



VOLUME XXXIV

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

LOCAL 5 NEWS & VIEWS



IBEW Local 5 Meeting Hall, Training Center, And Headquarters Building 5 Hot Metal Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355



FALL 2011

LOCAL 5 DELEGATES ATTEND 38TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Leo P. Truby, Leticia M. Fedora, Michael W. Varholla, James R. Gillespie, Michael R. Dunleavy, Thomas H. Higgins, Thomas R. McIntyre, Jr., Joseph Mitchell, Richard R. Dunkel and William Garner. (See Story on Page 7)

GOVERNOR CORBETT TALKS MARCELLUS SHALE ISSUES WITH BUILDING TRADES



Business Manager Micheal R. Dunleavy, Governor Tom Corbett & Congressman Tim Murphy.

Governor Tom Corbett and Congressman Tim Murphy recently met with area Building Trades leaders and contractors to talk about Marcellus Shale gas issues. During this visit, discussions centered on the need to give local area workers an opportunity to work on construction projects within the Marcellus Shale gas play. The contractors present at the meeting stressed that once they are given the opportunity to perform the work that the end users find their work superior and affordable. The contractors and union leaders explained that there is no scope of work within this emerging industry that local area union members and contractors could not perform. Local No. 5 and Building Trades leaders detailed all the additional training instruction that they are performing specifically for this industry. Governor Corbett and Congressman Murphy said that they understand the need to employ more Pennsylvanians on this work.

IBEW Local No. 5 thanks Governor Corbett and Congressman Murphy for their continued support in securing more work within this industry for union Building Trades workers.

Corner by Michael Dunleavy



As you all know, the President of the United States visited our local union offices and toured our apprenticeship training facility. The significance of this historic visit warrants additional attention so there will be a special edition of the newsletter dedicated to this event. Look for it in the near future.

The week prior to the President's visit, I met with the Governor of Pennsylvania to discuss issues involving the Marcellus Shale Gas Industry. I am happy to report to you that the meeting went very well and we can look forward to the Governor fulfilling his commitment to facilitate relationships with the gas companies and increase work for Pennsylvanians and, in particular, our members.

Although we are approaching the time for our usual seasonal slowdown, our work has actually remained steady. A comparison of our man hours to date, versus those of prior years, shows that we are on track to have the second or third best year of man hours paid out of the last ten years. This is significant because, as you know, we have members on the out of work list. It appears that employers are working their current employees rather than go to the book to add new hires. We do not know if this is an aberration or the new norm. I would urge all Local Union No. 5 members to continue to work safely, productively, and to be at work on time every day. Employers do not go to the book to avoid chronic absenteeism, chronic tardiness, lack of productivity and accidents. There are man hours to be worked and the most productive, dependable employee will be the one working them.

As you know, years ago the International Office put out requirements for local union referrals to create continuity and to avoid potential litigation. We were given permission to take additional time to investigate and implement these due to our large jurisdiction and multiple referral books. We have actually been running a new system simultaneously to our existing system to make sure that there are no issues. I am pleased to report that the new system operates smoothly and will be implemented on January 1st, 2012.

The International Office standards and our new system both call for monthly re-sign as opposed to our current yearly re-sign. You can, however, re-sign by fax, mail, electronically or in person. New signs must be in person but you will be able to sign on all books with any one referral agent. There will now be twenty-two books, one for each county. You will be given three opportunities to decline work off of each book. That is three declines per twenty-two counties for a total of sixty-six declines jurisdiction wide. You will be receiving additional information on these required changes.

We also concluded negotiations with the National Electrical Contractors Association for the next three years. The increase is as follows:

<u>Journeyman -Wiremen /Technician</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Residential- Wiremen /Installer</u>
\$ 1.90	2012	\$1.11
\$ 1.95	2013	\$1.15
\$ 2.00	2014	\$1.19

The allocations for "2012" are being finalized in accordance with actuarial reports and fund requirements. The allocations for "2013" and "2014" will be set in October of the prior year. New agreement books will be printed and mailed out as soon as we receive International approval of the contract.

I reported on the 38th International Convention at the last union meeting. There is an in-depth article in this newsletter with day to day accounts and highlights of this gathering of IBEW delegates and officers from all over the United States and Canada. We are continuing to investigate the Highmark UPMC conflict. These are two entities acting like for-profit corporations with shareholders rather than non-profit healthcare providers answerable to subscribers and patients.

I will conclude by reminding you to contribute to the "Unemployed Member Fund" and to work safely.

Labor Day Float Committee



L to R: Mike Cook, Dave Mazza, Jason Lunardini, Jake Sweeney, Casey Roche, Natalie Jackson and Chris Gualazzi (not pictured)

Muscular Dystrophy Telethon Volunteers



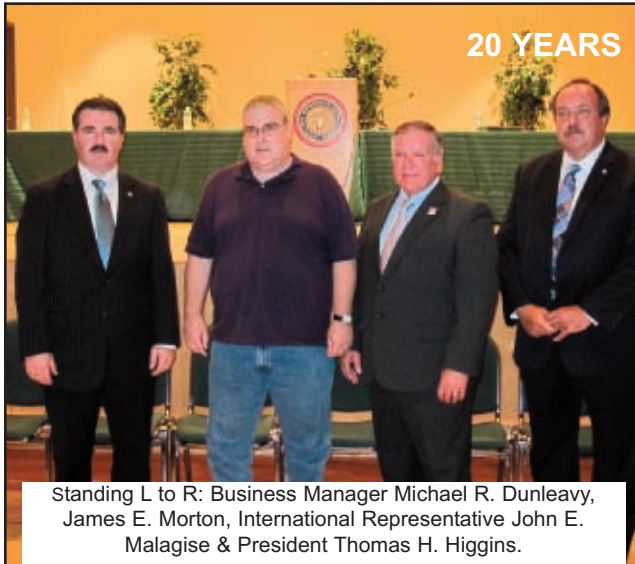
L to R: Stormy Brice, Bill Shindledecker, Kathy Shindledecker, Tom Garvin, Terry Bauer & Norm Brice (not pictured)

Altoona Labor Day Float Committee



L to R: Adam Nileski, John Yarbay, Adam Husted & Joe Thom

Member Service Pin Ceremonies



Twenty Year Pins
Robert S. Enos
Thomas R. Heath
Jeffrey H. Matthews
James E. Morton
Fred G. Stockman

Twenty-Five Year Pins
Robert M. Brown
Jeffrey A. Krieger
Earl C. O'Black

Thirty Year Pins
Nicholas S. Bennett
Anthony I. Bentley
Robert A. Crisman
Albert J. Gooch
Edward C. Krah
John A. Mackowick
Charles R. McParland
David A. Ozenich
Jacob L. Settles

Thirty-Five Year Pins
Otto C. Almas, Jr.
John R. Astore

Theodore L. Bisel
Harry Black
John P. Carson
James L. Dittler
Ronald J. Gardner
Wayne W. Happe
John R. Harris
John F. Hirt
William R. Keller, Jr.
Raymond J. Kikel
Robert P. Kopta
William H. Krupitzer
Clifford E. Mack, Sr.
Alfred L. Onstead
Thomas W. Strang
Harry Stromock
Dennis R. Weiss
John R. Woods, Jr.

