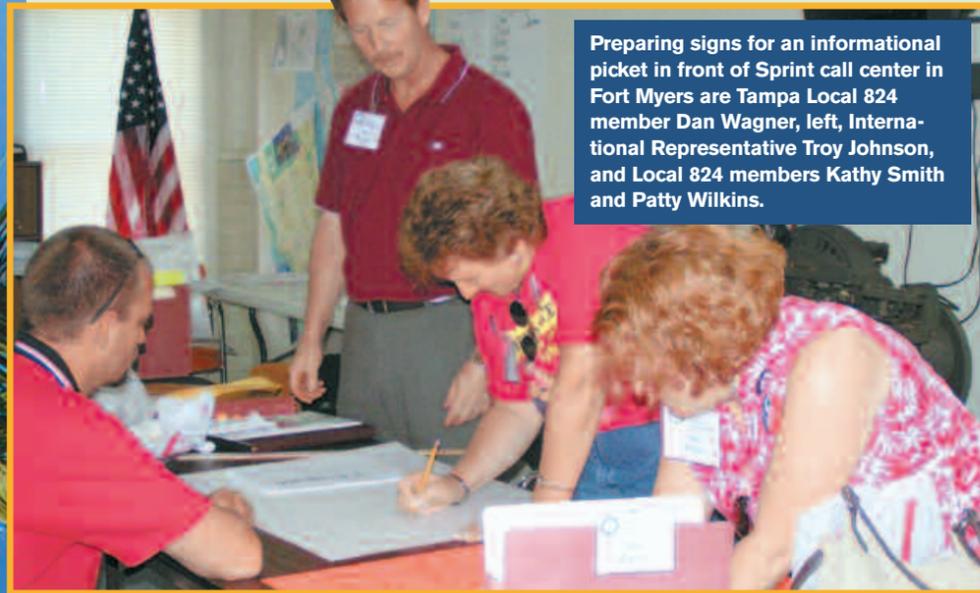
Mayor Bill Cunningham and Lawrenceburg, Indiana, City Council are pictured, from left, Dennis Carr, Mario Todd, Jackie Stutz (clerk treasurer), Cunningham, Mick McNimery, J.R. Holdcraft and Bill Bruner.

Photos courtesy of 2005 Kridler Photography



IBEW Takes On Florida

IBEW Seeks to Regain Market Share in Booming Sunshine State



Preparing signs for an informational picket in front of Sprint call center in Fort Myers are Tampa Local 824 member Dan Wagner, left, International Representative Troy Johnson, and Local 824 members Kathy Smith and Patty Wilkins.

The face of America is changing—and no state can provide a better window into the future than Florida. Florida is growing, due as much to Americans migrating there as to immigrants. The state is the fourth-largest both in the size of its economy and its population.

Florida has a low unemployment rate—less than 5 percent. But it is dominated by an anti-worker governor and legislature and a weak state labor board. Wages are low and benefits are few. It is no coincidence that organized labor is not strong in Florida. The IBEW is working to change that.

With a historic new campaign of unprecedented magnitude, the IBEW is out to rebuild its market share in construction and increase its presence in every other branch of the Brotherhood. The IBEW has nothing to lose. And workers—who are suffering at the hands of an out-of-kilter labor market that overwhelmingly favors employers—have everything to gain.

“We’re reinventing a union movement in the state of Florida,” said IBEW International President Edwin D. Hill. “We’ve

never targeted a state like this before. We’re throwing everything we have into it.”

A state organizing coordinator has been placed in Florida, and several organizers have been transferred to the state to aid in campaigns in every branch of the Brotherhood. Letters from President Hill have been mailed to all members and retirees living in the state, notifying them of the campaign and soliciting volunteers. IBEW and nonunion electrical contractors and

electricians have also been put on notice. A new Web site, www.ibewflorida.org, has been posted to provide news and information to prospective members.

New construction in Florida is paving the way for the IBEW’s re-emergence. And key to the Florida effort are new agreements that fundamentally change the way the IBEW operates in the construction industry. In a state where residential construction comprises more than half of all construction—a 20 percent larger share than the national average—a small works agreement targets projects like high-rise apartment buildings and condos as well as shopping centers and hotels.

Such an agreement will put signatory contractors in a competitive position to win the vital residential and small commercial work that has recently eluded the IBEW. An intermediate wireman classification has been instituted to recruit those performing electrical work for nonunion companies. The moves are an acknowledgement that things have changed, and the IBEW had to adapt or cease to be a player in the construction industry.

“This is a sea change in the way we do business and it will have a dramatic effect down there,” said Buddy Satterfield, Special Assistant to the International President for Membership Development. “The terms

and conditions of our other contracts no longer fit. They were structured when we dominated and had the luxury of dictating the rules.”

The intermediate classification, designated “construction wireman,” bestows an official title upon those members who have not yet reached the highest level of expertise, and seeks to preserve the inside wireman designation for only those whose skills meet the rigorous journeyman qualifications. The new classification demonstrates that the IBEW is opening its doors to all workers in the Florida electrical industry with good attitudes, work ethics and the desire to be part of the organization.

As with other agreements, the small works agreement must be negotiated by the local union and the National Electrical Contractors Association chapter. But it is an acknowledgement by both sides that a more competitive agreement is essential for the success of the Florida initiative.

A similar heavy highway agreement—also complete with staffing, portability and classification changes—has helped ease the IBEW back into highway construction in the Sunshine State. IBEW members are at work installing new electronics and signs along the 400 miles of

(Continued on next page)



Downers Grove, Illinois, Local 15 member Char White, left, Fort Myers Local 199 member Tom Nolan and Las Vegas Local 396 member Carol Gunther picket Sprint last May.

IBEW Takes On Florida

(Continued from page 13)

state toll roads, a \$35 million contract for the Florida Transportation Department under that pact. Such agreements, designed to give contractors flexibility on rules, have become necessary for the IBEW to work in the overwhelmingly nonunion state construction market, said Florida Initiative Coordinator Jim Rudicil.

"Most nonunion employers operating here have no restrictions on moving manpower across jurisdictional lines," Rudicil said. "These agreements are innovative, and way beyond what the IBEW has ever done before."

The small works agreement is already netting construction jobs for the IBEW. Fifty members of Orlando Local 606 are working on a 35-story condominium project in Orlando. The \$90 million, 900,000-square-foot project is among the first large-scale residential jobs for Local 606. "We're enthusiastic about this step into the high-rise residential market," said Business Manager Harry Brown.

The Florida effort, originally conceived by President Hill in response to the dire reality of IBEW market share in the construction sector, concentrates existing resources on the strategic plan but provides for organizers and financial support for targeted campaigns, Satterfield said.

President Hill conceded the task would not be easy when he announced the Florida plan at the Construction and Maintenance Conference last April. "I don't think that we are going to turn Florida around overnight," he said. "But I do know that if we don't start now, we'll be out of the game totally. And if that happens in places like Florida and other rapidly growing states, then we are in danger of seeing the beginning of the end of the IBEW."

More than 150 members and retirees have volunteered to help the massive organizing effort, signing up for shifts ranging from three to 40 hours a month. Their services will be used in a variety of ways, from working phone banks, to talking to prospective members about the benefits of the IBEW to letter-writing campaigns in support of project labor agreements. The spirit and strong union tradition of retirees and other transplants from dominant union areas is highly valued in this right-to-work state.

Like many, retired member Clayton McKinney, Local 278, Corpus Christi, Texas, responded to the call for help in touching fashion. "I'm 80 and in poor health but willing to help in any way I can," said McKinney, now living in Moore Haven, Florida, just west of the Everglades in the southern central part of the state.

A fleet of organizers is starting to take shape. Topeka, Kansas, Local 304 member Carmella Cruse is leading the ground effort with a group of organizers that includes women and bilingual English/Spanish speakers. Those qualities will be particularly helpful in the IBEW's efforts to organize a 660-worker unit of technicians and production workers at a Rockwell Collins plant in Melbourne. The defense manufacturer is one of many in Florida's east coast region known as "Space Coast" for the number of high-tech companies near NASA's Kennedy Space Center.

Rockwell Collins workers reached out to the IBEW because of its established relationship with two Rockwell plants in Iowa, Local 1362 in Cedar Rapids and Local 1634 in Coralville. But the difference between shops in Iowa and Florida is greater than a few hundred miles. Rockwell Collins pays an average of \$10,000 less to Florida workers, offers scant pen-

sion benefits and requires its Melbourne work force to pay three times more out-of-pocket for health insurance than IBEW-represented workers in Iowa.

The company pays no cost-of-living increases and due to sky-high housing costs, many Rockwell workers are forced to work overtime as well as second jobs to make ends meet.

"These employees need a voice and a chance to come above the poverty level," Cruse said. "They have to spend a tremendous amount of time away from their homes and away from their families... and they're getting nowhere."

At around five percent, Florida has one of the lowest union density rates in the country, so people there have limited first-hand knowledge of the benefits of collective bargaining. With newly-retained union busting consultants on the job, Rockwell Collins is rushing in to fill a vacuum and help paint a skewed picture of unions.

Satterfield said the Rockwell campaign is being closely watched by other plants in the area, most of whose workers lack a voice on the job.

Several public employee organizing campaigns are under way. The biggest is in support of municipal workers in the city of Tallahassee. And Gainesville Local 1205 has recently been recognized as the bargaining agent for workers in Live Oak, despite stark opposition from town leaders. Although the city outsourced management of the 39 blue collar workers to a private firm, that company has recognized the union and is cooperating with its workers in crafting a first agreement.

Local 1205 Business Manager Jeff Henderson said he was approached early this year with heartbreaking stories from Live Oak workers: one man worked 30 years and only earned an \$11 hourly wage. Another returned from an on-the-job accident to be told he had to work two months without a salary to repay the city for its share of his workers' compensation benefits.

"You can't meet these people and say you're part of the labor movement and not help them," Henderson said. "If anybody I ever met needed a union, it is these people."

Arbitrary work rule changes and stagnant wages and benefits led 300 municip-

pal utility workers in the city of Lakeland to Tampa Local 108. Plant operator Chris McPherson left his job and a membership at IBEW Local 3 in New York to move South, where he describes the difference between the two work environments as night and day. "Here, there's a lot of nepotism and favoritism that goes on," McPherson said. "I told them the only way to defeat this is to bring the union in."

An all-out blitz to sign up new members at an IBEW-represented Sprint call center in Fort Myers netted nearly 40 new Local 199 members ahead of bargaining last summer. Those intensified efforts drew IBEW members from across the country, and involved house calls to current and eligible members, informational picketing and membership meetings. "It's no different today than it was 100 years ago," President Hill said. "People want to belong and want to be involved. Many times they just need to be asked."

And in Jacksonville, a unit of 12 communications operators on contract with the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station finally has a first contract a year after the employer recognized Local 2088 as their bargaining representative. The group—which had not had a raise in two years, or overtime pay, or affordable health insurance—unanimously ratified the contract, said Business Manager N. Harry Judah.

The organizing effort recognizes that, if unions are not making consistent strides in organizing in a growing state like Florida, then the labor movement is constantly losing market share.

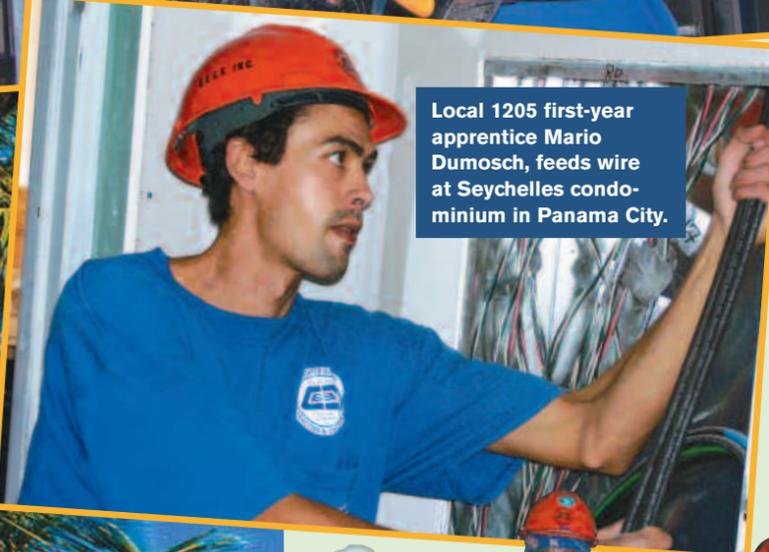
In 2000, President Bush won the White House by a razor-thin share in Florida. "By the small numbers we lost the presidency in 2000, we could have changed history," Satterfield said. "By organizing, we can change the political landscape."

And by making membership gains, the IBEW and other unions can exert more influence on wages and working conditions, a critical influence in the rising tide that lifts workers in all boats.

