

THE 153 METER

1345 Northside Boulevard, South Bend, IN 46615 • Telephone: 574-287-8655 • Fax: 574-233-5234

Website: www.ibew153.com • Active Membership: 925 • Retired Members: 244

◆ Serving the IBEW Local 153 Six County Area ◆

◆ JUNE 2011 ◆

Inside Contract Changes

- A total package increase of \$.25 per hour, the \$.25 will go toward the Health & Welfare Fund, \$.25 per hour was also moved to the Health & Welfare Fund from the Supplemental Benefit Account.
- The existing Memorandum of Understanding for General Workman has been cancelled.
- The existing Memorandum of Understanding: Market Recovery - Light Commercial/Residential Projects was renegotiated.
- A current National Electrical Code Book is part of the mandatory tool list (2.13). Upon completion of a SBJATC approved Code Update Class a Current NEC Code Book will be available through the SBJATC at a rate of 50% of the regular SBJATC price. (New Memorandum of Understanding)
- The Shift Rate (3.08) section has been revamped removing the reduced hours worked and replacing them with a full eight hour shift with an increased percentage of pay. Second shift shall be paid at the regular hourly rate of pay plus 17.3% for all hours worked. Third shift shall be paid at the regular hourly rate of pay plus 31.4% for all hours worked.
- The use of personal cell phones being used for company business is prohibited (3.09).
- When the wearing of safety-toe shoes conforming to ASTM F2413-05-EH standards is required either through an employer's written safety program or a customer's safety policy, the safety-toe shoes shall be furnished by the employee. (3.22)

July 4 Holiday

In observance of Independence Day, the Union Hall will be closed on Monday, July 4, 2011. As a reminder work performed on the Fourth of July holiday shall be paid for at double the regular straight time rate of pay.

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Wage & Benefit Changes

	INSIDE		RESIDENTIAL	
	5/31/10	6/6/11	12/6/10	6/6/11
Gross Wage	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$20.10	\$20.10
Health & Welfare	6.94	7.19	6.80	7.30
Pension	4.85	4.85	1.76	1.76
Money Purchase Plan	3.80	3.80	1.42	1.17
NEBF (3% of gross)	.90	.90	.60	.60
TOTAL PACKAGE	\$44.49	\$46.74	\$30.68	\$30.93

HELP* Corn & Sausage Roast

Date: Saturday, July 16, 2011

Time: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Tickets: \$10.00 each or 3/\$20.00
*Includes admission and food
PLUS entry for raffle prizes*

Place: Twin Branch Park

Address: 3900 Lincoln Way E
Mishawaka

Come out to the park and enjoy great food, fellowship, and your chance to win raffle prizes!

1st Place Raffle Prize: *Gas Grill*

2nd Place Prize: \$100

3rd Place Prize: \$50

4th Place Prize: \$25

The money raised will benefit the 153 H.E.L.P.* Fund which is used to assist Local 153 Members in need. If you or another member you know would like to apply please call the Hall for an application.

**Helping Electricians Live Properly*

Night at the Cove

Date: Friday, July 22, 2011

Time: Picnic 6:30 pm in the Bullpen
Game: 7:30 pm

Tickets: \$10.00 Adults
\$ 5.00 Kids 16 and under

Place: Coveleski Stadium

Address: 501 W. South Street
South Bend, IN

Come out to the Silverhawk's ball game against the West Clinton Lumber Kings. The IBEW Local 153 Night at the Cove includes an all-you-can eat picnic, reserved ticket seating, 10% off coupon for the Hawk's Team Store, a group raffle ticket, and there will be fireworks following the game! **Get your tickets at the Union Hall.**

Births

Benjamin & Stephanie McCullum

Son, born March 9, 2011
His name is Austin James
Weight: 7 pounds 2 ounces
Length: 20 inches

Jonathan & Rebecca Medlin

Son, born March 23, 2011
His name is Braxton Allen
Weight: 8 pounds 5 ounces
Length: 20½ inches

Nicholas & Natasha Shafer

Son, born April 3, 2011
His name is Zander Stephen
Weight: 6 pounds 4 ounces
Length: 18½ inches

We will gladly list the birth of your children and grandchildren. Please contact the Union Hall with your information.

