



TO OUR DEDICATED MEMBERSHIP

A Message from your Business Manager

As fall is upon us, I hope all of you and your families had a safe and memory-filled summer. As Covid-19 continues to press hard on society, I am grateful that our members have been diligent about staying safe. As we enter the flu season, it is my hope that we stay the course. Please continue to work safe.

I have seen only a glimpse of this country we call home. When I drive around our beautiful service area, and pass by many cemetery graves I wonder how many are marked by those who also fought for labor rights? What history will we write in our labor movement story for our children? Will we build a stronger middle class?

In the past four years, there have been more negative changes to our rights as workers than have happened in decades. Many are subtle changes that we don't recognize immediately. These changes affect how this Union has the right to bargain, negotiate, and arbitrate. We need favorable laws written so that Unions like ours can continue to represent all workers at the highest level - NOT with our hands tied behind our backs.

What is the purpose of a Union? It provides the opportunity for the voices of many to speak in unison. What will we say? IBEW Local 77 represents members who work under collective bargaining agreements that provide favorable wages, hours and working conditions. We are the gatekeepers, as best we can be, to the wellbeing of our members. The tools that are needed to accomplish this though are slowly being taken away. Laws are being passed, and court decisions are being made, that are a detriment to workers in our industry. Please consider the your interests as a worker as you sit down with your ballot.

History is being written every day in 2020. Life after COVID-19 may never be the same. Corporations are realizing they can do more with less. Working at home may become a reality for many Americans. The way we do our business at Local 77 has changed. It's been seven months since we've had regular unit meetings. These meetings present an opportunity to educate our members on why it's important to understand how we won the rights we have, and who is threatening to take them away.

If there's one positive thing that COVID 19 has done, it has given our business office the opportunity to find efficiencies in the way we do business. As a steward of the wellbeing of this local I am hard at work looking for opportunities where we can spend our money most effectively. I look forward to attending union meetings again in the near future and sharing our progress.

As storm season approaches, I hope that you all continue to regard safety as your number one priority. As a Journeyman Lineman, I have seen too many fallen brothers and sisters. There is an emptiness that overcomes all of us when these events occur. I am proud of the overwhelming response by our members in these situations.

Thank you for being the best part of
this great Union, IBEW Local 77,

FRATERNALLY YOURS,

Business Manager/Financial Secretary