



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

LOCAL 5 NEWS & VIEWS



VOLUME XXXII



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

APRIL 2009

IBEWHourPower.com Visits Pittsburgh



Pittsburgh's new Rivers Casino



PNC III

L to R: IBEWHourPower cameraman Keith Singer, IBEWHourPower Producer Matthew Walton, George Yagulli, George Mageras, Jr., & Assistant Business Manager Thomas R. McIntyre, Jr.

In late February, IBEWHourPower.com came to Pittsburgh to highlight three Local 5 projects under construction. The team filmed at Baldwin High School, PNC III, and The Rivers Casino.

Launched about two years ago, IBEWHourPower is a grass roots campaign designed to convey positive stories and other current messages that have an impact on the construction branch of the IBEW. IBEWHourPower.com is designed to reach the 350,000 members in the construction branch of the IBEW.

With the use of high speed streaming video, this site is essentially a professionally-produced TV network for the trade. The only difference being that visitors watch it online instead of on TV.

Go to www.IBEWHourPower.com or follow the link from our website www.ibew5.org to see what the video team found in Pittsburgh. The videos feature the work, and interviews of Local 5 members.



Baldwin High School

L to R: Assistant Business Manager Thomas H. Higgins, Steward Mike Colosi, Jim Miller & Bill Frabizio from Baldwin Whitehall School District.



Rivers Casino

L to R: James McNary, George "Buck" Knepper, Michael Carcella, Gerry Kopach & Steward Dave Canovali.



Rivers Casino Main Switchgear Room

Corner by Michael Dunleavy



Let me begin by putting your mind at ease regarding the notice of election to Freeze the Pension Trust Fund's funding status for 2009. This notification was mandated by the Secretary of the Treasury through the Internal Revenue Service and drafted by our actuary. We were given thirty days to have it in your hands. It is official notification that the Pension Trust Fund Trustees have elected to freeze the fund status, not fund benefits, not fund payments, not accrual of pension credit, just the funding status. There are three funding status categories; Green, which is 80% funded or higher, Yellow or Endangered, which is between 66% and 79% funded, Red or Critical, which is funded 65% or less. The Trustees have elected to freeze the funding status at the Green level. I have addressed the pension status at two prior union meetings as well as in the newsletter. Nothing has changed from what I previously reported. Due to prudent oversight and the implementation of the efficient frontier model for asset allocation, which reduces risk by dispersion over all asset classes and by investing in funds, not individual equities, your fund is solvent. As I have reported, when the overall market had lost 40% plus of its value, we were down just 27%. The market has rebounded somewhat from that point and so has our fund. We are currently taking in over 2 million dollars a month and paying out 1.2 million in benefits with a fund balance of approximately 170 million. We are also keeping approximately 10 million available and out of the market due to volatility. The letter you received was for last year and does not take into account the additional forty cents an hour contribution for this year or increased man hours. Additionally, due to the fact that your officers negotiated another \$2.50 per hour for next year, we have the option of allocating additional contributions in January.

To conclude, we were impacted by the largest economic downturn since the great depression, just like everyone else. The impact to us was less due to prudent oversight. We are taking in more money per month than we are paying out. We have a significant fund balance with the ability to increase contributions next year if necessary. The Trustees have voted to maintain the funding in the Green or highest level. Your pension, as it stands right now, is fine. Now, comes a disclaimer. If we have an additional unforeseen prolonged major economic downturn

and simultaneously our work evaporates, we could be faced with decisions on benefits.

On to a brief work report. There are approximately 120 Local Union No. 5 members out of work across the jurisdiction. We are referring out fifteen members a week. We still have local members not seeking or declining work. If we are forced to go to Book II, these travelers are likely to reciprocate their benefits to their home local, which means nothing goes into your pension fund and there is administrative expense in collecting, accounting for and transferring their contribution. The outlook for this summer is good but we have yet to see enough work in twelve to fourteen months to replace the large projects we have underway now.

Please continue to write, fax, call and visit Senator Specter about the Employee Free Choice Act. Months ago, he was stating that he would not change party affiliation, and we all know that he has since changed his mind. There is still hope that he will side with working Pennsylvanians and support the Act. The push for the Employee Free Choice Act has finally put anti-worker forces on the defensive. Please keep up the pressure.

The IBEW and Local Union No. 5 needs to be at the forefront of the movement to "Green" technology. However you define Green technology, it is undeniable that it is work that we are already trained to do or are best suited to do. The Officers and Training Directors are working with the NJATC and Industry groups to incorporate education on these technologies into our programs. Please let your agents know if you are currently working on a project that falls under the "Green" banner.

June will be annual drug testing and tool sale. Please strongly consider the purchase of protective clothing. The LMCC is significantly subsidizing the cost of the items available. The cost of this clothing is a small price to pay for your own safety.

