

# Local #159



608-255-2989 – Phone

608-255-3014 – Fax

608- 255-0169 – Jobline

FEBRUARY 2017

4903 Commerce Court

McFarland, WI 53558

Union meeting 2nd Thursdays

5:30 – Madison Labor Temple

***Business Manager***

***Michael Grassy***

## **Unemployment Sub Fund**

The issue of instituting an unemployment sub-fund in our local was addressed at the January meeting. After more discussion of the options and restrictions, the membership voted against creating the fund. Suggestions such as utilizing our individual vacation accounts are the preference of those in attendance.

## **Membership Dues**

I am happy to report that the number of members that are in arrears has been greatly reduced over the last month and a half. We will continue to post in the newsletter and at the membership meeting as a reminder for members to stay current. Also we are currently looking at options that will allow members to set up an automatic payment for dues payment, as well as the possibility to pay online through our web page.

## **Survey**

A short survey has been available at the last 2 membership meetings. We also enclosed one in the last newsletter. By the time you read this, a version should also be online on our web page. We are starting negotiations for the Inside and Residential agreements this month. Filling out the survey is one good way to make sure your opinions are considered during the negotiation process. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey to make sure your voice is heard.

## Referral Agent

Our work picture is looking good for the spring and summer. Our contractors are bidding lots of work and picking up jobs at a good pace.

Nickles was awarded the Music performance building. Forward got the Wendt commons 2<sup>nd</sup> floor renovation. They were also awarded the UW lab remodel.

It was nice to see a big turnout at the January membership meeting for the vote on the sub fund.

## *Kevin Buntrock*

*Office: 608-255-2989 EXT. 114*

*Cell: 608-334-6224*

## Book Report



### INSIDE

Book I – 92

Book II – 29

### RESIDENTIAL

Book I – 1

Book II – 0

### VDV

Book I – 4

Book II - 2

## Baby News



Brother Mark Schmidt and wife, Milan, welcomed son, Belen last March 29<sup>th</sup>. He'll be celebrating his one year birthday soon. How fast time goes by.

Brother Brett Jensen and wife, Ann welcomed son, Wyatt Daniel Jensen born 11/6/2016, weighing in at 8 lbs. and 21" long.

Brother Jared Vos and wife Ashley, welcomed their 5<sup>th</sup> child, Wesley James Vos: Born 12-7-16 weight 8 lbs 1oz, length 20.25 inches. Siblings : Kiara 8, Bella 6, Lily 5, & Evan 2.

Brother John Kopish and wife, Claire welcomed their first child, daughter Katherine Diana Kopish, born on 1/6/17 at 7:07am at home. She was 8lb 2oz. 21 inches long.



Brother Kevin Anderson and Christina Stone welcomed their first baby, Rory Roy Anderson on January 11, 2017 at 3:17 p.m., weighing 7 lbs. 4 oz., 20.5"

Enjoy your new additions and all the adventures awaiting you in the world of parenthood.

## IS YOUR FAMILY PROTECTED?

With the New Year upon us, please take a moment and make sure all your information is updated with the union office. As a #159 member there are a number of benefit forms that you should be certain are up to date. If you have moved within the past year, please provide us with your mailing address, email address and phone information to make sure we have all your most current information. We are happy to check your file and see that these documents are current and included in your membership file. If not, we can help you make sure everything gets updated.

## Need to Check on your CEUs?

Google search – DSPS – That will take you to the Department of Safety and Professional Services Homepage.

Click on License/Permit/Registration

Click on Trades/Professions

Click on the type of electrical license you hold –Click on - Renewal Information – Under Renewal Requirements – click on view hours

Click on Trade Credential/License Search

Enter your License number

The screen will show your name number of credit you have and numbered needed. It will also give you the date your license expires

If you left click on your license type it will take you to a screen that shows the courses you took and the number of credits for the course.

This site gives you the ability to renew your license, print out an application for a license, replace your license and view approved CEU

courses you can sign up for that are online and in person.

Hope this helps you.

## Membership Development,

### Casey Healy

It was nice to see an increase in members attending the January monthly meeting. Thank you to all who showed up and especially those who spoke at the mic and expressed their thoughts and concerns. Isn't that what our meetings are about, motions, discussions, votes, and/or table it till the next meeting? That's part of it, along with giving financial reports, officer reports, committee reports, and to discuss old and new business, etc. Please challenge yourself to attend as many meeting as possible and remember to encourage a co-worker to attend also.

