

# The LINK

International Brotherhood of Electric Workers, Local Union No. 702

November, 2016



## Reviving The LINK

In an effort to reach out and engage any of the members who are not currently looped into the Local's news and events, we are attempting a resurgence of the printed newsletter. It is our desire to have the content of this letter assembled in house with the latest updates, as timely as possible, then printed and mailed through a union signatory third party vendor. While it will be impossible to include every bit of business the Local is engaged in across all three States, we will try to touch on some highlights throughout the jurisdiction as well as give some overarching perspectives of broader topics.

### ***Prefer to receive your newsletter electronically?***

Send us an email to [ibew702@ibew702.org](mailto:ibew702@ibew702.org) with your name and email address for future deliveries.

**MOVING / NAME CHANGE / LIFE CHANGING EVENT?** Don't forget to update your address, contact information, and/or beneficiary at the Union Hall! Contact your Business Representative or feel free to send an email to us at: [ibew702@ibew702.org](mailto:ibew702@ibew702.org).

For the latest happenings in IBEW Local 702, check out our website - [www.ibew702.org](http://www.ibew702.org), - or , like and follow us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @IBEWLOCAL702.

***Our members are always there when we call on them. Never has there been a time when we needed them and they haven't responded. I think this speaks volumes about the type of people in our Local and the character of our communities.***

~ Steve Hughart,  
Business Manager



***"Rauner is Wrong Rally" - 702 members Dwayne Brookhouse, Logan Hall, IL AFL-CIO President Mike Carrigan, and 702 President James Sanchez.***

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## ***Business Manager's Message***



This Local, the one that I consider one of, if not the greatest, in all of the IBEW, just celebrated its 105th birthday, on June 29th, 2016. It takes a lot of tenacity and perseverance to be that old, and our Local has not been without its share of adversity over the years. Most of our struggles come from external forces, some which we cannot control, but currently, we are under a vicious attack by forces that we can control.

Too many politicians are not working for the good of our members, and are pursuing an agenda the only serves the upper crust, the 1% if you will. At this point in our nation's history, we don't need elected officials who are doing the bidding of the Koch Brothers or allowing the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) to write our laws. We need worker-friendly legislators who will protect working conditions, respect collective bargaining rights and the process, and create a level playing field where middle class families not only survive, but they actually have a chance to get ahead. We need to revive the American Dream for so many who feel their future will not include the opportunities their predecessors enjoyed.

This fall, do not get distracted by media outlets that tell you this election is about gun control, gay marriage, or abortion. This time, it's up to us to make it about jobs and working families. We can't do it without you. Please make sure your Business Representative knows you are willing to help out. Volunteer this election cycle to participate in a Labor Walk, a phone bank, or other opportunities. Our future depends on it.

## ***From your President***

Hello Brothers & Sisters. Let me start with reminding everyone to vote on November 8th. Vote early if you can, and remind your family & friends to vote as well.

Also, November 11th is Veterans Day. There will be a Veterans Day parade in Anna, Illinois, where the 702 float will be carrying 702 members who served our country. Hope all can make it.

And finally, don't forget to check out the IBEW 702 store. Just go to IBEW 702's website and find the 702 online store icon. Additionally, instead of paying for shipping, you can have it sent to the hall in West Frankfort, and pick it up at the next Union meeting.

Please make an effort to attend your Union Meetings; we look forward to seeing you there!

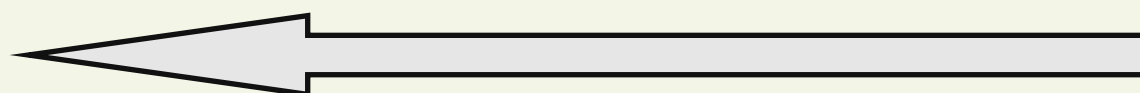
In Solidarity,  
*Jim Sanchez*



## ***REMINDER:***

***All of the Local's merchandise is now available online through our website.***

***Look for this badge on the left side of the site on our homepage!***







#### *Resolutions Submitted by IBEW Local 702:*

The Local played an active role in this year's International Convention by submitting several resolutions for consideration by the Delegates. Here they are in numerical order:

##### **Resolution No. 11**

##### **Skin Cancer Awareness**

This resolution was jointly submitted by Local 702 and Local 307. Its purpose was to bring about an increased focus on the over 5 million cases of non-melanoma skin cancer diagnosed every year in the United States and Canada along with the over 100,000 cases of melanoma diagnosed annually in the U.S. and Canada. If treated before it spreads to the lymph nodes, it has a 98% 5-year survival rate. It was resolved to encourage all members, especially those exposed to UV radiation, to take precautions against such by utilizing a broad spectrum sunscreen with SPF of 30 or higher and see a dermatologist yearly.

