

# Brotherhood Broadcasts

## Local Union #112

July, 2021

Travis E. Swayze

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

#### A TRAGEDY AMONG US

The Local is in a state of shock and disbelief, and I will try my best to explain. Local 112 has now witnessed a horrific event amongst the Brotherhood that is unparalleled. I am at a loss of words and still in a state of shock as I am trying to understand why this happened within our IBEW family. On July 8th, Brother Don Beal's life was taken by another Local 112 member in a shooting event. This event took place a couple hours after the Hermiston unit meeting in the RV park where Don and his girlfriend were residing. The two Brothers were good friends and even worked on the same crew on the same job site. What took place that night was not reasonable or rational, and I am having a hard time just trying to understand how something like this happens. 'This is the type of stuff that happens somewhere else' is a phrase that goes through my head. Unfortunately, we cannot say that anymore. My heart goes out to the many people who are affected by this event to include all the family members, friends, and Brothers and Sisters that make up the IBEW.

As we grieve for the family and friends of Don Beal, we need to recognize that the grieving process is different for everyone, but I believe communication is a critical component. People who knew Don should try to talk among each other with stories and individual encounters to remember him. The only way to keep the memories of Don alive is to not forget. Each person's timeline for grieving will be different, and each person will show an array of emotions to try and understand and get some sort of closure. As we recognize this, please be understanding with each other and know that each person will handle this differently. Talking out loud about someone's life stories is one of the toughest things to do, especially at funerals or celebrations of life. I believe it is because it reminds us of our own mortality and that we will never be able to create anymore great memories with the deceased. The hardest part about Don's death is that his life ended so abruptly for a reason that we may never understand. We are our Brothers' keeper so please help and console each other when needed.

Mental health has been a topic of discussion coming out of the Covid-19 pandemic and will continue to be discussed. Everyone handles situations, stress, and grieving differently. It seems that between family, work, politics, social distancing, and everything in between, we have more stress than anytime in recent history. Without positive outlets, all this noise adds to poor mental health issues. My point is, there seems to be more issues these days that cause more mental stress than someone should have to deal with. I am not saying that this is the root cause of what happened, but it may be one factor that would cause someone to act in a way that is not within the moral boundaries of society. Please help celebrate the good times and talk through the bad. Try to understand one another and show compassion for each other every chance you get. Brother Don Beal will be missed.

At this point cards are being passed around jobs and a Go-Fund Me account has been setup for Don's widow. You can locate this by searching Don Beal on the GoFundMe site or on our Facebook page.

#### AUGUST UNIT MEETINGS

Tri- Cities	August 5th	7:00 p.m.
Hermiston	August 12th	7:00 p.m.
Yakima	August 19th	7:00 p.m.
Executive Board	August 26th	5:30 p.m.

### ORGANIZING REPORT

#### Have a Question? Don't Be Afraid to Ask

So far this year we have brought 56 new members into our Brotherhood. Thinking back on when I was a new member, I had a lot of questions that I wanted answers to. Luckily for me, I had family members, and my fellow apprenticeship classmates to help answer all my questions. When we organize new members into our local, we sit down with them for about an hour or two in hopes of showing them how we do business and answer their questions, but it is a lot of information in a short period of time. In addition, COVID -19 has made it difficult to have our Orientation Program with these new members and their family. Please help these new members by answering their questions and make them feel respected on the jobsite. It is not intentional, but many times, mis-information is given on the job. If it is a topic you are not sure about, please refer them to the hall. We are happy to answer any questions members may have.

*Bob Legard, Membership Development Rep.*

### COMMISSIONING TECH CORNER

Summer is heating up, so are the commissioning technician's role in bringing the Waste Treatment Plant online. The goal for this summer is the heat up of twin melters that melt waste and pour it out as molten glass. Heat up of a melter in the Low-Activity Waste Facility consists of a series of activities to prepare for and establish a molten pool of glass inside the melter. It takes approximately two months to heat up one melter (approximately 22 days for the initial heat up, followed by several days of testing, followed by about 30 days of checkout).

