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# IBEW 302 NEWSLETTER

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Vol. 39 Issue 2

**Tom Hansen Business Manager/Financial Secretary**  
1875 Arnold Drive, Martinez, CA 94553 (925) 228-2302

Apr/May/June 2020

## ***BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT***

This has been very interesting year so far. We have seen many changes and challenges. Many of our jobs have continued but the work at the Refineries has slowed considerably.

As we move forward in our new reality our main goal is keeping everyone healthy and our jobs open. As we move forward it is very important that everyone follows the safety requirements at their jobs. When the pandemic started there was a great deal of pressure put on the Governor to shut down all Construction. Robbie Hunter the President of the State Building Trades worked with the Governor to keep Construction open. Robbie kept making the point that the Men and Women of the Building Trades could stay safe and get the work done. Your efforts proved him right.

Here locally Bill Whitney the head of the Contra Costa Building Trades talked to the head of the County's Health Department to educate him and to make the same point that Robbie was making with the State. With the help of our friends on the Board of Supervisors we were able to have Construction deemed an essential service and kept most jobs open.

One of the many things effected by the virus is our annual Apprenticeship Graduation. For the first time in a couple of decades we will not hold a Graduation dinner. In spite of that, we have a new group of Journeymen Inside Wireman and Sound and Communication Installers:  
Christopher Bird, Robert Brumfield, Ulises Chavarin, Shane Cullum, James DeMers, Nicholas Fischer, Anthony Gilliam, Jesse Ginn, Isaiah Herrera, Steven Johnson, Felipe

Lopez, Julian Navarro, Nicholas Negron, Carlos Palacios, Matthew Reed, Adrian Rodriguez, Chris Rosales, Samuel Santa Iglesia, Eric Santistevan, Patrick Shannon, Christine Travers and Steven VanBuren.

We should all congratulate them on their achievement and wish them the best of luck as the start this new chapter of their lives. When things return to a more normal we will bring them together and give them the celebration they deserve.



Because of the restrictions we have been unable to meet with the Contractors to work on a new Inside Agreement. Originally we extended the contract until July 31<sup>st</sup> but we were still unable to meet. The Negotiation Committee felt it would be best to move the extension to August 31<sup>st</sup> and give us the time we need to come to an agreement. That also gives us the ability to attend the August CIR if necessary.

We started the planning of this year's Picnic but unfortunately it

looks like it would be best to cancel. We know how much everyone enjoys that day but with the uncertainty we thought it would be best to take this year off and try again next year.

As of right now we still have the date reserved for our annual Old Timers Dinner. As we get closer to September 11<sup>th</sup> we will need to decide if we are able to hold the event. The Old Timers is one of the best things the Local does. It brings together old friends for a very enjoyable evening. Hopefully there will be the ability to hold events for groups this Fall. As we get closer we will let you know if we can hold the event.

The City of Brentwood was preparing to do some major work on their Wastewater Treatment Plant. They had originally put the project out to bid without a PLA. The low General was Overra and they had used a couple of non-union contractors, one of them was the Electrical contractor called HGH. The project had a budget of \$44 Million with 25% of it electrical. Bill Whitney the head of the Building Trades reached out to the Council and some of our Members that live in Brentwood sent emails to their Council Members and Mayor. At the Council meeting of June 9<sup>th</sup> they voted to reject the bid for the project and to have Staff put it back out to bid under a PLA. The Council Members that supported us were Karen Rarey, Claudette Staton and Jonny Rodriguez. When it counted they showed themselves to be real supporters of our Local and the Building Trades. Thank you to all of our Brentwood Members that contacted the Council.

# **T R A I N I N G C E N T E R**

Our Training Center operates under the Martinez Unified School District. In-person Journeyman training classes are currently suspended at the Training Center due to the CoronaVirus. There are some good online classes that are recognized by the State of California. One that a lot of Journeymen use is [www.jadelearning.com](http://www.jadelearning.com) and [www.californiaelectricaltraining.com](http://www.californiaelectricaltraining.com)

Call the Training Center at 925/372-7083 at 925/372-7083 with any questions that you might have.

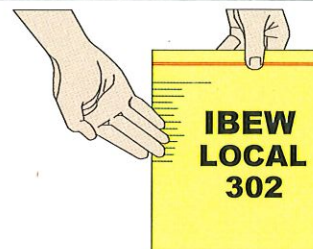
## **CERTIFICATION CHANGE**

The State of California Electrical Certification Unit has updated the time frame for submitting renewal forms. Due to the current State backlog on processing renewals you can now submit your renewal up to 12 months in advance of your expiration date.

