

### IBEW Safety Poster Award

At our Nov. 13 General membership meeting, Local 595 member Jeff Reider was presented with a commendation letter and a \$50.00 check for his winning entry in this year's IBEW Journal Safety Poster contest. Congratulations to Jeff on his second winning entry to this Journal contest!



**Cheerleaders from Granada High School in Livermore** came to 595's hall on November 10th to help stuff goodie bags for our upcoming Santa at the Hall. 595 member David Nelson's daughter, Sara Nelson (third from right), organized the volunteer effort! Thanks Sara!  
**Santa at the Hall - Saturday - Dec. 6 - 10 to Noon**

**Important Actions**  
 December 1 were allocated to the Health Reimbursement Account.  
 On October 27, at the Stockton JATC, members ratified a 6 month extension of the Inside Construction Agreement for Calaveras and San Joaquin Counties. \$1.90 to wages, \$.30 to Health and Welfare and \$.05 \$1.00 in new monies due

**International Dues Increase Notice**  
 Please note that effective January 1, 2009, the non-working portion of your membership dues will increase to \$31.95 per month. If you are currently on dues check-off through the vacation fund (Inside Wireman only) you should expect to receive your dues receipt no later than January 12, 2009. If you do not receive your receipt by this date, please be sure to contact the Union Office and speak to a dues secretary.

**WWW.IBEW595BENEFITS.COM**

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 No. 3729

**LOCAL 595 INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**  
 6250 Village Parkway  
 Dublin, CA 94568

**Local 595 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**

# The 595 Connection

**Victor Uno, Business Manager/Financial Secretary**  
**6250 Village Parkway, Dublin CA 94568-3004**

**Vol. 16 Issue 6**  
**November - December 2008**

## BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Across America on November 4th, millions of working families celebrated Barack Obama's historic election as our country's 44th president.

At Local 595's hall, where members, families and friends gathered to watch the returns that evening, there were shouts of joy, clapping and shouting as the networks announced Obama's victory. The hard work of many people, people of all ages, color, backgrounds and faiths, had finally paid off. Obama's call for hope and unity triumphed over fear and division.

"Led by a candidate with uncommon ability to inspire hope, we reclaimed our country from those who are serving corporate interests and the privileged at the expense of everyone else," noted AFL-CIO President John Sweeney. "We have taken the first crucial steps to build a better future for



Local 595 members and family joined over 250 Bay Area trade unionists on a Get Out The Vote effort in Reno, Nevada, on October 18th. Thanks to everyone who helped this successful IBEW effort!

our children and grandchildren. And what we've seen – the stunning voter participation and the common call for change – is an indication of the history we can continue to make together."

As our nation's first president of African and American decent – Obama's father was from Kenya and his mother was from Kansas – this election was historic and transformational. Americans were overwhelmingly dissatisfied with the failed policies of George W. Bush and the Republican party. In addition to Obama's victory, the

Democratic party won more congressional and senate seats, and scored many gains at the state and local level across the country.

Later that same evening, we were all able to celebrate the re-election of Jerry McNerney as California's 11th Congressional District representative. Congressman McNerney was the target of a mean-spirited smear campaign, but he was able

to decisively win by over 10% of the vote.

The Congressman has long championed veterans issues, and has consistently supported labor's issues on trade, prevailing wages, project labor agreements, raising the minimum wage, and sponsored the Employee Free Choice Act.

Our Bay Area Labor movement mobilized hundreds of volunteers to get the vote out for candidates committed to helping working families. Joan Buchanan was victorious in her bid for the 15th Assembly District, putting one

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**ATTEND YOUR LOCAL UNION MEETINGS**

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 595**

**Business Manager Report...**

*continued from front page*

more Democrat into California's State Assembly. Virtually every labor endorsed candidate prevailed, including Ann Johnston, Stockton's new mayor.

Many thanks to 595's COPE Chair, Greg Bonato, who spent inordinate time and effort to get members registered to vote, and organized our many volunteer members and friends who helped with this year's historic election victories. Greg and his wife Kim really stepped up their efforts and we are all indebted to them for their work.

