

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112

June 2023

Travis E. Swayze

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.



A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this month's newsletter finds everyone in good mental and physical health. As May and June are Women's and Men's Health months respectively, both months are great reminders of how we should be taking care of our health. Unfortunately, many construction workers are less likely to seek help for depression, substance abuse, and stressful life events due to social norms, downplaying symptoms and having a reluctance to talk to other people about it. Annual visits to the doctor's office are a great start to addressing this issue. Just having a regular family doctor will make you more comfortable talking about any issues that might be troubling you.

I have compiled a list of mental health and physical health exercises to remind people and maybe help motivate some to improve their overall health. For combatting mental health, try to stay on top of your finances and live within your means. Choose a healthy lifestyle to combat the ups and downs of daily life. Participate in social activities like our solidarity events, any social events, or just inviting the neighbors over for dinner. If you have kids, get them involved with something even if it is just taking them to the park to interact with other kids. They need social activities the same as we do. The reason I bring these things up is because these are what I see as we come out of the Covid era and because it's easy to sit at home and use social media for an outlet. While social media is a tool, it is not going to take the place of interpersonal relationships needed to foster good mental health. If you still find that you are struggling in certain parts of your life, look at what our new Employee Assistance Program has to offer. You or your family members may just be able to benefit from it.

Improving physical health is a little tougher because it requires motivating yourself to work hard at breaking down your muscles which forces your body to rebuild bigger and stronger. While physical fitness is tough, the rewards far outweigh the cost. Another reason for not exercising is because it is hard to find the time to do it and it seems like time goes so fast these days. I promise you that if you want to slow down time, try going for a three-mile jog, it will seem like forever to get there. It's ok to laugh, but there is truth to it. Here are some ways to start yourself on the journey to better health.

Take a walk with the family or the dog, hike up in the hills with a pack, track your steps each day, look at joining a gym, join a recreational sporting league of some sort, look for short term physical challenges/goals to motivate yourself to get out and improve your long-term health. Remember that every little bit counts so even if you can't seem to find a consistent program, do what you can for now. Exercise is contagious and the more you do, the more you will want to do.

A new tool that is now being offered is the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which addresses a myriad of issues and is now available to all active participants of our Health and Welfare plan. This tool should be a great resource in our quest for overall health. This is normally a tool we rely on large companies to provide, so it is exciting to be able to offer it to all our members regardless of where they work. This program was put into our plan by your trustees to help fill a need for our Brothers and Sisters and everyone should have received information in the mail, but you can go to the homepage of our website to get it as well.

ORGANIZING REPORT

"Thank You" To Our Blitz Volunteers

"I will further the purposes for which the IBEW is instituted. I will bear true allegiance to it and will not sacrifice its interest in any manner."

We all recited these words promising to further the purposes of the IBEW when we became either a Brother or Sister of the IBEW. And chief among those purposes is to organize all workers in the entire electrical industry in the United States and Canada, including all those in public utilities and electrical manufacturing, into Local Unions. I would like to recognize those who volunteered for our organizing blitz this year. Your dedication to the IBEW and your Local continues to set an example for all of us. I would also like to give a special thanks to President James Glines, Vice President Dan McConkey and Hermiston Rep. Tim Meyers for their participation in the blitz.

Thanks to everyone's support, in addition to the help of our sister Locals from all over Washington and Oregon, we were able to knock on 500 doors in two nights and contacted 200 electricians, to which we are already seeing results. We have been contacted by many of those whom we talked to, but equally important, we are driving up non-union wages and making our contractors more competitive. So, thank you to all who volunteered, you are making a difference.

Rylan Grimes, Lead Organizer

EAP EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

help. when you need it.

The types of assistance covered under this program are as listed:
• 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

Call (800) 777-4114 or go to FirstChoiceEAP.com for assistance.

The calls are free, confidential, and available 24/7 in the privacy of your home. The plan provides licensed clinicians to address your questions.

As with all plan options like this, utilization is the key component to not only getting the help we need in a timely manner, but also saving our plan money. The sooner we address any health-related issues, the sooner we can catch many illnesses before they escalate into something more serious. I hope you find this program useful and would entertain any feedback once you have had a chance to use it.

The point of this article is to self-reflect and provide motivation to improve your overall health. I hope I have got you thinking about not only your self-help options but providing new tools for clinical help as well. Best of health to everyone.

JULY MEETINGS

Quarterly dinner feed @ 6:00 pm prior to unit meetings

Tri- Cities	July 6th	7:00 pm
Hermiston	July 13th	7:00 pm
Yakima	July 20th	7:00 pm
Executive Board	July 27th	5:30 pm
RENEW	July 5th	6:00 pm
PAC Committee	July 11th	6:00 pm
Women's Committee	No meeting in July	

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

~~Bringing The Power To You~~

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



APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

Online applications for the inside program are open for the full month of June and aptitude testing will be during the month of July.

