Union Meeting

The next meeting of the membership will be held on Tuesday, May 13th beginning at 6:00 pm followed by fellowship with sandwiches and beverages. The Union meeting is open to all members regardless of classification. Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

**IBEW Local #146 401(K)**

Do you participate in the 401(k)? The program has been in place since 1995 when a group of members felt the membership needed another avenue to save for the future with you in complete control of your investments. While the NECA-IBEW Pension Trust Fund a/k/a The Decatur Plan is a strong, well managed defined benefit plan, some members wanted to save money while deferring the tax on that money until later.

Contributions are voluntary and are calculated as a percentage of your total gross wage from 1% to a maximum of $17,500 per calendar year. For the late savers (those over 50) you may save an additional $5,500 per year all tax free—State and Federal—until you withdraw the funds. You are 100% vested in your account from the beginning. This plan complies with all U.S. Department of Labor and IRS rules and requirements.

Our Lincoln Broker and Advisor would be happy to make a presentation to you on the value and importance of saving for retirement. If you would be interested, please call the Union Office and speak with Candy. This presentation would be open to the member and spouse. Once we have several names on the list, a date and time will be scheduled. You are welcome to stop by the Union Office to pick up your enrollment form now. Our Office has all required forms available for enrollment, change of contribution amount, loans, roll overs, etc. Just give us a call.

**February - March - April Union Meeting Announcements**

**Propositions for Membership:** Kevin Leveck

**Accidents/Sickness/Births/Deaths:**

- **12/1/13** Jerry Chance broke his leg
- **1/29/14** Lynn & Dirk Hyland’s brother passed away
- **1/31/14** Rob Perkins grandfather passed away
- **2/1/14** Doyle Nave’s father passed away
- **2/10/14** Clinton Robbins has a serious back injury
- **2/13/14** Rob Doyle fell was hospitalized
- **2/16/14** Claud Thompson, former owner D.I.E. passed away
- **2/18/14** Jack Tosetti’s wife passed away
- **3/1/14** Doyle Nave’s father passed away
- **3/7/14** Jim Butt’s mother-in-law passed away
- **3/11/14** Susan Varvel’s mother hospitalized
- **3/14/14** Dan Weatherford has a new granddaughter
- **3/17/14** Ted Jones’ mother passed away
- **3/18/14** Harold “Zip” Sirbaugh’s father passed away
- **3/19/14** Joe Woolums mother passed away
- **3/27/14** Harold “Zip” Sirbaugh’s father passed away
- **3/29/14** Joe Woolums mother passed away
- **4/4/14** John Watson’s mother passed away
- **4/7/14** Steve Buchanan had knee surgery

Congratulations to the following members as they were winners in the monthly drawings.

- **February Credit Union Rollover** – Josh Delahunty
- **Door Prize** – Drew Karr
- **50/50** – Rich Underwood
- **March Credit Union Rollover** – Drew Higgason
- **Door Prize** – Ben Garrett
- **50/50** – Dave Ward
- **April Credit Union Rollover** – Drew Higgason
- **Door Prize** – Al Hodges
- **50/50** – Heath Righter

Total Union membership – 630

50 members attended in February. 59 members attended the March meeting. 96 members attended the April meeting.
Business Manager Report

Let me start by congratulating our graduating class of Apprentices for your hard work and dedication. You should be very proud of your accomplishments. Spring has finally arrived! As with every spring and fall, the travel requirements as business manager increase. As I reported at the April Union meeting, I recently returned from the NECA-IBEW Trustees meetings and the Illinois State Conference of IBEW. Following is my report from those meetings.

**Pension**
- Investments have performed well.
- The Fund is in PPA Green Zone status indicating mandatory funding requirements have been met.
- Based on the present and projected status of the Fund, effective June 1, 2014 the following benefit improvements will be made:
  - Credit 40¢ of the current non-credited contribution of $2.20 reducing the non-credited amount to $1.80 per hour
  - Offer a 75% Joint & Survivor Option. The Plan presently offers a single life-time, 50% Joint & Survivor and a 100% Joint & Survivor. The NEBF plan presently offers single life, 50% and 75% options.
- A new committee will be formed to develop possible options of how the Fund should apply rules regarding “disqualifying employment”.

