



# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS **LOCAL 5 NEWS & VIEWS**



VOLUME XXX



IBEW Local 5 Meeting Hall, Training Center, And Headquarters Building 5 Hot Metal Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

APRIL 2007

## John Chalovich Retires

### Michael Dunleavy Appointed Business Manager

At our March 2007 union meeting in Pittsburgh, Executive Board Chairman Michael R. Dunleavy read Business Manager John Chalovich's letter of resignation as Business Manager/Financial Secretary of IBEW Local No. 5.

In his resignation letter John stated, "It has been a great honor and privilege to have been chosen by this great organization to serve our membership as Business Manager / Financial Secretary. I am extremely confident with the officers who are presently serving in the leadership positions, and feel that IBEW Local Union No. 5 will continue to grow and prosper in the years ahead."

John Chalovich then recommended to the Executive Board that President Michael R. Dunleavy be appointed to fill the remainder of the unexpired term of Business Manager / Financial Secretary.

At the Executive Board meeting Michael R. Dunleavy was appointed Business Manager / Financial Secretary, Dennis E. Eicker was appointed President, Thomas McIntyre was appointed Vice President and Leticia M. Fedora was appointed to the Examining Board. All of these motions were properly moved, seconded and passed unani-



Retiring Business Manager John Chalovich congratulates new Business Manager Michael Dunleavy

mously.

**John Chalovich a good Electrician, a Great person**

John began working in the electrical trade in October of 1962 and completed his apprenticeship with Local 5 in 1967. John retires with nearly 45 years in the trade; with 20 years in Local No. 5's office and 9 years as Business Manager / Financial Secretary.

**"I am extremely confident with the officers that are presently serving in the leadership positions and feel that IBEW Local Union No. 5 will continue to grow and prosper in the years ahead."**

John Chalovich was one that always worked hard and tackled the tough jobs. From serving as a member of our Credit

Union in 1974, being General Foreman on PPG place in the 1980's, serving Local 5 as Business Representative, Treasurer, and Vice President-- John

always answered the call and always distinguished himself as a head above the crowd.

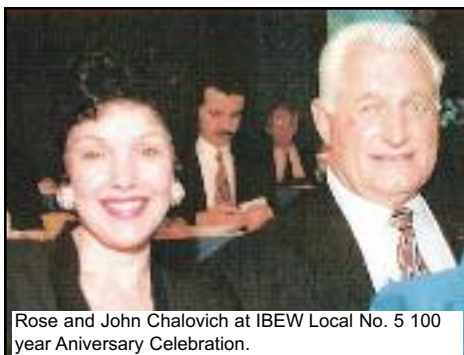
**John tirelessly worked for the betterment of every member**

Whether serving as Vice President of the Pennsylvania Building & Construction Trades Council or the Local 5 Health and Welfare, Apprenticeship, Deferred Compensation, Labor Management or Pension Funds—John always worked with one goal in mind, "how can we make things better for our Electricians?"

**John Chalovich served this Local at every level of government.**

In Southwestern Pennsylvania politics John put Local 5 on the map. Presidential, gubernatorial, senatorial, mayoral, congressional and local leaders all knew whom to call to make things happen—John Chalovich. Because of the strength of our membership, John's pride, commitment and dedication, he served on numerous councils and committees over the years. John served on these boards and committees, not for personal gain, but for the benefit of Local 5.

IBEW Local 5 members, officers and staff wish John, Rose and their three children and grandchildren many healthy and happy years in their retirement!



Rose and John Chalovich at IBEW Local No. 5 100 year Anniversary Celebration.



PPG General Foreman Irv Grunebach, John Chalovich and Don Holland.



John Chalovich and IBEW President Ed Hill.



2005 Labor Day Parade. John Chalovich, Bob Thomas and Mike Dunleavy.

## Corner by Michael Dunleavy

### Business Manager's



I would like to take this opportunity to, once again, thank retired Business Manager/Financial Secretary, John Chalovich. John worked tirelessly on behalf of the membership. His efforts resulted in the construction of our complex in Pittsburgh, the establishment of our current Sick and Disability Program, sub-pay, degreed apprenticeship program, and much more. John's most significant accomplishment, in my estimation, is the level of political involvement that he raised this local to. The lines of communication that he opened, and relationships that he developed, will benefit the membership well into the future.

While on the subject of relationships, political or otherwise, I would like to assure the members that the relationships that have been established by John will continue forward. One of the benefits of cultivating officers to fill voids left by retirement, is that the successors are prepared for the demands of the office. There is no learning curve, no loss of relationships, and no missteps due to lack of experience. There is only continued movement forward with the addition of some new perspective and ideas.

As you are aware, former Vice President, Dennis E. Eicker, has assumed the Office of President, and former Manpower Coordinator, Thomas

R. McIntyre, Jr. has assumed the Office of Vice President. Both of these brothers were well prepared, in advance, for their new responsibilities. Former Examining Board Member, Michael W. Varholla has assumed the position of Manpower Coordinator, while Leticia M. Fedora was appointed to the Examining Board. You may wonder what brought Brother Varholla and Sister Fedora to the forefront for consideration. The answer is very simple. They attend union meetings; they attend and volunteer at the Idlewild Picnic and Labor Day Parade; they teach apprenticeship; they participate in the PAC Fund. When called on by the Local Union, they are always available. They reported to work whenever called, and went wherever they were dispatched. They know their trade well and are very cooperative and productive. In short, they are examples of what a Local Union No. 5 member should aspire to be.

