



IBEW LOCAL 159 NOVEMBER 2020



BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Greetings 159 Family,

As November rapidly approaches, most of us are being consumed with the upcoming elections and ever-increasing numbers of positive COVID-19 cases in Wisconsin, the United States and around the world; natural disasters from wildfires to hurricanes, tornadoes, and mass flooding; and protests for police reform, social justice and economic equity; as well as the Supreme Court nominee. These have been topics with drastically varying opinions and that in itself, is not the issue. We can and should have our own opinions, values and choices, but hating others because they do not align with us, or trying to prevent those who have differing views, values, and opinions the equal rights to express them, will never be a solution. Protest, resistance and dissent was the foundation of the labor movement and every other movement for change in this Country.

If there is one thing we can all agree on, it's 2020 has been a year that has challenged this Country to its core and hopefully forced us to do a lot of personal reflection. If we are not part of the solution, we are part of the problem. We cannot continue to live in a cocoon because we have a steady job and no one in our family has suffered the effects of COVID-19. We cannot dismiss the fact that according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 4.9 million people in the United States have been jobless for 15 to 26 weeks. We cannot dismiss the fact that there have been over 8.26 million cases of COVID-19 in the US, and more than 220,000 deaths. Whether or not we and our families are included in those statistics, they will have a direct effect on all of us. We don't even know all the lingering and long-term effects COVID-19 will have, but preliminary research is showing it will decrease the life expectancy in areas with the highest rates of infection.

Just a reminder that the Pension Trust meets on November 10th. One major topic that will be brought back for discussion is if the Trust will implement the CARES Act allowance for individuals to take distributions from the Pension. At our last meeting I promoted this change and it was tabled. I have heard from many members they would like to have this option. I am bringing information back to that meeting supporting the need to make this change for our members. There are union trustees and contractor trustees who vote on all changes. I have encouraged the other union trustees to support this option for our members. There is a wide range of the amounts that can be withdrawn up to \$100,000. I do not see that amount approved, especially because of the \$50,000 emergency withdrawal that is already part of our plan. So please let me know your thoughts on this and I will convey those at our November meeting.

For the vast majority of us, we have decided who we will vote for, or if we will even vote in November. That is what makes this Country great. We know all the attempts to undermine this election, challenge registered voter list, remove and limit polling places, question the ability and integrity of the US Postal Service, yet still, it will not deter most Americans from exercising this right. So hopefully – VOTE, or not, It's your CHOICE

With Thanksgiving around the corner, family dinners and get togethers will be adjusted with the safety of family being the number one priority on everyone's mind. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my work family here at 159 for their commitment and dedication to serving our members, the personal sacrifices they make, and their never-ending willingness to do whatever needs to get done. I truly appreciate each and every one of you, and the great job you all do in representing and working for our 159 family.



I would also like to thank all our retirees who help with the Fantasy in Lights. We could not do this community event without you, and we truly appreciate everything you all do. We are so fortunate to have such great members willing to give their time and talents for the betterment of 159.

Thanks to all our instructors for your time and dedication in educating our members to learn new aspects of the electrical industry, to hone and perfect the standard skills required, and provide a great foundation of knowledge to build upon.

Thank you to all current and former apprentice liaisons/ reps for all you do and have done to voice the concerns of all apprentices. You help us all do better to serve their needs and prepare them for a bright future.

Thanks to all the officers, leaders and committee members of our, EWMC, RENEW, Veterans and Women's Committees/Groups. Your hard work, vision and inclusiveness is leading the way to creating a 159 that believes in and serves all its members.

Thanks to all our members who have been helping with the upcoming elections, especially **Daniel Covarrubias, Youssef Amraoui, and Damien Sagapolutele.**

Thank you to all our public sector members who continue to believe in the union by ratifying their CBAs:

State of Wisconsin: 60 Accept, 2 Reject

UW Madison: 105 Accept, 4 Reject

UW Systems: 39 Accept, 3 Reject

All three collective bargaining agreements have been ratified.

We all have so much to be grateful for. I am grateful, blessed and thankful to be able to represent and work for our 159 families. It is something I never take for granted. I understand and accept the responsibilities and possibilities involved in serving our 159 family. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and remember all you have to be grateful for.