Forty Year Pins
Alan M. Ackley
Harry T. Beers
Raymond C. Beers
Joseph V. Bettwy
Raymond A. Boslett
Joseph W. Dorfmeister
Lloyd R. Fisher

Gail J. Gerg
Roland A. Heint
Edward G. Jasper
Richard G. Kallis
James V. Keirn
Wayne J. Klawuhn
James W. Long
Marlin D. Luzier
Terrence M. McAndrew
Stanley B. Owens
Robert W. Priestner
Frank A. Reynolds
Harry A. Ritts
Charles H. Robison
Frederic L. Schaut
Jerry A. Shelander
Carl J. Spehar
Clyde E. Stewart, III
Robert J. Stewart
Harry O. Vipond
Clarence A. Weigle

Forty-Five Year Pins
Robert C. Atkinson
Robert W. Bachorski
William C. Birckbichler
Clifton B. Britt

John Cardone
Donald A. Clear
Robert E. Cole
John I. Corbin
Howard D. Cupps
George T. Fonas, Jr.
George F. Guenther
Hugh Hardy, III
Laverne H. Henning
Lee J. Hintemeyer
James H. Keefer
Frederick J. Klein
Robert N. Manuppelli
Frank E. May, Jr.
Eugene D. Meckler
Thomas G. Merryman
Dana R. Miller
Andrew F. Pastorius, Jr.
Sanford F. Paul
Robert J. Rick
John R. Rose
Harry E. Saputski Jr.
James G. Shemerdiak
Joseph E. Stalder
Robert A. Tarase
Kenneth E. Wagner

Fifty Year Pins
Phillip E. Baum
Lonny Cumberland
James R. Ferry
Marlin F. Haag
David S. Kelly
James L. Klaphake
Warren B. Osborne
Albert C. Oswald, Jr.
James F. Prendergast
Richard S. Rectenwald
Ronald E. Rittberg
Louis E. Schurr, Jr.
Donald D. Wiefeling

Fifty Five Year Pins
Theodore W. Cumberland
Stanley Drake
Arthur A. Kloes
Kenneth C. Ochs
Edgar K. Stiles
Frank J. Tomasic
Paul L. Williams

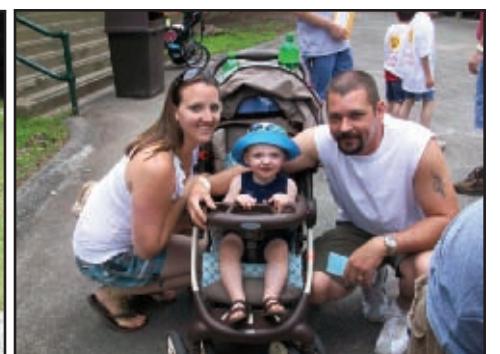
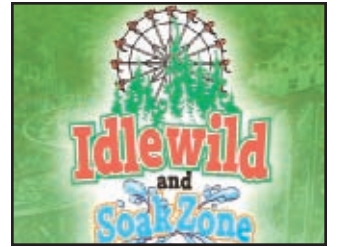
Sixty Year Pins
Clifford H. Ackley
William N. Barthelemy

Thomas W. Bell
Harry E. Branthoover
Robert D. Drummond
Roy E. Eiceman
George H. Feldman
Thomas R. Hale
Donald Holland
Robert K. Kutz
Joseph P. Loftis, Jr.
Fred L. Maihle
Robert P. Pastorius
Howard P. Robbins
William R. Rowland
Ernest W. Schindehette
Edward Trees
Robert J. Warnock
Glenn Yoder, Jr.

Sixty-Five Year Pins
Joseph Froncek
Edward R. Hockenberry
Herbert T. Miller, Jr.
William Tignor



Family Picnic 2011



PICNIC BINGO COMMITTEE

Dunleavy, Michael Co-Chairman
Higgins, Thomas Co-Chairman
Weinheimer, Gary Co-Chairman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bacco, Gerald
Bentley, Walter
Brosgol, Charles
Cook, Michael P.

DiMenno, Joseph

Dunkle, Ronald

Fedora, Letica M.

Guenther, George F.

Harris, John

Link, Hugh

McCloy, William

Mitchell, Joseph

Pendergast, James

Roche, Casey

Rzeckowski, James-Face

Painter

Shindledecker, William R.

Truby, Leo

Varaholla, Michael

Voye, James

Wuycheck, Eric

PICNIC GOLF COMMITTEE

Jeff Anderson
Ken Baldauf
Paul Barbour
Pat Barnes
Norm Brice
Chuck Bucek
Greg Burchell
Rich Dunkel
Denny Eicker
Aaron Eicker
Ron Ewing

Bill Garner
Jim Gillespie
Joe Gorton
Bob Kutz
Tom McIntyre
Jeff Miller
Ken Morris
Jim Saeler
Bob Thomas
Carl Turner
Tim Wisyanski



2011 PICNIC WINNERS

ADULT RAFFLE WINNERS

Paul Seitz
Kathryn Guenther
Damian Kostovny
George Piper
Carrie McCarthy

Eric McCarthy
Benjamin Hill
Shannon Powell
Don Price
Leah Willochell

Beth Murphy
Todd Ewing
Jody McConahey

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●
● **Golf Winner :** ●
● **Brian Patton** ●
● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