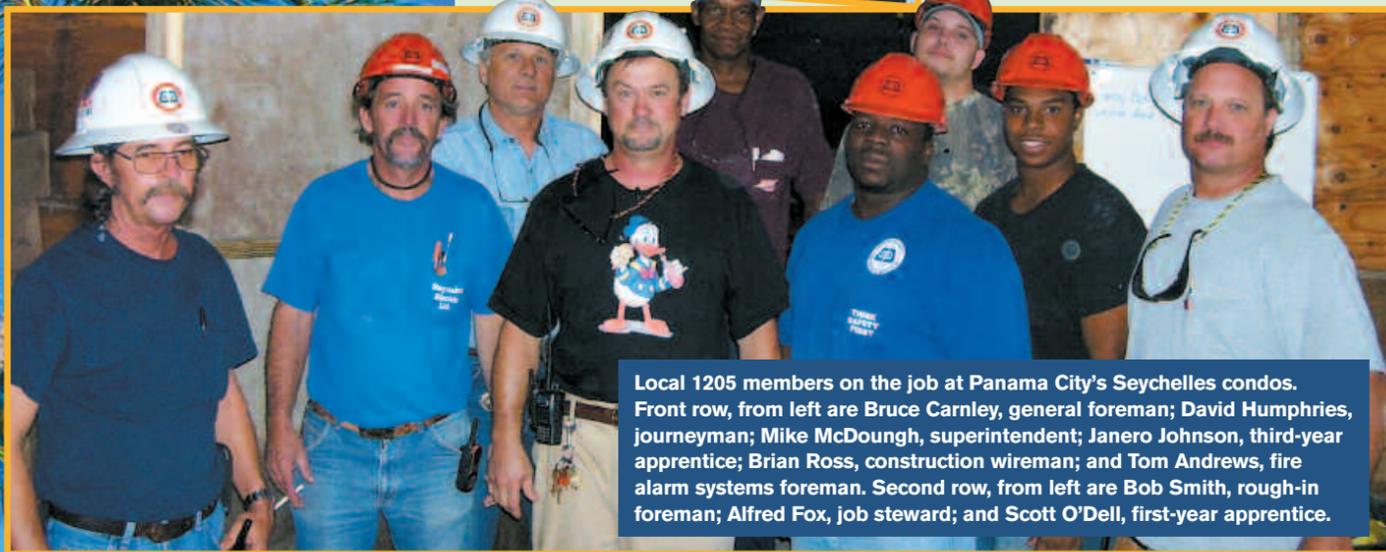
For the latest news and updates on the IBEW's Florida initiative, visit www.ibewflorida.org or www.floridaibew.org. A link to the site is also available at www.ibew.org.



Local 1205 member Dwight Nelson, a construction wireman, is at work at Majestic Towers, a 22-story condominium building in Panama City. He is employed by Consolidated Electric.



Local 1205 first-year apprentice Mario Dumosch, feeds wire at Seychelles condominium in Panama City.



Local 1205 members on the job at Panama City's Seychelles condos. Front row, from left are Bruce Carnley, general foreman; David Humphries, journeyman; Mike McDough, superintendent; Janero Johnson, third-year apprentice; Brian Ross, construction wireman; and Tom Andrews, fire alarm systems foreman. Second row, from left are Bob Smith, rough-in foreman; Alfred Fox, job steward; and Scott O'Dell, first-year apprentice.

LOCAL LINES

Trade Classifications

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

ATTENTION PRESS SECRETARIES:

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IBEW Local 1 members from Guarantee Electric renovated the St. Louis County Justice Center. Photo courtesy Larry Bausola.

Refugee Center

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rs,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO—In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, St. Louis County officials decided to promptly reopen the former St. Louis County Justice Center in Chesterfield Bottoms to provide housing for displaced families. The complex had been closed for over four years.

At extremely short notice, 18 Local 1 wiremen and apprentices employed by Guarantee Electric and six communication members from Guarantee's Tel-Vi division began a rigorous overhaul of the center's electrical systems. The facility will be operated by the Salvation Army. Thanks to members who worked so hard to provide a place for over 300 needy individuals.

We mourn the deaths of Bros. Oscar Pfeifferkorn, Chester A. Virga, Paul Biedermann, Robert L. Baker, Robert L. Dalton, Hilary O. Cunningham III, Leroy H. Vaughn, Otis R. Campbell, George F. Conkey, Bertram Schultz, Theodore R. Perry, Joseph A. Chrico, Robert L. Browner, Edward Garcia, Gary Johnston, James C. Adams Jr. and Aloysius A. Nansel. **MATT GOBER, P.S.**

Taking Heed

L.U. 17 (catv,em,lctt,o&u), DETROIT, MI—After the immense devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Local 17 members stepped up to support the communities impacted by these catastrophic storms that left millions without power, water and homes.

With such catastrophes increasing,

it is apparent there is a shortage of skilled, qualified craftsmen available to meet all the demands of the marketplace. Utility companies should take note and change course in an effort to ramp up apprenticeship programs. If we don't take heed, then the safety, reliability and dependability of the transmission and distribution systems will be at risk.

The union reached a tentative agreement that covers the utility side of the house. We also began negotiations on the 6-17-A Agreement and the Thumb Co-op Agreement. The work

picture remains steady. All our utility contractors need linemen and work has picked up at LeCom, our communications contractor.

The MPSC ordered an investigation regarding the numerous outages and low voltage complaints in several communities within the DTE Energy service area; this request is due Nov. 1.

We mourn the loss of Bro. Clarence Kreiner.

ROBERT ECKHOUT, PRES./P.S.

A Stronger Union

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Our union reached a tentative agreement with the City of Chicago on Sept. 8, 2005. Highlights of the four-year agreement include fair wage increases in each year of the agreement, and retroactive wages back to July 31, 2003. The agreement includes grade increases for members in the "Police Communications 1" and "Aviation Communication Operator" job classifications. New language specifies pay differentials for members performing on-the-job training.

SBC notified Local 21 regarding a layoff and four new surpluses it plans to implement by Dec. 15, 2005.

Pres./Bus. Mgr. Ron Kastner appointed an internal organizing committee. IBEW Local 21's commitment is to be informed, educated and mobilized—ready to take quick action to assist in resolving disputes from the workplace to the bargaining table. Increased member involvement creates a stronger union.

THOMAS HOPPER, P.S.

35th Softball Tournament

L.U. 25 (catv,i,o&rts), LONG ISLAND, NY—The IBEW Long Island Softball Tournament hosted by Locals 3, 25, 1049 and 1381 was held Aug. 26-28 at Baldwin Park under sunny skies.

Results were as follows: Upper bracket winner—Local 3, New York, NY. Lower bracket winner—Local 103, Boston. The Brotherhood Award recipient was Local 129, Lorain, OH, whose team members drove 10 hours to Long Island. A total of 31 teams participated. A barbecue was hosted by the Tournament Committee.

Anyone interested in participating in next year's tournament, Aug. 25-27, 2006, please call the president's office at (631) 273-4567, Ext. 241.

ED O'DONNELL, P.S.

Charity Golf Outing

L.U. 41 (em,es,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—Congratulations to our newest journeyman wireman, residential wireman and Interconnect-Security-Sound classes of 2005.

Local 41 held its election of officers in June. Congratulations to all.

Terry Mays and Herb Good organized the Local 41 Charity Golf Outing held at Chestnut Hill Golf Course in September. This year's charity was Mercy Flight. Thanks to all participants. Also in September, we held our Electrical Workers Annual Outing, a great success.

Although work picked up for the summer, the work picture is still slow. There are, however, some hopeful prospects for the future. Everyone is encouraged to continue their training by taking advantage of the journeyman education classes offered at our hall.

KENNETH C. ZACK, P.S.

Negotiations Successful

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,u,o&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Local 47 participated in the annual Labor Day parade and picnic in Wilmington, CA.

We negotiated a 42 percent pension increase and saved Retiree Medical benefits for our members at the City of Anaheim. New accounting standards forced the city to report future retiree medical expenses as a huge, unfunded liability. The local established a Retiree Medical Trust, funded initially by the city, transferring money previously set aside for retiree medical costs. The city and employees will make ongoing contributions.

In July we hosted our fifth annual Memorial Golf Tournament to raise funds for our Injured Workers Fund.

We mourn the passing of Bros. George "Lynn" Cummings, Dan Clayton, John Fry, Ken Hurley Sr. and Jim Hage Sr.—as well as Bros. Mark



Local 47 member Gary Updegraff (left), a level II certified infrared thermographer employed by the City of Colton, CA, Electric Department, receives a "Certificate of Professional Contribution" presented by John Snell of Snell Infrared. At Snell Infrared's annual conference on "Thermal Solutions," Bro. Updegraff presented a paper on the gas-fired generation plant, built on time and under budget with union labor.

Schipper of Local 659 and Eugene Bowers of Local 532, both of whom worked in our jurisdiction. We are saddened by the loss of IBEW Pres. Emeritus John J. Barry, who passed away Aug. 28. Our condolences go to all of their families.

Special thanks to all members helping Hurricane Katrina victims.

STAN STOSEL, P.S.

Fight for Good Jobs

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,rtb,t&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—With millions of jobs vanishing in our country, many of us wonder if our job could be next. One in four workers earns less than \$8.70 an hour. Our country is importing billions more a year than we export. Foreign debt is skyrocketing. General Motors, once our nation's largest employer heavily unionized with good wages and benefits, has been replaced as largest employer by Wal-Mart, the low-wage, no-benefit mass marketer of foreign goods. Where will our children find jobs that pay good wages and benefits?

All union members must focus on the fight for good jobs. We must search for the union label when we spend our money. Union jobs are quality jobs that every community needs and no nation can afford to lose. For information on union-made items check Web site www.shop-unionmade.org.

On the work front many Local 51 members are responding to the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina.

DAN PRIDEMORE, B.R./P.S.

Support Your Union

L.U. 71 (lctt,o&rtb), COLUMBUS, OH—Local 71 extends heartfelt sympathies to Kitty Barry and family on the passing of our friend Int. Pres. Emeritus John J. Barry. Jack Barry will long be remembered as one of the



Local 71 Election Committee: Ralph Teague, Jason Lawhorn, Spud Walls and Billy Crabtree.

finest labor leaders and trade unionists this Brotherhood has ever known.

We extend sympathies to all the families that suffered the loss of a loved one or a home dealt by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Our sisters and brothers in our southern states need our support as they attempt to rebuild their lives and we must pledge our unwavering support.

This was an election year for Local 71 and all incumbent officers were re-elected. Officers thank the members for their continued support and confidence. Elected were: Pres. Patrick Grice, Vice Pres. Danny Harris, Rec. Sec. Nelson Duncan, Treas. John Crabtree, Bus. Mgr. Wally Sickles; and Executive Board members Danny Benner, James Carmack, Kenny Lindsey, Larry Moore and Dave Sugerik.

WALLY SICKLES, B.M.



Local 77 retired Bro. Woodrow W. Wilson (center) receives his 70-year IBEW service award pin. Extending congratulations are Local 77 Bus. Mgr. Don Guillot (left) and Pres. Rick Johnson.

Retiree Honored

L.U. 77 (lctt,mt,o,t&u), SEATTLE, WA—Retired Bro. Woodrow W. Wilson received his IBEW 70-year service award. Bro. Wilson, age 93, worked as a substation operator for both Puget Sound Energy and Seattle City Light. Bus. Mgr. Don Guillot and Pres. Rick Johnson presented "Woody" with the award at his group home in Ballard, WA. Bro. Wilson's family attended the celebration, including his son, daughter, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

IBEW Local 77 has lost three prominent members—Robert Gagnat, John Tomac and Edward Andersen. We will miss these brothers, their dedication to Local 77 and their loyal commitment to unionism.

The work picture is good here in Seattle. Brothers and sisters wanting to travel should call our office at (206) 323-4505 before heading to the Seattle area.

DAVID WHEELER, P.S.

PSE&G Contract

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—Bus. Rep. Chuck Borell graduated from the National Labor College in June with a bachelor's degree in labor studies. His



Local 97 Bus. Rep. Chuck Borrell (center) receives congratulations on his graduation from AFL-CIO Pres. John J. Sweeney (right) and National Labor College Pres. Susan J. Schurman.

final thesis was a research paper on how unions can more successfully win arbitration cases.

On August 4, PSE&G employees at Albany Steam Station ratified a six-year contract with yearly raises of 3.25 percent. The terms of the agreement are from Nov. 1, 2005 to Oct. 31, 2011. Negotiations with Entergy Nuclear Operations Inc. commenced in October 2005. The contract between Local 97 and Entergy expires Dec. 31, 2005.

On the political front, we urge our members to go to the Local 97 Web site and look for the article about CAFTA. We need to tell the following congressmen that we are not happy with their position on CAFTA: Rep. James T. Walsh, R-25th (Central New York); Rep. Sherwood L. Boehlert, R-24th (Mohawk Valley); Thomas Reynolds, R-26th (Williamsville); and Rep. John E. Sweeney, R-20th (Albany). If at least two of these congressmen had voted "no" the measure would not have passed.

JOHN SATUNAS, P.S.

Summer Work Improved

L.U. 99 (govt&i), PROVIDENCE, RI—Work improved to near full employment through late summer. With several big projects coming up, the future months look a little brighter.

Congratulations to recently elected officers: Bus. Mgr. Allen P. Durand, Pres. John Shalvey, Vice Pres. Peter Furlong, Treas. Jim Anderson, Rec. Sec. John T. Dibiase; and Executive Board members Steve Brown, James Harrington, William Smith and Paul Stromberg.

The annual Local 99 Golf Tournament raised money for the Everett Tommy Woodmansee Scholarship Fund.

We celebrated Labor Day, reflecting on the contributions of our predecessors.

STEPHEN P. CALLAGHAN, P.S.

United Way Volunteers

L.U. 109 (u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Local 109 volunteers participated in the United Way of the Quad Cities' first "Extreme Day of Caring."

Local 109 members volunteered for a Quad Cities area United Way "Day of Caring" project. At the Friendly House site: Les Kline, Jerry Bald, Rich McCoy, Luc Martel and Don Jones. Local union volunteer Ben Lorenzen snapped the photo.



