



International Brotherhood  
of Electrical Workers

LOCAL UNION 1249

**NEWS**

[www.IBEW1249.org](http://www.IBEW1249.org)

Volume No. 22 No.4

6518 Fremont Rd. • East Syracuse, NY 13057

Winter 2011



*Business Manager Bill Boire and  
the entire staff of Local 1249  
want to wish all our members and  
their families a joyous, healthy  
holiday season . . .*

## DUES INCREASE JANUARY 2012

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

There will be a \$2.00 per month increase in dues for the "A" chapter members and a \$2.00 increase for the "BA" Chapter members effective January 1, 2012.

This increase was approved by the Delegates of the 38<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention, which was held in Vancouver, BC.

## FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

*Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays,  
and Seasons Greetings to All!*

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with your family. Even with the tough economic times in our country there is still a lot to be thankful for, mainly the work situation. We have full employment in our BA Chapter and the A Chapter. It is typical at this time of year for the Utilities (NYSEG & RG&E) to try and finish their jobs by the end of the year. National Grid on the other hand, has their fiscal year end at the end of March.

At this time, I would like to thank every member for the job they have done on the 2 recent storms (Irene and the latest freak snow storm). Many man hours were worked with just a few incidents. Good job to all! Let's continue the good work ethic and keep the Utilities from calling non-union contractors!

Again, I would like to wish everyone a very sincere holiday greeting and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Remember to say a prayer for our servicemen and women who are over there as most of them will not be home for Christmas.

Fraternally,

*William C. Boire  
Business Manager*



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

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# BA CHAPTER NEWS

WHAT A GREAT YEAR! We were at full employment for most of 2011, FANTASTIC! I'm proud to hear with hurricane Irene and the freak snow storm in the east that all the work was done safely. Please everyone participate in training and enforcing safety. From what I was told 2012 will be a very strong year also.

The update on Birchcrest, we are still keeping the pressure on them, which is paying off. Rumor is they are struggling to finish their work before the year ends and they will have to re-trim some of their circuits along with some other serious issues. Let's hope its all true. We would still like our members to call if you know where they are parking or working so we can continue doing our job. Thank you for your help.

We will be organizing meetings throughout the state after the holidays. We are choosing days and times that are more suitable to our members so we would like it if everyone could please attend.

I would like to remind everyone how important it is to call the hall or your rep if you change your phone number or address. Remember that it is your responsibility to make sure your dues are paid up to date. If anyone needs a JT test call your rep and please get your CDL licenses.

## Happy Holidays To A Very Talented Work Force!!

*Respectfully yours,*  
Jim Baker- 914-443-9449  
Henry Rose- 716-863-0205  
Ed Moreira- 315-427-2291

## "ARC" News - Active Retirees Club

Hopefully everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Christmas and New Years are right around the corner and we would like to wish you all the best of luck and hope you have a great holiday.

Arc will be having its next gathering in March in Florida. The actual dates have not been set but we will be notifying retirees in that area by February. If you do not receive a notice but are interested in going you can give the office a call for the details.

Please remember that it is not too late to order a calendar. Thanks so much to all for your support!!

*Happy Holidays,*  
David Jorgensen, IBEW Local 1249 "ARC"

**Remember to visit the  
IBEW 1249 website at:  
[www.IBEW1249.org](http://www.IBEW1249.org)**

## Organizing Staff

Local 1249's Organizing Staff would like to wish all of its members a safe and happy holiday season.

Also remember your obligation to our contractors. Covering this jurisdiction will ensure our future.

*Organizing Staff*

## Planning An Escape Route



The work area must be clear of brush, undergrowth, or other obstacles that could interfere with escape. The saw operator must be able to quickly maneuver and escape.

The preferable escape route is a line that is 45 degrees from either side of an imaginary line opposite the intended direction of fall.

The planned escape route must be prepared before any felling cuts are made.



# Safety Director's Report

by Richard French

## Accident Prevention

In the past year, the Northeastern ten state area has seen a rash of accidents resulting in, some cases, serious injury and lost time from work. When accidents occur, investigations take place to try and determine the root cause and, more importantly, what can be done to prevent this type of accident from happening again. In some cases, there are similar reasons for the accidents, but not always.

A famous safety professional studied hundreds of thousands of accident cases eighty years ago. He developed a pyramid theory that states for every 330 unsafe acts of people in the workplace, 300 will result in no injury, 29 will have minor injuries and 1 will suffer a major injury. He also found that 88% of accidents result from human error.

This theory is not accepted by all entities. However, there are many that support his findings through their own investigations. It would be absurd to ever think that someone would elect to have an injury on purpose. However, when we fail to plan our work or fail to use the correct tools for the project or come to the workplace with our minds distracted from the tasks at hand, we are opening the door for the accident to happen. Communication, hazard analysis and knowledge of the task, along with proper procedure and appropriate PPE, will keep the door closed on the accident.

Everyone in the workplace wants to return home every day without harm. This can be achieved if we follow all the guidelines that have been in place for many years. We must protect each other at all times as we are our brothers' keepers.