##### **Resolution No. 35**

##### **Support of Baseload Generating Stations**

This resolution was jointly submitted by Locals 15, 31, 51, 57, 204, 304, 702, 953, 965, 2150, and 2304. Its goal was to highlight the importance, reliability, stability, and dependence of electricity usage that is generated by coal-fired power plants and the over 30,000 IBEW members that are employed in such throughout the U.S. and Canada. It was resolved the support of the IBEW for retention of baseload generating stations, the incentivizing of the construction of new baseload generating stations, and the retrofitting of current baseload generating stations with the latest clean technologies. It was furthermore resolved that the IBEW support the development of a national energy policy that supports and encourages the retention and development of baseload generating facilities.

*Continued on page 6.*

## **IBEW International Convention**

There were many happenings at the recent IBEW International Convention, held in St. Louis, MO, but little was more exciting than having Local 702's very own Bobby Dicken, employed at Ozark Border Electric Cooperative in Poplar Bluff, MO, kick off the week-long event with his singing of the National Anthem. His appearance at the Convention was by special request and invitation of IBEW 11th District Vice President Curt Henke. In addition to his inspiring rendition of The Star Spangled Banner, Bobby was also asked to perform God Bless America following a moment of silence for all of the IBEW's leadership that had passed away in recent years. While his presentation of the National Anthem with background music accompanying him was impressive, we believe it was his acapella version of God Bless America that moved the audience the most. He did the Local proud!!! Both videos can be seen on the Local's Facebook page if you haven't already viewed them.



*IBEW International President Lonnie Stephenson (l) presents IBEW Local 702 member Bobby Dicken an appreciation gift for performing the National Anthem and God Bless America at the IBEW's 39th Convention in St. Louis, MO on September 19th, 2016. With Bobby is Local 702 Business Manager Steve Hughart (r).*

# 2016 ELECTION GUIDE\*

This year, as voters go to the polls, they will have an opportunity to shape the direction of our Nation, our States, and our local communities. Here at IBEW Local 702, we feel it is our duty and responsibility to inform you of who we believe have the best interests of our members, as well as all working men and women, at heart. Additionally, we understand that that HOW you vote is a personal and private matter, but we do encourage everyone to participate in the political process. Here are the candidates and issues receiving AFL-CIO, IBEW, and Local 702 endorsements and support:

## State of Illinois:

U. S. Senator: **Tammy Duckworth**

U. S. House of Representatives: **Charles "CJ" Baricevic**

Comptroller: **Susana A Mendoza**

State Senate, 59th District: **Gary Forby**

State Senate, 58th District: **Sheila Simon**

State House, 115th District: **Marsha Griffin**

State House 116th District: **Jerry Costello II**

State House 117th District: **John Bradley**

State House 118th District: **Brandon Phelps**

Appellate Court (Bruce Stewart vacancy): **Brad K. Bleyer**

Appellate Court (James Wexstten vacancy): **Jo Beth Weber**

Johnson County State's Attorney: **Andrew Wilson**

Hardin County State's Attorney: **Dan Cockrum**

Pulaski County State's Attorney: **Donna McCann**

Saline County State's Attorney: **Mike Henshaw**

Perry County State's Attorney: **Matt Benson**

Union County State's Attorney: **Tyler Edmonds**

Jefferson County Circuit Clerk: **Nick Lemay**

Williamson County Circuit Clerk: **Angie Elliott Kochan**

Williamson County State's Attorney: **Brandon J. Zanotti**

Franklin County Circuit Clerk: **Nancy Hobbs**

### **We SUPPORT the Constitutional Amendment**

The Proposed Amendment provides that monies from taxes, fees, excises, or license taxes, etc. are not diverted from their intended purposes.

