



AMALGAMATED MAY 1, 1994

LOCAL 15 UNITY NEWSLETTER

UNION NEWS AND INFORMATION TO YOU

August 2021

Build Back Better with UNIONS!

"The American Jobs Plan will put engineers and construction workers to work building more energy efficient buildings and homes. Electrical workers, IBEW members, installing 500,000 charging stations along our highways so we can own the electric car market", "For too long we've failed to use the most important word when it comes to meeting the climate crisis: Jobs. Jobs. Jobs" said International President Lonnie Stephenson. Over the last few decades, the American economy has boomed creating virtual things: the internet, logistics, housing bubbles and banking innovations. But all of that is built on the real world: ports, roads, fiber optic cables and transmission lines. And

THE \$2 TRILLION PLAN TO REBUILD AMERICA

Union Workers at the Heart of Largest Public Investment Program in Nearly a Century



that real world has been crumbling, year after year, president after president. "On a symbolic level, President Biden laying out this proposal with one of our own members introducing him was really important," said Stephenson. "But presidents have said nice things about us before and stabbed working people in the back. The American Jobs Plan is different. Nearly every forgotten corner of the American economy — and every branch of the IBEW — will be transformed for decades by this proposal if it passes, and it is backed by the strongest "Buy American" and labor protections ever proposed. "Nearly 90% of the infrastructure jobs created in the American Jobs Plan do not require a college degree.

Seventy-five percent don't require an associate degree," he told a joint session of congress. "The American Jobs Plan is a blue-collar blueprint to build America."

The largest section of the proposal includes more than \$600 billion for roads, bridges, ports and highways. There are 300 shovel-ready projects that would begin the day after the bill is signed. But unlike the 2009 infrastructure program passed while Biden was vice president, funding goes beyond shovel-ready projects to the deep, lasting transformational infrastructure that solves not only today's problems but the ones that are coming.

The story is much the same across America, where roads, bridges, rails,

UNITY Contents

Build Back Better Unions	1-2
Officer List	3
Unit Meetings Calendar	3
Scholarship winners	4
Scholarship winners	5
Scholarship winners	6
New Members sworn in	7
Fleet OHT agreement	8
It's a Family affair	8
Sheridan / NLRB	9
NMN reactors/Seniority	10
Technology Changes?	10
Retirees / In Memory	11

Continued on page 2



Continued from page 1

airports and waterways have been left to crumble for decades.

"This plan will reverse all of that if we can get it passed," said Political Director Austin Keyser. "We're talking about an investment in America's future, much of it in communities that have felt forgotten for a very long time, that will be transformational."

Huntington, W. Va., Local 317 sits squarely in coal country and Business Manager Shane Wolfe said his people are desperate for work and investment.

"There is a lot of flat ground, rail and river near here and there is always a different rumor of facilities coming in: a tire recycling plant, coal gasification and gas generation, and nothing ever happens. We have the gas. We have space. We have the men and women ready to do the work. We just need someone to kickstart it," he said. "If the president's bill would pass, life would change here, and it's about time it did."

Modernizing the Grid and Expanding Broadband

After roads, bridges and ports, the next largest section of Biden's plan is a \$511 billion investment in the electric grid, broadband internet and the water system.

At least \$300 billion is targeted specifically for grid modernization, including thousands of miles of new transmission lines to connect new generation to load, all to meet the president's goal of carbon-free power generation nationwide by 2035.

The Americans for a Clean Energy Grid report estimates that there are at least 22 shovel-ready transmission projects that would be funded by this plan alone, creating more than 600,000 jobs related to transmission and another 640,000 jobs related to renewable energy.

The jobs plan would also transform the excruciatingly slow approval process for transmission, creating a Grid Deployment Authority at the Energy Department to focus development along existing rights-of-way — primarily roads and railways.

Clean energy tax credits would be extended for a decade and paired with strong labor standards.

Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 Business Manager Bob Dean said it is hard to overstate the jobs that would be created if the need was realized in actual projects.

A single project with two 525-kilovolt HVDC transmission lines will put 4,000 IBEW members to work and will open vast stretches of Nevada to new development of solar and geothermal generation.

"Western states need more generation, but there is limited capacity on the grid," he said. "This job in Nevada, we need this across the whole country."

The plan also funds 15 demonstration decarbonized hydrogen generation plants and 10 large-scale carbon capture retrofits for steel, cement and chemical production facilities that could spur the expansion of the technology nationwide.

All of the government-supported projects will have "Buy American" requirements and strong labor standards with a "free and fair choice to join a union and bargain collectively." On top of the unprecedented grid investment, the president proposes to spend \$100 billion for broadband expansion in underserved rural communities with no access to high-speed internet. Vice President Kamala Harris will be in charge of the broadband rollout and she spoke about its importance during a visit to Dover, N.H., Local 490's hall on April 23. "We're not going to say, 'We're going to take it slow' and 'One day at a time,'" Harris said. "We say, 'Let's be big.' When we set the bar high, the very nature of American aspiration is that we always jump for it and we do it."

And to make sure the nation has the workers with the skills to do these new jobs, there is \$100 billion for workforce training, including nearly \$50 billion to support pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs specifically targeting areas of the country and populations most harmed by the move to a fully carbon-free economy.

"If we're going to build back better, we have to invest in skills development of the workforce," Harris said. "To do that, if we are going to get the greatest return on our investment, let's invest in the IBEW."

UNITY August 2021



**Monthly Newsletter of
IBEW Local 15**

6330 Belmont Road

Suite 1

Downers Grove 60516

Office: 630-515-0381

Fax: 630-515-0835

www.ibewlocal15.org

— **OFFICERS** —

Terry McGoldrick

PRESIDENT - BUSINESS MANAGER
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Bill Phillips

VICE-PRESIDENT
SENIOR ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Lisa Sims

RECORDING SECRETARY
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

George Longoria

TREASURER

— **EXECUTIVE BOARD** —

CHAIRPERSON

Kathy Flynn

CLERICAL DIVISION

Brian Daniels

GENERATING PHYSICAL NUCLEAR DIVISION

Ian Hacker

GENERATING PHYSICAL FOSSIL DIVISION

Mike Keating

COMMERCIAL PHYSICAL DIVISION

Vinnie Rochotte

COMMERCIAL PHYSICAL DIVISION

Russ "Rudy" Ruettiger

AT LARGE

Tom Tibbles

CLERICAL DIVISION

Attend Your Unit Meetings

Get the facts

August - Calendar

3	First Tuesday	NORTHERN UNIT MEETING - 5:30^{PM} American Legion 749 Milwaukee Ave - Gurnee
4	First Wednesday	POWERTON UNIT MEETING - 4:00^{PM} PACE 300 McLean Street - Pekin JOLIET UNIT MEETING - 5:30^{PM} Stone City VFW 124 Stone City Drive - Joliet
5	First Thursday	DIXON UNIT MEETING - 6:00^{PM} American Legion 1120 W. First St. - Dixon ELMHURST UNIT MEETING - 6:30^{PM} American Legion 310 W. Butterfield Rd - Elmhurst
11	Second Wednesday	KINCAID UNIT MEETING - 3:45^{PM} South Fork Building - 124 Central Avenue - Kincaid CHICAGO UNIT MEETING - 5:00^{PM} IBEW Local 134 2722 S Martin Luther King Dr - Chicago
12	Second Thursday	ROCKFORD UNIT MEETING - 5:30^{PM} Holiday Inn 7550 E. State Street - Rockford
		<i>*Local 15 continues to push for Energy Legislation, as a result President McGoldrick and Vice-President Phillips can't commit to be at specific Unit meetings this month. Both will attempt to attend meetings as schedules allow. Thanks for your patience.</i>

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

For the last 13 years IBEW Local 15 grants up to 11 recipients 1000.00 dollars each in scholarship awards. These scholarships are available to our members, their spouse or domestic partner, and their dependents. This years winners are listed below congratulations and good luck in your future endeavors.



