

Local #159



608-255-2989 – Phone

608-255-3014 – Fax

608- 255-0169 – Jobline

4903 Commerce Court
McFarland, WI 53558

MAY 2017

Union meeting 2nd Thursdays
5:30 – Madison Labor Temple

Business Manager Michael Grassy

Contract Negotiations

Contract negotiations are settled. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the other members of our negotiation committee: Kyle Krenz, Brian Murphy, Vincent Schaaf, Shane Gibson, Greg Storkson, Dave Boetcher, and John Jacobs of IBEW 494. Their hard work and diligence kept our negotiations focused and productive. Since negotiations with our contractors are settled, we have called a special meeting on May 4 to ratify the Inside, Residential and Stockperson agreements. If agreements are ratified, wage allocation votes will be handled at the May 11 membership meeting. The VDV contract also has a raise allocation at the May meeting. We will have suggested allocations options ready as per usual. Due to the volume of issues to cover, if you have an allocation for your agreement that you would like to present, either contact the hall or have all calculations done before the meeting. When considering allocations be aware that there will be an increase in the health insurance premiums this year.

Health Insurance Allocation

On April 25, the Health and Welfare trust had our quarterly meeting. In general, our Plan is in excellent shape. We have done well at keeping costs in check with providing the best coverage we can reasonably provide. The largest driver of cost over the last year has been prescription costs. The trend, since 2015, has been a 10% increase per member cost per year. Partnering with

Continued on Page 2

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Current Premium</u>	<u>Current H&W</u>	<u>Hours needed per Month</u>	<u>New Premium</u>	<u>Hours needed per Month with no increase to H&W</u>
<u>Inside</u>	<u>\$1,092</u>	<u>7.49</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>\$1,102</u>	<u>148</u>
<u>Residential</u>	<u>\$1,092</u>	<u>7.76</u>	<u>141</u>	<u>\$1,102</u>	<u>143</u>
<u>VDV</u>	<u>\$1,092</u>	<u>7.34</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>\$1,102</u>	<u>151</u>
<u>CE/CW</u>	<u>\$1,002</u>	<u>6.68</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>\$1,012</u>	<u>152</u>

Continued on Page 2

Sav-Rx has saved us hundreds of thousands of dollars over the last few years but the costs still continue to rise.

We have not seen a raise in our premium since 2010 but in order to keep our Plan viable, our monthly premium will increase 1%. This effectively is a ten dollar (\$10) a month increase over our current premium. When allocating raises, members may want to consider a small increase. The chart on page 1 breaks down the classifications and number of hours that need to be worked per month to cover premiums. If a member works all year and only takes off our 6 holidays and one week of vacation, they would average 166 hours per month. If an allocation is made to hedge against the premium increase, a \$0.10 an hour move to H&W would be sufficient for all classifications [$\$.10 \times 141\text{hrs}=\14.10] with \$.08 being the minimum [$\$.08 \times 141\text{hrs}=\11.28].

Book Report

• • •

INSIDE

Book I – 87

Book II – 30

VDV

Book I – 4

Book II - 2

RESIDENTIAL

Book I – 0

Book II - 0

The applicant should include a short resume giving information on school activities they have participated in and other honors they have received.

Hall Office Hours

Just a reminder that the office is open 7:00 am to 4:30 pm every working day with the exception of holidays specifically stated in the agreements. The exception to these hours is the first Wednesday of every month. On that Wednesday, our hours are extended until 7 pm.

Referral Agent

Work here is looking to pick up soon. Around the country, work is good in a lot of areas. Call the office and someone here will let you know what's going on.

Watch your emails and newsletter. A lot of important dates are coming up this summer. We hope to see you and your family at many of these events.

Just a reminder, re-sign is from the 10th to the 16th of every month. If you are working a short call, you are still responsible to re-sign the book during the monthly re-sign period to retain your place on the out of work book.

Kevin Buntrock

IBEW Local 159

Referral Agent

Office: 608-255-2989 EXT. 114

Cell: 608-334-6224

Condolences

The thoughts and prayers of the members are with Brother Ken Nunes on the death of his wife Joyce.



