

ELECTRICAL WORKERS MINORITY CAUCUS

COMMUNICATOR



FALL 2010

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings, I hope this letter finds you and your family well during this holiday season. First, I want to thank all EWMC members who worked so hard this year, especially during the election season on behalf of the EWMC. I am especially grateful for the tremendous leadership and ongoing work of the Chapter Presidents. I know how hard each of you worked to sustain the progress that began in 2008. Though in some respects we came up short this time, there are still valuable lessons for us to learn from this round of the battle. For example, as I look back there was so much more all of us could have actively contributed to defeating those who would work against our collective interests. As I've said often, we must all work together. Remember, when we take our finger and point it out at others, three fingers are pointing back at us.

Therefore, we cannot place all the responsibility for our well-being on one person's back. President Obama is our leader, and he expects the buck to stop with him (as all true leaders recognize). But, he cannot do it alone. We helped change the guard in 2008 and now we must guard the change. We must work diligently in the next two years before the elections. We must use all of our resources, channeled through our organizational leaders, coalitions and allies to stay focused, and do a better job of promoting our pronoun, proworker agenda. All Americans have been impacted by the economic crisis, but the impact is more burdensome for many African Americans and other people of color who have been jobless for far too long. There is so much that needs to be accomplished, and our priority must be to support the investment in good job creation in the United States to put people back to work. The battle for health care, extending unemployment benefits, improved education for our children, rebuilding roads and bridges and clean energy systems will take our undivided attention as well.

Speaking of elections, the 38th IBEW International Convention will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia September 19-23, 2011. The IBEW conducts the heart of its business setting broad policy goals to guide the union for the next 5-years. Remember, you have to be a member in good standing for 2 years to be eligible to run for a delegate seat. Many locals have already held the elections, but check with your local or your local union Bylaws for that information. You may also attend the Convention as a guest. You will need to check with your local union or the International Vice President in your district for details. Remember, if you want change, it's important to be in the room and have a voice where decisions are being made.

I look forward to seeing you all at our annual conference January 13-16, 2011 in Washington D.C. at the Capital Hilton Hotel. We have an excellent program planned to stimulate you, help build your skills and motivate you to use and share what you have learned to strengthen your union and community. Larry Greenhill, Sr. and the Washington D.C. EWMC Chapter have outstanding projects lined up for the community service volunteers to work on. We are excited about the conference, so please make sure you register and confirm your hotel reservations as soon as possible. As always, we are going to work hard, but it will be a good time. So let's all be in Washington D.C. in January, 2011 and make it happen in a big way.

Fond wishes to you and your family for a wonderful Christmas and Blessed New Year.

In Unity,

Robbie Sparks, President, EWMC

ELECTRICAL WORKERS MINORITY CAUCUS

FALL 2010

2011 ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 13-16 • WASHINGTON D.C.

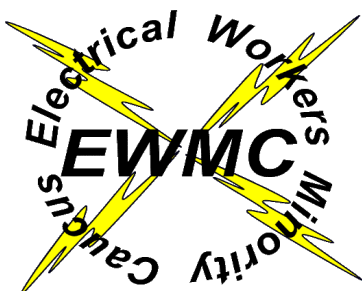
A key goal of the conference is to present information and workshops to enhance the skills of delegates and motivate them to use and share what they have learned to help build and strengthen their unions and communities.

The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus will hold its 21st Annual National Meeting on January 13-16, 2011, in Washington D.C. at the Capital Hilton Hotel. Please join the EWMC in the nation's capitol for an interactive, informative, and exciting conference. We hope you will come and share your insights, gather new perspectives, acquire skills, network and take advantage of the opportunity to visit historical landmarks and the beautiful sites of Washington D.C.

The Conference Registration Fee is \$190, which includes your 2011 membership dues of \$40.00. Article IV, Section 4, requires payment of the current year's membership dues before admission to the meeting.

Please make reservations at the Capital Hilton Hotel, by calling 1 (800) HILTONS or 1 (202) 393-1000. The EWMC discount room rate is \$139.00/single and \$149.00/double available until December 30, 2010.

A special tour of the IBEW International Office is tentatively scheduled for 3:00 p.m., Friday, January 14, 2011. If you plan to attend please RSVP by email to: ibew-ewmc@yahoo.com or call (510) 848-6714.



