IBEW LOCAL 159 OCTOBER 2021

Greetings 159 Family,

The staff and I have been committed to catching up on New Member Orientations. Working our way backwards from our newest members, we will continue to contact members who have become part of the 159 family in the past two years. Due to COVID, there are many of you who have not had the opportunity to learn about the foundation of being a union member, what your union does for you and what your union expects from you. This is a partnership. When we stand together and work together, we will continue to rise together.

Our apprentices continue to take Labor Studies class as part of their night school curriculum. ALL of our members should have a basic understanding of the Labor Movement, and all the sacrifices made by others to give us all a better life. We don't want to forget that history or take for granted those accomplishments. Some have been lost, and others are on the line. Here's a little history many of you may not know: Wisconsin created the first state Registered Apprenticeship system in 1911, and in 1937 Congress enacted the National Apprenticeship Act (the Fitzgerald Act), establishing the program that exists to this day. By the mid-1940s, approximately 6,233 Registered Apprenticeship programs existed nationwide, educating and training 4,000 apprentices. Wisconsin's law implemented these safeguards for both the apprentice and the employer. We should all know and be very proud that we became a model for other states and for the federal government in developing their own systems.

November 14-20 is Apprenticeship Week in Wisconsin, and we will be planning several events to recognize our apprentices. Watch for emails from the office, posts on our FB pages and on www.ibew159.org.
Night school classes are going full steam at the hall. We will be adding some brand-new trainings and opportunities for all classifications. Unfortunately, we are still very limited on class and training center space. We will continue our assessment and research to ensure we can provide our members with the necessary skills and CEUs as Local 159 continues to grow. As a local, we all need to look at our future as an industry and continue to differentiate ourselves from the non-union sector. We cannot claim to be better skilled and a better value to contractors and customers, if we don't commit to backing that claim with better education and training. That is your future and the future of 159.

We will also be looking at providing financial planning and retirement related seminars for members and your family. Once again, space is an issue and we may be looking at both in-person and virtual opportunities for those.
With the beginning of a new school year, I would like to take a moment to thank all our instructors, in day and night school. I would also like to thank our newest night school instructors for giving back to Local 159 and helping us provide more and varied classes to our members. We appreciate all you do.

Special thanks and recognition again to our retirees working on Fantasy In Lights preparations. This event TRULY would not take place without them, and the efforts of the other 159 members who make this successful year after year. At the last LMCC meeting, I asked for all acknowledgments, printed material, and signage to be changed from NECA/IBEW to IBEW/NECA and always put IBEW first. There is NO doubt, we have kept this event growing, prosperous and POSSIBLE.

If there are any active or retired members interested in helping tutor reading or math, please reach out to me.
We received a big thank you for the generosity shown by many Local 159 members, after Karli Fahney's house caught fire. In addition to Venmo and cash donations, members donated hand tools, as well as clothing and stuffed animals. Support came from as far away as the west coast, from a group of travelers out there. Truly the sisterhood/brotherhood extends nationwide!
Happy Autumn!

Remember to send me your "I Gave Five" volunteer hours (see August newsletter).

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

Thank you, IBEW 159!

Thank you so much for your kind words and generosity. The support that has been shown from the IBEW family has made it much easier to adjust and start to recover 💔

- Karli Fahney, IBEW 159 member

Referral Agent Kenneth Jungenberg

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

work has begun to slow down a bit with only 7 open calls at this time: 2 for Hill; and 5 for Morse at Epic. The Inside book numbers are still staying consistent with few referrals going out. We do have 5 apprentices out of work, but I think we will be able to place them quickly. We are still waiting for requests to come in for workers at the Badger Hollow II solar field. I am expecting them very soon. I am expecting a total of 25 JIW's and sub-class now, and a total of 150 by mid-April.

BOOK #'s:

INSIDE
Book I – 44
Book II – 13
Apprentice - 5

Fantasy in Lights is going well with most of the displays being checked out and new photo controls installed in the panels by the retirees. We have one new trailer loaded, wrapped, and ready to go, and a second trailer delivered, and hopefully getting wrapped with new graphics soon. We also have a few new displays scheduled for this year. Things are moving along well, while we ramp up to "lights on" November 15, at 4:30pm.