Deaths

Robert L. Falk

Retired JIW, initiated April 1958
June 14, 1930 - May 3, 2011

Donald E. Harman

Retired JIW, initiated July 1963
August 9, 1937 - April 6, 2011

LIMO* Meetings

*Local Informational Membership & Organizing

A LIMO* Meeting has been a monthly gathering of members and officers for the last 12 years. This meeting occurs on the first Thursday of the month, odd numbered months it is held at the Stevensville American Legion Post 586 and on even numbered months it is held at the Bourbon American Legion Post 424. These meetings accomplish several objectives. To interact with members from the local area, who see or hear about construction projects either being considered or are ongoing, and to provide an opportunity for members to hear first hand what is going on in the local. Over the last year or so these meetings have become less attended. In these tight economic times does it make sense to continue the LIMO* meetings for just a few members? Please try attending any of the monthly meetings whether it is the General Membership or the LIMO* meeting. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM.

STEVENSVILLE, MI

American Legion
Post 586
3093 Johnson Rd
July 7
September 1
November 3

BOURBON, IN

American Legion
Post 424
202 S. Main Street
August 4
October 6
December 1

Retiree Breakfast

DATE: July 6, 2011
PLACE: Honker's Restaurant
211 E. Day Road, Mishawaka
TIME: 9:00 A.M.

Call the Hall to make your reservation at 574-287-8655 or 800-986-1054.

We hope to see you there!

Congratulations to Our Recent Retirees

❖ Van G. Rodgers Jr.

Service Pins Issued

50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Larry W. Barrett Kenneth L. Harmon
Robert T. Flood Richard J. Nyerges
Robert A. Good Sr. William S. Watts

55 YEARS OF SERVICE

Hubert Berche Theophiel J. Maeyens
Stuart L. Clark John J. O'Connor
Evan F. Galbraith Bernard G. Roberts
Richard L. Harris Maurice D. Stewart
Stanley Ketelhut

60 YEARS OF SERVICE

Homer W. Campbell Francis E. Vanhuffel
Max W. Doering Dean E. White
Edward T. Gurka Harold M. White

65 YEARS OF SERVICE

Robert C. Birtwhistle Edward J. Phelan
William M. Oylor Edward D. Rieck

If you have not yet made arrangements to receive your pin please call the Union Hall at 574-287-8655 or 800-986-1054.

Congratulations to all!

Social Security

Online

You can now apply for retirement benefits online. For more information or to apply visit their website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Nearing

Retirement?

If you are nearing retirement please contact Mike at the Union Hall with an approximate retirement date. Your retirement packet will need to be ordered. This should be done six months in advance.

Also, to participate in the Health & Welfare Fund after retirement you must be active in the plan 3 consecutive plan years prior to your retirement.

Michigan License

Exam Schedule

Michigan Master Electrician & Michigan Journeyman Electrician		
2011 Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline
Tues, July 19	Escanaba	June 20
Thurs, Aug 18	Lansing	July 21
Thurs, Nov 3	Lansing	October 6

Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Questions regarding licensing requirements or examinations should be directed to the Electrical Division at 517-241-9320

Sign by fax Locals

If you are on our out of work list, we can sign you by fax to the following locals: Albany, GA; Alexandria, LA; Burlington, IA; Cheyenne, WY; Corinth, MS; Escabana, MI; Gainesville, FL; Gulfport, MS; Iron Mtn., MI; Kalamazoo, MI; Macon, GA; Monroe, LA; Montgomery, AL; New Orleans, LA; Pascagoula, MS. Email your request to nkovach@ibew153.com and we will send you more information.

100th Anniversary

IBEW Local 153 is looking for committee volunteers to start the planning of the IBEW Local 153 100th Anniversary Party. Anyone interested should contact Local 153 President, Stan Miles.

Thank you...

Thanks to all who helped to "Make Our Community Brighter" on April 2nd by donating their time and talents to the Rebuilding Together Project.

Venetian Festival

Work Day

The set-up day for the Venetian Festival in St. Joseph, Michigan is **Wednesday, July 13, 2011**. We will meet after work at the Electricians Trailer located below the bluff. The festival will be held July 14-17, 2011.

Forms On-line

Visit www.ibew153benefits.org for information and forms for the Local Pension, Money Purchase Plan, and Health and Welfare.

Call TIC, the Fund Administrator, at 877-244-9473 with any questions you may have concerning these benefits.

BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Michael Compton

Brothers and Sisters,

We recently finished negotiations for 2011. It has been very challenging times for all over the last 18 months and that certainly was reflected in this year's negotiation. Before we started, the Local Union negotiating committee met to decide what we wanted and developed a strategy of how we were going to get there. The committee decided that the biggest issue our Local Union faces is the long term unemployment we have experienced. Our main focus throughout negotiations was to improve work opportunities for our members. When we met with our employers it soon became apparent this was their goal as well. In the end we made changes we felt necessary and signed a one year agreement. In a year I expect the work picture to look much different than it does today and the conditions for negotiating our contract will be much better also.

The biggest changes came in the Market Recovery Agreement Memorandum of Understanding. Most of those changes were mandated by our International President Ed Hill more than a year ago. It made sense for us to wait and make those changes at the beginning of a new agreement rather than mid-term. The change that will likely create the most discussion is the new classifications of Construction Wireman (CW) and Construction Electrician (CE). Members that now hold the General Worker classification will be converted to one of the levels of Construction Wireman.

The Residential Agreement had one significant change. The Residential Apprenticeship Program is being expanded from 3 years to 4. This idea has been discussed for some time to make the program align with the requirement of 8,000 hours of on the job training before a person can take the Michigan Electricians licensing exam. For a number of complicated reasons the CW/ CE classifications will not be allowed in Michigan per current state law. By expanding the Residential Apprenticeship and allowing them to work on Market Recovery Projects our employers are able to use them as much as CW/CE will be utilized in Indiana. Many of the Local Unions in Michigan also expanded their Residential Apprenticeship Program for the same reasons as us.

The Trust Fund Committees met recently and there were some changes made there to help us comply with federal law and to help keep our plans financially solvent. The changes we made in the Health Care plan will probably bring the most questions and concerns. These changes will be detailed in a mailing we will all receive from TIC in the very near future. The need for those changes was for one reason, in the last 12 months we have spent about \$3 million more than we have taken in. At the same time we are seeing record unemployment for an extended period. We have structured the plan to withstand temporary deficits but that is not unlimited. We do expect our hours to pick up soon but we are concerned it will not be soon enough and the additional contributions from that will not be enough to solve our financial need. The changes made were difficult and not taken lightly. The Trustees had long discussions regarding how these would affect our active members and retirees. Ultimately this all means it will cost everyone more to be part of the plan.

The good news is, and there is some, I expect our work picture to improve significantly over the next 12 months. First will be a new hotel at Four Winds Casino. Also Notre Dame has plans for another new building that will break ground this summer. A new St. Joseph High School will be bid soon and later this year we will hear more about the Natural Gas Power Plant scheduled to start in 2012. When you combine that with the scheduled outages coming at DC Cook and all the work our members regularly do by this time next year we should be approaching full employment. As I have been saying for some time now, I expected 2010 and the first half of 2011 to be terrible work wise. I also expect work to significantly improve from there and it is shaping up to do exactly that.

Brothers and sisters hang on; the end to the most difficult economic times we have ever experienced appears to be moving behind us. I think we are all looking forward to better times ahead and looking back on the last 18 months as a terrible nightmare.

We lost a true labor leader in the IBEW recently. Former 6th District Vice President Jeff Lohman passed away unexpectedly. Jeff was also a past Business Manager of 481. He will be missed by all of us. I ask that you keep the Lohman family in your thoughts and prayers as they work through this difficult time.

Fraternally,
Michael Compton

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Stan Miles

Brothers and Sisters,

Contract negotiations may be complete but our work is not done. Watch your news letter for the changes to the contracts. For the Inside and Residential contracts, there were twenty-five cent (\$0.25) increases to the total packages. Also, your officers and trustees met and decided that those working under the Inside contract will have an additional twenty-five cents moved from the SBA and to the H&W for the plan itself. Also, members at that meeting who work under the Residential contract decided to move an additional twenty-five cents from their Money Purchase Plan to the H&W plan.

The trust funds have met recently and with it changes are coming. I ask each of you to read the changes that will be coming in your regular mail. Please do not set these aside as junk mail. It affects your Pension and when you can get it. It affects your Money Purchase fund and when you are eligible. Lastly, it affects your Health & Welfare on your deductibles, co-pays and other items as well. Some of these items were decided as a result of IRS rule changes while others were the result of necessary changes to help the plan.

Events for your calendar and consideration:

June 2011	100 th Anniversary Committee Meeting
July 16 th	HELP Fund Corn & Sausage Roast
July 22 nd	IBEW Night at the Cove
August 27 th	Union Picnic at Potawatomi Park

I look forward to seeing you at some of the Local's events and meetings. We are currently trying to schedule our first meeting for

the Anniversary Committee. If you are interested in serving on this committee please let me know. This is a significant milestone for our Union so we plan on spending around 3 years planning this event.