## **DON'T LET YOUR CERTIFICATION EXPIRE**

Based on member's recent reports and an instructor who has taken the current test, it is much more difficult now. Don't put yourself in the position of having to take the test again. Check the termination date on your card, get your 32 hours of continuing education

# KNOW YOUR AGREEMENT



## Changes To The Dispatch Procedures

There have been a few changes and clarifications to the Dispatch Procedures shown on the following page of this newsletter. Please see the following changes:

**Sign In Procedures: section (c)** is new to the procedure, but has always been in place. You must be on the out of work list to get a travel letter.

**Dispatch Hours:** As always you must have all your certs at time of dispatch, but the next line is new; "and be able to provide them to the Employer on the first day of work". The next line refers to the type of certs that may be required: I-9 Documents (typically a drivers license and social security card or a passport), State Certification, Welder and/or Instrumentation Certifications. These requirements are outlined in the Agreement in Article V, Section 21 and have been included in the dispatch procedures.

**Short Calls:** As always you can re-sign after a short call by phone but now it is stated you must re-sign "as soon as possible" with the dispatcher.

**Strikes/Turn Downs:** The exceptions to a refusal of a job opportunity have been added to for clarification. Added to the previous exceptions are: (1) vacations that are properly registered with the dispatcher: (2) Dispatches for Shift Work and (3) Dispatches with Authorized Early Starts.

**Disability:** Added to the requirement to place your name on the books under "disability" within one week of the injury is the requirement for a Medical Work Status Report, issued by your doctor, to be provided to the hall to be placed on the books under "disability". Subsequent Status Reports will be required to remain on the books under "disability". The Status Reports must have dates that show when the member is unable to work from a certain date through a certain date.

**Failure to update the Work Status Report** could result in dropping off the "disability" designation which would subject the member to strikes.

**Local Pension:** This is new to the dispatch procedure pamphlet. If you are drawing money from the Local Pension (Fidelity) you will not be allowed to sign the out of work list.

These changes/Updates are fairly straight forward, but if anyone has questions please call the Dispatcher at the hall.

## SAFETY COMMITTEE

**To prevent infection and to slow transmission of COVID-19, do the following:**

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, or clean them with alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- Practice physical distancing (6 feet) by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.

Due to the circumstances Local 302 will not be holding a blood drive this year but we encourage you to donate blood if you are able.

# UPDATED DISPATCH PROCEDURES

## SIGNING THE BOOKS

Upon becoming unemployed\*, all applicants will sign in on the proper Referral Book IN PERSON.

Hours to sign the out-of-work list are between 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MONDAY through FRIDAY, excluding Holidays.

- (a) Please fill out the sign-in sheet, time stamp the sign-in sheet with the time clock, and place the sign-in sheet either at the basket at the front desk or the basket at the dispatch window if the dispatcher is in.
- (b) Please remember to fill in all of spaces including your last employer and termination date.
- (c) To receive a Travel Letter, a member must first register on the out of work list.

## DISPATCH HOURS

Dispatch will begin at 8:00 a.m. for job calls, excluding emergencies. You must sign the day book before 8:00 am to be eligible to take a call that day.

- (a) The Business Manager is responsible to fill calls in a timely manner as needed by employers. This means in an emergency, referral may have to be made outside normal hours using whatever means are available to fill calls and place registrants.

An individual must have all of his/her proper certification(s) at the time of dispatch and be able to provide them to the Employer on the first day of work.

*i.e. I-9 Documents, State Certification, Welder and/or Instrumentation Certifications*

**\*\* The definition of unemployed is "not currently working in the electrical industry", but seeking work in the electrical industry**

## RE-SIGN PROCEDURES

IN ORDER TO REMAIN CURRENT ON THE REFERRAL LIST, AN APPLICANT MUST RE-SIGN by one of the following: IN PERSON, E-MAIL, FAX OR MAIL, BETWEEN THE 10TH AND 16TH OF EACH MONTH. When the 16th of the month falls on a weekend or a holiday, it shall be moved to the next business day. Failure to follow this procedure may cause you to lose your place on the out-of-work list.

An individual that is on the books for a year or more must re-sign in person at least once in 12 months of their sign in date.

(a) The exceptions to re-signing would be proof of Jury Duty or Military Duty.

To re-sign by e-mail the address is [resign@ibewlu302.com](mailto:resign@ibewlu302.com). This is the only e-mail address to be used. When e-mailing your re-sign form, all of the information on the fax form must be included.