The Local 109 volunteers painted a large dining room and activity room at a United Way partner agency, the Friendly House in Davenport, IA. Thanks to the Local 109 volunteers: Les Kline, Jerry Bald, Rich McCoy, Luc Martel, Don Jones and Ben Lorenzen.

LORI SMITH, R.S.

Line & Gas Rodeos

L.U. 111 (em,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—Colorado has been in rodeo-mode! In July PSCO/Xcel Energy held its annual line rodeo in Denver. First-place team: Ed Lensen, Rick Kernan and Patrick Kennedy (Lipan Distribution Center). Second-place team: Paul Harris, Casey Golden and Greg King (Alamosa/Salida). Top apprentice honors: Joel Stolte (first place) and Paul Leary (second place).

In August, the gas rodeo was held in Denver. First-place team: Sammy Garcia, Shane Kerstiens, Mike Perito and Mike Hernandez (Nipple Twisters, Denver Metro). And second-place team: Mike Simpson, Greg Hood, Chad Everson and Larry Eberhart (Smokin' Pigs, Silverthorne/Mountain Division).



Local 111 Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Michael A. Byrd (left) and Xcel Energy Field Operations Vice Pres. Tim Taylor receive plaque in honor of Sister Peggy Ohlendorf.

At the gas rodeo, a plaque was presented to Local 111 Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Michael A. Byrd and Xcel Vice Pres. Tim Taylor in honor of the late Sister Peggy Ohlendorf. Peggy was a lead fitter when she left PSCO/Xcel Energy to establish a training company in the gas industry. She is greatly missed. We know Peggy was smiling down on the first "all female" rodeo team, "Diamonds in the Rough," consisting of Sisters Phyllis Berti, Mary Hansen, Janice Sanders and Margaret Buck-Roybal.

DENNIS Z. LeTURGEZ, P.S.



Retired Local 125 Bus. Mgr. Bill Miller.

Bill Miller Retires

L.U. 125 (lctt,o&u), PORTLAND, OR—Bro. Bill Miller, our business manager/financial secretary for over 21 years, retired July 29, 2005. Bill served his local well and also served the entire IBEW membership on numerous national committees. We thank Bro. Miller for his dedication to our local and the IBEW.

Congratulations to recently elected officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Travis Eri, Pres. Larry W. Browning, Vice Pres. Paul S. Dietrich, Rec. Sec. Raymond W. Cowell and Treas. Douglas J. Shaffer. Elected to the Executive Board: K.T. Anderson, Don L. McCleery, Jim Sweet and Patrick E. Winter. Elected to the Examining Board: Lee Cole, Ronald L. Derting, Anthony R. Jacobs, Donald Rose and William C. Young. Delegates to the International Convention: Travis Eri and Larry Browning.

STEVE ROSE, ORG.

Plant Retooling Project

L.U. 129 (i,mt&spa), LORAIN, OH—Congratulations to Bro. Carl Macken on receiving his 65-year pin. We also congratulate all our new journeymen from our fifth-year graduating class.

Work in our area is fair, with some projects finishing up. At the time of this writing, we hope to see Book 1 clear when the Ford plant starts in mid-August for its retooling to accommodate the van coming from the Lorain plant. Also, as of press time, we expect that Firelands Hospital may be starting very soon, which will be another good project for our area.

DENNIS PEDINGS, P.S.

Habitat Volunteers

L.U. 139 (i&u), ELMIRA, NY—Local 139 is proud to have been involved in another Habitat for Humanity project in our area. Hats off to our members who volunteered for this worthwhile community project. We also thank Mike Sincock and the folks at Bouille Electric for their help with the material. Thanks to all who participated.

ERNIE HARTMAN, P.S.



Local 139 Habitat for Humanity volunteers: front row, from left, Steve Hoodak, Dan Schmidt, Dave Patton, John Narde, Eric Fey and Darin Benjamin; back row, Dave Blauvelt, Jim Tierney, Mike McLaughlin, Dave Cecchini and Greg Cunningham.

Mitchell Power Renovation

L.U. 141 (ees,i,o&u), WHEELING, WV—Work is picking up here with a major renovation to Mitchell Power Station. We also welcome Precision Electric to our area on the Lowe's store project.

Local 141 members are picketing the new Wal-Mart site in Moundsville, WV. While little hope remains of turning this project around, we had to respond to out-of-state, nonunion construction companies in our area. Meanwhile, the new Wal-Mart in Dallas Pike will be built by local building tradesmen, thanks in large part to great cooperation by Ohio County officials.

Recently elected officers are: Bus. Mgr. John Clarke, Pres. Tom Conner, Vice Pres. Dave Cantrell, Rec. Sec. Mike Parker and Treas. Shawna Davis. New Examining Board members are:



Local 141 members picket the new Moundsville, WV, Wal-Mart site: from left: Kurt Reed, Art Oakland and George Knuth.

Dale Ramsay, Paul Simmons, Greg Heslop, Jake Hileman and Luke Pelley. Executive Board members are: Doug Giffin, Hiram Pelley, Art Oakland, Bryan Porter, John Sharpe, Mike Kwiatkowski and Mike Vargo.

Best wishes to new apprenticeship instructor Mark Dunfee, taking over as first-year teacher.

At a union meeting we held a moment of silence for Local 141 Bro. Larry Swallie and Int. Pres. Emeritus John J. Barry. They will be missed.

TOM CONNER, PRES./P.S.

Regaining Market Share

L.U. 143 (em,i&spa), HARRISBURG, PA—Our newly elected officers are:



Local 143 Bus. Mgr. Robert L. Rhoades (left) with Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill.

Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Robert L. Rhoades, Pres. Glenn L. Carnahan, Rec. Sec. Thomas W. Porr, Vice Pres. Brian Weibley and Treas. Gary Yinger. Elected to the Executive Board: Eric Bashore, Henry Bonson, James Neiswender, Steven Wolfe, Gerald Hawkins, Kirby Artz and Monte Shearer. Examining Board: Michel Dice, Michael Reber and Troy Wood-



Local 177 members Kent Williamson (left), Danny Wynne, and Michael O'Brien barbequed through the night for the local's Labor Day picnic.

Labor Day Picnic

L.U. 177 (bo,ees,i,mo,o&pet), JACKSONVILLE, FL—We held our Labor Day picnic Sat., Sept. 3, so Monday could be spent relaxing and enjoying time off from work. Approximately 300 brothers and sisters and their families attended the outing. There were games for the kids, food, door prizes and music.

Bus. Mgr. Russell Harper and Pres. Alan Jones presented our brother- and sister of the year plaques. Joe Roberts was named "Brother of the Year" and Monica Alford, "Sister of the Year." Thanks to Bus. Mgr. Harper and Pres. Jones and their Labor Day Picnic Committee for another job well done.

LISA M. STUART, P.S.

Officials Invited

L.U. 191 (c,i,mo,rtb&st), EVERETT, WA—Local 191 is experiencing a surge in energy, appropriately enough for an electrician's union.

The local has been lining up a star-studded cast of local and national public officials to appear before our union to report on issues and field questions from our members. Talks are ongoing to have Washington's senators and members of the state's delegation to the U.S. Congress attend our meetings.

MARCUS ABARCUS, P.S.

Labor Day Celebration

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—Local 197 members and their families marched in our Labor Day parade. After the parade we had a great picnic at the hall with volleyball, golf and Frisbee for kids and adults. Tom Peasley and Paul Spencer won the first place trophy in horseshoes. Our softball team took first place in the annual Labor Day softball tournament hosted by the Laborers.

At our July meeting newly elected officers were sworn in: Bus. Mgr. Lance Reece, Pres. Rich Veitengruber; Vice Pres. Bernie Uszcienski, Treas. Terry Spencer, Rec. Sec. Frank Kuhns; and Executive Board members Dave Ashenbrenner, Keith Ashenbrenner, Brian Graves, Larry Mathis, Ken McLean, Bill Swindle and Mark Schweitzer.

Congratulations to all. We also thank outgoing officers for their dedicated



Local 159 members Andrew Bangert (left) and Jeff Palmer.

shop in Red Wing, MN, is recognized worldwide as a respected U.S. manufacturer of quality boots and shoes.

Red Wing and America's skilled craftsman, including electricians and other tradesmen, have much in common. They share an enduring work ethic, a passion for quality and tremendous pride in their work.

BILLY C. HARRELSON, B.M.

service. They include: Jerry Dehart, Gary Eichelberger, Clint Miller, Dan Miller, Jack Roberts and Dan Uhrler.

MIKE RAIKES, P.S.

Labor Day

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—Labor Day 2005 was an occasion to reflect on recent developments in the labor movement, which, to this person, are "much ado about nothing." Apparently some unions have different thoughts on how to accomplish the same goals. Unions were born for a reason and those reasons still exist today. As long as workers face struggle, we will have unions. Labor Day is a



IBEW Local 245 contingent marches in 2005 Labor Day parade.

chance to remember that we were all there to support labor no matter which road we traveled to get there.

Outside work is going well. We've had crews doing storm work in the South. Negotiations are underway at Bryan Municipal. On the TV side of the business, the local recently was informed that our Liberty Corporation CBS affiliated station Channel 11 was bought out by Raycom Media. Raycom currently owns our NBC affiliated station Channel 24. More on this drama as it unfolds.

The Fellowship Committee's first venture was a huge success thanks to all participants.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers. And special thanks to those who served the last three years.

RAY ZYCHOWICZ, P.S.

Political Strength

L.U. 269 (i&u), TRENTON, NJ—The local union grabbed media attention by flexing its political muscle against two local establishments. The Hyatt Regency was the focus of one print article, based on the local union's request that their political friends boycott the hotel and conference center during the upcoming election season. The response was overwhelming, thanks to members who hand-billed. These same efforts contributed to the less than spectacular opening of a Bob Evan's Restaurant, where again area officials respected the union's wishes.

Bro. George Grant motivated members to show support for our troops by wearing red shirts on Friday. Members passed a motion for the local to design and sell shirts with all proceeds going to the families of IBEW Local 269 members serving in the military.

The Good of the Union Committee continues its service to the community. The bi-annual blood drive is scheduled for this fall, as well as two Adopt-A-Highway programs in New Jersey/Pennsylvania.

Congratulations to Gino Pasqualone on his promotion into the local office as an organizer.

TREVOR MARCIANTE, P.S.

Contract Negotiations

L.U. 295 (em,i,o,rtb,rt,spa&u), LITTLE ROCK, AR—In these hard economic times, we are fortunate to have several out-of-state contractors doing some small projects as well as the steam generator change-out at Arkansas Nuclear One. Many local contractors' work and bidding remain slow.

We are in negotiations at press time and hope to have many or all issues resolved by the time this is published.

relief from our construction recession.

A small part of the relief has come in the form of a very large school project that assured union people jobs and the school district a quality project. Thanks to a large turnout by construction workers and building trades representatives at a school board meeting months ago, a Project Labor Agreement



Local 369 members and their families joined in the annual Labor Day at the Zoo celebration in Louisville, KY.

was secured for the school project.

Getting involved politically to make your voice heard at the grass-roots level can change your employment levels. This effort takes time and money. Voluntary COPE check-off cards, automatically withholding donations to fund a better future, are a good way to start.

BRAD NELSON, P.S.

Basic Contracting Class

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt,se), LAS VEGAS, NV—Local 357 sponsored a "Basic Electrical Contracting" course in August. Approximately 50 potential IBEW contractors attended. The mis-

Several towers on the six-bundle high line project in southern West Virginia. The line is being run by IBEW Local 317 members and travelers employed by Par Electric.



Hurricane Relief Fund

L.U. 317 (i,o,rt,ts&u), HUNTINGTON, WV—The high-line job is progressing and providing many jobs for outside members. Thanks to travelers helping staff the work. Many new members joined our local to work on this project and we wish them a long, safe and prosperous career.

Our prayers go out to all those affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Although many have already made donations to help, the need is still great and we can assist IBEW members in need.

The IBEW established a relief fund to aid members devastated by this catastrophe. Checks may be made payable to "The IBEW Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund" and sent to: The IBEW Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund, Chevy Chase Bank, 7501 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814.

TED KINDER, PRES.

Politics & Jobs

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN—Thankfully, we've had some

in the community to help our small union contractors succeed and grow.

AL DAVIS, ORG. DIR.

Labor Day in Louisville

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,lctt,o,rtb,rt,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—Labor Day at the Zoo, sponsored by Greater Louisville United Labor Picnic Inc., was held

Sept. 5. Thousands of union members attended, enjoying good food, live bands, a car show, blow-up rides for the kids, door prizes and the spirit of union fellowship.

We had perfect weather for the picnic. Locals from across the metro-Louisville area participated. All crafts and manufacturing were represented with informational booths. Thanks to all union members who made this event a great success.

JOHN E. MORRISON JR., P.S.

65-Year Service Pins

L.U. 387 (em,lctt&u), PHOENIX, AZ—Congratulations to Bros. Albert R. Gerbens and Blaine L. Learn on their 65-year service awards.

Storms and heat have kept everyone busy as you can see in the accompanying photo, which shows IBEW troubleman Roger Vandemheen, of Globe, AZ, responding to a P.T. failure at San Manuel Substation in July.

Our linemen teams have brought home lots of hardware competing in rodeos; at press time they are prepar-



IBEW Local 387 troubleman Roger Vandemheen, of Globe, AZ, responds to a P.T. failure at San Manuel Substation in July.

Participants at Local 357's "Basic Electrical Contracting" course.



ing for the Kansas City Rodeo.

Members completed lighting two more Diamondback ball fields. Thanks to all who helped.

Our prayers go out for Bro. Jon Beasley's family. Jon had just been awarded an electrician apprenticeship when his life was taken in a car accident.

SAM HOOVER, PRES.

100th Anniversary

L.U. 401 (c,i,o,rt&st), RENO, NV—In April our local celebrated its 100th anniversary with a dinner-dance. Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill attended as well as dignitaries representing Reno/Sparks, the state of Nevada, business and industry. Pres. Hill presented service pins to all, with a special tribute to the Burns/Seymour family, who represent nearly 200 years of service in the IBEW.

Local 401 also held a dinner to honor its 13 graduating apprentices. Int. Vice Pres. Michael S. Mowrey and Int. Rep. Francis J. "Frank" Maio Jr. attended. The Outstanding Apprentice award went to Earl Barber. Awards for perfect attendance went to Craig Carroll and Paul Salerno; for academic achievement, John Seymour; and for

materials. Our new JATC is something local 405 and our contractors can be proud of.

Thanks to retirees helping with the local newsletter and political issues.

GARY BUTZ, P.S.

Awards Ceremony

L.U. 429 (em,i,lctt,o,ptc,rtb&u), NASHVILLE, TN—Service pins were awarded to 113 active and retired members. Family and guests witnessed a ceremony whose honorees included two 65-year members and a host of others. The celebration culminated in a barbecue luncheon, merriment and brotherhood.

Attendees receiving awards included: 65-year recipient Woodrow West; 60-year recipients Lawrence Luttrell and Morris Slate; 55-year recipients William Conley and Stanley Morris; 50-year recipients Billy Anderson, Hugh Breen, James Gwaltney, Winford Shelby, Thurman Whitehead and Billy Woodside; 45-year recipients Charles Appleton, John Brown, Thomas Cobble, Harold Greene, Stanley Ham, Franklin Hazelwood, William Long, Pearre Marlin, Ronald Puckett, William Putman and James W. Smith. Additionally, 40-year

devastation of Katrina, especially in New Orleans. Issues related to natural disasters and human suffering are not party issues or political opportunities. These issues need to be remembered at the polls in the future.

We are excited about our November centennial celebration and looking forward to welcoming International Officers who plan to attend.

Our condolences to the family of Bro. Eric Salvador, who passed away July 16, 2005.

Congratulations to Bro. Carl Haney on his recent retirement.

RUSSELL HILL, R.S.



Local 479 participated in a Labor Day barbecue cook-off and won a third-place trophy. Three of the members on the local's barbecue team: from left, Damien Duhon, John Richardson and Jeff Morrison.

'Act of Humanity'

L.U. 479 (i&u), BEAUMONT, TX—We settled our contract at home this year. Basically, it is a three-year contract with a \$2.10 increase over the duration of the contract. The new referral system was implemented Aug. 1 and seems to be working out.

The week of Labor Day, members participated in a barbecue cook-off and other activities.

Hurricane Katrina devastated Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Many of our neighbors were forced to evacuate and over 1,200 found shelter at Ford Park Arena in Beaumont, TX. Local 479 reached out by providing a hot meal for the evacuees. Thanks to all who participated in this act of humanity.

TONY HOLLIER, PRES.

PLA Projects

L.U. 481 (ees,em,i,mt,rt&spa), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—The demo on buildings for the new Colts stadium has taken off and the airport terminal started taking bids. The work will probably start in late fall or early spring. Both jobs are PLA projects, thanks to Bus. Mgr. Tom O'Donnell's efforts at the State House. Work in our jurisdiction is still slow.

Congratulations to our 101 recent apprentice graduates. The December

Local 481's 2005 apprentice graduation.



class "Solidarity" winner was Joseph Salter; apprentice-of-the-year, Thomas Stevens; and runner-up, William Inman. The May class Solidarity winner was Jonathon Hooker; apprentice-of-the-year, Max Davis; and runner-up, John Burchyett.

Bob Cadwell put together another successful Labor Day parade. He managed to get the union crafts in Indiana, politicians, and high school bands to participate in the parade. This is a great way for the union crafts to express their solidarity and to represent their home locals.

Local 481's Web site frequently has new items of interest. Visit the site at www.ibew481.org to find out about upcoming local union events. If you have suggestions for the site, please contact the hall at (317) 923-2596.

STEVE MONTGOMERY, P.S.

Bro. Hledik Honored

L.U. 499 (u), DE MOINES, IA—Our membership is preparing for tough contract negotiations. These are our first negotiations since 2000 when Local 499 and Local 109 worked for more than 18 months to come up with a consolidated contract, which combined six separate contracts. MidAmerican Energy is a wealthy company owned by four people, one of whom is Warren Buffett, reportedly the second richest man in the world. We are starting negotiations early to allow five months to work toward a settlement by March 1, 2006.

Local 499 honors retired Bro. Earl Hledik for his constant support of the Blood Center of Central Iowa. Bro. Hledik has donated 20 gallons of blood and volunteered at the center.

DON KRAUSE, B.R.

Food Basket Drive

L.U. 503 (t&u), MONROE, NY—There have been some changes on the Executive Board recently. Because of health issues, Artie Patterson will step down as unit chairperson, and Ed Sengstacken will fill that post. We thank Artie for all his dedicated service to the local over the years. Best wishes to Artie, and good luck to Eddie in his new position.

Pres. Bob Citrolo was awarded long overdue honorary medals for his U.S. Marine Corps service in Vietnam during the 1960s. U.S. Rep. Eliot Engel presented the medals Aug. 9. We pay tribute to Bob and all veterans.

Local 503's annual golf outing was a terrific success! Thanks to all volunteers, especially retired Vice Pres. John Smith.

It's time for Local 503's Holiday Food Basket Drive. In past years we presented 75 needy families with baskets. The annual holiday party will be Friday, Dec. 9, at J. F. Keane's, Pearl River, NY. Details on both events will be posted in all areas.

MARY M. CASEY, P.S.



Local 557 Habitat for Humanity volunteers at the Bridgeport, MI, site on a hot summer Saturday: from left, John Clemens, Mark Fini and Alan Seaver.

Summer Work Slow

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rt&spa), SAGINAW, MI—July found lots of idle hands and many took furloughs, only to have to sign the book after missing out on some short work opportunities. School projects created some work and more is coming. With over 40 hands on the out-of-work list, we need more work to pay fair wages. Informational pickets, communications with potential project owners, meetings with non-signatory contractors, investigating potential jobs and Comet training are keeping paid employees at the hall busy.

Volunteering in Habitat, lighting historic signs and Veteran's plaza, and advertising give us recognition, and may open some doors.

JOHN E. CLEMENS, P.S.



Local 569 Graduating Apprentice Class of 2005.

Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,o,rt&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—Congratulations to the June 2005 apprentice graduating class. We welcome these new journeymen. Graduates are: Gary Adams, Maico Alejo, Victor Almazan, Scott Barker, Brian Berryhill, Paul Blazak, Robert Brooks, Bradley Brownlee, William Canada, Ken Cannizzaro, Terrence Colbert Jr., Rafael Cortez, Justin Cortinas, Alvaro Cuevas, Richard Darley, Victor De Jesus, Kurt Delamater, Donald Dowers, Oscar Figueroa, Robert Goeltzenleuchter, Saul Gonzalez, LaVaun Harris, Thomas Henderson, David Henry, James Hill, Bernard Hogan, Meighko Kodomagne, Mark Lewis, Fernando Leyva, Juan Lozano, Fernando Martinez, Sal Mercado, Rhett Miller, Tim Pablo, Jeffrey Restine, Christopher Riemersma, Miguel San Martin, Roneel Sanocki, Richard Scherman, Charlton Shabazz, Jeffrey Stell, Shawn Swearingen, Zack Tackett, Thad Tobin, Joshua Walulik, Michael Wittbrodt, Jeffrey Workman and Joseph Zapata.

NICHOLAS J. SEGURA JR., P.S.

Advancement Fund

L.U. 577 (em&i), APPLETON, WI—Our work picture remained strong through the summer as referrals to the Fox Energies project began in June

and continued through August. Many of the jobs the Industry Advancement Fund assisted in the spring bore fruit, as projects were awarded to union contractors.

In the July *Journal*, I missed the following members who completed their apprenticeships and were recommended for inside journeymen wireman status: Darrick Fox, Rick Kriewaldt, Tori Schneider and Pat Van Vreede.

The Labor Day celebration sponsored by the Fox Valley Labor Council was held Sept. 5. Local 577 members volunteered to do the temporary wiring for the event. Thanks to Greg Breaker, Jesse Breaker, Carl Degroot, Nick Horn, Jonathan Horn, Jeff Smoker and Corey Wiegell.

Political campaigning in Wisconsin and the nation will soon begin in earnest. Support candidates who will strive to enact legislation beneficial to workers.

GREG BREAKER, B.M.

JATC Transformer Lab

L.U. 595 (c,govt,i,o&st), DUBLIN, CA—Our summer work is winding up as we move optimistically into fall. Project Labor Agreements in the public schools provided many hours of summer work. Thanks to local members and travelers who helped com-



Local 595 JATC Coordinator Mel Switzer and Dick Nordeen show new transformer lab, with thanks to Square D for assistance in the project.

plete this work on time!

Local 595's softball team won the Ninth District softball championship game, our third district championship. Hats off! The tournament moves to Fresno next year.

Apprenticeship Dir. Byron Benton and Coordinator Mel Switzer thank the folks at Square D for the generous donation of transformer equipment used in the new JATC transformer lab. Those who participated in the installation did a beautiful job.

Once again union members are preparing to battle Gov. Arnold in another costly "special election." Corporate mega bucks are pouring into his propaganda machine efforts to

pass Prop 75, a misnamed "paycheck protection" initiative aimed at silencing our union voice. Unions across the state have joined together and **we will be heard.**

Our hearts go out to our brothers and sisters affected by Hurricane Katrina. Local 595 is sending \$10,000 to the IBEW relief effort.

MARTA SCHULTZ, P.S.

Cable Splicer Crew

L.U. 605 (u), JACKSON, MS—Accompanying this article is a picture of a Local 605 Entergy MS cable splicer crew. Providing training for the next



Local 605 Entergy MS cable-splicer crew members install high-speed electronically controlled fuses.

generation of our electrical workforce, senior cable splicer Billy Simmons worked with apprentice cable splicer Chris Berch and cable splicer Harold Dekay (who took the photo) installing high-speed electronically controlled fuses, capable of clearing fault in less than one-quarter cycle.

Jackson's downtown network is supplied by 12 dedicated 13.8kv feeders; seven circuits have fault filters installed. The fault filter will reduce

contractors in the "Code of Excellence." To date the local has trained over 350 members and five contractors and their supervisors. We hope to have our entire membership trained by the first of the year, as this Code of Excellence training will soon be required to take a call off the books. Brothers trained to teach the Code of Excellence are: Adolph Chavez, Carl Condit, Antonio Gonzalez, Lloyd Beebe, Rex Ward, Richard Paschall, Charles Humiston and Mike Stoltenberg.

Belated congratulations to Saul E. Botone on his apprentice of the year award. I forgot to report this in a recent article.

Work has been steady, especially for G&M Electric, which has gone from a one-man shop to over 25 in less than a year. Great work, guys!

Condolences to families of the following brothers who recently passed away: Jesse Alderete, Chester R. Hamner and Gilbert Lopez.

DARRELL J. BLAIR, P.S.

Memorial Day Benefit

L.U. 613 (em,i,o,rt&spa), ATLANTA, GA—Congratulations to recently elected officers: Bus. Mgr. Gene R. O'Kelley, Pres. Michael L. Braden, Vice Pres. David Lawson, Fin. Sec. David Collier, Treas. Jeff Manning and Rec. Sec. Robby Evans. Also elected were Executive Board members Stanley Rice, Tommy Adams, Brad Camp, Doug Shellnut, Jerome Jackson, Larry Davis and Max Mount Jr. Elected to the Examining Board: Emmitt Parrish, Tod Olsen, Owen Bentley, Ken James and Ralph Anderson.

Former Local 779 was merged into Local 613. We welcome all 779 brothers and sisters into Local 613.

Local 613 held its second annual Memorial Day picnic with the proceeds going to the Welfare Fund. Nearly 300 members and their families attended, raising \$2,500 for the needy.

Our annual barbecue was July 23. We served 4,400 plates of food. Attendees, active members and retirees, had a great time. The Brotherhood lives!

RALPH ANDERSON, P.S.

Habitat for Humanity

L.U. 625 (ees,em,i,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NS, CANADA—Our 2005 Labour Day march and picnic were great successes.

Our work picture is good in Units 1 and 5. It's hit-and-miss in Unit 4 and slow in Units 2 and 3.

Our local's first retirees banquet was Oct. 15, 2005. Local 625 currently has 175 retirees receiving a pension from the local union pension plan. Congratulations to recent retirees: Bros. Omer Boudreau, Ron MacDonald, Dennis MacPhee, Lester Rector, Ken Shea, Doug Wilson, Richard Turner, Sam MacDonald, and past



Participating at a Local 611 Code of Excellence class, from left: Adolph Chavez, Paul Larson, Carl Condit, Dan Harbst, Kory Bennet and Pete Santistevan.



Local 625 Habitat for Humanity volunteers and a new homeowner. From left, Jeff Gallagher, Francis Mannette, Rodney Thomas, Jim Beaton, homeowner Deanne Landry, Jim Clattenburg, Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Cordell Cole, Steve MacAskill, Stan McCulloch and Dennis Sampson. Photo by project coordinator, Bro. Ian Gordon.

president Bro. Brian Stewart.

Congratulations to newly certified journeymen: Tom Amero, Donnie Dominique and Ashley Sangster.

Locals 625 and 1928 are cooperating in a Habitat for Humanity project in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Volunteers are building two houses. Local 625 is providing labour for the electrical work; Local 1928 is providing funds for wiring permits and connection charges.

TOM GRIFFITHS, P.S.

Utility Tree employees voted to be represented by Local 659.

Be careful for what you vote for. In Oregon we have a utility that is using convict labor to do bargaining unit work, enabling the utility to outsource our work. A measure went out to vote in Oregon about 15 years ago and we are still paying the price, sometimes with the lives of the convicts.

KATHY JOY, R.S.



Local 649 wiremen graduation class of 2005, from left: Scott Lucas, Mike Buis, Dan Mancorca, Mark Klaas, Jo Ann Berg, Pat Bohn, Bob Moore, Bill Hammond, Loren Kulp, Tim Wieckhorst, Jay England, Jesse Landers, Daren Smith and Louis Thompson.

Graduation Banquet

L.U. 649 (i,lctt,o,rs,spa&u), ALTON, IL—Local 649 JATC hosted a graduation dinner July 15 at the Argosy Ballroom for the 2005 class of graduating wiremen apprentices.

Illinois Chapter NECA Executive Vice Pres. Bill Belforte and Local 649 Bus. Mgr. Jack Tueth addressed graduates and guests. Training Dir. Terry Shewmake awarded graduates their certificates. Scot Lucas received the J. Michael Kane Award and a \$100 savings bond for highest grade-point average.

Also, Josh Lenihan recently topped out from the ALBAT apprenticeship program and is the newest Local 649 journeyman lineman.

ROBERT E. TRAVIS, P.S.

Utility Work Outsourced

L.U. 659 (c,catv,em,i,lctt,o,st&u), MEDFORD, OR—Congratulations to recently elected board members: Bus. Mgr. Ron Jones, Pres. Mike Bureau, Vice Pres. Jim White, Treas. Jerry Brei, Rec. Sec. Kathy Joy, Tom Legg, Tom Ellis and Walt Conner.

Thanks to our members in the Grants Pass Unit, who hosted a great summer picnic July 31.

The City of Ashland Clerical Unit settled their agreement. The City of Ashland Electric Unit declared impasse. Lane Electric Clerical is preparing for negotiations. The Avista contract was settled. Central Lincoln PUD is still in mediation. At press time, Henkels & McCoy negotiations were at an impasse over health care. Osmose negotiations were settled.

New JATC Courses

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Nearly 500 attended the annual family picnic. Everyone enjoyed fantastic food, activities for the kids, vintage photos and fellowship. Thanks to Mike Mirones, Rod Sumner and the picnic committee.

Our second annual benefit dinner Sept. 10 raised funds for our Members Assistance Fund. These funds will be used for our working members who need financial assistance because of injury or illness. Thanks to everyone who came out for food, fun and football.

On Sept. 22 and Oct 13, 128 members were awarded their 10-, 15- and 20-year service pins.

The JATC continues to expand and improve education courses. Members are encouraged to attend new classes now offered. To list just a few, courses include: AutoCAD for Wiremen, Cable Splicing, Electrical Safe Work Practices—NFPA 70e, Industry Leadership and Instrumentation.

BARRY HUGHES, V.P./P.S.

Contract Ratified

L.U. 695 (u), ST. JOSEPH, MO—Local union members at United Electric Cooperative Inc. ratified a five-year contract with wage increases of 4 percent for each year of the contract. Medical insurance and prescription drugs were a major issue during negotiations with a compromise reached by raising the deductibles and co-pays, along with higher deductibles on the medical and prescription drugs. Another job was

added to the union that had been a non-bargaining position.

Local 695 and American Water Co. are negotiating modifying a position to Lead Process Technician from Process Technician.

Members at Aquila are waiting to hear who may purchase the former St. Joseph Light & Power utility, one of many Aquila properties for sale.

Bro. Denny Dakans, an Aquila employee, won the 2005 Montana 500 Model "T" race.

DAVID A. HALL, B.M.

Labor Day Parade

L.U. 697 (i), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—Local 697 members marched in the annual Lowell Indiana Labor Day parade to the lilting sound of bagpipes. On Sat., Aug. 20 the annual picnic at the Lake County Fairgrounds was another beautiful day with friends and family, complete with horseshoes, bingo and good food. Thanks to all volunteers.

The U.S. labor movement is at a critical point. Anti-union forces would

Local 777 bikers group includes active members and retirees.



rewrite history and redefine the purpose of the National Labor Relations Act as well as the NLRB. This legislation and related government agency came into being to protect the rights of working men and women and to protect our children from exploitation. All we ever wanted was fair treatment and a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. A wise admonition: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." It seems that would work for both management and labor.

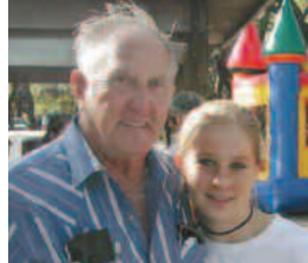
DAVID A. SODERQUIST, P.S.

Officers Elected

L.U. 759 (u), FT. LAUDERDALE, FL—Local 759 officers elected in June are: Pres./Bus. Mgr. George Skillas, Vice Pres. Tim Haynick, Rec. Sec. Steve Donovan, Fin. Sec. Keith Murphy and Treas. Tim Brucker; Executive Board members Remie Hammond, Larry Pitsinger, Lester Newell, Roy West, Don Saker and Charlie Coxon.

The membership overwhelmingly voted down a contract offer. Our contract expired October 2004 and the membership voted to extend for a

Local 915 officers and board members, from left, back row, Marty Wilson, Linda Campbell, Douglas Smolt, Randall King, Steve Fairclough, Leon Ward, Bill Dever, Clyde Tucker, Joe Paquin, David Weill, David Rainey, Bruce Barrow, Mike Nagle and Joe D'Aguiar; front, kneeling, Robert Ray, Larry Campbell and Bryce Davidson.



Local 759 Bro. Hank Shaw, a 50-year plus member, and his granddaughter enjoy the 2004 union picnic.

year. As of this writing, it is hopeful that a suitable contract is presented and accepted prior to taking a termination vote.

Two new apprentice programs in Distribution have begun—"Apprentice Cable Splicer" and "Apprentice Meterman." We have an ongoing apprentice lineman program. FPL, the utility our members work for, is continuing to hire linemen from the United States and Canada.

At press time our annual picnic was scheduled for Oct. 15, 2005.

GLEN PLOCK, P.S.

Rolling Solidarity

L.U. 777 (u), READING, PA—In the accompanying photo several Local 777 members and retirees gather for a weekend motorcycle ride. The group rides most weekends except in winter. Original members of the group were Rick Thomas and Dale Archuleta, joined later by Tony DiFrancesco. Rick and Dale, along with Butch Graham, are IBEW retirees. The group has grown and now also includes IBEW members Norm Dunlap, Larry Cabaugh, Hacky Henry, Rick Via and Carl Deiner. The group also participates in biker events including "Rolling Thunder," to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Several members recently returned from the Sturgis, SD, bikers' rally.

DEB KORNBAU, P.S.

Support Your Local

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—In June Local 915's election of officers brought in a new administration. Congratulations to newly elected Bus. Mgr. William Dever and all elected officers. Bro. Dever was assistant

business manager/organizer for 23 years under now-retired Bus. Mgr. Gary Hill. Bro. Dever's vision for the future is inspiring.

Bro. Randall King was re-elected president. Also elected were Vice Pres. Robert Kramer, Rec. Sec. Larry Campbell and Treas. Steve Fairclough. Elected to the Executive Board were: Randall King (chairman), Bryce Davidson, David Rainey, Robert Ray, Clyde Tucker, Leon Ward, David Weill and Martin B. Wilson Jr. Elected to the Examining Board: Linda Campbell, Joseph Paquin and Douglas Smolt.

Also, congratulations to newly appointed Asst. Mgrs. Bruce Barrow and Michael Nagle; and Asst. Mgr./Organizers Randall King and Joseph D'Aguiar. Please support your local!

THERESA KING, P.S.

Softball Tournament

L.U.1049 (lctt,o&u), LONG ISLAND, NY—In August at the 35th annual IBEW Long Island Softball Tournament, Local 1049's team took third-place in the "A" Division.

Over 60 Local 1049 crews left Long Island to take part in the massive restoration effort in Louisiana and Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. We appreciate their hard work and assistance to the hurricane victims.

In October we started our annual United Way Fund Drive. The United Way of Long Island allocates funds to worthwhile local community service agencies. When approached by a United Way captain, please be generous.

Let us also remember Bros. Michael Hengerle, Robert Kane, Daryl Miller and John Monaco, who as of this writing are stationed in Iraq.

Our condolences to the family of the late Int. Pres. Emeritus John J. Barry. He was an inspiration to all.

THOMAS DOWLING, R.S.

Fun Fishing

L.U. 1205 (em,govt,i&u), GAINESVILLE, FL—Local 1205 held its annual W.S. Brown Memorial Bream Fishing Tournament Sat., May 14, at Rodman Dam. This event focuses on the children of our members and is a popular family event for young and old.

Breakfast and lunch were included in this fun-filled day. A hearty 6 a.m. breakfast included eggs and bacon and then it was fishing time! Ribbons were presented to all our young participants and trophies were awarded. The fresh-caught fish made our lunch exceptional. The good attendance would have impressed Bro. W.S. Brown and everyone had a great time.

WAYNE SPARKMAN, P.S.

Some of Local 1205's most notable fishermen.



Instructors Troy Brausell (left) and James Osterli (right) with Local 1245 apprentices from the California-Nevada JATC Northern School, beginning second from left: Nola Brimhall, fifth step; David Jenkins, sixth step; Brian McClure, fifth step; and Dean Bodenhamer, sixth step.

PG&E Negotiations

L.U. 1245 (catv,em,govt,lctt,o,pet,t&u), VACAVILLE, CA—In wage re-opener negotiations with Local 1245, Pacific Gas & Electric agreed to pass on the approximately \$4 million in subsidies and premium enhancements it can receive when Medicare Part D goes into effect in 2006. PG&E agreed to use all of the government subsidies and premium enhancements to reduce premiums for Medicare retirees. The monthly value of the subsidies and premium enhancements (doubled for employee and spouse) for each member will range from \$22.08 to \$62.20. Wage negotiations for current employees were continuing at press time.

Local 1245's challenge to PG&E's decision to close all 84 of its local offices is scheduled for arbitration. Local 1245 is also in discussion with PG&E regarding its proposal to automate meter reading.

In Outside Construction news, the union hiring hall recently reported 56 calls for journeyman linemen; six for equipment specialists; 23 for groundmen; five for cable splicers; 38 for U.G. Tech; and five for apprentices, for a total of 133 calls. Total crews working on Outside Agreement were 118; 40 on the Underground Agreement; 40 on the Pole Test Agreement; and 14 on the Teledata Agreement.

ERIC WOLFE, P.S.

Delmarva Power Agreement

L.U. 1307 (u), SALISBURY, MD—Local 1307 ratified a new five-year agreement with Delmarva Power. It includes a 16 percent increase in base wages over the course of the contract; prescription plan modifications and employee contributions toward major medical insurance. We gained 21 new jobs, increased shift differentials and other improvements.

Local 1307's annual picnic and golf tournament June 11 were fun for all. Bros. Craig Kormanik, Billy Nichols, Steve Causey and Chuck Harris won golf trophies.

Bro. Paul Andrews celebrated his June 2005 retirement at the picnic. Paul began employment with Delmarva

Local 1307 Pres. Mike Dennis (left) presents Bro. Paul Andrews a retirement gift from the local at the annual picnic.



Power in Salisbury in 1970. He completed his apprenticeship, advanced through numerous utility positions and served with great dedication.

E.D. SPARKS, F.S.



Local 1381 Bus. Mgr. Donald J. Daley Jr. (left) and Pres. Robert Delaney congratulate scholarship winner Kate Caramico.

Active Membership

L.U. 1381 (uow) HICKSVILLE, NY—Local 1381 had an activity-filled summer. The local recently celebrated the one-year anniversary of newly elected Bus. Mgr. Donald J. Daley Jr. Along with training classes and shop steward workshops, Bus. Mgr. Daley has focused on uniting and strengthening our membership. Local 1381 held a summer social gathering for members to meet one another and share views on the future of our local.

Our Voluntary Organizing Committee is teaching leadership and democratic principles, and encourages members to be politically active.

Local 1381's annual golf outing raised funds for our Committee on Political Education and for the Donald J. Daley Memorial Scholarship Fund. The 2005 scholarship award went to Kate Caramico, daughter of Local 1381 member Marylynn Caramico.

CATHERINE MALINOWSKI, P.S.

Milestone Celebration

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—On March 12, 2005, Bro. Patrick Cooney, a former Union Electric (Ameren) employee, reached his 100th birthday with great fanfare, thanks to his family and former co-workers. Pat started his occupational journey with Union Electric on Jan. 1, 1930, and was initiated into Local 1439 in 1946. He worked as an electrical mechanic and retired from the Midland Reporting Center in 1970. Pat was appreciated as a hard worker and was friendly to all—a good legacy for all of us to strive for which speaks volumes about his character. God bless you, Patrick, and thanks for your contribution to the IBEW!

We mourn the loss of Jettie Casey, John Savage and Floyd Taber.

