
IBEW 302 NEWSLETTER

Vol. 42 Issue 1 Tom Hansen Business Manager/Financial Secretary Jan/Feb/March 2021
1875 Arnold Drive, Martinez, CA 94553 (925) 228-2302

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Once again here in California we are faced with the recall of a Governor. You may remember Gray Davis and his recall. It was at the height of the energy crisis. Enron and others gamed the system and charged huge price increases. Similar to what has recently happened in Texas. The people of California held Davis responsible.

What we got was two terms of Arnold Schwarzenegger. Arnold was entertaining but he was also no friend of the IBEW or the Building Trades. That is what is at stake now. You may or may not like Gavin Newsom but that is not what this recall is about. For us it is about having someone in Sacramento that will sign pro labor legislation. Someone that believes in and supports PLA's. Someone that works with Labor and gives us a seat at the table. If Gavin is recalled he will be replaced by someone that is not a friend of the IBEW or Organized Labor. That person would appoint people who would work to undo all of the gains we have made over the years. This recall is about protecting our future, not about whether we like Gavin as a person.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is considering new requirements for particulate matter emission

reductions for refineries called Rule 6-5. The new rule will affect the Chevron refinery in Richmond and the PBF plant in Martinez. If you are asking yourself who is PBF. They used to be Shell.

The District staff is looking at two possible versions of the rule. If the board adopts the stricter of the two it would require those refineries to build a Wet Gas Scrubber. A unit like that costs between \$500 Million and a Billion Dollars. If that happens there is a very likely the PBF refinery would close. Chevron would also need to decide if making that kind of investment was worth keeping their plant open.

Along with the other Trades we have been meeting with Chevron and PBF leadership. We have been working on how to get the Air Board to adopt a more reasonable rule.

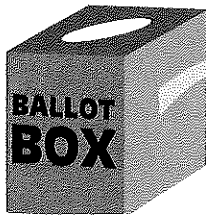
Our local Building Trades has received the support of the other Bay Area Building Trades. They are talking with Air Board Members that live in their areas and asking them not to adopt the stricter standard. We have also reached out to our Sister locals and asked for their help. They are also talking to their Air

Board Members about the new rule.

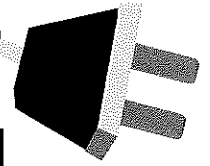
Another thing we are doing is asking Members that work at those two plants to contact local Air Board members. One problem we are having is when we ask Members to send Elected Officials emails for things like this or to support projects very few responds. How hard is it to send an email to protect or work or to help get a PLA project approved? If you are asked it is important to take a few minutes to send that message. It really does make a difference.


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meeting
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With vaccinations coming and restrictions easing it is looking very likely that we will be able to have Meetings again. We may need to meet outside at first but as soon as we are given the ok, we will be able to meet again.



Plug into Power



YOUR VOTE, YOUR JOB

Tom Hansen, Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Spring 2021

More than a year after the pandemic turned our world upside down, we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. As more of us become vaccinated, we will be able to resume in-person meetings, we are less likely to contract COVID-19 at our job sites and the economy will rebound.

Later this year, we will be working to defeat the recall of Governor Gavin Newsom. The recall is a waste of time and money when the regular election is only 18 months away. In the early days of the pandemic, Governor Newsom ensured housing and infrastructure projects were essential, allowing our members

to continue working with strict safety protocols to contain the spread of the virus.

These are exciting times for the labor movement under President Biden. During the campaign he promised to put America's workers back to work and to protect our pay and workplace standards. And, he is delivering.

SB467: We Live to Fight Another Day Against Job-Killer Legislation

AS YOU MAY ALREADY BE AWARE, SB467, a bill introduced in the California legislature, would end California's ability to meet its own energy needs by banning oil and gas extraction techniques, including fracking. With much public testimony and every individual trade in the state giving testimony in opposition, our friends on the Senate Natural Resources Committee killed the bill.