## State of Missouri:

U. S. Senator: **Jason Kander**

Governor: **Chris Koster**

Lieutenant Governor: **Russ Carnahan**

Attorney General: **Teresa Hensley**

Secretary of State: **Robin Smith**

State Treasurer: **Judy Baker**

State House 117th District: **Travis Barnes**

State House 149th District: **Brantley Atchley**

State House 150th District: **Lena Samford**

### Missouri Ballot Issues:

#### **We SUPPORT Constitutional Amendment 1**

Soil & Water Conservation Sales Tax Continuation ~ The Local supports the preservation of our natural resources and supports the continuation of this 1/10th sales tax currently in existence for another 10 years, providing \$90 million annually.

#### **We SUPPORT Constitutional Amendment 2**

Campaign contributions ~ This will amend the Missouri Constitution to establish limits on campaign contributions by individuals or entities to political parties, political committees, or committees to elect candidates for state or judicial office. The Local believes this will help level the playing field across all candidates.

#### **We OPPOSE Constitutional Amendment 6**

The Voter I.D. Ballot Measure ~ attempts to disenfranchise over 220,000 Missouri Voters, will create longer lines at the polls, and cost millions of taxpayer dollars which the legislature has not determined how to pay for.

## State of Indiana:

U. S. Senate: **Evan Bayh**

Governor: **John Gregg** Superintendent of Public Instruction: **Glenda Ritz**

Attorney General: **Lorenzo Arredondo** State Senate District 50: **Vaneta Becker**

Indiana House of Representative, District 77: **Ryan Hatfield**

Indiana House of Representative, District 78: **Phillip Bennett**

*\*It is perfectly legal to take this piece of paper with you to the polls when you go vote. It is encouraged by this Local that you do so in an effort to cast your ballot for the candidate(s) who pledge to stand with our members and working men and women.*



# Annual Golf Tournament another \$ucce\$\$ for charity!

For many years, we have used the proceeds of our annual golf tournament to make a sizeable donation to The Poshard Foundation for Abused Children, and this year was no exception. Due to the generosity of our sponsors, members, and participants who came out on Friday, June 17th, we were able to donate \$10,000 to help keep the agency and the good work that they do. Many thanks to all of you who helped make this happen!

To learn more about The Poshard Foundation, please go to:

<http://www.poshardfoundation.org>.



*Local 702 Executive Board Members and Staff at the Henry Miller Museum in St. Louis, MO on April 22nd, 2016.*

## ***Local 702 Donates to Henry Miller Museum***

On April 22nd, 2016, the West Frankfort Executive Board, along with the Local's staff, visited the Henry Miller Museum in St. Louis, MO. We were given a guided tour by project Superintendent Dale Roth and all in attendance were able to sign our names on the second-floor overhead beam. It was an honor to place our names in the middle of history! Along with our visit, we informed Brother Roth that the Local was making a donation to the Museum, which was well received.

## ***Newton Unit honors one of their own***

On April 27, Newton Power Station celebrated the life of Jimmy Taylor with a "Final Walk for Jimmy." This walk was to benefit Jimmy's youngest son, Alan, to off-set some of his college expenses.

We had a walk/run, a raffle, 50/50 drawing and an auction. These events, as well as donations, brought us a total of \$5,080.00; with the Operations Department raising the most money. This money went directly to Alan Taylor; who just finished his Associates Degree at Lakeland College and is headed to SIU Edwardsville this fall to start his Construction Management bachelor's degree.

