Greetings Brothers and Sisters. I hope this newsletter finds you and your family happy and in good health. The year 2020 is now here. The IBEW and Local 379 are looking good and ready for the future. In the past year the IBEW “A” membership has grown to right at 400,000 members up from 338,628 in 2010. The 10th District, (our district) from July 2019 to November 2019, has grown 4.3% as noted in chart below:

As most of you know, on September 1st, 2019, Tommy Hill accepted a job with the 10th District as an IBEW Rep and the Executive Board appointed me to complete his term as per the Constitution. I consider this to be a great honor and privilege to serve my fellow Brothers and Sisters as Business Manager. My focus will be organizing 379 jurisdictions, growing 379s market share, and in return creating more job opportunities for 379 members. Expanding 379 to include the outside construction market and P&I (Professional and Industrial which is everything that isn’t construction like PNG, Duke Energy) will allow 379 to become a more stable and stronger local. A successful organization will always have more than one source of opportunity to grow and by adding outside construction and expanding our P&I, Local 379 will strengthen its foundation for growth. On January 6th, Mike Greene (Journeyman Lineman), our first Outside Organizer is coming to work for Local 379 to build our outside work along with 3 other Outside Organizers being hired by other locals in the two Carolinas. The commitment to growing the IBEW and including the outside construction by LU 379 and the other five Carolina locals will ensure the success of the IBEW in the future. Today, I want to personally thank you for your hard work and dedication to the IBEW and for being a member of IBEW Local Union 379. Together we can Organize the South.

In Solidarity,

Scott Thrower
Card# D735657
Brothers and Sisters of IBEW LU 379, it was a real pleasure to be present when Earley Brown, retired from IBEW LU 379 and former member of 908, received his 55 Year Service Pin. Local 379 appreciates what Earley has done for the IBEW and Local 379. Thank You for your 55 years of service and being a member of the IBEW.
Brothers and Sisters,

I wanted to thank Tommy Hill, Scott Thrower, and Ashley Hawkins for allowing me the opportunity to work at the hall as an “Intern Organizer” for the past two years. I would also like to thank the membership of LU 379 for providing me with experience and knowledge of the union and the electrical trade. As a fourth generation IBEW member, I grew up part of the IBEW 379 family as well as my own. In the past two years I witnessed the growth of BOLT 379, the auxiliary that organizes and educates IBEW electricians under 35 years old; I immersed myself completely into the IBEW, and I witnessed first-hand the works of NC State AFLCIO, Southern Piedmont CLC, and nearly every Local Union in the area. I knew from the moment I started working at the hall that my ultimate goal would be to earn my Journeyman Wireman ticket... Meaning that now is the time for me to take the next step in my life and go out to the field beginning on February 17th with intentions of becoming an Apprentice through CETI. Once again, I cannot thank the Membership of IBEW Local Union 379 enough for taking me in fresh out of high school and respecting me as one of your own. I hope that I can make you all proud of the Wireman I will soon become.

Respectfully,

Anna Ward
Card #8189172
It is with great pleasure I get to update everyone on what is going on in our Hickory Local 379 Office. I hope everyone has had a great start to the New Year!

As you know Delbert Hall left our office in Hickory and has taken a position as General Foreman with Rosendin in Charlotte. Mickey Aldorasi has resumed Delbert’s duties as Market and Membership Developer and Terri Hill continues to be the Office Manager at our Hickory Office. Terri was the Administrative Assistant with Allison-Smith Co. at their jobsite in Lenoir, NC for nearly twelve years. If you have ever worked for Allison-Smith Co.in Lenoir, you may remember her.

At our office, we are busy daily with new applicants applying, completing test on the computers, hands on testing, being evaluated to determine skill levels, updating files, individuals coming in signing the books and distributing referrals with instructions to the jobsites and directions on where to have their drug testing.

We have been organizing workers and filling manpower requests for our area, basically working close with Allison-Smith, Rosendin, and coordinating with our Charlotte and SC offices.

We continue to check with the General Contractors, Superintendents, General Foremen, Foremen, and IBEW Employees. Our efforts in recruiting and soliciting individuals, visiting and calling non-union shops and licensed Electricians in our jurisdiction has been successful. We have recruited several non-union JWs and CE/CWs to our Local and they have joined and taken jobs within our area. We have had presentations at Job Fairs, High Schools, and Colleges distributing information about our Local which brought us even more individuals to sign up and take positions with us. Many who just graduated from high school this past year have been interested in attending the Apprenticeship Program or making plans to attend the Charlotte Electrical Training Institute. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in becoming an Electrician! We have been coordinating with Tina Williams, Director of the Charlotte Electrical JATC, on future classes.

Also, no longer do you have to travel to Charlotte to attend our Union Meetings or to join our Local. We have a large screen for video conferencing and connect directly with our Charlotte Office for the meetings. Get involved, just come in to observe, conversate and have a little fellowship. The office is open for any member that would like to attend the General Union Meetings and/or the New Members Class Meeting. We have sworn in new members and have had a good turnout but would like to have even more in attendance!