If successful, this bill would have ended California's ability to make its own gasoline and diesel. Between 130,000-150,000 good paying, middle class California union jobs would have been exported to Russia and the Middle East. We would be importing all gasoline, diesel and aviation fuel from these foreign countries. California would be a beached whale and gasoline and diesel in this state would cost between \$8-\$10/gallon. Our workers and our companies cannot afford this. The price of food and many other necessities would



skyrocket. This is not good for working people in the State of California.

Through some legislative maneuvers, SB467 is pared down and back before the legislature requiring a 2,500-foot buffer zones between new wells of all types and sensitive sites like homes, schools and hospitals. The restrictions would start in 2023 and would also affect existing sites that require annual permits.

The State of California has the most regulated, efficient, and cleanest production of fuels in the world. We need your help to fight this irresponsible bill that will destroy the CA economy and hurt the global environment, as foreign countries with no environmental regulations and among the biggest polluters will supply our energy needs. We will keep you posted on next steps.

President Biden's Jobs Bill

PRESIDENT BIDEN PROMISED

to put America back to work. On March 31, he shared his plan to deliver, with a historic \$2 trillion package to rebuild a diminished infrastructure, battle climate change and take on global competitors. The eight-year proposal will put the United States on the path to a revitalized domestic infrastructure while creating tens of thousands of jobs in several of the IBEW's core sectors.

Biden's plan will invest in:

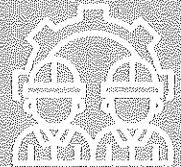
- New transmission lines, modernizing power generation and delivering clean energy
- \$100 billion to retool factories to produce batteries and electric vehicles
- \$173 billion in manufacturing
- \$180 billion in transit systems and airports

It will require:

- Goods and materials be made in America and transported on U.S.-crewed and -flagged ships

- Safeguards to workers' right to organize, join a union and bargain collectively.
- Clean energy and infrastructure investments be tied to prevailing wages, local hire rules and apprenticeship programs.

This plan utilizes and creates jobs in nearly every branch of the IBEW's membership.



Vote No on Newsom Recall

ANY DAY NOW, the Secretary of State will certify the petition signatures that will trigger a special election to recall Governor Gavin Newsom. Let's be clear — this is a power grab by Republicans who can gain power no other way.

Special elections, like a recall, generate low voter turnout. And, the ballot set up is a two-part question. You will be asked if you want to recall the Governor. The second question is to vote for a candidate to replace Governor Newsom if a majority of voters vote yes to recall him.

The recall election will attract many candidates, likely more than 20, all vying to replace Governor Newsom if he is recalled. With low voter turnout and so many candidates vying for your attention, that means an anti-worker Republican could be elected with as little as 15% of the vote. Governor Newsom was elected in November 2018 with the largest margin on record. A recall election result is not representative of the will of California voters.

And, this special election will be costly. Governor Newsom will be on the ballot in November 2022. Now, we are on the hook for an election that will cost tens of millions of dollars — less than a year before the regularly scheduled election.

If you signed the petition to recall Governor Newsom, but now have second thoughts given the high cost and the regular election next year, you can request your name be removed from the recall petition. If you would like to do this,

call the Hall, and someone will walk you through what you need to do.

This special election will be an all mail-in ballot, just like last November. Absentee voting is a safe and reliable form of voting and is the way a majority of our Members vote. For those of you who usually go to the polls, we will be in touch — member-to-member — to let you know how you can safely cast your ballot.

Protecting our Right to Organize

EARLIER THIS MONTH, Congress passed the Protecting the Right to Organize Act, or PRO Act, which will level the playing field for unions.

The bill contains more than 30 substantial reforms and updates to existing labor law to expand protections of workers' rights, punish companies for violating those rights and to reset the rules so union elections will be free, fair and safe.

