



SPARKIE SENTINEL

IBEW LOCAL 159

JANUARY 2020



BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

By Sue Blue

Greetings Local 159 Family,

2019 was an eventful year, not only in our Local but nation and worldwide.

The office IT system has been overdue for upgrades. After doing a great deal of research and involving additional companies to review the existing bid on our computer and IT support needs, we found a much better package that will save our union several thousand dollars. My goal is to always be a good steward of union finances and resources. This is our members' money. Thanks to everyone who attended the December meeting, listened to the computer vendor's presentation, and then voted. As I write, the install is under way to replace our computers and update our server and software.

2020 brings extremely important political elections, and negotiations for all three contracts. Local 159 President, Tom Lemens, and I attended a week-long bargaining/advanced bargaining class at the UW School for Workers. A lot of very valuable information was discussed about strategies, preparation and most important, getting members involved and unified. We will be holding meetings for each contract, and asking members working under that agreement to attend and/or provide ideas and suggestions for proposals. We will also send out surveys to members after the New Year.

The biggest take away from the training was how important member solidarity is to negotiations and reaching the best possible settlement. Your union needs you and your involvement to be successful and to secure a better future for all members. Together we are stronger.

In addition to negotiations, this office will be putting in a lot of effort to improve our market share. I have been emailing our contractors regularly, to share information on jobs being bid in our area. I am also sending out invitations to union Inside/Residential/VDV contractors outside of our local to bid these upcoming projects. Letters are going out to other Wisconsin IBEW local contractors, as well as those in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Iowa. There is approximately \$3-5 billion of work in our jurisdiction. We can't keep giving it away to the non-union.

There will be additional 159 Advisory Board meetings that are open to all members wanting to be involved in some of the major initiatives this Local will be looking at in 2020. We will continue to address our space needs and seek viable options.

Local 159 will be hosting a contractor course that our members can sign up for. It will take you through all the steps of becoming a union contractor. Members voted at the December union meeting to pay for up to ten 159 members to attend. Members must deposit \$350, that will be returned upon successfully completing the course. Encouraging our members to become union contractors will also help increase our market share.

Another major focus for the New Year will be education. We are putting together plans to build our craft certification testing stations. These will be used for Incremental Performance Evaluation and wage advancements. We are also adding new classes, and more classes for our JWs, CWs and CEs. Sam Everly is doing a great job as our part-time education coordinator. He's been working hard coordinating with my office and with instructors to get more members involved in teaching and he's

providing a better network of communication with the Apprenticeship office, Madison College and the union office. Great job Sam.

I recently sent out an email to all members regarding upcoming proposed legislation that would greatly affect both our active and retired members' NEBF pension. Please take the time to read that information and contact your Senators. You can call their office 24 hours a day, so leave a message if you aren't comfortable talking to them or office staff.

I want to recognize the 159 office staff and thank them for all they do year-round. Ammu has been with us since 2016. She is listed as bookkeeper but does so much more than that. Her love for, and commitment to, the members is remarkable. Her knowledge and efficiency are a tremendous asset to all of us. Lamarra has been with us almost two years. Her warm and welcoming approach to serving the members truly helps set our office apart. She is always willing to help our members whether taking dues payments, typing letters of introduction, or helping with pensions. I know there are times when members are upset and have spoken to both of them in a disrespectful manner they did not deserve. At times, members have even been hostile or abusive. I know these incidents deeply affect them. That is not OK, and not behavior acceptable in the treatment of your office staff. Appreciate and compliment their efforts, and if you had a bad day and took it out on one of them, make sure you make amends.

Along those same lines, I have been hearing from a number of our apprentices about working in hostile work environments, JWs and foremen unwilling to help train them, asking them to work hot, making criticizing and belittling comments. Does that sound like solidarity? Sisterhood? Brotherhood? These comments go past "good natured ribbing." Creating toxic work environments hurts every worker, and the construction industry as a whole. We are living in strange times where basic humanity is no longer the norm for many people. We see it everywhere. Let's be better than that. Let's uplift one another, help one another, look out for one another. Let's make a difference in 2020. Let's rise above and let's reach out to create a better world for our families, our co-workers, our communities and our Country.

Wishing you and your families, all the best in the New Year!

Referral Agent, Pat Fahey

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Congratulations to Caleb Michiels, he proposed to his girlfriend (Kelly) at Fantasy In Lights. It made the national stage with Access Hollywood when the story aired on Thursday December 19, 2019.