Organizer's Report

Casey Healy

Membership Development

Organizing is the local's tool to gain market share. Market share is the percentage of work hours performed by the union local compared to the non-union. Organizing workers, especially key journeymen and foremen, takes work away from the open shops and makes it difficult for them to bid future work. We need to embrace and encourage each other to be organizers by promoting the values of the IBEW to the unrepresented workers and open shops. When we stand united and work toward a common goal that's solidarity.

If you are on a jobsite that has non-union electrical or low voltage technicians working, give me a call and let me know where the job is. This presents a great opportunity for yourself and the local to engage in conversation with these workers about the benefits of being an IBEW 159 member. We also have brochures that members can hand out to the person or leave one on their cart.

WRTP Big Step, IBEW Local 159 and three other trades held a career day with the Boys & Girls Club of Madison. Some city and county departments sent staff to this event to get an understanding of what the Building trades have to offer. They also took some of my flyers and informational handouts on where to direct individuals looking to get into the electrical industry.

Casey Healy

United we stand, divided we fall.

chealy@ibew159.org



May Retirees Birthdays

- Adams, John 05-17
- Connery, Thomas 05-16
- Gander, Gary 05-19
- Goss, Kenneth 05-15
- Harbort, Craig 05-12
- Havey, Dennis 05-22
- Hillebrand, Kenneth 05-24
- Holler, John 05-16
- Howe, Carmon 05-05
- Jones, Richard 05-08
- Krey, David 05-16
- Larsen, Kenneth 05-24
- Leonard, Donald 05-16
- Liegel, Wilbert 05-19
- Riechman, Thomas 05-08
- Rieck, Terrence 05-28
- Schlagenhaft, Richard 05-17
- Whitman, John 05-01

SNAPZ CD

There are several members out there who have borrowed the SNAPZ CD and not returned it so it can also be available for other members.

If you have the CD, please return it ASAP. We only have one left in the office. Thank you.

Members in Arrears

Acker, Troy
Adams, Collin
Alcauter, Vidal
Arnold, Michael
Bader, Cole
Bakken, Erik
Ballweg, Richard
Barnhart, Dana
Bettenhausen, Trent
Bletsch, Kellen
Bolin, Nikolas
Brattlie, Brent
Carr, James
Delorimier, Bryan
Derenne, Matthew
Derosier, Jerrett
Dietzman, Jena
Diggles, John
Englerth, Cliff
Eppihimer, Drew
Farnsworth, Joseph
Farres, Fernando
Fillion, Jeffery
Fleming, Glenn
Frisch, Nathaniel
Gander, Daniel
Gimmer, Thomas
Greener, Jason
Gross, Scott
Haak, Jim
Haugh, Paul
Heider, Shinar
Howard, Rodney
Ingmundson, Karen
Jacobson, Dan
Jenkins, Gerald

Kahlow, Neil
Kiefer, Justin
Kiley, Tim
Kislia, Rick
Kitelinger, Tyler
Kratz, Matthew
Krueger, Rachia
Kruser, Kirk
Kuqo, Fatos
Luedtke, Benjamin
Marx, Alexander
Mccauley, Thomas
Meinholz, John
Moll, James
Nelson, Dondi
Noel, Chad
Ohlin, Brady
Owens, Christopher
Pratt, Aaron
Raimer, Jessica
Reis, Richard
Rosonke, Scott
Salzman, Robert
Schmale, Daniel
Schneider, Nathan
Severson, Peter
Spataro, Victor
Thomsen, Troy
Tollefson, Andrew
Volkman, John
Walsh, Edward
Ward, Sheldon
Weisensel, Michael
Ziege, William
Zweifel, Kristine

Business Agent Mark Hoffmann

It's been a very busy month here at the 159 office. With negotiations going on I have been gathering data for our Negotiation Committee for both the Inside and Residential Agreements. Ratification voting for these agreements will be coming soon (May 4th) so make it your responsibility to come and take care of your business and vote. By the May 11th General Membership meeting we may have discussions about allocating our increases so your attendance at that meeting would be advised as well.