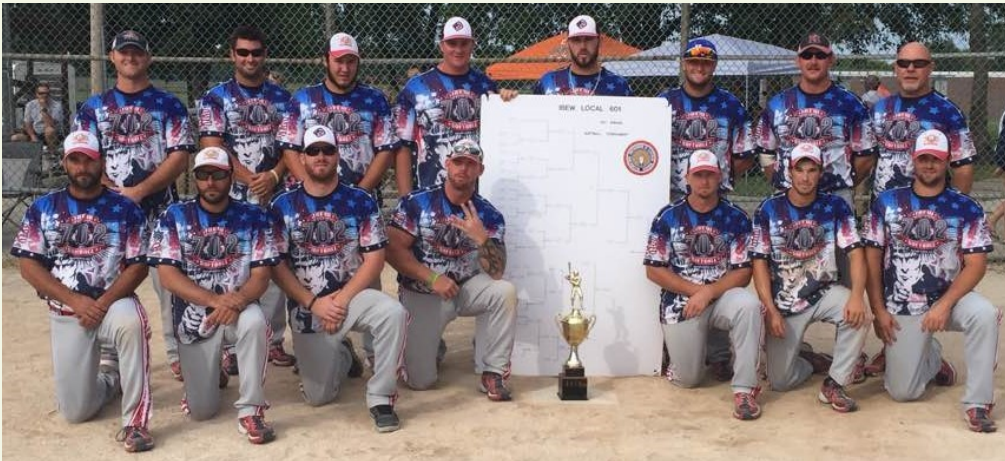
Jimmy started at Newton Power Station on February 5, 1980, and worked in Operations until he began his battle with cancer in February, 2015. Jimmy lost that battle on March 6, 2016. He was a loyal employee, a good 702 union brother, a dear friend, a husband, father and grandfather and will be greatly missed.







Members of the IBEW Local 702 Softball Team enjoyed tremendous success this season, winning the *Upper Division* of the 45th Annual I.B.E.W. Midwest Softball Tournament in Cleveland, OH. Team members are (back row, l to r): Steve Hughart, Adam Cadle, Kenton Parmley, Chase Hughart, Cody Lee, Tyler Krough, Conner Hughart, Ryan Wright, Dewayne Hensley. Front Row (l to r): Daniel Henderson, Andrew Soldner, Paul Whittaker, Buster Hendricks, Mike Lustig, Mike Smothers, Bryson Whitehead.



Following up on their success at the Midwest Tournament, the Local's team proceeded to win the 2016 Illinois ASA State Tournament in the Men's Class "D" SP held in Champaign, IL. Team members are (back row, l to r): Aadm Cadle, Kenton Parmley, Chase Hughart, Cody Lee, Tyler Krough, Colton Rupska, Dewayne Hensley, Steve Hughart. Front Row, l to r: Paul Whittaker, Mike Lustig, Andrew Soldner, Buster Hendricks, Mike Smothers, Bryson Whitehead, Daniel Henderson.



At this year's Southeast Missouri Labor Picnic, always held the full weekend before Labor Day on Sunday at the Cape County Park in Cape Girardeau, MO, the Local's Tug-of-War team stepped up to the challenge of defending their title, winning the event for the fourth year in a row. The four teams entered in this year's Union vs. Union Tug of War challenge were all worthy competitors, and we are honored to claim the trophy once again (bottom picture). All of the videos of the pulls can be seen on the SEMO Labor Picnic Facebook page.

Team members (from l to r) are Jebediah Morris, Ryan Groves, Chris Skibo, Andrew O'Conner, Troy Schafer, and Brandon Keese.

*Special mention needs to be given to Business Manager Steve Hughart for the outstanding and motivational coaching job he provided!*

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### Resolution No. 39 ~Line Clearance Tree Trimming Coordination Council

This resolution as jointly submitted, along with IBEW International Vice President of the 3rd District Don Siegel, by Locals 17, 44, 55, 57, 104, 126, 245, 429, 702, 714, 876, and 1919.

The intention of this resolution was to bring about awareness of the dangers facing those employed in the line clearance tree trimming industry where many are killed and injured each year, many of which could be avoided with better enforcement of the Industry's safety and training standards. It also highlighted the need to standardize the working conditions and safety practices across the Industry, with such incorporated into our Collective Bargaining Agreements, as well as the need to organize the large part of this Industry that remains unorganized, and finally resolved for the IBEW establish a Line Clearance Tree Trimming Council for the above-referenced purposes.

Business Manager Hughart spoke on Resolution 11, which—along with Resolution 35—passed unanimously by the almost 2,000 Delegates to the Convention. Resolution No. 39 was eventually withdrawn from consideration by Vice President Siegel with the agreement of all Locals, due to the Resolutions Committee's recommendation of NONCONCURRENCE. The Committee was not opposed to the spirit of the Resolution, but did not support the mandatory establishment of a Coordinating Council that the Resolution called for.





