



International Brotherhood
of Electrical Workers

LOCAL UNION 1249

NEWS

www.IBEW1249.org

Volume No. 21 No.2

6518 Fremont Rd. • East Syracuse, NY 13057

Summer 2010

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As summer approaches, it's good to see everything is in full bloom especially the work situation. As of this writing, we are almost at full employment in our "A" & "BA" Chapters. Let's make sure that we do everything we can to keep it that way.

I would like to remind all members to work safe, work smart, and do your job adequately as you are selling the services of yourself, the Contractor and the Local Union to the Customer. If we fail to do our job properly then all it does is make the customer want to look for help elsewhere (I.E. the non-union). This has become a major problem in the Rochester, NY area. Caccamise Electric is doing Signal and Street Lighting work, LL&P is doing linework, KBH is doing underground work and Liberty Construction is also doing underground work. Our Organizers have approached the men working for these contractors but they are very unfriendly and anti-union. These Contractors are growing so we need to do a safe and professional job so the Customer will look to us.

Local 1249 will be continuing the Code of Excellence (C.O.E.) Training in the near future as this is going to be a requirement by National Grid. All members working in the "A" Chapter will be required to have the Code of Excellence Training to work on the many different Utility properties. The C.O.E. Training has been

given in the Buffalo and Syracuse area. The instructors will be going to the Albany area next and then in the North Country.

A new three year Agreement with the "A" Chapter contractors was successfully negotiated in April. Once the New Agreement books are printed, we will be handing them out to the "A" chapter members at the Union Meeting and the Assistant Business Managers will be handing them out as they go to the different job sites.

With summer upon us it is time for our annual Clambake. It is going to be held on August 7th this year. Please fill out the coupon on the back page and let us know if you plan to attend. This gives us an idea on how many of you are attending. The count is very important as we are charged more if we go over! Thank you for taking the time to do this. Also, please purchase your ticket(s) for the money raffle as this helps to offset the cost of the Clambake. Again, your Executive Board has kept the price of admission to twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per person and retirees are our guests! So come on out and have a good time and tell some stories. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Have a safe and fun summer with family and loved ones as you all know summer seems to go by faster than any other season. Remember to say a prayer for our servicemen and women over seas!

*Fraternally,
William C. Boire
Business Manager*



*Are you sure these guys aren't retired? Pig Roast June 5, 2010
Union Springs, NY. L/R Union Rep. JL Jay Matthews,
Dan Clark, Retired Business Manager John Bishko,
JL Dave Giannotta, and JL Dave Jakaub.*



*LU 1249 34 Kv Hot Sticking LaFayette, NY Harlan
Electric. A6 Ben Murphy and JL Grant Bucktooth*



I.B.E.W. Local Union 1249 News

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BA CHAPTER NEWS

Hello fellow members. Summer was quick to arrive this year and it seems like we just had a very long Spring which made for nice working conditions. There are a few things that the Union would like to go over.

Referral Procedures:

All members must call their Union Representative when they are Laid off, Quit or Discharged. It is important for everyone to keep the Union informed so we can maintain accurate records of availability for work and to maintain an accurate record of your work history for your eligibility for benefits. Members must call in every 30 days to remain active on the Referral List.

Dues & Fees:

The union would like to discuss some issues with dues when it comes to new members and current members that have dues in arrears. When a new member begins, they are responsible to send in any paperwork they might have along with the initiation fees and first month's dues. To insure an accurate start date, new members must fill out all paperwork and pay all fees required by the Union. In order to be eligible for benefits, a member is required to have 6 months Union membership and 600 hours with a contributing employer(s). Also keep in mind that when current members are laid off, terminated or quit a contractor, the member must keep their dues current. A contractor can only take the dues out if you are working. When you are not working they can not deduct your dues for you and will not pay them for you. Most of our members think they are current and that the contractors take care of dues and do not call the union to check on their dues until it is too late and their benefits have been affected. It is not the Union's fault when this happens so please try to make every effort to keep your dues caught up and remain a member in good standing.

Work safe and see you at the Clambake August 7th.

*Respectfully,
Henry Rose*

Organizing Staff

The Third District Vice President is requesting our support with H.R. 3012, the Trade Act. This bill will help bring back manufacturing jobs to New York State.

Please contact your Senators and Representatives at 202-225-3121 and ask for their support.

Organizing Staff



Here are just two examples of the skilled professionals, who safely perform Line Clearance Tree Trimming work for our tree contractors on a daily basis. Local 1249 is proud of the work you do and urges you to know and follow your contract. If you feel that someone is not following your contract notify your Union Representatives Henry Rose or Jim Baker or call the Union

REMINDER...