Just a reminder, we have some upcoming events here at Local 159. On June 25th is the Mallards Game in the Duck Blind. On August 19th we are sponsoring a race at Jefferson Speedway in Cambridge, WI, and on September 9th we will be holding our Robert Palmer Classic Golf outing at the Bridges Golf Course in Madison. To attend any of these events you need to call our office at 608-255-2989 and get signed up to reserve your spot.

Retiree's Luncheon: We will be having our June Retirees Lunch on June 12th, 2017 at the 5100 Club in McFarland. If you are planning to attend please call our office at 608-255-2989 and have your name registered to hold your spot for this event.

Mark Hoffman
Business Agent
IBEW Local 159



Josh Stern & Cam Knuteson

Brothers and Sisters,

Our RENEW committee has been pretty busy.

We have locked in the 4th All Trades Chicken Shoot for July 8th at the Deerfield Rod and Gun Club. There will be prizes for each round of shooting, 50/50 raffles, and we're in the process of getting business sponsors for prizes and raffles as well. I usually call this a meat raffle with shotguns, but this year we want to make it more than just that.

The Executive board has backed our Apprentice Union Involvement day. If you know an apprentice that would like to learn some behind the scenes aspects of the union have them contact us. This will be a paid day for the apprentice and I've been assured that they are not there to answer calls or emails. They will shadow office staff and experience some of the things those positions handle from day to day.

The Tough Mudder is in the works. Right now we have over 10 people interested in going. Only a few more and we get a tent, preferred parking, extra beer, we choose the start time, and catered lunch.

We are always looking for people to join us in setting up events and getting involved on many different levels. If anyone has questions on current things on our agenda or would like us to represent something you would like to see done please contact one of us.

In Brotherhood,
Cameron Knuteson
RENEW Chairman



Retirees Club By Jim Virnig

April...Spring is here...time to get out and enjoy the nice weather.

Our luncheon this month was at the Great Dane in Fitchburg. Twenty-four people were able to attend. There were three April

birthdays: Richard Gorst, Bill Krackey, and John Zwettler.

Door Prize Winners were: Dave Krey, Rich Gorst, Steve Greenheck, Roy Holm, Mike Sullivan, Ron Disch, Tom Junck, and Scott Gomez.

Our luncheon in May will be at Toby's in McFarland. Hope to see you there!

Save the Dates

Monday, May 29, Memorial Day observed

June 3, Take a Kid Fishing Day

June 12, Retiree's Luncheon

Sunday, June 25, IBEW 159 Day at the Mallards

July 8, 4th Annual All Trades Chicken Shoot

Saturday, August 19, IBEW 159 sponsored race Cambridge, WI

Saturday, September 9, Robert Palmer Golf Classic



**Find breaking news & information at the Local159
Facebook page**

facebook.com/IBEWLocal159



Education Corner

Greetings Brothers and Sisters. I don't know where the year has gone but we are very close to the end of our school year. I would like to take this time to thank all our instructors. They all have given countless hours towards the education of our members. We have a great group teaching us. As the courses are winding down we are transferring over to trainings for the instructors. Some of

the courses they are attending are: OSHA 510, International Inspectors Conference, and NTI. Our instructors are spending countless hours this summer preparing for next year's courses. If you see an instructor, please thank them and let them know they are appreciated.

There are very few courses left so if you need hours sign up soon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy Crabb

MONTHLY DUES (effective 1/1/17)

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

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

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 #240. 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), and 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

IBEW LOCAL 159

4903 Commerce Court
McFarland, WI 53558



Prsrt Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, WI
Permit No. 168

Contacts

Local 159 Office

(608) 255-2989 office@ibew159.org

Apprenticeship Office

(608) 221-3321 wijatc.org

Dept. of Safety & Prof Services (licensing)

(608) 266-2112 dsps.wi.gov

WEEBF, Health Insurance & Benefits

(608) 276-9111 weebf.org

(Wisconsin Electrical Employees Benefits Fund)

or (800) 422-2128