Please support the list of Local Union No. 5 endorsed candidates. Each of these people has been vetted by your officers and has committed to support issues of importance to you. Remember to vote and to take someone with you to the polls.

Thank you.

NEW ASSISTANT APPOINTED

Alfred "Buddy" Franklin



Alfred "Buddy" Franklin, age 26 of DuBois, PA has been appointed Membership Development Assistant. Buddy was initiated into Local No. 5 in 2004.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
LOCAL UNION NO. 5
10107 MILLERSVILLE, SUITE 100, PITTSBURGH, PA 15204-0001
TEL: 412-261-1100 FAX: 412-261-1101

March 2009

Dear Active and Retired Members:

We are pleased to inform you that we are planning a "2009 I.B.E.W. LOCAL NO. 5 DENNY MILLER FAMILY PICNIC" to be held on SATURDAY, JUNE 20th, 2009 at THE WILD PARK located in the beautiful Forest Heights, Upper Merion Township area in Allegheny County.

There will be seven theme areas of family fun, another major area including our other members, family water slides, a large sparkling pool and Captain Kidd's Adventure Galley. There are numerous other rides to choose from along with the one and only "Mister Rogers" playground area for children ages 2 and under. Please send a check or money order with your payment to "IBEW LOCAL UNION NO. 5" for your ticket purchase along with your attendance card. Priority to return your ticket order and money NO LATER THAN MAY 1st so that we can order the goods and services for our members will also be accepted after May 1st.

Refreshment tickets totaling \$10.00 will be necessary each time you enter. As a little perk, there will be large quantities of coffee sold throughout the day.

We hope to see you and your family on June 20th for a day of fun. The event starts at 10:00 AM.

Sincerely yours,
Michael R. Dunleavy
Business Manager

Right now on ...

IBEW HOUR POWER .COM

IBEW Hockey Tournament - See if brotherly love applies to the hockey rink

Decaying rust belt city?
NO Way!
Local 5
Is Electrifying Pittsburgh!

Only on... IBEWHourPower.com

Active Members 20 To 40 Year Service Pin Recipients



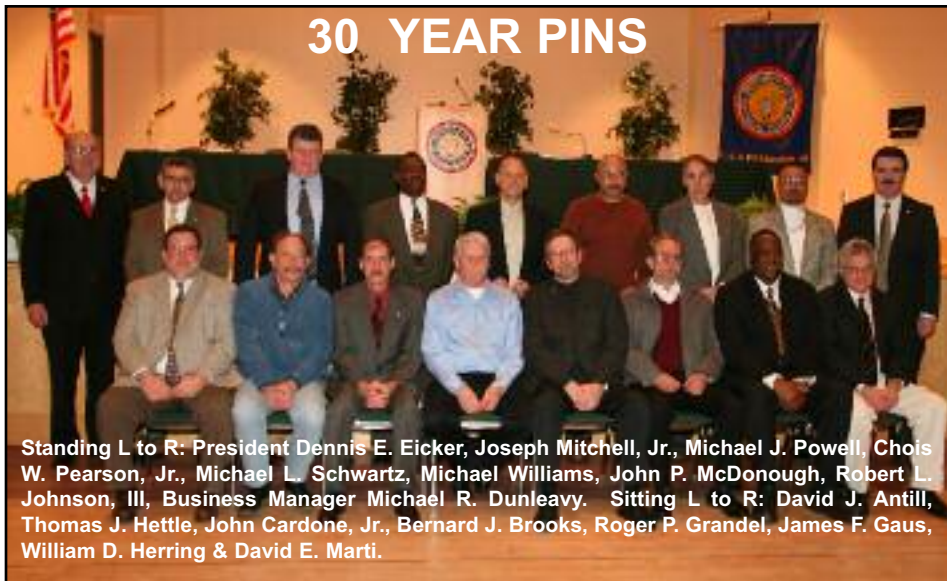
20 YEAR PINS

Standing L to R: President Dennis E. Eicker, Michael T. Romano, William Shindledecker, Gregory K. Vogt, Lawrence Ward, Business Manager Michael R. Dunleavy. Sitting L to R: Peter P. Hric, Jr., Randall J. Ziegler, Edward F. Hursen, David K. Hoffman, John S. Gonzales, Carl D. Fosbaugh, Samuel L. Brown & Patrick W. Burke.



25 YEAR PINS

Standing L to R: President Dennis E. Eicker, M. Lynn Miller, Leslie A. Lesko, Elizabeth A. Low, David W. McCuen, Curtis Morehead, Eric J. Mora, Mark A. Mikec, Larry D. Naimark, David A. Plance, Business Manager Michael R. Dunleavy. Sitting L to R: Mary Ann Stabile, Mitchell C. Gudger, Jeffrey S. Grunebach, Ronald D. Ewing, Norman Brice, Sheldon L. Arrington, Steven M. Creamer, Paul J. Burlone, Douglas E. Bailey, John E. Walter & Donald A. Thomas.