"We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count." Neal

A. Maxwell

"Gratitude and attitude are not challenges; they are choices." Robert Braathe

"The soul that gives thanks can find comfort in everything; the soul that complains can find comfort in nothing." —Hannah Whitall Smith

Take care. Be safe.

Susan Blue, (608)255-2989 ~Ext 115 ~ Cell: (608)772-0435 ~ blue@ibew159.org

Referral Agent, Kenneth Jungenberg

Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

We have been putting a few members to work this month: 4 JIW and 4 CW's to Pieper, 11 JIW, 1 apprentice, and 1 CW to Morse, 3 trainees to Systems Tech, 1 apprentice to Hill, and 1 CW to Van Ert. I am hoping this continues. Please remember to resign between the 10th and the 16th of the month. I still have a few that haven't resigned that will be taken off the book and will need to call me to resign them to the book.

We've been noticing that many members have let their credentials and dues lapse. You risk losing benefits, hours and your good standing, along with the ability to be referred out. Most jobs are asking for a current OSHA 10 certification, which can be acquired online. And you **must** have a current Wisconsin electrical license to be referred out for work. Please check your credentials and dues receipts.

The work picture is still slow, we have been waiting to see what is going to happen with the Badger Hollow solar project in Cobb.

Please check the web site www.ibew159.org/, job line, or IBEW 159 Facebook page daily <https://www.facebook.com/IBEWLocal159/>, And don't forget to resign between the 10th and 16th. Please remember to buy Union-made/U.S.-made whenever possible.

Ken Jungenberg, (608)255-2989 ~ Ext 114 ~ Job Line: (608)255-0169 ~ referral@ibew159.org

BOOK #'s:

INSIDE

Book I – 79
Book II – 45
Apprentices - 6

RESIDENTIAL

Book 1 – 1
Book 2 - 1

VDV

Book I – 5
Book II – 2

Membership Development /Organizer Report Casey Healy

Here is a question for all members of Local 159 to ask themselves.

Why am I a union member?

- A. **Union member**: Higher paying wages and benefits, IBEW Pension, NEBF Pension, Local Retirement Pension (25%), negotiated contract with yearly raises, safe working conditions, paid healthcare, dental, long- and short-term disability, four separate life insurance policies, flex account, shift differential pay, 1 ½-time and double-time pay, and a great career.
- B. **Non-Union** worker: Lower paying wages, worker pays for health care often with high deductibles, worker contributes to their own 401(k) retirement plan, sometimes with an employer match of up to 4%, worker has to negotiate their own yearly raise with no guarantee they will receive one. Workers are not always paid their earned 1 ½-time hourly wage, or shift differential pay. Bottom line is the Non-Union worker pays for their benefits out of their own pocket.



IBEW Local 159 has less than 10% of all members that attend monthly membership meeting, serve on a committee, volunteer for community service, or are instructors for local 159 members.

Based on the above information, 90% of IBEW Local 159 members are here only because of the Wages and Benefits they receive. If this is true, each and every one of you that fall into this 90% category better think very hard about what I'm about to tell you.

Listed above under option "A" Union member, which includes your present Wages and Benefits is everything that the Republican Party is trying to take away from YOU and your UNION. If your present and future Wages and Benefits are important, you need to vote for the Democratic Party.

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) is option "B" Non-Union worker. Lower wages with the worker paying out of their pocket for benefits. ABC endorses the Republican Party.

Your vote this November will have a great impact on your present and future Wages and Benefits. You have the right to make your own decision to vote for a POSITIVE or a NEGATIVE impact on your future.

United we stand, divided we fall.

Casey Healy, (608)255-2989 ~ Ext 111 ~ Cell: (608)515-3552 ~ chealy@ibew159.org

Organizer/Business Agent Damon Glenn

Brothers & Sisters,

VOTE!

If the workers of the world want to win, all they have to do is recognize their own solidarity. They have nothing to do but fold their arms and the world will stop. The workers are more powerful with their hands in their pockets than all the property of the capitalists. . .

