

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112



February 2026

Travis W. Sellers

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Brothers & Sisters:

Although February is the shortest month, it has started off strong. This month we hosted our first Vital Cog training, we saw our 5th year apprenticeship class complete their required classroom training, and we have gained valuable information related to green energy projects in our jurisdiction.

On February 3rd and 4th, IBEW LU 112 hosted our first Vital Cog training. The class was presented to 94 participants by Cindy Sandifur and Tina Williams, both employees of the Electrical Training Alliance (ETA). We had a broad range of participants: members, hall staff, JATC staff, Stewards, LU 112 Committee chairs and co-chairs, signatory shop owners, project managers, HR representatives, foremen, general foremen, and superintendents. This training provided a baseline education for being able to identify characteristics of a mental health situation. Through this training, the participants were also able to learn techniques to help them approach someone who is suffering through a mental health situation. Soon, we will be hosting a Train the Trainer course for some of the participants in this initial training. The goal is to have Local 112 members available to provide member training. If you are interested in participating in one of these Vital Cog training courses, please let me know.

February 13th marked the completion of the last week of school for our 5th year apprentices. This year's graduating class consists of 47 members. Through the five years, this class has been actively involved in the following activities of the Local: Women's Committee, RENEW Committee, Veterans Committee, Picnic Committee, Union Sportsman's Alliance and participation in the Washington State Labor Council Legislative Conference. Through participation in these activities, members of this year's graduating class have shown the desire to be involved as active leaders in this Local and I look forward to their continued contributions.

For those who attended the monthly unit meetings, you have heard us report on upcoming green energy projects. During a meeting on February 10th, the IBEW 9th District identified 24 upcoming projects in our jurisdiction. These projects are wind, solar, combined wind and solar, and some include battery storage. In total, these projects total 8.748GW of generation and are in various stages of development, from planning to construction. There are 15 projects planned for Washington ranging from Yakima and Kittitas Counties to Garfield and Asotin Counties. In Oregon, most of the remaining projects are located in Morrow County.

These projects will be worked under a variety of agreements that have been negotiated at the International level. It is important to know what agreement you are working under, as there is different language in each. Other trades are coming after this work. If we do not man this work, other trades will. I understand this work is not glamorous, but it is work of the IBEW and we need to do our best to make sure that his work is performed by the members of the IBEW.

Work safe, remain informed and continue to be involved.

In Solidarity, Travis Sellers

ORGANIZING REPORT

You May Be Eligible To Take The Oregon State Exam

Several years ago, as part of an effort to help more of our members obtain Oregon licenses, I contacted Oregon's Building Codes Division to clarify the requirements for sitting for the Oregon exam. At that time, I was told that anyone who did not complete an apprenticeship program would need to document 16,000 hours as a licensed journeyman, and that unlicensed or trainee hours would not be accepted. That guidance is what I have been operating under ever since.

More recently, I had a conversation with our International Representative who covers Oregon, and he indicated that this was not the original intent. According to him, the requirement was meant to be 16,000 total hours of electrical experience, not exclusively hours worked after becoming a licensed journeyman.

While this is not yet a definitive answer from the state, this is the guidance we plan to follow moving forward unless, and until, we encounter an issue with Oregon. If that happens, we will address it through our State Association, which works on policy development in Oregon as it relates to our trade.

What this means in practical terms is that if you believe you have 16,000 total hours of experience, including hours worked prior to passing your Washington exam, you may be eligible to sit for the Oregon General Journeyman exam. Those hours will still need to be verified and signed off likely by former non-union employers, but this could potentially shave several years off the path to obtaining an Oregon license. If you think this may apply to you, please reach out.

Additionally, we have scheduled a Washington Master/Admin Prep class and an Oregon Signing Supervisor class for March 20th, 21st, 27th, and 28th.

These classes will run concurrently, with the Oregon Signing Supervisor class held at the hall and the Washington Master/Admin Prep class held at the Training Center. The Oregon class will be 40 hours total, running 10 hours each day. The Washington class will be 24 hours total, with four hours after work on Fridays and eight hours on Saturdays. To register, please call the hall.