Shawn Huffine has volunteered for and been selected as the new trustee for the Health & Welfare fund. We still have a vacancy on the Pension fund so let me know if you are interested. If you are interested in being on any committee please let me know. We could use your help on the HELP 153 and also the COPE committees just for starters.

Together, let's leave this Local better than we found it.

In Solidarity,
Stan Miles

TECH CORNER-Jim Overmyer

In the years I have written this column, I have closed many times with an urging to our brothers to join us in the journeyman classes. I have been told that some are afraid to participate in class and would be embarrassed by fact that they have forgotten so much over the years. Otto and I always keep the atmosphere light and do not put anyone on the spot for more than a few seconds. When it is obvious they are not able to answer, I either move to another or give the explanation. In our previous format, questions were asked and most of the academic portion of the class consisted of lecture on the evenings labs. This year I decided to make up a quiz each night that would not be handed in or graded. The first night of transformer class we gave the students the option of doing the questions one at a time and orally. We were surprised when they opted to take the quiz on their own to see just how well they would do and then discuss each question in depth at the end. No grading was attempted other than the students keeping track of their score themselves. They kept the quiz for reference on some of the problems they may face in the field. We feel that this change is for the better in the classroom, because the questions stimulate the mind and the student delves into his data where a boring lecture almost puts them to sleep. We have had students repeat the classes just to stay current and hopefully keep the channel to their data banks open. Education is merely the ability to program our data bank and then to retrieve said info to make decisions and do our job.

I have always told the apprentice students that most journeymen are intimidated by the higher time apprentices because they are deep in theory and are studying the material to make the grades. Could you as a journeyman discuss with an apprentice the frequency in a rotor of an induction motor at different speeds and how the torque is affected? How about the opposition to rotation in a DC motor? Where does this CEMF originate and how does it affect the operation of this type of rotating machinery? You may not feel that in-depth theory is important to you and the job you are doing each day, but our industry is changing every day and we must be ready to change with it. In order to keep our market share, our trained journeyman with a complete knowledge of the complex theories will be steadily employed and will be a leader of men. We are going to offer a control class starting in January that will consist of reading a schematic and designing process control. This will deal with relay logic which is very close to most of the programming logic used in PC process retrofit. We will then wire the circuits and test them. I once switched roles with an apprentice and told him he would run the

job and I would do his bidding. This consisted of wiring 2 large winding machines where we had to design the job and then install it. I told him we would do it his way unless there was a mistake in his logic or he was spending large amounts needlessly. I have been involved in jobs where the person designing the job would throw relays at it to solve small problems and create a programming nightmare. Keep it as simple as possible I told him and we completed the job on time and yes, we did it his way. He found that he was more able to do the work than he himself thought he was capable of. Up until that time, he resented the extra work I required him to do at break each day, but if you know me that didn't matter. I forced him to do it and later on he was very grateful for what we had done together. I was so proud of him, as he overcame his bitterness toward me as he realized I had his best interest at heart. We are not friends, but we respect each other and are brothers in this trade. Come try our new format next year and gain the confidence you will acquire as a result of continuing education.

JimmyO

Michigan GOP ready to move on labor issues

Reprinted from *The Building Tradesman*, May 20, 2011 issue

LANSING – With the revenue side of the state's budget resolved after having the process occupying much of their time over the last two months, Michigan's Republican legislators are ready to resume their anti-labor mischief.

The number of anti-worker, anti-union bills introduced this year by Republican lawmakers exceeds 40, according to the Michigan AFL-CIO. We reported in our last issue that a bill to outlaw project labor agreements on state funded construction projects is not far from passage, and another one to overturn the state Prevailing Wage Act likely isn't far behind.

Now we learn that the "nuclear option," as organized labor leaders in Michigan have called it, is going to get a push – although it likely won't get far – in the form of the promotion of a right-to-work bill.

MIRS News Service in Lansing reported on May 4 that former Republican lawmaker Jack Hoogendyk of the "Center Right Coalition of Michigan" has sent out an e-mail seeking to garner support for a right-to-work bill in our state. It was sent at a time when Republican lawmakers in New Hampshire were regrouping to gain enough votes to overcome their Democratic governor's veto to make the Granite State the nation's 23rd right- to-work state.