—Joseph Ettor, IWW organizer

Damon Glenn, (608)255-2989 ~ Ext 112 ~ dglenn@ibew159.org

[Retirees Luncheon](#)

Due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak, and with continued caution, the retiree luncheon will be canceled until further notice. We will be continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation monthly and advise/inform as to when it is believed safe and allowable to have the retiree luncheons again.

Fantasy in Lights progress report

Scheduled beginning FIL setup date at Olin Park this year is Monday, October 26th and take down is scheduled for Monday, January 4th.

If available/able to assist please call the union office (608) 255-2989 to inquire/sign up.

Or simply come to Olin Park starting Monday, Oct. 26th, at 7am for the scheduled two-week set-up.

Fraternally,

Tim May ~ IBEW 159 Retiree





EDUCATION CORNER

Dear Members,

Fall Classes are well underway for our apprenticeship program. Most classes are running over virtual means with few exceptions. Unfortunately, we did postpone our in-person night school classes due to a potential COVID-19 exposure. They have since resumed and are running smoothly. The students and teachers are doing a wonderful job adapting to virtual teaching and policy changes for in-person classes, and I would like to say thank you.

I know that there are many JW and CW members that are looking for classes for CEU credit, I am happy to say that I recently got approval from DSPS for a few short one-hour classes to be run over Zoom meeting. They are Conduit Fill and Box Fill. They may be a review for most JW's, but are a good refresher for anyone. I am hoping to run these in the near future so please watch for a notice. If interest in this type of short course is large enough more classes could be added. My goal for this would be to offer at least one a month for our members.

Next, I would still like to invite anyone who wishes to attend the education committee meetings. The people who know the most relevant needs for education in the industry are the people doing the work outside of the classroom and in the field. We are still hosting our meetings using video conferencing methods. If you would like to attend these meetings, please get a hold of me in order to get the link to you for joining the video conference. Our normal meeting is the first Thursday of the month at 4:30 PM.

Sincerely,

Sam Everly, Part-Time Education Coordinator ~ Email: sam.everly87@gmail.com



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

Members in good standing,

While RENEW 159 has been placed on indefinite pause, our spirits and motivation have not. As soon as it is safe to resume activities we plan to do so.

Sunday, October 4th we had our final Highway Cleanup of the year. Those in attendance were myself, Dave Boetcher, Damon Glenn, Lisa Goodman, Mitch Johnson, Josh Stern, and Josh Webber. Thanks to everyone for their help and special thanks to Nate Rasmussen from LU 2304, and friend of labor Ann Frisella for showing their support.

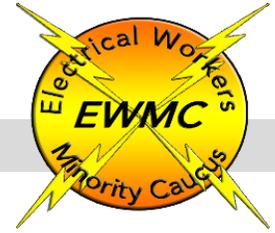
Employees of local java joint Colectivo Coffee are in the process of organizing with the IBEW. Stop by one of their locations and show your support by asking them to make your drink "IBEW Strong." Also, when asked for a name for your order say, "IBEW."

RENEW 159 stands with Black Lives Matter. The history of the IBEW is filled with blood, sweat, and tears in the fight for solidarity, dignity, equality, and justice for all. As members of this great union, it would be remiss of us to ignore the current and historic struggle that our Black friends, neighbors, husbands, wives, brothers, and sisters are facing. Visit blacklivesmatter.com to learn more.

RENEW 159 now has promotional items! We have hardhat stickers, koozies, and coloring books. We plan to pass them out at meetings and events as soon as they resume. However, if you would like some for you and/or your jobsite before then, email renew@ibew159.org and I can meet you in downtown Madison and give you some.

If you do the Facebook thing, search "Renew 159" then give our page a like to stay in the swing of things happening with your young workers committee in between "RENEWsletters."

