



# ON THE WIRE

The Quarterly Newsletter of IBEW Local 104

Fall 2015

IBEW



LOCAL 104

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

## Business Manager's Message



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope all is well with you as we move through the holiday season. Keep in mind, this is a great time of year to come see some old friends and laugh together at our upcoming Christmas parties. It is always a good gathering and my crew and I will be there. We hope to see you all there. Come and enjoy it. In mentioning my crew, I would like to thank everyone that helps

support me in my position as Business Manager, with a special thanks to my staff and crew. They play a huge role in my position and they put commitment in the forefront for Local 104. As always, stay safe, and like myself, be proud that you are part of this great organization, IBEW Local 104.

Fraternally,

**Brian Murphy**

Business Manager/Financial Secretary



From left to right Hugh Boyd, Jason Bentley, Jim Breare, Brian Murphy, Tim Burgess, Sam Godin and Ryan Demeritt. Missing from the picture is Brian Pierce.

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### Union Meetings

All union meetings are now held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at **ALL three locations**; MA, NH and ME halls and are connected through video conferencing.



## International Lineman's Rodeo

Local 104 had a lineman rodeo on August 8 in Epping, NH. It was one of the best turn outs yet. A lot of friends and family came out to enjoy the competition. We had two competitions at this rodeo: the hurt man rescue and the speed climb. We took the top guys from these two competitions and sent them to Kansas City for the International Lineman's Rodeo.

This rodeo is quite a bit bigger with approximately 1,000 guys competing. Now in its 32nd year, the rodeo attracts some of the best linemen from around the world. This year's international participation included attendees from Canada, Turks & Caicos, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.

Local 104 sent one journeyman team and four apprentices and one judge to this competition. At the competition, they split up the journeymen and the apprentices. They both compete in hurt man rescue, speed climb and two mystery events. The apprentices also have a written test and a splicing rope event. The Local 104 guys did a great job. They didn't take home the trophy, but we had a really good showing representing the IBEW and Local 104. You can look online at [www.linemansrodeokc.com](http://www.linemansrodeokc.com) to see the results.

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## Submit Your Pictures!

Please submit your photos to [photos@ibew104.org](mailto:photos@ibew104.org) so we can share them in the union halls, on our Facebook page and on our website. Please include your name, the names of the people in the picture, where the photo was taken, and with which contractor you were working.

## Message from Hugh Boyd

We had another successful I.B.E.W. Local 104 Golf Outing this year! The event was held at Crosswinds Country Club in Plymouth, MA. We couldn't ask for a more gorgeous day to be outside for this sold out tournament. We raised \$9,000.00 for the Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood Foundation. Thank you all for your contributions. A special thank you to Elise Joyce, Lauren Dolan, Karen Murphy, and Sean McNamara for all their hard work coordinating and volunteering for this event.

The results of the Golf Tournament are:

**9 Under:** Pat Young, Brian Mullin, Mike Mullin & Chris Shannahan  
**8 Under:** Paul Greeley, Chris Brennan, Larry Libby & Paul Hurley  
**8 Under:** Team of Waldron Consulting (Irish Tony)  
**Closest to the Pin:** Chris Lenahan  
**Long Drive: Men:** Nick Johnson  
**Women:** Denise Callahan  
**Great job, great day, great cause.**  
Thank you all!





Over the past few months, many developments regarding the Northern Pass project and New England's energy scene have generated substantial media attention. Here's a quick summary to get you up to speed.

On July 21, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released its long-awaited draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) examining the proposed Northern Pass transmission project and its possible modes of construction.

The draft EIS revealed that the cheapest option for Northern Pass construction would be the proposed method of above ground lines, at a cost of approximately \$1.02 billion. But this option was also found to negatively impact the environmental and visual landscape of the proposed route, according to the DOE. The DOE also said that the visual impact caused by the overhead route would likely have a negative effect on New Hampshire's tourism and recreation industries, as well as residential property values with the least amount of tax benefit to affected communities. In short, the draft EIS called for further burial of the Northern Pass transmission line.

