

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112

January 2025

Travis E. Swayze

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Brothers and Sisters,

With the New Year brings new opportunities. The opportunity I will discuss in this month's article will be around IBEW Local 112 officer elections. The language presented below is similar language I have used in past election year cycles and reminds everyone of the process and rules around union elections. They are not all inclusive, but rather give a general overview of the process.

This year is an election year for Local 112 and I want to make sure everyone is aware of the opportunities to get involved with the business and direction of our Local. IBEW Local 112 runs elections every three years as defined by our Bylaws. All officer positions are open for nomination. I encourage anyone who is thinking of running for office to consider the opportunities. The election process starts with eligibility rules for candidates that include, but not limited to, being a member in good standing for the past two years prior to nominations at the April, 2025 unit meetings. After accepting a nomination, each nominee will have to sign an attestation form declaring that they are eligible, per the IBEW constitution, Bylaws and DOL requirements. You must be nominated by a member of IBEW Local 112 and you must be in person to accept the nomination, with the exception of writing a letter to accept the nomination if you cannot attend the meeting. Once the nomination process is over, the campaigning will kick in.

You are allowed to send a letter to all the members, but since we don't give out members' addresses, we will send those letters out for you. The cost burden will be on the nominee, which is the printed paper, envelopes, stamps and staff time. You will bring us the stuffed, sealed and stamped envelopes and we will affix the address and get them sent within a few days. Everyone will receive a mailer with the timelines of the whole election process to be able to base decisions on. It is important to know that you shall not campaign on the job 'during paid time', per the Department of Labor for Union Elections. The voting process is done through the mail by secret ballot and counted by an election judge and tellers who are appointed by the President of the Local. If there is a need for a runoff, we will send out new ballots for that position. Each nominee is allowed to have a member witness the counting of ballots if he/she chooses to. I understand that this is a general overview of our election process and the commitment required by an officer, which is why I encourage anyone who is thinking about running for a position to contact me with any questions surrounding the elections. Another resource, outside of our Bylaws and IBEW Constitution, is the Department of Labor's website for "Conducting Local Union Officer Elections."

ORGANIZING REPORT

Thank You For Supporting Our Organizing Efforts

2024 saw the most successful year for organizing I have ever seen in my 6 1/2 years as an organizer. We ended the year with 234 new members, 72 of which were Journeymen Wiremen bringing our total membership up to 1501. A lot of this success came from you talking to unrepresented workers on mixed jobsites, jobsites that have both union and non-union electricians, proving once again that jobsite organizing is one of the most effective tools we have. In the same vein as jobsite organizing, we have also seen at least half a dozen people who worked at the Goose Prairie Solar project organize in due to the efforts of our members salting that project. There is no more powerful organizing tool than when our member salt or work hand in hand with our non-union counterparts. They see there is no difference between us other than the compensation and conditions we negotiate.

Unfortunately, breaking down these barriers can be undone if we organize a wireman and they get harassed by someone for not being familiar with how we typically do business. This doesn't happen all the time but it happens enough to be a problem. So regardless of whether someone is a 30-year member or has been a member for a day, please treat each other with the dignity and the respect they deserve. And to borrow a phrase from the Code of Excellence, "Leave inappropriate behavior to those of lesser knowledge."
Rylan Grimes, Lead Organizer

OREGON SUPERVISOR LICENSE COURSE

Are you interested in getting your supervisor's license for the State of Oregon? The Local will hold a class at the hall on March 14,15, 21 and 22nd, for ten hours each day. A representative from Local 280 will teach the course.

There is no cost to take this class, as it will be funded by the LMCC. However, we need to have a definite number of how many will be attending, so if you sign up, it is important you attend. Sign up by calling the hall and getting your name on the list.

Retirees' Breakfast

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7th @ the hall
9:00 a.m.**

WORK PICTURE

The work picture is still strong in Oregon with the data centers along with a Cupertino Solar job in Boardman that is expected to hire in March. Being 2025, it is an outage year at Energy Northwest and with Day and Zimmerman being the new prime contractor on site, we are seeing earlier than usual hiring in anticipation of a larger outage. This should be a good outage for our local and traveling Brothers and Sisters with Day and Zimmerman expecting to hire over 100 people. Champion is also onsite, and we expect a smaller crew between 20-30.

