

# THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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## International President Edwin D. Hill

### Retires

IN 14 YEARS OF STRONG GOVERNANCE, HILL RESHAPED THE IBEW, EXTENDED ITS INFLUENCE

**H**e never asked any leader to work any harder than he did. Growing the Brotherhood was his passion. Whether Ed Hill was pushing for more technical tools to track contractors or launching sharp, modern initiatives to align the IBEW with today's markets, he never, ever wavered from that passion.

A thoroughly practical man, he was also a courageous leader who promoted excellence in all IBEW branches and demanded the same from IBEW's employers. Making the lives of workers better. That is what Ed says was his greatest pride looking back over his nearly 60 years in the labor movement. And he did.

The 16th member to serve as international president of the IBEW, Hill announced his retirement effective

HILL RETIRES *continued on page 2*

## LOCAL LINES



IBEW Local 595 members volunteered for Rebuilding Together Oakland project. Back row: Tamika Hayes (left), Jesse Trepper, Brian Stewart, Charles Brown, Tom Rodgers, John Maddox. Front row: Winfield Lee; Rachel Matthews, RTO; Rachel Bryan, Alice Matthews, RTO; and Robert Coloretti.

Eighteen inside wiremen volunteered to help these veteran homeowners. RENEW 595 has taken the lead on logistics, material and management of volunteers for the past three years. This has been good experience for young workers active with RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) efforts.

Many volunteers expressed great joy in helping those in need and said the opportunity to serve is priceless. Our Labor Management Cooperation Committee also donated \$5,000 to RTO to strengthen our partnership and commitment to helping working families.

While we build physical buildings, it is also our duty to build up our communities through transformative engagement and to do all we can to help not just our own family, but all working families.

Thank you to Rachel Bryan, Local 595 community liaison, for providing information for this article.

Bob Tieman, B.R.



Local 601 Organizer Frank Rubenacker (left), Training Dir. Bob Withers and Bus. Mgr. Charlie Hoss.

## Grants Awarded — 'A Great Teaching Tool'

L.U. 601 (i&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—With the assistance of financial grants from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, we had the opportunity to install a power regeneration system. The system consists of: a roof array of 22 solar panels, a wall array of 10 solar panels, ground array of 112 panels and a dual axis tracker of 20 solar panels, as well as a wind turbine that produces 10 kilowatts of power. The total power available for generation is 51 kilowatts.

This will prove to be a great teaching tool for the JATC. The apprentices will have the opportunity to monitor just how much electricity is being generated from a panel inside their classrooms. They will also be able to disassemble and reassemble a number of the panels themselves.

**[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 and transitioned into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]**

Our local offers many journeyman wireman classes throughout the year, thanks to our dedicated instructors: Bob Withers, Brent Stull, John Mingee, Al Halber-

stadt, Richard Mingee, Michael Aper, Dana Nichols, John Allen, Todd Nicholas, Rob Mishler and Randy Lutz.

Work in our local is good currently, and for the next few years we anticipate a great deal of work. At this writing, we have seven on Book 1 and 171 on Book 2.

Daniel Hatter, P.S.

## 'Stand Together & Vote'

L.U. 625 (c,ees,em,i,it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—The work picture in Halifax is still better than usual with 207 members working at the shipyard as of May 1. It is still slow in Unit #2 with only 19 at the Pulp Mill Precipitator. Upcoming work will include the Aberdeen Hospital project in New Glasgow and the Fish Oil Plant expansion in Guysborough County. We hope this will improve the unemployment levels in Unit #2 later in the year.

Canadian unions and their members are under a full frontal attack by the federal Conservative majority government. The Conservatives have strong support from the business community and are spending millions of taxpayer dollars convincing the people to keep them in office. All labour activists and union members need to wake up, stand together and vote in numbers in the upcoming federal election to remove this anti-union government before it achieves a third term and succeeds in destroying the union movement and the middle class. [To read more, see "North of 49: First District Readies for Federal Election," The Electrical Worker, March 2015.]

Successful in completing their apprenticeship program and becoming journeymen are: Matt Andrea, Vincent Forsyth, Shane MacArthur, James "Craig" Christison, Trevor MacKay, Angela Duquette, Ashley Currie, Jason MacKinnon and Jody Corkum. Congratulations to all!

Recently retired are: Bros. Les Sheffield, Gary Williams, Eric Grant, Arthur "Reg" Marryatt, Derrick Robinson and Stan Riley.

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.



Local 625 Building Automation Course participants: Training Dir. Blair Mikkelsen (left), Guy Bouchard, Dave Bellefontaine, Don Leblanc, Paul Tanner, Jerad Banyan, Stephen Boudreau and Instructor Eric Nelson.

## Volunteers Recognized

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL—Headed north to cooler climates for a break from the heat? Please ensure safety is stressed, as always, at the jobsite and when you are on the road. One moment of inattention is all that is needed for a life-changing event.

Pres. Mark MacNichol reported that the apprentice program for transmission and distribution is going great.

Our local received recognition from the City of Port St. Lucie for our continuing effort to "Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful" with our road-cleanup crews.

Congratulations go out to Bro. Jon Celebak's family on the arrival of a new baby girl.

Stay informed and stay safe. See you at the union hall.

Raymond Vos, P.S.

## 'Train the Trainer' Class

L.U. 639 (i&rts), SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA—The JATC recently purchased a Smart Bender from Greenlee. Two representatives from the company came to the hall to put on a "Train the Trainer" class for the instructors. The second-year apprenticeship class was also given hands-on training.

Training Dir. Chuck Headington plans to retire at school year's end. Over the years Chuck has developed countless partnerships with vendors in the electrical industry to provide the JATC with state-of-the-art training aids and instruction. Thank you, Chuck Headington, for all your hard work and years of dedication to Local 639.

**[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 and transitioned into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]**

Kurt McClave, P.S.



At a Local 639 training session conducted by Greenlee industrial and electrical tool company.

## Cristal Global Project

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—Last year it was announced that Cristal Global, the largest manufacturing facility in Ashtabula County, planned to build a \$64 million Air Separation Plant. This plant would provide the company with the ability to manufacture its own oxygen, nitrogen and argon for its processing needs. What you see in the photo (at top, right) is the cold box, which acts as a giant distiller to separate these gases.



Construction gets underway on Air Separation Plant distillation column at Cristal Global jobsite, where Local 673 members are working.

Everyone was excited with this announcement until the realization set in that the project management company, AMCS out of New Jersey, had no loyalty to unionized labor. Many parts of this project went to nonunion shops, but the electrical portion went to one of our contractors.

Valley Electric was awarded this project and at press time the hiring has begun. Bros. Dave Phillips and Dan Cierebiej went out as foreman and steward, respectively, to get this project started. We expect this job to ramp up quickly, putting many members to work to meet the very aggressive schedule. Good luck to everyone on this project. Work safe!

Jim Braunlich, P.S.

## 'Stay Involved & Informed'

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Since this is not an election year, we might be tempted not to pay attention to politics. That would be a mistake.

It may not be happening in your state or ours yet,

but the anti-worker push for so-called "right-to-work" measures harmful to working people will still affect us. Please be aware of issues that affect union labor and working people—and be sure to vote in every election.

Our work outlook continues to improve. Upcoming jobs in our area include projects at two hospitals, an outlet mall and a remodel of the convention center. Our organizers recently were successful in organizing a residential contractor that is

currently working on a retirement facility.

Everyone have a safe and fun summer.

Tracy Starcher, V.P./P.S.

## 'Hoops for Clarence' Tourney; Labor Rally at Statehouse

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—Hoops for Clarence: Eight teams of Local 697 members competed in a basketball tournament fundraiser for Clarence Link, son of Local 697 member Jacob Link. Clarence is in a courageous battle with cancer and is winning! The team of T. Cooper, T. Janke and D. Crummie won the double elimination tournament and everyone nursed sore muscles the following day.

Rally at the Statehouse: Local members joined thousands of Indiana Building Trades members to voice our displeasure with the Indiana Assembly and Gov. Mike Pence's attack on working Hoosiers. While the "aristocrats" ignored the efforts of Hoosier busi-

# International President Edwin D. Hill *Retires*

▼ *Continued from page 1*

June 1. He did so only after enthusiastically recommending his successor, Sixth District Vice President Lonnie R. Stephenson, to the International Executive Committee.

Simultaneously, the IEC confirmed the appointment of David J. Ruhmkorff to fill the remainder of Stephenson's term as vice president of the Sixth District, covering Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan and Minnesota.

In a brief email to his International Office staff, Hill said, "I came to this decision after much thought and reflection, concluding it was the right time for the

next generation of IBEW leadership to come to the fore."

From his roots as a second-generation journeyman electrician and member of Beaver, Pa., Local 712, Hill rose to regional prominence as the local's business manager and vice president of IBEW's Third District covering New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey.

Appointed international secretary in 1997, Hill assumed the newly created position of secretary-treasurer one year later and the office of international president in 2001.

In a message to members upon his appointment as international president, Hill said, "Some leaders in Washington revel in hobnobbing with the powerful. I recognize the importance of a strong presence in the halls of power, but I know that any power we wield comes from our strength in numbers and our solidarity as working people."

Hill's tenure as international president during times of economic crisis for the North American construction industry and attacks on organized labor has been notable for landmark initiatives that flow

from that understanding of power.

The IBEW is growing due to innovative organizing and membership development initiatives and a commitment to excellence in training and on the job, both championed by Hill. Under his leadership, the IBEW has harnessed an array of technological tools to better prepare IBEW organizers, servicing staff and local unions to confront dynamic changes in the vast jurisdictions covered by the IBEW—electrical construction, utilities, railroads, telecommunications, broadcasting, manufacturing and government.

**"... it was the right time for the next generation of IBEW leadership to come to the fore."**

—President Emeritus Edwin D. Hill

One source of President Hill's success is his belief that the Brotherhood best served its members when it best served its customers.

"Anti-union propaganda had created a perception that hiring union workers was bad for business, but we knew better," Hill says. "We just had to remind our customers, and truth be told, some of our members, that high standards of craftsmanship and productivity are hallmarks of the IBEW and the foundation of a profitable business."

One of the highest profile campaigns to get that message out was the extension of the Code of Excellence program from a few locals in the Eighth District into the basic language in every con-

tract signed with National Electrical Contractors Association partners. The program proved so successful with customers, signatory contractors and local unions that it was expanded to other classifications including manufacturing, utilities and broadcasting.

Another signature initiative of Hill's tenure is the implementation of a market recovery program that established alternative job classifications in electrical construction. The effort has helped boost man-hours and market share that were lost by the union's signatory contractors during the recent recession, while getting idled journeymen back on the job.

Market recovery efforts have been recently bolstered by an effort focused on business development that is already setting a standard for the building trades. The establishment of a business development department is the product of resolutions passed at the 2011 IBEW convention in Vancouver, introduced by the union's officers.

While membership development focuses on organizing workers and contractors, Hill's enhanced focus on business development seeks out the owners of large construction projects well before any contracts are written. These relationship-building efforts are supplemented by a well-received national advertising



Hill with 95-year-old Army veteran Jimmy Kice, a 77-year IBEW member

campaign, more organizers and a new training program to get the rank-and-file into the heart of organizing campaigns.

"I always think of Ed as a pioneer, always looking for new ways to help IBEW members in this changing economic environment. He wakes up every day thinking about workers but he is also an ambassador to the entire labor movement," says AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler, who formerly served as one of Hill's senior executive assistants. "He believes strongly in innovation and trying new, cutting edge ideas. He often said, 'Making mistakes is good. It's better to try something and fail, than not try at all—because if you're not failing once in a while, it means you're not doing anything new.'"

Sam Chilia, IBEW's Secretary-Treasurer will continue to serve in that capacity. Hill said, "I have been lucky to have Sam as my working partner and I thank him for all that he does for the IBEW. From overseeing health care to planning for the 2016 convention, Brother Chilia plays an invaluable role in our union and will continue to do so." ■



Hill with former Vice President Al Gore, top, and sharing a laugh with country duo Brooks and Dunn at the 2001 convention, with Jerry O'Conner



## THE OUTSIDE VIEW of Hill's Presidency

The character and priorities of the international president guide and speak for the IBEW as a whole. From the outside, President Emeritus Hill has been the embodiment of the IBEW, and on the occasion of his retirement, the labor leaders, politicians and business partners who worked alongside him took a moment to look back on his time at the helm.



**Richard L. Trumka, president of the AFL-CIO**

With President Hill's retirement, the labor movement is losing a giant. Our labor movement is growing today, thanks in large part to his outstanding leadership. Ed fights every day to improve

the lives of working families. He understands that to achieve a strong economy, the U.S. must invest in the hardworking men and women whose work keeps this country running. I am proud and honored to have stood with such a strong worker and principled leader.



**Liz Shuler, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO and former assistant to President Hill**

Ed embodies the type of leader we all want to follow—visionary, hard working, passionate about the mission, cares about people to the core, and humble. He

led by example and never asked anyone to do an assignment he wouldn't do himself. Ed is a pioneer,

always looking for new ways to help IBEW members in this changing economic environment. He woke up every day thinking about workers but he was also an ambassador for the entire labor movement. Solidarity and working together was one of his hallmarks and a signature part of his leadership.

He believed strongly in innovation and trying new, cutting edge ideas and technology. He often said, "Making mistakes is good. It's better to try something and fail, than not try at all—because if you're not failing once in a while, it means you're not doing anything new."



**Rep. Donald Norcross of N.J., and member of Folsom, N.J., Local 351**

President Hill is a visionary leader who knew that the IBEW's greatest strength is found within our rank and file. His influence and legacy can be seen across our nation through the many

IBEW brothers and sisters who entered public service with a union label, including myself. I wish Ed Hill the

best in his retirement and thank him for his tireless efforts on behalf of the hardworking men and women of the IBEW.



**Rep. Nancy Pelosi of Calif., House minority leader**

When it comes the health and economic security of working America, few leaders have stood taller or spoken louder for our families than IBEW President Ed Hill. President Hill's strong and

insistent vision guided the IBEW into the 21st century, and he retires with a towering legacy of leadership on behalf of all America's hard working men and women.



**Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio**

Under President Hill's leadership, the IBEW has fought for a better trade policy, a strong U.S. manufacturing sector, and critical infrastructure investment, among other important policies. His commitment to American families and our middle class will last beyond his tenure at IBEW.

I congratulate him on his many years of distinguished service and wish him the best in his retirement.

## An Interview with President Emeritus Edwin D. Hill

# 'Making the Lives of Working People Better'

**EW:** Looking back on your career from the time you entered your apprenticeship, how has the appreciation for the union's role and legacy changed?

**EDH:** I think the desire to be more active in the trade union movement was more prevalent among my peers than among today's new members. When I was a young man coming up through the ranks in Pennsylvania, every town had two or three union halls. Weddings, community meetings and other affairs would be held there. Union meetings were a place one went for camaraderie, not just to discuss the problems of the day. Along with the union halls were clubs of all types. Today, too many union halls are closed down. The remaining ones often turn out only a few members for meetings. And clubs are dwindling. But the need to be our brother's and sister's keeper is still there.

I don't know whether the labor movement is destined to grow stronger as globalization and changes take place in our national economies and priorities.

I do know that tomorrow's labor movement will be different from that of the past or even the present. Strength will come in different forms. Some companies, for instance, are trying to bring over a European model of trade unionism where we co-manage workplaces through work councils. I'm not sure it will work here. But I know new forms of organization will develop.

**EW:** What are you most proud of in your career?

**EDH:** The thing that makes me most proud is that I have been able to contribute to making the lives of working people better.

**EW:** What goal(s) did you want to accomplish that you couldn't?

**EDH:** One hundred percent market share. That was always my goal: to see that every electrical worker in the U.S. and Canada belongs to the IBEW.

**EW:** How do the skills and priorities of today's union leaders compare to those that were required when you first entered union office?

**EDH:** Our message about influence and participation of unions in the communities in which we live and the need for workers to stand together to retain the middle class of working men and women is similar, but the need for better, sharper methods in how we communicate that message is much greater.

**EW:** What are your concerns about the future of the IBEW?

**EDH:** Apathy is my biggest concern. The IBEW will survive many years into the future. But too many of our members don't give much thought to what it really means to be a member of a union or to support its operation. We need to protect the ideals of the labor movement. Too often, we care about each other as IBEW members, but don't see ourselves as part of a movement. The potential is there. I can see it in the response to the Unity Fund we set up for members in trouble. It's flourishing.

I'm concerned about our members and others in the trade union movement falling for the nonsense that was spread so thickly during the Reagan era that everyone can make it on their own, that you don't need anyone, that it does not take a community. You will survive on individualism, the idea that if we privatized Social Security and Medicare, for instance, young folks will be better off in their later years. If we

do that, and, if the divide between the wealthiest among us and working people continues to grow, we will see more people fall into poverty.

I'll never forget my grandfather saying, "Don't send me down to the poor farm." There actually was such a place across the river from my hometown. It was a farm that grew vegetables and cattle for large workplaces where they had cafeterias. People lived, worked and died there. We can never let our society go back to that kind of society.

**EW:** Why is Lonnie Stephenson the right leader to replace you?

**EDH:** Lonnie is the right person for the time going forward. He has the right disposition and the right attitude about the things that need to be done. Today, we are seeing different types of business managers elected in many locals. They have a whole different kind of attitude. They didn't live through the glory days. People never told them what they can't do, making them more accepting of the necessary changes that are bound to come.

Lonnie understands the need for all of us to be leaders in our community, not just people who stand on the sidelines and complain. The new business managers and members coming up need to mobilize to be partners with others in the community, not just people who appear to be looking for a handout. I know Lonnie Stephenson shares that desire and will work hard to promote those kinds of partnerships.

**EW:** You have had an extraordinary level of energy—constantly traveling and spending long hours on meeting the needs of IBEW members. How will you spend your time in retirement?



President Hill walks a picket line with striking IBEW members at FairPoint Communications in New England.

**EDH:** I knew it was time to retire after our May meeting with reps and directors outside of Washington, D.C. Our union is on a smooth and level road and ready for new leadership.

I know I won't be retired from the labor movement until they put me in the ground. And I will continue to pay my dues so that I can maintain my good standing in the IBEW, a Brotherhood that I have spent my life serving.

I will be available for whatever kind of help International President Stephenson needs. I hope to stay involved in my community around Beaver, Pa., and reconnect with some of my trade union friends who have slipped away from activity. I think people care. I just think sometimes they need to be reminded of the work that needs to be done and their ability to help.

I hope to be able to participate in any kind of effort on behalf of workers. I hope to be more active in Electricians Without Borders and in the efforts to help electrical workers establish themselves anywhere I can. I will assist wherever I can to stop the erosion of the industrial base that built the United States and Canada and to fight for policies in energy and manufacturing that will help to bring back the dwindling middle class. ■



**Nicholas K. Akins, chairman, president and chief executive officer of American Electric Power**

President Hill's leadership and dedication to the men and women of the IBEW has been exceptional. AEP is a better company today as a result of improved collaboration

with the IBEW. AEP's selection as the first utility for the Code of Excellence was and remains a significant honor for the company.

I imagine that retiring from the organization that he has led and nurtured for so many years will be bittersweet. But the legacy he leaves behind—one of representation based on respect, fairness and incredible concern for the health, safety and financial security of his brothers and sisters, should fill him with pride and contentment.



**John M. Grau, chief executive officer of the National Electrical Contractors Association**

Ed Hill was a tireless advocate not only for the IBEW, but also for electrical contractor employers and the NECA-IBEW relationship. Ed saw the

big picture, and realized IBEW member gains are dependent on having successful union electrical

contractors. He never gave up on his principles, but he was willing to compromise when he believed the industry as a whole would benefit. I can't imagine where our industry would be today without Ed Hill's leadership. He will be remembered as the driving force that turned our industry around and set it on the path to sustainable prosperity.



