

Monthly Meeting Summary by Michael R. Dunleavy, Business Manager

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

I apologize if anyone had difficulty contacting the Local during the recent snow. All the officers and agents were in but our support staff experienced illness, loss of power, downed trees and generally impassable roads so we manned the phones the best we could with agents and officers.

All 2009 assessment receipts have been mailed out. If you do not receive yours by Friday, February 19, 2010, please call Central Data Services.

We understand that the International officers have met regarding the expanded use of CE/CW classifications but we have not been notified of the results of their meetings. The Local Union officers and agents are continuing to investigate and research ways to protect the journeyman-wireman while at the same time expanding our market share to help increase employment for all members.

I would like to clear up some confusion regarding healthcare. Local Union No. 5 is in favor of healthcare reform only if it provides coverage for everyone so that we do not have to pay for the uninsured, as we do now, and mandates that our non-union competition provide coverage for their employees and ensures that healthcare benefits are not taxed.

As I have stated at multiple union meetings, you should let your congressman and senators know our position.

There are approximately 395 on Book I across the entire jurisdiction. This means that over 87 percent of our members are currently employed. I will continue to encourage you to sign multiple books and to have as many specialties as possible. Please take all work offered including short calls.

Before I conclude, I would like to congratulate Brother Chris Bradley. It was close to lunchtime on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Brother Bradley was doing work in a newly-built park dedicated to famed Children's TV icon "Mr. Rogers." He was working right next to the river when he heard a woman scream. He looked at the water just in time to see a man and a bike sinking beneath the surface. With temperatures in the 40's, Bradley whipped off his coat and boots and dove into the chilly river. He swam to the bottom, grabbed the man, and pulled him to the surface. The dazed bicyclist was conscious, but silent.

For his quick and decisive action, Brother Bradley is only the second local 5 member to be awarded the brotherhoods highest award. The IBEW Life Saving Award.