2011 EWMC ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING

Tentative Agenda

JANUARY

Wednesday 12th	4 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting	5–7:00 p.m. Registration for Community Service Project	6–7:00 p.m. Chapter Presidents Meeting	7–8:30 p.m. Meet, Greet and Network	
Thursday 13th	6:30 a.m. Breakfast for Community Service Volunteers	1:30–3:30 p.m. Lunch for Community Service Volunteers	3–7:00 p.m. Conference Registration	5–6:30 p.m. Youth Caucus	
Friday 14th	7 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Conference Registration	7:30–8:15 a.m. New Member Orientation	8:30 a.m.– 5 p.m. Opening Session, Caucuses, Workshops	3–5:00 p.m. International IBEW Office Tour (optional)	7–9:00 p.m. EWMC Night Out
Saturday 15th	7 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Conference Registration	8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. General Session and Workshops	12–1:30 p.m. Lunch (on your own)	6:30–11:30 p.m. Reception, Awards and Scholarship Dinner Dance (dressy attire)	
Sunday 16th	8:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Closing Session, EWMC Business	2:00 p.m. Adjournment			

NOTE: Plenary sessions, workshops, panel discussions, and formal EWMC business will be conducted Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Please make reservations at the Capital Hilton Hotel, by calling 1 (800) HILTONS or 1 (202) 393-1000. The EWMC discount room rate is \$139.00/single and \$149.00/double. The hotel's EWMC discount rate cutoff date is Thursday, December 30, 2010. After the cutoff date rooms will be provided based on hotel availability and at the hotel's prevailing rate. Guests wishing to avoid an early checkout fee should advise the Capital Hilton at or before check-in of any change planned length of stay. The check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and check-out time is 12:00 noon.

The hotel represents that the facilities will be in substantial compliance with applicable public accommodation obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require any auxiliary aids you must let us know by contacting ibew-ewmc@yahoo.com no later than January 3, 2011.

WORD UP

By Yusuf A. Word
Former EWMC Scholarship Recipient

"I challenge unions to rebrand themselves for the saving of America."

I recently found, as a product of two devoted union members, that my general IQ about unions was surprisingly low. My mother, Donna Hammond, has been an electrician for as long as I can remember, she is a member of IBEW Local 48 and has taken me to all sorts of union picnics, strikes and rallies since before I was old enough to understand what was going on. My father was a member of IBEW Local 349 and truly committed to unions until his untimely passing in the summer of 2000. It was made clear to me that unions have helped create many great things such as the 40 hour week, child labor laws (which I am definitely grateful for), weekends and vacations. I was somewhat aware of most of the benefits of labor unions in the past, but I was not sure of their relevance in the present and future. It seemed to me that with unions asking for increased workers benefits and the steady decline of union membership that unions were missing the boat. While engaged in lively discussion about the recession and jobs with my mother, I decided to ask her about her thoughts on unions and if she felt that there was still a need for them? My mom did her best to explain to me how unions still protect workers' rights and that without the continued lobbying and support of unions, many more people would be out of a job in this recession. I still was not convinced. So my mother took me to a union rally where AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka and Oregon Gubernatorial candidate John Kitzhaber spoke.

Walking into the union hall was exhilarating; there was so much energy in the room. I felt so honored and humbled to be in that environment and to truly hear the plight of the people, the "backbone" of America. These people were tough; it felt like I was in a room with heavyweight champion fighters. Even though for many their backs seemed to be against the ropes, I knew that like true champions they would bounce back. The family and one team attitude was powerful, people cheered loudly, clapped loudly, heck, they even talked loudly. This was truly about sisterhood and brotherhood. It was great to juxtapose their stories with what I had been hearing from political candidates about how we should cut unemployment benefits. I was truly moved when a union member went up to the podium to explained that without unemployment benefits and support from his union that it would be nearly impossible for him to go searching for a job; the benefits were keeping his head barely above water. It is ridiculous that there are some in Washington who think that not cutting unemployment benefits will weaken peoples' desire to find employment. Lack of jobs and opportunity is the motivation. Trumka stated the American Labor movement is all about the pursuit and defense of this American, and that history teaches that it is only when working people stand together in the workplace and at the polling place - that the American Dream is secure.

