

# THE ORGANIZER



## IBEW LOCAL UNION 130

Paul J. Zulli  
Business Manager/ Financial Secretary

Corky Cortez  
President

April 7, 2021

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a Good Friday and a wonderful Easter. As we move into the second quarter of this year, we expect employment to pick up as some calls have went through the books. All indications point to our work opportunity improving in the next few months. If you have not taken the Journeyman Exam for the City of New Orleans Class D License, your opportunity for employment may be limited so, please prepare and take the test. Should you need help to prepare, please contact Corky or Rodney for information. I recommend Apprentices to start preparing if you haven't done so, don't wait until your 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year to take the test. Members that need to renew their electrical license, I suggest you take care of this before your birthday as it can take up to three months to receive your new license.

I am very happy to report that negotiations with Harrah's Casino has been concluded. The contract will be a 6-year agreement and will expire on December 31, 2026. Steward Language has been added to the agreement. This agreement calls for a wage increase of 2.5% each of the first three years with a wage opener in the third year to negotiate the last three years on wages only. All leads will receive 10% over the highest wage of employee in their respected classification.

Our inside CBA will expire on November 30, 2021, enclosed is a membership survey for you to provide feedback on our CBA. Please take the time to complete and return the survey to the hall. We value your opinions; the negotiation committee will use this information as to what we will present to our NECA Contractors.

The Ernest N. Morial Convention Center contract will expire on November 29, 2021. I will be meeting with those brothers and sisters soon to prepare for negotiations.

### **REFERRAL GUIDELINES**

1. When you are laid off, you must report to the hall in person on the next business day to sign the out-of-work list at 7:00 a.m. If there is more than one person that comes in to sign the list, then, names will be drawn out of a hat and the first name drawn will be sign-in first. The second name drawn will be sign-in and so forth.
2. If you arrive at the hall after the names have been drawn, you will be put on the out-of-work list after the last name is drawn and that name has been put on the out-of-work list.
3. Calls for all jobs will start at 7:30 a.m. You must be present to get the job. If all jobs are not filled, the remaining jobs calls will be available until 3:00 p.m.
4. If there is a call on the books at the hall, any contractor will have until 8:00 a.m. to add any new call(s) for that day.

## RE-SIGN PROCEDURE:

1. The resign date is between the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup> every month.
2. You can call (504-831-1372), email: [billy@ibewlu130.com](mailto:billy@ibewlu130.com), or fax (504-834-1410) to re-sign.

It is with a heavy heart that I share some sad news. As you may or may not be aware, one of Local 130's dear friend and brother Joe Mendel, a retired member of Local 3 New York has passed away due to COVID-19. Joe was a great brother who helped many of our members in the 1980s when work in Local 130 was very slow. He came down to New Orleans for work in 1976 since work in New York was slow and worked here for four years, one year after arriving, he met a young lady from New Orleans who a year later would become his wife, Annie. In 1980, Joe and Annie moved to New York and had their first child, Jacquelyn who grew up to become a member of Local 3.

Brother Joe never forgot the friendships he made or his time in New Orleans. While working here, Joe was asked to become Steward for the BF Goodrich project and he did not want to take the position, but former Business Manager Gabe Alexander told him, "this is a 100-man job that you are on and you will be my steward or you will go back home" and Joe replied, "no problem, I'll be the steward." At that time, everyone got to know Joe because of his big personality and laughter, everyone had the upmost respect for him and his work. Joe participated in everything our local had to offer from union meetings, softball games, and other functions. Joe became a member of the Westchester Mechanic's Club. The club had an annual picnic and he started "Joe's Cajun Kitchen" introducing the brothers and sisters of Local 3 to a little New Orleans flavor where he and his boys would cook food brought up from New Orleans such as: shrimp, oysters, gumbo, and many other products. This tradition goes back to former Business Managers: Al Bostick, Joe Pardo, Tiger Hammond, Clay Leon, Chet Held, and now Paul Zulli. Local 130 has always assisted and provided Joe with some of seafoods and the Westchester club would always send an invitation to attend. Joe would always give the business manager of Local 130 a tour of the Joint Board where you would be introduced to the officers and staff of Local 3. Later that night, Joe would take you to workers night, which was a night before the picnic to cook and set-up for the following day picnic.

Joe served as an employment director and helped a lot of Local 130 members, he ran the Elect-Chester apartments which was about 2,000 units owned by Local 3, he was big with the Masons, coached baseball and played softball. No one could figure out how he could fit all his agenda in a day. Joe would come down here once a year to visit family and would always stop by the union hall to visit the business manager and would have lunch regardless of who was in office at the time. Joe will always be remembered as a great Union Brother, friend to many, and one of the best leaders of Local 3. We will miss him, please keep Joe Mendel and his family in your prayers.

Finally, I encourage one to get the Covid-19 Vaccine, I did in March 2021. I hope that all are well and please continue to be safe.

Fraternally,



Paul

# IBEW LOCAL 130 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY 2021

The Negotiation Committee for Local 130 will soon be meeting with the contractors to discuss modifications of the current agreement. Your responses to the enclosed survey will be of great value to the committee. Please complete the following survey and return to the local union. Thank you in advance for your participation.

1. Rate the following in order that you consider to be the most important. Use #1 as the most important, #2 as second most important, etc.

- Increase the Health and Welfare contribution
- Increase the Pension contribution
- Increase hourly wage
- Increase Foreman rate

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. If any language were to change, what singular issue would you prefer?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you think the wages for Foremen is...

- Acceptable
- Unacceptable
- About right
- Don't know

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Referring to the Market Recovery Job, do you favor working on the 5<sup>th</sup> District MRA or the Regular MRA Job?

- 5<sup>th</sup> District
- MRA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(SEE BACK OF PAGE FOR MORE)

6. Concerning wages, which of the following would you consider a fair increase percentage?

- 1%
- 2%
- 5%

7. If you were on the Negotiation Committee, what is the one issue that you would consider as a must have? Why?

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8. If the holiday falls on a Saturday, do you want Friday off?

- Yes, definitely
- No

Comments: 

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9. General comments and/or ideas:

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