As Greg and our many volunteers demonstrated in the election effort: Yes We Can!

**Slow Work Picture**

Work in both 595 East and West is slow, and in Alameda County there are many apprentices out of work. Due to the collapse of the residential housing market, I have had signatory contractors tell me that even small public works jobs that are being bid will attract a dozen or more non-signatory electrical contractors. In addition, there are a number of projects that have not been started or have been stopped due to the current financial crisis affecting our nation.

We are hopeful that some of the hospital work will begin, and that any national effort to stimulate the economy will include a strong construction infrastructure component. President-elect Obama has indicated that he is putting together a strong economic advisory team to address the current crisis.

Local 595's Pension Trust met on November 11 to discuss the current financial crisis and its impact on our pension plan. A follow up meeting is scheduled for December 3, as the recent, and dramatic, losses in stock equities is a concern for the trustees.

Due to issues in transferring information from the prior plan administrator, Zenith Administrators was not able to mail out Money Purchase Plan (MPP) statements ending July 31 until the third week of November. MPP statements ending October 31, 2008, the period when the stock market declines were the most dramatic, will be sent in mid-December. If you would like to change your investment selection, information will be coming with the Zenith reports or you can call Kelly Lynch at (415) 536-8216.

**Wayne Livingston**

We are very sorry to report the passing of Wayne Livingston. Wayne passed away on November 6, 2008, at his home in Manteca. As a former president and business manager of Local 591 and as a business representative with Local 595, Wayne devoted his service to our IBEW with warmth, humor, compassion and untiring energy. He

was always willing to offer help and assistance to an IBEW brother or sister, and his advice and leadership for growing Local 595 was invaluable.

Wayne was very devoted to his family and was especially loved by his many grandchildren. He was proud of his daughters, Tammy and Sandy, who went through the apprenticeship program and are proud members of the IBEW.

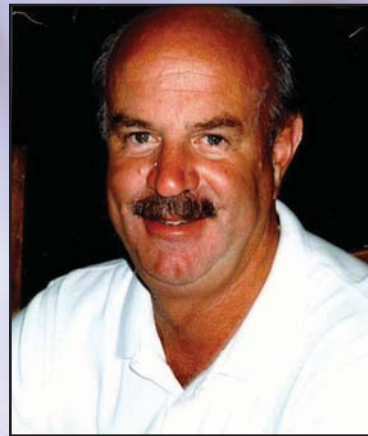
Wayne was able to retire a few years ago, but even in retirement he was always willing to help our union. He would assist at the Stockton JATC, and there were times when he was answering the phones when Joanne was away. There was no one more dedicated to our IBEW than Wayne, and he will be missed by his many brothers and sisters in Local 595.

Our most sincere and heartfelt condolences to Wayne's wife Becky, and the Livingston family.


My best wishes to you and your family,



Victor Uno  
Business Manager



**Wayne Livingston**  
Celebration of Life services were held November 13. Many IBEW members from the Bay Area attended to pay their respects and offer condolences.



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**Greg Bonato** - Juan Guerrero - Sean Kyle  
**Bridget Hall** - Ron Pedro - Aaron Stagg

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 595**

# Old Timers' Nite 2008

**Thursday, December 11, 2008**

**7:30 PM**

**Centennial Hall**

**22292 Foothill Blvd., Hayward**

Come celebrate Local 595's 101st year and honor our brothers and sisters receiving pins and scrolls for their many years of dedicated service to our IBEW!

**65 years**  
Elbert Hutchens  
Henry J Weaver

**60 years**  
Joseph E Eggers  
William E Ferrell  
Paul S Jensen  
Ross E Kueny  
Jack A Okeefe  
Richard A Redgrave  
Fred A Turney  
Richard M Vincent

**55 years**  
Robert P Adams  
James W Barthman  
Donald F Brabec  
Robert E Brahmst  
John E Daniels  
Richard Debisschop  
Ned E Derby  
John J Funk  
Marshall Garcia  
Theodore C Johnson  
Jack Little  
Richard C Little  
James Malloni  
Lincoln R Ogden  
Winford Reed  
Louis E Silva Jr.  
William J Thornton  
Carmen J Venuto  
Billy E Wright