30 YEAR PINS

Standing L to R: President Dennis E. Eicker, Joseph Mitchell, Jr., Michael J. Powell, Chols W. Pearson, Jr., Michael L. Schwartz, Michael Williams, John P. McDonough, Robert L. Johnson, III, Business Manager Michael R. Dunleavy. Sitting L to R: David J. Antill, Thomas J. Hettle, John Cardone, Jr., Bernard J. Brooks, Roger P. Grandel, James F. Gaus, William D. Herring & David E. Marti.



35 YEAR PINS

L to R: President Dennis E. Eicker, James I. Miller, William A. Krauth, David G. McCormick, Chester Thrower, Jr. & Business Manager Michael R. Dunleavy.



40 YEAR PINS

L to R: President Dennis E. Eicker, Donald A. Watt, William F. Weber, John B. Hileman & Business Manager Michael R. Dunleavy.

TWENTY YEAR PINS

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Loiuis A. Aquilino | John E. Gerba | William G. McInnes | Wayne M. Schaub |
| Timothy J. Barczy | Glenn R. Giles | Mark A. McKenzie | Thomas M. Schultz |
| John W. Bateman, Jr. | John S. Gonzales | James D. McNary | John J. Seiler |
| Ron T. Bender | Glenn C. Gordon | Donald W. McNary | William Shindledecker |
| Terrance L. Bowman | Charles W. Heinbaugh | Mike T. Mikec | Paul E. Smith, III |
| George C. Brown | Ronald A. Hertzler, Jr. | Clifford H. Miller | Dennis L. Sneath |
| Samuel L. Brown | David K. Hoffman | James H. Moore | Lawrence G. Snieder |
| Patrick W. Burke | Robert W. Holsinger | Raymond M. Niccolai | Robert J. Stamer |
| Charles N. Busch | Carl Holzer | Eric O'Toole | Robert R. Stonecipher |
| Ronald J. Chieffallo | Peter P. Hric, Jr. | Gilbert R. Orchard, III | William R. Sullivan |
| Dale P. Cochran | Edward F. Hursen | James M. Phillips | Walter E. Swarden |
| Robert D. Cole | Alan D. Ickes | Jerry S. Pitkavish | Edward J. Syrek |
| Richard J. Crowe | James C. John | Robert D. Raupach | William A. Thorpe |
| Albert N. Difriscchia | William J. Kane | Philip D. Reiss | Claude A. Valeri |
| Cory A. Drusbasky | William J. Kriess | David J. Reutzel | Gregory K. Vogt |
| William R. Dysert | Daniel R. Landon | Daryl V. Rhodes | Lawrence I. Ward |
| William P. Edelblute | Robert T. Manning | Michael T. Romano | Norbert White |
| Carl D. Fosbaugh | David A. Massar | Mark E. Rosman | Bradley T. Wiefling |
| Charles L. Fuellgraf, III | David W. McGee | Glenn T. Rosporiski | Michael D. Wright |
| | | John W. Russell | Randall J. Ziegler |

TWENTY FIVE YEAR PINS

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|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Glenn R. Almasy, II | Gregory J. Gielas | Elizabeth A. Low | Mark A. Reibie |
| Sheldon L. Arrington | Michael E. Gilliland | Matthew J. Lubinski | Richard W. Riggs |
| Douglas E. Bailey | James W. Gloekler | Victor L. Lukaszewicz | Maureen Roman-Possage |
| Dwaine R. Barie | Ronald L. Goode | David W. McCuen | John L. Sciuillo |
| Bruce E. Barr | Charles J. Grese, Jr. | Peter F. McGlashan | Brian K. Smith |
| Eugene R. Barr | Jeffrey S. Grunebach | Charles E. Merino, Jr. | Thomas P. Smithco |
| David P. Benigni | Mitchell C. Gudger | Gary T. Mikec | Mary Ann Stabile |
| Norman Brice | Gary W. Hetrick | Mark A. Mikec | James M. Stone |
| Dennis P. Brunner | John W. Jelinek | Neil M. Mikec | William B. Sye |
| Paul J. Burlone | Donald M. Joyce | Todd A. Mikec | Edward J. Thein |
| Dennis S. Campbell | Raymond J. Kelly | M. Lynn Miller | Donald A. Thomas |
| Steven M. Creamer | Joseph S. Kish, Jr. | Eric J. Mora | Gregory W. Toliver |
| David E. Ewing | Donald L. Kuhn, Jr. | Curtis Morehead | John E. Walter |
| Ronald D. Ewing | Vito Legari | John R. Myers | Timothy J. Weaver |
| Floyd Foster | Robert J. Lemons | Larry D. Naimark | John P. Weismiller |
| Clarence Furcron, Jr. | Leslie A. Lesko | David E. Pasi | Thomas W. Wolfpohe |
| Gary C. Gearhart | Paul K. Loftus | Gene R. Penvose | Zirk C. Zollars |
| Thomas P. Gemmell | Richard E. Longenecker | David A. Plance | |

