



**IBEW 159**

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**WWW.IBEW159.ORG**

# Newsletter-November 2014

## Business Manager's Report

**Robert Doyle**

### BOOK REPORT

INSIDE BOOK I	125
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### UNION MEETING AGENDA:

**VOTE ON NEW OFFICE/TRAINING CTR.**

**ELECTION RECAP**

Brothers and Sisters:

“It is change, continuing change, inevitable change, that is the dominant factor in society today. No sensible decision can be made any longer without taking into account not only the world as it is, but the world as it will be.... “ Isaac Asimov

Our actions today will dictate our future. We cannot continue to be reactionary, instead we need to move with this ever-changing electrical industry.

There has been a great deal of work and discussion the past months on the purchasing of an administrative office/training center for #159. The members voted to proceed with purchasing a building not to exceed \$800,000.

MM (John Whitesel) to purchase the building at 4903 Commerce Court.

We recently found a very affordable and suitable building for our members, well under the approved limit.

This building will serve many purposes

- educational training for all members
- office for staff
- Fantasy in Lights storage

The building is located at 4903 Commerce Court - McFarland and has easy access from the interstate and beltline. In an effort to hold this very desirable property, a contingent offer was made and accepted based on the approval of the membership and the IBEW International office.

Approval of the membership, should be a reflection of as many members as possible who can be there and vote. Please do not leave this very important decision up to a few. Please vote on the merit of this building and the assets it will bring to our members, not only as a financial investment, but as an investment in the educational needs of this local moving forward.

You and your family are invited and encouraged to attend one of the open houses we will be having on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. or Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Show up, take a tour, ask questions, learn the financials...then YOU decide. I can't stress enough how important training and skill development will be for the viability of this union moving ahead. We have to do better if we want to survive and grow. The outcome of this decision will determine that. Speaking of our future, November 4<sup>th</sup> – Election Day will either turn the direction of this state into one that supports middle-class families and a living wage, or keeps us dead last in job growth in the Midwest, strips money out of our public schools and continues to divide our state.

Volunteers are always needed to help with taking people to the polls, doing phone calls to other union members and most importantly, VOTING. Take your family members, neighbors and friends to the polls.

Remember, you can also vote early in person now through October 31<sup>st</sup>. For more information on this, contact your local voting precinct.

In a democratic society, we have the power to affect changes and policies. You have this power at the polls and in your own union. Please take the time to educate yourselves on the issues both politically and in your union. The job you save may be your own.

**The Union Labor News will be available in both mailed and electronic versions.** If you want to continue to receive the mailed version, you need to contact our office.

## **Referral Agent Jeff Crocker**

Brother and Sisters,

On the work front, The State Group has been hiring and we should see additional requests for manpower for their project in Portage. We are waiting on an update on Epic and will let you know when there may be a better indication on when things will get moving out there.

The recent state workers lawsuit appeal regarding prevailing wage was denied in court.

On October 28<sup>th</sup> we need members to show up at the City/County building- room 201 at 7:00 p.m. for a hearing on the proposed pump station in Marshall. Please join me there to support this project.

I have been working with the building trades to put together a new City Workers Handbook.

Recertification for state workers and Madison Metropolitan School District will take place sometime in early November.

Your help is needed with the setup of Fantasy In Lights starting November 5<sup>th</sup>, with the lighting ceremony November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Please remember there will be an important vote at the November 13<sup>th</sup> union meeting on the proposed new

building. Your support is critical to give #159 the ability to offer more education and skill development to our members.

The next round of random testing has been done. Members must go IMMEDIATELY upon notification. If you do not, you will be tagged as "Positive" You will be placed in inactive status and may be denied employment. Covered employees must be in compliance with the program to be considered eligible for referral or continued employment.

Do NOT submit a request for 2 hours compensation if your contractor has paid for your time off to take the test. Compensation is ONLY paid when you have taken your time and you are not paid by your contractor.