Once the empty melter is heated to temperature using temporarily installed startup heaters, quantities of ground glass – called frit – are added until enough melted glass is present to cover the melter's electrical heating electrodes. Next, bubblers are installed to introduce air into the bottom of the melter glass pool to mix the glass. The first melter will be heated up, commissioned and verified operational before the second melter is heated and tuned. This two-phase process reduces risk and enables lessons learned from the first melter heat up to be incorporated into plans for heating up melter 2. Upon heat up of the second melter, the melter and associated exhaust, known as off gas, and support systems will concurrently be verified operational.

*Erik Ham, Comm Tech Steward.*



**Brother Clem Staloch—July 16th**

Ellensburg, WA

# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

~~Bringing The Power To You~~

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



**APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING**

We have had over 350 applicants during the month of June and will not reopen applications again until January 2022. People can visit our website if they would like to know more information about the application process. [www.jatc112.org](http://www.jatc112.org) Apprentices are back in the building to conduct hands-on training. We are continuing to further their education with small group instruction and are looking forward to getting them back in the classroom this fall.

We are hoping to start in-person journeyman classes within the next few months. Keep an eye on our website for the next group of classes. Until we get set up, CEU's can be taken through a variety of online companies such as Pellco, Blue Volt, and Jade Learning.

It's hot outside, so stay cool.

*Kris Tuura, Training Director*



*In Memory*

**Donald E. Beal**  
**1968-2021**

Brother Don Beal tragically lost his life on July 8, 2021 at the age of 53. Brother Beal had only been an IBEW member for three years, having been initiated into Local 112 as a Journeyman Wireman in 2018. During his short time in the IBEW, Don made many friends and was proud of his IBEW membership. He was working for Dynalectric at the data centers in Oregon at the time of his death.

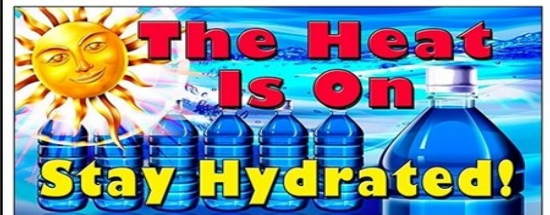
We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of Brother Don Beal.



**GRAND PARADE**  
**August 21st**

**KENNEWICK**

We are looking for members and their families who want to participate in this year's Benton Franklin Fair Parade by riding on the Local's flat-bed trailer and throw candy to the crowds. It is always a fun event for the family, so if you want to be a part of the parade, please call the hall for details.



**WHEN SHOPPING FOR**



**BUY 'MADE IN THE U.S.A.'**

**September 11th**

**Columbia Park -Kennewick**

**11:00 a.m.**



**Retirees' Breakfast**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 6TH @ 9:00 A.M.**

**LOCAL UNION 112'S OFFICE**



**SAFETY SPOT**

Companies have safety policies and procedures. States have safety departments. Safety begins with "S" but starts with "YOU". All the policies and procedures can do is set the standard. It is each individual that makes the choice to meet or exceed the standard. NECA has a six step to safety Toolbox Talk. **A A L L O A**. Ask: "What are the DANGERS?" Ask: "What can I do to protect myself". Look: Around for things out of place. Listen: for unusual sounds. Be alert for changes in background noise. Wear PPE to protect yourself. Observe: Sights, sounds, smells, and the activities of others as this might alert you to dangers present. Act: Knowing what is good and safe does not make you safe. To be safe, know what to do and make sure you make a practice of doing it.

I cut my left middle finger with a small battery operated band saw because I did not practice what I know to do. I did not need stitches but my glove was cut and I had a 5/8" cut on my finger just missing the first joint. I did not secure the small piece of all thread I was notching in a vice. When it slipped my finger got cut. I was complacent. It is embarrassing to acknowledge this.

Learning from incidents, near misses and injuries is why we have a Safety Committee. When companies have safety meetings it is to review and reinforce their commitment to a safe incident free work place.

Thank you for doing your best to *Ask the right questions, Look over your work site, Listen to the sounds in your work place,*

*Butch Manthei, Committee Chairman*

*David Glessner, Committee Member*



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**I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION NO. 112  
BROTHERHOOD BROADCASTS**