THIRTY YEAR PINS

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Arthur W. Anderson, Jr. | William D. Herring | John P. McDonough | Michael L. Schwartz |
| David J. Antill | Thomas J. Hettle | Joseph Mitchell, Jr. | William E. Sharbaugh |
| Robert J. Beiber | William E. Hindman, Jr. | William M. O'Kain | William Shindledecker |
| Terry L. Bell | Edward R. Hockenberry | Thomas C. Orchard | Richard L. Siegfried |
| William G. Benton | Kevin J. Hollinger | Chols W. Pearson, Jr. | David H. Snyder |
| Bernard J. Brooks | Eugene J. Joe, Jr. | Michael J. Powell | Richard L. Snyder |
| John Cardone, Jr. | Robert L. Johnson, III | Russell E. Prendergast | Robert H. Trojan |
| Edward M. Carpenter | Robert E. Kerr | David P. Primrose | James P. Vondrey |
| Donald E. Daley, Jr. | Donald F. Kopta | Jeffrey S. Rager | Michael Williams |
| Pio Dipofi, III | John R. Lehman | Leroy A. Rettig | Gary F. Wills |
| James R. Earley | Michael L. Lewis | Michael J. Richards | James F. Wilson, Jr. |
| James F. Gaus | John J. Maloney | Richard A. Schlegel | John J. Zielinski |
| Roger P. Grandel | David E. Marti | | |

THIRTY FIVE YEAR PINS

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Raymond G. Baker | William A. Krauth | James I. Miller | Orion J. Wolff |
| Harry R. Brothers | Melvin C. Link | Alex S. Molinski | Scott R. Workman |
| George A. Erbrecht | William F. Mayfield | David R. Morrison | Robert W. Zafaras |
| Emanuel O. Flournoy | David G. McCormick | James D. Rzeczkowski | |
| Dennis K. Hurd | Herbert T. Miller, III | Chester Thrower, Jr. | |
| Kenneth A. Javorski | David L. Miller | Robert W. Wiggins | |

FORTY YEAR PINS

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Douglas C. Bower | James M. Cobb, Jr. | John B. Hileman | Donald A. Watt |
| Kenneth L. Bronder | Michael C. Doerfler | Daniel E. Pegher | William F. Weber |

COUNTERFEITS CAN KILL !!

A primer for understanding electrical counterfeit parts

Every day, in factories around the world, unscrupulous “entrepreneurs” are stealing intellectual capital by knocking off electrical products and shipping them to various markets for sale. Not only is this illegal and dishonest, injuring the companies that invest heavily in research and development to produce the intellectual property in the first place, it puts public safety at risk. While any form of counterfeiting is unacceptable, the counterfeiting of electrical products has far greater implications for the public than a fake Gucci wristwatch.

All of us need to share concern and responsibility to aggressively address the arm counterfeiting can do to our industry – to the quality brand manufacturers who invest heavily to meet and exceed electrical safety standards in the design of their products; to those in the wholesale and retail distribution channel who lawfully promote the quality brand products; to electricians who are expected to install safe products in homes and buildings; and to the building owners whose investment in keeping people safe is of utmost importance.

A wide range of companies and products have a stake in this counterfeiting and privacy war, including industrial automation software, motors, welding electrodes, lamps and lamp ballasts, circuit breakers, batteries, smoke alarms, receptacles, ground fault circuit interrupters, wire and cable, electrical cords, conduit and conduit fittings, and electrical connectors, to name a few.

Industry associations and companies across the globe are waging battle, including industry colleagues at Underwriters Laboratories, CSA International, Electro-Federation Canada, and ANCE, Mexico’s standards and certification agency for electrical products.

Everyone needs to work together to alert the government and the supply channel that counterfeiting and piracy is not just about luxury goods and consumer apparel. It’s about saving lives.



Can you spot the counterfeit?
A counterfeit circuit breaker (right) looks nearly identical to an authentic Eaton breaker (left), with only small differences. Make sure you know how to spot a counterfeit!

Suspicious Product Recognition

- * **Missing Date Code**--Removed to hide the age of the breaker.
- * **Old Date Code**--Any Product over two years old no longer has any factory warranty.
- * **Factory Seals Broken or Removed**--Product has been tampered with and has no warranty or guarantee that it meets specifications.
- * **Mislabeled Products to Change Size/Type**--Product has been tampered with, causing a possible misapplication and a safety hazard.
- * **Non-English Text**--Product that appears with labels in languages other than English
- * **Missing UL Sticker**--Product is likely imported illegally and is NOT certified to meet U.S. electrical codes.
- * **Low-Quality Labeling and/or misspelled Words**--Product is likely counterfeit and made with substandard materials and workmanship.
- * **Old Westinghouse or Challenger Label**--These products have not been produced since 1999 and 1997 respectively.
- * **Not in a Carton or in Olde White Cartons**--Product is used and/or outdated.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I make sure that my electrical products are new and genuine?