## **NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – VOTE FOR YOUR FUTURE AND YOUR FAMILY**

In Brotherhood, Everyone Wins



## **Membership Development Casey Healy**

November will be a busy month for all of us, especially with the upcoming elections on Nov 4th. We have been and will continue visiting jobsites to hand out flyers and speak with workers in regards to the importance of voting for Labor and family friendly candidates such as Mary Burke. Let's all challenge ourselves this election to educate others the importance of getting out to vote and stop the thought process of "it doesn't matter if I vote its only one vote".

The organizers meeting this month was held in Green Bay with discussion on Prevailing rate jobs, and getting that information out onto the jobsites; building relationship with the non- union shops and top secret strategies. We canvassed neighborhoods in Green Bay and Two Rivers with political information promoting candidates that care about people's jobs, wages, benefits, and their future.

As an instructor for the past eight years, I believe in education for all of our members. Education is the key to the growth and the future of our local. We need a building to accomplish this. The way we are presently

educating is challenging, costly and inefficient. When we hold classes at the college we are limited to MATC instructors and work around their schedule.

As many of you know from the past, it is very difficult or next to impossible for Local 159 members to enroll in night classes at MATC. My personal opinion is, benefits of owning are own building would be; no limitations to educating our members to the highest degree, having state of the art Hands on Labs, obtaining CEU's for licensing, ability to run any specialized training that would be needed in our local, and to have the opportunity to use our members with the knowledge and skills to train and educate others in our local.

Don't forget to visit Local 159 homepage for a full list of classes that we are offering this fall. There is a link to class offerings in the posting of classes coming soon or go to the upper left column and go to Member Resources and scroll to class offerings. To enroll in any of these classes call the Apprenticeship office at 608-221-3321 and register.

*Union is strength*

Effective January 1, 2015

Monthly	\$ 34.75
Quarterly	\$104.25
Six Months	\$208.50
Yearly	\$417.00



**In Sympathy**

**Retired Brother, Robert Schultz's wife Janice, passed away 9-29. She was a joyful spirit and her presence will be missed at our retiree luncheons.**

**Retired Brother, Bob Feller lost his wife, Jean on 9-18. Her sweet smile and presence will also be missed at our luncheons.**

**Retired Brother, Del McGregor's wife Mary Passed away 9-15. Also a wonderful addition to our retiree luncheons. We will miss these wonderful women. The thoughts and prayers of the members are with you Robert, Bob and Del.**



### **Retirees Update – By Elmer Racek**

The Retirees met at the 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter in Verona on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. The following were present: Roy Holm, Don Boe, Terry Stamm, Steve Greenheck, Bill Kracke, Marvin Milleville, David Krey, Bob Call, Bob Quackenboss, Tom Corcoran, Jim Virnig, Carmon Howe, Ron Dommershausen, Mike Stassi, Casey Healy, Don Small, Tom Kepler, John Holler, David Baltes, Pete Baltes, Elmer Racek and Scott Gomez.

Winners of the raffle were: Roy Holm, Don Boe, Bob Call, Carmon Howe, Ron Dommershausen, Don Small, David Baltes, Pete Baltes, and Elmer Racek.

Casey Healy gave us an update on the labor situation. Help is also needed for the Fantasy In Lights during the first week in November.

Brother Lee Lemens is home recovering from chemotherapy and Brother Don Dushek is in Oakwood recovering from a broken upper arm. I spoke with Don and he is in good spirits, doing therapy to keep himself active. He isn't sure how long he will be there. Brother Dave Ruhnke had shoulder surgery and is doing rehab at the Good Samaritan in Lodi. Call or stop by to see these Brothers.

Two birthdays were celebrated, Roy Holm and Bob Quackenboss. Brother Bob Brickner, living in Florida now, will celebrate his 86<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Happy birthday! Next month, November 10<sup>th</sup>, we will be at the Village Green in Middleton. Hope to see you there. Remember the December retirees dinner at the Labor Temple will be Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at noon. Feel free to bring a dessert to share.



- A very special happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday to Brother Newton Vander Woude  
 Born October 7<sup>th</sup>. He is doing great and sends all his best to his brothers and sisters at #159. Feel free to send cards, presents and LOTS of money!!