**Sen. Bob Casey of Pa.**

Ed Hill has spent decades fighting side by side with workers who want to make a better life for their families. As a second-generation electrician, Ed knew the challenges that his members faced personally. Fighting for the well-being of workers wasn't just some theoretical exercise for Ed—he lived it. He brought the values he learned in Western Pennsylvania to the U.S. Capitol and state capitals across the country. And Ed never forgot that at the foundation of a strong economy was work with dignity. Ed has made a substantial contribution to the progress that working men and women and the labor movement have made over the last generation. While we'll miss his voice on the front lines, I know he'll continue to stand up for better wages, better jobs and better work conditions for the middle class.



**Mark Crosswhite, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Alabama Power Co.**

President Hill has been ... a visionary leader, helping us all to understand the value of positive relationships between labor and management. President Hill's efforts have benefited all of us working in the electric industry, as well as those customers we are privileged to serve.



**Todd Stafford, executive director of the Electrical Training Alliance**

President Hill was an inspiration and an example to all of us. Every new apprentice has, in a sense, the opportunity to follow his path and work his way to the very pinnacle of our industry and the American labor movement. He has been an outstanding leader. From alternative classifications to the codes of excellence, he has no single accomplishment that exceeds the others, they are all noteworthy and of a piece because everything he did was for the betterment of IBEW members and the industry as a whole.

## International Executive Council Resolution of Commendation for International President Edwin D. Hill

**W**HEREAS, Edwin D. Hill, a visionary leader of the IBEW, deeply respected by both his peers in the labor movement and the union's signatory employers, is retiring from the presidency of the Brotherhood after a 14-year tenure; and

WHEREAS, Edwin D. Hill has been a loyal and dedicated IBEW brother since his initiation into the apprenticeship program of Local 712 in his native Beaver, Pa., in 1956, and his subsequent service as a local officer, business manager, international representative, third district president, secretary and secretary-treasurer, international president; and

WHEREAS, during an era of economic and political challenge, Edwin D. Hill exhibited the courage to promote a Code of Excellence, restoring and reshaping the reputation of the union as the best source of quality and diligence across the organization's branches; and

WHEREAS, that same courage was instrumental in developing a market recovery program that aligned the union's membership with the realities of the construction marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the IBEW, under President Edwin D. Hill's tenure, has encouraged open discussion and debate on the future of the organization; and

WHEREAS, under International President Hill's guidance, the union developed new tools to bolster the accountability of those entrusted to grow the Brotherhood; and

WHEREAS, under Edwin D. Hill's leadership, the IBEW has modernized its communications tools, including the establishment of *The Electrical Worker* and the wide use of video and social media to spread the union's message; and

WHEREAS, Edwin D. Hill spearheaded the broadest, most sophisticated effort in the North American labor movement to promote the IBEW's reputation and brand; and

WHEREAS, under International President Hill's inspiration and personal involvement, the IBEW has extended its political influence by challenging adversaries and friends alike to stand beside North America's working families; and

WHEREAS, that direct involvement has included defending public unions against assaults on collective bargaining by right-wing governors as well as walking picket lines with workers standing up to union busting; and

WHEREAS, International President Edwin D. Hill has been honored by trade unionists in other nations, including Italy and Australia; and

WHEREAS, under International President Edwin D. Hill's leadership, IBEW launched both a diversity training program and RENEW, an unprecedented effort to mentor a new generation of union members and leaders; and

WHEREAS, International President Edwin D. Hill's work ethic has set a standard for all international and local leaders to follow; and

WHEREAS, under International President Edwin D. Hill's strong governance, the IBEW's financial base has been strengthened and secured; and

WHEREAS, in all his actions and throughout his career, Edwin D. Hill has brought honor to the IBEW and earned respect for himself and his union; and

WHEREAS, International President Edwin D. Hill has offered his ongoing support and activism to International President Lonnie R. Stephenson and the IBEW's other leaders; and

WHEREAS, International President Edwin D. Hill's personal mission to better the lives of working families has been fulfilled many times over; and

WHEREAS, we are proud and truly blessed to call Edwin D. Hill our brother;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Executive Council does hereby convey upon Edwin D. Hill the honorary title of International President Emeritus, IBEW, coincident with his retirement. ■

'My challenge is to move the ball further down the field, to intensify our participation.'

— International President Lonnie R. Stephenson

## IEC Appoints Lonnie Stephenson International President

**A**s he takes the helm of one of North America's leading unions, Lonnie R. Stephenson, IBEW's new international president, credits President Emeritus Edwin D. Hill for setting a "clear path" to follow in growing the union's numbers and influence.

But Stephenson, Sixth District international vice president since 2010—the unanimous choice of delegates to the 38th International Convention—says he also carries into his new job the sobering reminders

of how many obstacles lay in that path.

Stephenson's appointment to fill Hill's unexpired term was affirmed by the International Executive Council, effective June 1.

### Challenging the Right-to-Work Onslaught

He cited wounding anti-union attacks in statehouses close to home, including the passage of right-to-work legislation.

Before the 2010 elections, there were no right-to-work states in his district, says Stephenson. Only a few years later, Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana joined the list of states that obstruct the rights of workers to organize union shops.

"It has become more important than ever to educate the general public about why it's right for people to pay their fair share for the protections provided by collective bargaining agreements that help support them and sustain their communi-

## Colleagues on Lonnie R. Stephenson



### 'Effective, Progressive, Approachable'

Across his district and in other corners of the IBEW, the people who know Lonnie Stephenson the best are praising his appointment and say they are excited for the future of the Brotherhood.

#### Here are some of their voices:

"What I first saw in Lonnie was a decent person and a real good union man. He looked out for our people and really cared for the older members. He had his disagreements with contractors, but they liked and respected him. He was a hard worker and an honest guy. He called me upon his appointment as international president and said if it wasn't for me he wouldn't be where he is. I told him, 'You were on your way. I just helped you along.'"

**Jerry Kavanaugh, retired business manager, Rock Island, Ill., Local 145**

>

ties,” said Stephenson, who helped lead the huge protests in Wisconsin to halt Gov. Scott Walker’s assault on public workers.

A native of Moline, Ill., Stephenson, whose father worked at the U.S. Army’s Rock Island Arsenal and whose mother was a factory worker, began his inside wireman apprenticeship with Rock Island Local 145 in 1975.

He had taken college preparatory courses and was planning to be an electrical engineer when, he says, an electrician made a service call to the grocery store where he worked as a produce clerk. Stephenson asked how he got his job. The electrician advised him to apply at the IBEW hall, but “not to expect an easy time if I had no friends or family in the union.”

One of 12 apprentices accepted, Stephenson ended up working alongside some of the local’s executive board members who encouraged his involvement in the union. “They were already performing the function of our mentors who, today, are working with the RENEW [young workers] program,” says Stephenson.

He volunteered for the picnic committee. “I had no thought of running for union

office,” he says. But in 1984, while attending a local union meeting, he was nominated to run for vice president by a friend who was unhappy with the other member running. Stephenson won the election and served as the local’s president and assistant business manager before being asked to run by then-Business Manager Jerry Kavanaugh, who was retiring.

“I told him there were two other guys who were appointed before me,” says Stephenson, “but he said, ‘We discussed this and you are the next generation.’” Stephenson accepted the job and soon was in the running to fill many of the positions his predecessor held in the trade union movement and the surrounding community.

“Jerry Kavanaugh was the first person I called to tell about my appointment as international president,” Stephenson said. “I thanked him for giving me the opportunity in 1991. If it wasn’t for him and his other representatives, Karl Lempke and Gary McMahill, I would not be doing what I am doing today,” says Stephenson.

## Business Development, Community Activist

Located on the Mississippi River, Rock Island Local 145 draws its membership from Illinois and Iowa. Stephenson knew that a 2003 plan to develop Davenport, Iowa’s and Rock Island’s riverfronts could bring jobs and economic stability to the region. So, Stephenson, who served as an executive board member of the Quad City Federation of Labor, partnered with business leaders to support a successful bond referendum to launch the project.

As co-chairman of the labor/man-



Stephenson, his wife, Dawn, and stepsons Andrew, left, and Jake.

agement cooperative committee, ILLOWA, Stephenson helped establish the basis for 300 public and private sector all-union project labor agreements. He helped to spearhead a one-cent sales tax referendum in Davenport that brought millions of dollars of work opportunities to the area.

After establishing a community service committee in the local, Stephenson, who served on the board of the United Way, marshalled an annual blood drive and won designation for the union hall as a Red Cross disaster center. During 1993 flooding in the Quad cities area, the hall served as the hub for relief efforts.

Stephenson was finishing his second term as business manager in 2002 when he was appointed international representative assigned to the Sixth District. He served as the district’s organizing coordinator for two years before moving to the district office as desk representative to work for Vice President Jeff Lohman.

“Coming from an inside construction local, the desk rep job and a close working relationship with Jeff Lohman enabled me to get familiar with the other branches of the Brotherhood,” Stephenson says.

Since that apprenticeship in the multiple branches of the IBEW, Stephenson has won high praise for mastering the issues of the IBEW in all of its diversity.

Stephenson’s voice and commitment on the IBEW’s utility coordinating council was pivotal in bringing together several local utility unions to present a united front in bargaining with billionaire Warren Buffett’s Berkshire Hathaway, said Tom Dalzell, business manager of Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245, which represents workers at NV Energy, a Berkshire subsidiary.

Organizing has always been at the top of Stephenson’s agenda. In a speech to the 2013 Sixth District progress meeting, he said: “We need to continue to feed our family tree through organizing... Each branch of

the IBEW is vital to the health of our family tree. We all have the responsibility to work together, to support one another, and to organize together to bring our family tree to new heights. Like a song I once heard about a willow tree, the branches may bend in the wind but it will never break.”

## Moving the Ball Down the Field

“President Hill has laid the groundwork for our brotherhood to grow with initiatives like the Code of Excellence and a new focus on business development,” says Stephenson. “I’m humbled by the IEC’s appointment and President Hill’s support. My challenge is to move the ball further down the field, to intensify our participation.”

Local 1245 organizer Jammi Juarez, who assisted the Sixth District’s efforts in Wisconsin and organizing at Greenlee Tools says, “Lonnie is an amazing person, one who believes in trade unionism, who comes out of the tools and is true to the cause.”

## Family Inspires Commitment

“My biggest supporter who encourages me every day is my wife, Dawn Stephenson. Next to her, my biggest supporter is my 89-year-old mother, Ila Stephenson,” says IBEW’s new president.

Stephenson enjoys spending time with his three children, two stepchildren, six grandchildren and one great grandchild, playing golf and camping. ■



International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, pictured with First Lady Michelle Obama

“I’ve known Lonnie for years. He is a very effective leader, a good manager who values input and listens to what you have to say before making a decision. He knows our trade, from the apprenticeship to the top.”

**Jim Bailey, business manager, Danville, Ill., Local 538**

“I’ve always found Lonnie to be a reasonable person who listens well. He’s a progressive and was one of the vice presidents most supportive of the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus.”

**Russell Ponder, Local 134 retiree, former vice president of The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus**

“Lonnie is a very generous and open leader. From the beginning of my first term as a brand new business manager, Lonnie was amazing. I didn’t realize that business managers don’t call VP’s four or five times a week. But he would answer every call. Lonnie was the best mentor I could have had. I was in shock and really happy for the Brotherhood when I heard about his appointment. I’m very excited about the prospects for the IBEW. Now the entire union will be enjoying the benefits of working under Lonnie’s leadership. It’s a proud and historic day for the Sixth District.”

**Mike Richard, business manager, Detroit Local 58**

“I couldn’t be happier at Lonnie’s appointment. All of us who know him feel the IEC made a good decision. He’s approachable, he listens and then makes decisions. His door is always open. I couldn’t be more satisfied with the direction the IBEW is headed.”

**Charles Yancey, business manager, Alton, Ill., Local 649**

“Lonnie is a great leader, a down-to-earth, people-oriented person. He relates well to everyone, the members, to the business managers and representatives. I’ve been very comfortable dealing with Lonnie over the years.”

**Bruce Getts, business manager, Fort Wayne, Ind., Local 723**

“I worked with Lonnie as business manager for the Bricklayers. He did an excellent job. He’s a friend of all the building trades here. When we went to meet with owners and developers, Lonnie represented himself with a well-rounded approach to the whole construction industry.”

**Bob Carlson, retired secretary-treasurer, Tri-City Building and Construction Trades Council, Rock Island, Ill.**

“Lonnie is one of my favorite people. He’s an approachable guy with a warmth about him that makes him easy to talk to. I understand there’s protocol in the IBEW, but it’s never been hard to talk to Lonnie. He’s a hands-on leader. When I was looking for someone to reach out to for the ice bucket challenge, he was the first person I thought of because he has so many people who respect him. I’m excited to see where the IBEW goes under Lonnie’s leadership. He’s a big believer in the Code of Excellence and he will hold people accountable.”

**Leo Sokolik, business manager, Janesville, Wis., Local 890**

“Lonnie is a very caring, compassionate leader who is everything the IBEW stands for, working to the very best of his ability to perpetuate the industry for us.”

**Scott Verschoore, business manager, Rock Island, Ill., Local 145**

## Ind. native fills vacancy

# Ruhmkorff Named Sixth District Vice President

**F**ormer Sixth District International Representative David J. Ruhmkorff is the new Sixth District vice president, following Lonnie R. Stephenson's appointment as international president.

The appointment is effective June 1.

A native of Indianapolis, Ind., Brother Ruhmkorff was initiated into Local 481 in 1979. During his apprenticeship, he wired and laid conduit for high-rises as an employee of Commonwealth Electric.

He began serving on Local 481's apprenticeship committee in the early 1980s and was elected business manager in 1990, serving until his appointment as international representative in 1994.

"I was one of seven children," Ruhmkorff said. "My dad was an IBEW union member and a strong role model for me. He introduced me to the trade and I have always been grateful for that."

Brother Ruhmkorff cited as a mentor former Sixth District Vice President Jeff



David J. Ruhmkorff

Lohman, who hired him as an organizer and business representative when Lohman was Local 481 business manager.

"He gave me the opportunity to grow beyond construction," Ruhmkorff

said, adding that Local 481 has a diverse membership, in manufacturing, telecommunications and working in motor and sign shops. "He brought me in and I serviced the non-construction side, which he told me would help me in the long run, to learn the different branches. It expanded my knowledge."

As international representative, Ruhmkorff initially worked under then-Vice President James P. Conway, servicing local unions in every branch of the Brotherhood. "He thought it would be best for me and best for the IBEW to get more exposure to the different branches. In my years of servicing, I negotiated contracts in every sector."

From the late 1980s through the early 1990s, Ruhmkorff served as an appointee to the Indianapolis Labor Advisory Committee, composed of labor leaders from different local unions who met monthly with the mayor to discuss issues of concern.

He was a charter member of the

Labor Institute for Training, an organization of the state labor federation that worked to assist displaced workers find training and education for new careers following plant closings.

the 20th constitutional convention of the AFL-CIO.

Ruhmkorff expressed gratitude for International President Stephenson's confidence.

**'My dad was an IBEW member and a strong role model for me ... I have always been grateful for that.'**

— Sixth District Vice President David J. Ruhmkorff

Ruhmkorff sat on the executive board of the Indiana State Building Trades and was secretary-treasurer of the IBEW's Indiana state conference.

He has served the IBEW on the international level as secretary to the finance committee at the 34th convention in 1991 in St. Louis as well as a panel member of the Council on Industrial Relations. He was a delegate to

"I owe him a lot," Ruhmkorff said. "Because he had enough confidence in my abilities, I was able to grow and gain a larger understanding of what IBEW leadership involves. I am deeply honored to be given the opportunity to serve as the Sixth District vice president."

On behalf of the officers, the staff and members of the IBEW wish Brother Ruhmkorff much success in his new position. ■

## February International Executive Council Meeting

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

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at 8:30 a.m., by Chairman Pierson, on Monday, February 2, 2015, in Naples, Florida. Other members of the council in attendance were Calabro, Calvey, Burgham, Riley, Walter, Wagner, Lavin, and Galbraith.

### International President Hill

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

### International Secretary-Treasurer Chilia

International Secretary-Treasurer Salvatore (Sam) J. Chilia presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood — both in Canada and in the United States.

### Legal Defense

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

### Financial Reports

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

### Article XX and XXI Cases

In 2014, the IBEW was involved in two Article XX disputes, one dispute under the AFL-CIO Executive Council's "Dispute Resolution Procedure for Raids Involving Unions with Solidarity Charters," and no disputes under Article XXI.

IBEW charged the Iron Workers with violating Article XX, section 2, by interfering with Local Union 134's established collective bargaining relationship with Stanley Access. After mediation, the Iron Workers withdrew its election petition, and the IBEW withdrew its Article XX charges.

IBEW Local Union 47 and Local Union 440 and the Southern California District Council of Laborers all have collective bargaining agreements with International Line Builders (ILB). The Laborers have filed an election petition for a unit defined as all laborers performing work for ILB under the Laborers' master multi-employer agreement; both Local Unions 47 and 440 have intervened in the election proceeding. The Laborers have

filed Article XX charges against the IBEW. It is the position of the IBEW that ILB is engaged in construction, which is excluded from Article XX. Mediation is being scheduled.

The IBEW was involved in one dispute under the AFL-CIO Executive Council's "Dispute Resolution Procedure for Raids Involving Unions with Solidarity Clauses," which the AFL-CIO Executive Council adopted in February 2014. The dispute was filed by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, charging the IBEW, LIUNA and IATSE with agreement to perform work the Teamsters had traditionally performed at the Philadelphia Convention Center. The Teamsters acknowledge that its main dispute is with LIUNA, the only union to which the Convention Center has assigned Teamsters' work. At the request of the Teamsters the complaint has been postponed by the AFL-CIO while the Teamsters and LIUNA attempt to resolve the problem.

### Review of Pension Benefit Fund Claim of Henry Shearin, Retired Member of 1002

Brother Henry Shearin alerted the Pension Department of the International Office during an email communication that he was currently employed in the electrical industry. After an investigation it was determined that his employment in the electrical industry was in violation of the IBEW Constitution. International-Secretary Treasurer Salvatore (Sam) J. Chilia informed Brother Shearin of such, requiring that he contact his local union requesting a Return to Trade status and resume paying dues, additionally notifying him that his pension would be suspended. In addition to failing to notify his local union and tender dues, it was determined that Brother Shearin was employed in the electrical industry while collecting twenty-seven (27) months of Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) payments.

After a thorough review of the facts, the members of the executive council have determined that Brother Shearin is ordered to make payment of \$1,227.00 in dues with no PBF credit. In addition, after receipt of the check Brother Shearin has already submitted in the amount of \$3,847.50, a balance of \$1,620.00 remains in PBF overpayment. Therefore, future PBF payments will be withheld from August 2014 through March 2015 to reimburse the overpayment of PBF payments.

### IBEW Consolidated Balance Sheet/Income Statement covering the 6-month period ending December 31, 2014

Reviewed and Filed

### IBEW Pension Benefit Fund Consolidated Statement of Net Assets/Changes in Net Assets covering the 6-month period ending December 31, 2014

Reviewed and Filed

### Retirement of International Officers

Frank J. Carroll, International Vice President, Second District  
Effective—January 1, 2015

### Retirement of International Representatives

Timothy J. Collins, International Representative, Sixth District  
Effective—January 1, 2015

Danny L. Johnson, International Representative, Fifth District  
Effective—February 1, 2015

David W. Appleman, International Representative, Fourth District  
Effective—March 1, 2015

This regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned on Monday, February 2, 2015, at 11:30 a.m. The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 7 a.m., on Thursday, May 14, 2015, in Washington, D.C.