*Happy Holidays  
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 103 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 the 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:

Jamie Anthony	Brett Joly
Derek Bilow	Chad LaRue
Christopher Chase	Kyle Leubner
Alan Fronce	Thomas Losito
Daniel Hazen	Kevin McLoughlin
Corey Hinman	William O'Brien
	Chad Sherin

## 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 President Charlie Brigham congratulates Recent Graduates.



*From Top to Bottom:  
JL Nathan Parkman  
JL Nicholas Morgan*

*From Top to Bottom:  
JL Alexander Morgan  
JL Corey Hinman*

## 1249 Business Manager Bill Boire Congratulates Recent Graduates...



JL Ronald E. Colvin



JL Anthony W. Nelson



JL Brandon McGregor



JL Tim Tuetken



JL Joseph Emery



JL Jeremy J. Rodriguez



JL Craig S. Pethybridge



JL Richard L. Kroll



JL Darly Pollock



JL Kevin McLoughlin



JL Robert Hazen



JL Randy M. Randall



JL Ben Murphy



JL Daniel J. McMahon



JL Craig S. Pethybridge  
and his father  
JL Stan Pethybridge



3 Generations - Dula, Nick, Dennis and Alex Morgan.  
Congratulations Nick and Alex on becoming 1249 Journeyman Lineman.

## The ARC Dinner in Norwich, NY



Ann and (R) JL Bill Ball, (R) JL Mike Moran  
and (R) JL Tim Keck.



(R) GD Ray Banas, Mary and (R) JL Larry Poirier  
and JL Bill Trojnor



(R) JL Dick Diamond, (R) JL Ted Haynes and  
(R) DMO Dick Vanderbunt

## *Local 1249 IBEW Our Linemen at Work...*



*1249 JL Richard Hack's Crew  
Harlan Electric, Sub T - Saratoga, NY*



*1249 JL Ted Roberts - D&D Power*



*1249 JL Dan Bressette - Hot Sticking  
115 Kv - Harlan Electric*



*1249 President Charlie Brigham, 1249 Referral Manager  
Assistant BA Mark Lawrence and Executive Board Member  
Mike Delmar at the 38th IBEW International  
Convention in Vancouver, BC.*



*230 Kv Outage - Northline Utilities.*



*Local 1249 crews doing distribution work in Oneonta, NY  
~ Northline Utilities ~*

## 10 Steps to Staying Smoke-Free

Many smokers who have tried repeatedly to quit say it's the psychological habit, rather than the physical addiction, that they can't beat. Here's how you or someone you care about can resist temptation... and become a nonsmoker for good:

**Stay out of trouble.** Avoid places and events where you are tempted to smoke.

**Get in with the quit crowd.** Hang out with your nonsmoking friends. Get some nonsmoking time under your belt before getting together with smokers again.

**Keep your mouth busy.** Use oral substitutes such as sugarless gum or hard candy, raw vegetable such as carrot or celery sticks, or a handful of nuts or sunflower seeds.

**Change your routine.** Take a brisk walk instead of a coffee break. Reach for juices or water instead of alcohol. You'll break the habit of doing things out of habit.

**Keep your hands busy, too.** Try exercise or "hand" hobbies such as needlework or wood-working.

**Hang 10.** About to light up ? Remember one word: *delay*. Waiting 10 minutes can often help you move past the immediate urge to smoke.

**Inhale...fresh air.** When the urge strikes, breathe deeply. You used to breathe like this when you inhaled smoke. Now picture your lungs filling with crisp, clean air instead.

**Remind yourself of why you decided to quit.** Carry a list of reasons with you and refer to them whenever you're tempted.

**Reward yourself each time you resist the urge to smoke.** Drop coins in a coin jar and periodically "cash out" to buy yourself a treat, such as gourmet chocolate or a new CD.

Don't despair if you do have a cigarette. It doesn't mean you've failed. Look at what led you to lapse... and resolve not to let it happen again.

## 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.





*Town of Prattsville, NY, was nearly decimated by Hurricane Irene's wind, rain and floods. The Northeast was hit by several serious storms this year putting many of our members to work during the emergency and for days and weeks afterward.*

*You can only imagine from these pictures, taken by Charlie Brigham, the conditions our members work in after such a storm clearing the trees and restoring the power. Thank you to all the hard working men and women of Local 1249.*

# In Memorium

	Chapter	Initiated	Retired
Kenneth Bush	A	06/01/47	04/01/89
Dominick Capece	A	09/30/85	10/01/02
David Davenport	A	08/02/60	12/01/94
Timothy Kobel	A	09/06/88	05/01/03
Paul Mansfield	A	08/29/60	01/01/82
Lawrence McDonald	A	06/06/58	05/01/93
Charles Pomerleau	A	09/30/63	07/01/95
Michael Romand	A	03/01/01	* *
Ernest Saumier	A	06/01/60	11/01/91
Roger Desgagnes	BA	06/20/73	10/01/91
Hugh Fordyce	BA	12/19/67	03/01/89

\*\* AM - Active member at time of death.

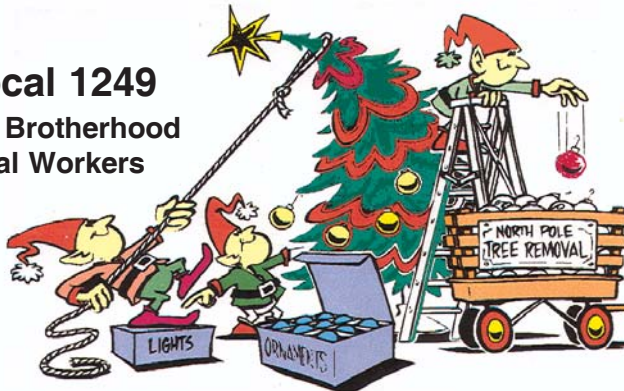
*Remembering Our Brothers Who Have Passed On*

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

January 6, 2012  
February 3, 2012  
March 2, 2012  
April 13, 2012

## Happy Holidays

From Local 1249  
International Brotherhood  
of Electrical Workers



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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

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