To re-sign by fax the number is 925-228-0764

## SHORT CALLS

An applicant who is referred to an Employer, and through no fault of his/her own receives *an eighty (80) hour or less call shall, upon re-registration*, be restored to his/her appropriate place on the out-of-work list. On such short calls, any overtime worked will not be counted towards the eighty-hour maximum.

"Rolling Short Calls" When a short call is filled, the next short call will begin with the person who was after the previous short call that was filled.

Re-sign after a short call may be done by phone. Members must call the Dispatcher as soon as possible after being laid off.

## STRIKES / TURN DOWNS

Registrants will be allowed two (2) turn-downs without penalty and will be rolled to the bottom of the book for the third (3) turndown.

The exception to a refusal of a job opportunity would be: Disability, Residential, Maintenance Work, Vacation (must register with the Dispatcher before taking a vacation which is one week per unemployment period) or Specialty Calls—i.e. Welder, Instrumentation, Shift Work and Authorized Early Starts.

Applicants may also register with the dispatcher for a "No Refinery" exemption. This exemption will become effective with dispatch the following day and may be removed at any time, after taking a long call.

Any person that takes a short call will have their strikes removed, if they have any at the time of dispatch.

There shall be no strikes for short calls.

## DISABILITY

Members placing their name on the book under "disability" must do so within one week of the injury. Medical Work Status Reports will be needed in order to keep you on the books under "disability."

## LOCAL PENSION

A member receiving disbursements from the Local Pension are not eligible to sign or remain on the out of work list. By accepting the Local Pension, the member confirms that he/she is not actively seeking work in the electrical industry.

## SKILLCRAFT

The Skillcraft Board of Directors has been working hard during this Covid-19 time to plan and prepare our building for a safe reopening. You will see some changes. As with all public buildings, visitors to our building will need to wear a mask and make sure to maintain social distance. We know this will be especially difficult because our hall is a place of gathering, coming together in solidarity as one big family. We urge our members and all visitors to abide by the Contra Costa County Health Order to prevent further spread of Covid-19. You will see markers to remind you to stay 6 feet apart. We are installing hand sanitizer dispensers at the main entrances of our building. We are installing sneeze guards at our membership counter. As Union members we know that making all work sites safe is our #1 priority, which includes our dispatch area and office. We are also performing needed repairs to the building, such as replacing the flooring that is separating and cupping, while the building is closed to the public to minimize disruption. Let's all stay safe and healthy. Looking forward to seeing you when the building opens.

## MILITARY SERVICE BOARDS

We are in the process of updating our Military Service Boards that are on the wall outside of the Dispatch Office. If your name is already on the Military Service Board you do not have to call the Union. We will be updating any information that is not already on the Board. Please call the Union Hall if you served in the Military with the branch of military and your exit date.

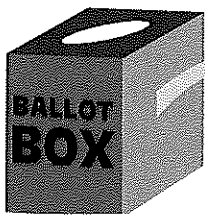
## RETIREE CLUB NEWS

All Retired Electricians and Their Spouses:

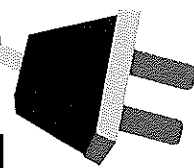
Come to the IBEW Retiree's Club Meeting/Luncheon. We have a short meeting followed by a pot luck luncheon. Unfortunately, we have canceled our meetings until the COVID-19 pandemic is over and we can safely gather again,

Our meetings start at 11:00 am on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

President,  
Connie Batchelder



# Plug into Power



YOUR VOTE, YOUR JOB

Tom Hansen, Business Manager/Financial Secretary

May 2020

Our world has changed so much in the last two months, it is hard to remember California held a primary election in March, on Super Tuesday. The expected boost in turnout due to excitement of voters participating in Super Tuesday never materialized; voter turnout was usual for a presidential primary election.

The PAC did well with candidates and broke even with measures. Polling around the county and the Bay Area showed voters were feeling anxious leading up to the primary election, with a 10-15% drop

in right track/wrong track, which measures voter mood. Add to that the emergence of coronavirus and the potential for a pandemic just before the election and you have surprising results for bond and tax measures. For the first time in 25 plus years, a majority of bond and tax measures failed around the state and the Bay Area; half passed in Contra Costa County.

Fall campaigns will be run differently than usual, and that includes our efforts internally to members and the help we provide to endorsed candidates. It is not likely

we'll walk door-to-door and talk to voters in person. The majority of our work will be on the phones talking to members and talking to voters. We are also exploring other, new opportunities to engage with voters and will keep you posted on what our efforts will look like.