Logan Kap

Logan Kap is the son of Michael Kap, a Senior Mech Nuclear out of Braidwood. He attends Lewis University in Romeoville, IL and is working towards his Bachelor's Degree in Web Design. He has spent his free time Radio Broadcasting for hockey games and has participated in the Fishing for a Cure fishing tournament.



Thomas Park

The son of Jason Park, Chemistry Technician at Dresden is another winner of the IBEW Local 15 scholarship. Thomas Park has been active with youth ministry at Messiah Lutheran Church and participated in home repair missions. A few of his extracurricular activities consist of playing on the baseball team, taking part in the high school band and joining the ping pong club. He plans to go into operations engineering and is attending Joliet Junior College.



Jakob North

Jakob North is attending Augustana College in pursuit of his Doctorate of Physical Therapy. He is the son of Michael North, a Senior Mech Nuclear at Quad Cities. Jakob has participated in basketball, wrestling, baseball, track and football and has also helped out with football camps. Away from sports he has been involved with the 2021 Shriners Hospital Experience and supporting local physical rehab clinics.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Ryann Connors

Ryann Connors attends the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is going to school to get her Master of Science in Nursing degree. She expects to graduate at the end of next year. When not at school she has been an emergency room technician and undergraduate teaching assistant. Ryann's father Kevin is a Crew Leader Line out of Crestwood.



Jordan Siegel

Jordan Siegel is the daughter of Deborah Siegel, a clerk at NRG. Jordan will be attending the Southern Illinois University – Carbondale and expects to complete her courses by 2025. She is working towards a bachelor's degree in criminology & criminal justice while minoring in forensics. Outside of academics while in high school she participated in basketball, color guard, winter guard and soccer.



Mateo Escatel

Mateo Escatel is attending Parkland College in pursuit of a degree in Arts and Business Communications. He is expected to graduate at the end of next year, 2022. He has volunteered his free time to help with the Earlville Cruise Night and was also an Earlville Christmas Festival Volunteer. His father Carlos Escatel is an A Mechanic at Quad Cities.



Teagan Schult

Teagan is the son of Shawn Schult, a Construction Crew Leader out of Rockford. Teagan is expected to graduate in 2024 with a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He chose to answer the essay question "How have the Unions kept this country running during the Covid-19 pandemic" in which he mentioned workers safety requirements, fair pay and continuing to complete their jobs despite taking on potential risks presented by Covid-19.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Tyler Morris

Tyler Morris is the son of Consuela Sams-Morris, a construction order clerk in Maywood. Tyler will be attending The University of Kentucky where he will major in Business. He has volunteered for many efforts, one of which being at an assistance facility with the basketball team. He also volunteers at Hines Veteran Affairs and has done so for the past 4 years. During the pandemic Tyler would volunteer at Maywood Baptist Church to help distribute food and supplies to those struggling.



Ty Robinson

Ty Robinson is the son of Kathi Robinson, an Operating Clerk at Quad Cities. He has been attending the Midwest Technical Institute and is on his way to graduating and achieving his certification in HVAC. Ty will be graduating next year. In his Local 15 Scholarship essay he answered the question "How has the Union affected my life and family". In his answer he referenced the ability that unions have to fight for fair wages and the higher quality of life it enables the members to have.



Caleb Siegel

Caleb Siegel will be attending Bradley University in pursuit of a degree in Engineering. He has participated in the robotics team, bass fishing team and the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) while in high school. Caleb's mother Deborah Siegel is a clerk at NRG. In his essay on how unions have kept the country running during the pandemic he acknowledged that members continued to work in the field and that many jobs still required employees to be somewhere other than home to get the job done.