While the draft EIS was not exactly what Northern Pass advocates hoped to hear, Eversource Energy responded promptly and positively with the announcement of their Forward New Hampshire Plan, which they unveiled on Aug. 18.

Forward New Hampshire focuses not only on the state's crucial energy issues, but also its economic and environmental concerns. It is a result of several years of discussion and disagreement between those who advocated the Northern Pass as an above-ground transmission project and the concerned citizens and politicians who do not want the project to disrupt property values and the aesthetic appeal of the White Mountain forest.

To promote their Forward New Hampshire Plan, Eversource Energy's Northern Pass Project team met with residents from across the state at five Public Information Sessions where details of the project were disclosed and discussed. The meetings were held in each county that will host the Northern Pass route under the current plan. The five counties were: Merrimack County, Rockingham County, Grafton County, Coös County, and Belknap County.

The Public Information Sessions and Open Houses, part of meetings required by the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC), allowed residents to comment on the official record, as well as interact with Project staff.

"The public meetings were a great opportunity for us to provide information about the Forward NH Plan and gather valuable feedback from residents across the state," says Eversource Energy President Bill Quinlan, "and we want to keep the dialog going, every step of the way."

After holding the Public Information Sessions, the next big step toward getting the Northern Pass approved came on Oct. 19 when Eversource Energy filed a more than 20,000 page application with the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC). The formal application describes a project cost of \$1.6 billion, and a capacity of 1,090 megawatts.

"Today's filing marks another important milestone in our effort to deliver a clean energy solution that our customers desperately need in order to diversify our power supply and stabilize energy prices," said Bill Quinlan, President of Eversource Operations in New Hampshire. "This is especially important as the region's existing generation fleet undergoes rapid and significant changes, including the closing of existing power plants that New Hampshire and New England have relied on for decades. Northern Pass, and

its clean, affordable power supply of the future, will help to answer the need to replace those units."

Over the next few months the New Hampshire SEC will be reviewing Eversource's application. If the NH SEC approves the application they will issue a Certificate of Site and Facility which will enable the project's further development. The NH SEC review process will most likely continue through 2016.

If the NH SEC approves the Eversource application there is still significant regulatory process, including another round of Public Information Sessions, testimony, hearings, and an application for a Presidential Permit, that must be undergone before the project begins in earnest.

Clearly, there is still a lot to be done before the Northern Pass project becomes a reality. Further regulatory process is expected to last upwards of 15 months. Based on current projections, the project is expected to be online in 2019.

As most of you know, the Northern Pass calls for the construction of transmission lines that will bring clean, affordable, hydroelectric power into New Hampshire and the rest of New England. IBEW Local 104 supports the project, primarily because it will create more than 1,200 jobs per year during the three-year construction phase. Not only will it create these jobs, but it will also provide a clean form of base load energy to the region that should reduce the cost of utilities.

IBEW Local 104 will continue posting updates related to Northern Pass developments on its blog located on our website: [www.ibew104.org/blog](http://www.ibew104.org/blog).

For additional information about the positive benefits Northern Pass can provide, visit the New Hampshire Coalition for Secure Energy: [www.nhcse.org](http://www.nhcse.org).



## Retirees 60 Plus-Club

We had a great time at the last get together at Doyle's Cafe in Jamaica Plain, MA. Our next meeting will have two locations and the dates will coincide with our Christmas Union Meetings in December. The first will be on Wednesday, December 16 at the Redhook Brewery, 1 Redhook Way, Portsmouth, NH; the second opportunity will be on Thursday, December 17 at Raffael's, 1601 Main St. Walpole, MA. All retirees (60 Plus members) are welcome to come to the meetings at 6:00pm to catch up with each other. Yes, you can attend both.

Here are just a few of the Years of Service Pins to be given out: Joe Hart (FL) for 65 years; Roy Davis for 60 years; David Brownell, Steven Cornell, Everett Ford, Marty Higgins, William O'Donnell, Jack Riccio, Ralph Scott (FL), all for 50 years; Frank Eaton, Paul Loughran and Mickey Rooney for 45 years.

Come on by and help celebrate. Hope to see you all there!

