



SPARKIE SENTINEL

IBEW LOCAL #159

JUNE 2017

Business Manager, Michael Grassy

Brothers and Sisters,

June Wage Allocations

At the May membership meeting, all three main classifications had raises to allocate. The following are the allocations that were approved:

Inside Allocation -	\$37.75 Base Rate (1.25 increase)
	\$ 9.41 H&W (.20 increase all to Flex)
	\$ 9.44 Pension (.31 increase)
	<u>\$ 1.13</u> NEBF (.03 increase)
	\$ 57.73
Residential Allocation -	\$25.68 Base Rate (.13 increase)
	\$ 8.82 H&W (.10 increase all to Flex)
	\$ 5.14 Pension (increased to 20%)
	<u>\$ 0.77</u> NEBF (.00 increase)
	\$40.41
VDV Allocation -	\$25.54 Base Rate (.77 increase)
	\$ 8.14 H&W (.10 increase all to bank)
	\$ 5.11 Pension (increased to 20%)
	<u>\$ 0.77</u> NEBF (.03 increase)
	\$39.56

A reminder to everyone that the office is open until 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month. You can stop in to pay dues, drop off paperwork, or if you know someone wanting to apply for an apprenticeship, we will have someone available to help.

Members in Arrears

A few months back the membership asked to put a reminder in the newsletter for members who are in arrears with their Union dues payments. For the most part, the response has been positive with members getting caught up before they lose membership. Thank you to all those members who have diligently taken care of their obligations. An issue that has come to light since we have begun this process is that of reminding members who pay their own working dues to stay current. With respect to this, starting with the July newsletter, we are planning to add a reminder for those members.

The following table is the current dues schedule for all classifications:

CLASSIFICATION	MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP DUES	MONTHLY WORKING DUES
STOCKPERSON	\$20.05	\$5.00
INSTALLER TRAINEE	\$37.75	1%
VDV APPRENTICE	\$37.75	1%
VDV TECHNICIAN	\$37.75	1%
RESIDENTIAL APPRENTICE	\$37.75	2.50%
RESIDENTIAL JW	\$37.75	2.50%
CW/CE	\$37.75	3.50%
INSIDE APPRENTICE	\$37.75	3.50%
INSIDE JW	\$37.75	3.50%
STATE EMPLOYEES	\$37.75	\$100.00
COUNTY EMPLOYEES	\$37.75	\$100.00
CITY OF MSN EMPLOYEES	\$37.75	\$50.00
MMSD EMPLOYEES	\$37.75	\$50.00

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Save the Dates

Monday, May 29, Memorial Day observed

Saturday, June 3, Take a Kid Fishing Day 9:00-11:00

Monday, June 5, Deadline for sign up - Retiree Lunch

Monday, June 12, Retiree's Luncheon 11:30 A.M.

Monday, June 19, Deadline to sign up for Mallards

Sunday, June 25, IBEW 159 Day at the Mallards

July 8, 4th Annual All Trades Chicken Shoot

**Saturday August 19, IBEW 159 sponsored race,
Jefferson Speedway, Cambridge, WI**

Saturday September 9, Robert Palmer Golf Classic

Sunday, September 10, RENEW's Tough Mudder

Referral Agent, Kevin Buntrock

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.

IBEW LOCAL 159

REFFERAL AGENT

Office: 608-255-2989 EXT. 114

Cell: 608-334-6224

Organizer's Report, Casey Healy

Membership Development

I finished up my last career fair for April. I know the students enjoyed listening and gathering information on pathways into the electrical union apprenticeship program. It was a great opportunity to speak with students and share with them what is apprenticeship, schooling, training, and the electrical trade itself. Also, it's a great time to get this information into the hands of the teachers and counselors so they understand the pathways into the electrical trade and apprenticeship.

Who really runs the Union?

The members. Our union is a democratic organizations formed by workers for workers. Local 159 elects their officers every three years by secret ballot.

The IBEW International Union, through a membership vote, elects its officers every five years at its International Convention.

Being a union members gives me:

Collective Bargaining

Collective bargaining is the heart and soul of the labor union. Collective bargaining occurs when a group of people bands together to increase its negotiating power.

Higher Wages

One of the top benefits of being a union worker is that you enjoy a better wage as compared to your non-union counterparts. Union workers get about 20 percent more in terms of wages (not including benefits) compared to others in similar jobs that aren't supported by a union. Union workers are also more likely to enjoy consistent pay raises on a regular basis

Better Benefits

That includes health care, pensions, long and short term disability, life insurance, dental, and a flex account.

If you have family member or a friend that is interested in working in the electrical trade please give me a call or send an email. This is a great time to start a new career.

We have job opportunities with great wages, benefits, training, safety, etc.

Email: chealy@ibew159.org Phone: office (608) 255-2989 Cell: (608) 515-3552

Casey Healy

United we stand, divided we fall.