**IBEW Local 1249's
Website is at:**

www.ibew1249.org



Safety Director's Report

by Richard French

CRANE REGULATIONS

The outside electrical industry utilizes many cranes, boom trucks and digger derricks in everyday operations. In the State of New York, licensing has been required to operate the above listed equipment for many years. At the present time many states do not require any proof of competency such as written and/or practical exams. This is about to change.

OSHA reports that an average of 89 workers are killed each year in crane related accidents. The number one cause of death is electrocution from overhead power lines. This is followed by struck by crane loads and then crane collapses and finally, falls.

OSHA has not reviewed the crane standard for over forty years and with changes in technology, cranes have greater lift enhancing attachments. In addition, many units are equipped with electronic controls and computers to assist the operators in the daily operations. In some cases, people who operate these units have little or no training on the rig, which causes accidents.

The existing standard will be replaced this year after many years of deliberation by the advisory committee, which was made up of manufacturers, general contractors, unions and trade associations. The new standard is requiring that operators demonstrate competency through practical and written tests. OSHA states that they believe incorrect operation to be a major factor in many of the accidents. Under the proposed rule, operators must be certified by either an accredited crane/derrick operator testing organization, qualified by an audited employer program or the U.S. Military or licensed by a government entity.

Changes will be coming soon, possibly as early as July 2010. We will keep everyone informed as more information becomes available.

Work Safe

NEW YORK STATE LINEMAN'S SAFETY TRAINING FUND

**E
A
P**

**EMPLOYEE
ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM**

New York State
AFL-CIO

1-800-327-1984

**7 DAYS, 24-HOURS PROFESSIONAL, CONFIDENTIAL,
HELP FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

When calling, please identify yourself as a member or family member associated with the New York State Lineman's Safety Training Fund/IBEW Local Union 1249

Apprenticeship & Training

Local 1249 now has 141 apprentices in the NEAT program. These apprentices attend approximately sixteen training sessions per year at the union hall. The training that is provided is minute in comparison to the training that takes place in the field. The apprentices of Local 1249 need to be taught the job from the ground up by members on the job. Please take the time to show these apprentices the right way to perform the job they are doing.

Since the last publication of the Local 1249 newsletter, the following members have achieved the classification of Journeyman Lineman:

Brody Barnum
Jeffrey Farrar
Martin Fidler
Jory Fowler
James Goult
Kevin Gray

Casey Kelly
Nicholas Muck
Larry Randall
Donald Shutter
Adam Treat

CDL Physicals

A reminder to everyone...

CDL physicals expire after two years. Please check your card or contact this office for more information or an appointment 315-656-8386.



1249 Business Manager Bill Boire congratulates recent graduate JL Jeff Farrar effective 5/3/2010



1249 Business Manager Bill Boire congratulates recent graduate JL Casey Kelly effective 5/3/2010

"ARC" News

Active Retirees Club

Happy Summer to All

The "ARC" had a great party on April 24, 2010 in Chateaugay. The party was planned and put together by Mr. & Mrs. Sherwood Parent. Thank you so much for all that you did. Everyone had a good time and the food was great. Congratulations to Floyd and Lois McDonald who won the 50/50 raffle and generously donated the money back to the "Arc" Club. Our next party is going to be in Auburn on September 26, 2010, at the Sunset Restaurant.

The Pig Roast was June 5th at the American Legion in Union Springs. I want to thank all of those who brought a dish to pass, everything was very tasty!! I would also like to thank Jerry and Marilyn Jorgenson for all their help and put a big shout out to all those late night cooks, thank you again!! I would also like to thank Sharon and Bernie Condes for helping with the Pig Roast raffle and Walt and Ellie Stotler for helping at the Roast. These parties would not be so wonderful if it were not for all of the help that everyone gives. It was a very warm day but we all had a good time.