Unions should clear up the misconceptions about unions and truly stress their importance to society as a whole by returning to their founding principles. For people my age, especially the idealistic 20-something's fresh out of college, we need to be reminded what is at stake, who truly makes this country run and that support for these workers is readily available. I know more now than I did before, but there are still many who need to be enlightened. I challenge unions to rebrand themselves for the saving of America. Yusuf A. Word

Scholarship Award

The EWMC will award a scholarship to the child of a member in good standing of the National EWMC at the 21st Annual National Meeting in Washington, DC. A scholarship candidate must be the child of a National EWMC member and a high school student who graduated in 2010. A copy of the diploma or a letter from the high school confirming graduation must be attached to the scholarship request. Scholarships are approved for enrollment in a state certified trade school or a college certified by the Department of Education and accredited by the local accrediting association.

Only those scholarship request letters mailed to the EWMC at P. O. Box 642, El Cerrito, CA 94530 by certified, return receipt mail and postmarked **no later than January 3, 2011**, will be eligible for consideration.

EWMC MEMBERS MOVING ON UP



SYLVESTER TAYLOR — Elected Missouri State Representative

Long-time EWMC and Local 1 member is ecstatic over his recent victory. Brother Taylor indicates over the years he “looked at some of my brothers and sisters in the IBEW as role models like Suzie Barber, Local 1 member, and State Senator Tim Green.” Taylor wanted to get involved in the community, but said he “couldn’t find my niche,” until the board of directors seat for the Fire District became open. He was encouraged by President Tom George to run for that position. He ran and won the election. His union experience, the invaluable leadership skills he learned from serving on that board and the responsibilities and accountability for 98 million construction dollars helped to prepare him and made running for State Representative that much easier.

Brother Taylor worked for 9 years building coalitions and political allies. He still was not sure if he was going to run until last year at the EWMC conference, where he heard Patricia Russell-McCloud speak. He felt like she was just talking to him, and that afternoon is when he decided to run. With the help of the EWMC of Greater St. Louis Chapter, they knocked on 12,000 doors and dropped 15,000 pieces of literature in the sweltering summer heat. The Taylor campaign was very successful, winning 51.9% of the vote in a three-person primary. Since the election Sylvester states he has learned a few facts, “1) there have been less than 10,000 Legislators since Missouri has been a state; 2). less than one-half of one-fourth percent of those Legislators have been minorities or women; and 3). for the first time in Missouri’s state history, St. Louis County has more women and people of color in our Legislature than any other county in the State of Missouri.” State Representative-Elect Taylor also stated, “I want to Thank all of my EWMC and union supporters for all the phone calls, emails, and donations that put us over the top. Thank you !!!!”



AL FORTIER

Northern California EWMC Chapter President Al Fortier was hired to serve Local 1245 as a staff business representative effective Aug. 16, 2010.

Fortier is a 19-year IBEW member. He became a Journeyman Lineman in 1996 and worked in Outside Construction until 1999. Since then he has worked for Alameda Municipal Power and served as Chairman of Unit 2211 (City of Oakland). He also served a term on the Local 1245 Advisory Council and was just re-elected to that position in June. Brother Fortier has served on the Alameda Power Negotiations Committees, PERS Enhancement and Journeyman Lineman Retention and Attraction committees. He received a Bachelors of Science degree from UC Berkeley in 1988 and is a graduate of the C. L. Delums African American Union Leadership School.

Brother Fortier’s initial assignment will include representing members at Dynegy, Mirant, Port of Oakland, and several public sector properties: Alameda Municipal Power, City of Oakland, AC Transit, and City of Berkeley.

MISSION POSSIBLE: STORIES THAT INSPIRE

The EWMC Mission is all about leadership, activism, helping lift others up and having a real voice in your union, community, and political affairs. We are looking for good stories on leadership development, community service, union and political activism, and mentoring.

Share your success story with the EWMC family and help motivate and inspire others to do more with their God given talents. Help other members learn how to achieve their goals. Post your story at ewmc2@yahoo.com. Send your photo along with it; you may be featured in our upcoming EWMC newsletter.

EWMC MEMBERS MOVING ON UP



JEROME JACKSON has been named Assistant Business Manager and Membership Development Coordinator for IBEW Local 613 in Atlanta, Ga. Jerome joined the IBEW in 1980 and began his career by completing Local 613's apprenticeship program as a Journeyman Wireman in 1982. He has served in various appointed positions and has been elected to the Examining Board, Executive Board, and then Chairman of the Executive Board. Brother Jackson is also the EWMC chapter president for Local 613.

