



Issue 1

September 2007

Business Managers Report

I am pleased to announce the return of Local 684's newsletter. It has been a few years since one has been published, and we are looking forward to receiving contributions to it from our active members and retirees.

As most of you know Business Manager Scott Zeigler retired as of the 31st of July 2007. I would personally like to thank him for his many years of service to 684. We all wish him a long and happy retirement.

Our work picture in our area is currently slow. We have over forty JWs on book 1. I have been talking with many of our contractors and they are out there seeking and bidding jobs aggressively. Many of our members have gone out of our jurisdiction to Stockton, Fresno, and Bay area locals to ensure that their Health & Welfare and Pension contributions continue.

IBEW Local Union 684 was chartered on the 28th of November 1910. Our 100th anniversary will be here before we know it. Our charter is located in the meeting hall and I encourage all of our newer members to take a look at it.

When our charter was signed in 1910 there were twelve electrical workers that organized and agreed to join together and abide the constitution and laws of the IBEW. The preamble of the IBEW constitution states the objects of the IBEW; which are as follows.

- ◆ To organize all workers in the entire electrical industry in the United States and Canada, including all those in public utilities and electrical manufacturing, into local unions.
- ◆ To promote reasonable methods of work.
- ◆ To cultivate feelings of friendship among those of our industry.
- ◆ To settle all disputes between employers and employees by arbitration.
- ◆ To assist each other in sickness and distress.
- ◆ To secure employment.
- ◆ To reduce the hours of daily labor.
- ◆ To secure adequate pay for our work.
- ◆ To seek a higher standard of living.
- ◆ To seek security for the individual.
- ◆ And by legal and proper means to elevate the moral, intellectual, and social conditions of our members, their families and dependants, in the interest of a higher standard of citizenship.

Sometimes I think we forget that these objects are what the IBEW was founded upon and that the B is for Brotherhood.

We need to help and encourage each other and insist that we perform the highest quality and quantity of work. That we utilize our skills and abilities to the utmost, and always exercise safe and productive work practices in the field.

Stay well and I hope to see you at our next regular meeting.

Fraternally,
Billy Powell

Elected Officials



E-Board Member
Matt Williamson



E-Board Member
Larry Machado



E-Board Member
Jeremiah Nieman



Treasurer
Steve Bertozzi



Recording Secretary
Jeromy Myers



Vice-President
Jason Davis

Officers Not Pictured:

Examining Committee Members: Jim Marlett & Vic Barron

E-Board Member: Adam Jautalkis

President's News

I would like to thank the members for electing me as your President of Local 684. I feel honored and privileged to hold this office. I will do my best to fulfill my responsibilities and obligations that you have entrusted to me.

I will be working closely with Billy Powell as our Business Manager and the various Committees associated with our local. Input from the membership is always welcome and appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at the Training Center @ (209) 579-5417 should you have any questions or concerns.

I have taken this opportunity to appoint Jay Hutchinson as our Sergeant of Arms & Jeromy Meyers to sit on the Apprenticeship Committee.

I look forward to my term in office and the opportunities it will present.

Thank you again and Fraternaly Yours,
Mark Bowden

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Business Manager Email: billy@ibewlu684.org
Linda Email: Linda@ibewlu684.org
Newsletter Articles: ethesportsnut@hotmail.com

Contractor of the Month... **Sierra Central Electric**



Local members Jeff Howard and Mark Spurlock, both graduates of the five-year apprenticeship program of Local 684, started **Sierra Central Electric** in November 2004. The business partnership was a logical transition considering that they had worked together for seven years, with two different contractors, previous to starting their own. Working for several contractors including Industrial Electric, Mer-Cal, Pacific Metro Electric and San Joaquin Electric provided valuable knowledge to help the company become a successful one.

Primarily an industrial contractor, Sierra Central Electric also saw the value of being diverse, and branched out to incorporate some commercial and ag/dairy work to their repertoire. Some of their primary accounts include Kraft Foods of Modesto, Redington Ranch in Mariposa.

A large part of Sierra Central's success has been the availability to bring in a skilled and dependable workforce from Local 684 to tackle the bigger jobs that sometimes arise at a moments notice. "It has always been attractive to our customers to be able to man up on short notice to get the larger jobs done. To our customers, time is of the essence, and getting the job done quickly and correctly to meet deadlines is extremely important. Local 684 and its membership has been an integral part of our success in customer satisfaction."

Sierra Central encourages our membership, and especially our youth, to get involved to help our contractor base grow. "Our Local is at a critical juncture and we need our membership to be proactive in helping us regain a larger share of the local work. If we can get some of our membership to utilize their education and skills to get more union contractors out there fighting for the work, it can only mean good things for Local 684."

Having served the on the Local's Executive Board and Examining Board, Mark and Jeff know the value of service to your Local Union. "You can't expect things to get better or improve without a complete effort from the Union body. Our Local will only prosper with a united effort of a similar mind, and that starts with communication. We cannot expect our union leaders to voice the will of its members if they do not participate and voice themselves as Board members or at meetings."

Sierra Central has tried to be very careful to treat their employees with the respect and dignity they deserve. "One of our highest priorities is to create an environment where any question can be asked, and our employees enjoy coming to the job site each day. We strive to be known as the contractor who is meticulous in workmanship, who always meets deadlines, but also to never lose sight of having a good time in the process.

Training Center and Apprenticeship



There have been a few changes recently at the Training Center. As you probably already know, Billy Powell has been elected as our new Business Manager and Adam Jautaikis has been appointed/hired as our new Instructor for Day School.

