

# Brotherhood Broadcasts

## Local Union #112

December 2025

Travis W. Sellers

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Brothers & Sisters:

As the year comes to an end, I want to extend my sincere “thanks” to each and every one of you for another successful year. The dedication, skill, and commitment to excellence shown by the members of IBEW LU 112 continues to strengthen our Local and uphold the traditions of the IBEW. We continue to move forward, meeting challenges head-on and supporting each other along the way.

This past year has been marked by strong teamwork, unity, and a shared focus on advancing the Brotherhood. Whether on the jobsite, in the classroom, or supporting the various Local activities; the achievements of IBEW LU 112 are driven by the members of this Local. These achievements reflect the pride our members take in who we are and what we represent.

The success of this year didn’t come without challenges. Despite contractual indifference and an adverse political climate, IBEW LU 112 members maintained their solidarity. By standing together, we protect fair wages, benefits, and working conditions, ensuring that our Local Union remains engaged, strong, and prepared for the opportunities and challenges that are ahead of us.

We enter the new year with confidence and optimism, not because what we do is easy, but because we enter it together. Our solidarity is our strength. Our confidence is built on the shoulders of the generations that came before us and will be passed onto the generations that follow us. Knowing this, ask yourself how you can positively impact the legacy of IBEW LU 112.

On behalf of the leadership of IBEW LU 112, thank you again for your hard work and dedication throughout this year. I wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season.

*In Solidarity, Travis Sellers*



Over the past several months, there has been a lot of discussion concerning Local 112’s moratorium on accepting travel cards from members of other IBEW local unions. There will be a special meeting held for Local 112 Journeyman Wiremen and Apprentice Wiremen on Saturday, January 10th at 8:30 am at the hall to discuss this subject and vote on whether to lift the moratorium or keep it in place, so watch your mailbox for the notice of the special meeting.

### ORGANIZING REPORT

#### ORGANIZING WHEN TIMES ARE SLOW

When work slows down, organizing becomes more important, not less. One of the most effective ways we can continue building strength during slower periods is through salting non-union contractors. Salting is a proven organizing tool that places union electricians inside non-union shops to have real conversations with workers and contractors, expose the reality of union standards, and help bring those contractors into the union fold.

From an organizing standpoint, salting allows us to keep moving forward even when the books aren’t moving quickly. It helps us identify organizing opportunities early, build relationships with unrepresented workers, and lay the groundwork so that when work picks back up, those shops are already moving toward becoming union. Every organized contract means more union jobs, more stability, and fewer employers undercutting our wages and benefits.

Salting also benefits the membership as a whole. Organizing new contractors strengthens our market share, expands our signatory base, and ensures we are ready to meet manpower demands when work ramps up again. Instead of scrambling to catch up when things get busy, salting allows us to prepare now so we can control the market later. It’s about playing offense, not defense.

Right now is the time for members to step up. When work is slow, salting gives members an opportunity to stay active while directly contributing to the future strength of the Local. Members who salt do so in coordination with the hall and the Organizing Department, ensuring they remain supported and in good standing throughout the process.

If you believe all electrical work should be performed by union electricians, and if you want to help secure stronger job opportunities when the next surge of work hits, consider participating in a salting effort. Reach out to the hall or the Organizing Department to learn more. Organizing doesn’t stop when work slows down, and neither should we.

*Rylan Grimes, Lead Organizer*

### JANUARY MEETINGS

Quarterly feed @ 6:00 pm

Tri- Cities	January 6th	7:00 pm
Hermiston	January 8th	7:00 pm
Yakima	January 15th	7:00 pm
Executive Board	January 22nd	5:30 pm
EWMC	January 7th	6:00 pm
PAC	January 13th	6:00 pm
RENEW	January 14th	6:00 pm
Women’s Comm.	January 21st	6:00 pm

No Veterans Committee meeting until next spring  
No Safety Committee meeting in January

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

*May your Christmas be filled with magical moments and your New Year filled with endless possibilities.*


*From the Staff of Local 112, IBEW*

*Travis, Lori, Travis, Sonya, Rylan, Aaron, Cody, T. J. and Jenna*

**International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**

*~~Leading The Electrical Industry~~*

114 N. Edison Street, Kennewick, WA 99336 ~ (509) 735-0512 Phone [www.ibewlu112.com](http://www.ibewlu112.com)



**APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING**

As 2025 wraps up, we're proud of a year filled with growth and achievements.

- Welcomed new team members Kevin Baur and office administrator, Shellie Griffiths.
- Restated the LE 06 program, enrolling 14 apprentices
- Hosted the Western States Competition—congrats to Local 112's Ryan Lewis for earning First Place !
- Grew our program by 20% and celebrated 48 graduates
- Launched year round applications, increasing accessibility and interest.