**Hugh A. Boyd**

## International Lineman's Rodeo

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The 104 competitors were: JL team - Brian Lovell, Eric Bowden, and Joe Jodoin; the apprentice team - Josh DuBois, Joe Spargo, Tyler Coutu, and Kyle Lazon. The judge sent was Cut Lesvesque. A special thanks to him for all the work he did in helping out the team.

At the rodeo, there were other events going on in addition to the competition. The annual Safety Conference was jammed packed once again to hear from a variety of speakers on technical tips and regulatory issues that impact linemen every day. Real life stories shared by technicians, linemen and family members emotionally brought home the importance of safety. Also, the expo show floor featured over 120 exhibiting companies, of which just over 28 were first time exhibitors. Attendees wait close to an hour in line for the Expo to open, as it is their annual opportunity to view a virtual supermarket of tools and technology that could make their job safer and more efficient.



## Notice:

**Effective January 1, 2016 dues will be \$36.70 for A members and \$20.70 for BA members.**

## Employee/Office Listing

### NH Office:

22 Old Concord Turnpike  
Barrington, NH 03825  
603-868-1798 Fax  
603-868-1143 Phone

### Laurie Gowen

Ext. 1200 - Office Admin

### Colleen Eaton

Ext. 1204 - Office Admin

### Jason Bentley

Ext. 1202 - Asst. Business Manager

### OSHE Dept: NH Office

603-868-1522 Fax  
603-868-2789 Phone

### Julie Morris

Ext. 1201 - Office Admin

### ME Office:

238 Goddard Road  
Lewiston, Maine 04240  
207-241-0899 Fax  
207-241-7691 Phone

### Sarah Flagg - Office Admin

**Tim Burgess** - Business Rep.

**Sam Godin** - Organizer

### MA Office:

130 West Street  
Walpole, MA 02081  
508-660-0986 Fax  
508-660-3900 Phone

### Elise Joyce

Ext. 1100 - Office Admin

### Karen Murphy

Ext. 1110 - Office Admin

### Hugh Boyd

Ext. 1101 - Treasurer/Asst.  
Business Manager

### Ryan Demeritt

Ext. 1102 - President

### Jim Breare

Ext. 1106 - Referral Agent

### Brian Pierce

Ext. 1107 - Business Rep.

### Brian Murphy

Ext. 1109 - Business Manager

### OSHE Dept MA Office:

508-668-6158 Fax  
508-668-5856 Phone

### Lauren Dolan

Ext. 1104 - Office Admin

### Kathy Tilden

Ext. 1105 - Office Admin

### Paul Loughran

Ext. 1108 - Safety Director

### Sean McNamara

Ext. 1103 - Safety Specialist

### Ryan Demeritt

Ext. 1102 - Safety Specialist

### Derek Martin

Safety Specialist



## Message from Jason Bentley



Brothers and Sisters,

We are steadily making progress on the installation of three transmission towers and an addition to the Barrington office. After many

meetings with surveyors, site planners, and architects, we have presented our plan to the town planning and zoning boards. After the planning boards' approval, we can put the project out to bid. The addition will be 72' by 36' off the back of the existing Barrington office. We are planning on adding a large classroom, an indoor training center with tall ceilings to

accommodate poles for training purposes, and a conference room. There will be three transmission towers installed: two dead end structures and a tangent. All will be 55' tall and will be used for training tower rescue, and getting the apprentices familiar with transmission work before heading into the field. Thanks to Brothers Jason Lauze and Mick VanNatta for their help.

NEAT has also added another Conex box for additional storage and security. Thanks to Brothers Charlie Rand and Brian Dionne for all their hard work building and installing the shelves.

The Christmas party in the north will be held on December 16 at 7:00 pm at the Redhook Brewery in Portsmouth, NH.

It will be a great night at a great place.

Coming up in February, we have 104 night at the University of New Hampshire. There are 50 tickets available for a hockey game against Boston University. For information and availability, call the Barrington office.

I would also like to thank all that attended and spoke at the Northern Pass scoping meetings throughout NH. There will be more hearings in the future and we will need all that are available to attend and have their voice heard about this great project.

