

LOCAL 197 NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 1

October 2009

UNION MEETING Wednesday, October 28th at 6 p.m.

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

Tuesday, Oct. 20th - Retirees 10 a.m. at the hall

Friday, Oct. 23rd – Texas Holdem Nite at the hall.
6.45 p.m. Members only event.

Wed. Nov. 11 – Veterans’ Day – Holiday with
most working agreements. (Not sign agreements)

Thursday, Nov. 26th – Thanksgiving - Holiday
most agreements



Friday, Nov. 27th, - Holiday most agreements.

Friday, Dec. 11th – Local’s Christmas Party

Friday, Dec. 25th – Christmas

Friday, Jan. 1st – New Year’s Day

If you are in doubt about a holiday, you may call
the office to check the agreement for you.

The new rate sheets are available at the office
showing the October 1st changes.

BUSINESS MANAGER’S MINUTE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this article I am also getting ready to attend the Fall H&W, Pension meeting in St. Louis. I know that there will be discussions and updated financials presented for both of the plans. I’m hoping that all of the news is good, or at least better, and I anticipate that it will be. I will keep you posted.

The NECA and MCECA Inside agreements are now in negotiations. It appeared that everything was going well with both, but, it now looks as though we may be going to the Council on Industrial Relations (CIR) with the NECA agreement. We will still continue to meet and negotiate right up until the time we are scheduled to present before the Council. The MCECA agreement does not have Council language, but instead has binding Arbitration, so those contractors are not obligated to adhere to the Council decisions. Those negotiations are still a work in progress.

The summer construction season is coming to an end and the work outlook is dependent on how the projects progress going into winter. If they move along as they should, it will be a long, cold winter. If we have weather issues, or there are circumstances outside of our control, it will be a long, cold, hard winter.

If anyone has any suggestions as to Journeyman continuing education, please let us know. There has been some interest in a High Voltage class. The time for training/refresher courses is now when we have members not working.

The next Union meeting is October 28th, at 6:00 P.M. I hope to see you there! It was great to see the participation at the last meeting, and I hope that the trend continues.

Fraternally,
Lance

Membership Dues Increase

Effective January 1, 2010, there is a \$1 increase in the International Pension portion of the monthly dues. Therefore, the new dues amounts are:

3 months = \$ 89.10

6 months = \$178.20

1 year = \$356.40

Checks written for incorrect amounts will be returned.

New Retirees

Ken McLean

G. Kelly Swartz

Misc. INFO.

KEEP THE LOCAL INFORMED ABOUT ADDRESS CHANGES AND CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS. CHANGES THAT AFFECT YOUR BENEFITS MUST BE REPORTED ALSO. (Marriages, Divorces, Births, Deaths etc.) We keep beneficiary change cards at the hall.

ERTS REMINDER – If you are working out of our jurisdiction, make sure that you are on ERTS so that your benefits will go back to our home funds.

Check the Local's website. www.ibew197.org. We have started posting businesses in town which have chosen not to use IBEW contractors for their projects. List currently includes:

Walmart – W. Market Street
Fresh Market
State Farm office of Rick McLean

Members who are laid off can apply for benefits directly on the Internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week at www.ides.state.il.us.