The JATC will be scheduling CEU classes in July. Check the webpage jatc112.org for more upcoming information on these classes. We will keep the classes coming if they are getting filled. Members pay \$15/4 hr. class and \$30/8 hr. class, and non-members pay \$50/4hr. class and \$100/8hr. class. If you are interested or have any questions, call the Training Center at (509) 783-0589.

45 apprentices will be graduating on July 7th at the Tri-Cities Convention Center. The Milwaukee Apprentice of the Month is 1st Year Jason Robbins. Jason's hard work and good attitude at the Training Center and on the job has been appreciated.

Geoff Arends, Training Director



This month we are prepping for our annual golf tournament. As usual we expect a big turn out and always count on our volunteers to help facilitate with a smooth running event. If you would like to volunteer please contact Moses Torrescano or the hall. We have also selected our RENEW members to attend the RENEW conference in August. In addition, we are also looking for members assistance for boat races. If you would like to assist, please contact Rylan Grimes or the hall. Thank you to everyone who contributes or attends RENEW meetings and if you would like to attend or participate in RENEW, we have a zoom option as well.

Mark Uribe, Committee Chairman

"REACH OUT AND ENGAGE NEXT -GEN ELECTRICAL WORKERS"

Retirees' Breakfast

Friday, July 7th @ the Hall - 9:00 am



SAFETY SPOT

Keep these safety items in mind every day !

- ◆ Use extreme caution with flammable materials. Electrical equipment that can cause ignition must not be used where flammable vapors, gases or dust are present. The only exception to this rule is when qualified personnel take measures to lock out and isolate electrical energy sources before these potentially flammable sources may be used or the electrical equipment is designed for use under these types of conditions.
- ◆ Only qualified personnel should work on live electrical wires. If you encounter a live electrical wire, stay away. The same electrical safety precaution applies to hazardous electrical equipment . If you see a live electrical wire that is not attended, notify the appropriate safety personnel .
- ◆ Electrical shock can be deadly in every situation. Treat an electrical part as if it is alive. Electrically live parts do not look any different from de-energized parts. To ensure safety, it is best to assume any electrical part is live. Take precautions to keep power on its path and protect yourself. You can't be too careful when it comes to electricity.
- ◆ Electricity is a common, but dangerous workplace hazard. If you are not sure something is safe to be worked on, get with your Journeyman, Foreman or another qualified wireman. We are all our Sisters and Brothers keepers. Have a great summer and stay safe !



In Memory of

**Matthew Kendall
1972 –2023**

Brother Matthew Kendall passed away at the young age of 50 on Sunday, May 21, 2023 from a heart attack. Brother Kendall began working as a Commissioning Tech at the VIT Plant in April 2019 and was a four year member of Local 112.

**John Householder
1940 –2023**

Brother John Householder passed away at the age of 82 on June 3, 2023. Brother Householder was initiated into Local 112 on December 8, 1962 as an apprentice wireman. He completed the inside program in the summer of 1966 and was a 61 year member of the IBEW.

John worked for a variety of contractors during his career. He lived in the Yakima area so when he could catch a call close to home he did just that. A large majority of his construction career was worked on the Hanford Project until 1991, at which time he went to work in the maintenance sector, where he worked until his retirement in November 2004.

**Lee Roy Alford
1945 –2023**

Brother Lee Roy Alford passed away on Monday, June 5, 2023 at the age of 77. He originally joined Local 112 in May 1974 as an apprentice wireman and completed the four year inside program through Local 112. He left the Local for a period of time in 1986 and came became a member again in 1992.

Brother Alford worked in the Oregon area of our jurisdiction when work was available, as well as the Hanford Project until his retirement in 2010. He later moved to Florida and then Alabama, where he resided at the time of his passing.

**Kevin Andreason
1945 –2023**

Brother Kevin E. Andreason passed away on June 8, 2023 after a courageous battle with cancer at the age of 77. He was initiated into Local 112 in 1974 and completed the four year inside apprenticeship program, becoming a Journeyman Wireman in July, 1978. Brother Andreason was a 49 year member of the IBEW.

Kevin lived in the Oregon area and worked that part of the jurisdiction whenever he could, but did work some in Washington and on the Hanford Project. He went to work at the Boardman Coal Fired Plant in 1991 and worked the remainder of his career on that site until his retirement in 2016.



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114 N. Edison Street

I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION NO. 112

BROTHERHOOD BROADCASTS

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