Finally, the November election will be an all-mail ballot in Contra Costa County to ensure the safety of voters. Voting by mail is convenient and easy and we'll be in touch throughout the process if you have any questions.

## Gavin Newsom and Construction During COVID-19

Governor Newsom enacted the first, and strictest Shelter in Place Order in the country in mid-March to battle coronavirus. In doing so, he exempted construction from the order, acknowledging that Trades workers were following strict protocols to keep workers safe and were used to adhering to enhanced safety measures.

The Governor was under intense pressure to shut down all construction. Locally, our health officials ordered more stringent restrictions than the state. Governor Newsom worked closely with Robbie Hunter and the State Trades, to ensure construction of housing with affordable units and public health and safety facilities continued in the Bay Area.

At the same time, Bill Whitney, head of Contra Costa Trades, worked closely with our Board of Supervisors to keep construction going at the new county building in Martinez. Whitney also advocated with local health officials to loosen construction mandates and align them with Governor Newsom's order as the local Shelter-In-Place Order was modified in May.

Today construction is an essential business and is happening with certain safety protocols. Measures to keep workers on job sites safe include taking temperatures at work sites, sterilizing tools and equipment, banning food trucks, staggering worker start times, and mandating strict social distancing.

## Concord Naval Weapons Station Update—Victory!

Thanks to your advocacy, we have forced the City of Concord to find Lennar out of compliance with the Concord First goals in place to guide the development of the Reuse Project at the former Concord Naval Weapons Station. More than 60 members of Local 302 showed up at an earlier city council meeting to object to Lennar's refusal to adopt a PLA for the development of the reuse project. Your showing up made the difference and turned the council in our favor for the vote in March.

The Reuse Project includes development of 13,000 homes, five million square feet of office and retail development and parks and open space for recreation.

**A BETTER DEAL FOR  
CONCORD**

### STOP LENNAR'S DELAYS

The Concord City Council developed Concord First Goals to guide the redevelopment project, including local hire of workers, a state-certified joint labor-management apprenticeship training program, veterans training and hiring priority, and prevailing wage.

In March, the Council found Lennar out of compliance with the Concord First Goals and did not extend the Exclusive Negotiation Agreement to Lennar to continue development of the Reuse Project. This was a big victory for local union workers. We will continue to demand Concord First Goals be enacted with the developer chosen to move this project forward. The three councilmembers who voted with the Trades and denied an extension of the Exclusive Negotiation Agreement to Lennar are Dominic Aliano, Edi Birsan and Carlyn Obringer.

**Former Concord Naval Weapons Station Reuse Project** →

## A New Threat from ABC

The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) has formed an alliance with the Congress of Independent Unions to create confusion and division amongst elected officials and non-union workers who believe this new organization provides



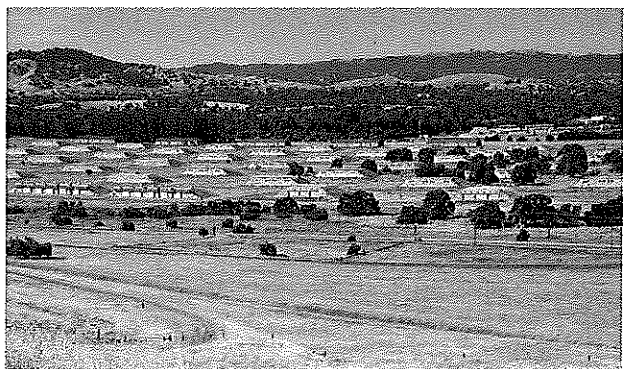
the same workers' rights and protections on job sites as Building Trades Project Labor Agreements.

The Congress of Independent Unions is a small labor organization with an office in Illinois that was set up in 1958 as an alternative to the AFL-CIO. They have had no activity in California until recently.

The ABC and the Congress of Independent Unions jointly created the California Construction Labor Management Cooperation Committee with ABC controlling three of the five director positions. This new committee is now signing collective bargaining agreements with ABC contractors in California.

Under California law, a portion of the prevailing wages owed to workers for public works projects can be paid to a labor management cooperation committee if the payments are required by a collective bargaining commitment. These new agreements are funneling workers' wages to the ABC efforts to fight building trades unions.

We will fight the ABC and this new committee with all we've got to prevent them undermining union jobs under the guise of their own collective bargaining agreement.