Business Agent, Mark Hoffmann

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

On May 9th we had our quarterly Pension Meeting. I am happy to report some decent returns at this time. The Core Balanced fund reports as follows:

First Quarter: 3.6%

Year to Date: 3.6%

Past 12 months: 11.1%

There were some sizable gains in the Self Direction Funds as well. We are keeping an eye on Int'l Growth/Artisan Partners Fund in the self-direction funds for performance issues. There were no other issues of concern for the Pension Funds.

Don't forget to call in to the office at 608-255-2989 to sign up for the upcoming events. They include the Retirees Lunch on June 12th, the IBEW Local 159 Day at the Mallards on June 25th, the IBEW Local 159 night at Jefferson Speedway on August 19th, and the Robert Palmer Classic Golf Outing on September 9th. We will be doing something new at the golf outing this year. Besides the usual flag events you will have a chance at winning \$10,000.00 with a hole in one on a Par 3 hole. To quote Hal Sutton, "Be the right club today".

The deadline for signing up for the Retirees Lunch is Monday, June 5. The deadline for signing up for the IBEW Local 159 Day at the Mallards is Monday, June 19.

At the August Membership Meeting we will be drawing 10 names of attendees at that meeting for the Union Sportsman's Alliance Dinner which will be held on September 15. This year the membership voted to get a gun table so someone in the group will be going home with a gun. Be sure to attend the August Meeting for your chance to win.

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 by Monday, June 5 and have your name registered to hold your spot for this event.

In solidarity,
Mark Hoffmann



Education Corner

Greetings Brothers and Sisters, the summer is fast approaching. Remember to keep up on your state licensing. We have a need for another OSHA instructor. If you are interested, please let us know. Enjoy your summer activities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy Crabb



Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you all very much for your continuing support of RENEW and our efforts to build brotherhood and involvement within Local 159. Allocating funds for RENEW is extremely helpful and we are grateful.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter we are excited to host our 4th All Trades Chicken Shoot at the Deerfield Rod and Gun club. The shoot is July 8th from 12-6pm. Cabela's and most likely BJ Electric Supply will be joining us and be providing a few things for door prizes. Be sure to bring your dues receipt for 3 free rounds.

The tough mudder team is coming together nicely. We have roughly 15 signed up and up to 20 can go. Contact Cameron or myself if you are interested, spots are going fast.

As always, we encourage anyone who is interested in RENEW not to be shy. We'd love to have you. Meetings are at 4:30pm the second Thursday of the month (before the regular monthly membership meeting). We hold them at the Labor Temple on Park Street in the bar downstairs.

In solidarity,

Joshua Stern: [608-764-0321](tel:608-764-0321)

Retirees Club, Jim Virnig



Our luncheon this month was at Toby's in McFarland. We had 24 people attend. Door Prize winners were: Roy Holm, Dave Baltes, Mike Sullivan, Dennis Strander, Jim Virnig, Tom Kepler, Bob Call and Marvin Melleville. We decided to donate our winnings to Sue Blue for her many years of service to the Union. She will be missed! Our next luncheon will be for retirees and spouses at the 5100 Club at 5100 Erling Avenue in McFarland on Monday, June 12, at 11:30 AM. The address is 5100 Erling Avenue – it is the old Park Ponderosa building. Call the hall at 608-255-2989 to register. Hope you can come!



June Retiree Birthdays

Barrett, Carl	June 16	Miller, Robert	June 7
Bolle, Robert	June 4	Nachreiner, Donavon	June 14
Braun, Bernard	June 23	Olson, Kevin	June 12
Chandler, Richard	June 5	Richardson, Dale	June 11
Emden, James	June 20	Royem, Rickey	June 3
Fritz, Robert	June 5	Russell, Daniel	June 30
Jahn, Rickey	June 29	Rust, James	June 17
Johnson, Edward	June 11	Seddon, David	June 29
Lemens, Leland	June 10	Small, Ronald	June 28
Miller, Gerald	June 29	Thomas, Russell	June 18
Miller, Gerard	June 18	Virnig, James	June 15

Condolences

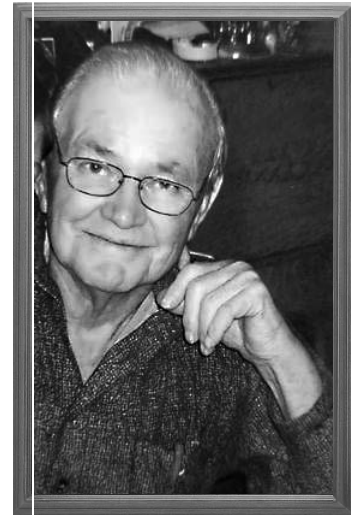
The thoughts and prayers of the members are with Brother Bart Sawyers on the death of his brother. Our condolences also go out to the family and friends of Edward Johnson, a retired Local 159 member.