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

Membership Development/Organizer Report - Casey Healy

The most important thing to know about your union is that YOU are the union. A union is only as strong, effective, and powerful as the members who participate in its operation and activities.
You can best exercise that power by being informed, involved and active in your union.
Every member can take any number of simple steps to make your union a more powerful and effective vehicle for advancing your interests and the interests of all members.
These steps include:

- **Read and follow your contract and keep it handy** – Your contract specifies your rights and benefits of being an IBEW Local 159 member.
- **Go to your union leadership if you have a question** – If you are unclear about what your contract says, or what your union is doing to address an issue, contact a local 159 business agent and ask them.
- **Attend meetings** – This is the place to express your views and help you stay informed.
- **Read newsletters, emails, etc.** – Newsletter, Facebook posts, web site and email blasts are used to keep members informed of ongoing issues.
- **Participate in and vote in the election of your local** – Your local has a process for holding elections of its officers. If you have the time, run for election. If you don't have time, learn about who is running. Make sure you vote.
- **Organize the non-union –** Make it your goal to help organize all non-union electrical workers.

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery. And today? Today is a gift. That's why we call it the present."
Casey Healy, (608) 255-2989 ~ Ext 111; Cell: (608) 515-3552 ~ chealy@ibew159.org

Organizer/Business Agent Damon Glenn

Sisters & Brothers,

Welcome the Fall season once again. I hope all is well with you and your families. Currently coast to coast the IBEW has 2,500 open calls. The Sixth District (Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota) has 200 open calls. Here in Wisconsin as of September 23, we have 11 open calls statewide ((2) Local 14, (2) Local 158, and (7) Local 159). Since I have been a member of IBEW 159 (2006) there has never been a better time to become an IBEW 159 electrician or signatory electrical contractor than there is right now. On September 22, IBEW 159 hosted the State Organizers Blitz this month. Our target area was Iowa County and Western Dane County. We made 116 stops out of 163 targets. If you know any family, friends or neighbors interested in becoming an electrician please have them contact Casey Healy or Damon Glenn.

The labor movement did not diminish the strength of the nation but enlarged it. By raising the living standards of millions, labor miraculously created a market for industry and lifted the whole nation to undreamed of levels of production. Those who attack labor forget these simple truths, but history remembers them.
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Damon Glenn, (608) 255-2989 ~ Ext 112; Cell: (608) 338-9075 ~ dglenn@ibew159.org

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Business Agent Lisa Goodman

As colder months near, we think of Halloween costumes, the Packers, hunting, winter holidays, and other seasonal thoughts. It's a busy season. But if you have time, **you can make a difference**. Please consider volunteering: if you can come to a Labor-related rally or other event, let me know --we will notify you of events. Or spend a couple hours helping a newer member bend conduit. Or help with voter education and outreach. Contact me to discuss. Also, Sam Everly is always on the lookout for future instructors.
As they say, it takes a village. We are each other's village.

I recently attended the Wisconsin Building Trades conference in Wisconsin Rapids. One of the biggest "ah-ha!" moments came as I was leaving, and thanked the person who was cleaning rooms. She remarked that she seldom gets such good tips. I told her we value and want to support workers --especially essential workers. They work hard, and don't earn a lot. I offered respect for her UW-SP degree, but encouraged her to look into a great career in the trades.

Have you seen www.scfl.org? The South Central Federation of Labor is our CLC (central labor council). Learn about upcoming events and rallies, and the Labor History Society Essay Contest (first prize $500!). Under "Delegates" you can find Community Service Resources, and info about the FMLA.

Last, let's stay well. Masks help us keep each other safe. As Michael Perry says, "If you can't be safe, watch out for the other guy." Make someone's day today -- be kind.

Lisa Goodman, (608) 255-2989 ~ Ext 122; Cell: (608) 622-2160 ~ solidarity@ibew59.org

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Retirees Update

Due to continued caution surrounding COVID-19, and with the Dane County indoor mask mandate in effect, the monthly retiree luncheons will be canceled until further notice.

The Fantasy in Lights work is continuing on Thursdays. Usual arrival time is 7:30 to 8:00 AM. If available and interested in helping with FIL work this year, please contact Ken Jungenberg at the Hall 608-255-2989 ext. 114. Hope to see you there!
Tim May ~ IBEW Local 159 ~ Retiree

Education Corner

Classes are underway. Right now we are running them in-person at the IBEW 159 training center, and at MATC. We require that everyone wear masks and try to maintain social distancing. With that said if you are having any symptoms of COVID-19 or feeling sick, please contact your instructor and work something out to make up the time for staying home from class. If we do this, we can continue to offer classes in-person.