Nathan Clark

Nathan Clark will be continuing his education at the University of Illinois at Chicago where he is set to graduate in 2023. He has been working hard towards his Bachelor's Degree in Biological Sciences. Nathan has volunteered some of his time to the city of Naperville, participating in a program that works to keep the city clean. His mother is Michelle Clark whom works at the Cantera location as an Office Service Specialist.

New Members take the Oath

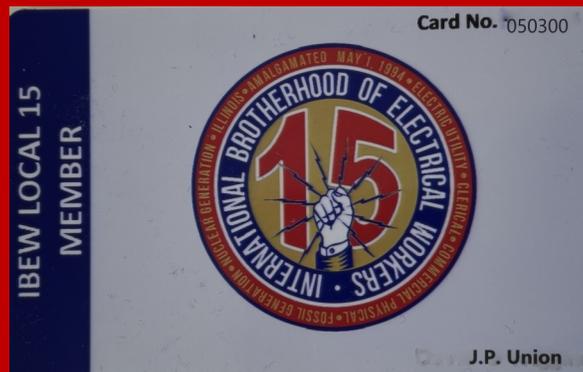


Unit Chairperson Anthony Trentadue swears in members Adrian Ortiz, David Lopez, Matthew Kahne, Isidro Munoz and Matthew Coppolino at the Elmhurst Unit Meeting

Joliet Unit Meeting Chairman, Brian Daniels, swears in a new member at the Joliet Unit Meeting on July 7, 2021. The New member pictured below is Dan Roesel from the Joliet Overhead department.



Calling all new Members !! Come to your Unit Meeting get sworn in and receive the newest updated Membership Card



LOCAL 15 REACHES AGREEMENT FOR FLEET SERVICES SUPPORT OF OHT

After approximately two years of negotiations Local 15 has reached agreement with ComEd on the use of Fleet Services to support the Overhead Transmission Department on a full-time basis. Working out issues related to job duties, staffing, alternate support, 10-hour work-days, overtime/Valtin obligations and the additive for performing the work proved to be difficult. Language on overtime boundaries and callout issues were also hammered out. Thanks to the persistent efforts of the Local 15 Representatives involved and the ComEd Managers we were able to reach agreement. The language was rolled out to the effected work force on July 13th and 14th, 2021. After discussions with the work group and a question-and-answer session, members voted. The final tally was counted by the Election Judge, Election Teller and Recording Secretary. They reported the totals of 71 yes votes and 20 no votes thus the agreement was ratified.



Local 15 thanks Tom Flores (Judge), Tim Toussaint (Teller) and Lisa Sims (Recording Secretary) for their assistance in the process. Assistant Business Manager/Business Representative Sam Studer, Business Representatives Ralph Trentadue, Chris Riser and Mark Shaulis spent numerous hours working on this agreement. They are all in agreement that it was a good document and will help serve the needs of the OHT workforce going forward while cleaning up the process used by Fleet Services to provide the needs of the group. President and Business Manager Terry McGoldrick commented that he was pleased with the outcome and the final product.

THREE GENERATIONS OF IBEW MEMBERSHIP



Matt Berland being sworn in by Rockford Unit Chair, Sean Mattingly
 At the July 8th Rockford Unit Meeting, a rare occurrence took place. A new member, Matt Berland-OHH Elgin, was sworn in in the presence of his father, Curtis Berland and his cousin TJ Pierce, both are IBEW members. Curtis was sworn in at Local 134 (Chicago) in 1986 and is now working with Local 701 (Warrenville) as an inside wireman. TJ began his IBEW career in 2004 with Local 9 as an Overhead Electrician and was hired by ComEd in 2011 and has been a Local 15 member ever since. 3 members of the same family working the trade - Union Strong, Union Proud!