A: To ensure that you are receiving genuine products buy only through authorized distributors.

Q: Are counterfeit goods illegal, and how do I identify a counterfeit product?

A: Not only are counterfeit goods illegal and unsafe, trafficking in counterfeit products is a federal offense, punishable by fines up to \$5M. Careful inspection can reveal missing and poor quality labels, out-of-date product, and stickers added that are not part of the original manufacturing process.

Q: Is there risk in using circuit breakers that have been repaired by unauthorized sources?

A: Yes. Molded case circuit breakers are not designed for repairs. Used, surplus and damaged circuit breakers that are cleaned up and put back together using scavenged or counterfeited parts, coupled with unsafe practices, such as lacquering a breaker’s interior, are safety risks.

Q: What is the gray market?

A: The gray market is the term used to describe the sale of new, refurbished and used products through unauthorized resellers or channels.

Q: Are gray market goods illegal?

A: Unlike those on the black market, gray market goods are not illegal. Instead, they are being sold outside of normal distribution channels by companies that do not have a relationship with the manufacturer of the goods. Typically, the manufacturer will refuse to honor the warranty of a product purchased from gray market sources.

TIPS

1. Be cautious of a “bargain”. It may be counterfeit.
2. Beware of products sold outside normal distribution channels. (Internet)
3. Check labels and packaging. Look for differences, inconsistencies, or poor English.
4. Avoid no-name products. Know the manufacturer.
5. Any concerns on authenticity. Check with manufacturer or certifier.

Useful Internet Links

UL - Anti-Counterfeiting Operations
<http://www.ul.com/ace>

National Electrical Manufacturer’s Association - Anti-Counterfeiting
<http://www.nema.org/gov/anti-counterfeiting/>

CACP - Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy
<http://www.thecacp.com/portal/counterfeiting/default>

U.S. Chamber of Commerce - Global Anti-Counterfeiting and Piracy Initiative
<http://www.uschamber.com/ncf/initiatives/counterfeiting.htm>

International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition
<http://www.iacc.org/>

ESFi - Electrical Safety Foundation International
<http://www.esfi.org/cms/node/134>

**IBEW Local No. 5
Endorsed Candidates
2009 Primary Election
Tuesday, May 17th.**



Judge Jack Panella, President Denny Eicker, & Heavyweight Boxing Champ Larry Holmes.



SUPREME COURT

JACK PANELLA (D)
JOAN ORIE MELVIN (R)

SUPERIOR COURT

ROBERT COLVILLE (D)
KEVIN MCCARTHY (D)
JOHN MILTON YOUNGE (D)

COMMONWEALTH COURT

LINDA JUDSON (D)
JIMMY LYNN (D)

COUNTY COUNCIL

#1 TOM MICHALOW (D)
#3 JIM BURN (D)
#4 MIKE FINNERTY (D)
#8 CHUCK MARTONI (D)
#9 BOB MACEY (D)
#12 JIM ELLENBOGEN (D)
#13 AMANDA GREEN (D)

ALLEGHENY COUNTY



SHERIFF

BILL MULLEN (D)

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

MICHELLE ZAPPALA PECK
ARNIE KLEIN
JOE WILLIAMS
SUSAN EVANSHAVIK-DI LUCENTE
PHIL IGNEZLI

PITTSBURGH MAYOR

LUKE RAVENSTAHL



PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL

#2 THERESA SMITH
#6 TONYA PAYNE
#8 WILLIAM PEDUTO

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOHN PECK



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

CHRIS SCHERER

SHERIFF

MITCH COOPER

ALTOONA MAYOR

WILLIAM SCHIRF

BLAIR COUNTY

ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL

MARK GEIS
JAMES SWANN
JIM PREUSSER
PATTY ROSS

CAMBRIA COUNTY

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

PATRICK KINIRY
TIM BURNS

REPORT OF LEGAL COUNCIL - JOSHUA M. BLOOM

PENALTIES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES IN WORKERS' COMPENSATION CASES

In the unfortunate event you are injured at work, your employer's insurance company may refuse to pay your workers' compensation claim without any good reason. Also, the insurance company may not pay your wage loss benefits on time, may miscalculate your wage loss benefits, or may fail to process your claim according to the law. If any of these events occurs when you are injured at work, you may be entitled to not only wage loss and medical benefits but also penalties, and you may not have to pay your attorney's fees.