I recently received word from DSPS that one of our new classes, advanced conduit bending, was approved for 18 CEUs. It is originally intended for third year apprentices. This could be a good class for JWs and CWs/CEs, if

you're looking for CEUs and want more experience with rigid and larger pipe. It will run four times this year, with the first section already started. I would suggest that any CW interested in this course have at least taken the basic conduit bending course and have 2+ years experience, or the material my prove too difficult.

The class schedule can be found at www.ibew159.org, and any class listed there would be available to JW and CW members, if there is remaining enrolment space. We hope to add some shorter classes in the near future, so check the schedule often. I encourage new CWs to enroll in the basic conduit bending course, as it has 18 CEUs, and has a lot of beneficial material for a beginner in the trade.

I would also like to invite anyone who wishes to attend the education committee meetings. We are still hosting our meetings using video conferencing, to try and make it more convenient to attend. If you would like to attend these meetings, please get a hold of me to get the link 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~sam.everly87@gmail.com

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"The mission of the Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers (RENEW) initiative is to inspire the next generation of IBEW workers to become active in their local union. All are welcome at our monthly meetings held on the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 PM

Members in good standing,

Unfortunately, the RENEW Conference in October has been canceled.

At our September meeting we elected officers. The results are: Recording Secretary - Rebecca Schave, Co-Chair - Mitch Johnson, Chairman - Pablo Baxter. Congratulations to the new administration!

On Saturday, October 2, members of the committee attended a workshop on union stewardship and activism presented by the Milwaukee Area Labor Council.

Colectivo Coffee employees recently voted to unionize with the IBEW, giving them a powerful voice in their workplace. Please consider supporting the Colectivo baristas and cafe workers by ordering your coffee IBEW Strong!!

RENEW 159 now has promotional items! We have hardhat stickers, koozies, and coloring books. We plan to pass them out at meetings and events. If you would like some for you and/or your jobsite in between meetings 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 ~ renew@ibew159.org

Brothers & Sisters,

National EWMC is in the process of planning our virtual EWMC Conference (Call to Order) that will commence the weekend prior to Martin Luther King Holiday, January 17, 2022. Locally, EWMC 159 has been working on our Chapter Challenges. Mentoring, Prison to Work Advocacy, and Voter registration have been three of the chapter challenges getting the most work put into them. I would like to mention again that EWMC 159 is open to all IBEW 159 members. We do have a mission statement and objectives that we advocate and follow (https://www.ibew-ewmc.com/). On our monthly President chapter meeting it was announced that EWMC 159 has "officially" been chartered with National EWMC. We attended our first conference in 2018 (Detroit) and had accepted and been working on the objectives and mission statement of EWMC ever since. I'm excited to say since 2018 we have grown the EWMC to 26 members with the future looking very good. **WE ARE ALL MINORITIES WHEN IT COMES TO ORGANIZED LABOR!** If you are interested in EWMC please contact me.

In Solidarity,
Shaun Daniels, EWMC President ~ ewmc@ibew159.org

Veterans Group

Hello, Brothers and Sisters!

I'm still requesting feedback on all aspects of what we, as a local, would like our veterans committee to look like. Please reach out to me at Raymond_droessler@hotmail.com... In the meantime, come on down for our meeting on the first Thursday of every month at 4:30pm at the hall!

From www.veteranscrisisline.net: "People can experience an emotional or mental health crisis due to a wide range of situations. For some, it might be the end of a personal relationship. For others, it might be the loss of a job. For Veterans, these crises can be heightened by their experiences during military service."
This resource is absolutely free and is operated 24/7 by qualified, caring folks… if you're struggling, or are concerned about a vet and are looking for ways to help, please reach out to them. If you had uncontrolled bleeding, you would seek emergency care… treat your mental health the same way!

Veterans Crisis Line is available for online chat at www.veteranscrisisline.net, by phone at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, and/or text 838255.

Madison Scuba, in coordination with 4th H.O.O.A.H. WI https://hooahinc.org/4th-hooah-wisconsin/, is offering free SCUBA training this coming spring for those with a DD214, Military ID, or other proof of service. The link to the SCUBA training is https://hooahinc.org/scuba-diving. If interested, go ahead and register (make sure to select Madison Scuba for "preferred Scuba Location"). A $50 deposit is required, but will be refunded as long as you make it to your first class. The spring dates are not yet available on the registration page; if selected, you will be notified with additional information. Two classroom sessions, two pool sessions, and four open water dives over two weekends.