**ATTEND YOUR
 LOCAL UNIT MEETINGS**

FINAL CHICAGO UNIT MEETING FOR LABOR LEADER TERRY SHERIDAN



Bill Phillips, Terry McGoldrick, Mike O'Connor, Scot Hasman, Jim Maloney, Terry Sheridan, Shermann Thomas, Demetrius Mack, Rene Arreguin, Marvin Enoch, James Collins, and Jose Quinones. All Bid Terry Sheridan farewell at Terry's final Chicago Unit meeting .

"It was good to see some of the guys again" said Terry "it was nice the guys that took time out to come to the meeting and say hello, best of luck to everyone"

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD UPDATES



On July 21st, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) released a 3-1 decision dismissing the Lippert Components lawsuit that sought to limit unions' use of "Scabby the Rat" and other inflatable figures in labor disputes.

The case began over the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150's use of an inflatable rat to protest Lippert's Components at the entrance of a trade show in September 2018. An NLRB administrative law judge dismissed the case in 2019, but former NLRB General Counsel Peter Robb intervened, believing that the use of inflatable rats is unlawfully coercive and that NLRB and court precedent should be overturned to restrict their use. Robb, appointed by former President Trump, initiated and revived several lawsuits against unions who had used inflatable rats in strikes and public demonstrations.

In and out of government for over forty years, Robb has advanced anti-union and pro-corporate causes. He litigated against the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Association, whose members were fired by Reagan when they went on strike over safety issues in 1981. The first shot of big business and the GOP's ongoing attack on collective bargaining, the mass discharge normalized corporations hiring permanent replacement workers in cases of strikes and signaled the beginning of attacks on Unions that continue to this day.

The NLRB decision upheld Scabby's longstanding free speech protection, stating that Lippert's opinion that the display was "embarrassing does not outweigh the First Amendment rights of the union." Over the past twenty years, federal courts and the NLRB have found that inflatable rats are protected free speech covered by the First Amendment.

"We are pleased with this decision, and have believed since the outset that Scabby's rights would be affirmed, as they have been time and time again for 20 years," said James M. Sweeney, President-Business Manager of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150. "An attack on Scabby the Rat is an attack on workers' right to free speech, and we must all stand united against such attacks. The use of these rats draws public attention to employers' crimes and mistreatment of their employees, and so it is no surprise that powerful interests would want to ban their use, but we will never stop fighting to protect workers' voices – or Scabby's." *From <<https://local150.org/scabby-wins-again-nlr-dismisses-lawsuit-threatening-use-of-inflatable-rats/>>*

NATRIUM MODULAR NUCLEAR REACTOR

The governor of Wyoming announced that Washington-based TerraPower, in collaboration with Pacific Corp, plans to build a Sodium reactor demonstration project at a retiring coal plant in Wyoming. The exact location to be announced by the end of the year and would be the site of the second U.S modular nuclear reactor.



The project's goal is to prove the commercial viability of the Sodium technology, which uses a 345-megawatt sodium-cooled reactor with a molten salt-based energy storage system.

Small modular reactors, or advanced or modular nuclear reactors, are regarded by some as a critical carbon-free technology that power grids will need to supplement

intermittent sources like wind and solar as states strive to decarbonize their power plant fleets. “This is our fastest and clearest course to becoming carbon negative,” Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon said. “Nuclear power is clearly a part of my all-of-the-above strategy for energy in Wyoming.” He said the plant will replace a coal-fired power plant and help Wyoming reduce its greenhouse gas emissions while continuing to use fossil fuels.

Source: Reuters-Valerie Volcovi

TECHNOLOGY CHANGES

Did you know that Article V Section 9 of both the ComEd/BSC and Exelon Generation CBAs require the Company to discuss any technological change affecting members of the bargaining unit with the appropriate Business Representative at least sixty (60) days prior to implementation? The 2002 Feldman Arbitration Award also requires the Company to train members of the bargaining unit on new technology used to perform their work and cannot use new technology as means to move work from the bargaining unit to management.