# 702 RENEW

On May 3rd, 2016, at the IBEW 6th District Progress Meeting, the Local was tasked with creating a Local RENEW (*Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers*) Committee by International President Lonnie Stephenson and Business Manager Steve Hughart. The goal and mission of this committee (known as the 702 RENEW Committee) will work to promote, empower, and unite members to participate in the labor movement through education, collaboration, and active involvement in Local 702 activities, fostering solidarity and brotherhood within the membership.

The first meeting of the 702 RENEW Committee was held on Thursday, May 12th, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Local's Union Hall, and was attended by twenty six (26) 702 members that included Wireman, Lineman, and Tree Trimmers. At this meeting, it was decided to have events that would foster Brotherhood and bring Members from across our large geographic jurisdiction together.



*On Friday, June 3rd, 2016, the Renew Members came together to cook over 300 slabs of ribs for the Robinson Family, whose twins were born pre-maturely and spent several months in the hospital. Through the RENEW Committee's efforts, with the support of the membership, over \$10,000 was raised to help the Robinson family in their time of need. This is a true and honest reflection of our membership and their charitable attitude towards those in need.*

*On August 20th 2016, the 702 RENEW Chapter held a Clay Shoot at Rend Lake Shooting Complex in Whittington, IL. It was attended by over 200 702 members and their families. The weather was perfect for the event, which was a huge success. A big thanks to everyone that worked so hard on bringing it together and to everyone that attended!*



**702 RENEW Trap Shoot Winners (l to r): Dave Heins, his son Chase Heins, State Senator Gary Forby, Mike Bast, Brooks Gordon and Daryl Drennen (who also took High Gun).**

Are you a Local 702 member 35 years of age or under?

Are you interested in having a more active role within the Union?

Consider joining the 702 RENEW group!

Contact one of the following for more information:

**Andrew O'Connor: (618) 317-5378**

**Kyle Seavers: (618) 967-3536**

**Dustin Frankie: (618) 925-0632**

**Logan Hall: (618) 335-9504**

## First Contract obtained at City of Sikeston, MO for Street & Park Departments!

On Monday, October 3rd, 2016, the City Council of Sikeston, MO approved a first Agreement between IBEW Local 702 and the City for the eleven employees of the Street and Park Departments. This caps off an organizing effort that started over 21+ years ago.

In 1995 the Local held an election in which we were victorious and certified by the Missouri State Board of Mediation as the Bargaining Unit Representative, but due to weak public sector bargaining laws in the State at that time ~ meet and confer was the rule ~ we were unable to ever get to a first contract. There have been recent rulings by the Missouri Supreme Court that determine a public sector employer has the duty to bargain in good faith with an effort to reach a first Agreement.

In July of last year, the employees of these groups reached back out to the Local seeking assistance and representation. On October 26th, 2015, the City Council voted unanimously to Voluntarily Recognize the Local as the Bargaining Unit Representative. We then entered negotiations that concluded with the unanimous ratification of the first Agreement by the bargaining unit on Thursday, September 29th, and then the unanimous approval by the Council on Monday, October 3rd. While there are no major improvements for these groups in this first contract, we are excited and encouraged about the future of working with the men and the City!

# IBEW Local 702 Retiree's Club

The Local has a Retiree's Club that meets every other month, usually in the Marion, IL area.

Most times they coordinate their meetings with a lunch at a local restaurant, where they can enjoy fun and fellowship while breaking bread together.

For several years, the Local has been hosting all of the Local's Retirees, along with their spouse / significant other at a luncheon in April at Rend Lake Resort's Conference Center. The Luncheon has grown in attendance every year and we look forward to the day when we outgrow this location.

Anyone interested in joining or attending,  
please contact: Gary King, Retiree Club President  
(618) 201-2610

***IBEW Local 702 ~ Building a better future for working families!***

## IBEW Local 702

106 North Monroe

West Frankfort, IL 62896

## IBEW Local 702

106 North Monroe  
West Frankfort, IL 62896  
(618) 932-2102

Office Hours:  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

***[ibew702@ibew702.org](mailto:ibew702@ibew702.org)***



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