It also undoes one of the most harmful labor policies ever passed in the United States, dissolving so-called right-to-work laws nationwide and it guarantees collective bargaining rights, allows unions to collect dues from non-members covered by their contracts and establishes penalties for corporations that violate workers' rights, among other measures.

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. Websites that a lot of Journeymen use is www.jadelearning.com and www.californiaelectricaltraining.com

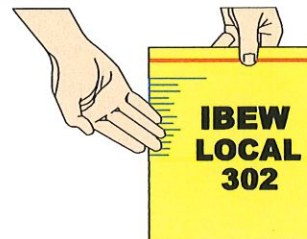
The Training Center is also offering an online Foreman's' Class that can be used towards your 32 hours of continuing education requirement.

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

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 classes and renew early.

KNOW YOUR AGREEMENT



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Let us go over a few things about the agreement and dispatch as we enter the spring and summer months. The fundamentals of the agreement have not really changed. Dispatch is the same (just done outdoors), re-sign is still required, although it has been canceled each month during the pandemic, and you still must remove your name from the out of work list when you take a dispatch in another local.

Dispatch has continued throughout the pandemic. When calls have come in and put out for dispatch the procedures are the same: come to the hall back door and sign the out of work list positioned out back, wait until 8:00am (in your car) and when roll call is taken calls are distributed to the first person on the list attending dispatch. It has gone well, and your patience has been noted and appreciated.

Re-sign is a little different because it has been canceled month to month during the pandemic. The requirement is still in effect so check the website or phone message during the re-sign period (10th-16th) each month. Since re-sign has been canceled for so many months in a row it has come to a bright light that many people who take jobs in another local do not call and take their name off this book thinking they will fall off the book due to not re-signing. You **MUST** call this local and any other local you have signed the out of work list in and remove your name when you gain employment elsewhere. Failure to do so is “double booking” and not allowed in Local 302. We maintain an “out of work list” not a working in another local list. **NO RIDING THE BOOK.**

The earliest start allowed per the agreement is 7:00am unless the Business Manager has approved an earlier start. A jobsite vote to start early **IS NOT ACCEPTABLE**. The Agreement is clear that start time is a negotiated item and cannot be altered by those on the jobsite.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Hello Brothers and Sisters:

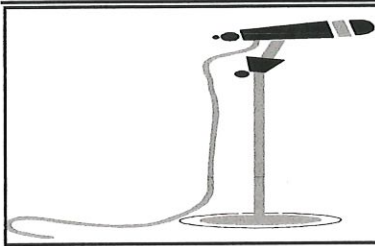
The weather is getting warmer and the following link is a good tool for heat and safety programs.

www.osha.gov/heat/heat-index/monitoring-workers

Stay hydrated, stay safe and I hope to see you at the hall as soon as possible.

Safety Chairman, Doug Rodriguez





SOUND AND COMMUNICATION UNIT NEWS



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. The last year has been interesting to say the least. Work is booming for some and grinding to a halt for others and there seems to be no method to the madness, but relief is coming! There are projects being awarded all over the Bay Area and its looking to be busy this summer. Hang in there brothers and sisters, things are looking good for the next few years.

Recently, the NorCal-JATC issued a letter to all organized brothers and sisters regarding the Skilled and Trained Workforce Program. SaTW is a state law for public works projects that require a certain percentage of the employees working for an electrical contractor need to have graduated from an apprenticeship program. This is available to all organized members. An aptitude test and orientation will be in person with the rest of the course online at your own pace. Enrolling in this program will not result in a reduction of pay in any way. We highly recommend you contact the JATC and enroll. Please contact the JATC or the local if you have any questions.

Once again, take your upgrade classes! If you take an upgrade class somewhere other than the JATC, check the DIR website and verify that it is state approved. The new Installer/Technician upgrade classes will be available soon. There are several classes offered online year-round as well.

Due to Covid-19, Local 302 will not be accepting applications for the Sound and Communications apprenticeship program in person until further notice. Please check our website and Facebook page for updates. Online applications are still being accepted; the link is on our website homepage.

