



SPARKIE SENTINEL

IBEW LOCAL #159

OCTOBER 2018

Business Manager, Michael Grassy

Class Fees

Over the last few months there have been major changes to our education programs. First, Madison College without warning, raised the tuition fees for night classes up to 3 times over what they were from the previous year. To deal with this drastic increase, the Joint Apprenticeship Trust (JAT) and the joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) elected move more classes to the training center and virtually just rent rooms from the college for the rest of the night classes. With these changes, Madison College no longer collects the tuition costs for the classes. The duty of accessing fees and collecting now falls on the JAT/JAC. After evaluating all costs associated with holding classes, a fee of \$7.00 per hour of instruction was determined as a starting point. This amount is much less than the college was levying but still should cover all costs associated with holding classes.

The second issue that we faced this summer was the unprecedented number of new apprentices entering our program this year. With 76 first year apprentices, we are starting 4 classes of students as opposed to the 1 or 2 classes we have for the current apprentice classes. To handle the night school requirements for apprentices, the training center is fully booked Monday through Wednesday for both fall and spring classes.

With the new fee structure in place, the committees have discussed how continuing education classes may or may not be affected. As of this writing, only the "Significant Changes" class has been scheduled. The discussion on waiving the fee for this course I suspect will be completed in the next few weeks.

Apprentice Reimbursement Policy

The tuition reimbursement policy for apprentices is also in the process of change. The first change was to eliminate the barriers or "hoops to jump through" in order to receive reimbursement. Once eliminated, apprentices came forward and pointed out that the new plan actually put more burden on the newest apprentices who need the help most. The committee has since adjusted the reimbursement plan as to favor newer apprentices. There is still room for improvement and change. I encourage members to speak up and address their concerns to the JAC in order to come to the best resolution for our educational system.

Attendance Drawing

At the September membership meeting we had a winner for the monthly attendance drawing. Congratulations to Youssef Amraoui, for winning the drawing and while attending his first membership meeting. Youssef, won the \$900 pot so now the pot resets to \$100.

Reminders

As a reminder, the office is open until 7pm the first Wednesday of every month. If you cannot get to the hall before 4:30, this night is your chance to take care of any business that you may need.

Also follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/IBEWLocal159>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/ibewlocal159>) for latest updates and information.

Referral Agent, Greg Storkson

Hello Brothers and Sisters,



Work is steady and it seems we will be busy for the fall with several calls open at this time. We finished up several school projects and the books haven't really changed at this time. I am expecting Staff, Van Ert, and a few others to hire in the near future.

As I mentioned at the membership meeting we have changed the Administrative Rules for Registration and Referral of Applicants for Employment #8 which **currently reads:**

8. Applicants will be allowed two turndowns (strikes) without penalty and will be removed from the book for a third turndown. Turndowns are only given when a call cannot be filled from Group 1 or Group 2 applicants. You must re-register in person after being removed from a book (Not applicable to short calls or specialty calls)

This will now read

8. Applicants will be allowed two turndowns (strikes) without penalty and will be removed from their current position and moved to the last position on their appropriate book for a third turndown. Turndowns are only given when a call cannot be filled from Group 1 or Group 2 applicants. Only 1 strike will be given for any specific Manpower Request (call) not filled. Short calls or specialty calls will not be given a strike.

This rule will take effect on November 1st 2018. If anyone has a question or suggestion on language change please leave me a message.

Best Wishes & In Solidarity,

Greg Storkson

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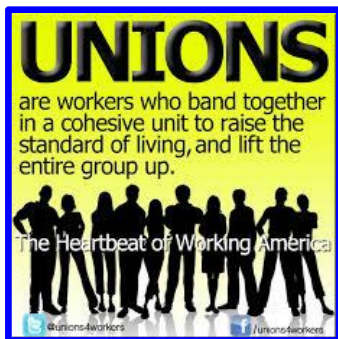
RESIDENTIAL

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VDV

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Organizers Report, Casey Healy



Local 159 has a lot of jobsites running at this time. Now is the time to speak with your friends, relatives and neighbors about the benefits of working for the union. If they are interesting in joining the IBEW Local 159 or have any question have them contact me at chealy@ibew159.org Lets work together organizing electrical workers.

If you are on a jobsite that has non-union electrical or low voltage technicians working give me a call. It 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 you can just place on their carts or hand one to the person.

Organizing is the local's tool to gain market share. Market share is the percentage of work performed by the 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.