## Saving Money Isn't Just for Adults Anymore

Many parents struggle with how to teach money management to their children. At OE Federal, we make learning about finances fun for all ages! With our new and improved Youth Account Program, kids and teens can work through their own game boards to understand the importance of saving, all while earning prizes along the way!

But what can parents do to help at home? Our financial partner, BALANCE, offers these helpful suggestions on how to teach money matters.

- **For ages 3 to 5, introduce basic savings and spending concepts.** Parents should ask one question during this life stage, "Has the child developed basic values and attitudes around keeping (saving) and using (consuming) resources?"

When it comes to money, this means the difference between saving and spending. Start with coins and talk to your children about using them all at once versus setting some aside for something they may want later.

- **For ages 6 to 12, help set savings goals.** When kids enter this age range, it's important they start to grasp the concept of planning. This is the perfect time to talk about savings goals.

A conversation about goals encourages them to think about what they want to buy now and in the future. Buying more expensive things down the road means they can't spend all their money right now, which is an important concept of understanding money management.

- **For Ages 13 to 21, boost their financial confidence.** For teens and young adults, building confidence is critical. You can empower your children by ensuring they follow through with their financial plans. Whether it's sticking to a budget, achieving their savings goals, or keeping a part-time job, set them up for success through encouragement and guidance.

By this time teens or young adults should be able to identify trusted sources of financial information. In this age of financial scams, having the knowledge and confidence to say "No" to a dubious offer is a highly valuable skill. And, if you ever have any questions when it comes to identifying these trusted sources, reach out to OE Federal Credit Union for guidance.

Saving is a valuable life lesson that takes time to learn and opening a savings account for your child is one of the best ways to introduce them to this concept. Here at OE Federal Credit Union, we make opening a youth account easy and fun. Call 800.877.4444 or visit your local OE Federal branch to learn about our Youth Account Game Boards that help children have fun, save money, and win prizes!

**OE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**  
1875 Arnold Dr., Martinez CA 94553  
925.370.9200



# FIDELITY ONE-ON-ONE MEETING

Our Workplace Planning and Guidance Consultant, Daniel Weber, will be available every quarter if you wish to schedule a meeting with him. You must make an appointment in order for him to reserve time for you once the date has been selected. Please call Local 302 or check our website and/or Facebook for the next available date.

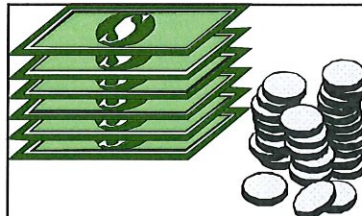
You may make a reservation by phone at 1-800-642-7131. You may also make an appointment online at: [www.fidelity.com/atwork/reservations](http://www.fidelity.com/atwork/reservations). Click on one-on-one consultation, select state from the drop down box and then select Contra Costa County Electrical Workers Local 302 to complete your personal information and set an appointment.

There is only a limited number of appointments available.



# FIFTY-FIFTY DRAWING

April, May and June meetings were cancelled due to COVID-19. We will resume meetings once we get the okay from the Health Officer of Contra Costa County.



# NEW RETIREES

We would like to extend our sincere congratulations to our fellow Brothers & Sisters who recently retired:

- Duncan, William L.
- Duran, Ruben
- Edwards, William
- Ferreira, Kirk
- Peitso, Robert
- Willis, Gregory

We would like to remind everyone to keep contact information updated with the Hall.

Also, make sure that your information is up to date (including Beneficiaries) with your Trust Fund Offices and your Pension Plans.

# IMPORTANT DATES

- Oct 17, 2020 Golf Tournament



*Congratulations to the following new Moms & Dads:*

- Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Lapid - baby girl
- Mr. & Mrs. Troy Oleson - baby girl
- Mr. & Mrs. David Johnsen- baby boy
- Mr. & Mrs. James DeMers - baby boy
- Mr. & Mrs. Irving Villa - baby boy
- Mr. & Mrs. Luis Reyes - baby boy
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moore - baby girl
- Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Hebert - baby boy
- Mr. & Mrs. Hector Leon - baby girl



**GET INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL - ATTEND UNION MEETINGS AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN!**

*Bereavement*

**We are saddened to report the passing of our Local 302 active and retired members:**

- John Abreu**
- Lawrence Buchfeld**
- Duncan Enoch**
- S.R. (Jack) McCann**

**We extend our most sincere condolences to the families of these departed Brothers & Sisters.**

Sincerely and fraternally,

*Tom*

Tom Hansen  
Business Manager / Financial Secretary

TH:np

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