### For the International Executive Council

Patrick Lavin, Secretary  
February 2015

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

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# NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

## Alberta Election Rocks Canada

**D**eath of a Dynasty.” That’s how Maclean’s Magazine described the May election in Alberta that brought down almost 44 years of governance by the province’s Progressive Conservatives, a party that’s somewhat less right wing than Alberta native and federal Prime Minister Steven Harper’s Conservative Party of Canada.

Fed up with the arrogance of a conservative leadership that blamed citizens for its own failings, voters turned to the New Democratic Party, strongly supported by organized labour, and premier Rachel Notley to lead the province, home to the oil sands energy boom.

A recently initiated Edmonton Local 424 apprentice, 23-year-old Jon Carson, was elected to the provincial legislature as part of the New Democratic wave. Newly elected members of the legislative assembly include an increased number of women and more closely represent the demographics of Alberta, where the average age is between 36 and 37 years.

“This will be a new and better Alberta,” says Local 424 Business Agent Ken MacKenzie. The conservatives, says MacKenzie, were friends of big oil and big business and had initiated the most anti-labour legislation in Canada.

In 2010, only a last-minute push by labour activists helped narrowly defeat a resolution at a Progressive Conservative convention that would have endorsed giving workers covered by a collective bargaining agreement the option of opting out of paying union dues, the equivalent of right-to-work legislation in the U.S.

The Tories have close ties with anti-union construction contractors and have passed legislation that gives employers a 90-day window to pressure workers into giving up their union once they have voted to join.

“We’ve been waging a defensive battle for too long. Now, finally, we have a government that we can work with, a government that will listen to working Albertans,” MacKenzie said.

Local 424 represents more than 8,000 members, many of whom work in the oil sands region.

The local’s political action committee endorsed 15 candidates and staffed phone banks to contact members in 11 provincial electoral constituencies, urging them to get out and vote. All but one of the endorsed candidates won election.

“Now that vote of frustration with the Conservative government needs to be turned into active support for the government. We wanted a more participatory democracy and now we have that opportunity,” MacKenzie says.

The local only just revived its political action committee in March and is looking to make new gains in federal elections in October, assisted by an all-out effort by the First District office and the Canadian Labour Congress.

While many members support the

agenda of the New Democrats, says MacKenzie, most voters wanted to dump the Tories, led by Premier Jim Prentice who, when asked during a debate to explain the province’s debt, despite the huge revenues of big oil companies, said, “In terms of who is responsible, we all need only look in the mirror.”

Notley, the new premier, is not expected to declare “war” on the oil companies, says MacKenzie. But, with support from across the province and “the push from working Albertans,” he says, Notley can use the electoral mandate to

win a fairer deal and more cooperation from the energy sector to help the province meet its needs.

The new provincial NDP MLAs also include two activists from the United Food and Commercial Workers.

“This election shows there’s a place for progressive politics anywhere,” says Chris O’Halloran, Canadian national representative of the UFCW, representing 30,000 members from retail clerks on the oil patch to others in slaughterhouses, private schools and assisted living facilities.

“You have to look at opportunities

and allies and the partnerships you need to build,” O’Halloran said. “When you have a good plan, a solid idea and a solid platform, you can win a public that has an appetite for change to support a new agenda.”

The UFCW, says O’Halloran, decided five years ago to become more fully engaged in politics, fielding members for office in NDP party organizations and selecting candidates who would run for public office. One member, Chris Nielson, was selected to run for parliament. The union’s strategists expected that Nielson might lose the first time, but would have won enough recogni-

tion to be elected four years later. “You need a lot of time to knock on doors and build relationships,” says O’Halloran. Instead, Nielson was elected in the NDP wave.

“I congratulate our members and leaders in Alberta for fully engaging in the political process and turning back labour’s adversaries,” says International President Lonnie R. Stephenson. “The lessons of political activism are important south of the 49th parallel where, for instance, the state of Texas has been under conservative rule for only half as long as Alberta. Grassroots politics works.” ■

## Les élections en Alberta assurent le Canada

**L**a fin d’une Dynastie. » C’est ainsi que le magazine *Maclean’s* a décrit les élections de mai en Alberta défaisant les progressistes-conservateurs du pouvoir depuis 44 ans dans la province. Ce parti étant moins extrême droite que les natifs d’Alberta et le parti conservateur fédéral du Canada dirigé par le premier ministre Steven Harper.

Marre de l’arrogance du leadership des conservateurs qui ont blâmé les citoyens de leur échec, les électeurs se sont tournés vers le Nouveau Parti Démocratique fortement soutenu par le mouvement syndical. La première ministre Rachel Notley dirigera la province qui est en effet le berceau du boom économique des sables bitumineux.

Un tout récent initié du local 424 d’Edmonton, l’apprenti de 23 ans Jon Carson a été élu pour faire partie de la législature provinciale dans le cadre de la nouvelle vague démocratique. Les nouveaux membres élus de l’Assemblée législative comprennent un bon nombre de femmes qui se rapproche plus de la démographie de l’Alberta où la moyenne d’âge est entre 36 et 37 ans.

« Ceci sera une Alberta nouvelle et meilleure, » dit l’agent d’affaires Ken Mackenzie du local 424. Mackenzie mentionne que les conservateurs avaient un rapport amical avec les grandes sociétés pétrolières et les grandes entreprises et ils passaient des lois les plus antisyndicales au Canada.

À la toute dernière minute en 2010, les militants syndicaux ont aidé à défer de justesse une résolution lors d’un congrès du parti progressiste-conservateur donnant le droit aux travailleurs couvert par une convention collective de renoncer aux cotisations syndicales, l’équivalent de la législation du droit au travail aux États-Unis.

Les conservateurs ont des liens proches avec les entrepreneurs antisyndicaux dans le domaine de la construction et ont adopté une législation qui donne une période de 90 jours aux employeurs pour exercer de la pression sur les employés pour renoncer à leur syndicat après avoir voté en sa faveur.

« Cela fait trop longtemps que nous menions une bataille défensive. Nous avons finalement un gouvernement avec lequel nous pouvons collaborer, un gouvernement engagé à écouter les travailleurs de l’Alberta, » dit Mackenzie. Le local 424 représente plus de 8 000 membres où plusieurs d’entre eux travaillent dans la région des sables bitumineux.

Le comité d’action politique du local a choisi 15 candidats et a engagé du personnel dans les centres téléphoniques en vue de contacter les membres dans 11 circonscriptions électorales provinciales pour les inciter à aller voter. Tous sauf un des candidats choisis ont remporté l’élection.

« Ce vote de non-confiance envers le gouvernement conservateur doit maintenant être transformé en un soutien actif pour ce dernier. Nous avons voulu une démocratie participative et maintenant nous en avons l’occasion, » dit Mackenzie.

Le comité d’action politique a été reconstitué en mars dernier par le local et cherche à faire de nouveaux gains aux élections fédérales en octobre. Il sera assisté par tous les efforts nécessaires provenant du bureau du Premier District et le Congrès du travail du Canada.

Alors que plusieurs membres appuient l’ordre du jour des Nouveaux Démocrates, dit Mackenzie, plusieurs électeurs voulaient laisser tomber les conservateurs, dirigés par le premier ministre Jim Prentice lorsque questionné pendant le débat sur la taille de la dette de la province malgré les énormes revenus générés par les sociétés pétrolières, il a répondu que : « Nous devons seulement nous regarder dans le miroir. »

La première ministre Notley n’envisage pas de déclarer la « guerre » avec les sociétés pétrolières, affirme Mackenzie. Cependant, avec l’appui de toute la province et « l’effort additionnel des travailleurs en Alberta », Notley peut utiliser le mandat électoral pour gagner de façon juste et obtenir plus de coopération de la part du secteur de l’énergie afin de répondre aux besoins de la province.

Les nouveaux députés néo-démocrates comprennent deux activistes de Travailleurs Unis de l’Alimentation et du Commerce — TUAC (*United Food and Commercial Workers - UFCW*).

« Cette élection démontre qu’il y a de la place n’importe où pour la politique progressiste, » mentionne Chris O’Halloran, le représentant national de la TUAC au Canada. Il représente 30 000 membres allant de vendeurs au détail dans le secteur pétrolier à d’autres dans les abattoirs, des écoles privées ainsi que dans les installations de vie assistées.

« Il faut rechercher les occasions et alliés et partenariats nécessaires dans le but de bâtir. Lorsque vous avez un bon projet, une idée et une plate-forme solide, vous pouvez gagner la confiance du public qui souhaite le changement afin d’appuyer un nouveau régime politique. »

O’Halloran mentionne que depuis cinq années la TUAC a décidé de s’engager pleinement dans la politique, à déployer des membres pour se présenter

au parti néo-démocrate et à choisir des candidats pour poser leur candidature à la fonction publique. Un membre, Chris Nielson, a été choisi pour siéger au Parlement. Les stratèges syndicaux ont prévu que Nielson pourrait perdre la première fois, mais qu’il aurait gagné assez de reconnaissance pour être élu dans quatre ans. « Il faut beaucoup de temps pour rencontrer les gens afin de créer des liens, » mentionne O’Halloran. Au lieu de tout cela, Nielson a été élu lors de la vague du NPD.

« Je tiens à féliciter nos membres et leaders en Alberta de s’être pleinement engagés dans le processus politique et d’avoir freiné les adversaires du syndicat, » dit le président international Lonnie R. Stephenson. « Les leçons de l’activisme politique sont importantes au sud du 49e parallèle où à titre d’exemple, l’État du Texas a été sous la domination conservatrice depuis la moitié moins longtemps que l’Alberta. La politique d’inspiration populaire fonctionne. » ■

## IBEW MERCHANDISE



### Orange T-Shirt \$9.00

100% heavyweight cotton, with pocket, crew neck, and IBEW initials.

### Dreams of Dignity Hardback Book \$5.00

A 293 page hard back book written by Grace Palladino which focuses on the roots and history of the IBEW. Beginning in the late 1800’s with the founding fathers up to the mid 1990’s.

### Moisture Management T-Shirt \$12.00

100% polyester, black moisture management t-shirt with IBEW initials. Wicks moisture away from the body by using rapid dry interlock fabric.

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

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



## CIRCUITS

### General Motors Goes Greener with Help from Ohio IBEW

New car buyers are more concerned than ever with gas mileage and emissions. But if you want to go truly green, it helps not just to look at the car's carbon footprint, but also the factory where it's built.

In Lordstown, Ohio, General Motors has assembled more than 15 million cars over nearly 50 years. Now, IBEW members have upgraded the company's manufacturing facility with two massive renewable energy projects, just the latest in GM's growing commitment to renewables.



*The IBEW installed a massive solar array to help power GM's Chevy Cruze factory in Lordstown, Ohio.*

A new 6.5-acre solar array supplies more than 2 megawatts of clean power to the plant, where members of the United Auto Workers Local 1112 build the Chevrolet Cruze sedan, one of the company's consistently popular compact cars.

Beginning last November, eight IBEW members worked demanding schedules during the harsh winter to install nearly 9,000 solar panels. The upgrade is the largest solar array for GM in the Western Hemisphere.

"We worked six and seven days a week, 10 hours per day, braving the cold

the entire time—a lot during near-zero temperatures," said Local 573 member Jaime Burdette, general foreman of the crew employed by signatory contractor Dickie Electric.

Members also converted the plant's lighting fixtures to an LED system, which will reduce lighting costs by about 84 percent.

Local 573 Business Manager Jack Morse praised the members and the contractor for a job well done.

"This project is one of the showpieces for GM in North America," he said of the array. "It's right off the Ohio Turnpike, so everybody driving by can see it."

Morse said he thinks the success of the upgrade will inspire other area companies to invest more in solar power, offering local union members additional work opportunities. ■

### IBEW Volunteers Fight Hunger in Wash.

Members of Tacoma, Wash., Local 483 donated a record 4,015 jars of peanut butter to the Emergency Food Network in Pierce County on May 13.

Local 483 coordinated 75 volunteers to form a human chain to move six tons—\$12,000 worth—of donated peanut butter from the Local 483 building to the offices of the Pierce County Central Labor Council at Local 483's sister Tacoma local, Local 76, a block away.

"We have many unions that contribute to hunger relief, but IBEW is the heart of the labor movement on this issue," said Helen McGovern-Pilant, executive director of the Emergency Food Network.

The peanut butter has been distributed to food banks across Pierce County.

"Our local has supported the Emer-



*Volunteers form a human chain to deliver donated peanut butter for distribution in Pierce County, Wash.*

gency Food Network since 2011," said Local 483 Business Manager Alice Phillips, who also serves on the board of the organization. "The need for donations is great in Pierce County and we take this event very seriously. We've worked hard to earn first place in donations the last two years."

The event was covered by the Tacoma News Tribune and featured on the Local 483 Facebook page. IBEW members also launched a drone that provided video of the volunteers at work.

Local 483 received strong support from other local unions as well as friends in the electrical industry and the community. Many Local 483 members contributed generously to the cause.

"They spent their hard-earned money to help us show that IBEW cares deeply about our neighbors," Phillips said. "We were proud to place a label on each jar of peanut butter that states it was donated by members of Local 483."

Local 483 members started collecting peanut butter on Jan. 1. Phillips worked with area union grocery stores to get the most from the monetary donations they received.

One in five households relies on food

bank donations in Pierce County, where the rebounding economy has left out the middle class, working class and working poor. "The elderly are struggling, working families can't find jobs at a decent wage and the foreclosure rate is high," said McGovern-Pilant. Since 2011 there has been an 11 percent increase in visits made to food banks in the county. ■

New Jersey. Over five weeks, the 14-member group raised about \$6,000 worth of non-perishable items for the food bank.

"Our group just wants to give back to the community," said Neuman, a father of two who works for Public Service Electric and Gas as a mechanical operator. "We want to say that as the IBEW, we live and work here too. We want those who need a helping hand to be able to achieve their part of the American Dream."

Local leaders say that the need is great. "We see people walking over to the food bank every day," Local 94 Business Manager Buddy Thoman said. "Sometimes when you drive in to the hall, you have to stop in the road to make way for our neighbors who are carrying food."

This was the second year that the NxtUp group has collected donations for the pantry. Neuman said that young worker activists spoke with the organization's leaders and representatives of the nearby St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, to get a sense of the best way to help the neighborhood.

"Around the holidays, food pantries are pretty stocked," Neuman said. "We told them, give us a time when there's a lull, when you really need donations."

### N.J. Young Workers Give to Neighbors in Need

Talk to a member of the Cranbury, N.J., Local 94 NxtUp young worker committee, and you'll quickly get the sense that the future of the trade union movement is in good hands.

"We try to be engaged," said Adam Neuman, the recording secretary for the NxtUp group and chair of the state's AFL-CIO youth caucus. "We've been active in opposing the Trans-Pacific Partnership and right-to-work, and we do what we can to get other young workers involved."

But while Neuman and his fellow members have the big picture in mind, sometimes what's closer to home matters the most.

This spring, the committee sponsored a donation drive for the Rise Food Pantry, which shares the same street as Local 94's hall in central



*Cranbury, N.J., Local 94's young worker committee raised \$6,000 in non-perishable items for an area food bank.*

## TRANSITIONS

### RETIRED

#### Carol L. Fitzgerald



After 43 years in the IBEW, Second District International Representative Carol Fitzgerald has retired, effective March 1.

Sister Fitzgerald started at New England Telephone in 1959 during her senior year in high school. Fitzgerald set up Yellow Pages ads as a printer's clerk for nearly six years before transferring to the operators department. When the IBEW took over from the Federation of Telephone Workers in 1971, Fitzgerald became a member of Boston Local 2222, and was selected shop steward the next year.

In 1974, Fitzgerald transferred to Braintree, Mass., Local 2313 and two years later was elected business manager. She held the position until 1997.

"I stayed on the job because I enjoyed it. All of it," Fitzgerald said. "I felt it was an honor and I liked the bargaining. I always found it an interesting challenge to convince the other side of our way of thinking. That doesn't mean it worked all the time, but I

enjoyed trying."

The telecommunications industry was radically transformed over the years Fitzgerald oversaw Local 2313, often in very difficult ways.

"In 1971 there were 40,000 organized workers, mostly women, working in telecom in New England. It is down around 6,000 or 7,000 now," Fitzgerald said. "When I started out it was the old cord board manually making connections and by the time I left automation was everywhere."

As the telecommunications industry consolidated, broke apart and consolidated again, Fitzgerald was consistently called on to represent the IBEW in negotiations. She chaired the New England Telephone bargaining committee from 1978 until 1997 as well as the AT&T bargaining committee from 1978 to 1994.

In 1989, former International President J.J. Barry nominated Fitzgerald for membership in the YWCA of the City of New York's Academy of Women Leaders as a "trailblazer" in recognition of her "leadership, achievement and contributions to the IBEW."

Barry later appointed her to serve on the resolutions committee for the 34th convention in 1996 and she served again at the 35th convention five years later.

After eight consecutive terms as business manager of Local 2313, Barry appointed Fitzgerald to be an

international representative in the Second District in 1997 to help multiple New England telecom locals navigate the ever-changing industry.

After years of traveling where all she saw "was the inside of hotels," in retirement Fitzgerald said she intends "to see the rest of the country."

Please join us in honoring Sister Fitzgerald for her path-breaking career and tireless service to her brothers and sisters. We wish her a long, healthy and adventurous retirement. ■

### DECEASED

#### Orley Welker Jr.



We regret to report that retired Sixth District International Representative Orley Welker Jr. died on April 25 at the age of 87.

A native of Havana, Ill., Brother Welker attended the University of Illinois and Western Illinois University.

He taught elementary school for two years, then went to work at Illinois Power Co. for 18 years. He was initi-

ated into Springfield Local 51 in 1949, where he served on the executive board and the negotiating committee. He was assistant business manager from 1966 to 1971 and business manager/financial secretary from 1974 to 1979.

He served on the Fourth and Sixth District joint American Line Builders Apprenticeship Training Committee and as a member of the University of Illinois Labor Advisory Committee. Welker was appointed an international representative in 1979.

From 1951 to 1953 he served on active duty with the U.S. Air Force and then remained a member of the Air Force Reserves and the 183rd Tactical Fighter Squadron until 1980, when he retired as a colonel.

He served as officer in charge of the military honor guard at the 1965 funeral of prominent Democrat, diplomat, three-time presidential candidate and former Illinois governor, Adlai Stevenson II.

He retired from the IBEW in 1993.

Welker and his wife Verla enjoyed nature and traveling. They visited all 50 states, Mexico and Canada and toured Europe twice by train.

On behalf of the entire IBEW membership and staff, the officers send our condolences to Brother Welker's family. ■

Joe Checkley, who chairs the NxtUp group, said his fellow members wanted to be able to do the most good at the right time. “They told us that following the holidays and coming around to April—that was a time when the donations would especially help,” said the 34-year-old radiation protection worker for PSEG Nuclear, a branch of Public Service Electric and Gas.

Local 94 represents about 4,000 members who work in tree trimming, utilities and more. As members are spread out across the state, the young workers coordinated the donation effort at numerous worksites by engaging stewards to reach out to the broader membership. Many brought canned and boxed food, and others donated money so that the coordinators could purchase food at a local grocery store that offered a charity discount on their purchase. NxtUp members donated the items on April 27.

Leslie Koppel, Rise’s executive director, said that the IBEW’s contribution will greatly benefit the area households that her organization serves.

“Giving at a local level is the most important component to building strong communities, she said. “The IBEW 94 local is our neighbor, literally two doors down from us. They see firsthand the hundreds of families that go to the Rise Food Pantry each week.”

State Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo, who is president of Trenton Local 269, praised his fellow union brothers and sisters.

“This is a great thing to see—the working families, union families of New Jersey—putting forth a heartfelt effort to get the resources they need,” he said.

Neuman said that there’s a direct correlation to spreading the cause of unionism and combatting falling wages in his state.

