

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112

March, 2020

Travis E. Swayze

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.



A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

WORK PICTURE

The work picture has flattened out and in some cases jobs have been put on hold during this Covid-19 pandemic. We are fielding a lot of calls and are trying to answer everything we can with what we know to be true at that moment. I have been posting more than ever on Facebook trying to keep members informed of the most current information, although information is changing rapidly. There are 66 on Book I and 96 on Book II.

It has been a common theme with all of the 'shelter in place' orders throughout the country that construction workers are listed as "essential personnel". Everyone has their version of 'essential', but I believe the intent is to allow our members to continue the work that is necessary to keep our national economy moving. Conversely, for those people who choose not to work based on the Covid-19 pandemic, provisions have been made to allow them to shelter in place. The National Disease Emergency Response Agreement, as well as State unemployment emergency rules, make it easier to collect unemployment benefits for our Brothers and Sisters who are not working. Based on the Governor's orders, the jobs that remain open should be practicing social distancing and providing a cleaner environment to work in. I have no doubt that each job has been affected by this pandemic and we are trying our best to juggle current job situations while still anticipating the future needs for construction manpower in 2020 and beyond. These are trying times and tough decisions are being made by our national leadership in the hope to return to a normalcy that we recognize. I wish everyone a safe journey through these unprecedented times.

Please stay informed by visiting our website and Facebook page for the latest information.

BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

At this point, with permission from IBEW President Lonnie Stephenson, we have cancelled all unit meetings through April and hopefully will resume our normal schedule in May.

Some planned events for later this year include sponsoring the Richland Regatta boat races in June, the Tri Cities Water Follies in July, the IBEW Local 112 Golf Tournament in July, and the annual IBEW Local picnic in September. The RENEW committee is also planning events such as a bowling night, the Rebuilding Mid-Columbia banquet, and Middleton Farms Fall festival to name a few. Obviously everything here is subject to change based on timelines defined by the Covid-19 pandemic.

A Funny Meme: On day five of homeschool, one of those little @\$%’s called in a bomb threat! Throughout all of this, we have to be able to find some humor to keep our sanity !



When was the last time the World Health Organization declared a worldwide pandemic and for what illness?

Answer 2009-H1N1 virus

THE RETIREE'S BREAKFAST CLUB FOR APRIL HAS BEEN CANCELLED

ORGANIZING REPORT

Looking To The Future

With the slow winter and the current pandemic going on, we haven't been proactive about organizing, though that hasn't stopped others from reaching out to us. We continue to meet with people and get them qualified for the books so that when all the uncertainty associated with the current pandemic is over, we can continue our mission of organizing the work. A couple weeks ago we attended another Perry Tech Employer Expo. Hopefully we were able to direct their grads to our apprenticeship program or at the very least, encourage them to seek us out once they become licensed electricians. Many of the non-union contractors in the Yakima area rely on Perry for a steady stream of trainees and journeymen, and putting a dent into that supply will go a long way to recapture that market.

Many of the locals have started canceling their organizing blitzes because of the pandemic. Local 48 canceled their blitz earlier this month and Local 73 canceled their blitz in April, as well as Local 77 cancelling their blitz in May. I imagine that they won't be the last. Our blitz is scheduled for August 11th and 12th and we will assess the need to cancel as we get closer to that date.

Rylan Grimes, Membership Development Rep.

COMMISSIONING TECH CORNER

Commissioning Tech's (CTs) at the WTCC VIT Plant continue to assume more responsibility as systems are turned over from construction and startup. Currently CTs monitor and operate equipment in support of air, water, fuel, and power systems. Activities involving these systems are held both in the control room and in the field. A major activity in the pre-commissioned VIT Plant is the validating and first-use of an accepted system. For example, accepting the Analytical Laboratory HVAC System required walk-downs, procedure reviews, and alignment of each component associated with HVAC. Once this process is complete the system can be started for the first time and tuned. Every month new training is being developed and administered to the CTs improving their breadth of knowledge and ability to engage routine and abnormal operations. There are 90 CTs at the plant with a class in Fundamentals Training and one more class to be hired to bring the cadre up to full staffing. Fundamentals Training is an accelerated program with courses in math, physical science, mechanical science, and technical reading at the simulator building. Once CTs pass this program they transfer to WTP for systems training before assignment to a crew.

Bob Legard, Membership Development Rep.

APRIL UNIT MEETINGS

DUE TO THE HEALTH EMERGENCY FACING ALL OF US, WITH APPROVAL FROM THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE, ALL UNIT MEETINGS REGULARY HELD IN APRIL HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

~ ~ Bringing The Power To You ~ ~

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APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

The Training Center is currently closed to the public in compliance with Governor Inslee's mandate. As of this update, the JATC staff is still reporting and conducting the day-to-day business of the Training Center.

All JW classes have been cancelled until further notice. Apprenticeship classes are being conducted virtually, via Zoom, and the related training calendar for the apprentices has been revised. The JATC is working very hard to keep the apprentices on their same completion track as before the coronavirus outbreak.

Applicants were set to interview during mid-April. The JATC is addressing the issue as the news unfolds, but as of right now, we are having the applicants hold off on calling in to reserve their time slots until more information becomes available.

For those of you who are/become laid off, check out the esd.wa.gov for special information regarding unemployment benefits during these unprecedented times.

If anybody has any questions regarding the apprenticeship, please don't hesitate to reach out. Stay safe, and hopefully, we're all through this soon!

Marcus Burluson, Training Director

"Thank You" For Attending Your Union Meeting in March, 2020

TRI-CITIES	Kortney McCall	Keith Cowan	Patrick Smith	Dan McConkey
	Aaron Siefken	Dylan Morrell	Hip Hernandez	Ross Nichols
	Don Snider	Aaron Weiss	Jeff Dent	Avery Thompson
	David Glessner	Mark Poland	Jared Campbell	
	Stacy Kimball	Scot Walker	V. Siharath	
	Steve Weis	Keyarah Fielding	Jose Ramos	
	Matt Weis	Jonathan Mollette	Enoch Vargas	
	Josh Weis	Larry Lozier	S. Rencehausen	
	Pete Jones	Matt Perry	Lars Severson	
	Justin Turner	Jose Vargas		
	Jack Gibson	Hayes Mercure		
Jimmie Moser	Cherif Megahed	HERMISTON		
Ed Manthei	Lorne Smith	Travis Swayze		
Cornelio Valdez	Jeffrey Weis	Travis Sellers		
David Wenger	Jimmy Johnson	Tim Meyers		
Robert Morfin	Phillip Wahner	Laura Clayton		
Lee St. Clair	Jacob Rogers	Doug McCauley		



In Memory of

**Martin E. Detty
1934-2020**

Brother Martin E. Detty passed away at the age of 85 on February 15, 2020. Brother Detty was initiated into the IBEW by Local 569 in July, 1960, where he served his apprenticeship. He was a 60 year member of the IBEW who began working out of Local 112 in 1965 for shops mainly in the Yakima area. His Traveling Card was accepted by Local 112 in 1978. He continued to work in the Yakima area until 1986, at which time he went to work on the Hanford Project where he worked until 1991. He went on "official" retirement in 1999 and continued to live in the Yakima area.

**Adam Bruce
1981-2020**

Brother Adam Bruce passed away on March 9, 2020 at the age of 38. