

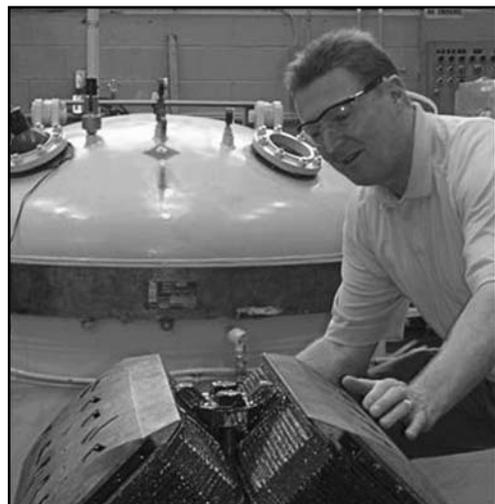
## Motor Winders Ratify Agreement

The Motor Winders on the Island have unanimously ratified a new collective agreement, with good increases of 3% in each of the 3 years, an additional thirty-five cents to go into the Health and Welfare Plan, and another thirty-five cents into their R.R.S.P.'s in the last of the three years, along with other increases to their boot allowance, and travel expenses.

The most interesting issue in this latest round was to get the Employers covering the 5 motor shops to agree to a Vancouver Island "Standard Motor Winding Shop Agreement", prior to today, Local 230 would meet with the Employers as a group to negotiate separate agreements this would ensure that no shop could get a cheaper deal and the others would loose business, however there was no ability to restrict this from happening. The Union is now putting together the new Agreement. Meanwhile it's promising to see one of the employers, Beaver Electrical Machinery Ltd.



Brother Frank Bianci looks over the "bubble cleaning" of an armature.



Beaver Electrical Branch Manager Neil Spiers looks over a synchronous rotor repair at their new Nanoose Bay shop.

reinvesting on the Island. When they closed their Nanaimo shop we were concerned for our members' jobs however after touring their new shop in Nanoose it was easy to see the commitment they are re-investing in the Motor Winding Industry on the Island. Their shop is currently busy with many motors coming from our Marine Industry. Meanwhile over at Duncan Electric Motor they continue to be busy with work coming from the Islands Pulp & Paper Industry, and General Electric is up at the Port Alice Mill getting the main generator up and running.

## Spring 2006

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### News/Notes:

- Remember to send all dues and correspondence to 204-2780 Millstream Road, Victoria BC, V9B 3S6
- Labour Day - September 4th  
 South Island Rangers Station  
 3498 Luxton Road (Off of Happy Valley Road)  
 Mid Island Transfer Beach  
 in Ladysmith

# Business Manager's Report



Philip M. Venoit  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Past Local 230 Business Manager Jim McAvoy often said, "becoming a Business Manager of a Local Union is a 10 year apprenticeship." That being the case, next month marks the beginning of my 11th year working in our business office so I've finally got my papers! *Keeping the best interests of 1,000 members with diverse workplaces in front of you 24/7 can be trying even at the best of times* and it's been the most interesting and challenging part of my life. An old colleague once said to me, "holding the trust of others is the heaviest burden a person can carry" and I consciously carry those thoughts with me through every decision, every day. I was recently asked by the President of the Victoria Labour Council to run in the next Federal Election but I rejected the idea; letting her know my heart and home is still with the IBEW and I have many things yet to accomplish for the benefit of our membership.

Last month *I went out to Ottawa to join our Brothers in the Building Trades*

*in effort to lobby the new Members of Parliament.* We heard from every leader of the Opposition parties as well as from the Ministers of Labour, Natural Resources, Citizenship and Immigration. We had the opportunity to meet with several Liberal, Bloc, Conservatives, and the entire NDP caucus - one hundred and twenty-five (125) MP's were visited by our contingent. *The two (2) main lobbying issues were the importing of temporary foreign workers and monetary relief for mobility of construction workers* coast to coast in Canada. These two main lobbying issues go hand-in-glove with each other, as problem and solution. Right now an oil field developer has put up a chain-link fence, put in an airstrip and is flying workers in directly from China, now I'm not anti-immigration but, I strongly believe Canadian workers should have the first rights to going to work within Canada, regardless from what province you live and these workers will likely never become Canadian citizens. This could become our biggest threat to the construction industry as we know it, and I'm not interested in sitting on our hands until it comes to Vancouver Island. If it is happening anywhere in Canada it could happen here. Although some members may believe we should not be involved in politics, our position should be clear, as long as there is a Minister of Labour, as long as governments decide the working conditions of our competition, the safety regulations our members work under, and as long as government decides it better to bring foreign workers rather than putting Canadians to work first, we should have a say in government whomever the party. Minority governments are the best