“We just want to help people. Lots of things we have bargained for—these are what other people’s wages are benchmarked against. It all starts on a grassroots level. You have to build power in the community, and show that you are doing things for the right reasons. And if you lend a helping hand, then when we [the IBEW] need a helping hand, you can count on people.”

Checkley said that the group hopes to further their relationship with Rise. “We’ve laid the groundwork to be a partner with them in the community,” he said.

The local’s young worker group formed in 2013. “They’re doing an awesome job,” Thoman said. “The group is diverse in terms of business units—some are from nuclear, some from electrical distribution and more. There’s good representation. They are truly dedicated to all working families in our state.” ■

## Seventh District RENEW Group Plots Course for Future

In the IBEW’s Seventh District, organizers and activists have to contend not only with geographical sprawl, but also with prevailing attitudes that aren’t always worker friendly.

Between the five states—Arizona, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas—the average union density is less than 6 percent, barely half the national average. All but New Mexico have right-to-work laws on the books.

Chris Reeves is hoping to help change that. At 33 years old, he’s the youngest organizer ever to be on staff at Beaumont, Texas, Local 479. As the district’s advisory committee representative for the RENEW—Reach out and Engage

Next-generation Electrical Workers—initiative, he credits good leadership at his local and solid mentoring from some older members for helping him develop both the interest and the chops for what it’s going to take to build stronger solidarity among young workers in the southwest.

“From a younger worker’s perspective, we see some of these thinkers and politicians trying to suppress the middle class that holds the structure of America together,” he said. “And as we go forward

as a nation, our numbers of people in unions is shrinking.”

That’s one of the reasons he helped start a RENEW group at his local, which now has more than a dozen members. He is looking to grow this across the district, and was encouraged by the activism he saw at March’s RENEW conference in Chicago, where he got to network with other like-minded young members across the region.

“As electricians, as union members,

we have the responsibility to leave this industry better than we found it,” he said. Reeves said communication is key, and advocates both face-to-face engagement at union meetings and embracing social media like Facebook.

“We’re just getting started, but we have our sights set high,” Reeves said.

Young workers living in the Seventh District are encouraged to contact him at [chris@ibew479.com](mailto:chris@ibew479.com) to get active and help expand the growing RENEW program. ■

## THE FRONT LINE: POLITICS & JOBS

### Rebuking Ill. Gov., Pro-Worker Lawmakers Go on Right-To-Work Offensive

As a self-described member of “the 1 percent of the 1 percent,” Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner doesn’t exactly have his finger on the pulse of working people, his critics say.

Nor is he a fan of unions, having spent the past few months pressing for so-called “right-to-work zones” in the state.

“What he’s doing is going to small municipalities first, promoting what he calls ‘employee empowerment zones,’” said Collinsville Local 309 Business Manager Tim Evans. These zones would exempt workers in union shops from paying their fair share toward the servicing of their collective bargaining agreements, making it more costly for unions to advocate for fair wages and benefits.



Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner has called for so-called ‘right-to-work zones’ across the state.

The result? After fiery debate on the House floor, it was brutally defeated: 79 against, 0 for. Most Republicans simply voted “present” or didn’t vote at all.

“If the governor is serious about the changes he is proposing, the right thing to do now is for us to bring these issues into the open and have a constructive and open discussion, vote and see what steps need to be taken from there,” Illinois House Speaker Mike Madigan said in emailed statement to the Chicago Sun-Times.

Many Republicans criticized the procedure, since the legislation voted on wasn’t drafted by the governor’s office.

“What’s happening today ... is a disservice to this body, to this chamber and to this building,” Illinois House Republican Leader Jim Durkin said. “I’m embarrassed to be part of this process today. I think this is a very dark moment in this body’s chamber.” Based on his votes regarding working families’ issues, Durkin has a lifetime score of 28 percent from the Illinois AFL-CIO, according to Project Vote Smart.

Evans disagreed with the GOP’s characterization of the vote. “The pro-worker lawmakers—they’re saying, ‘We’ll show you where the stance is in the statehouse.’” Prior to the vote, Evans and other IBEW leaders had contacted lawmakers in their jurisdiction, which includes about 1,200 members. Of seven representatives polled, six said they would vote no—and one, Dwight Kay, who didn’t respond to the union’s request, ended up voting present.

Evans said the right-to-work zones would play havoc with working families’ wages in the state.

“It just opens it up for people from across the country doing lower wage work,” he said. “When you open the floodgates, you eventually lose things like project labor agreements and prevailing wages, and out-of-town contractors bid your jobs.”

Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael Carrigan, who is also a member of Decatur Local 146, issued a statement highlighting the unpopularity of the governor’s anti-worker vision.

“Gov. Rauner’s attempts to push local governments to support his agenda have fallen flat because local citizens have pushed back,” Carrigan said. “Barely two dozen of the more than 1,000 Illinois municipalities have supported Rauner’s anti-worker resolution, while more than twice that number have rejected or tabled it.” ■

Instead of going for a statewide bill, Rauner is looking to curry influence with local groups to move right-to-work from the bottom up, rather than from the top down, Evans said.

But instead of waiting for a scenario like what happened in March in Wisconsin—where Gov. Scott Walker signed into law a right-to-work bill that was a near copy of model legislation drafted by the secretive American Legislative Executive Council—some of Illinois’ pro-worker state representatives got clever.

The Democratic majority introduced a right-to-work bill of their own, just to vote it down.



Democratic lawmakers in Delaware’s state Senate voted down a recent right-to-work bill.

### Right-to-Work in Delaware? No Thanks, Lawmakers Say

A GOP-led move to create so-called right-to-work zones in Delaware has been scuttled by the state Senate’s Democratic majority.

Senate Minority Leader Greg Lavelle sponsored the legislation, which he said would help shore up the state’s manufacturing base. The bill would have allowed the Delaware Economic Development Office to create industrial zones where the ability of workers to collectively bargain for wages and benefits is weakened. It was defeated on April 29.

“Other states are showing the way to increase manufacturing, with the adoption of right-to-work laws,” Lavelle said in a press release.

Doug Drummond disagrees. The Wilmington Local 313 business manager was quoted by WBOC-TV Channel 16 saying that the legislators were misleading the public, and that no company—manufacturing or otherwise—is bound by law to have a union.

“It’s the union’s job to go out and organize,” Drummond said.

The legality of such right-to-work zones is still up for debate. Earlier this year, several counties in Kentucky, which requires employees represented by unions to pay their fair share toward servicing their collective bargaining agreements, decided to take matters into their own hands by passing area right-to-work laws.

Nine unions—including the IBEW—filed a suit in Kentucky arguing that the National Labor Relations Act stipulates that such laws can only be enacted at the state level, not in smaller counties or municipalities.

What’s not up for debate, labor leaders say, is that right-to-work laws erode workers’ efforts to collectively bargain by making it harder for unions to collect dues, driving down wages and benefits. The average worker in a right-to-work state makes \$1,500 less a year than his or her counterpart in union-friendly states.

Employees in pro-worker states are also more likely to have job-based health benefits.

Right-to-work has been a hot topic with anti-worker state lawmakers this year.

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker signed right-to-work into law on March 9, despite a vocal chorus of opposition from thousands of working families. The last states to pass the laws were Indiana and Michigan, both in 2012.

About 11 percent of Delaware’s workforce is represented by unions, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The nationwide median weekly earnings of nonunion workers in 2014 hovered around \$760—just 79 percent of earnings for union members, who took home about \$970, the BLS reported. ■

# LOCAL LINES

## Fighting 'Raunerism'

L.U. 21 (catv,govt&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL—Illinois union members are fighting back the punches being thrown at them by “the billionaire” Gov. Bruce Rauner. The governor is being taught a lesson—we refuse to be treated like his employees. We have voices and we are making them heard.

While the attorney general and courts have ruled his plans illegal, the CEO governor continues to demand support of his so-called Turnaround Agenda. Raunerism (which includes proposals to repeal union rights, prevailing wages, social programs and local government funding, along with a basic business approach of “do it my way or the highway”) has been met with strong opposition. Time after time when Rauner’s resolutions are discussed by government bodies, they are either rejected or tabled indefinitely.

IBEW members are helping to defeat the governor’s proposed anti-worker measures. When IBEW members get involved, they make a strong impact.

We are very proud of our members, who are fighting like never before. IBEW Local 21 members not only work hard, but they also make a difference in the communities where we live and work.

Bob Przybylinski, R.S./P.S.



Local 25 Pipe & Drum band assembles for St. Patrick’s Day parade.

purpose of promoting Local 25 and the IBEW. Our pipers and drummers and Honor Guard dress in traditional Scottish military uniform with a feather bonnet.

This tradition continues today, 35 years later, with Bro. John Martin now running the band with many very talented brothers and sisters.

This year the band won a trophy at the Saint Patrick’s Day parade for “Best Band” in Patchogue, NY. They really do a tremendous job, and we are all very proud of them.

Tom Lawless, P.S.

## The Time is Now — Time for Political Action

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—With the Federal election on the horizon, candidates are working hard to get our votes. Each one has his or her own ideas about shaping our country, the future of organized labour, spending our tax dollars, etc. Decisions and commitments that will affect us, and the generations to follow.

Make sure to choose your candidate by asking the questions that matter to you, your family, and your community. Ask candidates questions about jobs, the economy, education, healthcare, the energy sector, retirement, the environment, local issues, etc. Whatever is important to you, is important. You can find your answers by scheduling meetings, sending emails, making phone calls, reading campaign materials, and following the media coverage.

If you’re satisfied with a particular candidate’s answers, it’s time for political action. And there are lots of ways to help your candidate get the votes that he or she needs to get elected. Here are some suggestions:

- Go door to door with candidate.
- Do survey phone calls.
- Put up signs.
- Make a financial contribution.
- Volunteer at campaign related events.



IBEW Local 21 members Mark Moffitt (left), Steve Bauer, Chuck Queen and Drew Moffitt stand up for the rights of union members in Jefferson County, IL.

## Local 25 Pipes and Drums

L.U. 25 (catv,i&rts), LONG ISLAND, NY—In 1980 our Pipe and Drum band was started by Bro. Ed McGilly and was the first Pipe and Drum band to be recognized by the IBEW International. Bro. McGilly had a passion to start a band after being taught by the Suffolk County Emerald Society.

Bro. McGilly asked then-business manager Bud Fisher if he could start a band and Fisher replied, “Find a band and teach them to play and get approval from the membership and we have a band.” Then-president Eugene Parrington asked the I.O. for a charter and it was approved.

The band wanted to show union pride through organized music, marching in towns and hamlets throughout Long Island and far from home, all for the

- Encourage others to vote.
- Drive voters to the polls.
- Invite candidates to events in your community.

But the single most important thing you can do is vote! It’s your right, make it count!

Ross Galbraith, B.M.

## Active RENEW Volunteers

L.U. 41 (em,es,govt,i,se&spa), BUFFALO, NY—A lot has happened since our last article. We negotiated new agreements for inside wiremen, with Volland Electric, SE-MAR Electric, Niagara Transformer, and our Motor Shop. At press time, we also have ongoing negotiations with The Buffalo News and ICS Telecom.

In early April, Local 41 held its first Easter Egg Hunt, which the local plans to make an annual event. Many eggs were found and ice-cream sundaes eaten. An “extreme” balloon artist was there, all the kids had fun, and even the Easter Bunny found his way to our party. We are booked for next year and have already passed the date on to the rabbit.

With the leadership of Ken Scheifla and Matt Gaiser, our RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) group continues to volunteer in the community. More brothers and sisters show up at these projects to participate and to find out what it means to be part of the IBEW. We are *not* just union electricians; we are a part of the fabric of our community. We are *not* union thugs—we care about others and are willing to give to those less fortunate. We are *not* greedy or lazy or selfish—we are willing to spend our own time and efforts to make our communities better. Thank you to the brothers and sisters who take the time to show others we are the rising tide, and we want to raise all.

Gregory R. Inglut, A.B.M.



Local 41 members and their families at 2015 Easter Egg Hunt.

## Volunteers Serve Community

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY—In March, Local 43 members participated in America’s Greatest Heart/Run Walk in Utica and the American Heart Walk in Syracuse. Combined, 40 members and family braved brisk winds and the cold to raise \$10,198 for the American Heart Association. This was a significant increase from last year thanks to the hard work of those participating.

At the April local union meeting, third-year apprentices were acknowledged for their work in motor control class. Instructor Scot Garland led the class through 13 weeks devoted to motors, motor controls, variable frequency drives and programmable logic controls. Ten lab projects performed during that time involved wiring control cabinets based on ladder diagrams drawn by the students. The students’ work was evaluated based on functionality and craftsmanship. David Graves, Joseph Merritt, Kirk Phillips and Adam Santamour were each awarded Fluke multimeters by the JATC for their outstanding work in the lab.

Gene Townsend, P.S.



Local 43 third-year apprentices Adam Santamour (left), Kirk Phillips, David Graves and Joseph Merritt receive Fluke meters presented by Instructor Scot Garland (far right) for outstanding lab work.

## SCE Negotiations

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA—Happy birthday, America. Thank a veteran for 239 years of independence.

At press time, we remain at loggerheads in negotiations with Southern California Edison. Demonstrations and rallies continue at SCE events, including its annual stockholders meeting. We are applying pressure in the state legislature and at the Public Utilities Commission. The U.S. Senate is investigating the company’s abuse of the H-1B visa program as a result of the layoff of several hundred non-represented American workers, who were replaced with workers from India. The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled against SCE’s mismanagement of its 401(k) program.

## Submitting Local Lines Articles

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

## Trade Classifications

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

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



IBEW Local 47 Bus. Mgr. Pat Lavin discusses SCE negotiations with union members outside SCE's annual stockholders meeting.

Our Stewards Conference was May 1-2. Over 200 stewards attended. Speakers included: State Controller Betty T. Yee, organizer/author Stewart Acuff, Vietnam POW Cpt. J. Charles Plumb, and IBEW Ninth District Int. Vice Pres. John J. O'Rourke.

More than 150 members/families enjoyed a weekend of off-road fun at our Annual Desert Days.

Our first RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) meeting was May 16. We encourage all our younger members to join.

We are sad to report the passing of Phil Pechacek and Miguel Mariscal. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

Live long, live safe and well. Work and buy union!

Stan Stosel, P.S.

## Tribute to a Life of Service

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL—The local mourns the loss of Bro. Orley Welker Jr., who passed away April 25 at age 87. Bro. Welker was formerly the local's business manager before going on to serve as an International Representative with the Sixth District and eventually retiring in 1993. Prior to joining the IBEW, Bro. Welker spent 29 years in the U.S. Air Force and 183rd Tactical Fighter Squadron, retiring as a colonel in 1980. He attended the University of Illinois and Western Illinois University and briefly taught elementary school. Bro. Welker attended the Local 51 Christmas lunch every year following his retirement and was a proud union brother.

S.B. 1585 and H.B. 3293 create low-carbon credits for generators in Illinois. Closure of three nuclear plants in Illinois, including Clinton Power Station, would be devastating in terms of union jobs. The local union supports these bills and others to assist nuclear, coal and renewable generators in Illinois, which is consistent with our "all-of-the-above" strategy for generation sources. Currently Clinton Power Station is shut down for a refuel outage and an additional 1,200 workers are on-site.

Have a safe summer and attend your local union meetings.

Karlene Knisley, B.R.

## 50-Year Service Award

L.U. 97 (u), SYRACUSE, NY—A luncheon was held Feb. 13 to congratulate retired chief line mechanic Matthew Mott for his 50-plus years of IBEW service. Matt's career started in the U.S. Army doing line work in 1959.



Local 97 presents 50-Year Service Award. From left, Union Safety Advocate Frank Hilliker, award recipient Matthew Mott, Asst. Bus. Mgr. James Card and Chief Steward Steve Bartlett.

He was later deployed to Germany for several years.

Once returned to U.S. soil, he began working for Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. in 1963, as a janitor making \$2.18 per hour. He was eventually awarded a "groundman" position and made his way through the line mechanic series. Matt worked on several large jobs during his IBEW career, as well as through countless storms and on thousands of trouble calls. We wish Matt the best in his retirement, after 51 years and

310 days of service to our community and to our local.

We continue to prepare for upcoming negotiations throughout the year, and finally welcome the warm weather within our territory.

Jim Zabinski, V.P.

## Annual Sports Night; RENEW Conference

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA—Local 103's Annual Sports Night was held for the 34th time this March at UMass Boston. It is an event that has something for everyone in Local 103 and their family. The journeymen rivaled the apprentices in both hockey and basketball. Our members' children took to the ice in their own hockey game, and there was a kids' basketball shoot-out. Following the sports events, everyone gathered at the union hall to socialize while the kids continued to play through the evening.

The IBEW's 2015 RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) Conference was held in Chicago, IL, also in March. Over 400 young workers attended from all parts of the U.S. and Canada. Local 103 sent a delegation of 13 members to attend the event. There the young workers of the IBEW experienced three days of intense workshops. Among the many workshop topics were: The History and Structure of the IBEW, How to Make a Presentation & Facilitate Your Own Workshop, Community Engagement, Organizing and Media. This event provided many educational tools for the young workers to bring back and apply to their home locals.

Kevin C. Molineaux, P.S.



Local 109 member Stephen Felgenhauer (left) receives IBEW retirement watch and pin presented by steward Bryan Stephens.

## Longtime Members Retire

L.U. 109 (u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—Congratulations to two longtime Local 109 members who recently retired, Stephen "Felg" Felgenhauer and Jeffrey Hughes.

Bro. Felgenhauer, electrical technician at Louisa Generating Station, received a retirement watch and pin, presented by Local 109 steward Bryan Stephens. Bro. Felgenhauer retired with just over 39 years of service.

Bro. Hughes, gas serviceman at our Davenport Service center, also received a retirement watch and pin, presented by Local 109 steward Jeff Bozman.

Bro. Hughes retired with over 41 years of service.

Local 109 thanks these members for their IBEW service. We wish them a long and happy retirement.

Denise Newberry, R.S.

## Policy Committee Meeting; EWMC Car Show & Poker Run

L.U. 111 (em,govt,lctt,mt,o,rtb,spa&u), DENVER, CO—The Local 111 Policy Committee meeting was held the weekend of April 17. We did experience a good turnout, even though a spring storm was thrown into the mix, making travel for some difficult. The purpose of the Policy Committee is to meet and discuss the business of the local union and to update the local's executive board and business manager on the business carried on by the Local 111 units.

I sincerely thank everyone who made the trip. Those who attended graciously gave up their weekend to participate and help set policy for the local. This is also a great opportunity for unit representatives to mingle with other unit participants, get to know their fellow union members, and experience firsthand what issues are affecting other units. Again, my extreme gratitude to those who participated and made this meeting a success.

Our new webpage is up and running. Construction members can now pay union dues online and re-sign the books. Please register at [www.ibew111.com](http://www.ibew111.com) and see what is happening around your local.

On another note, the Local 111 EWMC 3rd Annual Car Show & Poker Run is scheduled for Saturday, June 27, at the Belle Creek Center in Henderson. Information is available on the Local 111 webpage.

Mike Kostecky, P.S.



Local 125 members conduct informational picketing.

## Contract Negotiations — Members Stand in Solidarity

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR—As of this writing, Local 125 continues negotiations with Pacific Power. The membership has rallied behind their brothers and sisters employed at the utility. In March, members who work at a variety of utilities—including Portland General Electric, Clark County PUD, Salem Electric, and Bonneville Power Administration—participated to show their support. Construction mem-

bers also joined the informational picketing.

Pacific Power in Bend, OR, organized a three-day informational picketing effort as well.

"Thank you to all our members and their families who have stood up in support of this effort," said Local 125 Bus. Mgr. Travis Eri. "This is not about Pacific Power only. Many utilities use Pacific Power as part of their comparison toward overall compensation, so these negotiations affect more than these members."

