



N THE WIRE

The Newsletter of IBEW Local 104

SPRING 2018

IBEW



LOCAL 104

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Brothers & Sisters,

Let me get some disappointing news out of the way first, before I provide some updates on a number of exciting developments for our union. While you may see a few articles about more hearings on the Northern Pass, the decision handed down by the SEC was disappointing to say the least. We will continue to exhaust all our legal options until all the arguments have been made.

I want to stress that even if the Northern Pass does not happen, all the hard work we put into it has positioned Local 104 to be more successful in the future. This success will lead to more work for our members, create more jobs and help to strengthen our market share.

The years of work created a great relationship between the IBEW and Eversource. We cannot overlook the fact that hundreds of jobs not tied to Northern Pass were created in New Hampshire due to the growing relationship with Eversource.

Ten years ago, work in New Hampshire

was a task, due to the overwhelming non-union presence. Today, we can proudly say we do more than half the powerline work in the Granite State.

This is all due to the hard work we put in trying to make Northern Pass a reality. I want to thank everyone who donated their time trying to get Northern Pass approved. In the end, all is not lost. We, as a team, will continue to conquer the hurdles put before us.

New Hampshire Towers

The towers, for both hands-on and safety training, are going up in New Hampshire. They are another tool to help our members improve their skills and help us work safer in the field.

Initially, these towers were intended to help train existing and new members on tower work and rescue directly related toward the Northern Pass. Now, they will be used for similar purposes for the hundreds of other transmission tower jobs throughout our jurisdiction.

New Massachusetts Union Hall

Due to a delay in building materials delivery, we will have to push back our Open House for the new Union Hall.

Instead of hosting an event in June, we are now looking at dates in July or August. We will update you once we have a better idea on the exact date of our Open House event.

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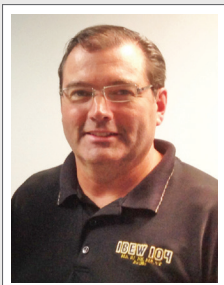
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MESSAGE FROM **HUGH BOYD**



Back in class again at the Boston Labor Guild and this time the topic is about Social Justice. Looking out for fairness for all; a simple concept for a unionist to have. The question is, are we, as union members, doing this all the time and for whom? My classmates and I reviewed this through the literary excerpts of Mr. Theodor Geisel, yes, aka Dr. Seuss.

Through our lives we have been given lessons on how we treat others. The goal is simple: Treat everyone as you would want them to treat you. Sometimes that does not always happen and sometimes we must stand up and fight for those who cannot fight for themselves. That is why I love unions, especially ours! In the story, Horton Hears a Who, Horton the elephant stresses to protect the unseen *Who people* who live on a little speck of dust. Horton, with his great hearing capacity, hears them and struggles to protect the *Who people* from the other characters in the Jungle of Nool that believe Horton is just plain crazy. With his community against him, Horton continues to fight for those who cannot be heard or speak for themselves.

The book was written in 1955 after Dr. Seuss visited Japan. You see, Theodor Geisel was a very strong anti-Japanese

cartoonist earlier in his career. These racial cartoons were to cultivate a culture of hate against the Japanese Emperor, which radiated to the people. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, hate against Empire of the Rising Sun was already in full force, justifiably. This was done to motivate the sales of war bonds and to support the war efforts against Japan. We can appreciate the need for money to do this, however, with these difficult decisions and the tragedies of war on both sides, we must always remember the unspoken cost of war.

When Dr. Seuss visited the devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the impact on him was painful as he reflected on his earlier drawings of the Japanese people. He thought, who was the voice for the children of Japan? What changes might there be for this to not happen again? Those thoughts spawned the story of Horton, the voice of the little *Who people*.

As unionists, we are like Horton. Who are we looking out for? Does a Union survive if we only look out for ourselves? Of course not. We look out for others as a collective. We, as Brothers and Sisters of Local 104, follow the Objects of our Constitution; "To cultivate feelings of friendship among those of our industry." (This is printed on page IV of the Constitution.) Is this the goal? Yes! With this collective unity, we start together as one voice. As a group, we are 1,279 members strong, working together to help all in our industry and yes, our society. This is our bargaining strength.