When the insurance company refuses to pay your claim, you will have to hire an attorney in order to ensure that you obtain all of the benefits to which you are entitled. Most attorneys charge a 20% fee on any compensation benefits they are able to obtain for you. In other words, if you are successful in proceeding with your claim, you will receive 80% of your compensation benefits. If your attorney is able to prove that the insurance company's denial of your claim was unreasonable, however, the Worker's Compensation Judge will award counsel fees. In other words, the Judge will award you 100% of your compensation benefits and order the insurance company to pay your attorney an additional amount for work on your case. For this

reason, our law firm always aggressively pursues counsel fees so that you obtain the maximum amount possible.

If the insurance company violates the law in any way, you are entitled to an additional amount in penalties. This additional amount can be as much as 50% of all compensation and interest awarded. For instance, if you are owed \$10,000 in wage loss benefits and interest because the insurance company did not pay you on time, miscalculated your benefit rate, or stopped paying you unlawfully, you could be entitled to an additional \$5,000 in penalties. Therefore, as with counsel fees, our law firm also aggressively pursues any penalties to which you are entitled.

If you believe your employer's insurance company has denied your claim unreasonably or has not followed the law, you should consult with our law firm immediately so that we can assess your claim and quickly obtain for you the full value of your claim. Feel free to call us for a free consultation. Union members and their families are offered a substantial discount.

Joshua Bloom & Associates, P.C. 1230 Grant Building 310 Grant Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-288-6000 bloomlawyers.com



HARRISBURG REPORT - JOHN PIPPY

The Pittsburgh region's unemployment rate continued to rise in February, reaching 6.9 percent. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for the seven-county Pittsburgh Metropolitan Statistical Area rose four-tenths of a percentage point, marking the tenth time in the past 12 months that the rate has gone up.

It was Pittsburgh's largest jump in resident unemployment since September 1990.

Construction jobs that employ the skilled men and women of IBEW 5 and other shops are the most direct way to grow the ailing economy. While the recession is posing a major challenge, there is currently a unique opportunity to make sure that local workers gain access to good, family-supporting jobs.

Pennsylvania is expected to receive nearly \$10 billion in federal stimulus funds (the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act), and it's estimated that 8,000 to 10,000 construction jobs would be required for stimulus projects. The Governor and the Legislature must work together to get these funds into the field as quickly as possible, but in a manner that maximizes job creation.

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Pennsylvania will receive an estimated \$1.4 billion to repair roads, bridges and public transportation systems. An additional \$523 million is targeted for affordable housing construction, with \$223 million for drinking water and sewer system improvements.

Among the renovation projects already targeted for assistance is \$11.5 million to upgrade the emergency power distribution system at Pittsburgh VA Healthcare System.

In addition, \$118 million is set aside for job training and expanded unemployment services, with \$34.4 million allocated for Dislocated Workers State Grants. These grants are intended to support immediate strategies for regions and communities to employ skilled workers, as well as longer-term plans to build targeted industry clusters with better training and a more productive workforce.

It is vitally important that these funds not be wasted, and that the focus remains on creating good jobs for skilled workers in our area. That is the task of the Pennsylvania Stimulus Oversight Commission, made up of members of all four state legislative caucuses, the congressional delegation, representatives of the AFL-CIO, United Way and the PA Chamber of Business and Industry.

By working together to take advantage of this unique opportunity, the Legislature and the Governor can set the stage for a surge in construction jobs that will grow Pennsylvania's economy.

State Senator John Pippy represents Pennsylvania's 37th District serving portions of Allegheny County and a portion of Washington County.



Looking for that Silver Lining

In every cloud, there is a silver lining . . . if you look hard enough. The downturn in the economy has brought enough doom and gloom to scare even the brightest of optimists. Unemployment is more than 8 percent nationally. Financial experts are predicting a slow recovery and our elected officials continue to play political football at every turn, despite the stakes.

Every industry is being hit hard by the economy, not just in this country, but around the world. Fortunately, metropolitan Pittsburgh and Allegheny County in particular have fared better than most parts of the country. One reason is the amount of new commercial construction currently taking place, some that fortunately preceded the downturn in the economy.

Not since the early 1990s with the construction of PNC Park, Heinz Field and the David L. Lawrence Convention Center had the Pittsburgh region experienced the amount of construction currently taking place. And while some projects have been deferred, and perhaps even cancelled altogether, the prognosis remains fairly stable for this region, particularly with the influx of bridge, highway and other economic stimulus money.

Such activity has lured many out of state contractors to Pittsburgh. That is not good news for local contractors who have historically performed well and bid successfully on local work. One of the reasons that many local union contractors have survived and flourished is because of the abundance of commercial construction in other parts of the country, leaving Pittsburgh to many family owned local contractors. The business relationships that they have developed with owners and developers, and the partnerships they have entered into with local building trade unions in fact enabled many unions to increase the number of apprentices taken in over the last two years.

