



# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



## LOCAL UNION NO. 1974

13306 STEVENS STREET • OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68137 • TELEPHONE (402) 895-4080 • FAX (402) 895-1828

### Officers

Frank P. Possinger..... President  
Marlene Wilson..... Vice President  
Sparky Bruning..... Recording Secretary  
Edie Riester..... Financial Secretary  
Sam D. Martin..... Treasurer

### Union Meetings

Third Thursday of Each Month  
Third Shift — 8:45 a.m.  
Second Shift — 2:00 p.m.  
First Shift — 4:15 p.m.

### Executive Board

Marlene Majeski, Chairman  
Jim Filipiak  
Mike Kelly  
Rick Madej  
Jim Pabian



TO: ALL UNION MEMBERS

The monthly membership meeting will be held Thursday, April 21, 1994, in the Small Meeting Room, 13306 Stevens Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

Third Shift Meeting: 8:45 a.m. Second Shift Meeting: 2:00 p.m.  
Day Shift Meeting: 4:15 p.m.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Effective April 11-18-25, we will be greeting new employees at the Works. Because Omaha has vacancies in entry level positions and several AT&T locations are laying off or surplusing, a number of those have applied and received transfers to Omaha.

On behalf of the membership here, I would like to offer a warm and sincere greeting to all. I am sure you will find our city and state a pleasant place to live, work and raise a family. It may be somewhat different than your former home state, but Omahans are warm and friendly people, and AT&T Omaha Works is a pretty darn good place to work.

We would like to welcome the following new people who have already signed up to become members of our local:

Guillermo Acosta	Severo Chirinos	Brad K. Marshall
Stoy E. Bonner	Karen M. Fisk-Walker	Thomas E. Paver
Edra A. Campbell	Donald R. Klein	Linda L. Pstrong
Jack L. Campbell	Charles J. Law	Jesse Ramirez, Jr.
William J. Cera	Wayne E. LeBean	Frank M. Walker
Carol J. Chase	Rosemary L. Long	

\* \* \* \* \*

Since elections, the officers have been discussing a number of issues among which is our current overtime policy and the administration of it, or its interpretation. There are a number of "gray" areas that are not addressed in specific language. These are being discussed and we are working on the written intent of the points in question.

We have had the first posting of level I's and hope to have another in a few more weeks, but the exact date of that posting is not set as of yet. I want to remind everyone who does bid on any jobs to PLEASE take your time when filling out these bid sheets.

Also remember, that a Level I bidding a particular job and shift will get what they bid if they have the service and would remain on the shift they bid, but if you elect to move to another shift, then you could wind up on a different "job" in that IBU.

#### WIRE WRAP GUN LAWSUIT UPDATE

On Friday, April 15, we spoke to Mr. Mark Brodeur, the attorney handling this lawsuit for our workers out of Dallas, Texas.

He informed us that as of the filing of the initial lawsuit on March 28, 1994, we had 201 participants. Also, all the people who have joined in this litigation, please go and see your last doctor and obtain a copy of your medical records and then drop them off at the Union Hall. We will then forward them on for you to Mr. Brodeur.

THANK YOU

Local 1974 Brothers and Sisters:

Your response to the election was fantastic!

The Election Judge and his committee did a super job.

Your support and vote was greatly appreciated.

Shirley "Sparky" Bruning

Local Union 1974 Members:

I want to thank all of you who voted for me for your support in the last election.

I promise to do the best job for you I can.

Sam D. Martin, Treasurer

#### SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Once again, IBEW Local Union 1974 had two winners of the AT&T, IBEW, CWA Academic Award.

We would like to congratulate Steven Beckman, son of Ronald Beckman and Shanda Godsey, daughter of Terry Godsey, on their achievements. The best of luck to each of you.

TO: EM-3, TCC-1, T-3 Trustees  
FR: Denis A. Cardone  
DT: March 4, 1994  
RE: New Investment Option

We are very pleased to announce that our search has been completed that we have undertaken over the last six months in interviewing major fund groups to add new investment options to the IBEW Savings and Security Plan.