PAC RAFFLE Winner-Penguin Hockey Skick: Jody McConahey

CHILDREN RAFFLE WINNERS

Girls 0 - 3

Addison Horne
Danielle Terpack
Maria Dixon
Lindsey Persson
Kenneth Sopher
Jemma Conaway

Girls 4 - 7

Nikita Shumaker
Jewell Kennedy
Kelly Prunzik
Hannah Rager
Cooper Belle
R. Peterson
Kate

Boys 0 - 3

Noah Runski
Luke Beckett
TA Shawn
Owen Conroy
Jaydan Niccolai

Boys 4 - 7

Andrew Arsenault
Carter Simko
Nathan Malley
Blayne Tadder
Shawn McFarland
JJ Voza
Riley Ross

Girls 8 - 11

J. Poellot
Maddy Fry
Josie Gardner
R. Marangoni
Madison Miller
April Arsenault
Madison Zasdel

Girls 12 - 16

Kirsten Ashcraft
R. Peterson
Haley Logsdon
Holly Humbertson

Boys 8 - 11

Tyler Shemerdiak
Justin O'Shell
Any Tomak
Jayvin Turner
Clayton Wilhelm
Lou Troiani
Cameron Sobien

Boys 12 - 16

Pat McCauley
Chris Price
Richie Bulgarelli
ME



Labor Day 2011





RETIREE PICNIC



APPRENTICE DAY AT THE CAPITOL



Michael Antkowiak
Craig Bauer
Grant Bleil
Jeffrey Brennfleck
Justin Brown
Timothy Bush
Derek Caudill
Jacob Cusic
Michael Davis
Michael Egnac
Casey Jesiolkiewicz
Patrick Kelly
Amy Krug
Jonathan LaRocca

Andrew Leah
Jonathan Lenhart
Robert Luffy
Nicholas Martin
Christopher Miele
Jordan Page
James Painter
Scott Palmer
Ryan Pinkerton
Sean Powers
Andrew Purcell
Joshua Rago
Brian Renziehausen
Joshua Richey

Michaelene Rozanc
James Siler, Jr.
Sarah Soukup
Eric Spinneweber
Clyde Stewart, V
Joseph Stiner
Brian Tempest
Brett Tokarski
Benjamin Veltum
William Volk
George Wardle
James Weiss
Weseley White
George Yasurek, III



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers LOCAL UNION NO. 5

5 HOT METAL STREET, SUITE 400, PITTSBURGH, PA 15203-2355
PHONE: (412) 432-1400 FAX: (412) 432-1499

October, 2011

TO: I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION NO. 5 "A" MEMBERS
FROM: Michael R. Dunleavy, Business Manager/Financial Secretary
RE: DUES INCREASE FOR YEAR 2012

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

In accordance with a dues increase resolution that was passed at the 38th IBEW International Convention during the week of September 19 - 23, 2011, the International portion of your dues will increase by \$2.00 per month for 2012. Please note that your Local Union portion of dues has once again not increased. For your convenience, the following is a listing of the total dues payments, including both International and Local Union portions:

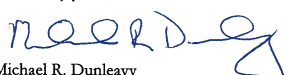
\$496.40 ANNUAL Dues (Payments due in DEC. or JAN.)

When preparing your 2012 dues payment, please include the following:

- 1) Your Card Number or your Social Security Number
- 2) Please be sure that your name is visible and legible on your check (especially on a money order)
- 3) Please be sure to use the new dues amount (checks with incorrect amounts will have to be returned)
- 4) Include a note if you have a change-of-address and be sure to include your new telephone number(s).

If you should have any questions regarding your dues payments, please contact PATTY LUSNAK, at (412)432-1400.

Fraternally yours,


Michael R. Dunleavy
Business Manager/Financial Secretary



Cub Scouts Visit the Training Center



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM YOUR CREDIT UNION

Your IBEW Local Union #5 Federal Credit Union would like to announce the continuation of its 6.5% Home Equity Loan available to all qualifying members at absolutely zero closing costs.

We are offering a special \$1000 at 9% holiday loan for 12 months.

Check us out – Our used Auto loans have been reduced to 6%. New Auto

Loans are at 3.99%/ 75 months. All loans carry Free Life Insurance.

We have a knowledgeable staff available for financial consultation.

Give us a call at: 412-432-1152

YOUR LOCAL 5 FEDERAL CREDIT UNION - NCUA INSURED

Available Monday thru Thursday 9:00 to 3:00 P.M. and Monday and

Thursday Evenings 7:00 to 9:00 PM

2011 FLU SEASON IMMUNIZATION

We are pleased to inform you that flu immunizations administered from September 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 will be covered in full up to a \$30 maximum. In order for you or an eligible dependant to participate, you must currently be eligible for Insurance Trust Fund benefits on the date the flu shot is administered. To apply for reimbursement, please submit a receipt with full name and DH ID# (found on your DEVON card) the patents full name, provider's name, address, phone number, date of service and the charge for the immunization. If the flu shot is administered at a Giant Eagle pharmacy, your co-pay will be \$0.00. Provided a current Prescription Drug ID card is presented to the pharmacist. Please note, if your flu immunization claim has been denied, please contact the Fund Office at 412-432-1130 or 1-800-382-1428.



October 3, 2011

Why does Rep. Turzai want to raise taxes?

It's a Tax Hike



Applying HB 11 tax rates to last year's revenue, there would be **25% to 30% more in tax revenue** than the current system generates.

These higher taxes would significantly raise prices for consumers!

The national median excise tax for wine is 67 cents per gallon. HB 11 calls for a tax of \$8.25 to \$9.00 per gallon - or more than **13 times the national median tax rate.**

The national median excise tax for spirits is \$3.75. HB 11 calls for a tax of \$11 to \$12 per gallon - or more than **three times the national median tax rate.**

Rep. Mike Turzai's quest to put 5,000 hard-working Pennsylvanians out of work will come with a steep price for all of us - **a tax hike.**



Consider the comments of Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati at last week's PA Press Club luncheon:

"People need to know what we're doing here. If they're alright paying more for liquor... either we're going to cut something in the General Fund that we're paying for now, or we're going to have to increase that gallonage tax under the bill as it's being proposed."

Testimony provided at the most recent hearing on House Bill 11 convened by the House Liquor Control Committee confirmed that, under the Turzai scheme, taxes will go up.