I'm working with WRTP Big Step and the MMSD to arrange and participate in a

career fair that will be held at each of the four Madison high schools in January. What a great opportunity to have discussions with young adults looking for information on different careers that are available to them after graduation. Also explain to them the requirements and pathways into the electrical apprenticeship programs that we have available in local 159.

If you are a journey worker for the Inside, VDV or Residential, please take the time to help an Apprentice, CW or any sub classification worker if they ask you, how to perform a certain task, or clarify any questions they may have. Show them and take the time to teach and explain or give them the name of the person they should talk with. Let's help each other out and be positive about it. Remember it is a brotherhood and we are all in it together.

**United we stand, divided we fall.**

# Education

## Corner

Greetings Brothers and Sisters, we are fully engaged in second semester classes. We have several new instructors out there. We really appreciate their support of education. All our instructors spend countless hours preparing and teaching. If you run into an instructor, please thank them for their support of education.

So, I wanted to highlight a course coming up. We have a Greenlee Conduit Bender Course set up for February 7. This a 3-hour course with 3 CEU's. We have been working with Greenlee's regional rep. for several years know, every time he comes I still learn something new about their equipment. Brian is great at showing how to properly use their equipment. Sometimes he even brings things to raffle off.

All classes for Spring semester are set up and available, please sign up early and show up. Also, keep track of your CEU's you don't want to get behind. Please be safe out there. If you have any questions if what you are

doing is safe contact the hall and they can help.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jeremy Crabb**



MADISON - Marilyn B. Franke-Lemens passed away on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, at St. Mary's Hospital. She was born on July 26, 1929, in Baraboo, the daughter of Clayton and Harriet (Wickus) Lawrence. The house that Marilyn was born in is now the site of the Circus World Big Top. She attended Baraboo High School. Marilyn was united in marriage to Paul Franke on Aug. 26, 1950, and then to **Leland Lemens** on Oct. 11, 2003. She was a member of KAYRA and Red Hats, a past member of Parkside Presbyterian Church, and a current member of Monona United Methodist Church. Marilyn worked for Sears and WPS, and retired from both. Marilyn is survived by her husband, Leland; son, John (Linda) Franke; grandson, Eric Lord; great-grandchildren, Kaylyn Smith and Kory Lord; great-great-grandson, Rylan Smith; sister-in-law, Florence Franke; brother-in-law, Harold Dallmann; Leland's children, Wayne (Maureen) Lemens, Paul (Mary Lou) Lemens, Susan Lemens, Alvin (Shirley) Lemens, Teresa (Matthew) Stanek, **Thomas (Amy) Lemens** and James (Katrina) Lemens); 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Paul Franke; daughters, Paula Dallman and Patricia "Patti" Franke; sister, Virginia "Jean" Dallmann; brother, Curtis Lawrence; brothers-in-law, Walter Franke and Richard Nelson; sister-in-law, Kathryn Nelson; and grandson, Anthony Lemens. **The sympathy of the members is extended to Brother Lee Lemens for the loss of his wife and Brother Tom Lemens for the loss of his Step-Mother.**



Brothers and Sisters,

We are less than one month away from polar plunge, which will be held on Lake Monona at Olin Park on Saturday morning February 18th! Last year we raised approximately \$2100 with a goal of \$3000 and only five jumpers. This year we set our goal at \$5000. We can always use more jumpers/teammates and especially donors. You can join our team or donate at [www.polarplungewi.org](http://www.polarplungewi.org), click register and search for IBEW Local 159 to join the team, or simply search IBEW Local 159 to donate and share our team page with your friends and family. Remember you DON'T need to jump to raise money and donations are greatly appreciated! For those who don't know the objective of RENEW is to

involve members, particularly new and younger members looking for a way to be involved in the local.

Since formation we have taken over polar plunge and organized three traps shoots for the members. Future activities and events will be totally participant decided.

Meetings are held at 4:30 prior to the general membership meeting at The Labor Temple (1602 South Park Street). Room 201(same as general membership meeting). If you have any questions feel free to email me ([Josh.stern418@gmail.com](mailto:Josh.stern418@gmail.com)). I hope we'll see you there!

Don't forget  
[www.polarplungewi.org](http://www.polarplungewi.org)  
Team name IBEW Local 159

In solidarity, Joshua Stern

## Retirees Club



**By Jim  
Virnig**

January 2017, a new year and a new president, good or bad. We had a good year for Fantasy In Lights. Great displays and good attendance.

There was a good turnout for our luncheon at the 5th Quarter in Verona.

Our next one will be at the Village Inn in Middleton. Hope to see you there!