The union simply seeks a fair total compensation package that is based on comparative utilities in the Pacific Northwest.

Marcy Grail, A.B.M.

## 90th Anniversary Celebration

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL—April 2015 marked the 90th anniversary of Local 145! As documented by the IBEW, former Local 485 (chartered in Rock Island, IL, in 1913) and former Local 635 (chartered in Davenport, Iowa, in 1917) merged in Rock Island, IL on March 27, 1925 ... to become IBEW Local 145! We plan to continue our 90th Anniversary celebration with special events and commemorative items throughout the year. A big celebration for our members and retirees is being planned for October.

At press time, we are busy planning the finishing touches for our annual picnic, scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 1. Our Picnic Committee is working diligently to organize another successful picnic. Each year our members, retirees and their families gather in the hundreds for this casual and family friendly event and this year will be no exception! The new location at Sunset Lakes Resort promises to have something for everyone with new activities and plenty of space to enjoy a day of solidarity—and we can't wait! Plan to attend!

We acknowledge the loss of our recently deceased members and retirees. Their contributions to our industry were instrumental in the success of Local 145.

Dan Larson, P.S.

## New Building & Training Center

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI—Earlier this year, in the face of broad opposition, Wisconsin became a so-called "right-to-work" state. Shortly after Gov. Scott Walker was sworn in for his second term, the Republican-dominated state legislature wasted little time fast-tracking a RTW bill to his desk. We rallied alongside thousands of others, but the voices of the thousands who registered and spoke out against RTW were quashed by the voices and dollars of a powerful few. We are grateful to all who turned out, particularly fellow IBEW members from around Wisconsin, adjacent states and beyond.

We purchased our own building in late 2014 and moved in at the end of January. This summer we'll begin remodeling and equipping our Training Center. We finance all of our training with our own private funds. We look forward to providing continuing education classes on-site later this year. Our work picture looks good for late summer and early fall.

At press time we are preparing to go to the Coun-



Local 159 members attend the first class held at the local's new Training Center, for a conduit bending and Greenlee tool demo session.

## LOCAL LINES

cil on Industrial Relations (CIR) for final resolution, following spring negotiations for a new voice-data-video contract representing eight Wisconsin locals.

Please note our local's new address, 4903 Commerce Court, McFarland, WI 53558. Our other contact information remains the same.

*Lisa Goodman, P.S.*

## Members Ratify Contract

L.U. 193 (i,lctt,o,rts,spa&u), SPRINGFIELD, IL—The contract for the Sangamon County Central Dispatch System members was ratified; it is a four-year agreement. At this writing, the State of Illinois Central Management Services agreement and the Secretary of State agreement are pending.

Local 193 organized a new contractor, Bledsoe Electric, out of Mechanicsburg-Springfield. Welcome aboard!

The work scene remains slow with eight small jobs on the Dodge Reports. City Water Light & Power is doing a transmission line, in-house, along Wabash Avenue. A water purification project by Springfield Sanitary District (Metro) is ongoing.

Habitat for Humanity is now doing its 100th housing project in Springfield. A big IBEW Local 193 "thank-you" to all the hard-working, skilled journeymen and apprentices on their selfless contribution to Abraham Lincoln's hometown! Congratulations to our new Springfield Mayor Jim Langfelder on his recent election.

We urge all IBEW members to contact your state representatives and senators as well as Gov. Bruce Rauner's office and tell them how you feel about the 112 project labor agreements (PLAs) the newly elected governor chose to dismiss throughout Illinois.

I would be remiss if I did not encourage all Cardinals, White Sox and Cubs fans to follow baseball for another exciting year in Major League Baseball.

*Donald Hudson, P.S.*

## Standing Up for Workers

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL—At this writing, work in our jurisdiction remains slow. Thank you to fellow locals that are able to provide work for our brothers and sisters, allowing them to receive a paycheck and bolster their Health and Welfare accounts. We hope we will be able to return the favor.

We have been busy fighting off government efforts to pass Gov. Bruce Rauner's anti-union agenda. Thank you to our members who have showed up to support the cause of workers. Member activism is important for a couple of reasons. First, when we make our voices heard, it informs those who vote against our interests as to what our perspective is and how the anti-worker agenda negatively affects us. It also allows those elected officials who do support us a chance to stiffen their resolve to act in the interest of workers. It is vital that we continue to be visible at these meetings. [Note: For more detail, see pg. 9.]

Please put our Annual Golf Outing on your calendar. It will be Saturday, July 25, at Fairlakes Golf Course in Secor, IL. The Golf Committee is working hard to ensure a good time for all.



Local 197 members on the jobsite at the new Hyatt Hotel project in Uptown Normal, IL: Wes Kolb (left), Josh Roig, Aaron Liming, Ben Walker and Brian Tay.



Local 213 swears in new journeymen and apprentices.

Thanks to those who attended the Workers Memorial Day ceremony at White Oak Park: Don Armstrong, John Moss, Tom Willan, Mike Russell, Jack Roberts, Robin Roberts, Jake Goar, Carson Copley, Matt Wall, Brian Stufflebeam and Dan Uhlir.

Work safe, get involved in the local, and stay involved!

*Mike Raikes, Pres.*

## 95 New Members Sworn In

L.U. 213 (c,catv,em,i&u), VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA—On April 8, Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Adam Van Steinburg and Bus. Rep. Jim Lofty conducted an orientation/initiation session with 95 new journeypersons and apprentices in attendance. Bros. Van Steinburg and Lofty addressed the group and gave advice on being good union members. Congratulations to our new members! [Photo, above.]

Stewards training courses held recently were well-attended. These brothers/sisters who participated are to be congratulated. Stewards play a very important role within our Brotherhood. They will better our work relationship and communications with the employer and with each other.

*Adam Van Steinburg, B.M./F.S.*

## Contract Negotiations

L.U. 245 (govt,lctt,o,rtb&u), TOLEDO, OH—Local 245 has been busy with negotiations. At this writing, first contracts for newly organized Lake Township workers and S&N Communications are in progress. All other negotiations are completed at this time. The next upcoming contracts for negotiation are First Energy and Outside Construction. The work picture at Local 245 on the outside looks good at this time for underground work. Negotiations in the broadcast area were concluded after completion of the contract with the Sinclair group at WNWO-Channel 24. Next year WTOL-Channel 11 and WTVG-Channel 13 contracts will be negotiated.

In nuclear news, Davis Besse power station was recognized by Ottawa County Improvement Corporation as the 2014 Business of the Year. Also in 2014, Davis Besse achieved its lowest online exposure rate ever, landing among the top 10 nuclear plants in the country. The Bayshore Plant has been pretty quiet; the last lost-time accident there was May 5, 2011, and the last OSHA recordable was May 28, 2014.

On the transmission and distribution side, First Energy will be working with a new group of students for the PSI (Power System Institute) program. If these students make it through the pre-hire training program, they could

eventually become the linemen/substation workers of the future.

Local 245 will again sponsor a Mud Hens baseball game, on Aug. 9, for members and their immediate family. Please remember to sign up—call the union hall by July 10. Hope to see you at the ballgame. Have a safe and wonderful summer!

*Ray Zychowicz, P.S.*

## Longtime Career of Service

L.U. 257 (em,i,rtb,rts,spa&t), JEFFERSON CITY, MO—Greg Phillippe, longtime president of the Local 257 Telephone Workers Unit, has retired.

Bro. Phillippe has been an IBEW member since 1977 and has served as president of the Local 257 Telephone Workers Unit since 1992. A devoted member, Greg has always had an open ear for any member who needed to discuss an issue. He negotiated numerous contracts through the years and worked hand-in-hand with the members to ensure a bright future for the telephone workers and all members to follow in the years ahead.

Bus. Mgr. Don Bruemmer wishes to thank Bro. Phillippe for his devotion to Local 257 and his longtime service. Congratulations and best wishes to Bro. Phillippe for a long and happy retirement.

In other news, Bus. Mgr. Bruemmer reports that the Local 257 work outlook for the spring and summer of 2015 appears very promising.

*Joel Vanderslice, P.S.*



Local 257 Bus. Mgr. Don Bruemmer (left), Bro. Greg Phillippe (center), and Robert Blake, current president of Local 257 Telephone Workers Unit.

## 'Summer on the Job' — School Projects Get Underway

L.U. 269 (i&o), TRENTON, NJ—While the kids enjoy a summer off, members look forward to a summer on the job. As local schools empty their classrooms, local brothers and sisters move in with their tools and their know-how, providing the skilled labor needed to make much-needed improvements in learning facilities throughout our communities.



Local 357 recent apprenticeship graduates and fifth-year instructor Tom Farr (back row, second from right).

New and existing construction projects are some of the most tangible examples of our tax dollars at work. Funding for these projects is usually provided through taxpayer referendums. These referendum questions appear on your local ballot through the efforts of elected city and town officials.

Having a local union brother or sister on a school board or town council certainly gives us an advantage when the time comes to hammer out project labor agreements (PLAs) and award contracts.

Summer always provides an uptick of employment that can be attributed to work on our schools. Without the hard work of our members who are involved in local government, much of this work would never reach our hiring halls. Surely, some view politics as a necessary evil to be avoided if possible. Others see political engagement as a challenge and an opportunity to improve the quality of all our lives—and they deserve our support.

*Brian Jacoppo, P.S.*

## 'See You at the Picnic'

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN—Don't throw away the flyer! Instead, be sure to RSVP to attend the summer picnic scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 8. This year the picnic will be in the Winona area. See the Local 343 newsletter or website [www.ibewlocal343.org](http://www.ibewlocal343.org) for details.

The 1891 Preamble to the IBEW Constitution stated: "We earnestly invite all workers belonging to our trade to come forward, join our ranks and help increase our numbers. ..." That statement defines organizing.

Since the earliest days of the IBEW's founding, organizing has been a fundamental priority of the Brotherhood. The IBEW Constitution lists as a first object: "To organize all workers in the entire electrical industry in the United States and Canada, including all those in public utilities and electrical manufacturing, into local unions." As organized labor faces continued obstacles today, organizing and educational outreach are still of utmost importance to our union. The more we grow our ranks, the stronger we will be. We were not born union—we got educated.

*Tom Small, P.S.*

## 2015 Apprentice Graduates

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV—Congratulations to the apprenticeship graduating class of 2015. The graduates are: Willie Hoover, Thomas Lafferty, Ryan Matthews, Charles Meyers, Andre Owens, William Rowen, David Sabilia, Nichole Stumpf, Lewis Terry, Jerry Warren and Anthony Withers.

Thank you to all who participated in the blood drive and Health Fair. And a big shout-out to the 2015 Chili Contest participants! Kenyon Couch took first place, John Eliuk came in second, and James Zakosky came in third. Great job, guys!

*Jennifer Tabor, P.S.*

## 'Give a Day' Volunteers

L.U. 369 (em,es,i,lctt,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), LOUISVILLE, KY—Local 369 members and staff volunteered at a local television station for the 2015 Mayor's Give a Day week of service telethon. The IBEW members along with local celebrities manned the phone lines to recruit volunteers for acts of compassion.

The Louisville community service projects included over 50,000 meals packaged by volunteers for Kids Against Hunger; the participation of over 12,000 Brightside volunteers who helped clean up Louisville neighborhoods; and 1,100 stuffed animals donated for kids in crisis by Kosair Charities and its Bears on Patrol program, just to name a few.

In all, there were more than 166,000 volunteers and acts of compassion, breaking last year's record of 150,000. This was the fourth year for Louisville's Give-A-Day week of service event. Mayor Greg Fischer noted a quest to make Louisville the most compassionate city and said the volunteers' service was inspiring. IBEW Local 369 is proud to be affiliated with this annual event and we look forward to participating again in the future.

John E. Morrison Jr., P.S.



A Local 369 team volunteers for Give a Day community service event: Toni Barnett (left), Emma Barnett, Ron Gresham, Chris Williamson, Joanne Caple, Thomas Reynolds, Debbie Roby, Bob Bartsch and John Morrison.

## Brighter Work Picture

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rts,spa&u), POCATELLO, ID—The work picture seems to be looking up. We have a couple of good projects around the local. It has been a long time since we've been able to tell our members that the work picture is improving and we hope to get everyone home. Clif Bar & Co. is building a \$120 million plant in the western part of our jurisdiction and several other projects that will employ our members. We also have various other projects scheduled this year. Looking out over the next several years, there is projected to be billions of dollars in construction in the Local 449 area. The projects will range from our Department of Energy site to the Department of Defense site and across the rest of the jurisdiction. This type of work will allow us to put travelers out to work again.

Local 449 thanks the following members for their service to the local and congratulates them on their hard fought, well-deserved journey to retirement: Brent Inskeep, Richard Byington, Ben Gregory, Kevin Norby, Kirk Thurman and Lance Davis.

It is with deepest regret that I report the passing of Blaine Hogue.

Rodney James, B.M.

## 'Purpose is Powerful'

L.U. 479 (i&u), BEAUMONT, TX—John Bolser is Local 479's Apprentice of The Year. He traveled to Topeka, KS, to participate in the IBEW Seventh District Inside Apprentice Contest held April 30 - May 2, and represented our local well.

Work is steady with almost 200 traveling broth-

ers and sisters here. We appreciate these fellow IBEW members who are helping us man the work in our area.

As we move forward all IBEW members should ask themselves what they do each day to make their local union better. Consider what improvements can be made to show the customer that the IBEW does have the most highly trained, most efficient and productive workers in the industry. Supervision shares the responsibility to ensure that members have the tools, material and information to be that worker. We are professionals. We have responsibilities to our family, friends and our community. Do not take lightly that responsibility. Remember what each of us took an oath to do for the IBEW, that is "to further the purposes for which the IBEW was instituted." Purpose is powerful and so is the IBEW. Separately, you can make a difference, but together we can do so much more.

Jimmy Burk, B.M./F.S.

## 'Union Build Day' Volunteers

L.U. 481 (ees,em,i,mt,rts,s&spa), INDIANAPOLIS, IN—In April, IBEW Local 481 teamed up with Rebuilding Together for the 16th annual Union Build Day. This event provides the opportunity for our membership to give back to the community. Many members donated their time and tools to help maintain and restore a total of 24 homes around the Indianapolis area. Thank you to all the volunteers!

I would like to recognize a member who went above and beyond his normal day-to-day responsibilities as a journeyman wireman and acted to save the life of a fellow journeyman. Bro. Ben Jacobs was working alongside journeyman Jeff Hubble, who suddenly went into cardiac arrest. While another employee on the jobsite ran to call for help, Ben jumped in and started administering CPR and continued to do so until the EMT's arrived on-site to take over. I am happy to report that due to Ben's quick thinking and actions, Jeff is home and on the road to a full recovery. Incidents such as this serve as a reminder to us all to stay up to date on our jobsite safety practices. Thank you to Ben, and best wishes to Jeff on his recovery.

Blake Andrews, R.S.

## CORRECTION:



Local 527 Sister Faye Trotter retires.

In the March issue of The Electrical Worker, a photo caption incorrectly identified Galveston, TX, Local 527 newly retired Sister Faye Trotter, who was pictured. We mistakenly listed the name of Local 527 Recording Secretary and Apprenticeship Director Cathy Henderson. We regret the error.

## Work Picture Improves

L.U. 551 (c,i&st), SANTA ROSA, CA—Greetings from northern California. Our work picture is starting to move. All of our apprentices are working and we are chipping away at our JW book.

The Marin General Hospital construction project is scheduled to start this year as well as the Gra-



Local 569 members and supporters built a new house for a wounded veteran and fixed up several homes for families in need.

ton Casino Hotel project. We are certainly ready for both of these project labor agreement (PLA) jobs.

We have extended our Inside Construction Agreement for another two years, effective June 1. Along with a \$4 increase we agreed to some pension changes. The pension contribution has been standardized to one class, and we will have the opportunity to invest in the NEFP.

A big thank-you to Training Director Steve Stobel and Training Instructor Tom Ritch on building a brand new Craft Certification Lab! This lab will give our first-year through third-year apprentices the hands-on knowledge to be the best of the best! Fourth-year apprentices will receive extensive motor control lab training, and fifth-year apprentices will have fire alarm training. Apprentices will also receive certificates after their completion. Great job! I'm sure our apprentices can't wait to get in there!

We remove our hard hats for members who recently passed away: Ralph Twichell, Allan Muggli and Bob Barnes.

Denise D. Soza, B.R./P.S.



Local 551 Training Instructor Tom Ritch showcases a section of the Craft Certification Lab.

## Summer Projects Starting

L.U. 557 (i,mt,rts&spa), SAGINAW, MI—Work has remained at a slow rate in our local. Although there has been much work in our surrounding locals, things were slow here throughout the winter and spring.

With warmer weather now here, our summer projects are starting and should create some work throughout the summertime.

We congratulate John and Dana Bishop on the



Local 557 member Ben Small, working for Nelson Electric, terminates a push button for a variable-frequency drive at Nexteer Automotive in Saginaw, MI.

birth of their son Paul Frederick, born Feb. 28. Also, congratulations to Rich and Sara Metiva on the birth of their son Reed Mitchell on April 1.

Following contract negotiations, Local 557 members ratified a new three-year contract with the Saginaw Division Michigan Chapter NECA. Ratification took place at the May 5 membership meeting. The new contract is effective June 1, 2015, to May 31, 2018.

We also recently finished with interviews for our new first-year apprenticeship class. We will soon notify the selected apprentices and put them out to work shortly.

We wish everyone a safe and happy summer.

Howard Revard, P.S.

## Rebuilding Together—San Diego

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA—We recently partnered with Rebuilding Together San Diego to build a new house for a wounded veteran and to fix up half a dozen homes for families in need. Over 125 members from IBEW Locals 569 and 465 volunteered for this effort. Our members contributed approximately 500 hours of labor valued at \$20,000 to install the electrical systems at the homes. Many thanks to all of our volunteers, contractor partners and employers! [Photo, at top.]

Local 569 took action to stop proposed "fast track" authority to negotiate the Trans-Pacific Partnership. This trade proposal threatens our jobs, democracy, and the environment! We participated in "Flush the TPP" rallies, educated community members at the Earth Day Fair, and joined letter delivery delegations to the U.S. Congress. We hope that by the time you read this, fast-track authority will have been defeated. If not, take action today to protect American jobs: <http://bit.ly/1CiBIL6>.

We ask our brothers and sisters to please donate to help Bro. Zach Squire, who was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident. Donations may be made online at <http://bit.ly/ZachSquire2>. Zach will need multiple surgeries to repair the damage. Our support during this difficult time will be appreciated.

Gretchen Newsom, P.S.

## Rebuilding Together—Oakland

L.U. 595 (c,cs,govt,i,mt,o,se&st), DUBLIN, CA—For over a decade, IBEW Local 595 has worked with Rebuilding Together Oakland to improve the living conditions of veteran, elderly and disabled residents by providing electrical repairs at no charge. This year we focused on the needs of veterans and their widows. This underserved and vulnerable population has sacrificed much for our families and the freedoms we enjoy. Eight homeowners were selected, one of whom had four service people in her immediate family. Another survived multiple tours of duty in Vietnam. Improving their living conditions by installing interior and exterior lighting, ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) and new circuit breakers was a true honor and privilege.

## LOCAL LINES



IBEW Local 595 members volunteered for Rebuilding Together Oakland project. Back row: Tamika Hayes (left), Jesse Trepper, Brian Stewart, Charles Brown, Tom Rodgers, John Maddox. Front row: Winfield Lee; Rachel Matthews, RTO; Rachel Bryan, Alice Matthews, RTO; and Robert Coloretti.

Eighteen inside wiremen volunteered to help these veteran homeowners. RENEW 595 has taken the lead on logistics, material and management of volunteers for the past three years. This has been good experience for young workers active with RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers) efforts.