Thank you to our instructors, staff, apprentices and partners for making 2025 a success. Here's to an even brighter 2026 !  
*Geoff Arends, Training Director*


**Retirees' Breakfast**  
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 2nd @ 9:00 a.m. @ the hall**

**THE LOCAL UNION OFFICE**

**WILL BE Closed for the Holidays**



**DECEMBER 25th thru JANUARY 1st**



**SAFETY SPOT**

As the temperatures drop, most of us naturally shift our focus to staying warm on the job. But winter brings its own set of hazards that can sneak up on even the most experienced tradesperson. A few small habits, practiced consistently, can make a big difference in keeping everyone safe during the colder months.

One of the most overlooked cold-weather risks is dehydration. It's easy to assume hydration matters more in summer, but winter air is dry, and heavy layers make us sweat more than we realize. When you're bundled up, that fluid loss isn't as obvious, but it affects your concentration, reaction time, and physical performance. A good rule of thumb is to drink water regularly even when you don't feel thirsty.


Another major winter concern is slips, trips, and falls. Frost, packed snow, and black ice can turn a routine walk across the laydown yard into a serious injury. Inspect your walking and working surfaces at the start of the shift, especially stairs, entrances, and pathways. Take the extra second to clear your boots before stepping onto smooth surfaces. Footwear with proper traction and keeping walkways salted or sanded are simple steps that prevent most of these incidents. It's rarely the dramatic situations that cause injuries; it's the quick trip between tasks when our guard is down.

Driving is another area where a little preparation goes a long way. Checking the weather and road conditions the night before isn't just for convenience; it's a safety practice. Snow, freezing rain, and heavy winds all affect travel time and visibility. Planning ahead means you can leave early, avoid rushing, and arrive ready to work instead of stressed from the commute. Cold mornings already require extra time to warm up vehicles and scrape windows, so build that time into your night-before planning.

Most importantly, look out for one another. A quick reminder to a co-worker about an icy patch or checking in on someone who looks chilled or fatigued, reinforces the culture of care that the IBEW is known for.

Staying safe this season isn't about dramatic changes, it's about small, consistent habits. Hydrate often, walk carefully, plan ahead, and pay attention to how the cold affects the work around you. When we take winter seriously, we keep the work moving and ensure everyone goes home the same way they came to work.

*Jason Brady, Safety Committee Chair*



**Jerry Engelke**  
**1942–2025**

Brother Jerry J. Engelke passed away on November 6, 2025 at the age of 83 after a battle with cancer. Jerry was initiated into Local 112 as an apprentice wireman on August 4, 1969 and completed the four year apprenticeship, becoming a Journeyman Wireman in October 1972. He was a 56 member of the IBEW.

Brother Engelke's career was worked mainly at Hanford with a couple years working at the Wallula Boise Cascade Plant expansion project in the 1980s. He went to work in maintenance on the Hanford site in 1985 until his retirement in 2005.

**Oscar Ramos**  
**1954–2025**

Brother Oscar Ramos passed away on December 1, 2025 at the age of 71. He was initiated into Local 112 as a Journeyman Wireman in 1995 and received his 30 year pin this year. Oscar lived in the Yakima Valley area and worked there when the opportunity arose, but also worked for several contractors on the Hanford Project until his retirement in 2019.

**Norman Reinhardt**  
**1929–2025**

Local 112's oldest member, Norman Reinhardt, passed away on at the age of 96 on December 6, 2025. Brother Reinhardt was initiated into Local 112 as an apprentice wireman in 1958 and was a 67 year of the IBEW. He lived in Walla Walla and worked on the dams and surrounding area, but also worked on the Hanford Project for several contractors until his retirement in 1994.


**SISTERS IN SOLIDARITY 112**

The Women's Committee is holding a food drive for local communities and we are accepting non-perishable food items through February 2, 2026 at the hall. Currently we have two food bank locations that we are looking to donate to, which includes the Yakima Reservation and First Christian Church in Kennewick. During the Swag Swap we held a bake sale where we raised \$295 that will go towards purchasing food as well. We continue to hold our meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the hall with dinner being served at 6:30 pm. Meetings are open to everyone to attend.

*Teresa Sawyer, Chair*



**If you are currently drawing the NEBF benefit, you should have received a "bonus" payment in December . Payment would have been made in the same manner as your regular monthly payment.**



**BROTHERHOOD BROADCASTS**  
**I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION NO. 112**  
**114 N. Edison Street**  
**Kennewick, WA 99336**

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