With the starting of a new school year I would like to sincerely thank all instructors for their time, and dedication in educating our members. THANK YOU.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

United we Stand - Divided we fall,
Casey Healy

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IBEW

...the *right* choice

September - WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jeffery Wayman	Johnnie Walton Jr.	Jeffrey Moline
Dustin Schnell	Braden Ferry	Jamir Crowley
Steve Tweed	Desiree Evans	

Retirees Club

Our September luncheon was held at the 5th Quarter in Verona. We had 23 members attend; John Zwettler, Ken Goss, Lee Lemens, Bob Call, Don Boe, Vern Connor, Tom Corcoran, Rick Alexander, Howard Czoschke, Bill Kracke, Rich Gorsk, Terry Stamm, Dave Krey, Ron Disch, Marvin Milleville, Ed Kroth, Tim May, Ken Hillebrand, Dave Statz, Dave Ruhnke, Roy Holm, Greg Storkson, and Jim Virnig.

Door Prize winners were: John Zwettler, Don Boe, Vern Connor, Tom Corcoran, Howard Czoschke, Ed Kroth, Tim May, Ken Hillebrand, and Jim Virnig.

Our October 8th Luncheon will be at Murphy's Bar & Restaurant on Highway 113. Hope to see there!

Fraternally,
Jim Virnig



WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

Please plan to attend our next meeting at the Labor Temple on Wednesday, October 17th, 2018 @ 4pm

Why get involved with this committee? Be a part of this committee so that you too, as a woman, can be an advocate for your union and the building trades, mentors, volunteers and friends who understand what it's like to be a woman in a male-dominated industry.

Education is the
key to success

Education Corner

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The 2018-19 school year is well on its way. Many classes are already running. Many courses are being run this year at our Training Center. The Training Center is full three days a week till the end of February. With the large class sizes missing a class may be complicated since most classes have no extra room.



Instructors, we are planning a mandatory Instructor Meeting Thursday, November 1st at 4:30pm to 6pm at the Training Center. This meeting will be for all current night course instructors and anyone interested in teaching. We are planning on going over how the large classes are changing the way classes are going to be run, and what courses are looking to move to the Training Center from MATC and the new pay system for Instructors. Please contact the office if you plan on coming.

Finally, let's all keep an eye on safety. Safety is no accident, but accidents can be. Stay safe both at work and as the autumn activities are underway.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeremy Crabb



**- Yard Signs Still Available at
Local Union 159 Hall**

National Apprenticeship Week November 12 – 18, 2018

Apprentices should be sure that the Apprenticeship Office has a copy of their current electrical license. When they renew, they **MUST** send a copy of their renewal. If they want their hours to count and want their raises to not be delayed, they need to be proactive on this.





The October birthstone: Opal
Flower: Calendula



JOSHUA	ANSPACH	DANIEL	EUHARDY	JOSHUA	JOHNSON	JEREMY	ROACH
BRUCE	ARNOLD	SAMUEL	EVERLY	KENNETH	JUNGENBERG	MICHAEL	ROBERSON
PETER	BALTES	ALEX	FELDMANN	TYLER	KAECH	IAN	ROBERTSON
DEMIAN	BANDERA	DAVID	FLOM	JEFFREY	KERWIN	JOSEPH	ROEDL
JACOB	BARTEL	MELVIN	FORSETH	RAYMOND	KNOX	ZACHARY	ROGERS
CHARLES	BELIN	MICHAEL	FOTI	RYAN	KOPP	DANIEL	ROSSETER
KYLE	BELL	NATHANIEL	FRISCH	EDWARD	KROTH	DUANE	RUHLAND
RANDALL	BORMAN	DENNIS	FRY	JOHN	KUJAWA	ALEX	RYSER
LAURENCE	BOUCHE	NICHOLAS	GARCIA	JUSTIN	LAABS	MARQUELLE	SCHMIDT
JOSEPH	BOURASSA	JAMEY	GEHIN	RANDY	LARSON	JOSHUA	SCHOCH
NICHOLAS	BOZACKI	DEREK	GOETZ	JOEL	LAURSEN	CASSIE	SCHULER
TIM	BRAUN	ALEXANDER	GRUNKE	MICHAEL	LEADERMAN	PAUL	SCHULTE
TIMOTHY	BRICKSON	NICHOLAS	GRUNKE	JOSEPH	LEGRIS	DONAVON	SMITH
GERALD	BROWN	GABRIEL	HALL	RYAN	MACHONGA	DAVID	STATZ
TRAVIS	BROWN	CHRISTOPHER	HANS	WING	MACLEAN	VINCENT	TERASA
DAVID	BUFTON	JASON	HARDY	PHIL	MARTINSON	WILLIAM	TIMM
JEFF	BURMEISTER	MARVIN	HARRISON	BRIAN	MARVIN	JOSHUA	TRAGER
KITRI	BUSSEY	BRIAN	HARRISON	MICHAEL	MCDANIEL	NEWTON	VAN DER WOUDE
TYLER	CASH	JEFFERY	HEMP	LANCE	MEUDT	JED	VOSSEKUIL
DOUGLAS	CODDINGTON	TODD	HINEY	JAMES	MINNEMA	JAMES	WALKER
MICHAEL	CONARD	RYAN	HINTZ	DALE	MORRIS	SHANE	WARD
CHRISTOPHER	CROSSEN	DANIEL	HITTESDORF	CODY	MURRENUS	BRANDON	WEIER
DAVID	CUMMINGS	WILBERT	HOLLER	ERNEST	NEWELL	JACOB	WELCH
BRANDON	CUMMINGS	ROY	HOLM	AARON	NIST	JOSEPH	WHITTOW
LUCAS	DAILEY	JORDAN	HOUSER	GERALD	NOEL	DANIEL	WIERSMA
DYLAN	DITTBERNER	RYAN	HUTCHINSON	MITCHELL	OAKEY	BRUCE	WILKINSON
KYLE	DZIUBLA	FRANCIS	HYATT	DANIEL	OTT	TRAVIS	WILLIAMS
CLIFFORD	EMERSON	KAREN	INGMUNDSON	STEVEN	PETRI	TODD	WIPPERFURTH
JOSHUA	ERICKSON	DEL	JASPER	KALEB	POHLMAN	DEREK	WIPPERFURTH
		JACKSON	JENSEN	JUSTIN	POWELL		
		FRANK	JOHNSON	ROBERT	QUACKENBOSS		