To conclude, I would like to assure all members that I, along with the other officers and staff, will continue the tradition of our predecessors; most recently, John Chalovich, of tirelessly working on behalf of the members. We look forward to working with you toward our common goals of full employment, increased market share, and improving our standard of living.

### Michael R. Dunleavy Appointed Business Manager

Michael R. Dunleavy was appointed to fulfill the unexpired term of John Chalovich as Business Manager/Financial Secretary. Mike is a third generation electrician initiated into Local Union No. 5 in 1980. He served as President of Local Union No. 5 from 2001 to 2007; Recording Secretary from 1997 to 2001; Assistant Business Manager from 1996 to 2007; Executive Board Member from 1988 to 1991 and from 1997 through March of 2007 having held the positions of Executive Board Secretary and Chairman. Additionally, Mike serves as a Trustee of the WPEE Pension and Insurance Trust Fund, Wage and Fringe Benefit Trust Fund and Deferred Compensation Plan along with being a board member of the Joint Apprenticeship Committee, Scholarship Trust Fund, Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC), Industry Advancement Program Committee, Political Action Committee and Picnic Committee. He has also represented the IBEW and Local Union No. 5 as an Auditor for the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO and as a labor representative on the Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board (TRWIB).

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

### Dennis Eicker Appointed President



Dennis E. Eicker has been appointed President to take over the presidential duties previously performed by Michael R. Dunleavy.

Denny previously served on the Executive Board as Vice President. Denny is the Business Agent and Manpower Coordinator for Washington, Greene, Fayette and Somerset Counties. Denny currently serves on the National Safety Council, Governors Occupational Safety and Hazard Committee, WorkSAFE PA Advisory Board as well as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Pittsburgh Building and Construction Trades Council. Dennis Eicker was initiated into IBEW Local No. 5 in 1976.

### Thomas McIntyre Appointed Vice President and Allegheny County Agent



Thomas R. McIntyre, Jr. has been appointed to take over the Vice Presidential duties formerly performed by Dennis Eicker. Tom will become an Allegheny County Business Agent whose duties were previously performed by Michael R. Dunleavy.

Tom McIntyre most recently served as the Manpower Coordinator for the Pittsburgh Book. Tom was initiated into Local No. 5 in 1984. Prior to his appointment of Manpower Coordinator he served on the Examining Board.

### Michael Varholla Appointed to Manpower Coordinator



Michael W. Varholla has been appointed to take over the Manpower Coordinator duties formerly performed by Thomas R. McIntyre, Jr.

Michael Varholla most recently served on the Examining Board as well as Chairman of the Labor Day Parade Committee. Michael has been active with the NJATC as an instructor and is a 2004 Graduate of the National Training Institute for the NJATC. Mike was initiated into Local No. 5 in 1996.

### Leticia Fedora Appointed to Examining Board



Leticia M. Fedora has been appointed to the Examining Board.

Since becoming a Journeyman Wireman Leticia has been active with the NJATC as an instructor and is a 2003 Graduate of the National Training Institute for the NJATC. Leticia has been a Muscular Dystrophy Association telethon volunteer for the past 9 years and is President of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Chapter of Newborns in Need. Leticia was initiated into IBEW Local No. 5 in 1995.

# Active Members 20 To 45 Year Service Pin Recipients



## 20 YEAR PINS

L to R: Jon K. Beley, Lenard J. Verdetto, Jr., Thomas N. Branthoover, Dennis M. Conroy, David C. Schumacher, Mark E. Fry, Steven J. Heinl, Samuel J. Sprowls Standing: President Michael R. Dunleavy, Vernon C. Fordyce, Dean E. Hill, Dale W. Kitzky, Jr., Carl N. Thomas, Richard J. Rodgers, James B. Terrieri, Wayne E. Williams & Business Manager John Chalovich.



## 25 YEAR PINS

L to R: William E. Harper, Michael A. Hoffman, Robert M. Kostilnik, John A. Rankin, Michael A. Marini, Mark A. Pryor, Mark T. Staudt, John D. Wauthier, Michael J. Janosco. Standing: President Michael R. Dunleavy, Walter J. Bentley, II, Jay C. Black, James P. Beck, Mark A. Colpo, Richard A. Dunkel, Richard H. Fitterer, James J. Hoffman, Barry M. Ford & Business Manager John Chalovich.



## 30 YEAR PINS

L to R: Robert E. Kelly, Elmer H. Palmer, Edward H. Seibert, Jr., Eddie N. McCorvey, Salvatore T. Bianco, William E. Jacob. Standing: President Michael R. Dunleavy, Robert J. Guenther, Michael C. Conroy, Michael E. Doerfler, James R. Richter, Scott T. Hay, Dennis E. Eicker & Business Manager John Chalovich.



## 35 YEAR PINS

L to R: Edward D. Abram, William J. Biggs, Robert K. Kutz, Jr., Terrence V. Thorsen, Robert B. Ergler, Jr., Robert J. Kearns Gregory L. Rodden Standing: President Michael R. Dunleavy, John Ednie, Jr., Duane E. Wist, Robert A. Peters, Emil H. Low, Robert A. Thomas, Robert H. Pennington, Walter G. Fleeger & Business Manager John Chalovich.