**50 year**  
Floyd J Bird  
Lewis Bowen  
Edward E Collins  
Brian M Davis  
Ralph J Delgado  
Ronald A Dunniway  
William W Katzman  
Ronald L Kiriaze  
George W Lockwood  
Donald R Lovegren  
Richard Machado  
Robert G Neufeld

Larry P  
Patrick,  
George E  
Pauline,  
David L Pope  
Jack A Reim  
Clayton B  
Rickner,  
Tony C Rivas  
Alfred R  
Rocha  
James A  
Skutak,  
Lyle R Spady  
John M

Vincent  
David B Watt

**45 year**  
Victor E Almason  
Bob Blanco  
Frank Bognar  
Robert Briant  
Walter D Buschow  
John T Finn  
Edward A Griffin  
Gerald L Gulkis  
Steven M Hathaway  
Martin M Hodgkins Jr.  
Cleveland Jordan Jr.  
O K Martin Jr.  
James S Moore  
Dino J Ramacciotti  
Louis H Schmitz Jr.  
George M Syester  
Kenneth Turner

**40 year**  
Albert Bayhi  
Michael F Brown  
Kenneth O Carroll  
Larry W Crain  
Gary L Crouse  
Ronald L Devlin  
James R Foscalina  
Thomas J Gallagher  
Maurice J Goulart Jr.  
Bruce W Henry



*Last year's 70 year pin recipients:  
George Dijeau and Leland Browder!*

Grant B Howe  
Richard D Isaeff  
Geary L Lambert  
Melvin V Lencioni  
Robert E Long Sr.  
Phil A Lovato  
Wayne MacLean  
Douglas P Marshall  
Stephen A Martin  
Dennis W Masinter  
William I Miller  
Patrick W Morrison  
Jon O Nagel  
Ray Norman  
James P O'Brien  
Don K Peterson  
Robert M Price  
Michael R Risi  
William A Rose III  
Douglas E Royer  
Floyd F Schaffer  
Gerald J Sweeney  
John C Vanmastrigt  
Joseph P Weber  
James L Wilcox

**35 year**  
Carl J Arguello Jr.  
Edward L Box  
Edward J Cox  
Lawrence E  
Crumpacker  
Steven L Eldridge

Loren J Fisher  
Jon W Frazee  
Larry R  
Hakanson,  
Robert C  
Haubold,  
Ted M Howard  
Steven P Jans  
Harold K  
Kalama,  
Kevin R Little  
Oscar C Lopez  
O. Lenard  
Martinez,  
Thomas A

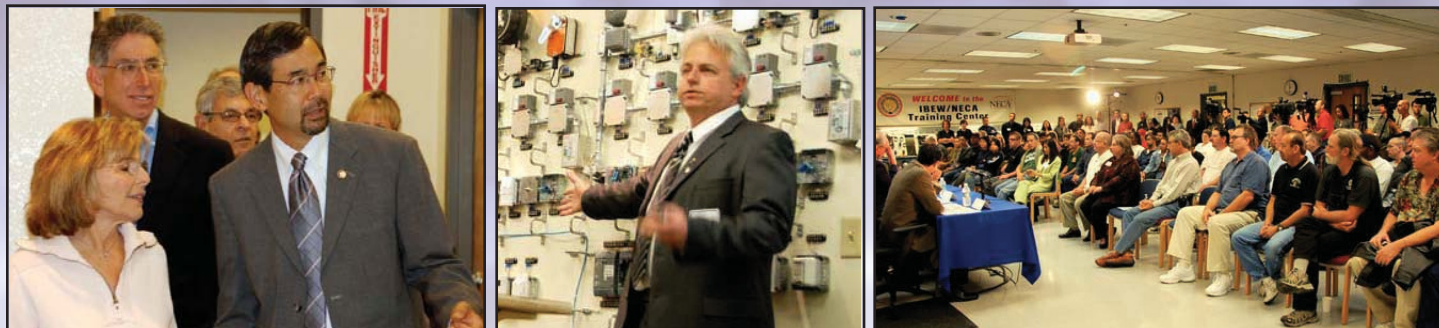
Mcintosh  
David E Redgrave  
Donny R Rozell  
Michael A Sisneroz  
Danny R Smith  
Rex G Smith  
Jan L Tompkins  
Douglas M Vance  
Basil L Vincent  
Charles A Wahlstrom  
Wesley M Wolff

