

LOCAL 197 NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 1

November 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES

November 27th/ Thanksgiving Holiday
November 28th/Friday after Thanksgiving
Friday, December 12th – Local's Party
(INVITATION is enclosed)
December 25th - Holiday
January 1st - Holiday

On most of our agreements, the above days are unpaid holidays. However, if you work the day, you should receive holiday (double time) pay. If in doubt about the holidays, check the working agreement or call the hall.

Also, if you are working in some other jurisdiction, be sure to check with that Local.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S MINUTE

Thank you for reelecting me as your business manager. I will do everything within my power to keep Local 197 as good a Local as it can be. It is an honor that I do not take lightly. Also, thank you to all who ran for office. Win or lose, it takes a lot of dedication to step up to the plate.

Moving forward, I would like to stress do not destroy the integrity of our working agreements. It has taken generations and countless hours of negotiations as well as lost wages and heartache to gain the conditions we have today.

It may seem more convenient or that a "look the other way attitude" on some small item covered in the agreement couldn't hurt anything. However, when you look at a situation with that thought in

mind, think of this..... If a contractor demanded that you work under those conditions, would you think that was equitable? My guess is the hall lobby would be full of upset members. Please consider the ramifications of your seemingly innocent act. If the members are already participating in an act that is contrary to the agreement, when negotiations come around, it's difficult to challenge an act that is already being done by members. If you have questions, call the hall. That's what we're here for. We'll get the situation resolved and make certain that we don't ruin conditions for the other members of Local 197.

Finally, there were some changes made at the fall trustees meeting concerning H & W. There are too many to try to explain in this space. Visit the Web Site at ibew@197.org or attend the next union meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 26th at 6 p.m. You'll get the information and have a chance to exchange some thoughts, common concerns or enjoy some general camaraderie with your fellow members.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving. We look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Party.

Fraternally yours,
Lance



SSDC MAILING

The Local has been contacted by Social Security Disability Services. This is an organization of non-attorney advocates who work to help individuals obtain social security disability insurance benefits. If you are sick, injured, disabled, or collecting workers compensation, you may qualify for benefits. They will be doing an informational mailing to our members.

If you prefer, you may call for a free consultation. (800-374-9950). If you call, identify yourself as an IBEW 197 member.

WATCH YOUR MAIL.
THIS MIGHT BE INFORMATION THAT YOU WILL NEED IN THE FUTURE.

WAGE RATE INCREASES

The SCIT Agreement has been renegotiated effective 9/01/08. If you work under this agreement, you should have received a pay increase. There is also a per diem increase.

If you do not have a copy of the current agreement, please contact the hall for one.

McLean County inside working agreement received a wage rate increase effective 11/1/2008 and the NECA inside working agreement will receive a wage rate increase effective 12/1/2008. The new rate sheets are available at the office.

REMINDERS – The hall is open the 1st Saturday of each month from 8 am to 12 noon.

Check your dues receipts. Everyone should be paid through December 2008. For 2009, there is a \$1 monthly increase making the quarterly rate \$86.10. The increase is going to the IO pension.

Check the Local's website. We have started posting businesses in town which have chosen not to use IBEW contractors for their projects.

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.

BNJATC NEWS

UPGRADES

The following residential members have upgraded to the commercial apprenticeship program.

Cory Gerdes – Res. Wireman to inside apprentice
Jim Evans – Res. Wireman to inside apprentice
Jason Petri – Res. Wireman to inside apprentice
Brian Schrof – Res. Wireman to inside apprentice
Dax Hedden – Res. Trainee to inside apprentice
Jon Leman – Res. Trainee to inside apprentice

Brian Knoll changed classification from signman to journeyman wireman.

All apprentices are working. We have started 1 new commercial apprentice, Mitchell Karr and 1 residential trainee, Alan McKimmy. Please welcome these new trainees.

Classes are going well and the competition projects seem to be progressing. The last day of school for the year will be Thursday, December 18th with our Pizza Party. School will resume on Monday, January 5, 2009.

OSHA 10 class will be offered in January or February. There will also be a SOARS grounding class in January. More information will be coming.

Reneè & Jana

197 RETIREES

Recent IO retirees include:

John Reed – 12/2008
James Maginel

MORE WAYS TO CUSTOMIZE THIS TEMPLATE

FOOTERS

To change the text at the very bottom of each page of your newsletter, click Headers and Footers on the View menu. Use the Header and Footer toolbar to open the footer, and replace the sample text with your own text.

INSERT SYMBOL

It is a good idea to place a small symbol at the end of each article to let the reader know that the article is finished and will not continue onto another page. Position your cursor at the end of the article, click Symbol on the Insert menu, choose the symbol you want, and then click Insert.

BORDERS

You can use page borders and text box borders to change the appearance of your newsletter. Borders on text boxes help keep different articles separate, and can set off sidebar articles from the rest of the page. To change a text box border, select it, double click its edge and choose the Colors and Lines tab in the Format Auto Shape dialog box.

Return Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Inserting and Editing Pictures

Type your sub-heading here

You can replace the pictures in this template with your company's art. Select the picture you want to replace, point to Picture in the Insert menu, and click From File. Choose a new picture and then click Insert. Select the Link to File box if you don't want to embed the art in the newsletter. This is a good idea if you need to minimize your file size; embedding a picture adds significantly to the size of the file.

To edit a picture, click on it to activate the Picture toolbar. You can use this toolbar to adjust brightness and contrast,

Choose a new picture, and click the Link to File box if you don't want to save the art with the newsletter.

change line properties and crop the image. For more detailed editing, double-click on the graphic to activate the drawing layer. ■

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US POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO.
98765

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321