## 40 YEAR PINS

President - Michael R. Dunleavy, Michael F. Staudt & Business Manager John Chalovich

### TWENTY YEAR PINS

Thomas G. Anderson	Terrence E. Hanlon	Robert J. McCort	Carl N. Thomas
John K. Beley	Rodney C. Heard	Harry A. Meyer	Tim R. Tyler
Darryl L. Branchen	Steven J. Heinl	Robert K. Quairiere	Leonard J. Verdetto, Jr.
Timothy N. Branthoover	Dean E. Hill	Richard J. Rodgers	James S. Volzer
Clifford E. Coates, Jr.	Robert S. Horrell	Robert M. Ross, Jr.	Bradley G. Wardle
Dennis M. Conroy	George D. Hughes	Paul G. Rost	Edward J. Watts
William J. Dillon	Keith M. Keller	Jeffrey D. Sardon	Myrle F. Webb, III
Vernon C. Fordyce	Donald E. Kendi	David C. Schumacher	Wayne F. Williams
Mark E. Fry	Kris T. Kennedy	Thomas M. Seigh	John W. Zehala
Barry A. Galczynski	Dale W. Kitzky, Jr.	Kenneth P. Simon	Richard Zigarovich
Eugene C. Gaughf	Joseph F. Konopka	Samuel J. Sprowls	James W. Zunic
George J. Gehringer	David M. Long	Peter F. Sustar	
Glenn W. Gross	John D. Maas, Jr.	James B. Terrieri	

### TWENTY FIVE YEAR PINS

Joseph J. Augello	Richard A. Dunkel	Donald D. Humphries, Jr.	John A. Rankin
James P. Beck	Dirk C. Eckert	Michael J. Janosco	Richard S. Schumm
Walter J. Bentley, II	Arthur J. Edmunds, Jr.	Ronald L. Jones	Daniel G. Senge
Wayne K. Betz	Ronald G. Egnot	Robert M. Kostilnik	Jayne D. Simms
Jay C. Black	Brian J. Ferne	George T. Leary, III	Gerald M. Stamper
Alan S. Branchen	Richard H. Fitterer	Mathew S. Linder	Mark T. Staudt
Gary E. Braun	Barry M. Ford	Richard A. Marini	Clyde E. Steward, IV
Eric M. Brendel	Dennis J. Frattini	Paul L. Meyers	Timothy W. Stockdill
Dale O. Brown, Sr.	Frank A. Gus, II	Richard A. Moon	Joseph C. Styslinger
Mark R. Celani	Donald S. Goodman	Donald V. Morrison	Craig R. Thomas
Jeffrey R. Chapman	Daniel T. Guthrie	Edward L. O'Kain	Joseph D. Washell, Jr.
Mark A. Colpo	William E. Harper	Nicholas J. Pacellio	John D. Wauthier
Robert L. Day	William Heckathorn, Jr.	Douglas P. Plance	Jeffrey H. White
Earl R. Dolan	Michael A. Hoffman	Mark A. Pryor	Eli M. Zorich
Richard V. Duffy, Jr.	James J. Hoffman		

### THIRTY YEAR PINS

Gerald G. Beach	Dennis E. Eicker	Robert E. Kelly	William J. Schollaert
Barry T. Bell	Paul E. Emert	William L. Kerrigan	Thomas H. Schunk
Salvatore T. Bianco	Robert A. Ferne	Gregory N. Kough	Edward H. Seibert, Jr.
Donald R. Bitters	Gilbert J. Glessner	Michael A. Lynn	John H. Terhorst, Jr.
Michael C. Conroy	Robert J. Guenther	Paul J. Malecki	Thomas N. Whitesell
Theodore Costanzo, Jr.	Scott T. Hay	Eddie N. McCorvey	Dewitt C. Wiley
James L. Darr	Wayne E. Hay	Elmer H. Palmer	Harry W. Wolfhope
Michael E. Doerfler	Thomas P. Henne	James R. Richter	
Joseph C. Dornetto	William E. Jacob		

### THIRTY FIVE YEAR PINS

Edward D. Abram	Richard Gaertner	Lawrence G. Lott	William F. Schneider
William J. Biggs	Charles R. Hanlon	Emil H. Low	Russell J. Sole
William R. Bitters	George R. Hilliard	John W. Mathews, Jr.	Robert A. Thomas
David A. Duffill	Larry R. Huffman	Roger M. Messmer	Terrence V. Thorsen
John Ednie, Jr.	James E. John	Charles R. Neff	Clarence L. Uhlig, Jr.
Robert B. Ergler, Jr.	Albert R. Johnson	Nicholas R. Palmer	Michael R. Waselko
Stephen P. Eury	Robert J. Kearns	Robert H. Pennington	Patrick G. Weber
Walter G. Fleeger	Robert K. Kutz, Jr.	Robert A. Peters	Duane E. Wist
David H. Frick	Hubert E. Lanier	Gregory L. Rodden	Carl T. Witzberger

### FORTY YEAR PINS

John C. Lorenz                      Michael F. Staudt                      Wayne B. Wilson

### FORTY FIVE YEAR PINS

Warren B. Osborne, Sr.                      Richard S. Rectenwald

# Local No. 5 Endorsed Candidates 2007 Primary Election Tuesday, May 15th

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Allegheny County Executive  
Dan Onorato (D)**

**Pittsburgh Mayor  
Luke Ravenstahl (D)**

**Allegheny County DA  
Stephen A. Zappala, Jr (D)**

**Supreme Court  
Seamus McCaffery (D)**



Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato with Retired Business Manager John Chalovich



Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl with Business Manager Michael R. Dunleavy



Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen Zappala with President Dennis E. Eicker



Pennsylvania Supreme Court Candidate Seamus McCaffery with Recording Secretary Thomas H. Higgins

## Allegheny County

**Chief Executive**  
**District Attorney**  
**County Controller**  
**Treasurer**  
**Court of Common Pleas**  
**Court of Common Pleas**  
**Court of Common Pleas**  
**Court of Common Pleas**