With technology advancing as quickly as it is these days, and a general lack of knowledge on the part of management of the contractual requirements contained in the CBA, Local 15 has had numerous conversations recently with Company representatives to remind them of such obligations. The intent of the required discussions with the Union is to ensure there is dialogue between the parties about the full extent of the use and impact of the new technology. Unfortunately, the Company does not always provide notice of such changes in accordance with the contractual language. If you become aware of any new technology in your area, you should contact your Steward/Chief Steward/Business Representative immediately to ensure the Union is properly notified of such changes and has a chance to discuss the impact to our members!

Updated Seniority Lists

Updated Seniority lists for ComEd/BSC & Exelon employees have been published. The lists have been distributed to and circulated by our Stewards and Chief Stewards, and are also available to view on our website at www.ibewlocal15.org as well. Local 15 strongly urges all employees to verify their information for accuracy.

As a reminder, Article III, Section 4 of the CBA states:

“In the absence of objection by the Union to changes from the previously approved list, within thirty days of the date on which the revised list is submitted, such changes shall be considered approved.”

It is each member’s responsibility to verify their own information. Any errors or inaccuracies on the seniority list should be reported to Local 15 immediately using the Seniority and Lateral Date Change Form located on Local 15’s website. This can be done by clicking on the Seniority Lists link on the Local 15 homepage.

R E T I R E M E N T S

The following Members have received Honorary Withdrawal Cards from IBEW Local 15
 Congratulations and Thank You for Your Service - from your IBEW Local 15 Sisters and Brothers

Name	Position	Location	Service Date
Alan Quaresima	Lead Mechanic, Fleet	Joliet	Jun-90
Daniel Revelle	Equipment Operator Nuclear	Braidwood	Apr-21
David Herman	Rad Protection Tech	Dresden	Aug-91
David Mammosser	Rad Protection Tech	LaSalle	Dec-90
Douglas Hoellerich	Cable Splicer	Libertyville	Oct-84
Eugene Blais Jr.	OH Elec Spec	DeKalb	Jul-91
Franklin Mercer	Crew Leader Cable	Libertyville	Nov-88
Gary Simons	Senior Mechanic	LaSalle	Sep-80
Gregory Machak	Sr. Maint Electrician	Braidwood	Mar-90
James Holifield	Comml Clerk I	Lincoln Center	May-90
James Turnbull	Crew Leader Cable	Libertyville	Nov-89
Joseph Jenkins Jr.	Crew Leader Cable	Skokie	Jun-85
Leonard Rochnowski	Sr. Mech Nuclear	Dresden	Jan-92
Mark Peters	Matl Handler Sr.	Libertyville	Oct-99
Marshall Hughes	Crew Leader Line	Freeport	Apr-85
Michael Perron	General Service Rep	Crystal Lake	Jul-83
Michael Walker	Maintenance Mechanic	Kincaid	Dec-81
Norman Reno Jr.	Crew Leader Cable	Chicago South	Jan-90
Raymond Dearth	Lead Mechanic, Fleet	Chicago South	May-80
Robert Danson	OH Elec Spec	Libertyville	Jun-88
Ron Alley	Equipment Operator	Will County Coal Station	Apr-77
Steven Clark	Equipment Operator Nuclear	Byron	Aug-91
Tangie Lofton	Comml Clerk I	Lincoln Center	Jun-99
Tawana Brady	Comml Clerk I	Lincoln Center	Oct-89
Thomas Dowling	Sr. Energy Tech Physical	Bolingbrook	Oct-84
Timothy Konczyk	OH Elec Spec	Elgin	Dec-87



IN MEMORY



Charles Fusco - Overhead Chicago South - Former Member Age 83

Dennis Murphy Braidwood Senior Maintenance Electrician- Former Member age 65

John Robert Jenson Overhead Joliet- Former Member Age 62