"Picket" Definition: a person posted for a demonstration or protest.
Picket was enlisted into the English language in the late 1600s as a word for the pointed stakes used to mark out an area for building fortifications. The word was also called upon as a name for a detachment of soldiers serving to guard an army from a surprise attack. That use may have influenced today's pickets who try to persuade workers to support a labor strike. From https://www.merriam-webster.com/words-at-play/civilianized-military-jargon/picket

Modern Usage from KWQC, MOLINE, Illinois Sept. 14, 2021 – "Tuesday morning, Union Auto Workers who work for John Deere came with signs in hand to ***picket*** outside the John Deere Headquarters."
https://www.kwqc.com/2021/09/14/union-members-picket-outside-john-deere-headquarters/
In Solidarity,
Jay Droessler~ raymond_droessler@hotmail.com

October Calendar

Night classes have begun. Schedule is posted at www.ibew159.org

October is National Careers in Construction Month

Oct 6	Audit Committee, First Weds, quarterly, 4:30 at Local 159
Oct 6	Exam Board, First Weds, quarterly, 4:30(?) at Local 159
Oct 7	1630 (4:30 pm) Veterans Committee, at IBEW 159 (first Thursday)
Oct 7	4:30, Education Committee, (first Thurs) virtual, sam.everly87@gmail.com
~~Oct 11~~	~~CANCELLED: Retirees Lunch (second Mon~~). See Retirees report
Oct 14	4:30, RENEW meeting at Madison Labor Temple (second Thurs)
Oct 14	5:30, Union meeting at Madison Labor Temple (second Thurs)
	Invite new union members to get sworn in. Attend together.
Oct 21	3:00, Inside Apprenticeship Committee (third Thurs) open session
Oct 27	4:30, IBEW 159 Women's Group (fourth Weds), solidarity@ibew159.org
Oct 28	5:00, Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (fourth Thurs), ewmc@ibew159.org
Oct 26	5:00, Executive Board (fourth Tues.) IBEW 159, McFarland

November

Nov 14-20	Wisconsin Apprenticeship Week
Nov 17	4:00, VDV Apprentice Comm. In person, TBA. (third Weds, odd-numbered month

Report: Regina V. Polk Women's Labor Leadership Conference

My name is Cassie Schuler. I'm a fifth-year apprentice. I attended the Regina V. Polk Women's Labor Leadership Conference from June 24-26, at the University of Illinois, in Chicago. This was an amazing learning experience for me. It was fast paced from the beginning.

The first day was spent learning about grievances, whether one should be filed, how to file, and what to do if it was denied. We also took a Labor tour of the Pullman Museum, the Haymarket Memorial, and the Stockyards. The second day we did a case study and worked in small groups to file and present grievances. There were many heated discussions and it was amazing to see the passion that these women had, even for a fake case study. On the last day we learned about being an activist. This is not something I was familiar with. We were given another assignment in small groups and had to put together a case to lobby for paid Family and Medical Leave Act. This was incredible to watch and even more terrifying to be a part of.

As the conference came to an end each of us was required to stand and receive our certificate and give a speech. For me, this was absolutely the most difficult part, but after getting to know this group of amazing women, I wasn't frozen in fear. I felt supported. I made some amazing allies, and I hope to see them again this fall, for the leadership academy, Women & Power: Building a Toolbox For Leadership.
Thank you to the Executive Board and the Local for this opportunity.
I encourage all the women in our local to attend any and all educational opportunities.

[Earlier this year, Local 159's Executive Board approved sending as many as three members to this conference. Attendance was by application. Cassie Schuler applied and was accepted.]

Welcome New Apprentices!

Marcus Amato
Molly Battist
Evan Bouton, VDV
Ryan Brausen
Chad Burlage
Adam Catacutan
MichaelPaul Czechanski
Alexander Dickert, 3
Wesley Dilley
Aaron Ebert, VDV
Caden Eichorst
Liza Fehr
Samantha Flannery, VDV
Aiden Florin
Edward Gerke
Ryan Goth
Agnan Hashani
Timothy Hawkins
Alaraya Holmberg
Alex Holmberg, VDV
Holly Hunt
Timothy Jackson
Aliona Krupskaya
Theodore Lagger
Ashley Lasecki
Cale Lewandowski
Zachary Manners
Cody Matush
Drew McConnell
Patrick O'Neil
Max Palzkill
Seth Replogle, VDV
Dylan Rickey
Faustino Rivera
Matthew Schmidt, 3
Blake Shallow
Dakota Sorum
Brandt Spilde
Nolan Stapelfeldt
Joshua Stenjem
Lucy Stephens
Courtney Tillman
Jeremy Veek
Jacob Watkins
Alexander Wicks
Bowen Wileman
Michael Zouski

Welcome to our 47 new Apprentices, five of whom are VDV Apprentices (VDV). Two of the new Inside Apprentices transferred in as third years (3).