**Dan Onorato**  
**Stephen A. Zappala, Jr.**  
**Mark Patrick Flaherty**  
**John Weinstein**  
**Kelly Eileen Bigley**  
**Cathleen Bubash**  
**Mike McCarthy**  
**Joseph Williams**

**Sheriff**  
**County Council At Large**  
**County Council Dist. 5**  
**County Council Dist. 6**  
**County Council Dist. 7**  
**County Council Dist. 9**  
**County Council Dist. 11**  
**County Council Dist. 12**

**Bill Mullen**  
**John DeFazio**  
**Vince Gastgeb**  
**Joan Cleary**  
**Nick Futules**  
**Bob Macey**  
**Rich Fitzgerald**  
**Bill Lestitian**

## Pittsburgh

**Mayor**  
**Controller**

**Luke Ravenstahl**  
**Tony Pokora**

**City Council Dist. 1**  
**City Council Dist. 3**

**Darlene Harris**  
**Jeff Koch**

**City Council Dist. 7** **Len Bodack**  
**City Council Dist. 9** **Leah Kirkland**

### School Board

**Bill Isler**  
**Dan Romaniello**  
**Stephanie Tecza**

### Baldwin Whitehall School Board

**Kevin Fischer**  
**Jane Hunnewell**  
**Greg Zeman**

## Butler County

**Commissioner** **Scott Lowe (R)**  
**Court of Common Pleas** **Kelly Streib (D&R)**  
**District Attorney** **Randa Clark (R)**

## Westmoreland County

**Commissioner** **Tom Balya (D)** **Recorder of Deeds** **Tom Murphy (D)**  
**Commissioner** **Tom Ceraso (D)** **Sheriff** **Chris Scherer (D)**  
**Controller** **Carmen Pedicone (D)** **District Attorney** **John Peck (D)**  
**Treasurer** **Kathalyn O'Brien (D)** **Clerk of Courts** **David Patterson (D)**  
**Regiser of Wills** **Earl S. Keim (D)** **Prothonotary** **Ron Diehl (D)**

# Local No. 5 Endorsed Candidates

## PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

Supreme Court Seamus McCaffery  
 Supreme Court Debra Todd  
 Superior Court Christine Donohue  
 Superior Court Ron Folino

## Cambria County

Commissioner P.J. Stevens  
 Commissioner Milan Gjurich  
 Commissioner Kathy Holtzman  
 Controller Ed Cernic, Jr.

### Johnstown City Council

William Gentile  
 Frank Janocovich  
 David Waynewright  
 Brian Valtic

## Blair County

Commissioner JoAnn Nardelli (D)  
 Commissioner Rod Bohner (D)  
 Commissioner Barry Wright (R)  
 Commissioner Thomas Morgan (R)  
 District Magistrate Steve Jackson (D&R)

### Altoona Area School Board

Ticky Hendricks  
 Mary Kimmel  
 Liang Bartkowiak  
 James Walstrom  
 Mary Ann Joyce Bistline

### Logan Township Supervisor

Dr. Frank Meloy (R)  
 Patricia Raugh (R)  
 Dave Hoover (D)

## Clearfield County

Commissioner Mark McCracken  
 Commissioner Rex Read  
 District Attorney Bill Shaw Jr.

## Armstrong County

Commissioner Rich Fink

## Indiana County

Commissioner Patricia Evanko  
 Commissioner Tony Moretti  
 County Auditors Rebecca Medvetz  
 County Auditors Helen Olechovsai-Hill  
 District Attorney Thomas Bianco  
 District Magistrate Jennifer Rega

### Indiana School Board

Ronald Airhart  
 Joe Trimarchi  
 Bo McCardle



## International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers LOCAL UNION NO. 5

5 HOT METAL STREET, SUITE 400, PITTSBURGH, PA 15203-2365  
 PHONE: (412) 432-1400 FAX: (412) 432-1498

March, 2007

Dear Member:

We are pleased to inform you that we are planning a "2007 I.B.E.W. LOCAL NO. 5 FAMILY PICNIC" to be held on SATURDAY, JUNE 16th, 2007 at IDLEWILD PARK located in the beautiful Laurel Highlands, Ligonier, Pennsylvania from 10:00 a.m. to closing.

New at Idlewild for "2007" is a new ride called the Flying Aces. "Earn your Wings" piloting an open-air cockpit to become one of Idlewild's newest flying aces! After your high-flight adventure, try a tasty Charley Biggs' Chicken meal (don't forget the dipping sauce) at the Back Porch Restaurant or tempt your taste buds at Pacific Traders with some awesome Asian cuisine. Come and join us for a day of fun and relaxation! Idlewild is what family fun is all about!

The discounted cost per person is \$13.00, which Local 5 will pay \$10.00 towards each ticket purchased, leaving you a total cost of \$3.00 for each adult member, their spouse and children ages 3 thru 18. (Children 2 years and under are admitted to the park free). Children over 18 and grandchildren age 3 and over must pay the full rate of \$13.00. Please send a check or money order only made payable to "IBEW LOCAL UNION NO. 5" for your ticket purchases along with your attendance card. Please try to return your ticket order and money NO LATER THAN MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> so that we can order the park entry tickets early but orders will also be accepted after May 1st.

Refreshment tickets totaling \$3.00 will accompany each ticket order. As in the past, there will be bingo games and raffles held throughout the day.

We hope to see you and your family on June 16<sup>th</sup> for a day of fun. You won't want to miss it!