Jackson reflects on the words of Dr. MLK Jr. in his book, *Where Do We Go From here, Chaos or Community?* "Our young people need to think of union careers as earnestly as they do of business careers and professions." In the book, Dr. King went on to mention A. Philip Randolph as an example of "courage, compassion, integrity and enlightenment."

Brother Jackson found King's words inspirational for his personal leadership development. He indicates there were also examples, such as Robbie Sparks and Mel Horton, who were directly involved as IBEW leaders. Jackson said that he was mentored by many Local 613 members, black and white, who passed on their knowledge about policy, procedure, IBEW culture and values that helped him politically and socially. Brother Jackson recognizes "the support of my chapter members whose collective efforts continue to provide a vehicle for leadership development, and the current leadership of our local union who support our efforts wholeheartedly."



LARRY GREENHILL SR. was recently re-elected to a second three-year term as Vice President of Local 26 in Washington D.C. Brother Greenhill has worn many hats over his 39-year union career. He was elected to and also chaired the Examining Board and Executive Board for two three-year terms for Local 26. Prior to that he worked for the Local 26 NECA JATC as Director of Minority Affairs from November 1979 to 1985. In 1985 he became Director of Apprenticeship & Training and worked in that role until April 1997 when he resigned to take a position on staff as a Business Agent. Before being accepted into the Local 26 Apprenticeship Program in September 1971, he completed High School and spent four years in the Administrative Field with the United States Air Force. After completing his apprenticeship he worked as a Journeyman from 1975 until November 1979 when he began his career with the IBEW/NECA. In addition he served as Chair-

man of the Washington, DC Apprentice Director's Association for 8 years before being appointed in 1997 to serve as Chairman of the Apprenticeship & Training Council for the State of Maryland. Greenhill stated, "In all honesty, I had no idea that I would ever get the opportunities that I have over my 39-year-career in this industry, especially when it took government intervention in order for me and many other men of color to be given an opportunity." But, he admits that he "always put everything I had into every opportunity that I got." Greenhill has served as the EWMC Local 26 Chapter President since 1999.



ERIC HAYES, former President of Local 48 in Portland, Oregon has been appointed by President Edwin Hill as the Oregon State Construction Organizing Coordinator. He will be responsible for the Inside locals in Oregon. Brother Hayes' main responsibilities will be to assess, assist and report and coordinate the organizing efforts of the state. Each local will still have their own goals and objectives, Eric will help them achieve the goals the International Office has laid out for all locals. He will coordinate the efforts when one local comes to help another local in a blitz or membership drive, and assess how each local is achieving the MAI goals. Hayes was also a former Chapter president for the EWMC Portland Oregon Chapter.

EWMC MEMBER ILLUMINATION

Grace Smith, Florida Chapter President



Q. How did you get involved in the EWMC?

A. I have been a member of Local 824 for 16 years and a member of the EWMC for 8 years. The former business manager of Local 824, Danny Johnson, contacted me and four other members and wanted us to get involved and find out more about the EWMC.

Q. When did you get involved in the Florida Chapter, and how long has it been in existence?

A. The Florida Chapter of EWMC has been in existence since June, 2004. I became President in January 2005 after attending my second EWMC conference and attending a session on "Breakthrough Leadership Training", "Empowering Today's Union Members To Become Tomorrow's Union Leaders", taught by Mel Horton.

Q. Please talk about what you see as the future growth for the EWMC chapter; where the opportunities are in the union to build unity and have a positive impact in the community.

A. In order to grow our EWMC Chapter and membership within our local, we need to promote more full participation of our local leaders in the labor movement both locally and nationally. We need to focus on reaching across the board to all generations of IBEW members to build unity. By doing this we will be able to go out into the community and make an impact by working together. The impact of the EWMC in my district is helping promote diversity and full inclusion in the labor movement.

Q. Talk about one memorable moment as a member of the Florida EWMC Chapter.

A. One memorable moment would be when the Florida Chapter won EWMC Chapter of the Year Award. We struggled that year trying to get members and are local to understand the mission and vision of EWMC. With 10 members we accomplished so many things. I was so proud of the members of the EWMC Florida Chapter.

Q. What do you believe are some of the strengths and weaknesses of the labor movement?

A. The Strength is knowing we have so many young members who are or can become activists to take on leadership roles and united action both in their local unions and communities where they live and work for working families. The Weakness is the decline in membership in the labor movement. We need to work on internal and external organizing. We need to remind members and nonmembers not to let the rights we fought for yesterday go unnoticed.