The full list of current jobs can be found at the bottom of the Job Listings page of the Local's website.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

Tri- Cities	February 6th	7:00 pm
Hermiston	February 13th	7:00 pm
Yakima	February 20th	7:00 pm
Executive Board	February 27th	5:30 pm
EWMC	February 5th	6:00 pm
Safety Committee	February 11th	6:00 pm
Veterans	February 11th	6:00 pm
RENEW	February 12th	6:00 pm
Women's Comm.	February 19th	6:30 pm

No PAC meeting in February

Take an active role in YOUR Local Union

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

Starting in 2025, we have made a change to our application process. In the past, applications were accepted during the months of January and June. This year, applications will be open year-round, allowing applicants to apply at any time throughout the year. Once an application is submitted, applicants will take an aptitude test. To assist with preparation, study guides are available on our website. After passing the test, applicants will be invited for an interview, and we also provide interview preparation guides to help them prepare.

For more details on how to apply and additional information about the program, visit www.jatel12.org. If you have any questions, please contact the Training Center at 509-783-0589.

This year, we are pleased to welcome 17 new apprentices to the program. We look forward to supporting their development as they move forward in their training.

We also want to congratulate *Sarah Roberts*, our 2nd Year Apprentice, who has been named Apprentice of the Month for her outstanding performance and positive attitude both on the job and in the classroom.

Finally, the graduation date for our current apprentices has not yet been set, but we will provide that information in the next newsletter.

Geoff Arends, Training Director

DUES RATE CHANGE

Effective January 2025, basic dues for "A" members will increase \$2.00 per month, as per the IBEW Convention of 2022. Monthly dues for "A" members will be \$62.00 + \$1.95 quarterly. Dues for "BA" members will not change.



SISTERS IN SOLIDARITY 112

The Women's Committee would like to thank everyone for the amazing support at the 112 Christmas Party. The Mystery Stockings ended up being a fun idea for this year. We had a new record year of fundraising with \$2,300 to donate to two apprentices going through an exceptionally rough Christmas. Special thanks to Kat Straessle for being our big spender this year. It was a silent auction for the record books!
Laura Leahy, SIS Chair



RENEW had elections for the 2025 Chairman and Recorder. I was elected as Chairman of the committee and congratulations to Elijah Bork as our newly elected Recorder for 2025.

RENEW is extending the shirt & coin design contest till March 31st for submissions and all of the designs will be showcased at the April unit meetings for the membership to vote on and give your feedback on the designs.
Koby Harris, Chairman

SAFETY SPOT

Our industry is built on tradition, craftsmanship, and unwavering dedication to safety. As experienced craftsman, it is our duty to pass on the torch of knowledge, and one of the most crucial aspects of this is teaching our apprentices about safety on the job site.

Why is this important? Safety isn't just a guideline, it's a lifeline. By instilling a strong safety culture in our apprentices, we ensure they return home safely every day. Apprentices who are well versed in safety practices are less likely to cause or be involved in on-the-job accidents, which can prevent injuries and save lives.

How can we do this effectively? Lead by example. Demonstrate safe practices daily, reinforcing the importance of safety through our actions. Pair inexperienced apprentices with experienced journeyman who can provide guidance and practical insights into safety practices. Create an environment where apprentices feel comfortable discussing safety concerns and asking questions. Regularly assess apprentices' understanding and adherence to safety protocols and practices.

In nurturing a safety-conscious mindset in our apprentices, we not only protect them but also uphold the legacy of excellence that defines our profession. Together, lets ensure a safer, brighter future for all.



Jason Brady, Committee Member



RETIREMENT SEMINAR

FEBRUARY 7th & 8th
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, FEBRUARY 7th @ 6:00 P.M.
LOCAL UNION 112'S OFFICE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th - Individual appointments for Saturday morning can be made on Friday evening with the John Hancock rep or by calling the hall prior to the seminar.

114 N. EDISON STREET, KENNEWICK
Food & beverage will be available at 6:00 p.m. with the seminar to follow
Call to register at 509-735-0512.



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