In solidarity,
Pablo Baxter ~ Chairman, RENEW 159



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

EWMC 159 has been working on our Chapter Challenge #4, Get Out the Vote (GOTV). Over the past few weekends EWMC members have been out at barber shops and apartment complexes educating and registering people for the November 3 election. In the near future, after the election is done, we will be focusing more of our energy on Chapter Challenge #5, Instituting a Mentoring Program. Our National EWMC has coordinated with Mark M. McDermott a well-known labor history educator in presenting a webinar series labeled "The War on Workers-Coronavirus Style". These webinars are very informative. The EWMC is open to all members of IBEW 159 for membership, please don't let the "M" in minority fool you. We are all minorities in the labor movement. If you are interested in becoming an EWMC member or just curious about the committee, please contact **Shaun Daniels at ewmc@ibew159.org**

In solidarity

Shaun Daniels ~ EWMC President

OFFICE MANAGER & BOOKKEEPER:

The last couple months have been a whirlwind in my realm, which is why I did not have a report in last month's newsletter; my apologies. This month we have quite a bit to cover.

First, our Annual External Audit is complete. Our Consolidated Financial Statements are available to review in the office.

Second, our Form LM-2 was reviewed by Treasurer Cam Knuteson and President Tom Lemens, and submitted before the September deadline. This Form is a public disclosure and can be reviewed online or in the office.

The last filing deadline we face is our annual Tax Return Form 990, due November 15th. Working with Wegner CPA's, we are done with the review and waiting on our CPA's office to file. Once filed, our 990 is also available as a public disclosure and can be reviewed in the office

Now the fun part: comparing the numbers from June 2019 and June 2020. We had a June 2019 closing balance of \$4,848,881.11 in total assets and a June 2020 opening balance of \$5,450,966.31; an increase in 12.4%. From my understanding, we are doing good on the financial part.

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 beneficiary forms, so everything is current.

*** SNAPS Online ***

Are you looking for help to pass the JW or Master's test? Would you like to learn more about reading and understanding the NEC? Contact us for information to access our free SNAPS online practice tests.

Go ONLINE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS IN YOUR AREA!



<https://www.apprenticeship.gov/national-apprenticeship-week>





ADAMS	PETER	HILGERS	RANDALL	PLASS	GREGORY
ANDREWS	JOSHUA	HILGERS	RAYMOND	POHLMAN	MICHAEL
BACHHUBER	ERIC	HILTBRAND	JESSE	RECHLICZ	MARC
BAKER	RYAN	HOLLENBECK	JESSE	REPLOGLE	SCOTT
BANES	KEVIN	HOMAN	JACOB	RICHARDS	JOSHUA
BANGERT	DYLAN	JORDAN	AARON	RICKEY	DYLAN
BEINE	BRET	KAHL	BOBBI	SANKBEIL	KEVIN
BIRCHER	SAMUEL	KAHLOW	NEIL	SCHAITEL	BRANDON
BROOME	AUSTIN	KALLIO	THOMAS	SCHELLIN	TERRY
BUKIEWICZ	DANIEL	KASPRZYK	BRUCE	SCHOENENBERGER	LOGAN
BURKE	MICHAEL	KELLER	AUSTIN	SCHUETTE	MATTHEW
CALL	ROBERT	KEMPFER	FREDRICK	SHIRLEY	CHRISTOPHER
CATES	DAVID	KENYON	MICHAEL	SMITH	LOUIS
CHISHOLM	DONALD	LANDPHIER	RANDY	SMITH	DANIEL
CZECHANSKI	MICHAELPAUL	LARSON	TIMOTHY	SMITH	SCOTT
DAVIS	JEROME	LEMENS	THOMAS	SPATARO	VICTOR
DEMINTER	JUSTIN	LEMOINE	DYLAN	STAMM	TERRANCE
DRESSLER	GREG	LIEGEL	GERARD	STATZ	COREY
DYBUL	COLEMAN	LYON	CURTIS	STEPHENSON	JAY
ELEY	DENNIS	MAIER	COLE	STLUKA	EMERY
FEINER	KELLY	MITTELSTEDT	MICHAEL	STURMER	NATHAN
FLEMING	GLENN	MUELLER	PHILLIP	SULLIVAN	MICHAEL
FOYE	RONALD	NELSON	RICHARD	SUTTER	KYLE
FRAME	JON	NEU	JAMES	SUTTER	KRISTOPHER
HAEFER	DAVID	NEUMAN	ADAM	TOURTOUROPOULOS	DIMITRIS
HALLORAN	DANIEL	O'CONNELL	CODY	TRAGER	BRANDEN
HANDEL	JAMES	OTT	TRENTON	VINJE	DEREK
HANSON	HOWARD	PARKER	MARK	WADDELL	BLAINE
HAVEY	NICHOLAS	PEDDER	WAYNE	WAGNER	MICHAEL
HEDING	RICHARD	PETERSON	CODY	WANTA	JOSHUA
HERRITZ	RYAN	PETERSON	MAYNARD	WEBBER	JOSHUA
YOST JIMMY					