Congrats to Jan Ellen House, the winner of the 50/50 raffle. Speaking of raffles here is a listing of the winning names that were drawn:

- 1st- \$765 - Curtiss Stevens
 - 2nd-\$240 - Jon Lehtonen
 - 3rd-\$230 - Leonard Jakaub
 - 4th-\$115 - Ken Tompkins
 - 5th-69 \$1.00 NYS lotto Tics - Carmon Durham
 - 6th-\$34.50 - Dina Dean
 - 7th thru 20th- club fund raising calendar
- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Richard Webb | Roger Pure |
| D.F. Kudla Sr. | Ken Bowers |
| Bob Langtry | Vern Colvin |
| Jee Nee c/o Stan Pethybridge | Ida LaFave |
| Anna Conley | Frank Obermyer |
| Paul Mansfield | Joseph Faber |
| Rose Patterson | Kenneth Lints |

And here are the Bobby Shutter Memorial Golf results:
The winning foresome:

- Denny Hadcock (LU 1249) Richard Smith
- Tom Squires Mike Dries
- Closest to the pin - Dan Manky
- Longest Drive - Josh McLean

Thanks again to all participants. The weather was perfect and it was a great game. I would also like to take a moment to give a special thanks to Mark Lawrence for handling the golf outing.

Later this summer we will be working on the 2011 club calendars. We are looking for some "New" sellers this year so please keep that in mind. Any help is good and it supports your "Arc" Club!!

Thanks so much to all for your support!!
Lynda A. Troyan, Chair Person
IBEW Local 1249 "ARC"



ARC Party Chateaugay, NY - April 24, 2010



*Retired JL Ernie Beckwith, Harland Sitterly, Retired JL Harold Evans and Retired JL Bob Langtry (standing)
"ARC Pig Roast" - June 2010*

1249 I.B.E.W. – Your Local



Many generations of the Shutter Family have graced the meeting halls of LU 1249 from Business Manager to Journeyman Lineman. JL Donald "Willy" Shutter receives congratulations from BM Boire & relatives JL Kenny Shutter Jr., JL Doug Shutter, JL Steve Shutter & A6 Jeff Clark. Congratulations Willy!



A6 Jeremy Harris lowering conductors on highline job in Ithaca, NY for Harlan Electric



JL Tim Pearce, Harlan Electric
Distribution Job, Fulton, NY - May 2010



JL Tim Daley, Cazenovia Substation
Harlan Electric



JL Shawn Onderko receives the IBEW Certificate of Recognition for his role in saving a life while working for Thiro U.S.A. in 2009



JL Scott Baird receives the IBEW Life Saving Award and Pin for his role in saving a woman's life while working for Thiro U.S.A. in 2009

Insurance Fund Coordination of Benefits

Up to the present time, the IBEW Local 1249 Insurance Fund does not differentiate between family and single coverage. Other employers do and they charge a larger premium for family coverage. Other employers of covered spouses are raising the family rate in an effort to get people to drop their coverage. Many employers even give bonuses to participants to drop their coverage. While members may think that the IBEW Local 1249 Insurance Fund will pick up the spouses and dependents in primary coverage if they drop the other coverage, the rules of the Local 1249 Insurance Fund do not allow it. Members may be costing themselves more than they think when they drop the other coverage.

Please contact the Fund Office and go over this **before** you consider dropping other coverage. This is dealt with in your Summary Plan Description in Coordination of Benefits.

Coordination of Benefits is dealt with in Article III Section 16 of the IBEW Local 1249 Insurance Fund Summary Plan Description. This is a series of rules agreed upon by the Insurance Commissioners of all 50 states and incorporated into the IBEW Local 1249 Insurance Fund. This governs the way different insurance plans deal with covered spouses and dependents having coverage in another plan. These rules determine the portion of expenses that will be paid by each plan.

Under the Coordination of Benefits rules “in the case where a spouse makes a voluntary election out of their Employers Group Plan, this Plan (Local 1249 Insurance Fund) will treat the spouse and eligible dependents as if they were covered by their employers Plan”.

This means that the IBEW Local 1249 Insurance Fund will pay the benefits on the eligible spouse and dependents only as the secondary coverage, **never** the primary.

7 Questions About Surgery

More than 15 million Americans need surgery each year. But most operations are not emergencies so there's time to learn about your procedure and be sure it's the best option for your medical concern. If you're scheduled for surgery, be sure to ask the surgeon:

1. What operation are you recommending?
2. How will this operation help me?
3. Are there alternatives to surgery, such as medication, changes to diet or exercise?
4. What are the benefits of having the operation?
5. What are the risks of having this operation?
6. What if I don't have this operation?
7. How long will I be out of work?

GETTING A SECOND OPINION

A second opinion is helpful when facing elective surgery. It is also recommended if your health care provider has not made a diagnosis after several visits or has detected a rare, serious, chronic or potentially fatal illness. Don't hesitate to request a second opinion. Your IBEW Local 1249 Insurance Fund does generally cover second opinions in cases such as this.

Asking questions about your surgery can make a difference. You put yourself in control of your own care, and research shows that people who are well informed about their treatments tend to be more satisfied with the results.