The question now is whether interest by non-local contractors will begin to undermine those relationships and jeopardize the economic stability of area contractors. As the construction industry in other parts of the country continues to suffer, Pittsburgh's construction activity will become a prime bidding area, much to the delight of local developers and owners. We have already seen that on several projects where the number of bids has more than doubled.

For local contractors, this is not necessarily good news, but it does not have to bode poorly for many area

subcontractors and union building trade workers. In fact, it presents an opportunity for local union contractors and their employees to show off their skills and talents to a set of contractors who may not have the luxury of the type of training programs and quality craftsmen and women such as those who live and work in western Pennsylvania.

The key, as always, will be attitude and performance. Demonstrating a strong work ethic and a willingness to go that extra mile to get the job done could speak volumes to non-local contractors who may look for options when considering their source for labor. No one trains their workers like this area's union building trades.

The training programs for both apprentices and journeymen are exceptional, and the experience that is being gained by both area contractors and workers to build "green" is another benefit for non-local contractors to explore. The more well rounded local union contractors and building trade workers become, the more marketable and attractive they become to non-local contractors.

On the other hand, there are no obligations for non-local contractors to utilize the area's labor force.

Competition will become fierce and pencils will have to become all the sharper for contractors to separate themselves from one another. Just the slightest difference in contractor and worker performance can make the difference in whether a local project goes union or non-union. Any waste of materials and inefficient use of manpower can make or break a contractor.

Local union building trade workers and their affiliated contractors understand that and they demonstrate it everyday on the job in western Pennsylvania. Now is the time for union construction to shine and show off their talents to the rest of the country. The silver lining in an otherwise dark cloud is there for the viewing.

By Jason Fincke, Executive Director Builders Guild of Western Pennsylvania



From the North by Bob Thomas



Keystone Electric—remodel of Rhoades Hall at Slippery Rock University L to R: Mark Rodgers, Jeff Eisenman, Brian Crawford, Dave Miller and John Jones.



Westinghouse Nuclear Headquarters Cranberry, PA. Miller Electric Company.

From the Near - North by Rich Dunkel



Jim Castman & Lester Wolfe working for Sargent Electric QA/QC at Keystone Scrubber.



Keystone Power Station. Sargent Electric L to R: Denny Rio, Ken Louder, Mike Hite, Kirk Schroll, Chris Fisanick, Brian Axe & Rick Pfaff.

From the North by Bob Kutz



Biter Electric at Juniata Valley High School. L to R: Mark Wilk, Russ Aumiller, Rob Liptak, Daryl Rhoads, Jon Peterson, Dave Conrad, Ray Kelly & Steve Martell.



Local No. 5 members at 23rd Annual Union Label Bowling Tournament. L to R: Jamie Rydom, Mike Wood, John Kutz, Steve Bettwy & Tom Mardula.

From the Far North - East by Jeff Miller



STELCO Electric, Lock Haven University Clearfield Campus. L to R: Dave Huff, Mike Boland, John Evans, Jayme Yarnish, & Matt (Chewy) Hite.



EVETS Electric. Clearfield Bionol (Ethanor Project) L to R: Denny Hurd, Justin Thorwart, & Tony Pepe.

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**IBEW GOLF CLUB
33 YEARS AND COUNTING**

That's right, this is the 33rd year that this golf club has been around. The 2009 golf season is about to get under way. We have a full season ahead and some of the best courses in the area to host our outings. We start out the 2009 season at Oak Lake Golf Course on May 16th at 9:00 a.m., followed by a barbecue dinner of steak, shrimp and ribs. From there, on June 13th, we go to Lake Arthur Golf Course in Butler County near Moraine State Park. Again, this outing is followed by a fantastic buffet dinner. On the 18th of July we head to Donegal Highlands in, where else, Donegal, PA with dinner to follow. In August we head up to the Nemaocolin Wodlands course on Saturday the 22nd, and the nationally famous Mystic Rock Course on Sunday the 23rd. This outing is a weekend outing with an optional overnight stay at the Holiday Inn, Uniontown, with dinner and breakfast included. Our final outing of the year will be held at Hillcrest Country Club on September 19th, and we will travel to Lower Burrell to play this course followed by a dinner hosted by Chef Leonard.

As you can see, we have a full schedule for 2009. We also would like to see some new faces and remind you that this is not a golf league, but a golf club. There are no dues to pay, only the fee for the outing that you are attending. You are welcome to play all of the outings or only one or two. Keep in mind we have limited tee times for all outings. The concept is to come out with some of your fellow electricians and enjoy a day of golf, friendship and some great food, and, oh yeah, we have some great prizes too. If you are interested in spending a day or two or five playing some golf, all you have to do is call, and I will mail out the brochure to you with all of the details needed. So all there is to do now is call Bob Guenther at 412-849-1988 or see any of the other members to get a copy of the 2009 schedule and pricing. Looking forward to another great year. Hope to see you there.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY



Settler's Ridge Giant Eagle. Power Contracting. L to R: Bob Schaffner, Randy Nocleg, Shane Wokutch, James Hanbury, Bill Gerber, Jim Popinski, Joe Kish, Dave Belasco, Jim Watts, Rich Benz & Joel Horwath.