The books are slow, with only 4 JIW's placed between November and December meetings. Two contractors from out of town have shown interest in bidding our work. This is a plus as our outlook shows a lot of work and needs as many union bidders as possible. Hope everyone's holidays treated them well.

Until further notice when logging in for resign, please remember to always look for the blue bar marked "resign" must be pushed. Also, when placing a bid by phone make sure to leave your name and book I, II, or III.

In Brotherhood,

Pat Fahey
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BOOK #'s:

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Damon Glenn

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year! Hopefully, if everything that we are hearing and working on goes as planned, 2020 should be a good year. I have been talking with organizers from other union building trades to develop relationships to support each other on construction jobs by showing solidarity.

On November 21st, Local 159 Participated in Future Quest 21 held at Alliant Energy Center. We introduced and displayed what we do as electricians to all middle schoolers in Dane County. Rebecca Schave and Maggie Freespirit and I represented Local 159 at Future Quest.

We will be holding a Pro Union Contracting class here at Local 159 on April 16th, 17th, and 18th of 2020. If you are seriously interested in opening a union electrical contracting company, please get in contact with me. We will not be training the competition! We will be requiring members to pay \$350 upfront for the class (reimbursed upon completion of class). We also will be requiring members to sign a waiver for class. Pro Union Consulting has helped many IBEW locals benefit from this class in regaining market share.

We must continue to educate members about the Constitution, Bylaws and Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), our contracts.

Inside Agreement 6/01/2017-May 31, 2020
Section 9.02- The Union shall be the sole and exclusive source of referrals of applicants for employment.

“The only effective answer to organized greed is organized labor.”

THOMAS DONAHUE, *Report to the Convention from the AFL-CIO Executive Council*

In Solidarity,

Damon Glenn

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Organizers Reports,

Casey Healy

Brothers and Sisters,

SEASON'S GREETINGS! - It's the holiday season, everyone is busy. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year! We want you to know that here at IBEW Local 159, we value and appreciate each and every one of our members. I hope you have a great holiday season, enjoy family and friends, and enter the new year refreshed and reinvigorated. This is the season to recharge and make plans for the best possible 2020 for all of organized labor. Working together, we can make that happen.

To all brothers and sisters, thank you for your attendance at our monthly meetings. It's always good to see the regulars and even better when we see an old face that hasn't been there for a while, or someone coming for their first meeting. For future meetings let's individually challenge ourselves to encourage at least one person to attend the next meeting and hopefully they too will become a regular.

I would like to thank the apprentices and journey workers that have helped at career fairs and high schools with educating other young adults about the pathways into the apprenticeship program. It's always good when they share their personal journey with others. You may not realize it now, but each and every one of you may have changed some person's life in a positive way. You showed them what a career with IBEW Local 159 is all about, and what they have to do to be part of it. Remember, not all people have the resources to go to college.

United we Stand - Divided we Fall,

Casey Healy

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Email: chealy@ibew159.org

RETIREE LUNCHEON

The December Holiday Luncheon was held Monday Dec. 9th at the 159 Union Hall in McFarland, with 47 retirees and 25 guests in attendance. Sue arranged to have a catered-in lunch which was enjoyed by all. A thank you is due to all the 159 office personnel who performed the setup, serving, and clean-up.

Those present were: Jim Moll, Jim & Sue Virnig, John & Mary Geiger, Denny Havey, Don & Wanda Chisholm, Terry Stamm, Bernard & Diane Braun, Clarence & Mary Dresen, Mike Mittelsedt, Carol Grundahl, Donald & Barbara Boe, David & Joy Krey, Leland Lemens, Steve Bersing, Don & Janet Emery, Bruce & Jill Arnold, John Zwettler, Jay & Jean Stephenson, Pete Smith, Marvin & Heidi Milleville, Gary & Carolyn Gander, Bill Holler, John Dollard, Dennis Eley, Howard & Joan Czoschke, David & Patricia Flom, Mike & Janeen Stassi, Tom & Mick Corcoran, Ed Kroth, John Holler, Jeff Rowley & PJ Spears, Ron Dommershausen, Fred Brown, Rich & Mary Gorst, Jim Franke & Lila Walters, Jerry & Sharon Miller, Dennis Strander, Rick Alexander & Pam Boucher, Steve Greenheck, Robert & Rose Fritz, Robert & Audrey Miller, Kevin & Ellen Olson, William Kracke, Terry & Kathy Rieck, David Baltes, Pete Baltes, Thomas Junck, and Tim May.