If you are 35 or younger, there is a RENEW committee which meets before the meeting at the Labor Temple in Room 201 A&B. The RENEW committee is about developing friendships, doing well for the community, and building brotherhood among IBEW members.

Brothers and Sisters,

This month RENEW159 has been at it again. Highway clean-up and a multi-local Tough Mudder team.

We will be setting up another clean-up in the next couple months. We hope to see some new faces out there next time.

On Oct 12th at 5pm we will be meeting at the Biergarten in Olbrich Park. Come out and meet with other members interested in RENEW 159 and continuing to get out into our communities.

In Solidarity,

Cam Knuteson
 RENEW Chairman

October

Save the Dates

- ❖ **IBEW Hall Open Late:** Open until 7pm on Wednesday October 3rd
- ❖ **Retirement Luncheon:** 11:30am Monday, October 8th @ Murphy's Bar & Restaurant
- ❖ **Monthly Membership Meeting:** Thursday October 11th @ 5:30pm
- ❖ **Women Build Nations Conference:** Friday, October 12th – Sunday, October 14th in Seattle, Washington
- ❖ **ReNew @ Olbrich Biergarten:** Friday, October 12th @ 5pm
- ❖ **Executive Board Meeting:** Monday October 22nd @ 4:30pm
- ❖ **Halloween:** Wednesday, October 31st, 2018
- ❖ **Daylight Savings Time:** Sunday, November 4th, 2018
Turn Clocks Back 1 hour
- ❖ **Thanksgiving:** Thursday, November 22nd, 2018 – Hall is Closed

*** MONTHLY DUES (effective 1/1/2018) ***

\$18.00 IBEW Pension

\$19.00 Due to IBEW General Fund

\$ 1.75 Local 159 Dues

\$38.75 Total

1st Quarter (Jan/Feb/Mar) Pay by December 31st

2nd Quarter (Apr/May/June) Pay by March 31st

3rd Quarter (July/Aug/Sept) Pay by June 30th

4th Quarter (Oct/Nov/Dec) Pay by September 30th

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 #250. **If you currently have your union dues set up on auto pay with your bank, make sure you are sending \$38.75 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
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Follow us on Instagram at [ibewlocal159](https://www.instagram.com/ibewlocal159) or like us on Facebook





Find breaking news & information at the Local 159 Facebook page: facebook.com/IBEWLocal159

Contacts

Local 159 Office	(608) 255-2989, office@ibew159.org
Apprenticeship Office	(608) 221-3321, wijatc.org
Department of Safety & Professional Services (DSPS)(Licensing)	(608) 266-2112, dps.wi.gov
WEEBF, Health Insurance & Benefits	(608) 276-9111, weebf.org
(Wisconsin Electrical Employees Benefits Fund)	or (800) 422-2128

Office open late, First Wednesday of every month, until 7:00 p.m.

Retirement Luncheon, Second Monday of every month at 11:30, location varies.

Union Meeting, Second Thursday of every month, Madison Labor Temple, 5:30 p.m.

Renew Meeting, Second Thursday of every month, Madison Labor Temple at 4:30 p.m.

Executive Meeting – Fourth Monday of every month, Union Hall at 4:30 p.m.