Many volunteers expressed great joy in helping those in need and said the opportunity to serve is priceless. Our Labor Management Cooperation Committee also donated \$5,000 to RTO to strengthen our partnership and commitment to helping working families.

While we build physical buildings, it is also our duty to build up our communities through transformative engagement and to do all we can to help not just our own family, but all working families.

Thank you to Rachel Bryan, Local 595 community liaison, for providing information for this article.

Bob Tieman, B.R.



Local 601 Organizer Frank Rubenacker (left), Training Dir. Bob Withers and Bus. Mgr. Charlie Hoss.

## Grants Awarded — 'A Great Teaching Tool'

L.U. 601 (i&rtb), CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL—With the assistance of financial grants from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, we had the opportunity to install a power regeneration system. The system consists of: a roof array of 22 solar panels, a wall array of 10 solar panels, ground array of 112 panels and a dual axis tracker of 20 solar panels, as well as a wind turbine that produces 10 kilowatts of power. The total power available for generation is 51 kilowatts.

This will prove to be a great teaching tool for the JATC. The apprentices will have the opportunity to monitor just how much electricity is being generated from a panel inside their classrooms. They will also be able to disassemble and reassemble a number of the panels themselves.

**[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 and transitioned into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]**

Our local offers many journeyman wireman classes throughout the year, thanks to our dedicated instructors: Bob Withers, Brent Stull, John Mingee, Al Halber-

stadt, Richard Mingee, Michael Aper, Dana Nichols, John Allen, Todd Nicholas, Rob Mishler and Randy Lutz.

Work in our local is good currently, and for the next few years we anticipate a great deal of work. At this writing, we have seven on Book 1 and 171 on Book 2.

Daniel Hatter, P.S.

## 'Stand Together & Vote'

L.U. 625 (c,ees,em,i,it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA—The work picture in Halifax is still better than usual with 207 members working at the shipyard as of May 1. It is still slow in Unit #2 with only 19 at the Pulp Mill Precipitator. Upcoming work will include the Aberdeen Hospital project in New Glasgow and the Fish Oil Plant expansion in Guysborough County. We hope this will improve the unemployment levels in Unit #2 later in the year.

Canadian unions and their members are under a full frontal attack by the federal Conservative majority government. The Conservatives have strong support from the business community and are spending millions of taxpayer dollars convincing the people to keep them in office. All labour activists and union members need to wake up, stand together and vote in numbers in the upcoming federal election to remove this anti-union government before it achieves a third term and succeeds in destroying the union movement and the middle class. [To read more, see "North of 49: First District Readies for Federal Election," The Electrical Worker, March 2015.]

Successful in completing their apprenticeship program and becoming journeymen are: Matt Andrea, Vincent Forsyth, Shane MacArthur, James "Craig" Christison, Trevor MacKay, Angela Duquette, Ashley Currie, Jason MacKinnon and Jody Corkum. Congratulations to all!

Recently retired are: Bros. Les Sheffield, Gary Williams, Eric Grant, Arthur "Reg" Marryatt, Derrick Robinson and Stan Riley.

Tom Griffiths, A.B.M.



Local 625 Building Automation Course participants: Training Dir. Blair Mikkelsen (left), Guy Bouchard, Dave Bellefontaine, Don Leblanc, Paul Tanner, Jerad Banyan, Stephen Boudreau and Instructor Eric Nelson.

## Volunteers Recognized

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL—Headed north to cooler climates for a break from the heat? Please ensure safety is stressed, as always, at the jobsite and when you are on the road. One moment of inattention is all that is needed for a life-changing event.

Pres. Mark MacNichol reported that the apprentice program for transmission and distribution is going great.

Our local received recognition from the City of Port St. Lucie for our continuing effort to "Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful" with our road-cleanup crews.

Congratulations go out to Bro. Jon Celebak's family on the arrival of a new baby girl.

Stay informed and stay safe. See you at the union hall.

Raymond Vos, P.S.

## 'Train the Trainer' Class

L.U. 639 (i&rts), SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA—The JATC recently purchased a Smart Bender from Greenlee. Two representatives from the company came to the hall to put on a "Train the Trainer" class for the instructors. The second-year apprenticeship class was also given hands-on training.

Training Dir. Chuck Headington plans to retire at school year's end. Over the years Chuck has developed countless partnerships with vendors in the electrical industry to provide the JATC with state-of-the-art training aids and instruction. Thank you, Chuck Headington, for all your hard work and years of dedication to Local 639.

**[Editor's Note: The National Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (NJATC) rebranded in 2014 and transitioned into the Electrical Training Alliance. See "NJATC Transitions into the Electrical Training Alliance," The Electrical Worker (Sept. 2014), and at www.ibew.org.]**

Kurt McClave, P.S.



At a Local 639 training session conducted by Greenlee industrial and electrical tool company.

## Cristal Global Project

L.U. 673 (catv,i,rts,spa,t&u), PAINESVILLE, OH—Last year it was announced that Cristal Global, the largest manufacturing facility in Ashtabula County, planned to build a \$64 million Air Separation Plant. This plant would provide the company with the ability to manufacture its own oxygen, nitrogen and argon for its processing needs. What you see in the photo (at top, right) is the cold box, which acts as a giant distiller to separate these gases.



Construction gets underway on Air Separation Plant distillation column at Cristal Global jobsite, where Local 673 members are working.

Everyone was excited with this announcement until the realization set in that the project management company, AMCS out of New Jersey, had no loyalty to unionized labor. Many parts of this project went to nonunion shops, but the electrical portion went to one of our contractors.

Valley Electric was awarded this project and at press time the hiring has begun. Bros. Dave Phillips and Dan Cierebiej went out as foreman and steward, respectively, to get this project started. We expect this job to ramp up quickly, putting many members to work to meet the very aggressive schedule. Good luck to everyone on this project. Work safe!

Jim Braunlich, P.S.

## 'Stay Involved & Informed'

L.U. 683 (em&i), COLUMBUS, OH—Since this is not an election year, we might be tempted not to pay attention to politics. That would be a mistake.

It may not be happening in your state or ours yet, but the anti-worker push for so-called "right-to-work" measures harmful to working people will still affect us. Please be aware of issues that affect union labor and working people—and be sure to vote in every election.

Our work outlook continues to improve. Upcoming jobs in our area include projects at two hospitals, an outlet mall and a remodel of the convention center. Our organizers recently were successful in organizing a residential contractor that is currently working on a retirement facility.

Everyone have a safe and fun summer.

Tracy Starcher, V.P./P.S.

## 'Hoops for Clarence' Tourney; Labor Rally at Statehouse

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN—Hoops for Clarence: Eight teams of Local 697 members competed in a basketball tournament fundraiser for Clarence Link, son of Local 697 member Jacob Link. Clarence is in a courageous battle with cancer and is winning! The team of T. Cooper, T. Janke and D. Crummie won the double elimination tournament and everyone nursed sore muscles the following day.

Rally at the Statehouse: Local members joined thousands of Indiana Building Trades members to voice our displeasure with the Indiana Assembly and Gov. Mike Pence's attack on working Hoosiers. While the "aristocrats" ignored the efforts of Hoosier busi-



The Local 697 "Hoops for Clarence" basketball tournament fundraiser was a great success

ness owners and employees, we utilized every strategy and resource available in an attempt to educate the citizens of Indiana about the potential impact that the repeal of the common construction wage law will have on Indiana communities. We must strive to get all of our families and friends to the polls and to vote with us in the fight for justice for working families.

Our picnic is scheduled for Sept. 12. Also, Building Trades Night at the RailCats will be Aug. 28.

Enjoy the summer and be safe!

Dan Waldrop, B.M.

## Four-Megawatt Solar Array

L.U. 743 (em&i), READING, PA—Over 50 IBEW Local 743 journeymen and apprentices recently finished installing what is reportedly the largest roof-top mounted solar photovoltaic array in the state of Pennsylvania.

The four-megawatt array, installed for electrical contractor Ray Angelini Inc. at the Urban Outfitters' distribution center in Gap, PA, consists of 13,364 modules; 5,000 feet of cable tray; and 84 miles of wire.

Congratulations to all involved on completing the project on time and on budget with no lost-time injuries.

Mark Pinkasavage, Training Dir.



A few of the Local 743 crew members at solar installation jobsite: Bill Bryson (left), Andrew Petersen, James Sturdivant, C. Rappenecker, Larry Burkett, Don Snyder and Tom Martin.

## Military Service

L.U. 777 (u), READING, PA—Local 777 is happy to announce the safe return of our Bro. Joshua Harris from his tour of duty in the Middle East. He served honorably with the Air Force, Air National Guard, 201st Red Horse Squadron out of Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. He is currently working at our Lebanon, PA, line shop training for a journeyman lineman position.

We are proud of Joshua and his service to

our great country, as we are of all the active duty and veterans both in the IBEW and across the world. A sincere thank-you from Local 777 to Joshua Harris and all who have served our country. Also a shout-out to our allies, and brothers and sisters of Canada.

Mark Power, P.S.

## ACCLS Training Seminar

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ—In April, the Advisory Council on Career and Life Strategies (ACCLS), a joint IBEW/Verizon committee, sponsored a three-day training seminar in Atlantic City, NJ, for approximately 65 ACCLS advocates. [Photo, at bottom.]

The ACCLS is a bargained benefit, funded by Verizon to offer programs on employee career development, skill enhancement and family support, as well as other educational programs, to bargaining unit employees.

The advocates from New Jersey and Pennsylvania attended workshops on: elder care, public speaking, growing from change, staying motivated and positive, understanding communication styles, enhancing customer service skills, and planning for a successful retirement. Keynote speakers spoke about Verizon's Employee Assistance Program (EAP), dealing with such issues as stress and identity theft.

After long days of workshops, the advocates participated in a team-building exercise that was both fun and rewarding. Participants formed teams and learned quickly how to work together, while having fun and helping others. The goal of the exercise was to put care packages together for Operation Yellow Ribbon for our soldiers deployed overseas.

Suzanne Wallin, R.S.



Participants gather for three-day ACCLS training seminar in Atlantic City, NJ.

## Brotherhood & Service Awards

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL—It was a great night of brotherhood at our annual Service Pin and Brother of the Year Awards presentation and cookout. We were honored to have members with up to 60 years of service, as well as six new members being sworn in to our Local 915 family.

Congratulations to the following brothers on their longtime service: 60-year member James Cole; 55-year members James Allums and Phillip Humphrey; 50-year member Larry Whitted; 45-year members Earnest Baggett, Kenneth Brewer, Robert Lowe, Victor Moore and Ernest Riske; and 40-year members Eugene Brito, James Snuggs, Manuel Tamargo and Leon Ward.

The Local 915 James H. Phillips Brother of the Year Award went to a brother who helps coordinate and started our now-annual Christmas party. He has served on the Executive Board and has put in many hours helping to promote the true spirit brotherhood in this local. We are honored to name Bro. Roberto Rosa as this year's Brother of the Year Award recipient.

Kudos to Bro. Leon Ward on the 8th Annual Fishing Tournament and his dedication each year to unite our members with this event.

Theresa King, P.S.



Local 915 Bus. Mgr. Randall King (left), Brother of the Year awardee Roberto Rosa, 60-year service award recipient James Cole and Pres. Michael Weeks.

girls in attendance.

A special thank-you to Angie Lallemond for providing information for this article.

Rick Oakes, B.M./F.S.

## Celebrating Summer — Brighter Work Picture

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY—The snow is finally gone! It was a rough winter ... but the nice weather is finally here and I hope everyone takes advantage of every minute they can.

Local 1249 celebrates summer annually with the Bobby Shutter Memorial Golf Tournament, fol-

lowed by the Active Retiree Club Pig Roast, and then the 1249 Clambake at the end of the summer. At the time of this writing we were also hoping to send a team to the NSU-JL's 2015 Fallen Linemen Benefit Rodeo, and to make it an annual event for Local 1249. The National Sisterhood for Journeymen Linemen is an organization dedicated to assisting families

of fallen or injured IBEW linemen.

The extra cold and snowy winter that New York experienced resulted in a late spring. Work is now picking back up, and we expect the summer to bring full employment and even the need for travelers.

Stay safe, and have fun!

Jennifer Schneider, P.S.



Local 949 members Luke Lallemond (left) and Matt Hazelton participate in annual Touch-A-Truck event. At center is young Madison Hazelton.

## 'Touch a Truck' Day

L.U. 949 (em,t&u), BURNSVILLE, MN—On May 16, Local 949 members Luke Lallemond and Matt Hazelton participated in Touch-A-Truck day, a free event where families could view and explore all kinds of parked trucks on display in parking lots located throughout downtown Winona. Trucks displayed in the annual Chamber of Commerce-sponsored event included: fire trucks, tow trucks, semitrailers, pickup trucks, utility trucks and more.

Approximately 3,000 visited downtown Winona during the event and had the opportunity to see an Xcel Energy bucket truck and digger truck up close. As IBEW members, Bros. Lallemond and Hazelton explained the job of a lineman to the young boys and

## Lineman's Apprenticeship Class

L.U. 1439 (u), ST. LOUIS, MO—Ameren Missouri held lineman evaluations during the last week of April to select candidates for a Lineman's Apprenticeship class that, as of this writing, was scheduled to begin June 1 this year. This was welcome news considering it's been more than five years since the last lineman apprenticeship. We look forward to the possibility that Ameren will continue much-needed apprenticeships in other departments in order to replace the aging workforce.

Local 1439 held a pre-apprentice training class on March 21 to prepare potential candidates for the Lineman Apprenticeship. Thanks go out to Local 1439 Bus. Mgr. Mike Walter, Pres. Billy Howle, Bus. Rep. Doug Mueller, and Bros. Marty Politte, Steve Rettig and Russ McCreary for giving up their Saturday to provide instruction and support for the members in



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attendance. Additionally, we thank Local 2 for allowing us to use its training facility in St. Clair, MO.

As always, we encourage our members to attend the monthly union meetings. It's the best way to stay informed and connected to your brothers and sisters.

Matt Curry, R.S.



Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie and Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski.

'Tireless Champion of Labor'

L.U. 1501 (ees,em,mo,pet,rts&t), BALTIMORE, MD—Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski was honored by the Metropolitan Baltimore Council of AFL-CIO Unions at its 34th Annual COPE (Committee on Political Education) Dinner. The event was held at the Pimlico Race Course on April 28.

Throughout her long and distinguished career in public service, Sen. Mikulski has been a tireless champion of labor and working families. During her keynote speech she stated that she wears the union label on her heart.

Maryland and the labor movement have been fortunate to have Sen. Mikulski working on our behalf. This is especially so for our members employed by Sierra Lobo who work at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD. The Hubbard Space Telescope, at age 25, has fulfilled predictions that it would rewrite science textbooks. Its success will guide the new James Webb Space Telescope, scheduled for launch in 2018.

Local 1501 Bus. Mgr./Pres. Dion F. Guthrie had the foresight to realize that in order for Congress to keep funding space exploration, elected officials needed to be knowledgeable about the program. He invited Sen. Mikulski to our membership meeting several years ago, and then arranged a tour of the NASA Goddard facility. Sen. Mikulski became a supporter of the program and served as chairperson of the subcommittee that provided NASA with funding and oversight. Although she plans to retire at the end

of her current term, we have no doubt that labor will continue to benefit from the hard work of Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski. She will be sorely missed.

Thomas J. Rostkowski, R.S.

New EV Quick-Charge Station Installed at University

L.U. 1579 (i&o), AUGUSTA, GA—Georgia Regents University recently made history in Augusta when a quick-charge station for electric and hybrid vehicles was installed.

Local 1579 members, working for BESCo Electric, were responsible for installing the electrical portion of this job. Thanks to our members and BESCo for the good work you are doing at Georgia Regents University. BESCo also was awarded contracts to install similar charging stations for Georgia Power in Athens, Augusta and Savannah, GA.

In Local 1579 our work situation is still very good and will continue to do well throughout the rest of the year. In addition to our major work in the area, we have been in contact with contractors that are bidding on pipeline work as part of a project that will be coming through this area.

The Apprenticeship Graduation was on May 29. Congratulations to these new journeymen on their achievement. A thank-you goes out to the graduates for all their hard work over the last five years.

As we have been very busy and will continue to be, stay focused on your job. With all the overtime that is being made, save up for the future.

Until next time, God bless.

Will Salters, A.B.M.



Local 1759 Bro. Nathan Lindgren, an electrician for USBR Mt. Elbert Power Plant, removes grounds from Unit 2 main transformer following maintenance inspection.

'All Hands Meeting' New Members Signing Up

L.U. 1759 (u), CASPER, WY—Greetings to all. I hope this article finds everyone well.

Local 1759 congratulates Bro. Kermit Klepper on his retirement. Bro Klepper is a 33-year IBEW member and the local will surely miss him.

At the time of this writing, Local 1759 was preparing for the "All Hands Meeting" scheduled for May 9 in Casper, WY. Since our local is spread out over four states, it is nice to see the other brothers travel in for the meeting and get to talk face-to-face rather than over the phone or by email.

I am also proud to report that the shop stewards are doing an excellent job of getting new members signed up and into the local. It is through their persistence and knowledge that we are able to keep the local strong. Great job, brothers!

We also recently welcomed new journeymen. Andrew Dendinger has turned out and is now a journeyman lineman, and Jesse Marr is now a journeyman meter and relay craftsman. Congratulations, brothers—you earned it.

Jason Mengwasser, F.S.

