

Organizing Efforts Continue

L.U. 108 (ees, em, es, lctt, mar, mt, rtb, rts, s, spa, t, & u) Tampa, Florida.

Special recognition is due to Lakeland Electric employee: Rob Upthegrove, Linda Fairbanks, and Mike Inesso, all the organizing volunteers from Tampa Electric and the International, Local 108 officers and administrators, and International representative Rick Tira, for their tremendous efforts and dedication in the Lakeland Electric organizing drive. These individuals are all assets to the labor movement and advocates for the fair treatment of employees and the right for employees to have a voice and vote.

Although the organizing drive was not successful, the vote was extremely close. This should send a message to management, and hopefully things will improve. Thanks to all Lakeland Electric employees who assisted and supported this campaign. If things do not improve within the next twelve months, Local 108 stands ready to again assist Lakeland Electric employees in their efforts.

A special thank you is extended to Charlie Summerall and AMVET Officials for allowing VOC members to use the Lakeland American Veterans facility during the organizing drive.

The contracts for WEDU and Sensor Systems were negotiated and ratified. SECO and TECO will both be entering negotiations soon. This will be a busy year for our local.

Doug Bowden, PS