We interviewed Fidelity, Wells Fargo, The Aim Group, Neuberger & Berman and Vanguard with several criteria in mind:

1. A complete list of well-managed investment funds that will allow current as well as future flexibility.
2. Competitive investment performance with reasonable annual expense charges.
3. No sales charges or withdrawal charges.
4. A communications program which will provide IBEW members with enough information to select the best investment mix for their particular needs.

We asked each of the interviewed groups to provide not only the brochure material for their products, but the ability to conduct financial education seminars in the IBEW locations around the country. This is particularly meaningful for those locals where a lump sum pension is available and members are clamoring for help with this extremely important decision as to where to safely invest their pension money.

After meeting with each of these organizations at our offices as well as visiting their facility, we came to the conclusion that The Vanguard Group, Valley Forge, PA., addressed the above areas in the most complete fashion. Most people in our industry know Vanguard as a fund organization famous for its exceptionally low costs and competitive investment performance. That alone would have been sufficient to select them, but their commitment to the education aspect of our program was equally important to us.

It is our recommendation that The Vanguard Group be added as an investment manager. They will be replacing Wells Fargo as the Asset Allocation Fund manager.

# Do You Need A Living Will?

## *We Can Help.*

Now you can get help with living wills and other advance directives for yourself and your older relatives through AT&T's Elder Care Consultation and Referral Service--*at no cost to you.*

Advance directives are signed, legal documents that let you give instructions about your future medical care--including life supports--to your doctors, family, or friends in the event that you are unable to speak for yourself due to a serious illness or other incapacitation. You can create an advance directive by writing a living will, or by appointing someone to make medical decisions for you.

When you call **1-800-635-0606**, you'll be connected to a trained expert who can:

- Explain the implication of living wills and other advance directives
- Define medical terms and pose important questions
- Send you state-specific forms and other resource materials
- Discuss ways to bring up the topic with older relatives

For more information on this *free* service call:

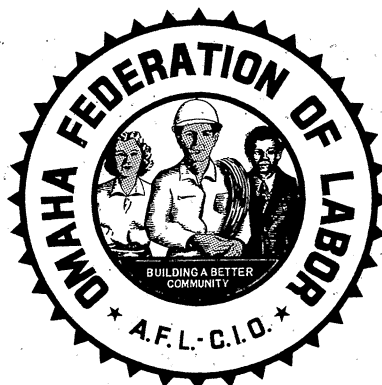
**1-800-635-0606**

Weekdays from 7 A.M. to 9 P.M.  
Saturdays from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M., Eastern Time.

*A company benefit delivered by*

**WORK/FAMILY  
DIRECTIONS**

*Office of the President*



**Terry L. Moore**  
*President*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Frank Possinger

**FROM:** Terry L. Moore, President

**DATE:** March 28, 1994

**SUBJECT:** Peter Hoagland

Peter Hoagland has been Nebraska labor's best friend in Washington, and this friendship with labor is one reason Congressman Hoagland will be a prime target this coming election. Republicans, business interests and the far right will all be pouring money to Congressman Hoagland's opponents.

Frank, it is critical that we do everything we can, as soon as we can, to help this good friend of labor return to Washington. Peter Hoagland has show he is not afraid to stand with us on the tough issues, and his growing seniority and membership on the key Ways and Means committee mean that he can do even more for us in a fourth term and in the years ahead.

Please get involved in supporting Peter's campaign. Urge your members to do the same. Make the maximum allowable donation, and please urge your international union's COPE to do the same.

You will find enclosed a letter for your convenience. Please put it on your stationery and send it to your international in support of a maximum donation to Peter's campaign.

Frank, the narrow margin on several recent votes shows how critical it is for your union on a national level to help return Peter Hoagland to the United States Congress. Please get involved in this very important election, help labor consolidate the gains made under the administration and help insure further advances in the coming years.

Thank you.

**Mailed 3-30-94**

**Sam Scarpello**  
*First Vice President*

**Rick Sorensen**  
*Vice President*

**Pat Hillebrandt**  
*Vice President*

**Frank Possinger**  
*Vice President*

**Tim Lynch**  
*Vice President*

**Mark Tomasello**  
*Vice President*



**Earl Newman**  
*Secretary*

**Dick Gregg**  
*Treasurer*

**Larry Curtice**  
*Trustee*

**Dave Skinner**  
*Trustee*

**Steve Schoening**  
*Trustee*

**Leroy Stuckenschmidt**  
*Sergeant At Arms*

# Omaha Federation of Labor Endorsed Candidates

The Omaha Federation of Labor has endorsed a slate of candidates for the May primary election. Full profiles of these candidates will be provided in the May issue of the Labor Chronicle.