"A movement is afoot, led by common-sense grassroots activists, to put a Right to Work bill before the legislature," Hoogendyk wrote, according to MIRS. "There are several dedicated lawmakers willing to stand up and support such a bill. But there is a question whether there are at least 56 members in the House and 20 in the Senate, (the minimum needed) to get the bill passed."

Hoogendyk continued: "A carefully devised strategy is being developed that will include the need to show as much grass roots support for Right to Work in Michigan as possible. This letter is a call to leaders of every Tea Party, 912, anti-tax, limited-government, pro-liberty organization in the state."

Two bills have been introduced in the state Senate that would allow the creation of right-to-work "zones" in Michigan, Senate Bill-0120 and Senate Bill 0116. Both are similar to, and align with, House Bill 4054.

The RTW zone concept, which allows local cities and counties to adopt their own right-to-work law, is seen as a way for Republican lawmakers to avoid the even greater rancor that would be expected from a full-blown, statewide right-to-work law. However, there are roadblocks for the legislation: Gov. Rick Snyder has said he wouldn't pursue passage of "divisive" issues like right-to-work, and Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville doesn't seem inclined to further the legislation, either.

"I think passing a right-to-work bill in Michigan is going to be an uphill battle," said Michigan Laborers Legislative Director Jonathon Byrd. "Right-to-work is seen as extreme, and Republicans in the state legislature are not as extreme as Hoogendyk.

While it remains to be seen how far right-to-work legislation will move in Michigan, two anti-worker whoppers have already been adopted. One law makes Michigan the first in the nation to permanently reduce the state's unemployment benefit week level from 26 weeks to 20 weeks. The other allows financially failing school districts and municipalities to be placed under an emergency financial manager appointed by the governor, who is basically a dictator able to abrogate union contracts and hire and fire workers at will.

And Byrd said while the legislation to outlaw project labor agreements and anti-prevailing wage legislation is still in the hopper, the building trades' next likely battle will be to help garner support for construction of the second Detroit River bridge.

A new bridge would create thousands of building trades jobs in the U.S. and Canada. The level of support for the new bridge in the state House and Senate remains unclear – deep-pocketed Ambassador Bridge owner Matty Maroun wants to build his own bridge, and he's a major political contributor.

"I think it's the next big fight for the building trades," Byrd said. "It has fast legs, and the governor is pushing it."

USA's 2nd Annual Northern Illinois Sporting Clays Shoot

Union Sportsmen's Alliance

When: Saturday, July 23, 2011
*Registration 8:00 am to 9:00 am Coffee & donuts
Shotgun start 9:30 am*

Where: Northbrook Sports Club
160 Sports Club Drive
Hainesville, Illinois, 60030
847-223-5700

Details: Cold beverages and a buffet-style lunch for every attendee along with awards and drawings for guns and gear.

For more information contact:

Nate Whiteman at NateW@unionsportmen.org
Heather Tazelaar at 877-872-2211

Registration form available at the Union Hall or at www.ibew153.com

ORGANIZER'S REPORT

Troy D. Warner

Last Month we held a salting class at the Union Hall. This is the third class held in the past 14 months, with over 50 total attendees. Salting seems the biggest enigma within our Local Union. We get many questions when people see it in the newsletter or get an announcement about an upcoming class.

"What the heck is Salting?"

First let's start with what Salting is not; **it's not spying, it's not sabotage, it's not stabbing your Union brothers and sisters in the back for a paycheck while you sit on the book waiting for a call.**

Salting is about getting **back to the roots of the IBEW**. It is a return to the beginnings of our organization when there were no union contractors, or nonunion contractors, just contractors. **Members were united as workers to push for better wages and safer conditions.** IBEW members had their membership ticket in their boot and went from contractor to contractor working to educate other workers on the ideals and principals that the IBEW are based.

They understood that only standing together would ALL workers see improvement. They could see that as long as some workers were willing to settle for lower wages and would succumb to pressure from owners an improvement for all was a battle that was futile.

This is the principal objective of Salting. It is about educating workers on their rights, pushing for better wages and safer working conditions. Many times all it takes is a Salt discretely placing the Union wage sheet on the jobsite or a call to the Department of Labor from an anonymous worker on the job to get the entire crew a raise in wages.

Many times these nonunion coworkers do not believe or understand how easy it can be to get these advancements in wages and benefits. They have not experienced the benefit of standing united with other workers for their own betterment.