Fraternally yours,

IBEW LOCAL UNION NO. 5

*John Chalovich*  
 John Chalovich  
 Business Manager



VisionMakers, the only UNION, LOCALLY OWNED, full service optical center in Western Pa has increased their commitment to all Union's members by moving into the Greater Pennsylvania Regional Council of Carpenters building effective Jan. 1, 2007.

Your vision benefits go further at VisionMakers more than any other optical office in Western, Pa. At VisionMakers you get:

- \* Comprehensive Eye Exam and glaucoma test by Dr. Robert Hanak O.D.
- \* Over 400 of the latest, fashionable frames to choose from.
- \* Quality single vision, bifocal & standard no line progressives lenses.
- \* For active members you also receive prescription safety eyewear. You can choose from one of the largest selections available.

Also, available to you and your family in addition to your benefits:

- \* Discounts on upgrades in designer frames, lenses, UV coating, transition lenses, tints and more.
- \* Lastly, you have a 100% satisfaction guarantee, that you don't pay extra for.

VisionMakers goal is your complete satisfaction; therefore none of VisionMakers employees are paid a commission to sell you something you don't want or need.

Call today for an appointment and see how far your vision benefits go. (412-788-4664)

## REPORT OF LEGAL COUNCIL - JOSHUA M. BLOOM

As you may have heard, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill called the Employee Free Choice Act (H.R. 800) by a vote of 241-185. This bill will be introduced in the U.S. Senate very soon.

The Employee Free Choice Act permits employees to select a union as their exclusive representative by demonstrating that more than 50% of them have signed authorization cards. It also requires the union and the employer to undergo binding arbitration for the first contract if they cannot reach a voluntary agreement.

Today, if the employer chooses, the employees must undergo a secret ballot election that takes place approximately 45 days after an election petition is filed with the National Labor Relations Board. During the 45 days (campaign time) employers have the ability to coerce, intimidate, and scare the employees away from voting for the union. Also, these elections typically take place at the employer's premises which can be very intimidating for individuals who have not worked in a union setting.

It is estimated that every 23 minutes a worker is illegally fired or discriminated against for supporting a union in the United States. The Center for Economic and Policy Research released a report in January of 2007 that found that 1 in 5 union supporters are terminated during an

election campaign. These statistics are consistent with what I have witnessed as a union attorney.

The Employee Free Choice Act would substantially remedy this problem by essentially keeping the company out of an employee's decision to join a union. However, President George W. Bush has threatened to veto this Bill. He and other Republicans claimed that this Act would hurt workers. This is an insult to the intelligence of working people (union members statistically make 30% more than non-union).

The Employee Free Choice Act would enable your union to level the playing field with contractors and employers who underbid your employer. This would substantially increase your union's ability to negotiate better wage and benefit packages for you. However, it will not pass without substantial effort. I respectfully urge you to exclusively support presidential, senate, and representative candidates who guarantee that they will vote in favor of the Employee Free Choice Act.

*Joshua M. Bloom, Legal Counsel of Local 5 can be reached at: (412) 288-6000.*



## HARRISBURG REPORT - BOB BELEFANTI

In March, Democrats in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, who won control of the chamber in November's election, announced that their legislative agenda for the 2007-08 legislative session will focus heavily on improving the lives of working Pennsylvanians and their families.

Already this year, House Democrats led the effort to develop and adopt the most sweeping legislative reforms in decades. Now we want to focus on using that new approach – one that is more open, accountable and responsible to the people – to tackle the problems that working men and women in Pennsylvania have been asking us to address for the past 12 years.

In addition to issues that all Pennsylvanians want to see addressed – property tax cuts, affordable access to health insurance and health care, quality schools and an excellent transportation system, I will be using my position as Majority Chairman of the Labor Relations Committee to also focus on the issues most important to working men and women.

That means creating more jobs, preserving the jobs we already have for Pennsylvania workers and ensuring workers are safe and fairly compensated, wherever they work. Toward that end, my committee will be pursuing action in a number of important areas this session, including, prohibiting mandatory overtime for health-care workers, providing an automatic minimum wage COLA, and requiring sprinklers in state-regulated facilities.

The Labor Relations Committee will also be sending legislation to the full House that would ensure Pennsylvania veterans, the elderly and physically and mentally handicapped adults and children are safe by requiring older veterans' homes, nursing homes, assisted living centers, personal care homes and other facilities where care-dependent people live to have automatic sprinkler systems and other fire protection systems. The legislation would set up a revolving loan fund to help facility owners pay for these improvements, which in the long run will save residents' lives and owners' money through lower insurance costs and reduced property damage.

Finally, we will be working with other committees and legislators to protect consumers in a variety of ways, including from unscrupulous contractors, unchecked utility hikes, identity theft and more.

In the spirit of reform, the Labor Relations Committee and other committees chaired by House Democrats will be looking to the people of Pennsylvania to guide these proposals as we hold hearings on these and other initiatives throughout the state. We also will be looking to move the issues important to working families forward on a bipartisan basis.

*Rep. Robert E. Belfanti, Jr. is the Chairman of the House Labor Relations Committee and an Electrician from IBEW Local No. 607, Shamokin. PA.*



# The North Shore Connector Needs Our Support

By Jason Fincke, Executive Director  
Builders Guild of Western Pennsylvania

Opportunities to build significant projects and facilities with public funds don't come along too often. Opportunities to build projects with 80 percent federal funding are even rarer. In fact, because of recent changes in federal surface transportation policies, it may never happen again for public transportation projects.