KEN CARROLL, P.S.

Maryland Relay Unit

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,t&rts), BALTIMORE, MD—The newly chartered unit of our local union, designated 1501-3, represents Maryland Relay operators, who are employed by AT&T and provide a public service offered through the state of Maryland, which enables deaf, hard-of-hearing, or speech-disabled people to communicate with standard telephone users.

Our members are integral to the success of Maryland Relay. They maintain strict confidentiality regarding the conversation of users. The Relay operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and processes nearly 2.5 million calls annually. Maryland Relay works by enabling users of a TTY (text telephone) or a standard phone to initiate a call by giving a phone number of a person or business being called to a Relay operator, who dials the number typing the standard phone user's spoken words to the person using the TTY, and voices the TTY user's written text. The state of Maryland provides informative brochures explaining services offered. Additional information is available from Maryland Relay at 1-800-552-7724 or at Web site www.mdrelay.org. THOMAS J. ROSTKOWSKI, P.S.

Alaska Hunter Rescued

L.U. 1547 (c,em,i,o,t&u), ANCHORAGE, AK—Congratulations to Bro. Larry Bell, a journeyman wireman, business representative and second-generation IBEW member, who was elected business manager of Local 1547 on July 9, 2005.

Members thank retired Bus. Mgr. Gary Brooks for his dedication to 1547. Bro. Brooks helped 1547 become a well known and influential labor union in Alaska, and he contributed to the excellent financial condition of 1547's pension and trust funds.

Retired Bus. Rep. Tom Atkins, now a commercial pilot, rescued an Illinois hunter missing for four days in a remote area of Alaska. Bro. Atkins, who frequently drops off and picks up hunters in the area, spotted the man standing on top of a rock waving his arms. Atkins got the man into his plane and flew him many miles to safety. Bro. Atkins set a fine example for all. He is a true hero.

Thanks to IBEW travelers who came to Alaska this summer to work our short construction season.

JACK ENDSLEY, P.S.

Augusta Workers Rally

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—Our LAC and the Augusta Building & Trades took to the streets in Augusta on Labor Day. Rallying at the Augusta Commons, we received a good welcome from Interim Mayor Willie Mays.

Marching from South Carolina across the Savannah River with Georgia Lt. Gov. Mark Taylor, U.S. Rep. John Barrow, Georgia Rep. Pete Warren and many other friends of labor at our side, we in labor proved we have plenty of fight left in us. We will not stop this fight to protect American workers' rights. Thanks to our members who marched to support the union.



Local 1579 members participate in 2005 Labor Day March in Augusta, GA.

After the march we held our annual barbecue at our lake property at Clarks Hill. We fed over 550 members and their families. It was a good day for labor.

Our shops are holding their own. We sent 35 journeyman wiremen to Plant Vogtle and two to Southland Electric. A salt project at SRS was scheduled to start the last quarter of this year, but was delayed because of design changes. At press time, a report from Southern Co. concerning Plant Vogtle and the new reactors was scheduled for Sept. 9, 2005, in Atlanta.

JOHNNY HUTCHESON,
A.B.M./ORG.

New Training Facilities

L.U. 1739 (i&o), BARRIE, ON, CANADA—Work has picked up in our area, but we still have members on the road. Our local is in the middle of a tourism playground. Boats and water skis give way to downhill or Nordic skis, snowboards, ice fishing and



Local 1739 Bro. Reggie Robitaille at the Soldiers Memorial Hospital expansion project site.

hockey. A black bear provided added excitement to this year's golf tourney. Bro. Art O'Hara observed that he never knew bears could run so fast. No doubt the bear never knew construction workers could run so fast either.

Members are making good use of our hall's new training facilities. We have completed courses for Fire Alarm, Network Cabling Specialist, Workplace Safety and Organizing, among others. Your local scribe is putting his Fire Alarm training into practice on the job-site. I am living proof that one is never too old to learn something new, so sign up and update your skills, too.

BILL CARSON, P.S.

Be a Part of Progress

L.U. 1749 (u), NEW JOHNSONVILLE, TN—The Tenth District Progress Meeting was held in Little Rock, AR, July 12-15 with Int. Vice Pres. Robert Kline chairing the meeting. Guest speakers included IBEW Int. Pres. Edwin D. Hill; Little Rock Mayor Patrick Hayes; IBEW member James Salkeld, Arkansas Dept of Labor; IBEW Int. Sec.-Treas. Jon F. Walters; and Arkansas Secretary of State Charlie Daniels, an IBEW member. Diane Thomas-Holladay, University of Arkansas, presented a seminar on the National Labor Relations Act. She noted that union employment is lower than before the NLRA was enacted in 1935.

This can be attributed to downsizing, relocation of manufacturing jobs overseas—and constant attacks from the current Republican Administration in Washington. Some 37 million more people have entered poverty in the

Attending the IBEW Tenth District Progress Meeting, from left: Int. Rep. John K. Craig, Local 1749 Bus. Mr. Jeffrey Rosentreter, Int. Vice Pres. Robert P. Klein, Local 1749 Press Sec. Mark DeJuliis and Unit Steward Vincent Wilson.



past four years. We must support our organizing departments, market recovery efforts, COPE, salting programs and COMET. Be active in your union. Help elect worker-friendly candidates.

MARK J. DEJULIIS
P.S./POLITICAL COORDINATOR

Work Holding Steady

L.U. 2113 (i,it,mo&o), TULLA-HOMA, TN—Our work is holding steady and we are thankful for our union contractors employing members working within the jurisdiction: Jacobs Constructors Inc (JCD), Nabco, Harlan, Ralph White, Adman, Elec-Tech, Electrical Contracting Services, G*ub*mk, Fast, Lawson and Service Electric. Work at Arnold Air Force Base continues to



Local 2113 Pres. Lloyd Ballard (second from left), Aerospace Testing Alliance Gen. Mgr. David Elrod (left) and Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC) Commander Gen. David Springer (far right) congratulate Local 2113 members who recently received IBEW service pins. Service award recipients, beginning third from left: Rick Sells, a 25-year member; Tom Wilden (40 year member), Stanley Evans (50 years), and Talmage Tilley (55 years).

hold, with projections for a heavier workload. We are hopeful that by the time this article is published, a new agreement will have been reached with Aerospace Testing Alliance (ATA) and the Metal Trades Council, of which our local is the largest affiliate.

Heartiest congratulations to our newly elected officers: Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Gary M. Cunningham, Pres. Lloyd D. Ballard, Vice Pres. Brian Farless and Rec. Sec. Robert D. Porter. Bros. Farless and Cunningham are graduates of Local 2113's apprenticeship program.

Speak or write an encouraging word every chance you get, living up to our reputation as "The Union of Hearts & Minds"!

BOB SMITH, P.S.

RETIRES

Glad to be IBEW

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO—Our Retirees Club went to a Cardinals baseball game in May. We had eight busloads of members and their spouses or a friend.

Our retirees meetings have been well attended, but of course we would like to have more members participate.

We thank officers and members who prepare the lunch at our meetings. Retirees have concerns regarding retirement benefit, social security and medical care, but we are very fortunate to be IBEW members.

RICH KING, P.S.

Summer Activities

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER PUTNAM CHAPTER—Our May 11 golf outing at the Beekman Country Club was a huge success. Another well-planned

activity by Chmn. Jim O'Donnell. The June 8 fishing trip out of Glen Island was a beautiful day, with great camaraderie. We thank Chmn. Richard Mills.

To show our support for the troops in Iraq, a collection was taken at our May meeting for telephone cards to send overseas.

Condolences to the family of Trustee Jim Tobias, who passed away in June. His dedication and kindness will be missed. With the approval of the Board of Directors, Jim's position was filled by Bill Robinson. The Board of Directors also voted for William Arnold to fill the position of trustee, vacated by Anthony Roucco, who retired to Florida.

Our bi-annual retirees luncheon was Oct. 21 at Sheraton Hotel, NYC. Prizes were awarded at our first fall meeting, Tues., Sept. 15. Fall activities are being planned.

VINCENT PANZARINO, P.S.

Anniversary Dinner

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 24, BALTIMORE, MD—On July 19 we celebrated our anniversary dinner at Club 1400. Installation of officers was administered by Bus. Mgr. James Jarvis. Our officers are: Pres. Joe Albers, Vice Pres. Carolyn Eder, Sec./Treas. Betty Pfaff, Sgt.-at-Arms Bob Tombaugh; and Executive Board members Charles Bennett, Ed Habicht, Bob Myers, Stella Pumphrey and Lee Witts.

On Aug 7 retirees and spouses

Local 24 Bus. Mgr. James Jarvis (back row, left) installed Local 24 Retirees Club officers. From left, front row, Stella Pumphrey, Carolyn Eder and Betty Pfaff; back row, Jarvis, Joe Albers, Ed Habicht, Bob Myers, Bob Tombaugh, Lee Witts and Charles Bennett.



attended the Local 24 picnic. Friendship Luncheons were enjoyed after the April and October retirees meetings. On April 28 members enjoyed a luncheon cruise on the Potomac River aboard the *Odyssey* out of Washington, DC. Afterward, we visited the World War II Memorial. In February we had a speaker from Legg Mason Investments. The October speaker discussed Medicare changes.

We mourn the recent loss of: Claybourn Langlotz, William German Jr.,

Edward Novakowski and Karl Stepp.

We welcome new member Hugh Meredith. The club meets the third Tuesday of each month, 11 a.m., at the union hall. Refreshments are served.

BETTY PFAFF, SEC./TREAS.



Local 71 Retirees Club members at the Scioto Downs races.

New Members Welcome

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 71, COLUMBUS, OH—We met May 20 for our spring luncheon meeting at Gala Events, Grove City, OH. Over 50 guests enjoyed a buffet lunch and shared stories of line work trivia.

On June 22 we enjoyed our second annual "Night at the Races" at Scioto Downs. Forty plus guests enjoyed an evening of Brotherhood, racing and a buffet dinner.

We encourage more retirees and associate members to join our club. We continue to grow and we always welcome new members.

Deepest sympathies to the families of Jack James, Bill Purtee, Dotson Morgan, Joe Denman, Claude Smith, Bert Ambrose, James Tayse, Francis Arnett, William Brewer, Jesse Brooks and Thomas Saunders.

DAVE FISSEL, PRES.

Summer Outing

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 90, NEW HAVEN, CT—Local 90's annual members outing at Holiday Hill in Cheshire, CT, was an enjoyable occasion. The weather was great as was the food and drink—and most importantly, the company of our brothers and sisters both active and retired. We thank Local 90 for inviting us.

Our club resumed monthly meetings just after Labor Day. We meet the first Tuesday of each month, except in July and August, at 1:30 p.m. at IBEW Local 90 offices—2 North Plains Industrial Rd., Wallingford, CT.

The cost of membership is only \$15, which includes a Christmas luncheon. We hope to see many new members join our membership.

RICHARD LAUNDER, P.S.

Summer Festivity

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI—Retirees and friends enjoyed a beautiful summer outing Aug. 14 at Kempenaar's Clambake

Members and retirees enjoy Local 99's summer outing. From left, Bros. Charles Foggarty, Frank Oster and Bus. Mgr. Allen Durand.



Club in Newport, RI. Bus. Mgr. Allen Durand and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Ron Leddy greeted family and friends of Local 99. Everyone enjoyed good food, entertainment and fellowship. Health screenings also were available. Thanks

to Mike D'Amico, the committee and officers for a tremendous job!

We are saddened by the passing of Bros. Paul Stoppello, Raymond A. Laplante, Steven R. Ide and John J. O'Rourke.

PAT COLUCCI, P.S.

Going Strong

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 102, PATERSON, NJ—We call ourselves the "Old Timers." Here are our top eleven:



Local 102 retirees at a Dec. 2003 Retirees Club meeting: from left, Jim Moroney, Rudy Stys, Joe Zagra, Pete Zubal and Ned Waldman.

Michael Saraco (born in 1907); Rudy Stys (1912), Russell Jayne (1912), Joseph Lubeck (1916), Francis Rourke (1916), Peter Malloy (1918), Edgar Starnes (1918), O.S. Van Duyn (1918), Sal Guilano (1919), and Sherman Kisner (1919).

Rudy Stys, as a Local 262 member in 1956, was the mover and shaker for the local to start a pension. I started my apprenticeship in 1966 under Rudy's tutelage. Ever a gentleman, he soon straightened out my "wise-alec" attitude and that kept me in the program (see photo).

Bill Vincent spoke to retirees about our medical plan at our June 2005 meeting. Measures the trustees took last July, plus the increase in contributions, stabilized the health and welfare plan. Two items were adjusted downward: the maximum co-pay for any one prescription and the maximum co-pay for insulin. Vote Nov. 8, 2005.

JIM MORONEY, P.S.

A Successful Year

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 103, BOSTON, MA—Five Retirees Club officers attended the Alliance of Retired



Local 103 Retirees Club officers and spouses attend Local 103's retirement party for Local 103 members.

Local 105 Pres. Vic Prohaska (right) presented awards to 50-year members, from left: Dick Gabel, Frank Shipton, Don Rumney, Werner Fritsch, Don Fralick and Tom Beattie.



Americans conference in Washington, D.C. We described our concerns regarding Social Security and Medicare prescription drug programs to elected public officials. We also visited and were kindly received at the new IBEW headquarters and archives.

On our return home we attended the Local 103 retirement dinner where

Local 134 50-year members: from left, front row, Charles LoPresti, Ervino Elmi, Ron Marsden, Ralph Gault, William Serritella; middle row, Gerald Thompson, Raymond Svejnoha, Jerry Koch, Peter Caruso, Wayne Schroeder; back row, James Kassner, Bob Mersch, James McNamara, Frank McCabe and George Randle.