Every Salt's experience is different; we cannot tell a Salt exactly how they are going to achieve this objective. All that we ask is that the Salt keeps in contact with the hall, let us know who they are working with, the skill levels of their coworkers, where they are working, and what the jobsite issue may be. We want the Salt to be the Union's eyes and ears on the job so that we can pick a good time and place to make that push for better wages and working conditions for those workers, along with making them understand the Union ideals.

The final objective is to gain approval from the entire workforce to take a vote on Union representation. No one Salt or effort is going to achieve this goal; it takes time to build this trust and understanding from those workers. Getting the workers to understand the Union and what the Union stands for and does must be accomplished before any authorization cards will be signed. A good Salt can go a long way towards building this relationship with those workers.

Most Salts have opportunities to regain employment in a Union shop and are not a Salt long enough to gather authorization signatures, but if they can reach out and make just a small difference for their coworkers that can go a long way towards building a foundation upon which a future Union shop is built.

In Solidarity,
Troy Warner
twarner@ibew153.com or 574-532-1011

TRAINING COORDINATOR

Ron Michaelis

JOURNEYMEN TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

What does week 1 of 260 weeks of apprenticeship look like?

Less than 10% of those applying are accepted into apprenticeship, making them a very Elite group. We expect them to act like it, behave like it and prove to their journeymen that they have the proper attitude and deserve to be trained as our future journeymen. They have made the cut and been offered the big money and opportunity of a lifetime. It's now time for this new group to earn their spot; there are no guarantees and no second chances. Attitude will make the difference. So let's look at what their first week of training looks like.

For the past four years all of our new apprentices start their new careers in unpaid hands on "Boot Camp". During this introduction they gain many necessary skills needed to be productive from day one on the job.

The week starts with OSHA 10 hour and basic electrical safety including 70E awareness as the basics to build the rest of the training. Our next step in our hands on training covers romex and steel stud wiring methods, blueprint reading, conduit bending including saddles and offsets. We follow up with cutting in and fishing hollow walls as well as basic electrical circuits.

Moving outside they dig a trench and bend PVC piping to form a precision underground installation. Moving off the ground we test their ladder usage and safety including setting up and moving a 28' extension ladder. Once in the air we continue with a certification in aerial and scissor lift safety as well as fall protection. Our fall protection not only covers safely working overhead but also includes practice performing an aerial rescue.

In a nut shell this is what has been done to prepare these new apprentices before turning them over to you the master craftsman. It is hoped that under your watchful eye they will learn the secrets of our trade. Feedback on this process is always appreciated.

Course Title & Dates		
CPR	Monthly	6 to 9 PM, 2 nd Tues.
1 st Aid	Monthly	6 to 9 PM, Thurs following CPR
OSHA 10 Hour		Email rmichaelis@jadc153.com for an on-line voucher
OSHA 30 Hour		September
Smart Grid Design		August
LED Lighting & Programming		August
Advanced PLC Troubleshooting		September
Crane Signaling Certification		Call
Bucket Truck Certification		Ongoing
Digger Derrick Certification		Ongoing

<http://www.jadc153.com>
**Contact the apprenticeship office for schedule or
to enroll in any of these classes
574-233-1721**

ASSISTANT BUSINESS

MANAGER REPORT - Bill Haase

Are you paying attention! Are you mad yet! Not only is Organized Labor dealing with a slow recovering economy we must deal with two state legislatures that think they have a mandate to destroy organized labor or at least cripple us so that at a later date they can put us out of our misery. Make sure when watching a politician to watch both hands, because like a magician they use distraction to try to fool you. Fiscal responsibility, shared sacrifice and reduce the size of government are being used all while they reduce the taxes on corporations and tax Grandma. Attacks on prevailing wage, bills to enact Right to Work and reduce the right to collectively bargain are being used to justify these so called shared sacrifices. Scare tactics are their main weapon, but we have to be smarter than they are, read the paper, check out information online and watch TV (not Fox) to stay ahead of them. This is not over yet, we need everyone to be ready to jump on a bus to Lansing or Indianapolis on short notice. Numbers of protesters get their attention and remind them that an election is always not too far away.

This local union provides state Labor newspapers to its officers and trustees. The Indiana Labor News has failed and at this time is not published. Michigan has the Building Tradesman that provides state and national labor news that affects those in the construction industry. It is also used by Michigan Building Trades Local Unions as a newsletter to their members. Ask an officer or a trustee of this local union to share his or hers latest edition with you, or if you care to be a subscriber of the Building Tradesman contact me here at the hall, my email is bhaase@ibew153.com.