Quick Guide to Voting

- **Phone numbers for voting info:**
 - The Wisconsin Elections Commission: (608) 266-8005; toll-free 1-866-VOTE-WIS
 - League of Women Voters nonpartisan Voter Helpline: call or text (608) 285-2141.
- www.MyVote.Wi.gov
 - Check your voter registration status, track absentee ballot, find municipal clerk, locate your polling place, see what's on your ballot, find your elected officials, see key voting dates and deadlines, and much more.
- www.BringIt.Wi.gov/ Info about Voter ID in Wisconsin
- Find secure absentee ballot drop box in your county, <https://vote.wisdems.org/counties/>
- City of Madison Clerk, www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/elections-voting, (608) 266-4601
- Candidates and Issues, Wisconsin <https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/voter-information>
 - Dane County <https://www.lwvdanecounty.org/candidates-answers-fall-2020>
- AFL-CIO Endorsements www.wisafclcio.org/ (Complete list was included in the October newsletter.)
- Voting info also available at www.ibew159.org
- **Absentee ballots: Return ASAP**, by US Mail (ASAP), or secure drop box. Make sure it arrives by **November 3**. You may also return ballot at the polls. **Make sure to:** sign and date the ballot envelope, AND have witness (age 18+, U.S. citizen) sign and write their address. See info/photo via www.ibew159.org, or www.facebook.com/IBEWLocal159/
- If you ask a poll worker to witness your absentee ballot, the ballot must be **BLANK** before you start. Otherwise, they cannot say that YOU voted that ballot. (They do not watch who you vote for, only that you did vote.)
- If you vote in person, please be safe: wear a mask, keep clean hands, use social distancing.



Election Work at 159

Thank you and congratulations to Local 159's hard-working crew of phone bankers: ***Youssef Amraoui, Pablo Baxter, Sue Blue, LeeAndo Braxton, *Daniel Covarrubias, Damon Glenn, Lisa Goodman, Damien Sagapolutele** (*In top 5, for most calls made by Wisconsin IBEW callers for two weeks). Daniel leads on number of calls made, at press time. Local 159 has been #1 for most phone calls made, for two weeks straight.

EWMC Voter Education Ambassadors Shaun Daniels, Damon Glenn, and Mitch Johnson went above and beyond, holding Voter Registration events at barber shops and on the North Side. Thank you to stewards and all members who have picked up "IBEW for Biden Harris" yard signs. Contact the Hall for your sign today.

Your help is still needed - Special Project support still available for phone banking, yard sign distribution and lit dropping, during GOTV (Get Out the Vote). Contact the office if you can help.

From the IBEW Wisconsin weekly campaign report, October 20:

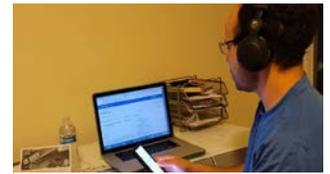
In Wisconsin, we continue to have some Locals really kicking butt! Since last week, we have already made over 5,600 phone call attempts. Just to highlight a few top callers out there:

Top 5 individuals

#1 Daniel Covarrubias	(LU 159) 1223 Calls
#2 Dave Jungbluth	(I.O) 606 Calls
#3 Nick Webber	(LU 953) 576 Calls
#4 John Zapfel "JZ"	(LU 494) 503 calls
#5 Youssef Amraoui	(LU 159) 294 Calls

Top 5 Local Unions

#1 BEW 159 – 1579 calls
#2 I.O. Reps – 1379 calls
#3 IBEW 494 – 1067 calls
#4 IBEW 953 – 576 calls (Nick Webber)
#5 IBEW 2150 – 564 calls



Youssef Amraoui
phone banking

From the IBEW Wisconsin weekly campaign report, October 14:

We literally can't wait until tomorrow or next week to start this! The time is now and as we said back in 2018, "All in to Win!"