Raffle winners were:

John Zwettler, Ron Dommershausen, Dave Krey, Ken Goss, Bill Kracke, Mike Stassi, Roy Holm and Dave Baltes.



## January Retiree Birthdays

Tom Alberti – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Lloyd Bledsoe – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Don Boe – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Howard Borchardt – 19<sup>th</sup>  
Tom Clark – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Jim Dobratz – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Joe Guastella – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Steve Lease – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Eldon McDaniel – 26<sup>th</sup>  
Bob Odegaard – 13<sup>th</sup>

David Rahn – 28<sup>th</sup>  
Dave Ruhnke – 11  
William Saxby – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Ken Schneider 1<sup>st</sup>  
Tom Tomlinson – 11  
Dale Wells – 29<sup>th</sup>  
Richard Woerpel – 6<sup>th</sup>

## February Retiree Birthdays

Henry Amundson – 9<sup>th</sup>  
James Borchert – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Lorenz Droes – 19<sup>th</sup>  
Merlin Graham – 25<sup>th</sup>  
James Holland – 20<sup>th</sup>  
Gerald Hubbard – 12<sup>th</sup>  
Tom Kepler – 13<sup>th</sup>  
James Kolb – 13<sup>th</sup>  
James Mack – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Stephen Mueller – 16<sup>th</sup>  
Duane Olson – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Jeff Rowley – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Karl Schuetz – 1<sup>st</sup>  
Darrel Timler – 7<sup>th</sup>



Find breaking news & information at the Local 159 Facebook page

[facebook.com/IBEWLocal159](https://facebook.com/IBEWLocal159)

**Contacts**

Local 159 Office (608) 255-2989,  
[office@ibew159.org](mailto:office@ibew159.org)

Apprenticeship Office (608) 221-3321, [wijatc.org](http://wijatc.org)

Dept. of Safety & Prof Services (licensing) (608) 266-2112, [dsps.wi.gov](http://dsps.wi.gov)

WEEBF, Health Insurance & Benefits (608) 276-9111, [weebf.org](http://weebf.org)

(Wisconsin Electrical Employees Benefits Fund) or (800) 422-2128

**Members in Arrears as of  
10/1/2016**

Alexander, Lucas

Bridges, Darryl

Brown, Eddie

Childers, Patrick

Harmes, Grant

Hollis, Cody

Lemoine, Dallas

Meehan, Ryan

Noble, Timothy

Schneider, Nathan T

Sletten, Andrew

Templeton, Timothy

Urso, Seth

Volkman, John

Walker, Jordan

Westphal, Fritz



## WINTER WEATHER CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY

With winter upon us, weather can change without much warning.

**Any classes held at the Local Union Training Center will be cancelled when Madison Schools are closed.** This will be the policy members should follow when wondering about class(es) being held when weather conditions become hazardous.

## Unemployment Claims Online

***Go Online Today:***

**<http://my.unemployment.wisconsin.gov>**



***COMING SOON!***

In 2017, the Division of Unemployment Insurance will retire the automated telephone filing system and direct workers to file online. Most claims are already filed online because it is fast, easy, and mobile-friendly.

If you need assistance or have barriers to using online services, claims specialists are available by phone. 1-800-822-5246

## **MONTHLY DUES (effective 1/1/17)**

\$18.00	I.B.E.W. Pension
\$18.00	Due to IBEW General Fund
<u>\$ 1.75</u>	Local 159 Dues
<b>\$37.75</b>	<b>Total</b>

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	(Jan/Feb/Mar)	Pay by	December 31 <sup>st</sup>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	(Apr/May/June)	Pay by	March 31 <sup>st</sup>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	(July/Aug/Sept)	Pay by	June 30 <sup>th</sup>
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	(Oct/Nov/Dec)	Pay by	September 30 <sup>th</sup>

Death benefits are assessed for any active or retired member who passes away. Active members pay \$1.00 for each death benefit. This is also a benefit for all #159 active and retired members. We are currently on death benefit #238. If you currently have your union dues set up on auto pay with your bank, make sure you are sending \$37.75 each month. Remember to check on death benefits. We accept checks, cash (in person), debit/credit cards (in person or by phone during business hours) money orders.

**DUES NOT PAID IN A TIMELY MANNER MAY CAUSE THE**

**LOSS OF SOME OR ALL BENEFITS.**

**IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PAY DUES TIMELY. IBEW #159**

**IS NOT REQUIRED TO SEND OUT BILLING STATEMENTS**