I was just at the New Buffalo Four Winds Casino and there is activity at the site on the new hotel and convention center area. Pilings are being driven and Rod Busters and Carpenters are on site for footings and such. Operators are removing trees and establishing a new construction entrance from the road behind the Casino There should be a pre-job sometime during the second week of June. As yet we have not heard the full scope of the project, length of the project, or how many electricians will be needed. Stay Tuned!

Other projects are currently in the planning stages and should be bid soon. St Joseph School in South Bend (35 Million) and an addition to the St Joseph High School (26 Million) in St. Joe, Michigan hopefully go our way. There are currently two maintenance contractors at DC Cook, NPS and MTI. Martell Electric also has men onsite upgrading the security system among other projects. An outage at DC Cook is planned for this fall and the contractors there should be hiring towards the end of July/1st of August. This will be followed by a spring outage in 2012, so hopefully some employees will remain between outages to move right into the 2012 outage. Quite a lot of non-outage work is being talked about for 2012 and as the disaster in Japan is evaluated this could cause upgrades to systems for the future at DC Cook. No word on Unit #3.

Where was the spring, one day we had the heat on at the house and the next day we needed to turn on the air conditioning. I hope it is a good summer weather wise and for construction, WE NEED IT!!

In Solidarity,
Bill Haase

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE & JULY 2011			1 <i>June</i>	2 10:00am Statewide Organizers Mtg/Indy 7:00pm LIMO** Bourbon	3 9:00am MI State Conference	4
5	6 10:00am Building Trds 7:00pm Mishawaka City Council 7:00pm SWMI AFL-CIO	7 5:30pm Residential Subcommittee/JATC	8 12:00pm HBA Assoc 4:30pm HELP Committee Mtg/Hall	9 5:00pm Executive Board Mtg	10 8:00am MI Works Benton Harbor	11
12	13 6:00pm Demo Mtg Buchanan 7:00pm Jobs w/Justice Mtg. 7:00pm N Cntr IN AFL-CIO	14 9:00am SWMI Bld. Trades/Kalamazoo 4:00pm EIA/Hall 5:00pm VDV Appr. Subcommittee/JATC 6:00pm CPR/JATC 7:00pm St. Joe County Cncl Mtg	15 10:00am Market Recovery Meeting @ JATC	16 9:30am Mboss @ LU252 4:30pm COPE 6:00pm 1st Aid/JATC	17	18 DAD's Day Poker Run
19 Father's Day	20 10:00am Bld Trades 6:00pm Inside Appr Committee/JATC 7:00pm Mishawaka City Council	21 4:30pm Targeting Committee	22 5:30pm Exam Bd/Hall	23 7:00pm General Membership Mtg	24	25
26	27	28 Michigan State Building & Construction Conf 5:30pm HBA Mtg	29	30 <i>Last day to pay July Union Dues without being considered late</i>	1 <i>July</i>	2
3	4 10:00am Building Trds 7:00pm Mishawaka City Council 7:00pm SWMI AFL-CIO	5 5:30pm Residential Subcommittee/JATC	6 9:00am Retiree Breakfast @ Honkers	7 10:00am Statewide Organizers Mtg/Indy 7:00pm LIMO** Stevensville	8	9
10	11 6:00pm Demo Mtg Buchanan 7:00pm Jobs w/Justice Mtg. 7:00pm N Cntr IN AFL-CIO	12 9:00am SWMI Building Trds/K-Zoo 4:00pm EIA/Hall 5:00pm VDV Subcom/JATC 6:00pm CPR/JATC 7:00pm St. Joe County Cncl Mtg	13 12:00pm HBA Assoc 4:30pm HELP Comm Mtg/Hall Venetian Festival Set-Up in St. Joseph, MI	14 5:00pm Exec Bd Mtg 6:00pm 1st Aid/JATC Venetian Festival →	15	16 HELP Committee Corn & Sausage Roast
17 Venetian Festival	18 10:00am Bld Trades 7:00am Mishawaka City Council 6:00pm Inside Appr Committee/JATC	19 4:30pm Targeting Committee	20	21 9:30am Mboss @ LU252 5:00pm COPE Mtg	22 IBEW 153 Night at the COVE	23
24	25	26	27 5:30pm Exam Board	28 7:00pm General Membership Mtg	29 <i>Last day to pay August Union Dues without being considered late.</i>	30
31	1 <i>August</i> 10:00am Bld Trades 7:00am Mishawaka City Council 6:00pm Inside Appr Committee/JATC	2 5:30pm Residential Subcommittee/JATC	3	4 10:00am Statewide Organizers Mtg/Indy 7:00pm LIMO** Bourbon	5 8:00am MI Works Dowagiac, MI	6

NOTE: A conference may last longer than a day or two, so the day the conference begins is mentioned on its first day and an arrow indicates the date it will end.