"Certainly, it's a big surprise to see this big of a tax hike, considering Gov. Corbett has put forth the idea he's not raising taxes," testified Nathan Lutchenksky, a Pittsburgh-area cocktail and spirits enthusiast and blogger.

Pennsylvania's Wine and Spirits Shops generate among the highest revenue per gallon from the sale of wine and spirits of any state in the nation - more than \$500 million a year.

Pennsylvania also has the lowest alcohol-related death rate of any state in the nation.

For more facts, please visit these websites:

www.UFCWPAWineAndSpiritsCouncil.com or
www.WeCantAffordItPA.org

2011 Scholarships Are Awarded

The I.B.E.W. Local #5 – Western Pennsylvania Chapter, National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Scholarship Trust Fund has awarded the 2011 scholarships to:

Sean Ging

Kaitlyn Waugaman

Meghan Wuycheck

Applications for the 2012 scholarships will be available from September 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. Those who are eligible are high school seniors who are sons, daughters, grandsons and granddaughters of Local #5 "A" members. Complete eligibility rules and applications can be obtained by mail, from:

N.E.C.A.
5 Hot Metal Street, Suite 301
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2357

BLOOD BANK DONORS

Local 5 thanks our quarterly blood donores for their "gift of life" to others:

Campbell, Dennis S.

Chaff, Andrew M.

Conroy, Michael C.

Ergler, Robert B.

Fleeger, Florence C.

Grady, Susanne F.

Hackett, Patrick F.

Harman, Herbert H.

Hay, Wayne E.

Henzler, Heidi A.

Kovach, Jennifer R.

Lachman, Russell G.

Lemons, Robert J.

Lydon, Robert E.

Mc Cormick, David G.

Miskovish, Susan R.

Morrow, Karen K.

Murphy, Peter J.

Notto, Joseph R.

Patton, Darrell W.

Pillion, Thomas J.

Pozycki, Deborah B.

Rectenwald, Richard S.

Saeler, James M.

Shimko, Robert M.

Sipes, James W.

Smith, Joseph W.

Vogt, Gregory K.

Williams, Michael

Winarski, Mark D.

REPORT OF LEGAL COUNCIL - JOSHUA M. BLOOM

Odd numbered election years are often lackluster without the exciting political races such as U.S. President, U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, PA Governor, PA Senators, and PA Representatives. Unfortunately, as a result, sometimes people sleep through the election only to later learn that their rights have been taken away.

Meanwhile, this election is critical in that your rights as a union member are under siege. I'm sure that you have read about what has happened in Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, and New Jersey. In Wisconsin, the state Supreme Court decided the rights of union members by a 4 to 3 vote - - against union members. In Pennsylvania, there are bills currently pending to essentially eliminate the requirement that prevailing wages (union wages) be paid on public construction projects. If the law changes, and the Courts do not protect your rights, the non-union wages will prevail, your contractors will lose work, and you will be unemployed.

Also, Project Labor Agreements ("PLAs") are under attack in the Courts. PLAs, among other things, require contractors to use Local 5 electricians on public construction projects without regard to which contractor is the successful bidder. PLAs have been a major source of work for all union construction workers. Particularly,

they are most important for mechanical trade workers, because your contractors are the sub-contractors on big jobs. Also, the Courts are deciding many cases regarding workers' compensation and unemployment compensation for construction workers.

I am respectfully urging you, your family, your friends, and neighbors to vote and help get out the vote for the following statewide judicial candidates: PA Commonwealth Court - Kathryn Boockvar (D); Superior Court - David Wecht (D).

For Allegheny County residents, I urge you to also enthusiastically support Rich Fitzgerald (D) for County Executive. The Republican candidate Raja has spent his career consulting employers to outsource their workers to India - - not a disputed fact! Also, please vote for Allegheny County judicial candidates Alex Bickett and Michael Marmo, who were endorsed by both Democrats and Republicans

Joshua Bloom & Associates, P.C. 1230
Grant Building 310 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-288-6000
bloomlawyers.com



HARRISBURG REPORT - MARK MUSTIO

Fixing Pennsylvania's Transportation Funding Problem: Inaction Is No Longer An Option

It's no secret that transportation and infrastructure are huge engines that drive the economy of our Commonwealth, and making major improvements is essential for our state to realize sustained economic recovery and job creation.

Pennsylvania's infrastructure includes 7,000 miles, or about 18 percent, of state-maintained roads in very poor condition and 5,646 structurally deficient state-owned bridges the most of any state in the nation.

The most recent Transportation Funding Advisory Commission (TFAC) report places Pennsylvania's current transportation funding gap at \$3.5 billion for state and local highway maintenance, construction and mass transit. It also made the following recommendations to raise \$2.5 billion in revenue:

- Cap the amount of revenue from the Motor License Fund used to fund state police operations, and gradually shift \$300 million to the General Fund.
- Increase vehicle and driver fees to inflation level, at 3 percent per year and phase in for commercial vehicles more than 26,000 pounds.
- Gradually uncap the Oil Company Franchise Tax over a five-year period.
- Increase fees and fines that go to the Motor License Fund.
- Implement cost savings resulting from modernization.

- Restructure the Act 44 funding mechanism to increase public transit funding by \$200 million per year.

- Dedicate 2 percent of the overall revenue generated from the existing sales tax to public transit.

- Give local transit agencies the option to raise revenues locally.

Above all, the Transportation Funding Advisory Commission (TFAC) report is crystal clear in its conclusion that Pennsylvania has underfunded its transportation system for too long. The bill is past due and we cannot afford to ignore this problem any longer without continuing to cause sustained economic damage to our Commonwealth.

Just like any other major economic issue, there has been no shortage of ideas put forward (both popular and unpopular depending on who is responsible for footing the bill) and there are many that can be implemented, but the overall paralysis by state government to take decisive action is unacceptable.

Both legislative chambers of the Pennsylvania General Assembly came together this September to review and consider the above solutions contained in the TFAC report. Now it is incumbent for Gov. Tom Corbett to step up and reveal his transportation funding agenda and what priorities from the TFAC report his administration will agree to.

Rep. Mark Mustio represents the 44th District in Allegheny County.



For the Good of the Community, Prevailing Wages Must Prevail!

Attempts are underway to change or more accurately undermine prevailing wages for the construction industry in Pennsylvania. No less than six bills have been introduced in the House to significantly alter how and when prevailing wages will apply. It is bad policy and, in some cases, the abdication of governing.

