

LOCAL 197 NEWS

Volume 05, Issue 1

May 2007

Brothers and Sisters,

I am pleased to inform you that the Local is in steady shape. We have a way to go before getting completely out of the woods, but an upturn in work will go a long way in resolving that issue.

The Spring Trustees meeting for the Health and Welfare, and the Pension Funds was also upbeat! The Pension is in better shape and will still be in the "GREEN" zone even after the Pension Protection Act takes affect. The Health and Welfare Fund is doing well and there are some changes for the better coming. A short summary would include not using bank hours to maintain your benefits while on Disability and a sub-committee is reviewing the level payment options of the plan, or in other words, the items which have specific amounts of payment like vision, Chiropractic, TMJ and so on. The committee will report back to the full Board at the fall meeting as to what is the normal payment for these items.

I would like to thank all of you who have put your personal cell phones in your lunch box during working hours. I know we have made some headway, but there is still work to be done about this issue. Your cooperation is appreciated.

The Hall is now going on 4 years old and is in need of some preventive maintenance. Nothing major, but as with all buildings if we don't keep up with the small things they will surely grow into larger problems. Rich and I try to get as much done as we can but time is not our ally.

(continued in column 2.)

We're going to try to get a workforce together for the 1st Saturday in June and see if we can't get some of this fixed. Again, your cooperation is appreciated. At the last work day, only one member, Tim Kubiak, showed up to help.

Please stay within the "Black and White" of the agreement! It is not only good for you, but for all members of this Local. Union meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Please try to carve out some time to attend. The only way to voice your opinion or vote is to attend, don't let a small percentage speak your voice.

If there is anything that you need from us, please do not hesitate to call the Hall. We are here to serve the members of this Local and the only way we know what you need is for you to tell us. My office has an "Open Door Policy." If you need me, call or stop in. I may only have a few minutes or a few hours depending on what is happening at the time, but if you call first I will set an appointment for you that will give you the time you need.

In Solidarity,
Lance

Work Outlook

There are about 32 people on our Book I. Most of these JWs were layed off from the wind farm. Phase II of the wind farm is still scheduled for this summer. The residential book has 1 residential wireman on it. The SCIT book has no installers on the book.

Monthly Membership Dues

At the writing of this newsletter, there are still about 20 members who have not paid the 2nd quarter dues (April – June). Please check your receipts. You may mail in your check for \$80.10 and a receipt will be mailed back to you.

IBEW YEARS OF SERVICE PINS

The International recently sent service pins and certificates to our retiree members as shown:

Carl Kerner	- 50 years
Walter Kraft	- 50 years
Stanley R. Thompson	- 50 years
Richard Ashenbremer	- 55 years
Thomas Swearingen	- 55 years
Edgar Wartena	- 55 years
Elmond J. Purkey	- 60 years

This newsletter is available on the Local's website 24/7. If you want to get your newsletter from the website, please let us know and we will take your name off of the mailing list. You can sign up on the website also. Rich posts items of interest on a regular basis to our site.

www.ibew197.org

Local 197 Retiree Club

The retiree's club meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month. They usually meet at 10 a.m. in the Local's meeting room. This group continues to grow.

For the month of May, they enjoyed a breakfast at CJ's restaurant about 21 retirees attended. If you are a retiree who would like to attend but have not been receiving the monthly reminder postcards, please call the hall.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY WORK PRACTICES

This 4 hour course can be taken by any of our members. Some employers are starting to require this training as a condition of employment.

See notice enclosed with this newsletter for details. Call BNJATC 829-9819 to sign up.

Golf Outing – July 28th



There is a sign up sheet at the hall for teams or you can call in to get on the list. We will also be looking for people who want to help at our outing.

LOCAL 601 TOURNAMENT

Annual Softball Tournament held by Champaign, Local 601 will be August 11-12th. Steve Rousey has some hotel rooms for this event.

NEXT BLOODDRIVE AT OUR HALL

The next Trades & Labor Blooddrive will be August 25th at our hall. To be eligible to donate at our drive, do not donate after June 28th. You can donate after about 56 days.



Local 197's Softball Schedule Fridays at RT Dunn East

Please use the parking lot directly behind the Armory.

June 1	8 pm	Delta Force
June 8	8 pm	F.O.P. 176
June 15	9 pm	Bears
June 22	7 pm	Pub II
June 29	9 pm	Central II Trucks
July 6	8 pm	Delta Force
July 13	8 pm	F.O.P. 176

Steve Rousey manages the Local team. In case of inclement weather, call the HOTLINE at 434-2386 after 4 p.m. to check status of game.

Horseshoes at the Hall



The next horseshoe event will be Thursday, May 24th at 5 p.m. The horseshoe event will be held every other week. This is a members' only activity

BNJATC NEWS

2007 – 2008 Apprentice Book Costs
START SAVING NOW!!

Commercial

- 1st yr. – \$468 (includes 2005 codebook)
- 2nd yr. - \$268
- 3rd yr. upgrades - \$332.50 (does not include 2005 codebook)
- 4th yr. - \$278
- 5th yr. - \$337

Residential

- 2nd yr. - \$317

Congratulations to the following apprentices who have topped out:

Commercial Wiremen – Brian Gaddy and Dustin Hall.

Residential Wireman – Darrin Anderson

A BIG thanks to the following for helping out at the Construction Career Days:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Shawn Dehaven | Rod Byrd |
| Dale Glasscock | Greg Geshwilm |

Retirees:

Duke Durham, Norm Phillips & Don Armstrong

Huge thanks to Tim Kubiak for waxing the floors at the training Center and to Sam Nichols for helping Tim put the classrooms back together.

**PLEASE READ THE ENCLOSED NOTICE
ABOUT SAFETY COURSE**

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
PAID
PERMIT NO.
98765

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