Insurance Fund

With the arrival of summertime, quite a few members of IBEW Local 1249 will be out on the road on their motorcycles to take advantage of the good weather. This note is a reminder to these riders that the IBEW local 1249 Insurance Fund is not their carrier for medical insurance on their motorcycle insurance policy. The medical insurance coverage can be purchased when the motorcycle insurance policy is taken out.

Under the rules of the IBEW Local 1249 Insurance Fund Article XIII, Expenses Not Covered By the Plan # 45 on page 105 of the Summary Plan Description states that nothing will be paid on “charges for injuries sustained as a

result of an accident or incident for which a payment is available under an insurance policy such as a No-Fault insurance policy, even if you have failed to claim or apply for such coverage...”

This means that the IBEW local 1249 Insurance Fund will not pick up charges for medical bills as a result of

a motorcycle accident when that medical coverage could have or should have been purchased with the motorcycle insurance policy.

Have Fun. Drive careful and buy the right motorcycle insurance.

I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1249 INSURANCE FUND

Plan Year 01-01-2010 through 12-31-2010

Month		Medical Claims Paid	Mail Order Prescriptions Paid	Personal Acct. Paid	Year-to-Date
Jan	2010	628,816.63	226,339.93	279,331.70	1,134,488.26
Feb	2010	796,541.79	250,662.05	238,390.96	2,420,083.06
Mar	2010	1,338,703.16	367,382.35	189,220.12	4,315,388.69
Apr	2010	675,698.52	231,749.92	207,892.78	5,430,729.91
May	2010	813,588.94	220,176.84	192,955.51	6,657,451.20

I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1249 PENSION FUND

Benefits Paid - Plan Year - 01-01-2010 thru 12-31-2010

Month		# of Retirees	Monthly Pension Benefit	Death Benefit	Year-to-Date
Jan	2010	539	499,690.63	- 0 -	499,690.63
Feb	2010	540	500,055.26	- 0 -	999,745.89
Mar	2010	539	499,269.49	- 0 -	1,499,015.38
Apr	2010	537	517,550.33	- 0 -	2,016,565.71
May	2010	537	498,256.99	- 0 -	2,514,822.70

New Retirees I.B.E.W. Local 1249 Pension Fund

The following list of participants of the I.B.E. W. Local 1249 Pension Fund have been approved at the Board of Trustees Meeting which was held on Wednesday. May 12. 2010.

Name of Participant	Type	Date
Larry A Bombard	Normal	2/1/2010
Joseph R Kralovic	Normal	3/1/2010
Timothy M Cole	Disability	4/1/2010
John R VanDusen	Disability	4/4/2009
James A Tompkins	Disability	4/1/2010
Daniel F Kennedy	Early	4/1/2010
Sheldon D Grant	Normal	5/1/2010

Clambake Response Form

I _____

Retiree / Active Member
(Circle One)

Will be attending Local 1249's
2010 Annual Clambake.

_____ Total Number of
People Attending

CUT ON DOTTED LINES

Local 1249's Annual Mixed Clambake Notice

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

It is Clambake time again, believe it or not. This year the Clambake will be on August 7th. With the growing success of the Clambake each year, we are in need of a more accurate count for Hinerwadel's. **Please take the time to fill out the response form and mail it back to our office or call 315-656-7253.**

All Local 1249 retirees are our guests at the annual mixed clambake and we welcome and encourage all of them to attend as we appreciate their association with Local 1249. Each retiree's clambake ticket will be held for them at the front gate.

The officers and Staff of Local 1249 look forward to seeing you and your family at this year's bake.

In Memorium

	Chapter	Initiated	Retired
Louis DeSanto	A	12/20/57	07/01/86
Timothy Fahey	A	02/01/08	**
Edward "Bud" Mason	A	08/27/46	07/01/86
Joseph Winterhalt	A	4/10/61	01/01/82

** AM - Active member at time of death.
Remembering Our Brothers Who Have Passed On

Local 1249 Union Meetings at the
Union Hall at 8:00 p.m.

July 9, 2010 • Aug. 6, 2010 • Sept. 10, 2010

IBEW LOCAL 1249



Continuous Bake
1 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Music-Fun-Games

**MIXED
CLAMBAKE**
Saturday, Aug 7, 2010

Location:
Hinerwadel's Inc.
5300 W. Taft Rd, N Syracuse



International Brotherhood
of Electrical Workers
Local Union 1249
6518 Fremont Road
East Syracuse, N.Y. 13057-0277

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