**Health & Welfare**
- Net assets continues to fall from all time high of $219.5M on 12/31/2012 to $209.5 one year later. The Fund continues to use reserves to pay claims and we currently have 18 months in reserves which is good. However, consultants estimate that with no rate increase we will be down to 6.9 months in reserves by 2016.
- The Trustees approved a rate increase effective 6/1/2014 of 25¢ per hour to $5.85 per hour worked. Then another 25¢ increase will be effective 1/1/2015 bringing the rate to $6.10 per hour worked. While the contribution rate has doubled since January 1994, the average annual increase over the past 20 years is 14¢ per year. Between January 1994 and June 2000 no contribution increases were approved and then again between June 2004 and June 2009. However, during the time period of June 2001 and June 2004 the contribution rate was increased every 6 months for a total of $2.15 per hour.
- The Trustees will continue to monitor the fund health and status with a full review at the Fall Trustees meeting.

**Contract Negotiations**
- Sign Shop Wage Opener
  - Settled for wage increase of 2.7%. This contract expires 2/28/2015.
- Inside Contract
  - The committee has met 5 times. The Contractors have cancelled meetings that were scheduled for 4/21 and 4/24. We are now scheduled to meet on 5/1 and 5/2 if needed.
  - We have filed to go to CIR (Council on Industrial Relations). However, negotiations can continue and we are scheduled for an Interim CIR meeting on 5/7 if no settlement has been reached by that time.
  - A special meeting may be called for a settlement presentation and vote. A notice will be mailed noting date and time of the meeting. Please check your mail daily.

**Other items**
- The Cronus Project continues to look promising. I participate in monthly conference calls for updates. An agreement has been settled with the Champaign-Urbana Sanitary District and negotiations are underway with land owners for the pipeline installation. The permitting process is ongoing and negotiations continue for the Project Labor Agreement.
- The Spring Illinois IBEW State Conference was held in Springfield in March. The main topics included Right-to-Work legislation that could come and the need to re-elect Governor Quinn. While I hear rumblings of dis-approval of the actions in Springfield, you must familiarize yourself with the candidiates on the other side of the isle. They do not have the interests of the working man or woman at heart. Changing just to be changing is not always the best path. You will learn more about Republican candidate Bruce Rauner in the coming months.
- The Annual International Construction Conference was held in early March in Washington, D.C. Chairman John Shores and myself attended. President Hill expressed his concerns with the overall market share of our industry. Nationally, IBEW members do only 30% of the construction work and the overall membership of the IBEW continues to decline with approximately 96,000 expected to retire in the near future. Local 146 fairs much better than the national average on the market share with an estimated 72% of the work in our jurisdiction being performed by our members. That has not been without constant efforts to work smarter and more economically than our competitors and to bring into our folds, those non-union individuals who have the skill sets to be an IBEW member. President Hill expects every construction local in the nation to make use of Market Recovery Agreements, provide Code of Excellence training for the membership, develop a small business development and marketing plan and assist small contractors desiring to go into business.

As of this printing, Local 146 has had 10 members sign and file for retirement in 2014 with another 5 individuals having verbally committed to retiring in the next few months. The 2014/2015 First Year Apprenticeship class has been announced as a class of 12 individuals.

**Meetings & Events**
- Union Meetings
- Executive Board Meetings
- Decatur Building & Construction Trades Meetings
- YMCA Board of Directors Meeting
- Chandler Cove Condominiums Developer meeting
- IBEW Construction & Maintenance Conference
- DCEO Unemployment & Economic Development Seminar
- NECA-IBEW Trustees Meetings
In Brotherhood,

Shad E. Etchason
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Free Meal
Attention Retirees!

Any Retired Member who does not belong to the Retirees Club or who has not been to a lunch meeting in awhile is encouraged to join us. In fact, we are so anxious to have you join us that we will buy your first meal. All significant others are invited to join us as well.

Come and join us May 6th at Whits End at 3663 E. William Street in Decatur.

For further information and if you have the time, call Shelby Lawler at 217-875-5370. Or for the quick version, call Stan Rhodes at 217-425-4078.

Thank you once again to Pat Camfield, Robert Roberts and his son for cleaning up the landscaping around the Hall. The winter and excess summer growth left our landscape a little unsightly. Our continued maintenance should help the landscape be around for many years.

Mark your calendars now for the 38th Annual Invitational Slo-Pitch Softball Tournament hosted by IBEW Local 601. We have once again been invited to participate in this tournament on August 9th and 10th. Call Josh Sapp to sign up to play (217-855-6738).

Additional information will be provided at a later date.

In Memoriam

Brother James Delaney passed away on 3/22/2014. Brother Delaney was 80 years old and a 60 year member of the IBEW.