Q. What have you done to develop or enhance leadership and other skills?

A. While working full time, with the support of my husband and 3 girls, I was able to receive my Master of Business Administration degree with a Concentration in Leadership and Corporate Social Responsibility. In my 16 years with the IBEW, I have taken various classes from my union, the National Labor College and EWMC to help foster my leadership skills in my local.

Q. As the leader of your Chapter, please talk about your vision for the EWMC.

A. My vision for the EWMC in the future is to have more local unions, Business Managers, President of the Locals and my Brothers and Sisters embrace EWMC and its mission. That the leadership of the American labor movement at all levels represent the diversity of its members.

Q. What do you envision for yourself in terms of career aspirations?

A. I presently work for Verizon Inc. in Tampa, Florida as a Business Service Support Rep. My career aspiration is to work for IBEW on behalf of Electrical Workers Minority Caucus to improve the labor movement.

Guide To Starting an EWMC Chapter

GETTING STARTED:

Establish a Planning Committee and use the following as guides:

- EWMC Mission Statement
- EWMC Membership Application
- EWMC National Operating Bylaws*

FORMULATING THE CHAPTER:

- Appoint acting officers
- Develop a promotional/organizing campaign
- Identify and encourage all IBEW members within a targeted area to join
- Post meeting notices at the worksite and in the union hall
- Use “one-on-one” organizing techniques
- Send written invitations
- Follow-up in person, by telephone, email, and text messaging whenever possible

INITIAL ORGANIZATIONAL SESSIONS:

- Use a prepared agenda
- Identify the chapter’s short and long term goals
- Review and establish procedure for adopting chapter bylaws
- Determine meeting schedule, meeting location, and structure of committees and subcommittees
- Determine budgetary needs, if any, and how to accomplish that goal
- Establish a dues structure
- Determine how the chapter will work to build the EWMC; and strengthen the IBEW; interact with other local union committees, AFL-CIO Constituency Groups and community organizations
- Keep meetings short, focused and interesting
- Schedule nominations and election of officers

PROMOTE DIVERSITY:

- Outreach should include members from different backgrounds (racial, ethnic, cultural, gender, age, disability; sexual orientation and religion groups)
- Outreach should include diverse job classifications (including officers and rank and file members), worksites, branches of the IBEW

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

- Focus on issues of interest to members
- Organizing (Internal and External)
- Mentoring
- Education Programs
- Promoting civil and human rights
- Community service projects
- Political action
- Coalition building/alliances

*(Note: Chapter bylaws shall not conflict with the EWMC National Operating Bylaws. Chapter members must adhere to the EWMC National Operating Bylaws and the IBEW Constitution. Chapter bylaws must be submitted to the National Executive Committee for approval. Chapter members must join the National EWMC. Chapter charters may be issued or revoked by the National Executive Committee.)

THIS IS HOW WE DO IT: DIVERSITY MATTERS



LOCAL UNION 3, NEW YORK, NY 2010



*BUSINESS MANAGER, MARVIN KROPKE, LOCAL UNION 11
LOS ANGELES, CA MENTORING SESSION*

Northern California Chapter members and guest from the Seattle EWMC Chapter enjoy a barbecue in Hayward, California.

Northern California Chapter EWMC members worked with their Local Unions and Central Labor Councils to elect Jerry Brown.



MR. OCTAVE FRANCIS, NEW ORLEANS, LA

EWMC 2009 conference volunteers wired the home of Mr. & Mrs. O. Francis as a community service project. The final phase of the project was completed by volunteers from Local 130.

In October, 2010 the photo shows Mr. Francis turning on the master power of his home.



Young men from the Florida EWMC mentoring program were selected to participate in **Tampa Bay Buccaneers Gatorade Junior Training Camp!**



The **EWMC Florida Chapter** and members took part in this Great Event the Chapter **donated 125 stuffed with school supplies**. In partnership with the Children With A Vision, Inc 10 Annual Back To School Giveaway @ Regan Park.



The **EWMC Florida Chapter** also combined forces with the local Tampa Chapter of A. Philip Randolph Institute and The International Longshoremen's Association and helped each other **stuff book bags for Title 1 schools**. On the first week of school the backpacks were delivered to the Title 1 schools, teachers were also given teachers boxes full of supplies.