If we believe that even the smallest of groups, responsibilities or tasks are not of the upmost importance, we have failed. We believe that the smallest of voices (in our union and our society) deserve the respect of our time, ear and guided mentoring. If not, have we failed? I know you know the answer.

The next time we sit with our loved ones describing the champion that Horton is while reading this "story", let us think; how am I the champion for someone without anyone ever knowing it? Has someone been the champion for me? Yes, and I have far too many to list myself. We need to keep our fight alive for the underdog, for the next generation to cultivate our future champions. As Gandhi said and Theodor Geisel did, look within and "Be the change you wish to be in the world."

In Solidarity,
Hugh Boyd
Treasurer/Asst. Business Manager

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our members who have recently topped out to Journeymen Lineman!

Jan – April 2018 NEAT Graduates:

Leone Barletta	Quinten Galeucia
Maximilian Beal	Joseph Leaman
Eric Cummings	Daniel Pepoon
Mason Deschenes	Jason Shapleigh
Michael Desrosiers	Roy Wiberg

The IBEW Local 104 officers, members and staff would like to congratulate the members who were recently approved for retirement. We wish you all a very happy and healthy retirement.

David Blanchet	Dale Dickerson	Mark Grondin	James Ruxton
Daniel Cronin	Earl Erickson	Martin Rabtoy	

Pictured is newly retired member, Dale Dickerson, who was working in the Virgin Islands for his last job before retirement. He was able to get his photo taken with IBEW International President Lonnie Stephenson who was visiting crews in St. Croix and Puerto Rico.



MESSAGE FROM DAVE MOREAU



In April, I attended the IBEW Construction and Maintenance Conference in Washington DC, at which the International Office told everyone in attendance that the IBEW's collective market share is only 30 percent. Think about that for a second ... 30 percent? 104 negotiates our wages and benefits based on a less than optimal market share, and yet we still have pretty good lives because of the IBEW. What if we could turn the table and negotiate with all the leverage? Imagine the bargaining power that would give our Local Union! We want to increase our market share.

In an effort to increase our market share, I am asking for your help. I know many of

you may be thinking, "Dave's the Organizer, that's what he gets paid to do!" But Brothers and Sisters, although I am covering a lot of property, our jurisdiction is so large and wide spread, that there are too many non-union jobs and employees out there for me to see and talk to and try to convince. After speaking with many, I find that these non-union employees are just scared. Scared of the unknown, scared of change, scared of getting sold something that sounds too good to be true.

Reaching out to them and then often times having many conversations with the same guy takes time. If you are seeing the non-union crews on your trip out to work, let me know. Or maybe you can be more successful than I with hitting a few guys here and there. Let me know when you are talking to these non-union employees. I can get you information, shirts, stickers, or anything else that you might see fit to

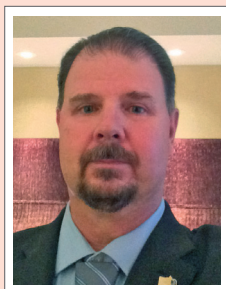
help you in our organizing campaign. 104 is trying to implement a reward system for members who strip or organize good, non-union industry workers. Whether it be a gift card or a dinner for two, we are still working out the details.

As the nice weather approaches, please don't lose sight of what it really means to be a Union Brother! That is, to better the lives of every other working family in our jurisdiction. So, I ask you to spread the word about our Union, the great benefits and the opportunities it can provide for non-union families.

Thank you, Brothers and Sisters, for reading. Be safe out there and thank you for your help!

In Solidarity,
Dave Moreau
Organizer

MESSAGE FROM TIM BURGESS



As spring turns to summer, we have seen a renewed interest in the NECEC project here in Maine.

This is a \$950 million, 145-mile DC Transmission line that will run (pending permitting and approval) from Lewiston through Farmington, Moscow, the Forks and Beattie TWP before crossing into Canada.

For those not familiar with the

location of Beattie TWP (as I wasn't), it is located on Map 38 of the Maine Atlas and Gazetteer adjacent to the west side of the Passamaquoddy Indian Territory.