Adam completed our Apprenticeship program in 2003. He served his apprenticeship with Collins Electric and was selected as the 2003 Western States Competition contestant for Local 684, where he received first place in the residential wiring category. Adam was also a foreman with Collins Electric prior to coming in as the new Instructor. I feel Adam will do a fine job in his new position.

We are hoping to begin some Continued Education classes sometime in October.

Adam and I recently attended the annual NTI Training program presented by the NJATC in Knoxville TN. Both of us gained a significant amount of information and knowledge from the week long training that I know will be a great benefit to the local.

I have approached the Apprenticeship Committee about getting some additional instructors to help teach the Continued Education classes. Anyone interested in instructing a Continued Education class in your area of expertise of the electrical trade, please feel free to send me a letter and resume to the Training Center and I will submit the information to the Committee for their consideration. Also, if you have any recommendations on classes for Continued Education hours, please send your request to the training center and it will also be submitted for consideration. At this time, the Apprenticeship Committee has suggested we have more classes relating to the NEC.

Any suggestions or recommendations can be submitted to 1925 Yosemite Blvd. Modesto CA 95354.
Fraternally,

Mark Bowden

Training Coordinator

September Apprenticeship Classes:

4B	Sept 4 - 7
3A	Sept 10 - 14
3B	Sept 17 - 21
2A	Sept 24 - 28

Look in the next issue to see what each group is learning this year in school. If at all possible, try to see if the apprentice can apply what they have learned at work this month.

Union Softball Tournament



We had a low turnout in members for the 11th Annual Softball Tournament. Most locals use the tournament as a way to foster pride for their members. We had 4 games on Saturday and sadly did not win a game. However, some of them were competitive. The highlighted player is Josh Cullum. Many of you know, Josh plays year-round tournament softball and still took the time to represent our Local this year.

Saturday's upset game was Local 595 (the favorite) losing to the Local from LA. After the games on Saturday, Stockton sponsored a banquet dinner that most teams attended. Raffle tickets were sold and the largest prize was a 31-inch flat-screen TV.

The Championship game on Sunday was between Local 11 and Local 332. Winning this Year's tournament was Local 11. It looks like we're going South next year!

IBEW 684 Retirees

The next retirees breakfast will be the 26th of September at 9:00 am. If you need help with transportation to the Old Mill Cafe call me at (209) 526-2676, and I will arrange a ride for you. In July we met the new Business Manager Billy Powell, and said our farewells to retiring Business Manager Scott Zeigler. Good luck on his retirement. Hope to see you at the next breakfast.

John Kincanon

September Birthdays

Armando Izquierdo	9/3	Jack Mills	9/16
Craig Lehman	9/3	Greg Norgard	9/16
Torrey Newton	9/3	Nick Swanger	9/16
Mark Lawrence	9/4	Manuel Perry	9/17
Manuel Rodriguez	9/4	Daniel Ray	9/18
Stan Strohmeyer	9/6	Joe Pimentel	9/20
Ed Ventura	9/6	Ryan Holliday	9/22
Jeremy Quinnett	9/7	Don Genereux	9/23
Michael Cook	9/8	Josh House	9/23
Matt Paine	9/10	Gregory Graham	9/25
James Moredo	9/11	Ronald Souza	9/26
James King	9/12	Anthony Bond	9/27
Larry Machado	9/12	John Baughman	9/28
George Kline	9/13	Brandon Strohmeyer	9/28
John Gilbert	9/15		

NEW MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE



To all the Brothers and Sisters of OUR Local 684. I would like to introduce myself to you. My name is Richard Venema. I have been a member of this local for a little over 31 years. The past 15 years or so have been with Industrial Electrical Company.

In that time I have not had the opportunity to meet a lot of our members, since I spent most of it at one location. It is something I look forward to doing in this new job.

We all have a common goal in trying to get a higher percentage of the electrical work in our area for our membership. New contractors will be a Top priority. If we do what the last paragraph in the Business Managers report states, (please read it again) it could help in a Big way.

Please feel free to discuss any issues you have with me about attaining OUR goal.

Fraternally,
Richard Venema

Transformer Word Search

R T E S W I N D I N G S A N E S
 A R B O O R E P C R D I T O E D
 T S U S T E P U P Y T N R P S C
 I B K D I Y A D S C L G E R O N
 O T I E C U R P T O Y L D I N R
 T H R A R S A N E L O E L M U T
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 A S E R O K C U B D E K A L E D

ASKERAL	PARALLEL	STEP DOWN
BOOST	PRIMARY	STEP UP
BUCK	RATIO	THREE PHASE
COIL	SECONDARY	TURNS
INDUCTANCE	SERIES	VOLTAGE
IRON CORE	SINGLE PHASE	WINDINGS
LOAD		

We want our newsletter to represent you-
our members. If you have any
information you would like to add, please
email your article to:

ethesportsnut@hotmail.com

By the Monday of the week prior to the 1st
of the month.

September Deadline:
Monday, Sept 24th

IBEW Local 684
519 12th Street
Modesto, CA 95354

If you have something to sell ... we
have free classifieds

If you have a birth announcement,
please send the photo as a jpeg file

All written articles should be sent via MS
Word

Non-Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No.199 Modesto, CA

Important Dates To Remember:

**Sept 11 @ 7 P.M.
Union Meeting**

October 7 –
NECA/IBEW Town Hall Meeting & Tradeshow, San Francisco