Sue Blue welcomed all and presented a report as to the current work picture and the upcoming 2020 work outlook.

There was a total of 43 door prize winners; due to such a lengthy list of door prize winners this month, names will be omitted. Congratulations to all the winners.

The next retiree luncheon will be held on Monday, January 13th, at Murphy's Bar & Restaurant, 5344 State Road 113, Madison, WI 53704.

Hope to see you there!

In Solidarity,
Tim May
IBEW 159 Retiree



STRAIGHT FROM THE OVAL OFFICE :

Hello Brothers & Sisters,

Fantasy in Lights teardown starts on January 6 at Olin Park. So, if you're off work we could really use your help. Please let me know if you can make it. Pat, Damon, and I have been going to some project planning meetings around the local trying to get ahead of the bids. I also attended a meeting on the proposed Job Classification that the UW Madison wants to implement. We will be getting together with the UWM electricians to prepare for the next meeting in January with UW Management.

Sue and I attended some negotiations training at the School for Workers. I have also started gathering information for negotiation and would welcome any ideas that you have. Now is the time to start showing your support for the union on the jobsite by standing together and talking positively about the local. This is a huge part of bargaining. We need to show solidarity like everyone wearing union shirts at the jobsite on Fridays!

Back to how meetings are run under Robert's Rules of Order Revised (RROR 11ed.)

*** Unfinished Business is a motion or general order that was held over from a previous meeting. No new motions are allowed. However, motions may be amended, except for Bylaws changes.**

Unfinished Business: No new motions ► State previous motion ► Discussion ► Vote. (Business previously postponed or made a general of special order (general orders come under unfinished business). In such a case the business is announced at the proper time by the Chair, and, if it has already been introduced in the form of a motion.) RROR 11ed., sec. 3, p. 28, & sec 41 p.358. Changes to Bylaws cannot be amended.

In Solidarity,
Tom Lemens
IBEW Local 159 President
president@ibew159.org



WELCOME NEW IBEW LOCAL 159 MEMBERS

Theron Ollerich



* SOLIDARITY * BROTHERHOOD * SISTERHOOD * SPARKY * PROUD *

JANUARY SAVE THE DATES

- ❖ **IBEW Hall Closed:** Wednesday, January 1, 2020. In observance of New Year's Day
- ❖ **Veterans Group:** Monday, January 6, 2020 @ IBEW Local 159 Hall.
- ❖ **RENEW Committee Meeting:** Thursday, January 9, 2020 @ 4:30pm @ Madison Labor Temple, Room 212.
- ❖ **Monthly Membership Meeting:** Thursday, January 9, 2020 @ 5:30pm @ Madison Labor Temple.
- ❖ **Blood Drive:** Tuesday, January 14, 2020 – at the Madison Labor Temple from 1pm-6pm. Call or email the Hall to sign up.
- ❖ **Women's Group:** Thursday, January 23, 2020 @ 3:30pm @ IBEW Local 159 Hall.
- ❖ **EWMC Committee:** Thursday, January 23, 2020 @ 5pm @ IBEW Local 159 Hall.
- ❖ **IBEW Hall Open Late:** Open until 8pm on Thursday, January 23, 2020. (4th Thursday of every month.) To attend, please **RSVP by 12:30pm**, on that day, at (608)255-2989. This ensures volunteers to staff the lab. Some volunteers have to drive a long way. If you DO RSVP, please DO show up. Arrive by 4:30. If you RSVP, but then cannot make it, call the office ASAP, so volunteers do not show up for no reason.
- ❖ **Executive Board Meeting:** Tuesday, January 28, 2020 @ 4:30pm @ IBEW Local 159 Hall.



Additional SAVE THE DATES

- ❖ **Spring Primary Election:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020.