That is why it is so baffling how this region can struggle with the decision to fund the North Shore Connector, a major public transit project that will link Downtown Pittsburgh with more than \$1 billion of new and planned development on the city's North Shore. The extension of the Port Authority of Allegheny County's highly popular light rail transit system is not only an exciting project in its own right, but it presents an opportunity to extend the T to other parts of Allegheny County, including the North Hills Corridor and/or Greater Pittsburgh International Airport.

Light rail has proven throughout the country to be a great generator of economic development. Cities all across the nation, from Boston to Atlanta, from St. Louis to Denver, from Portland to San Diego, are building and using rail systems to attract developers and businesses to their neighborhoods. Pittsburgh should be no exception.

Unlike bus routes which are subject to change with little notice (witness what's happening right now at the Port Authority), rail systems convey a permanence which make them highly marketable and attractive to developers. One only has to look in Downtown Pittsburgh at the major skyscrapers to see how they are all closely located next to a T station. That was no coincidence, as was neither more recent construction of PNC and Mellon Bank's Operations Centers above and adjacent to the First Avenue and Steel Plaza subway stations.

This is not to mean that we should quickly look to invest our public funds in any transit project. They are expensive and can result in additional operating expenses for transit properties and their funding partners. But the long term benefits to a region can be highly lucrative and easily justify their construction, even during difficult financial times.

That is why we should not allow the current operating funding problems at the Port Authority to sway support for this project. The benefits that this region will receive from the North Shore Connector will span generations.

It is also important that our elected officials fulfill their responsibility to

make sure that the investments that go into projects like the North Shore are protected and well spent. Limiting additional funding to complete this project may sound politically correct, but it may serve only to threaten the project's completion and short and long term success. And, unfortunately, that is precisely what is being attempted by the Allegheny County Council and by the Pennsylvania Senate.

Last year, Allegheny County Council passed a resolution to provide no additional funds for the North Shore Connector over and above what has already been committed. State Senator Jane Orie also recently sponsored a non-binding resolution to do the same with state funds. Such actions are not prudent nor in the best interest of this region.

When the Port Authority's Downtown subway was under construction in the early 1980s, the transit agency was also facing enormous operating deficits and proposing substantial fare increases and service reductions. Just as is the case today, questions were raised as to how the subway could be built under those circumstances. Fortunately, our elected officials understood the long-term benefits of the subway and its importance to sustaining employment and development in the Golden Triangle. It also understood that funds to build the subway could not

be used by law for other projects or to pay expenses in the Port Authority operating budget. That is still the case today.

Should the North Shore Connector be canceled, the 80 percent federal funds that will be used to build it will be reallocated to other cities across the country. It will have no impact on the amount of taxes you pay and you will derive no benefit from them.

All members of the building trades need to support funding for this valuable transportation infrastructure improvement. It will not only lead to future development, but it will provide meaningful employment for thousands of local workers. Write your county and state elected officials and let them know of your support for this project. Some tax dollars are worth spending. Other cities have recognized this. It is time we do, as well.



**From the North** by Bob Thomas



Lighthouse Electric Crew Victory Park, MEDRAD project. L to R: Chris Etzel, John Gonzales, Kurt Reimstein, Dan Gill, Josh Reinert, Paul Guenther, Greg Achilles, Joe Paesano, Denny Sabot, Dean Labby, Bob Haley, and Ron Hertzler.



Right Electric Crew Building 600, Cranberry Woods L to R: Justin Hankey, Bob Steiner, Mark Carson, Sam Barone, and John McDonough.

**From the Near - North** by Rich Dunkel



Front (L To R) Greg Zimmerman, Sam Eppolito, Rick Walker, Dave Massar, Jennifer Czapik. Standing (L To R) Greg Rickabaugh, Bob Kucmeroski, John Borsato, Gerry Esquino, Mike Martin, Ron Moye.



Miller Electric crew at Siemens in Upper Burrell, PA.

**From the North** by Bob Kutz



Gameassa Crew at Blue Knob. L to R: Dave Rackowsky, Dan Kenney, Bob Burley, Tom Pappas, Larry Bender, John Krejnas & Jack Horner.



McCrossin Electric Crew, Altoona Jr. High School. L to R: Bill Edelblute, Dave Fuchs, Bruce Cogan, Butch Fyock, Dennis Rio, Dale Rose, Steve Bettwy, Lee Truby and Mike Wood.

**From the Far North - East** by Jeff Miller



ELCO Electric crew at GKN Powdered Metals, Emporium, PA. L to R: Jeff Dunn, Cory Shelander, Eric Leathers, Jason Gerg & Matt Vaughn



Pure Tech Inc crew at Felt Nursing Home, Emporium, PA. L to R: Steve Cornelius, Jim Copeland & Dan Drummond

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**YOUR CREDIT UNION HAS MONEY FOR YOU WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU**

Your IBEW LU NO. 5 FEDERAL CREDIT UNION is continuing its no closing cost 6.5% Home Equity Loan Special.

Qualifying applicants will enjoy free life insurance for the term of the loan.

Now borrow up to \$50,000.00 for seven years to clear up your high interest credit cards and loans and to complete those home-remodeling projects you've been planning.

Contact your Credit Union 9:30 to 3:00 PM Daily and 7:00 to 9:00 PM Monday and Thursday to apply. We can usually OK your loan within the week and have the money in your hands within 10 days. Remember all of our loans include free life insurance and no closing or extra costs.

Our annual meeting will be held this year on Friday Evening, May 4 at Gaetano's Restaurant, Banksville Road, South Hills.

Please let us know if you plan to attend.