Local 159 at the Conservation Dinner, September 17

Happy Birthday

JOSHUA	ANSPACH	DEREK	GOETZ	DALE	MORRIS
BRUCE	ARNOLD	NICHOLAS	GROB-THAYER	ERNEST	NEWEL
PETER	BALTES	NICHOLAS	GRUNKE	AARON	NIST
DEMIAN	BANDERA	GABRIEL	HALL	GERALD	NOEL
JACOB	BARTEL	CHRISTOPHER	HANS	JONAH	O'CONNOR
CHARLES	BELIN	JASON	HARDY	DANIEL	OTT
KYLE	BELL	BRIAN	HARRISON	TROY	OUTHOUSE
LAURENCE	BOUCHE	MARVIN	HARRISON	STEVEN	PETRI
JOSEPH	BOURASSA	TODD	HINEY	KALEB	POHLMAN
NICHOLAS	BOZACKI	RYAN	HINTZ	JUSTIN	POWELL
TIM	BRAUN	DANIEL	HITTESDORF	ROCCO	PUCILLO-SCANLON
TIMOTHY	BRICKSON	WILBERT	HOLLER	ROBERT	QUACKENBOSS
GERALD	BROWN	JORDAN	HOUSER	SETH	RADL
DAVID	BUFTON	RYAN	HUTCHINSON	FAUSTINO	RIVERA
JEFF	BURMEISTER	FRANCIS	HYATT	JEREMY	ROACH
KITRI	BUSSEY	KAREN	INGMUNDSON	MICHAEL	ROBERSON
TYLER	CASH	DEL	JASPER	IAN	ROBERTSON
VINCENT	CIANO	JACKSON	JENSEN	AARON	ROM
DOUGLAS	CODDINGTON	JOSHUA	JOHNSON	DANIEL	ROSSETER
CHRISTOPHER	CROSSEN	FRANK	JOHNSON	DUANE	RUHLAND
DAVID	CUMMINGS	KENNETH	JUNGENBERG	DANIEL	SABIN
BRANDON	CUMMINGS	TYLER	KAECH	DEREK	SANDINE
LUCAS	DAILEY	TYLER	KENNEDY	REBECCA	SCHAVE
COLIN	DELANEY	JEFFREY	KERWIN	MARQUELLE	SCHMIDT
DYLAN	DITTBERNER	RYAN	KISTING	CASSIE	SCHULER
MICHAEL	ELLEFSON	RAYMOND	KNOX	PAUL	SCHULTE
CLIFFORD	EMERSON	RYAN	KOPP	DAKOTA	SORUM
JOSHUA	ERICKSON	EDWARD	KROTH	DAVID	STATZ
DANIEL	EUHARDY	JOHN	KUJAWA	VINCENT	TERASA
DENVER	EVANS	RANDY	LARSON	WILLIAM	TIMM
SAM	EVERLY	JOEL	LAURSEN	JOSHUA	TRAGER
ALEX	FELDMANN	MICHAEL	LEADERMAN	NEWTON	VAN DER WOUDE
JAMES	FLETCHER	JOSEPH	LEGRIS	JED	VOSSEKUIL
DAVID	FLOM	RYAN	MACHONGA	JAMES	WALKER
MELVIN	FORSETH	WING	MACLEAN	BRANDON	WEIER
MICHAEL	FOTI	PHIL	MARTINSON	JACOB	WELCH
NATHANIEL	FRISCH	BRIAN	MARVIN	JOSEPH	WHITTOW
DENNIS	FRY	MICHAEL	MCDANIEL	DANIEL	WIERSMA
NICHOLAS	GARCIA	LANCE	MEUDT	TRAVIS	WILLIAMS
JAMEY	GEHIN	BRODEN	MILLER	ABRAHAM	WINTER
EDWARD	GERKE	JAMES	MINNEMA	DEREK	WIPPERFURTH
	TODD WIPPERFURTH			ADAM ZASTROW	

We can't let people drive wedges between us… because there's only one human race.
-Dolores Huerta, Labor Rights Leader

See Current Class Offerings Schedule at www.ibew159.org

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 Dec. 17, 2021.**
To receive an application, email office@ibew159.org, or call between 8 AM – 4 PM.

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