In the meantime, your support of money or volunteer time would be appreciated by all of these candidates.

## National Races

U.S. Senate: Bob Kerrey 334-3331

U.S. Congress: Peter Hoagland 392-0347

## State Races

Governor: Ben Nelson

Lt. Governor: Kim Robak

Attorney General: Steve Scherr

Treasurer: Dawn Rockey

## Board of Regents

District 4: Nancy Hoch

District 8: Steve Brennan 334-1676

## Nebraska Legislature

District 2:

District 4: James Monen

District 6: Pamela Brown

District 8: Eric Will

District 10: Deb Suttle 571-0602

District 12: Chris Abboud

District 14: Ron Withem

District 20: Jessie Rasmussen

## Douglas County Offices

District 2 Commissioner: John Lindsay

District 4 Commissioner: Gary Randall

District 6 Commissioner: Jane Brady

County Attorney: Jim Jansen

County Treasurer: Ray Simon

County Assessor: Frank Bemis

County Sheriff: Dick Roth

Clerk of the District Court: Rudy Tesar

## Sarpy County Offices

Clerk: Deb Houghtaling

Assessor: Lowell Iske

Treasurer: Doris Larsen

Register of Deeds: Carol Gavin

Sheriff: Pat Thomas

Engineer: Tom Lynam

County Board: John Portera

Attorney: Mike Wellman

## Omaha Public Schools

District 1: Ann Mactier

District 2: Shirley Tyree

District 5: Steve Pitlor

District 7: Bernard Kolasa

District 9: John Langan

District 11: Irene Burnside

## Other School Districts

Millard District 17: Jim Silverman

South Sarpy District 46 Springfield Platteview: Jan Riha

## M.U.D. Board

Jerry Hassett 556-2623

Mary Key Begley

## O.P.P.D. Board

Michael J. O'Hara

Sandy Dodge

IT IS EXTREMELY IMPOR-  
TANT THAT THESE THREE  
INDIVIDUALS ARE ELECTED!!!

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**NEBRASKA STATE AFL-CIO  
BUILDING CORPORATION  
IS HOSTING A**

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**8:00 A.M. - NOON**

**NEBRASKA STATE AFL-CIO  
BLDG.**

**5418 South 27th Street**

**Sunday, April 24, 1994**

**Donation: \$3 per person**

**\$10 per family**

## EDITORIAL

BY: J. J. Barry, International President

(Taken from "The IBEW Journal")

### The Challenging Dilemma of Cooperation

#### What the Future Holds for Labor-Management Relations

As American and Canadian labor unions meet management in the next century, they confront a serious dilemma. On the one hand, the interests of working people are often opposite those of management. And on the other hand, the interests of both are identical. To succeed, to move forward, unions must solve this dilemma. And the answer lies in seeing the future in terms of both short-term and long-term goals. The essential element is never to pursue one without the other.

First, let's look at the short term. And by short term, I mean the three years of an average collective bargaining contract. For the short term, local unions have to focus solely on their membership. The membership pays the dues, and they expect the largest pay and benefit increases, the best health and welfare package, and the best work environment the local can secure during contract negotiations. And it's the union's responsibility to do everything it can to deliver.

Now negotiations mean compromise, and the company is going to be doing its best to keep costs down. Of course, they're going to come back and say there is no way to meet the workers' demands. But if working people don't have a union aggressively pursuing their interests at the bargaining table, they have nothing; and they are at the whim of the Company which is obligated to get the most out of its workers for the least amount of money. Unions must be ready to take their members' reasonable demands of a fair wage for an honest day's work as far as their members wish to go. And the company has to know that the union means business.