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in May 2015

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Averbeck, M. A.	3/27/15	20	Price, B. J.	3/26/15	90	Kirby, R. T.	4/7/15
1	Baumgartner, M. M.	2/21/15	20	White, C. T.	3/16/15	95	Toler, J. W.	1/22/15
1	Bone, V. J.	3/5/15	21	Persson, E. T.	3/30/15	95	Waggoner, D. L.	2/3/15
1	Fore, M.	4/8/15	24	Behrmann, J. C.	1/7/15	96	Gniadek, J. J.	12/25/14
1	Hulett, J. A.	4/3/15	24	Cheeks, R. L.	3/1/15	96	Laflamme, R. J.	12/30/14
1	Langkopf, D. W.	2/19/15	24	Madary, R. C.	7/23/12	96	Pugliese, W. M.	3/14/15
1	McLaughlin, J. P.	3/30/15	24	Rogge, F.	4/2/15	98	Hofer, K.	9/8/14
1	Meier, W. J.	3/23/15	24	Stumpf, A. M.	3/6/15	99	Antonson, H. E.	4/3/15
1	Pahl, H. L.	3/21/15	25	Campion, W. J.	4/13/15	99	McElheny, J. C.	12/6/14
1	Treese, G. L.	4/8/15	25	Haley, M. J.	3/28/15	99	Therien, P.	4/17/15
1	White, J. H.	1/3/15	26	Bowman, D. J.	5/28/14	99	Watters, A. L.	4/17/15
2	Henderson, J. R.	3/30/15	26	Burgmeier, A.	1/15/15	102	Gardner, B. W.	3/15/15
3	Accatino, S. R.	3/28/15	26	Burns, B. J.	3/24/15	102	Holden, W. H.	2/26/15
3	Bergdoll, G.	12/26/14	26	Conrad, P. N.	2/26/15	102	Kayhart, E. W.	12/12/14
3	Cuti, R.	4/1/15	26	Mellow, R.	3/31/15	102	Tabalt, D.	9/12/14
3	Danielson, J. W.	1/16/15	26	Nalley, R. K.	9/13/14	103	Gately, P. E.	3/21/15
3	Diaz, E.	2/2/15	26	Salles, S. E.	12/8/14	103	Kester, W. L.	2/15/15
3	Eberhardt, J. E.	3/17/15	34	Klein, R. L.	2/16/15	103	Lynch, W. P.	3/16/15
3	Galgana, F. J.	2/22/15	34	Mustain, A. L.	4/10/15	103	McSheehy, C. E.	3/22/15
3	Gallery, T. P.	11/16/14	38	Murtaugh, T. R.	3/15/15	103	Regan, R. J.	3/21/15
3	Gilday, D. J.	3/23/15	38	Sinclair, W. J.	4/29/15	103	Shaw, J. A.	2/26/15
3	Goettelmann, G. L.	3/27/15	38	Volk, F. S.	10/24/14	104	Hill, J. S.	3/8/15
3	Gross, R. W.	3/20/15	41	Stuber, B. J.	4/13/15	105	Moore, J. G.	3/26/15
3	Grossman, H.	4/1/15	42	Patten, H. E.	2/4/15	105	Temple, R.	3/31/15
3	Hernandez, A.	3/12/15	44	Tichenor, D. L.	4/7/15	109	Beckmann, M. K.	7/31/14
3	Herrmann, G. F.	1/4/15	45	Martin, D. R.	3/8/15	109	DeVriendt, T. D.	3/18/15
3	Indovino, J.	2/26/15	46	Chevara, F. A.	3/16/15	109	Larson, A. L.	3/30/15
3	Jarvis, E. A.	2/1/15	46	MacDonald, M. J.	3/23/15	113	Kirkwood, H. A.	11/30/14
3	Luna, J.	1/9/15	46	Michel, N. P.	11/13/13	113	Van Skike, W. D.	4/4/15
3	McKechnie, W.	4/13/15	46	Morrison, C. D.	3/30/15	120	Bailey, A. J.	5/21/14
3	McSpedon, P. H.	1/25/15	46	Welky, C. H.	3/2/15	124	Brunker, F. T.	3/12/15
3	Meaney, J. P.	12/19/14	46	Winterroth, A. W.	3/18/15	124	Crossland, P. D.	2/20/15
3	Medaglia, E. P.	2/4/15	47	Miller, H. P.	3/5/15	124	Fennesy, J. J.	2/15/14
3	Messiano, P. A.	4/17/15	47	Rowe, K. E.	1/4/15	124	Hirt, P. G.	3/12/15
3	Moran, D. J.	2/24/15	47	Tinder, T. N.	3/6/15	124	Kornis, F. V.	3/2/15
3	Nangano, A. J.	3/13/15	48	Cockrell, B. T.	3/27/15	124	Robbins, S. E.	12/13/14
3	Phillip, R. S.	3/16/15	48	Hayward, K. L.	3/7/15	124	Silvers, E. R.	3/21/15
3	Quint, C.	4/3/15	48	Larkin, M. D.	3/29/15	124	Stites, W. K.	3/23/15
3	Randisi, S. J.	4/1/15	48	Moore, M. L.	4/10/15	125	Starr, D. J.	1/29/15
3	Ross, S. L.	5/9/13	48	Norum, W.	2/28/15	125	Tucker, L. G.	4/1/15
3	Rotondo, R.	3/1/15	51	Boin, B. L.	2/11/15	125	Wang, S. F.	1/26/15
3	Rutigliano, F. J.	2/21/15	51	Cantrall, R. L.	1/28/15	126	Peck, C. R.	3/18/15
3	Scharffenberg, U.	1/19/15	51	Kellogg, H. D.	12/14/14	127	Coleman, G. B.	11/21/14
3	Stewart, J. J.	12/17/14	53	Coats, R. D.	4/20/15	129	Oray, L. R.	3/26/15
3	Volk, J.	3/12/15	55	Miller, H. E.	3/9/15	130	Comeaux, G. H.	2/20/15
4	Little, A. L.	3/19/15	56	Jones, M. W.	4/2/15	130	Tacea, E. J.	3/24/15
5	Buettner, R. J.	4/14/15	56	Russell, W. G.	10/6/14	134	Andreoni, L. P.	2/16/15
5	Maihle, F. L.	3/12/15	58	Bell, J. C.	3/11/15	134	Cassin, J. T.	4/16/15
5	Rafail, F. G.	9/25/14	58	Browning, R. T.	1/30/14	134	Cirillo, F.	2/27/15
5	Rosman, M. E.	4/22/15	58	Burrows, W. W.	3/14/15	134	Coliane, M. A.	3/4/15
5	Watt, R. A.	3/12/15	58	Carlisle, W. E.	2/28/15	134	Cusack, R. J.	4/3/15
6	Canalita, N. O.	3/15/15	58	Cilio, C. J.	3/31/15	134	DeLegge, B.	2/26/15
6	Higgins, J. E.	2/13/15	58	Davis, M. L.	3/1/15	134	Evans, W. F.	5/27/14
6	Koven, D.	12/23/14	58	Ernst, J. N.	3/14/15	134	Glancey, T. B.	2/8/15
6	Vanderploeg, W.	12/20/14	58	Falconer, C.	3/11/15	134	Harris, K. D.	3/6/15
7	Green, J. M.	6/29/13	58	Hodge, A. T.	1/11/15	134	Hughes, B. E.	2/9/15
8	Bible, L. R.	3/2/13	58	Kurdupski, R. E.	2/27/15	134	Kozzarek, R.	6/19/14
8	Eberflus, S. C.	2/8/15	58	Lee, A. W.	1/20/15	134	Leidolph, F. C.	12/21/14
8	Jenkins, G. L.	4/4/15	58	Muir, D. J.	4/2/15	134	Liberatore, R.	4/15/15
8	Mossing, C. P.	3/4/15	58	O'Mara, C. A.	4/18/15	134	Mantia, M.	1/28/15
8	Shaffer, D. W.	1/11/15	58	Young, R. H.	3/28/15	134	Martello, F. A.	4/18/15
9	Bellafiore, J. S.	3/20/15	60	Caldwell, T. G.	3/1/15	134	Mertes, S.	3/12/15
9	Durr, J. E.	1/4/15	60	Koehler, R. E.	3/4/15	134	Mueller, E. H.	11/16/14
11	Bain, J.	10/14/14	64	Keys, D.	3/7/15	134	O'Boyle, J. C.	2/13/15
11	Boggs, B. M.	3/13/15	66	Leutwyler, B. T.	1/21/15	134	Prelesnik, J. A.	2/26/15
11	Carr, A. M.	1/19/15	66	Michie, R. L.	1/31/15	134	Roppolo, D. J.	3/11/15
11	Carr, R. L.	3/20/15	66	Pesak, G. K.	12/6/14	134	Stein, F. E.	8/13/14
11	Goodale, J. O.	2/5/15	68	Adams, M.	4/9/15	134	Sullivan, J. J.	3/10/15
11	Jones, R. H.	3/13/15	68	Gates, E. J.	9/11/14	134	Toffel, M. R.	3/15/15
11	Klein, M.	2/1/15	68	McAnally, R. C.	4/5/15	134	Tomsic, G. P.	3/28/15
11	Ostroff, A. S.	12/23/14	68	Rouze, D. P.	3/4/15	134	Walder, D. L.	3/21/15
11	Poate, G. A.	2/20/15	70	Harrell, W. B.	3/30/15	134	Zahnen, R. M.	3/10/15
11	Roper, D. D.	2/18/15	76	Dunlap, R. M.	3/17/15	136	Nobinger, L. C.	1/16/15
11	Russell, M. E.	3/20/15	76	Wipplinger, G. L.	12/8/14	136	Waters, B. D.	2/20/15
11	Winkler, K. A.	3/10/15	77	Bowen, H. W.	2/16/15	139	Tucker, W. F.	4/5/15
12	Lazzarini, A. D.	3/19/15	77	Bredin, G. E.	3/5/15	141	Harris, W. R.	11/28/14
13	McMillan, E. N.	3/11/15	77	Ferguson, C. D.	4/11/15	145	Richardson, K. D.	2/11/15
15	Higgins, F. J.	3/10/15	77	Johnson, G.	3/12/15	146	Slaughter, J. T.	12/19/14
16	Chattin, V. E.	2/27/15	77	Owens, R. C.	3/13/15	150	Laurent, G. J.	3/16/15
16	Collins, B. M.	10/31/14	77	Rushton, J. D.	2/24/15	153	Calderone, J.	3/15/15
17	Baker, F. J.	1/1/15	77	Schmidt, K. L.	3/9/15	160	Crandall, G. D.	3/30/15
17	Sears, G. R.	6/10/14	77	Wilson, C. O.	11/7/14	164	Bender, H. M.	3/14/15
18	Bonner, R. R.	1/28/15	80	Hall, L.	4/16/15	164	Lohsen, R. R.	3/12/15
18	Huff, W. E.	3/5/15	84	Diggs, J. T.	1/19/15	164	Young, W. H.	2/6/15
20	Blake, R. A.	2/8/15	86	Salvione, A. G.	3/24/15	175	Bates, J. F.	4/6/15
20	Davis, C. R.	3/20/15	86	Stewart, D. J.	1/24/15	175	Bolus, K. R.	4/17/15
20	McCullum, J. M.	2/28/15	86	Wolcick, W. R.	8/12/14	175	Cronan, C. V.	4/14/15
20	Moore, R. D.	4/12/15	90	Damm, A. J.	4/19/15	175	Johnson, B. E.	2/19/15

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

## www.ibew.org

The IBEW's website has a new look, with improved layout and easier navigation. The new [www.ibew.org](http://www.ibew.org) is a one-stop shop for union information.

And read *The Electrical Worker* online!

## YouTube

Watch our heartfelt tribute to International President Emeritus Edwin D. Hill, who retired on June 1 after more than 14 years of service in the union's highest office. "We're the champions of working men and women," Hill says, over a career-spanning montage featuring images from his early days of leadership and activism, to recent events like 2012's Workers Stand For America rally and more.

[YouTube.com/ TheElectricalWorker](http://YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker)

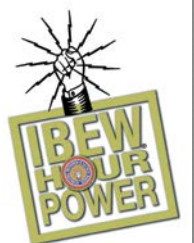
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## HourPower

Want to hear what the owners have to say about the IBEW? They tell us what we're doing right and what we need to work on. Go to [IBEWHourPower.com](http://IBEWHourPower.com) to see more.



## ElectricTV

Take a ride with [ElectricTV.net](http://ElectricTV.net), and see how getting around the Twin Cities just got cleaner and greener thanks to the IBEW/NECA team's work on the new Metro Green Line light rail project.



## Correction

In our June profile on Baltimore Local 24 member Cory McCray, we stated that Del. McCray had sponsored a bipartisan bill that successfully restored full voting rights for some ex-offenders who had paid their debt to society. Unfortunately, the bill was vetoed by Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan. ■

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
175	Miller, F. F.	4/3/15	369	Gardner, J. D.	3/22/15	607	Verano, A. A.	11/15/14	1412	Sanborn, R. S.	2/24/15
175	Myrick, B.	2/27/15	369	Metzinger, J. W.	4/5/15	611	Kirk, P.	1/16/15	1466	Steil, C. R.	3/15/15
175	Pirtle, J. A.	2/23/15	375	Owens, D. T.	3/15/15	611	Mize, F. D.	2/7/15	1531	Howe, W. E.	2/27/15
175	Tucker, R. L.	4/6/15	375	Smolko, R. L.	2/17/15	611	Ringe, F. W.	12/11/14	1531	McDaniel, A. J.	3/7/15
176	Hickey, G. T.	4/4/15	375	Vuchak, S. F.	4/13/15	611	Wilcox, R. L.	3/12/15	1547	Boyle, B. C.	3/27/15
176	Klicker, R. L.	4/4/15	379	Davis, C. W.	3/16/15	613	Moss, B. F.	12/13/14	1547	Ohman, W. A.	8/28/13
176	Weibel, W. W.	3/21/15	379	Taylor, D. L.	3/10/15	613	Whitaker, D. R.	2/8/15	1547	Pohl, L. B.	11/10/14
177	Bruner, R. G.	2/7/15	387	Barela, G. C.	11/13/14	617	Barr, V. E.	1/25/15	1547	Stuart, T. E.	3/10/15
177	Sapp, C. J.	3/15/15	387	Gober, J. E.	4/17/15	640	Dolphin, D. W.	4/6/15	1579	Short, M. E.	3/15/15
180	Price, J. R.	4/7/15	387	Toth, E. E.	2/24/15	648	McIntosh, R. A.	3/9/15	1687	Gauthier, L. R.	3/16/15
191	Sjogren, R. G.	3/24/15	388	David, L.	1/24/15	649	Sasser, D. J.	1/30/15	1749	Williams, R. J.	3/9/15
197	King, M. D.	3/24/15	413	Hagerty, E. G.	7/27/14	656	Watkins, R. E.	5/9/14	1908	Schuck, R. J.	10/20/14
204	Koecke, D. F.	3/30/15	413	Longley, D. W.	3/12/15	659	Kopp, A. B.	2/20/15	2034	Sproule, R. P.	2/20/15
210	Birdsall, W. E.	2/16/15	413	Ross, D. S.	3/24/15	659	McLean, D. J.	3/3/15	2085	Kagan, J.	2/27/15
212	Henderer, E.	12/3/14	424	Ellison, J. R.	4/15/15	666	Goins, B. G.	4/3/15	2085	Powell, A. F.	1/4/15
212	Louis, R. B.	3/1/15	424	Martin, J. D.	12/16/14	666	Kreisheimer, R. L.	5/16/14	2286	Johnson, M. W.	3/12/15
212	Ober, R. L.	2/2/15	424	McInnes, B.	12/6/14	666	Sims, D. W.	4/10/15	2286	Smithson, K. P.	3/31/15
213	Gray, E. B.	12/31/14	424	Noble, E. S.	3/19/15	667	Garrison, R. E.	2/24/15	I.O. (5)	Sweeney, W. D.	3/19/15
213	Prossick, T. R.	4/28/15	426	Meyer, W. C.	1/4/15	668	Emery, W. L.	3/11/15	I.O. (134)	Boudart, F. P.	3/7/15
222	Davis, A. N.	9/1/14	440	Carson, B. G.	1/23/15	676	Williams, R. A.	1/25/15	I.O. (134)	Eberhart, J. P.	3/15/15
226	Love, R. L.	2/11/15	440	Franklin, T. A.	11/19/14	683	Anderson, D. R.	1/12/15	I.O. (134)	Mohlman, J. M.	3/7/15
230	Waller, D. R.	12/25/14	441	Gatlin, D. L.	12/9/14	697	Cosgrove, J. A.	9/21/14	I.O. (532)	Sullivan, T. N.	10/20/14
233	Yuhas, B. F.	12/25/14	441	Gravelle, R.	3/9/15	697	Szymanski, W. G.	4/1/15	I.O. (569)	Rivera, C. J.	4/7/15
234	Kimoto, S.	4/18/15	441	St. Pierre, R. A.	11/20/14	697	Wright, J. J.	4/2/15	I.O. (676)	Greenway, E. T.	1/5/15
236	Brandl, F. E.	2/7/15	443	Carpenter, C. C.	11/29/13	700	Younger, J. G.	10/17/12	I.O. (760)	Underwood, B. D.	4/3/15
236	Dixon, W. T.	3/17/15	444	Wells, L. D.	3/20/15	701	Petersen, D. E.	11/18/14	Pens. (3)	Rubino, S. T.	5/29/14
236	O'Brien, F.	3/24/15	456	Scotfield, P. D.	2/22/15	701	Santucci, C. D.	11/8/14	Pens. (686)	Quirk, E. J.	12/26/14
236	Salisbury, V.	2/15/15	466	Byrd, M. L.	3/25/15	702	Betz, C.	4/17/15	Pens. (835)	Hutcherson, W. S.	2/10/15
238	McEntire, M. M.	2/15/15	474	Phillips, J. D.	3/7/15	702	Collman, H. S.	2/5/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Amick, H. A.	3/8/15
242	Johnson, C. J.	4/1/15	474	Roach, H. N.	3/19/15	702	Sanders, H. S.	3/10/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Anderson, L. E.	3/17/15
245	Baker, E. G.	2/9/15	474	Tribble, J. D.	3/4/15	702	Walton, B. C.	3/28/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Bangen, K. M.	3/1/15
254	Abelseth, J.	10/18/14	477	Miller, H. L.	2/2/15	714	Esser, G. J.	2/24/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Barger, R. A.	3/4/15
254	Christie, N. T.	1/8/15	477	Morrow, F. D.	10/29/14	716	Lee, H. E.	3/15/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Besant, W. H.	11/19/14
254	Lukacs, B. M.	12/15/14	479	Craven, J. L.	2/14/15	716	Morgan, G. A.	3/17/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Boehme, R. H.	12/16/14
257	Gilmore, J. D.	1/26/15	479	Plaia, M. L.	2/16/15	716	Prince, C. W.	3/10/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Calandro, J. A.	3/16/15
257	Strope, J. E.	3/12/15	480	Jordan, D. G.	1/8/15	716	Richardson, J. A.	9/30/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Clifford, R. A.	2/12/15
258	Drolet, J. A.	12/31/14	481	Lyons, C. L.	3/16/15	716	Shamburger, J. F.	3/27/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Cloutier, C. O.	3/2/15
265	Vogel, T. L.	3/23/15	481	Ridenour, S. E.	2/19/15	725	Guy, J. D.	3/4/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Collard, J. L.	3/30/15
269	Blauth, C. K.	9/24/14	483	Nelson, B. J.	2/24/15	726	Redwine, B. B.	3/14/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Czuba, J. A.	3/23/15
275	Wiersema, R. J.	3/27/15	488	Murgatroyd, A.	2/12/15	728	Disque, R. C.	3/18/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Dorsey, C. E.	11/19/14
278	Hislope, G. L.	2/22/15	490	Palmer, E. M.	2/11/15	728	Doherty, J. P.	2/16/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Dugay, P.	3/16/15
280	Groshong, M. M.	12/19/14	494	Arkowski, J. F.	3/3/15	728	Mancinelli, R. J.	2/23/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Fisher, J.	1/20/15
280	Pepiot, H. I.	2/24/15	494	Crye, G. A.	3/24/15	728	Porter, G. E.	2/22/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Formby, C. H.	3/22/15
280	Stahl, M. G.	3/24/15	494	Kleinschmidt, R. P.	4/7/15	743	Quickery, J. E.	10/4/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Hair, H. R.	2/26/15
288	Harter, G. J.	3/12/15	494	Nelson, M. J.	12/16/14	743	Weidman, H. M.	3/6/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Hanson, W. R.	12/22/14
291	Bishop, C. L.	3/30/15	494	Schleif, L. S.	2/4/15	756	Vaughn, C. C.	1/22/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Hardwick, G. H.	12/16/14
292	Helland, H. O.	3/4/15	494	Schulze, J. G.	3/17/15	760	Heatherly, I. M.	3/5/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Harris, J. G.	12/7/14
292	Smith, S. T.	3/21/15	494	Skarie, P. R.	3/6/15	760	Tucker, W. B.	2/27/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Henke, D. D.	4/4/15
305	Koch, T. W.	1/26/15	499	Bauer, L. E.	1/10/14	768	Knoble, D. W.	3/7/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Herman, J.	4/10/15
309	Mueller, E. S.	1/4/15	499	Cardamon, J.	1/8/15	768	Lindsey, D. D.	2/12/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Hildreth, L. C.	3/22/15
309	Potter, J. L.	4/16/15	503	Dally, A. R.	3/9/15	773	Bondy, L. C.	1/16/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Hull, D.	3/30/15
313	Graham, S. H.	3/15/15	505	Brantley, R. S.	3/8/15	776	Vance, L.	3/15/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Johns, H. E.	2/1/15
313	Murray, J. J.	2/24/15	505	Riggins, E.	2/6/15	783	Scanlan, J. R.	3/18/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Koss, D.	3/19/14
322	Murphy, D. T.	2/6/15	527	Conner, J. A.	1/27/15	801	Sims, C. T.	9/11/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Linthart, S. P.	3/10/15
332	Gilbert, J. W.	3/24/15	530	Edwards, H. J.	1/30/15	852	Sigman, G. A.	1/22/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Lucas, W. P.	3/4/15
332	Messina, S. J.	1/23/15	532	O'Connell, D.	3/22/15	861	Crewell, M. A.	2/4/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Marshall, G. E.	2/1/15
340	Brown, R. H.	4/12/15	532	Peltier, L.	2/23/15	910	Gonyo, G.	3/17/15	Pens. (I.O.)	McCormack, G. T.	11/13/14
340	Masters, M. J.	3/22/15	538	Lunstrum, R. M.	12/31/14	915	Maxwell, K. J.	3/12/15	Pens. (I.O.)	McIntosh, L. S.	11/4/14
343	Boler, J. C.	3/9/15	540	Wallace, R. M.	2/15/15	948	Howe, W. J.	4/11/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Mills, N. L.	3/22/15
343	Vogel, G. R.	12/30/14	545	Stracener, W. H.	10/19/14	965	Linde, G. A.	3/24/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Moeller, M. W.	2/27/15
347	Brown, T. A.	3/6/15	547	Pottinger, A. E.	2/14/15	978	Bartholomew, J. B.	2/26/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Molinaro, S. M.	1/22/15
347	Yeo, J. W.	2/25/15	549	Bryant, D. V.	7/25/14	978	Cottle, C. S.	5/8/13	Pens. (I.O.)	Morrison, F. T.	2/8/15
349	Buckhalter, M. T.	3/26/15	549	Moore, B. L.	3/25/15	995	Bond, C. F.	2/7/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Moss, C. D.	4/12/15
349	Slattry, J. G.	2/15/15	551	Tapley, E. W.	12/30/14	995	Crumholt, G. C.	3/20/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Nehlsen, T. W.	2/17/15
349	Weist, J. P.	6/4/12	558	Azbell, W. G.	5/30/14	1070	Haimbach, D. G.	2/4/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Nelson, M. R.	1/28/15
350	McCarty, G. R.	3/21/15	558	Brown, E. G.	3/12/15	1105	Paul, J. W.	3/17/15	Pens. (I.O.)	O'Brien, A. J.	1/26/15
351	Baldwin, A. W.	12/9/14	558	Herston, J. D.	3/9/15	1141	Curl, M. B.	1/15/15	Pens. (I.O.)	O'Rourke, P.	3/18/15
351	Clemick, A. E.	2/24/15	558	James, H. L.	3/22/15	1141	Roberts, D. C.	3/14/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Patterson, L. L.	1/13/15
351	Krautwald, R. A.	11/27/14	558	Stutts, B. J.	4/11/15	1186	Fujita, M. S.	3/7/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Portillo, F. L.	3/4/15
351	Miller, R.	4/8/15	567	Gagnon, K. J.	3/22/15	1186	Lether, R. L.	3/21/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Ratcliff, J. C.	3/2/15
353	Carrasquilla, C.	3/9/15	567	Veilleux, N. R.	3/8/15	1186	Martin, G. W.	9/21/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Remington, K.	4/28/15
353	Hicks, W. A.	3/31/15	568	Beaulieu, M.	9/11/14	1200	Belote, E. C.	3/20/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Rossignol, L. J.	3/31/15
353	Lukowski, E.	8/12/14	568	Dozois, R.	8/13/14	1200	Reggio, L. C.	12/12/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Schiessl, G. A.	4/4/15
353	Marcus, R.	5/29/13	569	Chappell, A. W.	4/11/15	1205	Barton, R. C.	3/1/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Simmons, C. E.	3/23/15
353	Mastelarz, S. A.	3/30/15	569	Denk, K. R.	3/11/15	1205	Johnson, C. M.	2/10/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Solfrank, R.	12/19/14
353	McCarthy, W.	3/9/15	569	Humphrey, W. G.	3/9/15	1220	Sauser, A. J.	4/22/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Sosebee, M. L.	3/1/15
353	Renaud, R. R.	3/12/15	569	Vargas, J. M.	3/18/15	1220	Savitt, E.	6/11/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Tandberg, C. W.	5/30/14
353	Rigby, C. E.	1/21/15	584	Taylor, J. F.	3/11/15	1245	Bair, C. E.	1/8/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Tetherow, W. W.	3/5/15
353	Stumer, M.	6/30/13	584	Ward, G. C.	12/8/14	1245	Cobb, J. R.	1/16/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Thomas, S.	4/5/15
353	Vandereyken, G.	3/14/15	586	Emond, G.	8/8/13	1249	Huggins, A. L.	9/24/14	Pens. (I.O.)	Van Den Branden,	
354	McFadden, W. A.	1/17/15	586	Falardeau, A.	2/18/15	1253	Mylen, N. J.	2/25/15	D.		1/8/15
354	Rudd, M. G.	1/18/15	586	LeBlanc, M. N.	2/23/15	1316	Kitchens, V. W.	3/28/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Walters, R. S.	4/19/15
357	Anderson, H. M.	3/10/12	586	Leblanc, F. J.	1/25/15	1316	McClure, C. T.	3/3/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Wareham, H. W.	12/18/14
357	Fleig, H. J.	2/8/15	595	Eilert, R. E.	3/27/15	1316	Taylor, B. W.	2/27/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Wilbanks, B. R.	11/9/14
357	King, R. E.	3/25/15	595	Kroll, D.	12/17/14	1319	Roberts, G.	3/17/15	Pens. (I.O.)	Wood, C. A.	12/3/12
363	LeFort, F. H.	4/									