THOMAS	ALBERTI	ANDREW	LANGE
EDWARD	ALEXANDER	KEAGAN	LASWELL
JAMES	ALLEN	STEVEN	LEASE
YOUSSEF	AMRAOUI	DALLAS	LEMOINE
LAUREN	ANDREWS	CHAD	LEWIS
KYLE	ARENZ	JEREMY	LIEGEL
AUSTEN	AYERS	ALEXANDER	MANION
ANDREW	BANGERT	MICHAEL	MARFORI
AMY	BARKER	EVA	MAXWELL
LEON	BARRETT	ELDON	MCDANIEL
STEVEN	BERSING	DANIEL	MCGRATH
CALVIN	BINGER	EZEKIAL	MOORE
FREDRICK	BLASER	JUAN	MORENO
LLOYD	BLEDSON	TIMOTHY	NOBLE
DONALD	BOE	BRAEDON	O'BOYLE
TANNER	BOEHNEN	ROBERT	ODEGAARD
TIMOTHY	BORTZ	BRADY	OHLIN
TYLER	BREUNIG	DION	OKESON
JASON	CAMPBELL	ROBERT	PAGE
CODY	CARNITZ	DAVID	PALMER
KIMBERLY	COUGHLAN	EDWARD	PETERSEN
DANIEL	COVARRUBIAS	JAMES	PURVIANCE
ZACHARY	CUMMINGS	DAVID	RAHN
RANDALL	DEBRUYNE	JOSEPH	RAUPP
CORY	DEGROFF	MITCHELL	RAY
TYRONE	DICKINSON	RICHARD	REIS
JAMES	DOBRATZ	JOSEPH	REYES
JED	DUFEK	CHRISTOPHER	REYNOLDS
BRENDA	EGLI	RANDY	ROBERTSON
DANIEL	EITH	KEVIN	ROCKWOOD
CLIFF	ENGLERTH	MATTHEW	RUHLAND
JOSEPH	FARNSWORTH	DAVID	RUHNKE
NATHAN	FAUL	PATRICK	RYAN
MARTIN	FERGUSON	ROBERT	SANDERS
BRENT	FOLMER	WILLIAM	SAXBY
KURT	FOLMER	JOSHUA	SCHELL
STEVEN	FOSTER	MARK	SCHMIDT
NOAH	FURSETH	JOSHUA	SCHMITZ
BRIAN	GENZ	JEFFREY	SCHOENMANN
ZANE	GEYER	TITUS	SCHULZE
SHANE	GIBSON	CHARLES	SERRA
CURTIS	GOODYK	ROGER	SPRECHER
JOSEPH	GUASTELLA	KYLE	STIER
MICHEL	GUELTZOW	TRENT	SULLIVAN
WILLIAM	HALE	JOHN	TERASA
BENJAMIN	HARTT	THOMAS	TOMLINSON
PAUL	HAUGH	RAYMOND	VALDEZ
KEVIN	HELLENBRAND	ROBERT	VALEK
STEVEN	HENRY	JAMES	VANDER VELDE
THOMAS	HERTZBERG	SEAN	VOLKER
KIMBERLY	HOEKSTRA	JEFFERY	WAISBROT
ROBERT	HUGHES	CHRISTOPHER	WAISBROT
KATHLEEN	HUNT	JEFFREY	WAYMAN
TRACY	HUSTAD	DALE	WELLS
AUSTIN	JOHNSON	TROY	WIEDENBECK
ROBERT	JONES	BOWEN	WILEMAN
KEVIN	KAPRAL	MATTHEW	WILKINSON
ROMAN	KRUEGER	DAVID	WILLIAMS
DANIEL	KVALHEIM	RICHARD	WOERPEL
		JEFFREY	ZANDER



If you are 35 or younger, Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers (RENEW) aims to inspire the next generation of IBEW workers to become active in their local union by focusing on issues important to younger workers, providing education about the IBEW and the labor movement, and fostering relationships with members and local union leadership. We meet every second Thursday of the month at the Labor Temple in room 212 at 4:30pm.

Members in Good Standing,

On November 18th, brother Mitch Johnson and myself attended the Voter Education Ambassador Training presented by the Madison City Clerk's office. We learned a great deal about voter education, rights, and policies. We plan to bring this information back to our brothers and sisters in LU 159 and the greater community.

Our winter clothing drive, to benefit Neighborhood House Community Center, is in full swing. If you have any laundered, gently used men's, women's, or children's winter clothing feel free to drop by the hall and place them in the donation box that was kindly decorated by our wonderful office staff, Lamarra and Ammu. Thanks, ladies!

The River Food Pantry found brothers Cristian Gutierrez, Mitch Johnson, Justin Stark, Barrett Locatelli, me, Zach Manners, Dave Boetcher, Demian Bandera, and Sister Rebecca Schave--who gets special recognition for setting up the event--ready and willing to volunteer on November 19. We were able to help over 150 families warm up with a hot meal and provide them with food and clothing to bring back to their homes.