** Local Informational Membership and Organizing



IBEW Local 153
1345 Northside Boulevard
South Bend, IN 46615
www.ibew153.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

LIMO - Bourbon

Thursday, June 2

DAD's Day Poker Run

Saturday, June 18

Union Meeting

Thursday, June 23

Retiree Breakfast

Wednesday, July 6

LIMO - Stevensville

Thursday, July 7

Venetian Festival

July 14-17

HELP Corn & Sausage Roast

Saturday, July 16

IBEW LU 153 Night at the Cove

Friday, July 22

LIMO - Stevensville

Thursday, July 7

Local 153 Picnic

Saturday, August 27

Retiree Breakfast

Wednesday, September 7

On-Time Contractors

Thanks to the following Contractors for paying their benefits on-time:

ALLIED ELECTRICAL SERVICES INC	KETELHUT ELECTRIC
AMPLE ELECTRIC	KOONTZ WAGNER ELECTRIC CONST
ATLANTIC PLANT MAINTENANCE	LAPLACE ELECTRIC
BRITE ELECTRIC	LINEAR ELECTRIC
BURKHART ADVERTISING	MARTELL ELECTRIC, LLC
C & K INC	MC DANIEL FIRE SYSTEMS, INC.
COLIP ELECTRIC	MCMANN ELECTRIC INC
COMMUNICATION COMPANY	MEAD & WHITE ELECTRIC CO
CONNECTIVITY & TECHNOLOGY	MOLTER ELECTRIC
CONVERGED COMMUN PARTNERS	MTI
DAY & ZIMMERMAN NPS INC	NORTH AMERICAN SIGNS
ELECTRICAL MAINT & CONSTR	PEMBERTON-DAVIS ELECTRIC, INC
ELECTRICORPE INC	R&D ELECTRIC
ELITE ELECTRICAL LLC	RIVERBEND ELECTRIC
ENYART ELECTRIC MOTOR REPAIR	S&T BANCROFT
ESCO COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	SCHENK LIGHTNING ROD LLC
FAIRCHILD COMMUN SYSTEMS	SCHMITT COMMUNICATIONS INC
GARMAN ELECTRIC	SCHWARTZ ELECTRIC INC
HARTMAN ELECTRIC	SERVICE ONE PROFESSIONAL GROUP
HAVEL BROS INC	SHAMBAUGH & SON, L.P.
HERRMAN & GOETZ INC	SHAUM ELECTRIC INC
IBID COUNTY ELECTRIC	SOUTH BEND ELECTRIC INC
INDUSTRIAL INSTALLATIONS	TOP LINE ELECTRIC
INFRA SOURCE	TRI-CITY DATA & ELECTRONIC
JETTLINE ELECTRIC INC	VANDERHEYDEN TECHNOLOGIES
JKM WIRING	WHIRLPOOL

D.A.D.'s * Day

*Dollars **A**gainst **D**iabetes

Come out on **Saturday, June 18th** to join the fun and help raise money to fight diabetes. The St. Joseph Valley Building Trades will host their annual **D.A.D.'s Day Poker Run**. There will be cash prizes, door prizes, food, beer garden, and music. The event will be held at the South Bend Maennechor Club, located at 219 North Sycamore Street in South Bend. The first bike out will be at 10:00 a.m., last bike back at 5:00 p.m. The after party starts at 4:00 pm with a \$5.00 cover charge, all are welcome!

IBEW Local 153 Picnic

Date: Saturday, August 27, 2011

Time: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Food served at 1:00 pm

Place: Potawatomi Park Picnic Areas 27-31
Located East of the Zoo Parking Lot

Address: 500 S. Greenlawn Ave.
South Bend, IN

Mark your calendar for this year's annual picnic. The Local will provide the main dish, beverages, and table service. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish to share (in a disposable container for easy clean-up!) There will be admission tickets available at the picnic for entry to the zoo. Mark your calendar for a day of family fun and fellowship!