FROM THE EWMC POWER LINES

LOS ANGELES, CA CHAPTER Hopefully work in your areas has picked up. Ours continues to sputter as the private sector pull back nullifies all gains achieved thru newly signed contractors and PLA's.

Despite the sobering work picture our chapter has maintained a cohesive spirit of service. Our partnership with the highly regarded gang intervention organization 2nd Call remains a weekly event. The interaction between our mentors and individuals struggling thru a litany of personal development issues has kept us grounded in our commitment to give even while we ourselves feel the effects of leaner times.

The on-site mentoring at the training center was reduced as applications were only accepted in February and October this year. Study sessions were in those months and the month before. Our mentors used the time in between to enhance our teaching and mentoring techniques. The void was also filled with numerous weekend community career events and over two dozen visits to school campuses.

Our adopt-a-school program was elevated when we solicited teachers to come to our meetings and express fully the hardships they encounter. The hardships of teaching are exaggerated when children arrive at school hungry and ill supplied. The teachers brought to light the lack of items such as hand sanitizer which they often purchase themselves. We adjusted our supplies to their actual needs.

I want to express the fraternity witnessed at the recent Membership Development Conference in Los Angeles. Every single member of the EWMC, whether Business Manager, Lineman, I.O. Representative, white, black, female, Asian stopped and said of few heartfelt words. There weren't enough of us there but the bond is so strong you can't help but realize we're on the righteous path.

Finally, I must close this column on a somber but prideful note. The recent passing of Jefferson A. Thomas of "The Little Rock Nine" fame hit close to home. His namesake Jeff Jr. is a member of our chapter. Knowing Jeff as I do it is easy to see the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Jeff is compassionate and cares about others as much as himself. When you see Jeff in D.C. "say a few words about his dad's courage." He's a true conduit to our legacy.

WASHINGTON, D.C. CHAPTER The Local 26 Minority Coalition is continuing to grow. We are averaging 15 to 18 members per meeting. By the time this article is printed we would have completed our three Annual Community Service events. The first event was done on July 10, 2010 at the Covenant House, a shelter for homeless women and children. We perform minor electrical work to support this event. The second event was done on August 14, 2010 at the Prince George's House, a shelter for homeless men. We sponsor and serve breakfast to the 35 residents for this event. The third event was done on October 23, 2010, in support of a group called Breast Health, Inc. who sponsors an annual "5K Fun Walk/Run" to raise money and awareness on behalf of women and men who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. We participate in this event by actually walking or running. Our Coalition members were also instrumental in helping elect a new Mayor in Washington, DC by canvassing door-to-door, literature drops, participating in rallies, etc.

GREATER KANSAS CITY, MO CHAPTER Every chapter received instructions from President Robbie Sparks to 1) participate in a social event, 2) have a fundraiser, 3) participate in community service, 4) adopt a school and conduct some type of mentoring for our youth.

Our Greater Kansas City chapter developed a scholarship fund to help pay book fees for IBEW Local 124's first year minority apprentice with the highest grade point average. This fund will pay for the student's second year books. The scholarship was dedicated in the name of Brother Larry T. Wright who was the first minority to complete IBEW Local 124's apprenticeship program. The 2010 recipient was Arturo Garcia.

The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus' Mission states that we "Become actively involved in Human, Civil and Women's rights organizations both within and outside of organized labor." With that said, the Greater Kansas City EWMC chapter members decided to support the NAACP KCMO Branch as they hosted the 101st National NAACP convention July 10-15th in Kansas City.

Our fundraiser event held at Local 124 on Saturday May 8, 2010 enabled our chapter to donate \$800.00 to the NAACP KCMO branch. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event a success. We also helped with the "Welcoming Committee" at this event.

Our chapter has also pledged to help with community service programs that our Local Union sponsors, such as Christmas in October (a community service project aimed to help the elderly in Kansas City with electrical repairs on their homes) and Dollars Against Diabetes (Dads Day). This event raises money for diabetes research. We always try to encourage our EWMC chapter members to participate in all of IBEW Local 124 social and community service events.