Polar Plunge and Tough Mudder teams are now live. Search "IBEW 159 RENEW" on their respective team join pages to step up to the big leagues.

On December 4 we had our planning meeting for 2020 where we created the calendar for next year. Be on the lookout for numerous monthly events covering our 5 focuses (social engagement, community involvement, leadership development, labor history, and politics)!

Don't forget to get on Facebook, and search "Renew 159" then give our page a like to stay in the swing of things happening with your young workers committee between "RENEWsletters."

Brothers Josh Stern and Mitch Johnson, our Recording Secretary and Co-chair, respectively, and I look forward to seeing you at our meetings, every second Thursday of the month at the Labor Temple in room 212 at 4:30. Don't forget, while our focus is on the next generation, we welcome any and all generations at our meetings.

In Solidarity,
Pablo Baxter
Chairman, RENEW 159



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

It was an eventful year for the EWMC. During 2019, we increased our member participation, volunteer efforts and overall visibility. We have also been developing our organizational structure. We now have draft bylaws, thanks to extra efforts from recording secretary Mitch Johnson. We await final approval from the International EWMC. We also hope to get our charter this January.

Behind the scenes, I continue to participate in monthly conference calls for EWMC presidents. Lately, we have focused on the January 2020 conference, in Chicago. We are excited to be sending 15 people, this one time. Many are attending a conference for their first time, ever. I am excited to see what the first-timers get out of it. Damon Glenn and I will attend officer training the day before the conference begins.

In 2020, we expect our dues paying membership will double. We look forward to forging stronger bonds in the community. Voter registration remains a big priority, and we will keep focusing on the 2020 elections.

As I have mentioned, being union members makes us all part of a minority, especially as Union membership in the U.S. has declined.

We hope to see you at an EWMC meeting in 2020. We meet on fourth Thursdays, at 5:00 pm. I hope to see you on January 23, at 5:00 pm, at Local 159, McFarland.

Learn more at www.ibew-ewmc.com

In Solidarity,
Shaun Daniels
EWMC President



Office Manager

Bookkeeper's Corner

I hope you all had a very good holiday and are starting off the New Year energized and excited!

There are a couple of things I want to mention:

- All first-year and second-year apprentices get reimbursed for their registered license fee.
- Please make time to update/change your beneficiary form if needed, so everything is current.
- We are accepting apprenticeship applications Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. The closing date for this round is April 17, 2020. If you know anyone who is interested in applying for one of the apprenticeships, Construction or Voice-Data-Video, ask them to stop by the office.

We are adding 3 dates for first aid CPR classes. Please call the hall if you would like to sign up:

- February 15, 2020
- February 29, 2020
- April 4, 2020

Please note, Exam Prep class will be on Tuesdays, (not Mondays) from January 7, to February 25, at 4:30pm, at the 159 Training Center in McFarland.

All lost time/instructors wage requests are due to the office by Monday 4:30pm.

I'm in the office Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm, to address any questions or concerns you may have!

Ammu Kuricheti
Office Manager & Bookkeeper
Email: akuricheti@ibew159.org



UNION Dues

As of January 1, 2020 the monthly union dues are increased to \$40.75. Please make sure to update your check amounts whether you mail in your check or have a bill pay setup through your bank. Also, to make sure you keep up with your required death benefits, I recommend adding a dollar or two to your monthly payment which would make that payment either \$41.75 or \$42.75 monthly. This way you are always staying current with your death benefits.

We hope you have had a wonderful holiday season! Now, it is January and that time when many of us reassess our busy lives and think about what we want to accomplish or do to balance our lives during the next year. With this in mind, please consider stopping into the Local 159 Hall to verify your contact information. Making sure that IBEW Local 159 has the correct information is very important and could affect yourself and your family.



This year IBEW Local 159 will have several events and activities for you and your family to partake in! Things like: Mallards Game, IBEW Local 159 Picnic, and more! We really hope to see as many of our members at these fun and memorable events! To make sure that you and your family can attend, please make sure that you RSVP when the dates have been announced!

Lamarra Everson
Office Administrator
Email: leverson@ibew159.org



Dear Members,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful December and holiday season! I want to take a few minutes to introduce myself, as well as share with you some of my goals as your new part-time education coordinator.

The last ten years of my life have been spent working for this amazing and dedicated local, and I am the electrician that I am to this day because of IBEW Local 159. With that said, I completed a five-year apprenticeship with 159, have been an educator for the apprenticeship since becoming a journeyman for the last five years, completed their NTI program, have served on the educator committee, along with now becoming the part-time education coordinator.