to deal with, as all of them are trying to be our friend and win our support going into the next election.

*At the BCYT-BCTC 29th Annual Health and Welfare Seminar*, the keynote speaker was Wayne Redwick Deputy Director of Regulatory Projects with the BC Securities Commission who spoke to us on fraud within the Health and Welfare Industry. We also received a seminar called "How to Manage an Iceberg" which dealt with the escalating costs of health care and the aging demographics of our membership. We also heard from Mike Geagheon on Government and Media relations.

*We held our bi-annual meeting with our construction contractors* and the big item of the day was JV Driver and their upcoming work in the Mills on the Island. Our contractors are on the same page as they will not sign Schedule "A" of the "Survival Agreement" with Driver. Both of us believe it will be business as usual. However there may be bumps in the road ahead, it's good to know the Union and our Contractors will take them together. Another item of discussion was the new "Success in the workplace" DVD series, this is a joint venture between the IBEW International Office and the NECA. President Hill has said, he believes it is only the Unions that can supply skilled tradesmen that will work in a professional manner that will survive into the future, and on that note we have presented two of the videos to some of our members and we will be taking them on the road to Unit Meetings and Employers Safety Meetings as well as make them an integral part of the New Orientation Program.



Concert Properties re-invests in the Victoria residential marketplace with the announcement of two new buildings. One in the Fairfield area (as illustrated) just blocks from Beacon Hill Park, and the other will be built along the Selkirk Waterfront. Concert's commitment to work with Union Building Trades continues to work for Local 230.

# Sector Report

**Appliance Repair** – The transition from CAMCO to MABE (pronounced “ma-bay”) has to date been seamless, I’m happy to report sales are up and with a renewed showroom there seems to be some good interest from MABE to keep this store running.

**Cablevision** – CRTV has filled the new Information Technician and Marketing Representative positions as negotiated within the recent round of negotiations.

**Construction: Commercial** – Houle Electric has picked up the new Ladysmith RCMP Station, a freezer job at the Biological Station, and most of the new Millstream Village Mall (with the exception of the Golf Town store which Canem did) Emery Electric picked up the Royal Oak middle school, Canem Systems has now signed the contract on the Nanaimo Convention Centre, and the Beverly Corners project in Duncan. Shaw Electrical Services picked up the BC Ferry and Marine Workers Building

**Industrial** – Aines and Tyler finished up a recent shut-down in Port Alberni, Vicar Electric got the Port Alice Mill up and running after being shut down for well over a year, the new owners will likely run the Mill for 3 months to see if they can make enough money to make a go of it, then will undertake some more work likely later this summer, FMI has picked up a couple of Sub-stations and work at the John Hart Dam in Campbell River. Emery is doing the Tidal Generator off Race Rocks as an experimental new form of generating power for Vancouver Island.

**Residential** – Canem Systems in Victoria has picked up a new Residence Addition at the Saint Michaels University, the Tuscany Village, the 1st phase at the Dockside Green, another project at 610 Johnson Street, and



Emery Electric is doing the power and electro/hydraulic system on berth 2 preparation for the new Super “C” class ferries coming from Germany.

a new fire alarm at the three Gorge View Apartment Buildings.

**Dockyard** – I would like to thank our members at Fleet Maintenance Facility Dockyard, Nanoose, and Rocky Point for all their hard work in submitting their proposals for the upcoming round of negotiations with Treasury Board, this round will likely be a very interesting round with the change in Government.