Top 5 individuals

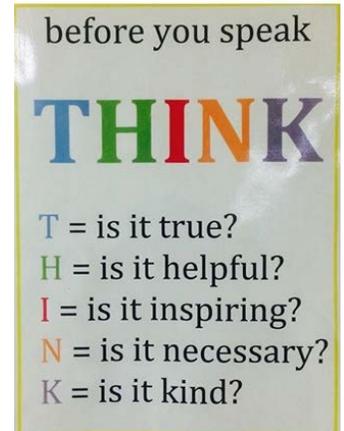
#1 John Zapfel "JZ"	(Local 494) 298 calls
#2 Daniel Covarrubias	(Local 159) 250 calls
#3 Youssef Amraoui	(Local 159) 176 calls
#4 Dave Jungbluth	(I.O) 153 calls
#5 Guy LePage	(Local 388) 124 calls

Top 5 Local Unions

#1 IBEW 159 – 473 calls
#2 I.O. Reps – 353 calls
#3 IBEW 494 – 298 calls (J.Z.)
#4 IBEW 2150 – 135 calls
#5 IBEW 388 – 124 calls (Guy LePage)

We Need You (Keep "U" in "Union")

When we let ourselves be divided, our union is weaker. Whether by politicians and the 1%, by employers, or for any petty reason, **when we are divided, we are weaker.** If unions are all about unity and organizing, let us all set the conscious goal of organizing ourselves more tightly together. The IBEW is considered a brotherhood, and we often refer to each other as brother and sister. How are we doing? Do we treat our fellow union members at least as well as we do our own blood siblings? What if each of us tried to lift each other, through small random acts of kindness? It's just as easy to be kind, as it is to be cruel. And it doesn't cost extra. It feels good to support others, and make another person feel good if they're having a bad day. Our union and our country both need unity right now. **We CAN be the change we want to see in the world.** We are stronger together.



We Want to Keep YOU in the Loop

Every month, we email the newsletter to EVERY member for whom we have an email address on file. Right now, there are about 120 members who do NOT have email addresses on file at Local 159. We realize that not every member uses email. But if you do, PLEASE make sure we have your email address, current phone number and address on file at the office. If you would like to receive the Local 159 newsletter by US Mail, please contact the office.

Please share this info with others on your job site.

We want to make sure EVERYONE receives important information, such as info about your electrical license, benefits, and continuing education opportunities, etc. We are stronger together.

More Info About Voting

At the October South Central Federation of Labor (SCFL) meeting, guest speaker Rabbi Bonnie Margulis, president of Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice, shared information about the voting process in Wisconsin. It is important for voters to understand the process, and what to expect.

- We will not know the results on Election Day. It may take 7-10 days or longer, until results are in.
- By state law, Wisconsin absentee ballots cannot be counted until Election Day.
- It takes time and effort for poll workers to process absentee ballots, and there is much documentation and attention to detail. Every step involves two poll workers.
- With 300,000 absentee ballots submitted last time, poll workers in Wisconsin worked through the night, until 4am, to process them all. This time, there have been more than a **million** absentee ballots requested in Wisconsin.
- Poll workers are still needed in many places around the state, especially more rural places. Poll workers can work polls anywhere in the county where they live. Contact your municipal clerk to see if you can help.

C.O.P.E. (Committee On Political Education)

COPE stands for Committee On Political Education and is the nonpartisan political arm of IBEW Local 159. The purpose of the COPE is to solicit and receive voluntary political contributions from members of the local union, and to make expenditures and contributions solely for non-federal state and local election activity deemed to be in the best interest of the local union.