Edward J. Johnson

(June 11, 1931 - May 15, 2017)

Mazomanie/Sauk City

Edward James Johnson, age 85, of Sauk City went to "shoot the breeze" in Heaven on Monday, May 15th, 2017 peacefully at his home surrounded by his wife, daughter and granddaughter Cheri. He was born June 11th, 1931 on the family farm in Vermont township, the fourth child of James and Florence (Kiley) Johnson.



Ed was united in marriage to Betty Parrell on February 28th, 1949. He was employed as an electrician and a 65 year member of the IBEW local union 159. He worked and lived in many places throughout the United States. After falling in love with flying he purchased his own plane and obtained his pilot license in 1956. He purchased and operated the Towne Pump in Verona in 1964 where he made numerous life long friends. Ed enjoyed boating, deep sea fishing, snowmobiling and traveling around the country in his motor home. In his later years he could nearly always be found tinkering around in his garage. When friends or family would stop by for a visit he'd always convince them to stay a while to have a snack and play a couple games of Euchre by saying "What's yer rush?"

Ed is survived by his wife, Betty (Parrell); sons, Steven (JoAnne) and Brad (Teri) Johnson and daughter Staci Christensen (Terry Stonger); Eleven grandchildren, Chris (Angie) Johnson, Eric Johnson, Jayme (Steph) Johnson, Jennie (Jason) Walls, Liz (Shane) Anderson, Anne Johnson (Cody Peterson), Shane (Rebecca) Harring, Ryan Johnson, Tyler Johnson, Cheri Johnson (David Sadek) & Carissa (Jason) Zweck; and 23 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a sister Patricia Meyer and brother-in-law Jim King. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers Don and Vernon and his sisters Ardis Duhr and Ivy King.

SNAPZ CD

There are several members out there who have borrowed the SNAPZ CD and have not returned it.

If you have the CD, please return it ASAP. We have none left in the office. Thank you.

Operation Fresh Start Awards Banquet

IBEW Local 159 sponsored a table for Operation Fresh Start. From left to right are: Stephanie Moreno, Dave Branson, Ammu Kuricheti, Mark Loeffelholz, Mike Wagner, Angie Knoche, Eddy Sherman, Mark Hoffmann, and Cody Walker. Jim Cook took the photo.



Members in Arrears

Acker, Troy	Frisby, Tyler	Papendieck, John
Alcauter, Vidal	Gander, Daniel	Petri, Steven
Anderson, Axel	Gimmer, Thomas	Raimer, Jessica
Anderson, Jessica	Greener, Jason	Ramminger, Kim
Arnold, Michael	Haak, Jim	Rosonke, Scott
Austin, Brandon	Harmes, Grant	Sanders, Edward
Austin, Joshua	Haugh, Paul	Schmale, Daniel
Ayers, Austen	Heider, Shinar	Schneider, Nathan
Barnhart, Dana	Hollenbeck, Jesse	See, Tanner
Barsness, Bryce	Howard, Rodney	Severson, Peter
Behling, Erik	Humphrey, Robert	Sheldon, Tim
Berge, Darin	Jacobson, Dan	Smedema, Douglas
Bettenhausen, Trent	Kapusta, Joel	Spataro, Victor
Beyer, Brian	Kerr, Paul	Storkson, Matthew
Bolin, Nikolas	Kiefer, Justin	Sutton, Michael
Brattlie, Brent	Kislia, Rick	Swenson, Jon
Brown, Justin	Koclanes, Aaron	Thomsen, Troy
Burke, Calvin	Kopp, Ryan	Viola, Michael
Busch, Thomas	Kosharek, Timothy	Volkman, John
Crowley, Jamir	Kratz, Matthew	Wagner, Thomas
Delorimier, Bryan	Kritz, Brady	Ward, Sheldon
Derenne, Matthew	Krueger, Rachia	Ward, Shane
Derosier, Jerrett	Krueger, Ronald	Ward, Derek
Dietzman, Jena	Laabs, Justin	Weisensel, Michael
Eith, Daniel	Luedtke, Benjamin	Wiese, Bradley
Eppihimer, Drew	Mccauley, Thomas	Williams, Shad
Euhardy, Daniel	Meinholz, John	Zweifel, Kristine
Farnsworth, Joseph	Morris, Dale	
Fillion, Jeffery	Nelson, Dondi	
Fleming, Glenn	Noel, Chad	
Frame, Jon	Ohlin, Brady	
Frey, Tyler	Palan, Charles	

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

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

Saturday, September 9, Robert Palmer Golf Classic

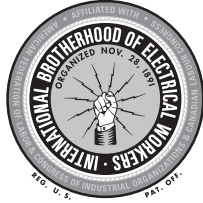


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IBEW LOCAL 159

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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