Have a great holiday season,  
**Jason Bentley**  
Assistant Business Manager

## Politics and The Northern Pass

### Overview

The Northern Pass Transmission project will create more than 2,600 electrical construction jobs. There's no bigger opportunity on the horizon for IBEW Local 104 in New England. The developers of this project have been honing their proposal in order to win permitting approval, and the process will be moving forward quickly over the coming months. We'll need every IBEW Local 104 member to get involved to help make sure we build this critical transmission project!

This past August, Northern Pass announced a new and improved route proposal which includes buried transmission lines for about 60 miles of the 192 mile route. This new plan will significantly reduce visual impacts of the line, and will help overcome some of the opposition to the Northern Pass.

With the upcoming closure of Pilgrim Nuclear Station and the loss of its 685 MW of generating capacity, New England needs the Northern Pass now more than ever. New England consistently experiences some of the highest electric rates in the country, and our grid desperately needs the baseload power

that large-scale hydro transmission projects like Northern Pass can provide.

### Permitting Processes

The permitting processes for the Northern Pass are underway at the state and federal level.

The project filed with the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) on October 19, 2015. In order to begin construction, the project must win approval from the SEC. The permitting process is expected to take about 14 months, and will present numerous opportunities for IBEW Local 104 members to weigh in to support this important, job-creating project.

The federal permitting process is also underway. In order to begin construction, the Northern Pass must secure approval from the US Department of Energy (DOE).

### What We Can Do

There are a number of ways IBEW Local 104 members can help ensure that Northern Pass gets built:

- Attend an upcoming state or federal public hearing; within the next month or so, there will be two more sets of hearings across the state of New Hampshire, one set for the New Hampshire SEC, and one set for the US DOE. Keep an eye on the Local 104 Facebook page and website, where we'll post the dates and times of these hearings once they're made public.

- Contact the NH SEC and tell them NO MORE DELAYS! Visit [www.ibew104.org](http://www.ibew104.org) and click on the banner that reads "Tell NH Site Evaluation Committee NO MORE DELAYS on Northern Pass!" We need to encourage the SEC to move this project ahead quickly, and your voice is critically important.

- Talk to your brothers and sisters on your job site about getting involved. We need every Local 104 member to turn out to hearings and support this project in order to get it through.

In Solidarity,  
**Huck Montgomery**  
Political Director, IBEW Local 104





IBEW Local 104  
22 Old Concord Turnpike  
Barrington, NH 03825



## Christmas Meetings & Celebrations

Join Local 104 at your closest union meeting to wrap up the year and celebrate the holidays!

### New Hampshire & Maine Union Christmas Meeting

December 16 at 7:00pm  
at Redhook Brewery  
1 Redhook Way  
Portsmouth, NH

### Massachusetts Union Christmas Meeting

December 17 at 7:00pm  
at Raffael's  
1601 Main Street (Rt. 1A)  
Walpole, MA  
[www.raffaels.com/walpole](http://www.raffaels.com/walpole)



IBEW Local 104 is proud to participate in our annual Toys for Tots program. Toys for Tots collects new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year and distributes those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in our community.

IBEW Local 104 will be collecting unwrapped toys and/or monetary donations at all union halls now through each Christmas meeting date.

We appreciate everyone's generous contributions in the past and hope you can donate to this worthy cause once again this year.

## Local 104 Goes Green

Please update the hall with your current e-mail address as we begin to use e-mail more often to get you information more efficiently.

If you do not wish to receive e-mails and would rather receive first class mail, please let us know.

You can simply e-mail us your e-mail address, but please include your name in the e-mail so we know who it is. Please email us at: [karen@ibew104.org](mailto:karen@ibew104.org), [elise@ibew104.org](mailto:elise@ibew104.org), [laurie@ibew104.org](mailto:laurie@ibew104.org), [colleen@ibew104.org](mailto:colleen@ibew104.org), [sarah@ibew104.org](mailto:sarah@ibew104.org).

Or you can fax us at: 508-660-0986, 603-868-1798 or 207-241-0899.

You may also call in at: 508-660-3900, 603-868-1143 or 207-241-7691.

If you have any other updates such as phone or address, please let us know.

Thank you!