YOUR COPE CONTRIBUTION:

- Is combined with contributions of other IBEW Local 159 Union members to make your political voice stronger. Your small contribution becomes a part of a much larger force, which helps to create valuable allies to fight anti-working person and anti-family legislation (such as Right-To-Work), and support legislation that helps working families.
- Is distributed to candidates who have demonstrated their support of working men and women regardless of the political party to which they belong.
- Has been used to support our members, fellow union brothers and sisters, and other candidates in their efforts to win races for mayor, executive councils, aldermen, state legislator, etc.

With the present state of the economy and the attitudes of people in general towards politics, our COPE contributions represent great support to the efforts of the democratic and political process of our government. We must strive to get all our members participating in our COPE program so we can generate more funds to help elect candidates who will support the labor movement and what it stands for.

Mission Statement: The Committee On Political Education's (COPE) duties and functions shall be to educate the membership and the public on issues and candidates in the state, municipal and national elections; to encourage and assist members and their families to register and vote in elections; and to coordinate our Local Union's political activities with other unions in the area.

Members' voluntary contributions are used to support politicians, regardless of party, that support labor issues that affect our membership. Donations, endorsements, and support are supplied at the state level only.

*** Important Web Site Update ***

Heads up: Before year-end, we hope to update the Local 159 web site. **After the web site is updated, we will be asking all members to update their login.** We want to make the switchover with the least possible disruption to members. Please stay tuned for details.



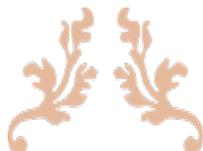


Robert E. "Bob" Schultz, age 84 of Darlington, WI passed away Sunday, October 11, 2020 at William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital in Madison, WI. He was born September 8, 1936 the son of Clarence and Viola (Udelhoven) Schultz. Bob grew up in the Belmont, WI area. He served in the U. S. Air Force during the Korean War and was stationed in Greenland. While serving in the Air Force he married Janice R. Franz on March 14, 1959 at Darlington United Methodist Church in Darlington. He was later honorably discharged. Upon his return to Darlington, Bob began working as an electrician for Adolph Blaser in the Darlington area before joining the IBEW Electricians Union in Madison where he worked until his retirement in 1998.

Bob was a member of Darlington United Methodist Church in Darlington, a 50-year member and Master Mason of Evening Star Lodge #64 F. & A.M. of Darlington and Bates-O'Brien-Howe-Wiegel-Roelli American Legion Post #214 of Darlington where he served on the board that established the Lafayette County Veterans Memorial in Darlington of which he was very proud. He also currently served on the Board of Directors of Union Grove Cemetery Association. Bob loved spending time with his family creating memories they will all cherish forever. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved to hunt and fish. Bob was an exceptional artist known for his duck carvings and landscape paintings. He could be found working out at the wellness center in the early mornings almost every day of the week. He will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by his family and friends.

A private family memorial service will be held at a later date. Burial will be in Union Grove Cemetery where military graveside rites will be accorded by Bates-O'Brien-Howe-Wiegel-Roelli American Legion Post #214 of Darlington. The Erickson Funeral Home in Darlington is serving the family. Online condolences can be expressed to the family at www.ericksonfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Darlington American Legion Post #214 in Bob's name.



Condolences go out to IBEW Local 159 Retiree Elmer Racek and Family. His wife Sharon Racek passed away on October 6th, 2020.

May the happy and loving memories of Sharon be what carries you through each new day

*** MONTHLY DUES (effective 1/1/2020) ***

\$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

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 #265. **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 LOCAL 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





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

Contacts

Local 159 Office	(608) 255-2989, office@ibew159.org
Local 159 Job line	(608) 255-0169, 5:00pm -7:00am
Apprenticeship Office	(608) 221-3321, wijatc.org
Department of Safety & Professional Services (DSPS)(Licensing)	(608) 266-2112, dsps.wi.gov
WEEBF, Health Insurance & Benefits	(608) 276-9111, weebf.org
(Wisconsin Electrical Employee Benefit Fund)	or (800) 422-2128

The WEEBF office will be open for phone calls, but not for walk-in visitors, email fundoffice@weebf.org Apprenticeship office, (608) 221-3321. Apprenticeship applications are due December 18, 2020. To receive an Apprenticeship application, email office@ibew159.org, or give us a call (608)255-2989, ext 113, between 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.