



**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS  
LOCAL UNION 953 NEWS – DECEMBER 2014**

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Martin Sandberg, Asst. Bus Mgr  
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E-mail Staff, see Web Page  
For "Contact Us" link.



*MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!*

*From the Staff of Local 953*

*Dale Bob Brady Marty*

*Don Connie & Grace*

Hello Brothers and Sisters:

The Christmas Season is here once again! I sincerely hope that this time of the year finds everyone in good spirits and good health as we wind down the year of 2014 and prepare for what looks to be a challenging year of 2015. With the outcome of the past election cycle over, it appears that 'Right to Work' legislation will be on the docket in Wisconsin at the start of the new year and Local 953 will deal with whatever comes our way.

This year at the Annual Ice Fishing Contest on February 7, 2015, (the official notice is contained in this newsletter) it has been decided by Local 953's Executive Board to hold a gun raffle drawing. The money used for this raffle comes from the proceeds that we received by selling the Union Sportsman's Alliance Gun Calendars to our members. You must be present at the ice fishing contest to purchase tickets to win this gun. Price of the gun is approximately \$800.00. Ticket prices will be 1 for \$10.00, 3 for \$20.00, all proceeds from this raffle will go towards COPE. See you at the ice fishing contest.

I would like to take the time to say "Congratulations" to Local 953's five scholarship winners and their parents for making sure that the applications were in on time.

Remember when Christmas Shopping to look for the "Made in the USA" label. Enjoy all of the good things that this season brings, be safe, remember the designated driver.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at Local 953!  
May God Bless us all!

Dale J. Blank,  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We once again find ourselves wrapping up another year. With Thanksgiving in our recent past, I would like to thank the Local Union Officers and Executive Board for all they do to make this Local stronger for the entire membership. Thanks also to the stewards and members that assisted with grievances, contract negotiations, plant closure agreements, and any other issues that we worked together on this past year. Your hard work and dedication is appreciated and demonstrates what Union Solidarity is all about. No matter what the issue is, standing and fighting together, we will achieve a better outcome not only for ourselves but for future members.

Stay Safe, enjoy the Christmas holiday, and have a Happy New Year!

In Solidarity,

Martin Sandberg  
Asst. Business Manager

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Happy Holidays!

Dear Members:

I would like to introduce Paul Hartgerink as our IBEW Field Safety Liaison. He will be working in both 2150 and 953 jurisdictions. Paul will be monitoring work being performed under the Power Agreement to make sure all safety practices are being followed and best work procedures are implemented. Please welcome him on your projects in the field. He will be reporting to the Business Managers of each Local Union, with concerns that are brought forward. The purpose of this position is to promote safety awareness in the workplace and give all workers the ability to report safety concerns without the threat of being punished for voicing their concerns. I have included his contact information below.

Paul Hartgerink, IBEW/ATC Field Safety Liaison  
Cell: (608) 630-6134  
email: 2150atcsafety@gmail.com

With 2014 coming to a close, I would like to thank the membership, especially the Union Stewards and Committee Members for their assistance this year. I would also like to congratulate all the Apprentices that completed the training and are now Journeyman!!

Next year 2015 will bring a new round of challenges beginning with contract negotiations at Winona Lighting with the agreement expiring March 31, 2015. I am sure this will be a battle, with Local 953 trying to get the best deal possible.

Please take the time to enjoy the Holidays with family and friends.

Be Safe! Merry Christmas and Happy New year!

Brady Weiss  
Asst. Business Manager

Brothers & Sisters,

With the Christmas Holiday Season approaching, it is my most sincere wish and hope that each of you enjoys a very merry and blessed Christmas. Your continued support and participation are respectfully requested and appreciated. I wish there was another way to thank those of you who go way beyond and unselfishly give of your time and knowledge to help further this Union's purpose, but unfortunately there is not, so please accept my heartfelt thanks and respect for all that you do.

Stay Well and Enjoy this Holiday Season!

In Solidarity,  
Robert J. Lahti  
Asst. Business Manager

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL  
LOCAL 953  
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:**

Lucas Begeman, Son of Anthony Begeman (Xcel Energy)

Lyddia Calmes, Daughter of Mark Calmes (Xcel Energy)

Trevor Newton, Son of Lee Newton (Hooper Corporation)

Jenna St. Germain, daughter of Thomas St. Germain -  
(Xcel Energy)

Marisa Trautsch, daughter of Bradley Trautsch -  
(Dairyland Power Cooperative)



Information about dues payment options for those who pay the Local Union directly.

There are several ways to make your monthly dues payments. You can mail or come in with your payments; we are always glad to see our members. Your Local Union can setup automatic dues deductions directly from your checking or savings account; automatic dues deduction allows your dues to be directly withdrawn from your checking or savings account each month. No more worries about forgetting to make your payment or writing checks.

January 2015 Per Capita amounts increase by \$1.00 for "A" Members Only. Basic Monthly Per Capita Dues will be \$33.00 per month for "A" Members beginning January 1, 2015.

Remember to let your Local union know if you have moved, have left the trade, or are planning to retire. Feel free to call us with any questions or concerns you have.

*Happy Holidays!*

*Grace Malone &  
Don Grorud*





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