**IBEW LU #5  
Federal Credit Union  
412-432-1152**

**ATTENTION GOLFERS**

We are starting our 31st year and there are still some people who don't realize that we are here. We are just a group of electricians who like to play golf. We are inviting you to join this group on a Saturday morning for a round of golf. We play once a month, May thru September. You can golf in one outing or all of the outings. We have no entry fees or dues to pay.

The only thing you pay for is the outing itself. At this time, our outing fee is \$60. With that \$60 you will get a prime tee time (usually at 9am), 18 holes of golf, cart, a snack at the turn, dinner, and some liquid refreshments. We have prizes for low score, with handicap, in two flights and we also offer skill prizes for closest to the pins, longest drive and longest putt. There are also prizes for the skins competition, and there is even one for the most honest golfer.

If you golf at all, you can see that this is a great deal. We welcome anyone who enjoys the game of golf. We welcome you if you are a scratch golfer or a 30 handicap. We do have a handicap system that you will be a part of after your first round with us. We are here to have some fun and enjoy the friendship of our fellow electricians and guests. We do welcome guests. The only thing we have to watch is the number of tee times that we have available. So if you have been thinking about coming out on a Saturday and playing some golf, why not bring a friend or come by yourself and join us for one or all of our outings. Hope to see you soon.

**If you have any questions or want to receive one of our mailing just call Bob Guenther at 412-849-1988 or see anyone who golfs with us now.**

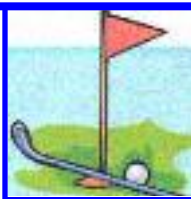
**2007 GOLF OUTINGS**

<b>May 19th</b>	<b>Oak Lake Golf Course, New Kensington</b>
<b>June 23rd</b>	<b>Lake Arthur Golf Course, off 422 near Butler</b>
<b>July 21st</b>	<b>Donegal Highlands Golf Course, Off Turnpike at Donegal exit</b>
<b>August 18th</b>	<b>Ponderosa Golf Course, Route 168 near Hookstown</b>
<b>September 22nd</b>	<b>Linden Hall, Route 51 south near Perryopolis(Tentative for September)</b>



## BEST WISHES TO PENSIONERS

The officers, and members of Local 5 congratulate these newly retired members and wish them a long and healthy retirement:



### January 2007

Larry Bell                      Edward N. Kinsey                      Richard A. Wagner

### February 2007

Alan M. Ackley                      Andrew J. Perhach                      Robert J. Pudis

### March 2007

Terry L. Becker                      John Chalovich                      Andrew J. Galioto  
Albert J. Gooch                      George R. Hilliard                      James R. Slater  
Samuel E. Vaughan                      George E. Wardle, Jr.                      Carl T. Witzberger  
John W. Wolford

## IN FRATERNAL MEMORY

### Deceased Retired Members

Frank A. Gaus, Jr.                      Mar. 7, 1922 - Jan. 10, 2007  
James W. Lohr                      Feb. 24, 1934 - Jan. 10, 2007  
Richard A. Smith                      Dec. 29, 1927 - Jan. 31, 2007  
Charles A. Westhoven                      Jan. 12, 1929 - Feb. 7, 2007  
Thomas J. Yurczak                      May 3, 1946 - Feb. 18, 2007  
Joseph E. Waller, Jr.                      Oct. 31, 1956 - Feb. 19, 2007  
Charles W. Siefert                      June 20, 1920 - Feb. 25, 2007  
Harvey J. McClelland                      Apr. 10, 1925 - Feb. 25, 2007  
William J. Linden                      Sep. 26, 1937 - Mar. 29, 2007  
Edward R. Doerfler                      May 28, 1928 - Mar. 31, 2007

### Deceased Active Members

Leroy J. Smith                      Aug. 10, 1949 - Mar. 31, 2007

## BLOOD BANK DONORS FIRST QUARTER 2007

Local 5 thanks our quarterly blood donors for their "gift of life" to others:

Allen, Brady J.                      Debar, William R.                      Hackett, Patrick F.                      Lucas, John A.  
Baux, Christopher M.                      Donahue, Lori A.                      Hamlin, Kenneth D.                      Maceno, Daniel A.  
Beley, Janine A.                      Eiben, Thomas L.                      Harman, Herbert H.                      Marti, David E.  
Beley, Joseph E.                      Eicker, Dennis E.                      Hazard, Jeffrey P.                      Miskovich, Susan R.  
Beley, Neal J.                      Emert, Robert D.                      Herron, Michael J.                      Neubert, Gerald H.  
Bence, Gary L.                      Erbrecht, Stephanie                      Hienz, Travis J.                      Norbutt, Joseph A.  
Black, Catherine B.                      Ergler, Robert B.                      Hogan, Damon W.                      Orchard, James H.  
Black, Jay C.                      Falkosky, Joseph C.                      Holtzman, Lawrence G.                      Patton, Darrell W.  
Blakeman, Eric J.                      Fleeger, Florence C.                      Immekus, Daniel J.                      Pillion, Thomas J.  
Bombalski, Arthur D.                      Gaertner, Karen A.                      Jones, Patrick I.                      Plance, Cindy L.  
Branchen, Daniel L.                      Gieder, Matthew J.                      Kassander, Aaron J.                      Quinten, Larry M.  
Brown, Richard L.                      Gigler, James R.                      Kimmick, David M.                      Schiffer, Douglas T.  
Brugos, Brian J.                      Goetz, Kevin J.                      Kirby, Ryan S.                      Shimko, Robert M.  
Buch, John A.                      Goncus, Justin M.                      Kopta, Robert P.                      Sipe, Barbara M.  
Chalovich, John                      Grabb, Derrick A.                      Labyoda, Scott L.                      Sipes, James W.  
Coates, Karen J.                      Grady, Susanne F.                      Larson, Duane A.                      Thomas, Donald A.  
Comer, Jason G.                      Gruber, Thomas E.                      Lemons, Robert J.                      Waigand, Thomas W.  
Cousins, Richard W.                      Guthrie, Stacy J.                      Logan, Colton E.                      Wightkin, Joseph M.  
Craig, William J.                      Guzzi, Shawn M.                      Long, Richard A.                      Williams, Michael  
Creamer, Steven M.

