

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112

February 2024

Travis E. Swayze

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good mental and physical health. This year is going to be an exciting year for IBEW Local 112 and I would like to highlight a couple of events taking place in 2024.

March will bring the completion of our new JATC Training Center, which will also come with a new program name. The Board has chosen the name Columbia Basin Electrical Training Alliance to align with the national Electrical Training Alliance program. We expect building occupancy by mid-March and start moving furniture and training labs in. The building is split levels and will be approximately 27,000 square feet of space. In anticipation of completion, we have also increased our teaching staff and continue to look at future growth. Once we complete the building, we will also be able to start looking at starting Sound and Communication and Residential Electrician apprenticeship programs. The new facility will certainly help us meet future demands and increase IBEW/NECA's presence in the electrical industry.

The ribbon cutting event for the IBEW 112/NECA CBETA will be held Friday, May 31st and all are welcome to attend. We will have a ceremony followed by an open house to view the new facility and celebrate the completion of construction. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Time to be determined.

If you have attended the unit meetings, you have heard me speak about the possibility of having our own medical facility for union members only. The initial design for this concept first came about in 2008 and has grown in popularity ever since.

There are a couple of models that we were looking at, but the model we are looking to use is the Pacific Coalition to build out the facilities, in which each Trust will pay into it on a per member/per month basis for those who use it. With this model, we are currently looking at sharing with UFCW, UA, and possibly SMART 55 in order to get the numbers to make it possible. For the members, it would be a no out-of-pocket cost for any services provided by the clinic. The Pacific Coalition will own/lease/operate the facility with no liabilities to each affiliate's Trust. The facility would be a general medical practice facility with surgeries and more specialized procedures to be referred out. It will be staffed with a mixture of licensed practitioners, physician's assistants, nurses, and staff to be determined by demand. One of the most important features is the ability to schedule an appointment a day or two out, and in some cases, the same day. If anyone has tried to find a provider lately you will understand that it can be months out at a minimum. This facility brings a lot of implications from the ability to improve the availability of medical services, early detection of diseases and cancers, and even organizing the electrical industry. I am not aware of any non-represented shop who can tout their own medical facility. Your trustees will do their best to bring this concept to fruition.

Regarding timelines and locations, we expect final approval from Pacific Coalition in April and at that point, they would start looking for locations in Spokane and Tri-Cities. We have been told to expect 6-9 months before the facilities could be operational, so the optimistic timeframe would be the end of 2024. Once these facilities are established and successful, we would be looking at expanding operations into Oregon as well as the Yakima area.

As we continue to grow with the electrical industry, actions and events like these help us solidify our presence and further the purpose of the IBEW.

ORGANIZING REPORT

Salting Sees Results

We are starting to see some results from our salting at the Goose Prairie Solar Project in Yakima County. We currently have roughly a dozen members working on the project. Our members have been openly talking to the unrepresented workers on that project, some who were hired locally and some who have been with Vale for years. Cody has been in contact with the owner of Vale Electric, and they have been happy with our members. But more importantly, we are hearing that there is a second phase to the Goose Prairie Project and the project developer is interested in a project labor agreement. Therefore, Vale has approached us about a one job agreement.

Obviously, our goal is to sign them to a full agreement, but this is an important first step. But more importantly, the reason that the developer wants to pursue a PLA is probably because they realized they were leaving some money on the table. In Washington, there is a State Environmental Policy Act law that requires developers to enter a PLA if they want to take advantage of all the tax incentives the state has to offer. This SEPA law is something that was lobbied for by the IBEW and the Building Trades. So, if you were looking for another reason to contribute to the Political Action Committee, here is a pretty good example that will result in jobs in Washington.

Rylan Grimes, Lead Organizer

ARE YOUR BENEFICIARIES UP TO DATE ?

Who would receive your life insurance and retirement savings if something happened to you?

Life changes quickly and that's why it is so important to keep your beneficiary designations current if your family or relationship status looks different than it did a few years ago. Forms are available at the hall to make your changes.



Learn about the many programs offered by Union Plus with discounts to union members.