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## SAV RX

We received a call from the spouse of a member who wanted to share some information regarding the prescription coverage provided to our members through Sav Rx as part of the health insurance. This member lives in a rural area and when she showed her pharmacist her Sav Rx card, she was told it was only a discount card but would not cover prescriptions. After being told this again by her pharmacy, she assumed there wasn't any coverage for prescriptions and paid out of pocket for a number of years, using the flex account for reimbursement. That, obviously, is not the case and she wanted to make sure our members, especially those in rural areas, were aware of this and hopefully had not suffered the same mishap. Sav Rx IS your prescription card - present at your local clinic or pharmacy.

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## Clothing/Food Drive

Please bring gently used winter coats, boots, mittens, scarfs, and hats to the union office to be collected for United Neighborhood Center. We will have a box outside the office for the next month. We will also be collecting non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items, diapers, wipes, etc. Contact Sue at the union office if you would like more information on any of the above.

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## Fall Classes Available

Call 608-221-3321 to sign up today!

10/27	Transformers 1	4:30-7:30	MATC	No Fee, 3 CEU
11/03	Transformers 2	4:30-7:30	MATC	No Fee, 3 CEU
11/12	Motor Controls (Mini)	4:30-8:30	MATC	No Fee, 4 CEU
12/06	Conduit Bending Basics 1	7AM – 3:30PM	MATC	No Fee, CEU pending

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*How Do CWs and CEs advance in pay?  
 CWs 1-3 advance only by accumulating hours.  
 CEs advancement is based on practical testing.*

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# Anticipated Monthly Expenses

4903 Commerce Ct.  
McFarland, WI 53558

Janitorial (not including consumables, 3 days per week in office space only)	\$260
Gas & Electric	\$750
Water and Sewer	\$320
Budgeted Maintenance	\$500
Additional Insurance (umbrella & property)	\$167
Snow Removal	\$125
Lawn Care	\$125
Disposal Service (2 cubic yard waste & recycle, bi-weekly pickup)	\$ 97
<b>TOTAL <i>estimated</i> Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,344</b>

~ OPEN HOUSES ~  
Nov. 1 8:30am – 11:00am and Nov. 6 4:00pm – 6:30pm

The following expense estimates are representation of the average usage for the property over the past year and may change based on our actual usage. The disposal service, janitorial, lawn and snow figures were obtained by quote from companies in the area. This figure is representative of costs above and beyond current operating expenses.



## **Years of Service Pins**

### **5 Year Pins**

Anderson, Chad  
Armstrong, Craig  
Ary, Joshua  
Everly, Sam  
Giese, Michelle  
Hamielec, Thomas  
Kasprzyk, Bruce  
Laufenberg, Corey  
Lawver, Nathan  
Miller, Reed  
Nelson, Seth  
Pohlman, Kaleb  
Powell, Justin  
Rogers, Timothy  
Ryan, John  
Traverse, Andrew  
Wahl, Joshua  
Ward, Kevin  
Wendorf, Andrew  
Williams, Shad  
Wipperfurth, Derek

### **10 Year Pins**

Boness, Jacob  
Carr, Graham  
Curran, Richard  
David, William  
Dziubla, Kyle  
Gilles, Steven  
Hartt, Benjamin  
Kerr, Paul  
Krueger, Ryan  
Luedtke, Seth  
Machesky, Kevin  
McCracken, Michael  
Metz, Robert  
Owen, Jessica  
See, Kevin  
Sercye, William  
Silverthorn, Chad  
Smith, Tyler  
Stadele, Trent  
Tracy, Jeffrey