The nearest named Maine towns would be Lowell town and Skinner, on the Canadian side it would be Megantic and Audet.

When built, this line will carry much needed Hydro power from Canada to southern New England.

We have been keeping our eyes and ears open for any opportunity to show our support for this large clean

energy project.

Currently, we have three substation projects along with some distribution and sub transmission work going on here in Maine.

The Lewiston office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. We have union meetings at 7 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month along with scheduled certs classes and referrals.

Respectfully,
Tim Burgess
Business Representative

2018 MA AFL-CIO SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

\$1500 for 4 years to Maryellen Lyman, Brother Lawrence Lyman's daughter; \$1000 for 4 years to Ashley Rooney, Brother Timothy Rooney's daughter; and \$750 for 4 years to Charles Borkowski, Brother Charles Borkowski's son. Congratulations!

DUES INCREASE NOTICE

Effective January 1, 2018

	"A Members"	"BA Members"
Per Capita	\$19.00	\$19.00
Pension Fund	\$18.00	N/A
Local 104	\$2.70	\$2.70
Total Monthly	\$39.70	\$21.70

▶ SAVE THE DATE ◀

UNION NIGHT AT THE FISHER CATS



Friday, June 22, 2018
1 Line Drive, Manchester, NH
6:30pm Dinner
7:05pm Game
Fireworks after the game

14TH ANNUAL IBEW LOCAL 104 SUMMER OUTING AND RODEO



Saturday, July 14, 2018
Elks Club
282 Durham Road
Dover, NH
Climbing starts at 11:00am

IBEW LOCAL 104 GOLF OUTING



Friday, September 7, 2018
Stow Acres Country Club
58 Randall Road
Stow, MA



EMPLOYEE/OFFICE LIST

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
Derek Martin	Ext. 1207 - Safety Specialist

ME Office

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

Stacy Brann - Office Admin
Tim Burgess - Business Rep.

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

Jim Breare	Ext. 1106 - Referral Agent
Brian Pierce	Ext. 1107 - President
Dave Moreau	Ext. 1102 - Organizer
Brian Murphy	Ext. 1109 - Business Manager

OSHE Dept MA Office

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

Kerry Bissinger	Ext. 1104 - Office Admin
Kathy Tilden	Ext. 1105 - Office Admin
Ryan Demeritt	Ext. 1102 - Safety Director
Sean McNamara	Ext. 1103 - Safety Specialist

DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

The IBEW Local 104 officers, members and staff would like to extend our condolences to the families of Local 104 members who have recently passed:

Paul Cleveland
James Flynn

Edgar Gravel
James Hanson

Larry McAuley
Stephen Reidy

George "Charlie" Thing
Rick Valles

Alvin Waitt
Richard Wheaton



IBEW LOCAL 104 AND THE MBTA

1918 is when IBEW Local 104 started representing the members at the then, Boston Elevated Railway (B.E.R.y). Now 100 years later, we are still the go to force for excellence in maintaining and restoring this intricate system. It is hard to comprehend all the changes through the years at the (T), yet we adapt to the aging infrastructure like no other in the nation. Working on the oldest underground railway in America has its challenges and all these obstacles have been tackled by the men and women of IBEW Local 104.

For a third of our existence at the (T), I have been a proud and, more importantly, blessed participant in maintaining this important electrical infrastructure in Boston and now, I am proudly on the union's labor relations side. I have witnessed these challenges up close for a long time. Today, the attacks are on the very core of all the workers that work proudly on the (T). With politicians changing laws and hired anti-union think tanks strategizing to bust unions, this has become a direct link to the decrease in numbers of represented unionists there. With outside entities supporting cases like Friedrichs vs CTA and Michael Janus vs.

A.F.S.C.M.E. (please take the time and Google both these cases), this attack on public sector workers is at a generational high. But how do we stop this? With political action.

Having politicians representing us at the State House fighting for our working values and maintaining the right to bargain fairly is the core of our existence anywhere. Our forefathers fought long and hard for these rights to fairly and collectively bargain. Without these laws in place, our economic struggles of the past will reemerge.