**30 years**  
Jeff K Bennetts  
Charles W Brown  
John C Burns  
Victor M Chao  
Lester G Coe  
Richard A Curtis  
Tim S Darneille  
Michael T Demarco  
Richard A Domench  
Robert J Freas  
Dennis H Hunt  
Dale Ivey  
Craig Kirkland  
Michael A Leonardini  
Robert W Milner  
Jeff J Ortega  
Samuel Quinones  
Charles R Rayburn Jr.  
William A Richichi  
Glen Rodgers

Mike A Simmons  
Robert Sobrero  
Clifford Suzuki  
James W Valtierra  
Ignacio Vargas  
Jack R Velasco  
Carl J Winterbauer  
Richard R Zemlok

**25 year**  
Eric E Anderson  
Wesley Andrews  
Mark E Baronie  
Philip J Barthman  
Dewitt A Buckingham  
James J Burke  
William M Bussell  
Daniel O Chivello  
Kris Cloyd  
Nixon Dang  
Ian Davidson  
James R De Martini  
Donald K Ehrhardt  
John Folse  
Erich Fritts  
Penny Harris  
Robert E Harshman  
Timothy Jensen  
Craig L Klingman  
Mike Landro  
Ronald D Londagin  
Ricardo J Nereu  
Michael L Nielsen  
Robert J Nielsen  
Chester Oby  
John P O'Dea  
Gilbert Olvera  
Robert Pokorny  
Jeff L Redgrave  
Dianne E Reynolds  
Robert E Roche  
John Samorano  
Pat L Saxton  
Ron L Silva  
Allen G Spencer  
Barbara Williams

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 595**



## Sen. Boxer Visits JATC

California Senator Barbara Boxer and the national Apollo Alliance toured the Alameda County Electrical Training Center on October 4, and addressed a standing room only gathering to launch the New Apollo Program.

DDC Controls Lab instructor David Nelson explained the tremendous energy savings realized with new controls technology for commercial and residential buildings, where over 40 percent of U.S. energy consumption is realized. New building construction and existing building retrofits will involve DDC controls, creating many high quality jobs.

Photovoltaic Lab instructor Bill Kenney showed the hands-on lab where inverters and meters are directly connected to the existing PV solar awning, generating 10 Kw of grid connected power. Training Director Byron Benton explained the training goals and history of the electrical apprenticeship program.

At the press conference, Sen. Boxer explained the recent passing of an eight

year energy tax credit worth \$128 billion for renewable energy projects, a national initiative to spur increased investments in wind, solar and other renewable sources.

California State Building and Construction Trades Council head Bob Balganorth linked apprenticeship job training and the emerging green economy with an expected boom in construction jobs for apprentices and journeymen.

The new Apollo Program is a comprehensive economic investment strategy to build America's 21st century clean energy economy and cut energy bills for families and businesses. It calls for investing \$500 billion over the next ten years to create more than five million high quality green-quality jobs.

The Apollo Alliance is a national coalition of business, environmental, labor and community leaders. The five point program can be viewed at [www.apolloalliance.org](http://www.apolloalliance.org)



### *Our Condolences to the Families of our Recently departed members...*

*Don K Ehrhardt, passed on November 5, 2008, 70 years old, and a member for 25 years.*

*Patrick J Gunning Jr., passed on October 23, 2008, 87 years old, and a member for 66 years.*

*Roy Kelly, passed on September 16, 2008, 85 years old, and a member for 62 years.*

*Wayne Livingston, passed on November 5, 2008, 65 years old, and a member for 44 years.*

*Elmer T Nelson passed on September 26, 2008, 85 years old, and a member for 52 years.*

*William Rowe passed on September 26, 2008, 84 years old, and a member for 56 years.*