Prevailing wages were established in 1931 under the administration of Republican President Herbert Hoover to protect responsible contractors and workers on government funded projects from unscrupulous contractors who could import low-paying workers from other regions to undermine local wages and the local economy. It provided some protection in an industry where work is extremely physically and mentally challenging, and where year-round employment is anything but guaranteed. It allowed men and women to become better trained and productive citizens for the good of the communities in which they worked and lived.

For 80 years, construction workers, both union and non-union, have been able to sleep with at least some comfort in knowing that on publicly funded projects they would be paid a respectable, but hardly extravagant, wage for an honest day's work. That could all change if certain legislators have their way in Harrisburg. It's not right. It's not healthy for our economy and it's not going to significantly lower construction costs, despite popular rhetoric.

Contrary to opinions expressed by prevailing wage opponents, studies have found no statistical cost difference in states with or without prevailing wage laws. Among the primary reasons is the fact that labor accounts for only about 20 to 25 percent of total project costs. Given this percentage, savings of 10 to 30 percent as is often argued by prevailing wage opponents could only be achieved by hiring workers at virtually minimum wage or eliminating wages altogether, neither of which is practical.

Dramatically reducing wages, however, can result in the utilization of lesser skilled and lesser trained workers, which can substantially add to construction costs. A study by the Construction Industry Institute determined that "...on a single capital construction project, each dollar invested in craft training can yield \$1.30 to \$3.00 in benefits. The benefits accrue to the project in the form of increased productivity and reductions in turnover, absenteeism and rework, as well as in other areas."

Failure to pay prevailing wages can also result in many hidden costs, which can have significant impacts on a state and region's overall economy. For example, a study at the University of Utah concluded that states without prevailing wage rates experienced reductions in local sales and income tax revenues, increases in public health costs and more on-the-job injuries.

A study on the potential impact of repealing prevailing wage laws in Missouri determined that the state could lose income and revenue of between \$317.8 million and \$384.2 million annually. Such losses in Pennsylvania could be devastating to an already fragile state budget.

When studying wage rates and other labor issues, it must be remembered that construction is not like any other industry. In fact, it is the one industry where employees succeed when they work themselves out of a job. What they hope for and rely on is that their contractor was successful in bidding and receiving another job for them to apply their skills. If not, they will be laid off and become unemployed until their services are needed again. It's a challenging lifestyle, but it is a critical profession that every community needs.

Whether it is to build or maintain new roads and bridges or to construct new schools, office towers, residential units or other facilities, construction and building trades workers will always be in demand. It is a profession that

requires special skills and stamina. It is not for everyone. In western Pennsylvania, construction can mean working in 95 degree heat with high humidity and subfreezing temperatures with extreme wind chills. Mistakes can be costly, both financially and to one's health. With the possible exception of some professional athletes, it takes a toll on a person's body unlike virtually any other profession.

Work and one gets paid. There are no sick days, vacation days or personal days. Rain can cancel a day's work, a week's work or more. A construction worker that can't work is a construction worker that doesn't get paid. It's as simple as that. Given these conditions, why would anyone want to do this for a living? Because they like to use their hands and minds to create something tangible and because it can be financially rewarding.

The average union construction worker in western Pennsylvania today earns in salary between \$40,000 and \$45,000 a year, thanks in part to legislation such as prevailing wage. It is a wage that is befitting a profession that requires special training and education. Fortunately, thanks to many Joint Apprenticeship Training Schools, outstanding training programs are available to local residents at no cost to them or to taxpayers. Recognizing the value in training and the value that comes from investing in local residents, hundreds upon hundreds of contractors have partnered with local building trades unions to build and fund quality apprenticeship schools that provide unlimited training for apprentices and journeypersons alike.

The investment surpasses \$20 million annually. It is an investment not just in the workers, but in the local economy. Local union building trades workers live and spend their hard-earned money in western Pennsylvania. They have paid benefits and pensions, and, as such, do not rely on government funded programs for their health care and other income. They pay

local and state taxes, all of which help sustain the economy.

If contractors and unions are to continue to work together to train local residents at no cost, contractors must be protected from out-of-state companies who will import non-local residents willing to work at substandard wages. Without prevailing wages, the playing field will be skewed to contractors who care only about profits and not in the quality of their work or the well being of their employees. In order to compete, responsible contractors will not be able to invest in local training and everyone will suffer. Career opportunities will be far less available and far less attractive. Training and safety on the job will suffer, and the cost of construction and the cost to the community will soar.

Among various provisions contained in currently proposed legislation is allowing counties to put referendums on prevailing wage rates for various projects. While it may be popular in some communities, it is an abdication of power from legislators who are elected to lead and act in the best interest of their districts and the Commonwealth. The quality of work on a publicly funded project should not be based on the cheapest commodity, whether they are materials or human resources. The adage "you get what you pay for" can have serious consequences, particularly on schools where children's lives are at stake.

Prevailing wage legislation has a long history in this country and in Pennsylvania. It continues to serve a vital purpose and must be preserved for the good of the industry, for the good of the economy and for the good of all Pennsylvanians.

**By Jason Fincke, Executive
Director Builders Guild of Western
Pennsylvania**

From the North by Jim Saeler



Zavala Electric at Slippery Rock University Dining Hall L to R: Dave Behringer, Rich Hiles & Jarred Thorpe.



O.Z. Enterprise, Slippery Rock University Student Union L to R: Roy Speicher, Gale Lorenzi & Feller Heider.

From the Near - North by Rich Dunkel



Perceptator Crew Conemaugh Outage



Conemaugh Outage Temporary Light Crew

From the North by Bob Kutz



Alttona Eastery Plant Kirby Electric.



Mount Nittany Hospital Job. Bettwy Electric and Heim Electric.

From the Far North - East by Jeff Miller



Pure Tech LLC project at LUMINITE CORP., Bradford PA. L to R: Dan Meister, Eric Leathers, Rick Bush & Stan Young.



G.M. McCrossin at Frack Water Treatment Facility Clearfield L to R: Tom Gallaher, Leroy Park, Chris Yahner, Mark Wright, Tom Feighner & Bill Weiers.

AROUND OUR JURISDICTION

WPEE

The Insurance Trust Fund Board is pleased to announce new wellness programs and initiatives designed to support healthier lifestyle options for you and your family.

