

IBEW LOCAL UNION NO. 20

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A Message from A. C. McAfee BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

State of Our Union

Our local union has gone through some tough times in the last year and many members are wondering what to make of it all. What's going on now? Is it good or bad? Where are we going? Are we winning or losing? And perhaps most importantly, what is going to happen to my job and will I have a job in the future? And, what should I be doing?

There is no easy answer to these questions. The Officers of Local Union 20 are diligently working every day to try to ensure our growth in the electrical construction industry. It is no secret that we have had some difficult times in the last several years but now is the time to look forward, not backward. To that end, we want to assure every member that we are dedicated to looking for every opportunity to obtain jobs for our members.

The big question we all need to ask ourselves is; 'What is expected of me as a member of Local 20?' The answer is that each of us has the power to make a difference and play an important role in determining our future. How we conduct ourselves while working in the field for a signatory contractor will have a bearing on future work opportunities. Keeping the Code of Excellence principles in mind we should look in the mirror every once in awhile and ask ourselves if we are doing what we can to make our employer and our local union the customer's preferred choice. We need to raise our professional game to actually be the best rather than just claim to be the best. We know we cannot out run the competition so we have to out think and out perform them. We need to ask ourselves what can we do to improve the product we deliver to the customer? And, how we can work with our employers to improve the way we do our work.

In order to grow several things have to happen. Our contractors are telling us that in order for them to take on more work they need more people in supervisory positions. They need people they can trust to be in charge of putting a project together in the field. The JATC will be offering another Electrical Project Supervision Level 1 training class soon. If you think you have the ability and desire to become a supervisor, this class is for you. More people must step up to supervisory levels or we will miss our best chance at growth. This is a critical point since more and more of our most experienced workers are getting closer to retirement. If you are currently working in another jurisdiction and have the ability to fill a supervisory position, we desperately need your talents here. Please contact the hall to see what arrangements can be made to get you home.

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Message from the Business Manager (con't. from pg. 1)

We also know that growth will require us to attract more workers. Each of us should be on the lookout for prospective new workers. When you compare our industry with others you can see that we have a bright future, but timing is critical. With the abundance of work in our jurisdiction, the window of opportunity is open right now. The question is; are we willing to do what it takes to take advantage of the opportunities that lie in front of us?

Equally important, we must ensure that we are doing everything possible to take care of our customers. They have put their faith in us to deliver the product they need. Don't let them down. They are a critical part of our future. If you have not attended a Code of Excellence class please try to do so in the near future. We are in the process of getting more trainers so that we can hold more classes. The Code of Excellence is a great tool to highlight the best that we have to offer. This has always been our promise to our customers and it really is the norm for most of us. Let our customers see the difference and we will win in the end.

Leadership, training, qualified manpower, competitiveness and commitment are all challenges that we must address every day and is the only way we will attract new employers and customers.

With your help we can succeed.

Message from Jesse Whitley

Brothers and Sisters:

Thank you for allowing me to represent you for the last 10 years. I started work as an Organizer in March, 1998, and except for one brief layoff, have been employed by the Local Union ever since.

I hope that I have made a difference; I assure you I have tried. I am moving to Phoenix, Arizona because of family obligations.

I will miss you all, and wish all of you the best of luck.

Thank you.

SPRING FLING and GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sponsored by the Fort Worth Retirees

The time of year for the Spring Fling and Golf Tournament is just around the corner. These events will take place on April 26, 2008 at the Longhorn Park on Benbrook Lake. Tickets for the Spring Fling will be \$10.00 per family.

This event is open to all the members of Local 20. So make your plans today to purchase your tickets and attend this years event for great food, fellowship and golf.

Also, you can now purchase raffle tickets in advance for a chance to win a 22 Caliber Magnum Rifle with a scope.

For more information on the Spring Fling tickets and raffle tickets, contact Tooter Mills at 817-292-9727.

For information regarding the golf tournament, contact Steve Currin at 817-781-9361.

Is Your Address Current?

This is just a reminder to all the members who have moved or will be moving or have had any changes in their mailing address, to please call the Local Union Business Office and report this information.



RETIRED MEMBERS OF DALLAS AND FORT WORTH

DALLAS RETIRED MEMBERS—The Dallas Retired Members **will continue** to meet at the Dallas Local Union Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at approximately 11:00 AM for great food and fellowship. If you are a retired member and have never attended the monthly luncheon, we encourage you and your spouse or friend to attend. All you need to do is bring a covered dish.

FORT WORTH—The Retired Members will meet at the new location of the 116 Federal Credit Union, located at 603 S. Adams, Fort Worth, Tx. (corner of S. Adams and Pennsylvania), the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 12:00 noon. Come at 11:00 AM if you want to play dominos. Lunch is at Massey's at 1:30 PM. If you need more information, call Tooter Mills at 817-292-9727. If you are ill or need assistance, call Odis Green at 817-448-8697, Richard Fox at 817-378-0212, Tommy Hammer at 817-460-7718 or Jimmy Furr at 817-558-2009.

SICK AND INJURED

We would like to wish a speedy recovery to those member(s) mentioned below.

Roy Brown, David Rains, Leo Danforth, Earl Wynn and Joe Peters

Joe Peters says "Thank you" for all of your thoughts, prayers, visits and calls during his recent hospital stay. If there is a member we need to mention on this list, please call the Local Union Business Office.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We would like to express our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of those members who have recently passed away.

314 Billy R. Belcher—Passed away 11/26/07—Member 38 years

Non-Participant Member—Paul M. Volk—Passed away 2/20/08—Member 60 years

#315 Herman Wayne Townley—Passed away 2/25/08—Member 38 years

#316 Vernon W. "Bud" Glover—Passed away 3/19/08—Member 43 years

We also need to remember those members mentioned below, who have recently lost a loved one.

Tony Lindeman lost his Grandfather, Johnnie Floyd on 3/2/08.

Steve Neckar lost his Father-in-Law, Van Daele Mabrito, on 3/14/08.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

We urge all members to attend the monthly Union Meetings, held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Apprenticeship School, 680 W. Tarrant Rd., in Grand Prairie.

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

IBEW LU #20 - (817) 695-1111 or Toll Free Number—1-877-423-9937

IBEW LU #20 FCU—(214) 363-9223

IBEW LU#116 FCU—(817) 335-3658

IBEW-NECA Southwestern Health & Benefit Fund—(972) 980-1123 or Toll Free 1-800-527-0320

LINECO Insurance—1-800-323-7268

Delta Dental—1-800-336-8264

Apprenticeship School—(972) 266-8383

Annuity Fund—(972) 943-9559 or toll free 1-800-535-1624