*Roger Keith Schuman passed on September 14, 2008, 57 years old, and he was sworn into membership just four days before his passing.*

### *Congratulations to the parents of our newest 595 additions!*

*Jason and Chandra Bates, proud parents of Davis Bates, born April 28, 2008.*

*Kal and Amy Karn, proud parents of Laurel Mae Karn, born August 6, 2008.*

*Jason and Sarah Gumataotao, proud parents of Felix Joseph Smith Gumataotao, born October 12, 2008.*

Going to press, we learned of the passing of 595 member Laurette (Laurie) Madden. Laurie was a 15 year member and is survived by daughter Tracy Madden-Maloon, a 595 apprentice. Our sincere condolences to the Madden/LaPoint family.

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 595**



## Thanks to All 595 Volunteers!

Many thanks to all of our 595 members, family and friends who phoned, walked, put up signs, handed flyers, knocked on doors, talked with members, stuffed envelopes, and did everything possible to Turn Out the IBEW Vote!

We salute our many volunteers: Jesus Andrade, Linda Batista, Tony Bertolucci, Shawn Bollinger, Greg Bonato and wife Kim and daughter Nikki and son Vinny, Jacob Brahmst, Carroll Braxton and wife Kimi, Derrick Branco, Alex Butenko, Patrick Carroll, Emily Chen, Loye Cherry, Muhammad Chisti, Dan Chivello, Mike Civiello, Ron Coleman, John Collins, Sr., Whitman Cook, Gary Damele, Clark Denning, James Deo, Paul Ear, Jim Etchells, Gerald Farley, Jim Frasier, Maurion Gaines, Stephen Galvin, David Gaunt and wife Donna, Teri Gonzales, Omar Grande, Anthony Guerrero, Juan Guerrero and wife Kathleen and daughter Emilia, Jason Gumataotao, Terry Gumataotao, Siosaia Hafoka, Bridget Hall, Earl Hampton, Joseph Herpe, Leigh Hessel, Tabatha Hoak, John



## Retirees Club News

The holiday season is full upon us! We've had a successful year in the 595 Retirees Club, with our latest outing being "Sunday's a Drag" at the Sir Francis Drake's Starlight Room. Over seventy members attended a SF show and brunch buffet. It all felt like Finocchio's (get it?).

Our lineup of trips for 2009 includes "The Lion King," "Russian River Escape," and "Teatro Zinzanni" in SF, among others. Treasurer Linda Bratset is doing an outstanding job of finding new

and exciting trips for us. Her electrician husband Roger, who took an early retirement, is sure he made the right decision because of all the fun he and we are having. Younger or older retirees, come join us. Our dues are a whopping \$15 a year.

Still on the subject of money, this is the one time of year we have a fundraiser for the retirees club. Our annual Christmas luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 18th with entertainment and a terrific raffle afterward. You need not be present to win. Now is the time to buy raffle tickets, which are available at the Dublin Hall, San Leandro

Hubbird, Elaine Ito, Eva Jean, Andrew Johns, John Johnson, Ken Johnson, Jason Kaneko, Sam Kharufeh, Dan Kimmel, Mark King, Dave Lawhorn, Evelyn Lee, Doug Lindsey, Jason Livermore, Jon Lockwood, Cindy Loney, Matt Maloon's family, Anthony Martinez, Jesse Martinez, Ricky Martinez, David Mathis, Rick Mayer, LouAnn McCune, Nick McDaid, Kat McFadden, Annette Menzel, Tom Mullarkey and wife Jane, David Nelson and wife Bridget, son Nate and daughter Sara, Lori Newman, Tim Nightingale, Dan O'Connor, Vinson Owyong, Ron Pedro and daughter Catherine, Dale Peterson, Tanya Pitts, Tom Reed, Brandon Reeder, Mia Rivas, Chris Rivera, Paul Rogers and wife Doris and daughter Rachel, Frank Rodriguez, Vic Rolita and wife Kathy, Frank Rosa, Reese Rourke and wife Eileen, Domingo Santana, Tom Santos, Felix Sifuentes, John Small, Jim Stagg, Bill Stapelberg, Tony Stipe, Anne Suart, Mel Switzer, Dave Thoni, Bob Tieman, Victor Uno and wife Josie Camacho, Herman Tovar, Robert Villano, Liz Wallis, Tom Wallis, Tom Wallis, Jr, Travis Wolf, LeAnn Wooldridge and Donald Yee.