Throughout the 2011 benefit year, you will receive a series of mailings that will highlight online programs, healthy campaigns, and other health care resources that are available to all WPEE participants. A copy of these mailings will also be available on the WPEE website at

www.wpeebenefitfunds.com.

We encourage you to use this information on your journey toward better health and to share it with your entire family. **Have a greater hand in your health by starting today:**

- **Take the HealthMedia "Succeed" Wellness Profile**, a comprehensive survey that evaluates health-related behaviors and health history in relation to nutrition, weight, physical activity, stress, tobacco use, skin protection, injury prevention, and alcohol use. Additionally, there are health screenings such as blood pressure, cholesterol, and glucose. The "Succeed" Wellness Profile only takes about 20 minutes to complete, and it produces a customized action plan around your top four health risks—just as a health coach would. Your plan also includes several interactive tools such as videos and recipes, as well as, access to a complete medical library to help you meet your health and wellness goals.

Log on today to your Highmark Member website and take the "Succeed" Wellness Profile:

1. Go to www.highmarkbcbs.com.
2. Complete the Log In process, entering your Login ID and Password.
3. If you do not have a Login ID and Password, create one as instructed under Register Now.
4. Click Your Health tab.
5. Choose Wellness Profile.

For more information on the "Succeed" Wellness Profile, or other health and wellness programs that are offered, please contact The Highmark Wellness Resource Center at 800-650-8442

ALLEGHENY COUNTY



Star Electric Crew at Duquesne University DES PLACES HALL. Front L to R: Mike Corbett, Steve Laplace, Garrett Graff, Dave Javorski, Anthony Laskey, Jake McMillen. Back L to R: Brett Tokarski, Mike Gilliland, Joe Glassbrenner, Ed Stocker, Jordan Emery, Dave Birkner, Mike Cenci, Ryan Indof & Pat Foley.



Miller Electric Crew at River-Vue. L to R: Jim Hutchinson, Jeff Krug, Craig Poole, Brendan Depto, Ed Sturgess, Harry Stewart, Bud Covalt, Jim Hinterliter, John Booher, Joe Harper, Grant Bleil, Nick Workmaster, Mark Randig, John Kozel, Greg Damas, Brian Meyers, & Tom Seigh.

Local No. 5 Endorsements



L to R: State Superior Court Candidate David N. Wecht PA Commonwealth Court Candidate Kathryn Boockvar and Allegheny County Executive Candidate Rich Fitzgerald
Enjoying our Labor Day Celebration

Superior Court

Commonwealth Court

David N. Wecht

Kathryn Boockvar

(D)

(D)

Allegheny County

County Executive	Rich Fitzgerald	(D)	County Council At-Large	John P. DeFazio	(D)
District Attorney	Stephen A. Zappala, Jr.	(D)	County Council District 5	Vince Gastgeb	(R)
County Treasurer	John K. Weinstein	(D)	County Council District 6	John F. Palmiere	(D)
County Controller	Chelsa Wagner	(D)	County Council District 7	Nicholas W. Futules	(D)
Common Pleas Court	Michael Marmo	(D)	County Council District 10	William Russell Robinson	(D)
Common Pleas Court	Alexander P. Bicket	(D)	County Council District 11	Barbara Daly Danko	(D)
			County Council District 13	Amanda Green Hawkins	(D)

Pittsburgh

City Controller	Michael E. Lamb	(D)	City Council Dist. 5	Corey O'Connor	(D)
City Council Dist. 1	Dalene M. Harris	(D)	City Council Dist. 7	Patrick Dowd	(D)
City Council Dist. 3	Bruce A. Kraus	(D)			

Butler County

Judge Retention	Thomas Doerr	(R)
County Commissioner	Jerry Johnston	(D)
County Commissioner	William McCarrier	(R)

Clearfield County

District Attorney	William Shaw, Jr.	(D)
County Commissioner	Mark McCracken	(D)
County Commissioner	Paul "P.J." Monella	(D)

Blair County

County Commissioner	Joann Nardelli	(D)
County Commissioner	Diane Meling	(R)

Centre County

County Commissioner	John Eich	(D)
County Commissioner	Michael Pipe	(D)

Altoona School Board

Mary Kimmel
Ron Johnston
Mary Bistline

Armstrong County

County Commissioner	Rich Fink	(D)
County Commissioner	David Wolf	(D)

Westmoreland County

County Commissioner	Ted Kopas	(D)
County Commissioner	Gerald D. Lucia	(D)
Sheriff	Albert G. Lonzo	(D)

Butler County

Judge Retention	Thomas Doerr	(R)
County Commissioner	Jerry Johnston	(D)
County Commissioner	William McCarrier	(R)

Washington County

County Commissioner	Larry Maggi	(D)
District Attorney	David DiCarlo	(D)
Common Pleas Court	Gary Gillman	(D)
Peters Twp. School Bd.	Ron Dunleavy	

Indiana County

County Commissioner	Patty Evanko	(D)
District Attorney	Pat Dougherty	(D)
Blairsville Borough Council	Ron Evanko	(D)

38th International Convention Vancouver, BC

The 38TH International convention was held in Vancouver, British Columbia on September 19-23, 2011. The theme of the convention was Brotherhood Beyond Borders. Our Canadian Brothers were very proud to host the international convention. The warm welcome the delegates received reflected the theme of the Convention. There were 2,023 registered delegates and 137 registered alternates representing the IBEW as a whole. The delegates in attendance on behalf of Local 5 were Business Manager/Financial Secretary Michael R Dunleavy, President Thomas H Higgins, Vice-President Michael W Varholla, Recording Secretary Thomas R McIntyre, Treasurer Richard A Dunkel, Executive Board members James R Gillespie and Leo P Truby, Examining Board member Leticia M Fedora, and Organizer, William P Garner. Joseph Mitchell Jr. was also in attendance as an alternate delegate. Below is a recap of the day-to-day proceedings of the Convention.