Know your agreement! A digital copy of the current CBA is available at ibewlu302.com and hard copies are available here at the hall. Current wage addendums are also available online. Stay safe, stay healthy!

Fraternally,

Derek H. Cole Sr.

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 with good friends.

Our meetings start at 11:00 am on the 2nd Thursday of the month. We will resume meetings once we get the okay from the Health Officer of Contra Costa County.

Connie Batchelder, President



The future is looking brighter with vaccinations increasing on a daily basis and less people testing positive for Covid-19 in the Bay Area. We all need to continue to have patience, awareness and diligence in following all County and State guidelines so we can have some sense of normal again. We hope that soon we all will be able to return to pre-pandemic activities and be able to see each other's smiling faces at the hall again.



We have been working on our non-union contractor database, updating and researching to keep it current. We are looking to non-union contractors that would like to grow and partner with us as we continue to get PLA covered work. We can't expand our market share if we don't have enough signatory contractors to bid the work we have here in Contra Costa County. When taking a look at the history of non-refinery work done in our area for the last few years we are seeing a trend of signatory out-of-town contractors doing the majority of work in Contra Costa County. As an example, in 2018 out-of-town signatory contractors reported 47% of all hours, local signatory contractors reported 7%, and local refinery signatory contractors reported 46% of all hours worked in Local 302. So, when you see out-of-town contractors putting calls in, don't hesitate to take them, they are helping us increase our market share. We are also continually working with all signatory contractors who are eager to bid work here. If any members would like to become a contractor, please give the office a call and we will see what we can do to help. Gaining market share and gaining membership means we need to grow in all directions for a successful future for 302.

We are continuing to speak at career fairs online and talk with students to let them know that good union apprenticeship programs provide knowledge and skills for a long, rewarding career. Assistant business manager Rachel Shoemake has been mentoring a cohort of high school girls who are enrolled in the Ygnacio Valley High School's Engineering Pathway program which is a pilot program in partnership with DVC. It's great to see the energy that these high schoolers bring and hopefully we will have some of them apply to our apprenticeship program when they graduate.

Stay safe and well and we hope to see you soon.

SKILLCRAFT

A big thank you to all who participated in the Skillcraft, Inc. electronic vote. We had the largest turnout in years with one hundred and twenty-three (123) "yes" votes and thirty-six (36) "no" votes to approve the bylaws change which keeps the current board of directors in place until our annual meeting in 2022 to get us through this Covid-19 year. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person and hold our regularly scheduled annual meeting in 2022.

As a reminder, Skillcraft Inc. is a 501c2 corporation that was founded on May 16, 1956. The main purpose of Skillcraft is to manage and maintain the building and property that Local 302 owns.

From the very beginning of constructing the building in Martinez in 2000, the Skillcraft Inc. board of directors had the vision of creating safe space for our members to gather and do business, and to lease our upstairs and corner space to create income that pays for the maintenance of this great building of ours, our "home". The Contra Costa County Independent Living Skills program and the credit union have been and continue to be great tenants, and the rent they pay directly benefits our membership.

Today the Skillcraft board of directors is continuing to protect the future of Local 302 by performing much needed repairs to the building and property while the building is closed to the public, minimizing disruption to the membership. For example, we replaced the failing flooring in the meeting hall area. We also make improvements to keep our membership safe. We replaced the bathroom faucets with touchless faucets and soap dispensers, installed touchless hand sanitizer dispensers near each of the main entrances, and installed a sneeze guard at the membership counter.

We are looking forward to seeing you when the building opens. We know that safety is our number one priority, and we want every person who enters our building to know that we respect their life, safety and health. When we do open, we all need to follow the County Health Guidelines by wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from each other and washing our hands frequently.

Let's stay safe and healthy and hopefully see you in person soon.