Rylan Grimes, Lead Organizer

MARCH MEETINGS

Tri- Cities	March 5th	7 :00 pm
Hermiston	March 12th	7:00 pm
Yakima	March 19th	7:00 pm
Executive Board	March 26th	5:30 pm
EWMC	March 4th	6:00 pm
PAC Committee	March 10th	6:00 pm
Veterans Comm.	March 10th	6:00 pm
RENEW	March 11th	6:00 pm
Women's Comm.	March 18th	6:00 pm

No Safety Committee meeting in March

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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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



APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

5th-year apprentices will complete their final week of apprenticeship in February. A two-night Oregon State Test Prep class is tentatively scheduled for the last week of March and will be held at the Training Center.

The class will be hosted again this year by Shawn Haggin, who led the course last year with very positive feedback from those who attended and later sat for the Oregon State exam.

Seats will be offered first to 4th- and 5th-year apprentices. If space remains, additional seats will be opened to the IBEW membership.

Once dates and times are finalized, details will be posted on jatc112.org. If you have questions, call the Training Center at 509-783-0589.

Geoff Arends, Training Director

VETERANS' COMMITTEE



The Veterans Committee continues to explore meaningful opportunities for community involvement and veteran support. We have voted to assist with the upcoming PGA HOPE Golf Tournament, an outstanding program that introduces veterans to the fundamentals of golf while teaching etiquette and fostering camaraderie through the game.

In addition, the committee is looking at contributing both our time and financial support to Camp Patriot, further strengthening our commitment to serving those who have served.

We were also recently approached by our local Junior Sea Cadets with a request for the committee to host their upcoming Birthday Ball. We are honored to be considered and are currently reviewing how we can best support this event.

Looking ahead, next month we will be sending two committee members to attend the 9th District and Veterans Conference to represent our local and bring back valuable insight and resources.

We appreciate the continued support of our membership as we expand our outreach and service within the community.

Mark Uribe, Committee Chair

In January, RENEW expanded leadership positions and held elections. This was in an effort to further RENEW and hold pace with other RENEW committees around the country.



Chairman - Michael Devine Vice Chairman - Koby Harris
 Recorder - Matt Morris Secretary - Brianna Garcia
 Treasurer - Hunter Gunderson
Michael Devine, Chair

**RETIREMENT SEMINAR
 March 13th & 14th**



Your 112/73 Retirement Plan NECA-IBEW offers valuable learning opportunities you can put to work right away. A John Hancock Representative will be presenting the Plan and answering questions regarding your retirement. We will also present the IBEW & NEBF Pension Plans. An associate from Rehn and Associates will be presenting information on Health and Welfare benefits, COBRA and SBA concerns when it comes to retirement. Spouses & partners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13th @ 6:00 P.M.
 SATURDAY, MARCH 14th - Individual appointments for Saturday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. can be made on Friday evening with the John Hancock rep or by calling the hall prior to the seminar.

*Local 112's office—Call to register at 509-735-0512
 Food & beverage will be available at 6:00 p.m. with the seminar to follow*



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE SUPPORT FOR:

- Anxiety and Depression
- Couples/Relationship/Parenting
- Crisis Support
- Alcohol/Drug Problems
- Grief and Loss
- Work Conflict
- Compulsive Behaviors
- Domestic Violence
- Legal and Financial
- Childcare and Eldercare
- Home Ownership
- ID Theft
- Healthy Living Tips

CONTACT US

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FirstChoiceEAP.com



Retirees' Breakfast

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6th
 9:00 a.m. @ the hall**

SISTERS IN SOLIDARITY 112

The Women's Committee delivered quite a bit of food to the Kennewick Christian Church in Kennewick. They have a free pantry located outside of the entrance and will use the food we donated to help fill the pantry and support the needy in the neighborhood. The Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the food drive.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at the hall with dinner being served at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Teresa Sawyer, Chair



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