JATC, and from Jim Baker and his ticket sellers. Jim can be reached at (510)793-7529. If you can help sell tickets, let Jim know. - Les Bridge, President



Join 595's retiree club and get on the bus to many outings around the Bay Area!

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 595**

# Alameda County JATC News

As we enter the winter season, a slow-down in the work picture has affected the program. We are currently experiencing an unemployment rate of 10% with the realization that this number may go even higher in the coming months. To all the members of IBEW Local 595, thank you for your support and continued efforts on behalf of our apprentices during these difficult and challenging times.

Many members are asking about the California State Electrician certification renewal process. The following items should help:

Renewal forms are available at the San Leandro Training Center and Local 595's offices in Dublin.

Forms are also available on line at [www.dir.ca.gov/DAS/ElectricalTrade.htm](http://www.dir.ca.gov/DAS/ElectricalTrade.htm)

Renewal forms should be received by the DAS at least one month but no sooner than 3 months prior to the renewal month that your license expires in 2009.

If your certification expires before you can renew, you must pay an additional fee of 100.00 and you have to retake the cer-



Apprentice Susan Bowron, center, with Terry Busco and Art Mayberry at the Oracle project in Pleasanton

tification exam (i.e., renewal fee of \$100.00 plus retake exam fee of \$100.00 = total fee of \$200.00)

In order to renew your existing certification, you must have completed 32 hours of electrical education and you must have worked at least 2,000 hours in the industry in the previous 3 years.

A separate renewal application is required for each category of certification

you are renewing (i.e., General Electrician and Fire/Life Safety Technician).

Continuing education class hours may apply to more than one certification category as long as the courses are relevant to each category.

It is not necessary to attach your class completion certificates or transcripts to your renewal form. If you are audited in the future, you may provide official documentation at that time. The JATC will assist you in the event that this occurs.

On behalf of everyone at the Alameda County Electrical JATC, we wish you and your families a safe, healthy and joyous Holiday Season!

- Byron L. Benton, Training Director



## New Oakland Housing Commissioner

595 Member Tanya Pitts is given the oath of service as a new Oakland Housing Authority commissioner. The OHA oversees 3,300 housing units on 268 sites, 1,386 units at large developments, 1,615 units at scattered sites, 307 units in mixed partnerships, and 11,142 section 8 housing units. Tanya will be labor's voice on this important agency.



Apprentice Matt Feaver demonstrates the 555 bender

the IBEW and our NECA contractors.

The work picture has slowed in recent months. We have unemployed apprentices and some apprentices employed by shops who are missing time. If you need or can use an apprentice on your project please call the Training Center and talk to Dave or Joanne.

Journeyman Continuing Education classes are finishing up for the fall semester. Participation in most classes has been very good, although some of the more

popular classes like the solar and fire alarm classes were heavily requested but only about 50% actually showed up for class.

Remember: If you cannot attend a class you have signed up for you need to inform the JATC office as you are only cheating your brothers and sisters of an opportunity to attend.

A mailer will go out in early January listing classes that will be available for spring semester.

Regarding re-registering for California Electrician Certification – The Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) has asked applicants to apply no earlier than 3 months before your due date and no later than 1 month before your due date.

A Merry Holiday to all from the Stockton JATC!

- Dave Brooks, Training Director

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 595**

# Organizer's Report

IBEW 595 would like to welcome the following "travelling" contractors who have become signatory since our last newsletter: Woltz Electric is located in Benecia and is doing a commercial TI in Emeryville, San Francisco contractor U.S. Electric Technologies has a project at UC Berkeley, LIR Inc. from Sacramento does traffic signal loop work.