Getting an Auto Loan Through a Dealership vs at Your Credit Union

When shopping for a new set of wheels, your first stop should be OE Federal Credit Union. While many people start at the dealer's lot, you'll enjoy a lower rate, a simpler loan application, and other big benefits when choosing to finance your car at your credit union.

Let's take a look at the differences in the auto loan process.

FINANCING AN AUTO PURCHASE AT A CAR DEALERSHIP

At a dealer's lot, the dealer will likely try persuading you to push your car budget to the max or even to go over your max price.

But, if you're financing your car through the dealer, that's only the beginning. Once you've chosen your car, you'll need to submit a complicated auto loan application form, which the dealer sends to the finance companies it partners with. This can include lenders and financial institutions – even OE Federal Credit Union! The dealer will then share the lender offers with you and ask you to make your choice.

However, in most cases, the dealer is only the middleman. This means they're likely going to present your options in a way that most benefits them – and not necessarily you.

Most lenders will pay a larger commission for a car that is sold at a higher price and for a loan that is established at a higher rate. As a result, your dealer will probably try to get you to sign up for a loan that is more expensive than what the lender is actually willing to offer you. Even a fantastic offer from OE Federal Credit Union could be presented as higher than it really is, or may not be presented at all.

FINANCING AN AUTO PURCHASE AT A CREDIT UNION

When you work with OE Federal Credit Union, you'll be dealing with people who know who you are and what your financial reality is like. No one will try to push you into a loan you can't afford.

The process of applying for an OE Federal Auto Loan is simple, quick, and easy. You can even apply online or over the phone. Also, as a member of OE Federal, you already have a head start on getting that pre-approval.

One of the biggest advantages you'll have when financing an auto loan through your credit union, though, is a lower rate. You're working directly with the lender and you'll only hear the actual rate we offer instead of the marked-up rate the car dealer presents to you. Also, credit unions famously offer loan rates that are consistently lower than those offered by large lenders and banks.

Another advantage you'll enjoy at OE Federal is a pressure-free setting when determining how much you can afford to pay each month toward your new car. In contrast, when you're standing in the dealer's lot surrounded by cars you wish you could afford, you're more likely to make a decision you'll later regret.

So when you're ready to hit the road in the vehicle of your dreams, check with OE Federal first. Not only will they work with you to get a great rate, but you can even get pre-approved for a quick and easy process at the dealership. Visit oefederal.org, call 800.877.4444 or stop by your local branch.



OE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
1875 Arnold Drive 94553
925.370.9200

FIDELITY ONE-ON-ONE MEETING

Our Workplace Planning and Guidance Consultant, Aaron Holyoak, will be available every quarter if you wish to schedule a virtual 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.

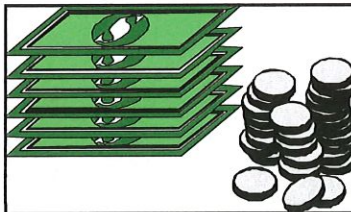
You may make a reservation by phone at 1-800-642-7131. You may also make an appointment online at: www.fidelity.com/atwork/reservations. Click on one-on-one consultation, select state from the drop down box and then select Contra Costa County Electrical Workers Local 302 to complete your personal information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

There is only a limited number of appointments available.



FIFTY-FIFTY DRAWING

January, February and March meetings were canceled 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:

- John Pola
- Donald Barnard
- Carl Markham
- Thomas Widger
- Jose Vazquez
- Patricia DiMichele

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.



Congratulations to the following new Moms & Dads:

- Mr. & Mrs. Adrian Correa - twin girls
- Mr. Nicholas Peterson - baby boy
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Brown - baby girl
- Mr. & Mrs. Jon Badsy - 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:

- Keith Potter**
- Jose "Trino" Martinez**
- William Wise**
- John Finley**
- Robert Vargas**
- Dave Pilkington**

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

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #170
CONCORD, CA