The fight to maintain public-sector unions is essential for the existence of the private sector as well. The unionized public-sector workforce is now 34.4 percent in the U.S. Private sector unions are now at 6.5 percent. Private entities like Citizens United want that number to be 0 percent for both. It is our responsibility to make sure that we maintain our core group at the MBTA for today and our future.

As a point of interest, when all the work dried up in the 70's, the MBTA and Belmont Light were the only jobs around



Franny Fitz and Timothy O'Donnell, January 8, 1971.



Jim Flynn in the 60's. He started at the T in 1945.

and that kept Local 104 afloat. So, let us keep in mind that we need to keep our membership at the (T) doing what they have been doing for over 100 years and vote for political leaders that will keep our labor laws intact. And if they do not, let us all work together to get labor-friendly political leaders in place. Our future depends on this.

In solidarity,
Hugh Boyd

MESSAGE

Continued from page 1.

Christmas Party

This past year's Christmas party was a huge success.

It was great to see so many of our members and quite a few old friends. I always enjoy catching up with our retired members and hearing stories about their time in the field. It was also great to see our active members relax, have a good time and improve our fraternal fellowship. The food was great, the music was excellent and a wonderful time was had by all.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the Christmas party a big success.

Storm Cleanup

A big thank you to all our members and to all of the contractors who traveled in from outside our area to help restore power after all of the major winter storms that hit our area.

2018 Climbing for Lost Linemen Event

The National Sisterhood United for Journeyman Linemen will host its annual Climbing for Lost Linemen event on June 22 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Clearfield County Fairgrounds in Clearfield, PA.

This year, the annual ceremony will honor all Brothers and Sisters who lost their lives on the line between June 2017 and June 2018.

Held the night before their annual rodeo, each fallen lineman's name is

written on a lantern, and, one-by-one, each Brother climbs the pole and hangs the lantern on a line strung between two poles. At the top, they then light the candle within the lantern and take a moment of silence for the fallen Brother or Sister. Lanterns are then mailed to the families of those honored.

For more information, please visit their website: <https://nsujl.org/rodeo/climbing-for-lost-linemen!>

In Conclusion

Hopefully we have seen the last of the winter storms until November or December. As the season begins to heat up, always work safe and make sure you stay hydrated.

Fraternally,
Brian T. Murphy

UNION MEETING REMINDER

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.





IBEW Local 104
22 Old Concord Turnpike
Barrington, NH 03825



LIFE SAVING EVENT - MICHELS POWER STORM RESPONSE

At approximately 11:45 p.m. on March 5, 2018, a Michels Power journeyman lineman suffered a near fatal heart attack. The crews were just finishing their fourth full day of storm duty in the Cape Cod area of Massachusetts. After working to restore power all day, the crews ate dinner together and retired to their hotel. Prior to going to bed that evening, Michels Power General Foreman, Michael Koferl, member of IBEW Local 1249, and our Eversource representative, Mick Collins, were conversing in the lobby of the hotel. A hotel employee rushed over and reported that a man collapsed on the hallway floor. Michael and Mick rushed over to the employee and assessed the situation. After the



initial assessment, the two determined that our lineman was unresponsive and not breathing. The two rescuers immediately initiated the lifesaving procedures with Michael performing rescue breathing while Mick performed chest compressions. The pair continued to provide CPR for approximately 7 minutes until paramedics arrived.

The employee was rushed to the hospital where open heart surgery was performed. If not for Michael and Mick's quick thinking and expert response, the employee would have most likely passed. The emergency room doctors and the paramedics reiterated that if not for the quick response that enabled the patient to maintain oxygen flow to his brain and vital organs, we would surely be dealing with a much more tragic situation. Kudos to Michael and Mick, they truly saved a life.

IBEW Local 104 Business Manager Brian Murphy sent a request to the International Office for a "Life Saving Award" to be granted to IBEW Local 1249 member, Mike Koferl.

NEW 104 WEBSITE

IBEW Local 104 has launched a new, streamlined website that features a Members Portal where members can log in and pay dues as well as sign the book online. Please visit ibew104.org.