**Motor Winders** – See front page.

**Municipal Government** – Our members at the City of Victoria have recently agreed to a new City Incentive to allow our members to buy back some

**Provincial Health Care** – The workers in Health Care voted 90% in favour to accept a 4 year agreement that provides for good wage increases of 10.8% (plus a \$4.50/hour market adjustment which brings them back inline with our Inside Wire Section) and signing bonuses, it’s about time our members are receiving the respect and acknowledgement they deserve in this sector. We also met with the negotiating team for the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA), with effort to bringing the casuals closer to the downtown construction standard rates for their wages and benefits. We’ve whittled down the issues and will hopefully be bringing a good memorandum



Brother K. Oneil stands over the unfinished floor at the new Nanaimo Twin Ice Arena.

of their Sick Time earned, and we are back into negotiations with the GVLRA at the end of this year. Shaw Electrical Services in partnership with Raylec Power picked up the City of Nanaimo contract.

**Private Marine** – Victoria Shipyard is up to 80 members at the time of writing this report many are busy on the HMCS Protecteur, the Orca Class is coming out of the ground fast, and they will be looking for more when the HMCS Calgary comes in at the end of June. CME has picked up a barge job.

of understanding to the members working there soon.

**Railway** – Rail America has served us notice of a Section 54 under the Labour Code which is a significant change to the workplace. The Island Corridor Foundation has taken over the ownership of the Railway infrastructure, and we are awaiting an announcement that a new operator will be in place by the beginning of July.

**Wholesale** – I would also like to thank our members at Westburne in Nanaimo and Port Alberni for their work in submitting their proposals as we are set to head into negotiations for this group as well this summer.



IBEW members from Houle finish up at the new RONA store in Langford.

# Dispatch and Training

*Part of our plan to stronger market share for Local 230* is to attend as many public functions that showcase the Electrical Trade that we can. In saying this, we attended the Trades and Technology Forum at Camosun College where our table drew a lot of attention from our own apprentices and non-union workers alike. We also attended Lambrick Park High School as they have been very active for several years of moving many of their students into the trades. You can really see the students perceptions changing in recent years, from wanting to attend University to moving towards the trades as their preferred occupational choice, and it is our job to move them towards a union job.

We also had a booth at the recent BC Electrical Association Trade Show at the Nanaimo Curling Club this trade show was well



Brother Nate DeGoe receives his TQ from his dad Emery Electric estimator John DeGoe at the Bear Mountain job site.



Sister Jody Van Kleef receives her TQ flanked on her left by Canem Systems estimator Brian Van Herk and on her right by Nanaimo Branch Manager Les Hodgson.

The Local has the 2006 Canadian Electrical Code books and Pocket Reference are available and at the rock bottom price of \$97.50. We will also have some available at the Unit Meetings.

attended and we were able to reach out to many people from the mid-island area.

*We had International Representative Brother Laird Cronk put on the "IBEW Leadership Training" Course for the Executive Board, which focuses on conducting successful meetings and parliamentary procedure, and some of our non-construction shop stewards attended the Canadian Labour Congress Shop Steward Course held in Victoria.*

With changing legislation we held numerous Field Service Representative courses over the past 3 months; even with a limited number of instructors we were able to fit a good number of members through this course up and down the Island. We put on a "Better Supervision" course for a number of our foremen working in the south island, and participated in the BC Federation of Labour "Skills Shortage Forum" held at the Malispina University in Nanaimo.

Finally, we would like to congratulate Brother Robert Van Schaik in winning the annual top apprentice for BC and the Golden Pliers Award.

Dispatch has been very busy over the past three months, so busy we have Travelers currently working in the jurisdiction from Locals; 213 (Vancouver), 424 (Alberta), and 1003 (Kootenay's). The work picture looks to continue to be busy over the balance of the year if you know of any good non-union electrical Journeymen or apprentices now is the time for them to join the Local.

## 23rd ANNUAL IBEW BASKIN PIG ROAST

July 15, 2006 • 2pm BYOB

301 Petersen Road, Campbell River

Pot Luck (Bring A Salad Or Dessert)

Lots Of Games For The Kids

Directions On The Website Or Call The Hall