## Reminders And Helpful Hints On Benefits

### W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund Sickness And Disability Benefits

When you are receiving sickness and disability benefits, as soon as your doctor releases you to return to work, it is imperative that you call the Fund Office at 412-432-1125 or 1-877-782-1410 to notify the benefits administrator of your status.

If you neglect to do so, and you accept benefits in which you are not entitled to, it will become your responsibility to refund the total amount of those benefits to the Fund.

### W.P.E.E. Deferred Compensation Plan Supplement to Unemployment Benefits (S.U.B.)

When first applying for S.U.B., along with your application from the Fund Office, you will need to provide proof that you have received two weeks of "State Unemployment Benefits." Failure to do so will result in a delay of you receiving your benefit from the plan, (Enclose a copy of your unemployment checks with

your application to the Fund Office.)

Once your application has been approved by the Plan's benefit administrator, it will take PNC Bank five to ten business days to administer your first benefit check. If you are entitled to additional weekly benefit checks, these too will be administered by PNC Bank every five to ten business days.

**Please understand, for first-time S.U.B. applicants only**, from the day you receive your first check from the "State Unemployment Office" to the final processing of your application with the Plan's benefit office, it will take approximately five weeks before you receive your first benefit check from the Plan office through PNC Bank.

When a Manpower Coordinator has called you to be sent on a job, whether it be for a "short hit" or a long term work period, you are required to promptly call the Plan's benefit administrator at 412-432-1125 or 1-877-782-1410 with this information.

### Business Agents Home Numbers

Richard Dunkel . . . . . 724-334-4295  
Dennis Eicker . . . . . 412-432-1400  
Thomas Higgins . . . . . 724-941-6551  
Robert Kutz . . . . . 814-941-2776  
Jeffrey Miller . . . . . 814-674-5625  
Robert Thomas . . . . . 724-287-2104  
Thomas McIntyre . . . . . 412-854-1148

### Organizers Home Numbers

William Garner . . . . . 412-793-4649  
Thomas O'Donnell . . . . . 724-523-9850

### Manpower Coordinator's Office

Michael Varholla . . . . . 412-432-1400

### Prevailing Wage Investigator's Office

Greg Vogt . . . . . 412-432-1400

### Meeting Hall Rental Information

Lee Deiseroth . . . . . 412-432-1420

## BENEFIT INFORMATION

### IBEW LOCAL 5 OFFICE: 412-432-1400 or Toll Free 1-800-225-IBEW

Judy Elkanich: Pension applications, deceased member notification / information, beneficiary changes, scheduling of appointments with the Business Manager, "Honorary and Participating" withdraw information, and "Military Card" requests.

Leona Vozar: Pensioner's Blue Cross / Blue Shield - 65 Special, Security Blue, Freedom Blue, Pensioners \$10 Dental and Optical Premium and Maintenance assessments.

Patty Lusnak: Dues payments and inquiries, change of address notifications, and BA Member information.

### National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA): 412-432-1155

Chris Cottrill: Scholarship information.  
Mia Mogielski: Pension benefit calculation inquires and W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund Life Insurance benefit beneficiary updates.

### JATC Apprenticeship Office: 412-432-1145

Lisa McManus: Apprenticeship information.

### Central Data Services: 412-432-1125 or Toll Free 1-877-782-1410

Kathy Smith: Deferred Compensation and Beneficiary change. Supplemental unemployment Benefit (SUB) withdrawal, and Sick and Disability benefit inquiries.

### W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund: 412-432-1130 or Toll Free 1-800-382-1428

Medical/Surgical, Major Medical, Dental, and Vision claim Inquires

### Pensioners Dental & Optical Claims

Judy Trimbur: (412) 432-1130 or Toll Free 1-800-382-1428

### Secretary of Funds: 412-432-1125 or Toll Free 1-800-382-1428

Susan Lovely: Contractor contribution information, benefit hour information, vacation check inquiries.

### IBEW Local 5 Federal Credit Union: 412-432-1152

Evening hours: Monday and Thursday 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

### Social Security Information: 1-800-772-1213

Any other questions or concerns can be directed through the switchboard operator: Carol Sunday 412-432-1400

### IBEW LOCAL 5 NEWSLETTER

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5 Hot Metal Street - Suite-400  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355  
Phone: 412-432-1400                      FAX: 412-432-1499



Business Manager - Financial Secretary . . . . . Michael R. Dunleavy  
President . . . . . Dennis E. Eicker  
Vice President . . . . . Thomas R. McIntyre, Jr  
Recording Secretary . . . . . Thomas H. Higgins  
Treasurer . . . . . Robert A. Thomas

### Executive Board

Dennis E. Eicker, Chairman                      Walter J. Bentley, II                      James R. Gillespie  
Thomas H. Higgins, Secretary                      Robert E. Cole, II                      Leo P. Truby  
Thomas R. McIntyre Jr.

### Examining Board

Joseph Mitchell                      William D. McCloy, Sr.                      Leticia M. Fedora

IBEW LOCAL 5  
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Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

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