Settler's Ridge Project. Fallon Electric. L to R: Ed George, Mike Olejar, Mauro DeFelice, Steve Werner and George Kazalas.



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 2009

Donald L. Snyder

February 2009

Albert J. Martsof

March 2009

Coleman R. Gaal
Thomas J. Golofsky

James E. John
Alfred E. McBurney, Jr.

BLOOD BANK DONORS FIRST QUARTER 2009

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

Bergamasco, Dominic J.
Bey, Majid R.
Birkner, David E.
Bradwell, David L.
Chaff, Andrew M.
Chapman, Amber L.
Coates, Karen J.
Coleman, Brandon W.
Dansby, Garfield J.
Darr, Joseph J.
Demeio, Chad R.
Destefano, Michael J.
Donovan, Patrick S.
Eiben, Thomas L.
Eicker, Dennis E.
Eifler, Jeffrey M.
Elder, Andrew T.
Fleeger, Florence C.
Furguele, Anthony C.
Gallagher, Robert A.
Gieder, Matthew J.
Gigler, James, R.

Grady, Susanne F.
Graff, Garrette
Greiwe, Gary E.
Gruber, Thomas E.
Hackett, Patrick F.
Harman, Herbert H.
Harris, Stefon D.
Haser, Zachary G.
Hazard, Jeffrey P.
Hillard, John A.
Holko, David T.
Hoover, Michael E.
Horwath, Joel M.
Kelly, William J.
Kenney, David R.
Koll, Luke A.
Konieczka, Jerome
Konopka, Michele L.
Kopta, Robert P.
Kramer, Anthony J.
Kratofil, Jay S.
Lachman, Russell G.

Lesko, Charles H.
Lydon, Robert E.
Marinello, Francis P.
McCormick, David G.
McDonald, Devlin M.
Neubert, Gerald H.
Orchard, James H.
Perkins, Fred E.
Pillion Thomas J.
Poole, Craig A.
Pozycki, Deborah B.
Pulski, Richard E.
Radocay, Daniel J.
Rhoads, Daniel E.
Richter, James R.
Rowley, Justin R.
Saxon, Yaakov D.
Shimko, Robert M.
Sniegocki, William V.
Terrerri, Kathy D.
Woifler, Janice L.

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: Highmark, Security Blue, Freedom Blue, UPMC, 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 Death 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

Kathi Giovetsis: Beneficiary changes and ERTS.
Kathy Smith: Deferred Compensation, Supplemental unemployment Benefit (SUB) withdrawal, and Sick and Disability benefit inquiries. (412) 432-1144

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: 412-432-1128 or Toll Free 1-877-782-1817

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

IN FRATERNAL MEMORY

Deceased Retired Members

Robert L. Diller	Sep. 10, 1932	- Jan. 18, 2009
Fred L. Hohman	Mar. 28, 1929	- Feb. 7, 2009
Robert T. Dixon	Mar. 23, 1930	- Feb. 9, 2009
Joseph T. Rago	Jan. 7, 1917	- Feb. 10, 2009
Norris K. Shook	Aug. 12, 1932	- Feb. 20, 2009
Dewayne E. Ebbert	Jan. 4, 1926	- Feb. 20, 2009
Larry Bell	July 26, 1946	- Mar. 6, 2009
Robert C. Stroup	Nov. 4, 1923	- Mar. 13, 2009
Ralph J. Werner	Aug. 18, 1919	- Apr. 2, 2009

Deceased Active Members

William A. Krauth	Apr. 20, 1947	- Mar. 1, 2009
Richard R. Custer	July 21, 1967	- Mar. 9, 2009
David S. O'Donnell	Apr. 23, 1966	- Mar. 19, 2009

CHANGE OF ADDRESS CARD

It is very important that you notify the Local union promptly of any mailing address or phone number change!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE# (INCLUDE AREA CODE): _____

COUNTY: _____ SCHOOL DISTRICT: _____

MAIL TO:

IBEW LOCAL #5 5 HOT METAL STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15203-2355

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

Organizer Home Number

Alfred Franklin 814-372-2360
William Garner 412-793-4649
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

IBEW LOCAL 5 NEWSLETTER

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5 Hot Metal Street - Suite-400
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

Phone: 412-432-1400 www.ibew5.org 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
Thomas H. Higgins, Secretary
Walter J. Bentley, II
Robert E. Cole, II
Thomas R. McIntyre Jr.
James R. Gillespie
Leo P. Truby

Examining Board

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

IBEW LOCAL 5
5 Hot Metal Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

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