But just as the short-term interests of labor and management are opposite, their long-term interests are very much the same: contented and productive workers, a stable work force, a fair degree of job security, and of course a healthy bottom line, which makes all else possible. Unions and their employers must, absolutely must, work together, in one capacity or another, to meet these shared long-term goals.

Labor and management have many examples of successful employer-employee cooperation: from the strong 70-plus year relationship between the IBEW and the National Electrical Contractors Association, to the IBEW's support of "Workplace of the Future" with AT&T. Examples in other industries include General Motor's union-management plans at their Spring Hill, Tennessee, Saturn plant, and their jointly run NUMMI Plant in Fremont, California. Other industries, most recently airlines, have taken the concept one step further, with actual employee ownership and union representation on boards of directors.

So in an era where change really is the only constant, organized



labor has to be prepared to look at the world in a new light. And that light shines on a very complex landscape. In the next century labor must be prepared to advance both its short-and long-term goals. Unions must be prepared to cooperate with employers for the long-term gains we all want and need. But we can never lose sight of our membership's immediate need in the process. No one says it's going to be easy, but confronting challenges is what we are all about.

The winners of the 50-50 Cope Drawings were:

At the 8:45 a.m. meeting - Betty Clanton.	\$ 4.00
At the 2:00 p.m. meeting - Frank Possinger.	3.00
At the 4:15 p.m. meeting - Ken E. Mass.	11.50

Both Frank Possinger and Ken Mass contributed their winnings back to the Cope Fund.

The winners of the \$50 door prize were:

At the 8:45 a.m. meeting - Marie Kaszuba.
At the 2:00 p.m. meeting - Warren Hall.
At the 4:15 p.m. meeting - Ray Sempek.

#### THE RECORD

Lovell Jordan, IBU 256  
Brother  
Walt Ruff, Jr., IBU 235  
Father  
Rich Foster, IBU 252  
Grandmother  
Ron Clark, IBU 23B  
Grandmother  
Ray Muehlhausen, IBU 231  
Mother-in-law  
Mack Thornton, IBU 235  
Mother-in-law  
JoAnn Hrabik, IBU 235  
Mother-in-law

Sue Amato, IBU 23H  
Father-in-law  
Jane Bohline, IBU 226  
Mother  
Jack Frum, IBU 235  
Mother-in-law  
Chuck Bohline, IBU 256  
Mother-in-law  
Carrie L. Barclay, IBU 223  
Sister  
Dottie Mitchell, IBU 222  
Mother-in-law  
Daryl Mandel, IBU 228  
Father

Fraternally,



Frank P. Possinger  
President-Business Manager  
Local Union 1974, I.B.E.W.

FPP:mw  
opeiu #53

## A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

Submitted by: Marlene Majeski

We pray for children:

- who put chocolate fingers everywhere.
- who like to be tickled,
- who stomp in puddles and ruin their new pants,
- who sneak popsicles before dinner,
- who can never find their shoes.

And we pray for those:

- who can't bound down the street in a new pair of sneakers,
- who are born in places we wouldn't be caught dead,
- who never go to the circus,
- who live in an X-rated world.

We pray for children:

- who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions,
- who sleep with the dog and bury goldfish,
- who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money,
- who cover themselves with band-aids and sing off key,
- who squeeze toothpaste all over the sink and slurp their soup.

And we pray for those:

- who never get dessert,
- who have no safe blanket to drag behind them,
- who watch their parents watch them die,
- who can't even find any bread to steal,
- who don't have any rooms to clean up,
- whose pictures aren't on anyone's dresser,
- whose monsters are real.

We pray for children:

- who spend all their allowances before Tuesday,
- who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick at their food,
- who shove dirty clothes under the bed, and never rinse out the tub,
- who like ghost stories and get visits from the tooth fairy,
- who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool,
- who squirm in church and scream into the phone,
- whose tears we sometimes laugh at and whose smiles can make us cry.

And we pray for those:

- whose nightmares come in the daytime,
- who will eat anything,
- who have never seen a dentist,
- who aren't spoiled by anyone,
- who live and move, but have no being.

We pray for children:

- who want to be carried and for those who must be,
- for those we never give up on and for those who don't get a second chance
- for those we smother...and
- for those who will grab the hand of anyone kind enough to offer it.

Amen.