Brother Robert Finley passed away on 4/11/2014. Brother Finley was 68 years old and a 40 year member of the IBEW.

We offer our condolences to their families and friends. May their memories be forever in our hearts.

Work Picture

As of this printing we have the following individuals on our Out-of-Work registry:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Book I</th>
<th>Apprentices</th>
<th>Book II</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inside</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teledata</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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March manpower calls consisted of:

17 Apprentices - 1 to Premier Electric
6 to Commercial
3 Inside Long Calls - 3 to Anderson
6 Inside Short Calls - 1 to Premier Electric

April manpower calls to date have been:

3 Apprentices - 3 to Anderson
3 Inside Long Calls - 3 to Anderson
6 Inside Short Calls - 6 to Commercial
0 Teledata

At this time we have 4 members on layoff at Eastern Illinois University with hopes of returning for summer work after
classes have finished for the year. With the weather improving, work in our area has picked up some. We are expecting more calls from Anderson for the work they have starting. Our sister locals in Springfield and Champaign are seeing work pick up for them as well and have started to get into Book II for some calls. We have had members find work in Omaha, NE (Local 22), Joplin, MO (Local 95), Tulsa, OK (Local 584), Kansas City, MO (Local 124) and Burlington, IA (Local 13). We have also received reports of work coming up in Lafayette, IN (Local 668), LaPorte, IN (Local 531) and Louisville, KY (Local 369) that would be getting into their Book II. If you are interested in traveling to any of these locals, please give me a call before taking off to check on the latest status. Remember to have your dues paid in advance before hitting the road.

Ron@ibew146.com
217-521-7522
217-877-4604 x 6

Graduation Banquet – The membership is invited to attend the 2014 Graduation Banquet on Saturday, May 17, 2014 to honor our 9 Apprentice Inside Wireman Graduates and 1 Apprentice Telecommunications Installer Technician Graduate for their accomplishment of successfully completing Apprenticeship Training. We will be honoring: Erin Ayers, Aaron Bruce, Josh Delahunty, John Forsyth, Scott Hunter, Matt Lewis, Jacob Nelson, Kevin Raines, Jeff Willenborg, and Randy Warfel.

The banquet will be held at the Mt. Zion Convention Center in Ballroom C. The evening will begin with Cocktails and Hors D’oeuvres served from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm with dinner and commencement following. A block of rooms have been reserved at the Hawthorn Suites for $89.00 per night with shuttle service available all evening. Be safe and please reserve a room under the block name Midstate Electrical Training Center. Tickets for the banquet can be purchased from the Training Center for $35.00 each starting April 1 and are available until May 7. Everyone is encouraged to save the date and plan to attend the banquet. Our graduating Apprentices have worked hard and accomplished much. The banquet is a great opportunity for all of us to celebrate with them as they step forward as Journeymen in our Union Electrical Construction Industry.

1st year Inside Apprenticeship Instructor Rick Long – On April 14, 2014 Rick officially announced this will be his last year as the 1st year Instructor for the Inside Apprenticeship Program. Rick began instructing in 1999. At the end of this school year he will have taught 15 years. On behalf of all of the Apprentices Rick taught, the Apprenticeship Committee, Office Manager Jennifer Durand, and remaining Instructors we all extend to Rick a heartfelt thank you and appreciation for his time and effort as one of our Instructors. Thank you Rick and we wish you well.

Applications for Instructors – With this being Rick’s last year, the 1st year Inside Apprenticeship Instructor position will need to be filled. Our list of Journeymen interested in becoming an Instructor for Apprentice and/or JW classes needs updated. If you are interested in the 1st year Inside Apprenticeship Instructor position or any other Instructor position, please submit to the Training Center office a letter informing us of the Instructor position(s) you are interested in and a resume highlighting your experience and training in the Union Electrical Construction Industry. For more information, please call Training Director Jason Drake at the Training Center office at 217-875-3041 or email jason@metcmail.com.

New Apprentices – 12 Applicants became indentured Apprentice Inside Wiremen on Saturday April 5, 2014 at the New Apprentice Orientation. Please welcome the following new 1st year Apprentice Inside Wireman class for 2014: Brandon Bryant, Tyler Cothern, Blake Davis, Alan Handy, Darren Koehler, Jonathon Koester, Tanner Miller, Alan Pressley, Kevin Rhodes, Greg Sommer, Thomas Tripp, and Ian Weddle.