The Greater Kansas City Chapter recently held elections and the following officers have been installed, Ned Williams, President; Leslie Lewis, Vice President; Lindsey Hammons, Secretary-Treasurer; and the Executive Committee: Jeff Bradley, Bill Robinson, John Rodriguez, Jose Sustaita and Larry Wright

LOCAL 25 CHAPTER, NEW YORK

Our 3rd Annual EWMC Awards Dinner Dance held Saturday, September 25, 2010 was very successful. The night was dedicated to recognize and honor IBEW President Edwin D. Hill with the Lifetime Achievement Award; Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy with the Political Woman of the Year Award; and Liz Shuler received the Labor Woman of the Year Award. The affair generated an active audience of 230 guests. Local unions from our tri-state area were amongst the guests. President Hill also received an official Proclamation presented by Senator Brain Foley. EWMC President Godfrey King and Chairman James Pena received a Proclamation that was presented by Steve Levy, Suffolk County Executive. The night was full of excitement and energy. Thanks to our sister locals for the overwhelming support and all who helped make this event a great success. For anyone unable to attend, we look forward to seeing you next year.

The EWMC Officers would like to congratulate EWMC President Godfrey King on his nomination to the Examining Board of Local Union 25. We know he will represent Local 25 as he has done in the past with Pride and Love for his Brothers and Sisters. May God Bless you Brother King.

PORTLAND, OR CHAPTER The AFL-CIO shared that there are several local races with National impact. These races will determine the direction that the country will take in the next few years. The Governors race will determine if we have work in Oregon in the foreseeable future. We answered the call to "pull out all of the stops." We accelerated the work with the AFL-CIO phone bank along with CBTU and LCLAA. We understand that we need leaders in Washington and in the states who will be steadfast friends to workers, and friends to families. Leaders who will fight for good jobs in America. We want to give Congress heck and we're also phone banking in Southwest Washington for Denny... "Heck". We got on the bus and traveled to Salem, OR to support our IBEW Sister Claudia Kyle in her race for State Representative for HD 19. What's really important is that we make the time to support the candidates that support our issues regardless of their political affiliation.



FROM THE EVMC POWER LINES

The Chapter is still gliding from the National Conference. Chapter elections were held in May. Donna Hammond was re-elected Chapter President, and the newly elected Chapter officer for the next three years are V. President—Aaron Barber-Strong, Recording Secretary—Hilary Colbert, and Treasurer—Ronnie Jimmerson. There are new sets of eyes on the Prize and more hands to make the work light. Many thanks to the outgoing officers, Marjorie Ramirez, (VP), and Wendy Derting (Treasurer) for their time, services and support of the chapter and local union.

We took a snapshot of the infrastructure of the Chapter. From that glance, it was clear that the Bylaws and Mission Statement needed to be aligned with the work that we are doing today (Generation Y). We are revisiting those documents to also ensure that our community service meets those objectives and goals and also serves our members, our community and local union, and we are in the process of scheduling a one-day planning session.

Wanting to communicate more effectively with our members also led us to TWEET this year. You can follow us at EWMCPDX. Please join me in congratulating Brother Eric Hayes, former local union president and EVMC Chapter President. Eric will start his new career on the International Staff as a State Coordinator for Construction Organizing October 1, 2010. We are going to miss him but know that he will perform well in his new role. Congratulations Brother, you have our support.

We have several members who were in attendance who need our services now. Our members rallied around our Brother Lee Mitchell who suffered a stroke in May. Several members visited him in the hospital before he was relocated to Spokane, Washington. Members also rallied around Brother Gus Miller with a day of service at his home. Members continue to visit Brother Bonnie Lewis in his respite at McCoy Plaza.

We are working towards the challenge from our national EVMC President. There is an effort developing for mentoring with the Big Brother/Big Sister program. WE have reconnected with the Albina Youth Opportunity School and will have more to report next quarter. Another community service project in the works is with another MLK Day of Service recipient, the Salvation Army. Cell phones are frequently solicited and collected for Domestic Violence victims, The United Way Grant is ongoing and we continue to support the efforts at Constructing Hope on the advisory committee and one day a week in the classroom. We have asked to take the lead on membership education for the local union and we are co-sponsoring with Portland State University an event titled the NW History Network Panel Presentation on October 28 at the union hall. On Saturday, November 6, we will attend the 24th annual veterans parade in Vancouver, Washington. The theme is "Honoring the Buffalo Soldiers Service. For fundraising, there is a raffle planned for the end of the year. We know that we are riding on your coattails this year and are truly thankful for having you come to our home last January.

Electrical Workers Minority Caucus
PO Box 642
El Cerrito, CA 94530

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