In 2008, there were 14 new signatory contractors (Inside and S&C), 11 new "travelling" contractors who were previously signatory in other areas, and 4 IBEW 595 contractors who signed additional CBAs such as S&C or Maintenance. We also welcomed 55 Inside Wiremen, 49 S&C Installers, 18 Fixture Maintenance, and 1 Electric Sign Installer this year.

## Member Acknowledgements

Local 595 had a very successful organizing year and we want to thank the following members who helped with our efforts: Scott Taylor, David "Randy" Anderson, Lamar Travis, Steve Carpenter, Marvin Smith, Jerry Low, Kevin Gotto, Mike Deiters, Bob Crowley, Jackson Valpariso, Jim Etchells, Alex Lopes, Michael Bounds, Eric Williams, Chris Yang, Shima Chen, John Stafford, Craig Schott, Robert Hales, Eric Lehnhart, Brad



IBEW 595 members at the Transcon printing facility in Fremont. The high-tech plant will be printing newspapers for the Bay Area.

Lutz, Joe DiGiallonardo, Ralph Alunan, Jason Chinn, Ernie Montano, Tony Stipe, Miguel Munoz, David DeSha, Guadelupe Ibarra, Domingo Santana, and Brian Wynn.

## 'SALT' Program

IBEW members are prohibited from working for non-union electrical contractors. This rule and other internal IBEW guidelines are agreed to when the member takes the Oath of Obligation and joins the IBEW. Breaking this oath can have serious implications, including charges and a trial by 595's Trial Board. Fines and penalties, up to and including expulsion, can result.

There is only one circumstance where the internal laws of the IBEW allow for members to work for non-union electrical contractors. That circumstance is the SALT program.

A SALT is an IBEW member who is assigned by the Director of Organizing to work for a non-signatory electrical contractor for the purpose of helping the IBEW organize that company.

Simply working non-union is not SALTing. A SALT must be in contact with the local union Organizer and receive permission to engage in the SALT program prior to becoming employed at the non-union company.

We need dedicated members who are willing to help with our organizing efforts. SALTs have helped promote the IBEW to show the benefits of becoming signatory, and other SALTs have helped gather useful information that help in other organizing efforts.

If you are willing to dedicate your time and effort to help our organizing efforts, please contact David Nelson for Sound & Communication; Sam Kharufeh for Inside Wireman in San Joaquin County; Matt Maloon for Inside Wireman in Alameda County.

Matt Maloon, Director of Organizing

# Important Notice for Travelling Members

When working outside of Local 595's jurisdiction, please note the following:

## Health & Welfare

1) If you sign reciprocity to have your benefits sent back to Local 595, the contractor that you are working for will reciprocate the amount for the Health & Welfare contribution that is charged for that Local and send it to their administrator. It will then be processed and sent to Zenith Administrators on your behalf. We have been told by Zenith that this process can take some time and has created problems for some of our members. If you are working out of town and are concerned about your Health & Welfare eligibility please call Kelly Lynch at Zenith Administrators and let her know of your

situation: (415) 536-8216

2) In addition to the time lag there can be a considerable difference between the H&W contribution in the Local you've traveled to and Local 595's contribution. The contractor's obligation is to send the amount that is charged in the jurisdiction where the work is being performed. This also has created problems for our members who don't realize that each month that they work out of county they are possibly depleting their dollar bank to make up the difference between the money sent and Local 595's AMPC (Actual Monthly Plan Cost). If there isn't enough money in your dollar bank to cover the AMPC, you can fall out of coverage. If you think you are in this situation please contact Kelly and keep on top of it.

## Vacation and Dues

1) Other Locals may not have a Vacation Account. If you are signed up

for 595's dues check off, a situation can arise that when it is time for your annual International dues to be paid from your vacation account, it may not have sufficient funds in the account to cover your dues. In this case you will be dropped from membership and sometimes without your knowledge. It is your responsibility to keep your dues current and the IBEW Constitution clearly states that members are not entitled to notice from the union office.

If you think you might be in this situation please contact our office and clear up the matter.

## Sign Up for ERTS!

Finally, when travelling to other jurisdictions, be sure to sign up for the ERTS program at 595's offices BEFORE you travel! This program allows your benefits to be sent back to Local 595.