Waddell, Blaine  
Westedt, Aaron  
Wipperfurth, Todd  
Young, Will

### **15 Year Pins**

Affholder, Michael  
Bailey, Keith  
Barganz, Steve  
Barrett, Carl  
Belin, Charles  
Berge, Colin  
Bracken, Kevin  
Brandenstein, John  
Brein, Daniel  
Burns, Thomas  
Caldwell, Keiwon  
Carpenter, Dale  
Christenson, Mark  
Dalsoren, James  
Dressler, Greg  
Egli, Brenda  
Erickson, John  
Feiner, Heath  
Foskett, Christopher  
Frisch, Nathaniel  
Graff, David  
Graff, Kenneth  
Greenwold, Chad  
Grunow, Guy  
Haefer, Wayne  
Hegge, Peter  
Hellenbrand, Kevin  
Herrick, Todd  
Hertzberg, Thomas  
Hughey, Jeffrey  
Keller, Ronald  
Ludwig, David  
Metz, Gary  
Mittelstedt, Michael  
Nelson, Jason  
Niesen, Jeff  
Nolden, Ethan  
Potter, Carl  
Pratt, Aaron  
Priem, Rebecca  
Riddle, Brian

Rivera, Manassehs  
Robson, Gerald  
Saunders, Matthew  
Schmidt, Noah  
Shropshire, Joseph  
Stauter, Stephen  
Straw, Bradley  
Thurston, Lyle  
Tomlinson, Michael  
Tomlinson, Thomas  
Vosen, Joseph  
Wagner, Brian  
Walker, Charles  
Wellnitz, Andrew  
Wilkinson, Matthew

### **20 Year Pins**

Andrews, Joshua  
Borman, Randall  
Dresser, Darren  
Fleming, Glenn  
Haak, Jim  
Hellenbrand, Rodney  
Hyatt, David L  
Johnson, David  
Johnson, Douglas  
Laursen, Joel  
Maier, Mark  
Mewis, Steven  
O'Connor, Daniel  
Olson, Duane  
Reis, Richard  
Richmond, Jeremy  
Roedl, Joseph  
Roessler, Brian  
Ruetten, James  
Schultz, Randall  
Stegmann, Matthew  
Thomas, Delmar (Dean)  
Tourtoupoulos, Dimitris  
Welsh, Jeffrey

### **25 Year Pins**

Boetcher, David  
Born, David  
Burmeister, Robert  
Byrne, Ray  
Crabb, Jeremy  
Dulin, Paula  
East, Jeffrey  
Fahey, Patrick  
Fuller, James  
Haase, Leland  
Hein, Eric  
Jungenberg, Kenneth  
Krantz, Scott  
Larson, Timothy  
May, Tim  
Miller, Keith  
Mueller, Phillip  
Rosseter, Daniel  
Sanchez, Denio  
Sawyers, Bart  
Saxby, William  
Smith, Peter  
Stroede, James  
Swenson, Scott  
Volkman, Mary

### **30 Year Pins**

Bade, Erik  
Canter, Robert  
Crocker, Jeffrey  
Grundahl, Carol  
Schuetz, Michael  
Ward, Sheldon

### **35 Year Pins**

Bader, David  
Bennicoff, Robert  
Bersing, Steven  
Breiby, David  
Dowd, Paul  
Fortman, Bernard  
Jones, Richard  
Kracke, William  
Lake, Michael  
Rowley, Thomas  
Salzman, Robert  
Steiner, Delbert  
Stenback, Thomas  
Stephenson, Jay  
Timler, Darrell  
Wilkinson, Lynn

### **40 Year Pins**

Arnold, Bruce  
Corcoran, Thomas  
Emery, Donald  
Harrison, Dwayne  
Hill, James C  
Mylrea, Wayne  
Romberg, William

### **45 Year Pins**

Chisholm, Donald  
Duren, Thomas  
Haefer, David  
Huggett, Gerald  
Leonard, Donald  
McCabe, Richard  
Viney, Richard  
Wallace, Donald

### **50 Year Pins**

Fritz, Robert  
Hanson, Howard  
Hilgers, Randall  
Miller, Robert  
Small, Donald  
Small, Ronald  
Virnig, James

### **55 Year Pins**

Vander Woude, Newton

### **60 Year Pins**

Boe, Donald  
Moe, Vernon

### **65 Year Pins**

Williams, Nathan

**IBEW LOCAL 159**

1602 S. Park Street  
Madison, WI 53715

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