Opening Ceremony

The Convention kicked off when International President Edwin D Hill called the convention to order and recognized First District Vice-President Phil Flemming. Vice-President Flemming then commented on how proud all the Canadian locals were to be able to host the International Convention up in Canada. He then introduced the Vancouver Police Pipe Band that presented the Canadian colors and played a moving musical salute. Local 1007 Assistant Business Manager, Jimmy Conner, sang the Canadian National Anthem. Third District, Vice President, Don Seigel was then recognized and introduced The Sword of Light Pipe and Drum Band from Local 3 New York, New York presented the American colors. Their performance was dedicated to their former drum major, James Conway, who passed away last spring. Local 1547 Anchorage Alaska member, Cody Beltrami, sang the Star Spangled Banner.

Monday

On Monday International President Edwin D Hill gave his keynote speech on "Reclaiming the union's birthright". British Columbia Federation of Labour President, Jim Sinclair, made the following comment: "We are on the front lines of ensuring a decent life for members but tens of millions of working people don't have a union. So we have to build a movement that encompasses all working people who see us as their champions, not just as champions for the labor movement itself." Canadian Labour Congress President, Ken Georgetti, stressed to the delegates that we must educate and mobilize our members to take on the anti-worker politicians. In addition, Vancouver's Mayor, Gregor Robertson, welcomed the delegation to Vancouver.

The opening day ended with International President Edwin D Hill, and International Secretary/Treasurer Salvatore Chilia being re-elected to another five year term unopposed. The Third District Caucus convened and reelected International Vice-President Donald Siegel, who ran unopposed, to another 5 year term. The First District IEC Caucus then convened to reelect Joseph P Calabro, who also ran unopposed, to another 5 Year Term.

Tuesday

President Hill Introduced Ed Schultz, host of MSNBC's "ED SHOW". Ed fired up the delegates with a passionate call to save the middle class in which he observed that "the only institution that stands between the middle class getting run over is organized labor". Schultz referred to attacks on

unions by conservative talk show hosts Bill O'Reilly and Sean Hannity, Schultz asked "why do right-wing hosts have a problem with workers trying to make a living?" He defended President Obama's new jobs plan, which is paid for in part by raising taxes on the very wealthiest Americans, by recognizing that "under Obama's plan, 98 percent of taxpayers will see no change in their tax rate". In closing, Schultz urged the delegation to "let your neighbor know what is happening to you and the middle class."

The Resolution Committee convened and delegate action on resolutions began. IBEW Local 5 sponsored three resolutions which all passed unanimously. The resolutions sponsored by Local 5 were **IBEW/NECA Working Relationship Enhancement**, **Support Advanced Clean Coal Technology**, and **Business Development**.

Exelon CEO John Rowe addressed the delegates by commenting - "it's been a high honor to be part of this industry with you". IBEW Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus Jerry O'Connor addressed the delegation and commented on how organizing is priority No. 1. "So when President Hill and Secretary Chilia ask you to please organize, it's not just the IBEW that's at stake. It's the entire middle class," said O'Connor.

Wednesday

Wednesday's session convened with President Hill speaking on the challenges facing the IBEW: "Our choice is between the promise of future growth or the serenity of continued decline. The future of the IBEW, our local unions, our membership, and each of us, will depend on the leadership demonstrated today". President Hill discussed why a per capita increase was needed for continued growth. Secretary-Treasurer Sam Chilia's report recapped the financial highlights of the past five years and the outlook as the IBEW moves forward from the 38TH International Convention. His report stated that: "investment income generates reserves for the Brotherhood; our goal has always been to live within the means provided by our operating income. To be clear, the per capita taxes generated from the membership should cover our operating costs to keep the Brotherhood on strong financial footing well into the future".

The Law Committee (Constitutional Amendments Committee), convened on Tuesday. Our Business Manager/Financial Secretary Michael R Dunleavy sat on the Law Committee. Mike stated that "sitting on this prestigious Committee was an honor and a testament to the stature of local 5 and every member should feel proud." A per capita tax increase was passed by the Delegates. The increase is as follows: A per capita tax increase of \$2.00 on January 1, 2012. A second increase of \$2.00 on January 1, 2014. A third per capita tax increase of \$1.00 effective January 1, 2016, if such an increase is necessary due to a failure of membership growth.

The Pension Benefit fund was also strengthened. A finance subcommittee was established by President Hill in February 2011 to provide recommendations for the future protection and sustainability of the fund. The committee recommended an increase in payment to the PBF of \$1.00 per month per "A" member beginning January 1, 2013 and an additional \$1.00 per month per "A" member beginning January 1, 2015. The PBF increase was passed by the delegation.

AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka addressed the delegation with the comment that "our nations need immediate action on creating good jobs." CBS vice-president for labor relations, Harry Isaacs, addressed

the delegation with the following comment: "I truly believe that a union work force can be a better work-force for the company, if the parties have a solid working relationship and if the union, like the IBEW, has strong leadership. Such a workforce is better than a nonunion workforce."

The convention delegates unanimously ratified the choices of the district caucuses that selected nominees on Monday for International Vice Presidents and International Executive Council ("IEC"). All 11 incumbent Vice Presidents were re-elected. The IEC will have two new members. The new Sixth District representative is Joe Smith, business manager of Oklahoma City Local 1141. In the Eighth District, Solomon Furer Business manager Windsor, Ontario Local 773 was elected by the delegates.

Thursday

Thursday's Session convened with the assembly of the Resolutions Committee and continued action on resolutions. Building and Construction Trades Department President Mark Ayers addressed the delegation and attacked the so-called experts who are telling Americans that 9 percent unemployment is now the new normal. "I'll be damned if I'll ever get used to that," Ayers commented. He stated that it's time to get tough about fighting for jobs and that Congress must "put the focus on Main Street, not Wall Street or Easy Street."

The Law Committee reconvened and debate continued on Amendments. Secretary-General of the Italian Federation of Electrical Utility Workers, Carlo De Masi, addressed the delegation. He spoke on the needs of globalization and how it requires global brotherhood. "The number of European energy companies operating inside the United States and Canada makes the relationship between our union and the IBEW vital", De Masi told the delegates.

The Grievance and Appeals Committee delivered their report to the delegates. The committee recommended that the findings of the local union trial boards in the four cases be upheld. The delegation upheld the decisions.

Friday

Friday's session convened with the Law Committee reconvening and debate continued on the remaining amendments. IBEW General Counsel, Laurence Cohen, was recognized for his years of service to the Brotherhood. Mr. Cohen spoke on the favorable climate at the National Labor Relation Board; "since Barack Obama has taken office we have a NLRB that works for workers not business." He stated that cases are being heard for workers not business. Most people don't notice the change because it does not affect their daily lives.