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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

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

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**FROM THE OFFICERS**

# A Legacy of Achievement



**Lonnie R. Stephenson**  
International President

It is difficult to imagine the IBEW without Ed Hill.

He has been a towering force in our union and in the American labor movement for longer than many of our members have been alive.

But I don't mean it is hard to imagine the IBEW moving forward without President Hill's presence. I mean that it takes effort to remember what the IBEW was before Ed took over and pushed us to become what we are today. He guided and, at times, cajoled us through one of the worst economic crises in our nation's history while fighting an onslaught of anti-worker policies and propaganda.

It is a testament to his leadership that while the labor movement has been shrinking across the country, the IBEW under President Hill welcomed thousands of new members. A culture of complacency had infected the labor movement. Building on the efforts of his predecessor, J.J. Barry, President Hill launched dozens of initiatives to put the movement back in labor movement. His goal in every case was to increase membership and support the growth of the industries we rely on.

By now, we are all familiar with member-to-member organizing, alternative construction classifications, business development and the Code of Excellence, but it bears repeating what they really are: tools that will keep the IBEW strong.

Although I have a very big pair of boots to fill, President Emeritus Hill left us what we need to fight on for the dignity of working people. I am humbled by the challenge, optimistic about our future, grateful for the chance and ready to get to it.

But not before one final word of gratitude to my friend and colleague International Secretary-Treasurer Sam Chilia. President Hill relied on Sam's steady hand and sound advice. I know I will too. He has been an excellent steward of our retirement and health funds in these difficult years and a wise source of counsel. My job would be a great deal more difficult without him at my side. ■

# Forging Our Future

It's a time of transition in our Brotherhood.

As my colleague and friend Ed Hill retires, I wish him a wonderful next chapter and appreciate all that he has done for the working men and women of the IBEW. And I have nothing but high praise for our new International President Lonnie Stephenson, whom I am honored to serve with.

We face challenging and changing times, not to mention numerous and well-funded enemies who want to drive us off the map. There is a lot at stake with no room for error.

That's why we are lucky to have Brother Stephenson at the helm. Ask anyone who's ever worked with him. I have full confidence in him, his abilities and his deep commitment to our Brotherhood and its success.

Now, as excited as I am to work with Lonnie, I feel somewhat bitter-sweet about it. Ed Hill has been my working partner for so many years now.

I first heard about Ed decades ago. I was working as a wireman out of Cleveland Local 38. He was already business manager of Local 712 in Beaver, Pa. I never made it out there, but a lot of Local 38 members traveled there for work. They always came back with the highest praise for Local 712—and its business manager.

Let me tell you, my time with President Hill has been some of the finest years of my working life in the IBEW.

He's left a solid legacy of positive growth—from helping spearhead new trainings for business managers and representatives, to tapping the resources of the younger generation who will one day be our successors. He wasn't afraid to wade into challenging waters to do the best for the membership, and he always, always had the best interests of the IBEW at heart.

As we embrace these new changes, we recognize that there remains a lot of work to be done in the political sphere.

In the last five years, three more states have gone right-to-work. Others have abolished the right of public workers to collectively bargain, tried to weaken health and safety regulations and done away with caps on corporate spending in elections.

If 2016 looks anything like 2014, we could be in big trouble. We can't afford any more right-to-work states or attacks on collective bargaining. And with elections in Canada coming up in October, we are going to have to go big on the international stage to make gains for working families.

Change is inevitable—but progress is not. With Brother Stephenson at the helm, we're poised to make great strides. Let's get out there and make it happen. ■



**Salvatore J. Chilia**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 70 Years of Service

Frank Higgins began his 43-year career at Commonwealth Edison when he was hired as a switchboy on August 29, 1933. His uncle and an acquaintance strongly encouraged his application earlier that summer.

After initially working part time, Frank decided he wanted to further his career and landed a full-time job in the service and repair department. Eventually he became one of the original IBEW union members at Commonwealth Edison in 1945. As a member of Local 1399, he worked as a dispatcher in appliance and wiring. In 1958, Frank was transferred to Chicago central headquarters.

He was then transferred again to Local 1367, working in load dispatching. In February of 1976, after 43 years of service, Frank Higgins decided to retire and spend more time with his wife Alice and their two children, Jim and Mildred.

Brother Higgins became a retired member of IBEW Local 15 after the 1994 amalgamation of the original 17 locals into one—Downers Grove Local 15.

In March of 2015, Local 15 President/Business Manager Dean Apple and his staff began searching for Brother Higgins to award him with his 70-year pin after IBEW International President Ed Hill informed Apple of this milestone.

On March 9, Local 15 staff was able to contact an eager Jim Higgins, Frank's son. In the past, Frank had expressed an interest in "re-creating" his history as a ComEd employee. Before he got started on the task, his health had begun to fail and Frank was under hospice care.

On March 11, President Apple planned to present Frank with his 70-year pin, as well as his company records. Unfortunately, Local 15 received word from Frank's family that he had passed away the Tuesday prior. Jim accepted Frank's 70-year service pin, certificate and ComEd records on his late father's behalf. In addition, he was presented with an IBEW watch from Local 15. Jim told President Apple how proud Frank was to be a union member for 70 years.

"He lived a good life," Jim stated. As an "A" member, Frank also received a small pension from the international office.

Frank was married for 72 years to Alice. In addition to children Jim and Mildred, the couple also had two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Frank loved baseball and volleyball, playing well into his 80s. Frank's nickname, not surprisingly, was Happy. Frank was 101 years old.

*Doug Vedas, Local 15 press secretary  
Downers Grove, Ill.*



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

## Ed Hill: 'The Definition of Leadership'

On behalf of Local 229, our best wishes for a long, healthy, and happy retirement. Thank you, President Hill, for your gutsy leadership and your willingness to institute policies that are necessary but unpopular. It's always been evident that you have the best interest of the IBEW at heart and made the tough decisions when necessary. That is the true definition of leadership.

*Matthew Paules, Local 229 member  
York, Pa.*

Thank you, President Hill, for your leadership in the IBEW and for supporting the FEMALE wiremen. I remember the day you said to me, "The glass ceiling, Kathy? What is that?" many, many years ago when I co-chaired the Women's Caucus. I am so proud I had the opportunity to work with you when you were Third District VP.

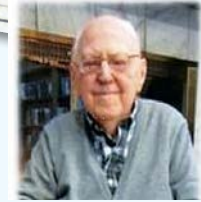
*Kathy Buhalo, Local 380 member (now 98)  
Philadelphia, Pa.*

Thank you, President Hill, for all that you have done. We at Local 2366 wish you nothing but the best in your retirement.

*Rocky Maas, Local 2366 member  
Lincoln, Neb.*

# WHO WE ARE

If you have a story to tell about your IBEW experience, please send it to [media@ibew.org](mailto:media@ibew.org).



*Frank 'Happy' Higgins*

# Iron Mike's New Mission



*Retired Sgt. Maj. Mike Kufchak left the 1st Marine Infantry Division after 31 years to become director of veterans' affairs for Los Angeles Local 11. (photo: United States Marine Corps)*

Los Angeles Local 11 organizer Mike Kufchak embodies the ethos of the modern labor movement. He is 100 percent committed to the safety and well-being of the men and women he works with, has a near religious commitment to the dignity of earning an honest wage with honest effort and he will fight for what he believes is best for himself, his team and his employer.

Actually, literally fight. Until Kufchak went to work for Los Angeles Local 11 in 2014, he had only ever had one employer: the United States Marine Corps. And Mike Kufchak was not just any Marine. At his retirement Sgt. Maj. "Iron" Mike Kufchak was the senior enlisted non-commissioned officer for the 1st Marine Division, the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of more than 26,000 men and women.

Kufchak is a lifelong infantryman. Twice awarded the Bronze Star for action in combat, he also wore a Purple Heart on his chest. An IED explosion in Fallujah in May 2006 killed one of his men and took the vision in his right—that is, shooting—eye. He taught himself to shoot left-handed and redeployed to Afghanistan.

Kufchak retired in 2013 after nearly 32 years in the Marines and he wasn't interested in a new job. He was looking for a new mission. And he found one at Local 11.

Kufchak is now the director of veteran's affairs. His task is to make good on Business Manager Marvin Kropke's 2013 commitment that 50 percent of incoming apprentices would be veterans.

"I always thought my job was looking out for my brothers and sisters, and I still consider that to be my job," Kufchak said. "I am helping all my brothers and sisters in the armed forces find careers, good careers, and they will recognize the camaraderie in the union embrace."

Kropke, an army veteran who was wounded in Vietnam, met Kufchak during the preparation for a fundraiser to benefit wounded veterans.

"He is the real deal. The selection process to become the senior enlisted in one of three Marine infantry divisions speaks for itself," Kropke said. "I told him, I don't know what you have planned for after you retire, but I have a plan to help people coming home from these wars in a way my generation did not."

Kropke had an idea for a program that would recruit the best candidates and give them the support to get them into the apprenticeship. What he needed was a recruiter welcome on any military installation with a reputation for always leading his troops to safety, opportunity and, ultimately, success.

It was not the only offer Kufchak received. But it was the one that he came back to because, he said, it was the opportunity with the most challenge and the most reward. For Kufchak, the prize is taking the veterans who returned home safe and giving them the opportunity to thrive.

"What I tell them is that if they are looking for a career where you feel the



same charge to look after one another, the same challenge, physical and mental, and the opportunity to make a difference, you will find it in the IBEW," Kufchak said. "You will make a good living, but I am not looking for the people who just ask about money. I am looking for the men and women who want to be part of something bigger."

Kropke found his champion and in less than a year on the job, Kufchak has become more than the chief military recruiter.

"He destroys every [inaccurate] stereotype of unions there is. Our contractors, elected officials, nonunion workers, they look at him and see all that is good in this nation and how Local 11 connects to it," Kropke said. "He is affecting the perception of what a union is. We are about jobs, but also community and mission."

It is still early days at Local 11 for Kufchak, and the local is still about 10 percent short of the 50 percent goal. But Kufchak said he feels like he has found a new place to call home.

"One of the reasons I joined is because it aligns with my moral compass," he said. "These young men and women transitioning from the military are really looking to kick their lives off, moving in a forward progression, and really, what better way to do that than to embrace a trade such as the electrical trades that will carry them through for the rest of their lives?" ■



## IBEW Testifies on Capitol Hill: Apprenticeship Works

*Aging workforce needs as much attention as aging infrastructure in energy reform bill*

It has been nearly a decade since comprehensive energy policy was passed in the U.S. Since then, efforts to update federal law foundered on the wide divide between the parties.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee started a new effort to get a comprehensive new energy policy through the Senate in May and the IBEW was on Capitol Hill to make sure that apprenticeships for future utility workers were part of the conversation.

The IBEW was invited to testify on a panel of energy policy experts as part of the rollout of the comprehensive energy reform plan put together by Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, chair of the Energy Committee.

Most of the witnesses testifying before the committee were concerned with the transformation of the laws covering the infrastructure used to generate and distribute power. IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter was the only witness primarily concerned with making sure the U.S. has a qualified workforce to run the new technologies and replace the huge number of utility workers that will be retiring in the near future.

“Over the next 10 years, 55 percent of the industry will need to be replaced,” Hunter said during his testimony. “My point in talking about the large number of people leaving the industry is to talk about how we

replace and train those new employees. The joint apprenticeship model works.”

Hunter asked the committee to include support for joint apprenticeship programs, like the ones run by the National Utility Industry Training Fund, in any comprehensive energy policy. The NUIF is a joint project of the IBEW and utility companies across the U.S. Apprentices in NUIF programs work alongside master craftsmen to learn their trade, while getting paid. The NUIF also runs six-week and longer boot-camp style programs to identify promising candidates for apprenticeships.

**‘Joint apprenticeships create good opportunities and keep utilities profitable at the same time.’**

—Utility Department Director  
Jim Hunter

The energy committee is considering more than 20 energy-related infrastructure bills covering a variety of areas including the siting, permitting and approval of high-voltage transmission lines, the export of natural gas, grid modernization and a host of reforms to the way wholesale

energy prices are determined.

“The vast majority of the energy infrastructure is privately owned,” Murkowski said. “The question is what is the proper role of government and how will our laws influence the \$300 billion to \$500 billion of private investment we need over the next 20 years?”

Sen. Maria Cantwell of Oregon, the ranking Democrat on the panel, said the need to focus on the workforce was paramount.

“The utility industry will have to add 1.5 million workers in the next 15 years,” Cantwell said. “This definitely has my attention.”

Other witnesses on the panel discussed the need for market reforms, the need to accelerate the integration of distributed solar rooftop generation and a more efficient permitting process for new gas pipelines and power lines. All agreed on the need for the federal government to increase its involvement in making the grid more reliable and resilient.

“Between 2000 and 2014, weather related disruptions have doubled, and that is likely to get worse in the future as extreme weather increases,” said Amy Ericson, president of Alstom, the company that created the software that runs on nearly half of the updated, smart grid systems in the country. “Strong federal lead-



IBEW Utility Department Director Jim Hunter, right, testifies about the importance of apprenticeship programs before the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

ership and support for grid modernization R&D through public-private partnerships involving utilities, technology suppliers, national labs, and universities is crucial.”

Sen. Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia, however, said parts of West Virginia that have been losing residents for decades as coal mines and steel mills have shut down are now seeing an increase in jobs because of the rapidly growing natural gas hydraulic fracturing.

But Capito lamented that many of the people getting those jobs are not from West Virginia.

“We see a lot of cars with Texas and Oklahoma license plates,” she said. After thanking Hunter for his testimony last year on the negative impacts of the closure of dozens of coal plants because of emissions regulations, Capito asked Hunter if a joint apprenticeship program like the NUIF could make sure new jobs went to local workers.

“We don’t like seeing those foreign plates either, Senator: most of them are non-

union,” Hunter said. “The utility industry is hiring right now. We have partnership with AEP in West Virginia and we are hiring.”

Hunter said DTE Energy in Detroit has been offering successful boot camp programs that are bringing in primarily long term unemployed workers—50 percent of them veterans—that led to dozens of people being hired. The program, and others like it in other states, are funded by grants and supported by state and local workforce investment boards.

“Joint apprenticeships create good opportunities and keep utilities profitable at the same time,” Hunter said. “These are local jobs, but many of the people who would be best served by the programs don’t have the funding to go to community colleges or even our boot camps. [Federal] financial aid is important.”

Murkowski said the 22 bills under consideration would be debated in committee over the next few months, and would be ready for a vote in the Senate later this summer. ■