50-year Members

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL—Congratulations to our 50-year members. Our club had a good year and September was a busy month. Club members have enjoyed luncheons, guest speakers, an architectural river tour of Chicago, John Cummin's golf outing, plays at Drury Lane Theater and more. December brings our corned beef gathering. At year's end we congratulate our officers for a job well done. Congratulations also to all the committees. These gentlemen are looking for help with club functions. We invite recent retirees to join us.

R. E. BRONARS, P.S.

Jim Thompson Mourned

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO—We mourn Bro. Jim Thompson, who passed away earlier this year. A 50-year IBEW member, Bro. Thompson served as local union business manager, city councilman and church deacon. He will be missed.

Over 35 club members traveled to the Lyceum Theater in Arrow Rock to see "The Importance of being Earnest."

Several retirees traveled to Linn, MO, to judge the Missouri Skills USA competition for industrial students at Linn Technical College. Those members were: John Baxter, Herman Grothoff, Jerry Rehagan, Orville Linger and Local

The late retired Bro. Jim Thompson, a former Local 257 business manager.





The late Bro. Nick Bassick (center), a Local 291 Retirees Club member, received his Purple Heart, presented by U.S. Sen. Larry Craig (left) and Major Gen. Larry Lafrenz. Bro. Bassick passed away Sept. 2, 2005.

257 Apprentice Dir. Rick Stokes.

Club Pres. Jerry Rehagan had knee replacement surgery and is now doing well. Orville Linger suffered a stroke and at reporting time is recovering well. Some retiree members attended the Mokanes World Fair, riding our float in the parade.

The Retirees Club will not meet in November. Our Christmas meeting is Dec 13 at the union hall.

GARY FISHER, P.S.

Nick Bassick Tribute

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 291, BOISE, ID—We mourn Bro. Nick Bassick, who passed away Sept. 2, 2005.

At the June 9, 2005, Retirees Club meeting Pres. Don Harness gave special recognition to Bro. Bassick, a former lineman, on belatedly receiving his Purple Heart for shrapnel wounds

received in 1944. The Purple Heart was presented to Bro. Bassick on Memorial Day 2005. Major Gen. Larry Lafrenz presented the award and Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and U.S. Sen. Larry Craig were present at the ceremony.

Bro. Dale Hancock won the door prize at the June 9 meeting. Representing the local at the meeting was Dawn Walsh, office secretary. The first 2005 fall meeting was scheduled for Sept 8.

LLOYD WILLIAMS, P.S.

Labor Day Picnic

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 639, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA—The Local 639 Retiree's Club staffed the IBEW booth at the San Luis Obispo County Democratic Party Labor Day picnic in September.

More than 500 people turned out for a day of barbecue, entertainment and speakers, including local Democratic

Local 639 Retirees Club members staffed a booth at the Labor Day picnic. From left, back row: Rich Harris, Gordon Reed, Jim Filon and Don Ice; front row, Bruce Knievsky, Bill Papich, James Reed (active member) and Ron Snyder.



Party officials, union representatives and U.S. Rep. Lois Capps. Local 639 active members Richie Kugelmann, James Reed and Brett Malone provided the barbecue expertise and prepared lunch. It was a great time for everyone.

BILL PAPICH, P.S.

Summer Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 654, CHESTER, PA—Local 654 retirees and guests enjoyed an elegant summer luncheon in the Austin room of our new union hall. Bus. Mgr. Steve McNally welcomed everyone and after lunch gave a tour of the building.

The retirees thank our membership

Local 654 Retirees Club members and guests at the summer luncheon.



We thank Albany Local 236 for inviting us to the Steak Roast at Krauses Grove Sept. 10. Our club's annual luncheon at Crossgate Restaurant was Oct. 18.

We like to hear from our retirees across the United States. Letters may be sent to Local Union 724, IBEW Retirees Club, P.O. Box 9155, Albany, NY, 12209-0155.

JIM DON RILEY, P.S.

Come Join Us

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 804, KITCHENER, ON, CANADA—From a cautious beginning our club has progressed into more activity. Our luncheon meetings are a plus for

for the luncheons we have enjoyed through the years.

I encourage members nearing retirement to talk to a retiree and check with your local union office early. They are helpful with your questions and will provide a Plan Summary.

Local 654 member Shawn Quinn returned home safely from Iraq.

We welcome new retirees to our breakfast every other Wednesday.

T. FRANCIS HANLEY, P.S.

Annual Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF FORMER L.U. 724, ALBANY, NY—Our club meets the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Albany Labor Temple.

cheon meetings are a plus for members who must travel longer distances. Club excursions were added, such as the Grand River Boat Cruise and the Sept. 22 Wine Tour.

For the Wine Tour, arrangements were made to pick up members from the Guelph area at the Willow West Mall; then the Kitchener area members at the union hall. Such added convenience encourages more retirees to join the get-togethers and keep up the friendships developed through our working years.

The Retirees Club is a good place to reinforce those memories—come join us.

THOMAS GARDNER, P.S.

Local	Surname	Amount
68	Housand, P. D.	3,000.00
68	Stansberry, C. F.	3,000.00
68	Stasey, J. L.	2,083.34
70	Stockstill, J. D.	3,000.00
71	Ambrose, B. C.	3,000.00
71	Smith, C. W.	3,000.00
73	Lynch, C. E.	6,250.00
76	Wheeler, A. C.	3,000.00
77	White, R. E.	3,000.00
82	Carrier, E. L.	3,297.46
82	Kennard, D.	4,196.80
86	Volpe, M. R.	3,000.00
97	Brown, B. A.	3,000.00
97	Moore, L. H.	2,955.19
97	Robson, V.	2,950.00
98	Murphy, G. R.	3,000.00
98	Savarese, H.	3,000.00
99	Digiulio, E. A.	3,000.00
99	Lindstrom, A. R.	6,250.00
102	Brittain, M. G.	2,978.49
102	Morabito, J. M.	6,250.00
102	Moriarty, J. P.	3,000.00
102	Syron, P.	2,948.00
103	Albers, B. A.	3,000.00
103	Reilly, J. J.	3,000.00
104	Leonard, R. J.	3,000.00
105	Owens, G. P.	3,000.00
110	Johnson, R. C.	2,423.40
111	Dacus, K. M.	3,000.00
113	Nedrow, P. D.	6,250.00
113	Orr, J. R.	6,250.00
113	Smith, R. F.	6,250.00
113	Walczak, S. S.	3,000.00
121	Hinton, C. H.	3,000.00
124	Armstrong, H. W.	3,000.00
124	Davis, H. C.	3,000.00
124	Day, D. C.	1,000.00
124	Holliday, J. W.	1,500.00
124	Wise, J. P.	3,000.00
125	Bistline, E. L.	1,500.00
125	Hartley, H. M.	3,000.00
125	Head, E.	3,000.00
125	Lorey, J. P.	5,711.00
125	Ruzic, J. L.	3,000.00
126	Wildasin, W. W.	3,000.00
134	Durham, R. W.	3,000.00
134	Fogtmann, E. B.	3,000.00
134	Kahn, B.	1,000.00
134	Keating, T. J.	3,000.00
134	Keller, G. W.	3,000.00
134	Kinloch, R. J.	3,000.00
134	Long, L. A.	6,250.00
134	Lutz, J. R.	3,000.00
134	Messina, D. J.	6,250.00
134	Mitchell, M. A.	6,250.00
134	Poe, T. L.	3,000.00
134	Rappold, W. J.	3,000.00
134	Sadilek, V. C.	3,000.00
134	Tomasetti, C. D.	3,000.00
136	Harding, J. S.	3,000.00
143	Johnson, D. A.	2,000.00
145	Mitchell, L. J.	3,000.00
150	Hertel, P. C.	4,166.66
153	Johnson, L. L.	3,000.00
153	Moon, K. D.	3,000.00
159	Erstad, A.	3,000.00
160	Sundholm, M. R.	6,250.00
164	Monticello, N. J.	3,000.00
164	Peer, C. H.	3,000.00
164	Sutherland, T. E.	6,250.00
175	Bell, W. R.	6,250.00
175	Bell, W. L.	1,500.00
175	Haynes, T. L.	3,000.00
175	Lewis, W. R.	3,000.00
191	Marshall, C. R.	2,955.50
194	Cascio, J. P.	3,000.00
210	Norman, T. W.	2,727.95
212	Goetz, W. C.	3,000.00

Local	Surname	Amount
212	Morris, W. F.	2,927.98
213	Sealey, R. W.	3,000.00
213	Wise, J. A.	3,000.00
223	Bishop, D.	2,908.00
229	Hartlaub, G. N.	3,000.00
231	Shook, L. N.	3,000.00
233	Jackson, H. M.	3,000.00
236	Johnson, K. F.	3,000.00
242	Hauer, C. G.	3,000.00
245	Rauch, C. L.	3,000.00
252	Slaybaugh, R. D.	3,000.00
258	Chambers, M.	2,952.00
258	Pederson, S. C.	3,125.00
271	Munoz, G. T.	6,250.00
280	Klitzke, E. D.	2,910.50
292	Chap, D. J.	6,250.00
292	Culligan, J. L.	3,000.00
292	Dahlstrom, R. L.	6,250.00
292	Lau, G.	3,000.00
292	Lloyd, G. R.	3,000.00
292	Rutz, R.	3,000.00
300	Lane, G. E.	2,902.32
302	Thomas, S. J.	3,000.00
306	Ratchford, H. S.	3,000.00
307	Kelly, D. P.	3,000.00
308	Murphy, F. J.	3,000.00
309	Cummins, J. L.	3,000.00
309	Doil, W. E.	3,000.00
309	Hennessy, T. F.	2,524.80
309	Simcox, C. A.	2,856.00
313	Kiloski, G. S.	3,000.00
317	Davis, E. L.	3,000.00
317	Jones, G. L.	3,000.00
317	Shrader, B. V.	3,000.00
340	Evans, J. L.	2,934.32
340	Jones, H. H.	3,000.00
340	Saffold, L.	8,333.34
340	Yates, C. S.	6,250.00
342	Lee, T. R.	6,250.00
343	Tatro, D. M.	6,250.00
349	Farr, H. J.	3,000.00
349	Ohlsson, D. C.	3,000.00
351	O'Brien, D. P.	12,500.00
351	Tulini, E. M.	3,000.00
353	Hopkin, T. W.	6,250.00
353	Salter, H. A.	3,000.00
357	Bearup, H. E.	3,000.00
363	Bello, C. R.	12,500.00
363	Henry, W. O.	2,820.00
363	Kaweski, E. A.	3,000.00
363	Krusher, J. D.	1,947.00
363	Winterberger, J. L.	2,916.00
364	Howard, E. S.	3,000.00
365	Goforth, B. B.	2,945.59
366	Nettleton, W. H.	3,000.00
369	Patrick, J. C.	3,280.00
369	Preston, C. L.	6,250.00
369	Rose, W. P.	3,000.00
369	Smith, W. L.	3,000.00
380	Bell, J. J.	2,859.16
380	Haley, T. J.	3,000.00
387	Hoggatt, E. O.	2,948.79
400	Baratta, P. R.	3,000.00
400	Chasey, G. H.	3,000.00
401	Gilley, B.	3,000.00
401	Lunak, J.	3,000.00
405	Boston, D. J.	6,250.00
413	McFillen, M. J.	3,000.00
415	Anderson, W. D.	3,000.00
415	Keating, J. P.	3,000.00
424	Carfantan, R. J.	6,250.00
424	Kavanagh, L. R.	6,250.00
424	Kierman, H.	5,536.00
429	Bishop, D.	3,000.00
429	Brown, R. B.	6,250.00
429	Dedmon, T. B.	3,000.00
436	King, C. P.	3,000.00
441	Harris, R. G.	3,000.00