The Resolutions Committee reconvened and the delegates took up debate on the remaining resolutions. The Convention closed on note of solidarity and goodwill.

On behalf of all of the member's of the Local 5 delegation, thank you for electing us as your representatives at this important event. It is our mission to use the knowledge and information that we gained at the Convention and apply it to the day-to-day management of our Local. The Convention is an opportunity to focus on the cause of our members, our Brotherhood and the importance of our place in union movement.



BEST WISHES TO PENSIONERS

The officers, and members of Local 5
congratulate these newly retired members and
wish them a long and healthy retirement:



JUNE 2011

James F. Faus
John R. Lehman
Nicholas J. Pacellio

John B. Hileman
Robert C. McClelland
Dennis E. Pigford

JULY 2011

Arthur E. Barkley

Jerome J. Nipaver

AUGUST 2011

Larry S. Shirey

James Szramowski

SEPTEMBER 2011

Neil J. Kush
Lawrence A. O'Connell

William E. Menzietti
Walter E. Swarden

OCTOBER 2011

John F. Radacsi

Mark Winarski

CHANGE OF ADDRESS CARD

It is very important that you notify the Local union promptly
of any mailing address or phone number change!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE# (INCLUDE AREA CODE): _____

COUNTY: _____ SCHOOL DISTRICT: _____

MAIL TO:

IBEW LOCAL #5 5 HOT METAL STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15203-2355

BENEFIT INFORMATION

IBEW LOCAL 5 OFFICE: 412-432-1400 or Toll Free 1-800-225-IBEW

Judy Elkanich: Pension applications, deceased member notification / information, beneficiary changes ,
scheduling of appointments with the Business Manager, "Honorary and Participating"
withdraw information, and "Military Card" requests.

Leona Vozar: Highmark, Security Blue, Freedom Blue, UPMC, Pensioners \$10 Dental and Optical
Premium and Maintenance assessments.

Patty Lusnak: Dues payments and inquiries, change of address notifications, and BA Member
information.

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA): 412-432-1155

Chris Cottrill: Scholarship information.
Cyndee Wilbur: Pension benefit calculation inquires and W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund Death benefit
beneficiary updates.

JATC Apprenticeship Office: 412-432-1145

Lisa McManus: Apprenticeship information.

Central Data Services: 412-432-1125 or Toll Free 1-877-782-1410

Kathi Giovetsis: Beneficiary changes and ERTS.
Kathy Smith: Deferred Compensation, Supplemental unemployment Benefit (SUB) withdrawal, and
Sick and Disability benefit inquiries. (412) 432-1144

W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund: 412-432-1130 or Toll Free 1-800-382-1428

Medical/Surgical, Major Medical, Dental, and Vision claim Inquires

Pensioners Dental & Optical Claims

Judy Trimbur: (412) 432-1130 or Toll Free 1-800-382-1428

Secretary of Funds: 412-432-1128 or Toll Free 1-877-782-1817

Susan Lovely: Contractor contribution information, benefit hour information, vacation check inquiries.

IBEW Local 5 Federal Credit Union: 412-432-1152

Evening hours: Monday and Thursday 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Social Security Information: 1-800-772-1213

Any other questions or concerns can be directed through
the switchboard operator: Carol Sunday 412-432-1400

IBEW LOCAL 5
5 Hot Metal Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH PA
PERMIT NO 5450

IN FRATERNAL MEMORY

Deceased Retired Members

Joseph L. Joseph	May	9, 1931	- May	8, 2011
William V. Gearhart	Oct.	1, 1924	- May	21, 2011
William J. Ruffner	Nov.	4, 1924	- May	16, 2011
Joseph H. Sand	June	12, 1925	- June	4, 2011
Robert E. Yuhas	Oct.	11, 1930	- June	17, 2011
Elder M. Kerr, Jr.	July	11, 1920	- July	6, 2011
Robert N. Christensen	Dec.	12, 1928	- July	4, 2011
Guy E. Mahoney	March	10, 1929	- Aug.	10, 2011
Robert D. Hughes	Feb.	8, 1928	- Aug.	11, 2011
Ray Sprowls	Nov.	18, 1926	- Sept.	4, 2011
Rodger F. Frank	March	18, 1929	- Sept.	13, 2011
Paul E. Fisher	Dec.	5, 1919	- Sept.	14, 2011
Emory Brown	Aug.	25, 1937	- Sept.	16, 2011
Robert E. Burley	May	19, 1926	- Sept.	19, 2011
Herman S. Michael	Oct.	13, 1933	- Sept.	20, 2011
Frank A. Reynolds	Feb.	3, 1943	- Sept.	27, 2011
William F. Klaphake	March	1, 1929	- Oct.	18, 2011
Richard J. Heeter	Jan.	27, 1946	- Oct.	20, 2011

Deceased Active Members

Joseph E. Tokar	March	8, 1954	- May	3, 2011
-----------------	-------	---------	-------	---------

Business Agents Home Numbers

Richard Dunkel.	724-334-4295	Alfred Franklin	814-372-2360
Thomas Higgins	724-941-6551	William Garner	412-793-4649
Robert Kutz	814-941-2776	Manpower Coordinator's Office	
Jeffrey Miller	814-674-5625	Michael Varholla	412-432-1400
James Saeler	724-607-1030	Prevailing Wage Investigator's Office	
Thomas McIntyre	412-854-1148	Greg Vogt	412-432-1400
		Meeting Hall Rental Information	
		Lee Deiseroth	412-432-1420



IBEW LOCAL 5 NEWSLETTER
5000 Copies Published Quarterly by IBEW Local 5
5 Hot Metal Street - Suite-400
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

Phone: 412-432-1400 www.ibew5.org FAX: 412-432-1499



Business Manager - Financial Secretary Michael R. Dunleavy
President Thomas H. Higgins
Vice President Michael W. Varholla
Recording Secretary Thomas R. McIntyre, Jr.
Treasurer Richard R. Dunkel

Executive Board

Thomas H. Higgins, Chairman
Thomas R. McIntyre, Secretary

Walter J. Bentley, II
Robert E. Cole, II
Michael W. Varholla

James R. Gillespie
Leo P. Truby

Examining Board

Joseph Mitchell

James P. Voye

Leticia M. Fedora