My goals moving forward are to offer additional and more relevant classes. Classes that are going to develop your skills needed as a daily electrician, but also continuing to grow your skill set. With that said, we are always looking for new instructors. Our local has many members who have a great wealth of knowledge and could be considered experts in specific areas. I ask you to think about giving back to your fellow brothers and sisters who could benefit from your expertise and become a 159 instructor. If you think you have a great idea for a class or see an area that our membership is lacking in, please feel free to get in touch with me with your suggestions. No one knows what the industry needs better than the people that live in our industry every day!

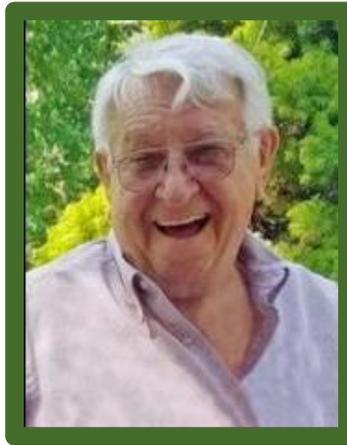
The Spring semester is starting in January. It's time to look at whether or not you need to renew your state license this year. Hopefully everyone has the CEU's that they need. For those of you that are still needing a few credits, you don't have to look any farther than your local union. I am hoping to add a few more classes to our course schedule in the following few weeks. These may include: Significant Changes class based on the 2020 NEC, an introductory photovoltaic class, a NFPA 70E class, and a few more First Aid CPR classes. Also, for our beginner members, a Basic Conduit Bending course which is all hands-on practice. This also serves as a great review for anyone that thinks they need a little extra practice in this area.

With 2019 having ended, let's look forward and make IBEW 159 the best that it can be in 2020!

Respectfully,

Sam Everly
Master Electrician
Part-Time Educator Coordinator





Joseph P. Hudzinski

Joseph P. Hudzinski, age 86, of Madison, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019, at Agrace HospiceCare.

He was born on March 7, 1933, in Dellona, Wis., the son of Anthony and Juliann (Peasall) Hudzinski.

Joseph graduated from Reedsburg High School in 1951. He married Joanne Hillyer on June 12, 1954 in Wonewoc. Joseph was employed as an electrician for over 40 years. After retirement, he delivered flowers for his daughter's business, Lori's Flower Shoppe. Joseph was a longtime member of St. Dennis Catholic Church and a member of IBEW Local No. 159.

Joseph grew up farming and was always a farmer at heart. He was a true outdoorsman and simply enjoyed being in nature. He loved taking care of his land, bird watching and in his younger years, hunting and fishing. He enjoyed fishing trips to Canada with family and friends. Joseph had a wonderful sense of humor and liked to hear and tell jokes. He was very proud of his Polish heritage. He was an amazing cook and there was always plenty to eat. Joseph was an avid Packers, Badgers and Brewers fan. He loved playing cards and taking trips to the casino. He also loved dancing and being around people. Joseph treated everyone like family, whether related or not. Joseph was a loving husband, dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was always available to lend a helping hand or give words of encouragement. Above all, he loved being with his family.

Joseph is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Joanne; sons, David (Beverly) Hudzinski and Mike (Tina) Hudzinski; daughters, Lori (Bill White) Hudzinski and Julie (Dave) Adams; grandchildren, April, David, and Tasia; eight great-grandchildren; brothers, Raymond (Nell) Hudzinski and Dale (Deb) Hudzinski; sisters, Delores (Stan) Premo and Dotty (Bud) Manweiler; many nieces and nephews and friends; and his fur babies, Buddy, Angel and Sam. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Albert Hudzinski and Robert Hudzinski; sister, Rose Marie Lenney; niece, Dawn; and great-grandson, Joey.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at ST. DENNIS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 505 Dempsey Rd, Madison, at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 13, 2019, with Father Randy Timmerman presiding. A luncheon will follow at the church. Burial will follow at All Saints Cemetery in Reedsburg. Visitation will be held at the church from 9:30 am until the time of the Mass on Friday.

Memorials may be gifted in Joseph's name to St. Dennis Catholic Church, Agrace HospiceCare or St. Jude Children's Hospital. The family wishes to thank Agrace HospiceCare for their gentle care and kindness.

Rest In Peace Brother



Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Holidays!