If you want to help your Local Union grow and prosper, please try to come by and join us. Pass the word to others to attend, join our local and we may just have something here for you to eat! We look forward to seeing you or hearing from you! Our office number is 828-679-1257 and our address is 901 US HWY 321, Hickory. We are right beside the Hickory, NC License Tag Office.

Terri Hill
2019 was a year of NOTHING BUT GROWTH for BOLT 379! We have seen more steady, consistent meetings, and with that we were able to accomplish wonderful things such as fundraisers to finance our efforts, food and holiday drives to give back and make the IBEW presence known in the community and schools, reaching out to and visiting other locals in the 10th District, and supporting our UAW brothers and sisters during the General Motors strike! We even got to send Bolt Member, Blake McKee to the RENEW Convention last October! Our Local Union success depends entirely upon every member involvement, and BOLT is the perfect avenue to get them involved. Thanks to the members that have supported us throughout the year. We will be able to continue our efforts to encourage more active participation from our brothers & sisters at IBEW 379, and bring more good attention towards our Local Union. With 2020 ahead of us, you should make it a part of your New Year’s Resolution to attend more BOLT meetings!

In Solidarity,

Melissa Reyes
10th District RENEW Representative
BOLT 379 President
Card #7848342
Happy New Year Local 379 Brothers and Sisters!

We referred out 1171 employees from Local 379 (Hickory/Greenville/Charlotte) in 2019. Work has been slow lately, but we’re expecting things to pick up for 2020.

*Charlotte/Zone 1, there is upcoming work at Charlotte Douglas Airport and projects Uptown.
*Greenville, SC/Georgia/Zone 2 is expecting more work at Purina in Hartwell, GA and BMW in Greer, SC.

We’re seeing more job calls where the Contractors and General Contractors are requiring the following:
**OSHA 10 or 30...less than 3-5 years old (safety); NFPA70E (Arc Flash, Lockout/Tagout); First Aid/CPR; (COE) Code of Excellence (a 1 day class); (FDS) Foreman Development Series (not just for Foremen); and even some Journeyman calls that are requiring a NC/SC State Electrical license.
**For OSHA 10/30; NFPA70E; First Aid/CPR and/or Code classes contact the Apprenticeship: @ (704)-523-7001.
**For Code of Excellence (COE) and/or Foreman Development Series (FDS) classes contact Carol at the Charlotte Hall @ (704)-455-4595 ext. 201.

Keep yourself up to date for 2020!

Rich Burke
Local Union 379 Journeyman Dispatch

The Mickey Project

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I, Mickey Aldorasi Sr have been a union member since 1996. I started as a Telecommunications Installer out of IBEW Local Union 164 in New Jersey. 14 years later I moved to North Carolina, moved my ticket to Local Union 379, and worked in the hall in 2015 as an organizer. I went back out into the field to assist Rosendin Electric create a base in North Carolina. In September of 2019, I was appointed to be President of IBEW Local Union 379, and what an honor it has been. So far, the hall has been under renovation, nicknamed “The Mickey Project”. Though it is almost done, the Local Union 379 hall is looking better than ever, “There ain’t nothing I can’t do!” Once all the renovations are said and done, I will be basing myself out of the Hickory office until further notice.

In Solidarity,
As you probably already know dues went up $1.00 in January.

Dues are as follows:
JW’s..........................$54.00
CE/CW/APP JW....$44.00
BA’s      $25.00

Please make sure your $5.00 death benefits have been paid through #280. Please contact Carol Cullen at 704-455-4595 Ext 201 if you are unsure if you have paid.

Just a friendly reminder your $5.00 sick member fee is due each September. Please make sure you are paid up. If you have any questions please contact Carol Cullen at 704-455-4595 Ext 201

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I want to take a moment to thank everyone for their support of our local. We could not do what we are doing if it wasn’t for everyone in the field. In the last few months we have started and completed a major renovation to our hall. By doing the work ourselves we were able to save the local about $15,000. During all the demo and construction, we were able to bring in new applicants and refer out several new members.

I would like to thank everyone who was involved with the Thanksgiving Food drive and the Children’s Clothing drive that was sponsored by BOLT379. We have been working on different events to be hosted by BOLT379. Our next major event will be a Blood Drive being held here at the hall on February 5th from 3pm until 7pm. Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter IBEW379 to schedule an appointment. We want as much support as we can get.

Thank you,
Doug McDaniel
Card #7472983
On December 6, 2019, the Examining Board of local union 379 made a policy to formally end the past practice of testing Construction Electrician level 3 to Group 1 JIW (Journeyman Inside Wireman). One of the reasons for this policy is that the Standard Inside Apprenticeship & Training language in section 5.01 of the inside agreement 9/18 to 8/21 reads as follows “the JATC shall be responsible for the training of apprentices, journeyman, installers, technicians, and other (non-indentured construction wireman/ construction electrician etc.) If the examining board continued to test CE-3’s they would be in violation of the contract. The requirements for CE-3’s to advance to Group 1 JIW can be found in the CW/CE program and policy guide section 5 D.

There are still a few CE-3’s that are in the process of testing when the examining board drafted this new policy. They will be the last to test through the local union examining board. The examining board is now concentrating its efforts on Group 3 JIW applicants as well as written & performance evaluations and testing.