Discounts on auto insurance and loans, life insurance, mortgage and real estate loans, legal services, cruise lines, car rentals, Goodyear Tire & Service, AT&T wireless, Master Card and more !

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MARCH MEETINGS

Tri-Cities	March 7th	7:00 pm
Hermiston	March 14th	7:00 pm
Yakima	March 21st	7:00 pm
Executive Board	March 28th	5:30 pm
PAC	March 12th	6:00 pm
RENEW	March 13th	6:00 pm
Women's Committee	March 19th	6:30 pm
No Safety Committee meeting	in March	

Take an active role in YOUR Local Union !

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APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

All available apprentices are currently working. Apprentice aptitude testing has been going on through this month and we should be scheduling interviews in March. If someone missed the January application window, applications will be open again in the month of June.

The new Training Center is coming along well. The exterior of the building is nearly finished, and the downstairs is being painted. There is still some work upstairs, but we are planning to begin moving at the end of March. Traditionally we have graduation in July, but this year graduation will be May 10th. Mark your calendar for May 31st, as we will be having the Grand Opening of the new Training Center with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The time is yet to be determined.

The Milwaukee Apprentice of the Month is Enoch Vargas. Enoch was a 5th year apprentice and just became a Journeyman after his last week of school. Enoch has been a good apprentice and will continue to be an asset to our industry.

Last month we opened applications for a new full-time instructor. Kat Straessle was selected by the JATC to be the 4th instructor and will start in January. Kat has been a leader in our electrical industry and will be a great asset to the Training Center.
Geoff Arends, Training Director



Elga M. Barbour
1924—2024

Local 112's oldest member, Elga Barbour passed away at the age of 99 on January 5, 2024. Brother Barbour was initiated by Local 112 in 1951 and was a 73 year member of the IBEW. He worked the first seventeen years of his career in Local 112's jurisdiction and then moved to California in 1967, where he worked until his retirement in 1987.

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of Brother Barbour.



Next month, RENEW is hosting a family movie day on Saturday, March 9th. We are testing the waters and would like to see how many members are interested in attending. The movie is Kung Fu Panda 4. Seating is limited to 100 people for members and immediate family. Doors open at 10:30 am and the movie will begin at 10:55 am. Call the hall to put your name on the list. Thank you to everyone for your continued support and we look forward to seeing everyone.
Mark Uribe, Committee Chairman



DATES TO REMEMBER

1. **Apprentice Graduation—May 10th**
2. **Training Center Open House May 31st**
3. **Golf Tourney @ Canyon Lakes—July 13th**
4. **Picnic @ Columbia Park—September 7th**
5. **Christmas Parties - December 14th**

REACH OUT AND ENGAGE NEXT-GEN ELECTRICAL WORKERS



Don't Leave Home Without It !!!

It is your responsibility to carry your Drug Free card in your wallet. As a new hire, don't forget your I-9 docs—picture ID, Social Security Card / or birth certificate , etc.

Retirees' Breakfast

**FRIDAY, MARCH 1st @ the hall
9:00 a.m.**



SAFETY SPOT

The Importance of Sleep

A good night's sleep prepares the body for physical and mental alertness. Deprived of rest, important cognitive processes become slowed, dull and less responsive. This creates a perfect storm for workplace disaster. The Institute of Medicine of the National Academies report that people struggling with sleep have a much higher risk for accidents. Harvard Medical School reports that sleep deprivation critically impairs job performance with potentially disastrous results. Sleep sharpens our cognitive ability, enabling us to think fast, act fast and act smart. Without sleep, the human body becomes less predicable. Highly fatigued workers are 70% more likely to be involved in the work place accidents compared to workers with lower fatigue levels.

One beer has the same impact on a person with four hours of sleep as six beers has on a well rested person. Twenty percent of all serious car crash injuries are associated with driver sleepiness. \$31 billion is the estimated cost of sleep related workplace accidents and mistakes. With this information, it's easy to see how important a good night's sleep is.

I hope we will take the time to plan our day so we can have a good night's sleep. We owe this, not only to ourselves and our Brothers & Sisters, but especially to our family and friends. Have a safe spring !
Buch Manthei, Chairman



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