At the beginning of December, the first Local 159 Veterans Group meeting took place at the Hall. Attendance was thin and we are looking for it to pick up in the coming meetings. The main topic of our discussion was what tips and tricks we had for navigating the VA and what experience each member has had since transitioning out of the military. Our next meeting is set for Monday, January 6, 2020. Anyone and everyone is welcome to attend. Please pass word of this to any coworkers of yours who are veterans, or any veterans you know who might be interested in the trade!

These meetings are primarily to setup structure to help veterans coming into our family, or who have been a part of the family, take full advantage of the benefits they have earned. Our first mission was to compile a 1-page quick sheet for those members who are far too busy to make it to the meetings, or who just want to make sure they have all the boxes checked that they need to. We also talked with Sue Blue and started to get a roster put together of how many veterans we have in the local, so we can attempt to reach as many as possible with information about meetings.

Thank you for your time.

In Solidarity,
Kaleb Crane
IBEW Local 159 Member & Veteran



Blood Drive Update

Thanks to generous members of Local 159, our co-sponsor Local 2304 (MG&E), and a few other angels, we have 17 people signed up to donate. We are still shooting for 8 more donors. Please reserve your donation slot today, by calling 877.232.4376. Or reserve online at: <http://bit.ly/ibewjan2020>

Can't donate, but still want to help? We also need a handful of volunteers to help on the day of the blood drive (Tuesday, January 14, 1:00-6:00 pm, at the Labor Temple). Thank you for giving the gift of life. Please contact the Local 159 Hall to volunteer.

2020 Elections

Elections 2020

- Tuesday, February 18, Spring Primary Election
- Tuesday, April 7, Spring Election and Presidential Primary

Polls are open 07:00 – 8:00 pm.

Not every municipality has a primary election. Find out at <https://MyVote.wi.gov>. Up top, click on "Search by Name" or "My Voter Info" to find your next election date, your polling place, see a sample ballot, or update your name or address.

Important: Verify Your Voter Registration!

In October, the Wisconsin Elections Commission mailed letters to 234,000 registered voters who might have moved. The mailing explained how to update voter registration, and asked voters to confirm their registration online if they had not moved. Due to a recent court ruling that instructed the state to **inactivate voters** who did not respond to the mailing, **ALL voters are strongly encouraged to verify their registration at** <https://MyVote.wi.gov>

When your info appears on screen, look for, "You are Registered to Vote!" Verify that the current address listed is accurate. If you see a green button, "Click here to confirm your address," that means you were included in the October mailing. You must click to confirm, if it is accurate. Or, click the grey "update address" button, to update your voter registration info online.

Not sure if you are registered? Verify at <https://MyVote.wi.gov>. As close as recent Wisconsin elections have been, it is essential to keep voters registered and informed! The state sent a similar mailing in 2017, which turned out to have been based on inaccurate data.

Not registered to vote? Not sure what document(s) you need?

If your Wisconsin driver license has your current address, you're set. Read more about other proof of residence docs, and/or register online at <https://MyVote.wi.gov>

No internet access? Contact your city/town/village clerk's office to verify your voter registration status, or to register to vote.

Want to help register voters? Contact the Local 159 office.

* MONTHLY DUES (effective 1/1/2019) *

\$19.00 Dues goes to IBEW Pension

\$20.00 Dues goes to IBEW General Fund

\$ 1.75 Dues goes to Local 159 Dues

\$40.75 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 Local 159 active and retired members. We are currently on death benefit #259. **If you currently have your union dues set up on bill pay with your bank, make sure you are sending \$40.75 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
608-255-2989 www.ibew159.org**

**Follow us on Instagram at [ibewlocal159](https://www.instagram.com/ibewlocal159)
or like us on Facebook**





IBEW Local Union 159
4903 Commerce Court
McFarland, WI 53558



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)

(608) 266-2112, dsps.wi.gov

WEEBF, Health Insurance & Benefits

(608) 276-9111, weebf.org

or

Wisconsin Electrical Employees Benefits Fund (WEEBF)

(800) 422-2128

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

**Office open late: First Wednesday and Fourth Thursday
of every month, until 7:00pm**

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

**Union Meeting: Second Thursday of every month,
Madison Labor Temple, 5:30pm**

**Renew Meeting: Second Thursday of every month,
Madison Labor Temple at 4:30pm**

**Executive Meeting: Fourth Monday of every month,
Union Hall at 4:30pm**