At the time of this report, all of the new Apprentices were attending the 40 Hour Boot Camp class scheduled for 4/21/14 – 4/25/14. The new Apprentices are scheduled to be assigned to their Contractors throughout the month of May.

Indentured/Employed/Unemployed Apprentices – At the time of this report, the number of indentured Apprentice Inside Wiremen in training (excluding the 12 new Inside Apprentices) is 54: (10) 1st year, (14) 2nd year, (13) 3rd year, (8) 4th year, and (9) 5th year. The number of indentured Apprentice VDV Installer Technicians in training is 4: (1) 3rd year and (3) 1st year. All Inside Apprentices are employed. 1 VDV Apprentice is unemployed.

Jason L. Drake – Training Director
Recently participated with the apprentice interviews for the 2014/2015 class. The 12 new apprentices are attending boot camp at this time but should soon be on the job site. Three of these new apprentices have come from non-union contractors.

I would like to offer congratulations to the graduating class of 2014 Apprentices. The Graduation Banquet will be Saturday, May 17th. We will be honoring 10 individuals for their accomplishments. I hope to see everyone there.

Local 146, with the assistance of some of the area crafts, has been banner the Residence Inn in Forsyth. I would like to thank all those who have helped with this endeavor. We may be looking at handbilling at a later date and will need volunteers for that.

A prevailing wage complaint was filed on the Richland Community College facility in Clinton and received a favorable ruling. Due to the failure of the College to include the prevailing wage language in the bid packages, the contractor will not be charged with a violation. However, the back wages will still have to be paid to his employees.

A new alternative news source has started in our area called RE:Decatur.com. This is a pro-labor news source but is not limited to labor issues. Local attorney, Josh Rohrscheib has taken charge of this venture and is looking for support to keep it going. Professional writers have been hired who are ready to take on any story. If you have an idea for a story, please give me a call.

I recently attended the IL Prevailing Wage Council meeting in Springfield where a presentation was given on what eliminating prevailing wage and making Illinois a “right to work’ state would do to the State’s economy. The information provided came from a joint study prepared by the University of Illinois and Michigan State. Some of their findings were:

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<tr>
<th>Prevailing Wage Repealed</th>
<th>Right to Work Passed</th>
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<td>3300 jobs would be lost</td>
<td>Union membership declines</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP reduction of more than $1Billion annually</td>
<td>Construction workers make 22% less</td>
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<tr>
<td>$44 Million lost in state and local taxes</td>
<td>After 3 years labor income drops $2B to $9B</td>
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<tr>
<td>$116 Million lost in federal tax revenue</td>
<td>Annual state tax revenue drops by $75M to $355M</td>
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The Annual Member Golf Outing is set for Saturday, June 14th. The official registration form is in this newsletter. Heath Righter is the Chairman this year and he will be needing your help. Anyone interested in assisting Heath should give the Union Office a call. Help will be needed picking up prizes and gifts as well as there will be plenty to do before and after the golfing the day of the event.

We have been recruited to provide volunteers for several projects and events this year. Volunteers are needed to help set up and tear down for the Decatur/Forsyth Classic Golf Tournament held at Hickory Point Golf Course.

We are have also committed to assist the Illinois Department of Natural Resources prepare hacking towers for the endangered Osprey who call Lake Shelbyville their summer home. This project will require carpentry skills and a lot of muscle.

If you would be interested in helping on either or both of these projects, give me a call for more details.

In Solidarity,

Josh Sapp

Josh@ibew146.com

217-855-6738
217-877-4604 x 7
IBEW Local #146 invites you to our 14th Annual Golf Play Day at Lake Shore Golf Course, Saturday, June 14th, 2014

This will be a four person scramble. Start time will be 8:00 a.m. sharp! Please be at the clubhouse no later than 7:15 a.m. to get checked in and ready for the start. No metal spikes or sleeveless shirts allowed on the course.

$25 per person $100 per four-some
Retirees participate for free
Lunch and beverages included. Prizes and raffles available.

______ Yes, please sign me up for the 14th Annual IBEW Local #146 Golf Play Day. Enclosed with this confirmation is my payment of $__________ $25/person – $100/team – Retirees Free

Confirmation is due no later than Friday, May 30th, 2014.

Name(s) of players:

1. ___________________________________________ 2. ___________________________________________

3. ___________________________________________ 4. ___________________________________________

Make checks payable and remit to: IBEW Local #146 * 3390 N. Woodford St. * Decatur, IL 62526