Local	Surname	Amount
441	Ridsdale, E. D.	2,928.38
444	Hager, E. W.	3,000.00
445	Zima, J. J.	6,250.00
446	Hall, B. R.	3,000.00
446	Kirby, D. P.	3,000.00
449	Jester, H. E.	1,000.00
456	Chinchar, T. J.	3,000.00
474	Edwards, D. A.	3,000.00
479	Smith, P. P.	3,000.00
481	Newforth, C. J.	12,500.00
483	Pozorski, H. J.	3,000.00
486	Phelps, F. H.	2,625.54
488	Nitsche, W. G.	3,000.00
494	Dropp, R. H.	3,000.00
494	Goldmann, D. J.	2,954.02
495	Lewis, E.	3,000.00
495	Price, H.	3,000.00
520	Carlstrand, D. B.	12,500.00
520	Lange, F. C.	6,250.00
530	Bell, J. F.	3,000.00
530	Kensley, C.	3,000.00
531	Finton, H. E.	2,888.00
540	Nidy, A. E.	1,620.28
547	Holle, D. D.	2,971.78
553	Nobles, K. T.	6,250.00
558	Fuller, R. R.	1,500.00
558	Powell, C. R.	3,000.00
558	Webster, J. R.	3,000.00
568	Gal, J.	2,704.74
569	Bartlett, R. J.	3,000.00
569	Crain, H. D.	12,500.00
584	Molloy, G. L.	3,000.00
595	Lightburn, A.	3,000.00
602	Rodgers, C. A.	3,000.00
602	Shaw, B. C.	3,000.00
613	Brown, M. E.	3,000.00
613	Nalley, R.	3,000.00
613	Waddle, J. W.	3,000.00
617	Fabos, J. G.	3,000.00
639	Molinari, L. O.	3,000.00
648	France, D. G.	3,000.00
654	McBride, J. M.	3,006.51
659	Josh, D. L.	12,500.00
659	Rogers, F. R.	3,000.00
659	Rohl, F. L.	3,000.00
665	Criddle, J. A.	3,000.00
666	Burks, R. W.	6,250.00
666	Guyton, H. C.	3,000.00
666	Latham, H. C.	3,000.00
668	Mize, D. M.	3,000.00
682	Moore, H. F.	1,500.00
683	Honnold, R. I.	3,000.00
684	Boggs, J. E.	1,468.27
684	Clayton, J. H.	3,000.00
688	Freeman, T. P.	3,000.00
692	Peil, J. G.	3,000.00
697	Martin, J. E.	3,000.00
697	Parent, D. K.	2,123.93
700	Hardin, L. C.	3,000.00
701	Pozek, J.	3,855.56
702	Drury, G. L.	6,250.00
702	Purnell, J. A.	6,250.00
714	Yineman, L. A.	3,000.00
716	Gaddis, R. D.	3,000.00
716	Williams, S. F.	3,000.00
725	Fiscus, T. S.	2,083.33
728	Gabrenas, J. R.	6,250.00
728	Lindsey, C. B.	3,000.00
728	Simmons, M. L.	6,250.00
731	Koch, J. A.	2,922.00
743	Balatgek, R.	2,935.00
756	Malone, P. F.	3,000.00
756	Morgan, D. E.	3,000.00
756	Turner, A. F.	3,000.00
760	Childs, E. S.	3,000.00
760	Gray, D. T.	12,500.00
760	Johnson, D. J.	2,934.00
763	Marshall, R. K.	3,000.00

Local	Surname	Amount
769	Thibodeaux, D. K.	3,000.00
812	Kilgus, F. P.	3,000.00
852	Donahoe, C. W.	3,000.00
861	Chiasson, H.	3,000.00
876	Gaines, N.	3,000.00
876	Rasmussen, C. W.	2,802.00
889	Vore, R. F.	2,934.00
894	Perks, T. A.	6,250.00
898	Brister, J. A.	3,000.00
932	Smith, W. E.	3,000.00
934	Gibson, H. A.	3,000.00
948	Seeley, M. E.	3,000.00
949	Anderson, R. L.	3,000.00
985	Culpepper, R. B.	2,922.00
995	Martinez, E. A.	3,000.00
1049	Martone, R. P.	3,000.00
1049	Ritner, T.	2,000.00
1077	Lang, S. G.	2,938.00
1077	Rawls, M.	2,963.04
1186	Alchin, W.	3,000.00
1205	Thompson, W. E.	3,000.00
1228	Leavitt, T. A.	3,000.00
1249	Sullivan, J. P.	3,000.00
1249	Sweeney, P. L.	3,000.00
1377	Cunningham, A. J.	2,939.99

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES AND REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Foster called this regular meeting of the International Executive Council to order at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 13, 2005. Other members of the Council in attendance were Lavin, Chilia, Plott, Carrinho and Fashion. Also in attendance were the two newly appointed IEC members—Gregory Lucero and Joseph Calabro.

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT HILL

International President Edwin D. Hill met with the International Executive Council a number of times to discuss a variety of matters affecting all branches of the Brotherhood.

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER WALTERS

International Secretary-Treasurer Jon F. Walters 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 International Executive Council, examined and filed.

PBF TRUSTEES

The International Executive Council, sitting as the Trustees, along with the International President and the International Secretary-Treasurer of the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund, reviewed Fund investments and related matters.

INVESTMENTS

The report of the fund investment action by the International President and by the International Secretary-Treasurer since the last Council meeting was presented to the International Executive Council, examined and approved.

LOCAL UNIONS UNDER TRUSTEESHIP

International President Edwin D. Hill reported to the International Executive Council that Local Union 1852, Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada, which had been placed under I.O. Trusteeship on July 13, 2004, was released from trusteeship effective June 30, 2005.

RETIREMENT OF EMPLOYEES

Linda L. Vermillion—effective July 11, 2005 (Accountant—IBEW Accounting Department)

Nancy D. Davis—effective October 1, 2005 (Secretary—IBEW Fifth District)

Kathleen J. Yost—effective November 7, 2005 (Senior Agreement Approval Analyst—IBEW Construction and Maintenance Department)

Claire C. Swain—effective December 5, 2005 (Secretary—IBEW Construction and Maintenance Department)

RETIREMENT OF INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

David A. Johnson—effective August 1, 2005 (International Representative—IBEW Sixth District)

Thomas E. Cook—effective September 1, 2005 (International Representative—IBEW Fourth District)

Richard Doak, Jr.—effective October 1, 2005 (International Representative—IBEW Fifth District)

RETIREMENT OF EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

Patrick M. Reilly—effective October 1, 2005 (Senior Executive Assistant to the International Secretary-Treasurer)

NEWLY APPOINTED IEC MEMBERS

International President Edwin D. Hill appointed, and the International Executive Council approved, the following members to the International Executive Council:

Joseph Calabro—effective September 1, 2005 IEC First District

Gregory Lucero—effective August 1, 2005 IEC Sixth District

Robert Pierson—effective October 1, 2005 IEC Fifth District

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

This regular meeting of the International Executive Council was held in Washington, D.C. The meeting adjourned on Thursday, September 15, 2005.

The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 6, 2005, in Washington, D.C.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Patrick Lavin, Secretary
International Executive Council

Note: The IEC acted on numerous applications dealing with pensions under the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund. For a complete listing, please contact the International Secretary-Treasurer's Office, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20001.

IBEW Mayor

(Continued from page 11)

agreement, which returns \$70 million a year to the city, for another five years.

Lawrenceburg has hit a jackpot of public projects that would be the envy of a larger city. A new campus for Indiana Community College is under construction. The city has built an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a \$600,000 football field, a skateboard park and a \$4.7 million firehouse. Revenue-sharing supports an adult center and a bond bank that loans money to local businesses and start-up enterprises at a low interest rate. The college scholarship program, administered by a foundation, issues \$500,000 in grants per year.

Out of the \$200 million spent on construction in Lawrenceburg, Cunningham said 99 percent has gone to union contractors.

"Whiskey City" is gone. As its distilleries shut down one by one, a manufacturing-based economy has been supplanted by gaming tables and service businesses. Such transitions are always

painful but Lawrenceburg is still a union city. Union traditions are so strong that a local nonunion grocery store shut down because locals wouldn't patronize it. The casino's workers are represented by the Seafarer's International Union. Lawrenceburg's 97 municipal workers are represented by the International Association of Machinists (IAM).

As mayor, Cunningham bargains across the table from the IAM. "We have had some disagreements, but mostly we work things out," he says. Health insurance costs employees only \$1 per year. Their pay ranges from \$15 per hour to \$22. Workers with the most seniority are entitled to annual six-week vacations. "I believe that if people are treated well, they work well," he says.

While he describes the mayor's job as rewarding, Cunningham always feels the subtle pressures of a place where everyone knows your name. "In a big city, people don't expect that their leaders will always look out for them personally, but in a small one like Lawrenceburg, residents ask why you didn't hire their son or daughter, reminding you that they once knew your father."

He can't please everyone, but Cun-

ningham is always open to suggestions and criticisms. Each month, on a Saturday, he opens city council chambers to the public to meet with citizens on issues ranging from "dogs running loose to tax rates." He says, "I'm out on the streets a lot and my phone number is listed." Cunningham, who makes \$40,000 as mayor, has supported a raise for city council members, but not for himself.

The success of Mayor Cunningham and Democrats in Lawrenceburg has run counter to the trend in surrounding Dearborn County. Once a Democratic stronghold of 17,000, the county has grown to 50,000 with an influx of former residents of ultra-conservative Hamilton County, drawn by new housing developments. Cunningham said he urges fellow IBEW members to throw their hat into local politics, "at any level, from school board to zoning board, to mayor."

He says "grassroots politics can be applied anywhere. Stay involved. You will be surprised at the changes that you can make, but it takes a lot of work," Cunningham adds, "Make certain that you have supporters who will help. Then get out on the streets and talk to the people."



IBEW APRON & COOKBOOK ORDER FORM

Name _____

Local Union _____ District _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

IBEW Aprons Qty: _____ Total: _____
(Price: \$30.00 Each)

IBEW Cookbooks Qty: _____ Total: _____
(Price: \$25.00 Each)

Grand Total: _____

All Orders include: Taxes, Shipping & Handling

Mail To:

**IBEW Fourth District • 8260 Northcreek Drive,
Suite 140 • Cincinnati, OH 45236**

Make Checks Payable To: IBEW 37th International Convention Fund

ALL PROCEEDS

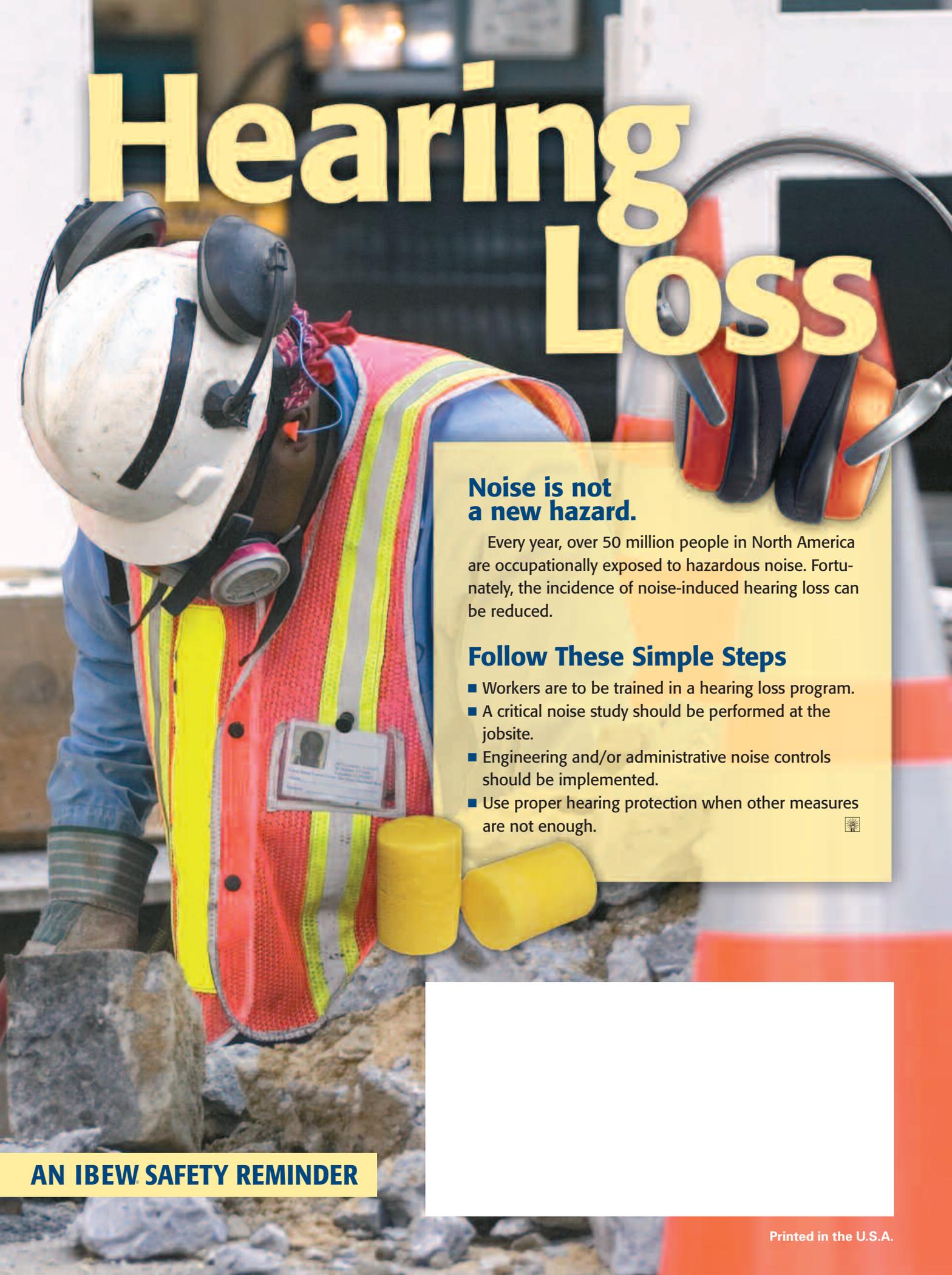
Go to the 37th International Convention Fund

Gift Giving Season Is Just Around the Corner!

The "Taste of IBEW" cookbook and apron are great gift ideas. The book has more than 900 recipes from appetizers to entrees to desserts. And sporting an IBEW apron, you'll truly be cooking in style. Holidays, families and IBEW recipes—they go together. Do your shopping early. You can also order online by visiting the Fourth District Web site

<http://www.4ibew.com>

Hearing Loss



Noise is not a new hazard.

Every year, over 50 million people in North America are occupationally exposed to hazardous noise. Fortunately, the incidence of noise-induced hearing loss can be reduced.

Follow These Simple Steps

- Workers are to be trained in a hearing loss program.
- A critical noise study should be performed at the jobsite.
- Engineering and/or administrative noise controls should be implemented.
- Use proper hearing protection when other measures are not enough.



AN IBEW SAFETY REMINDER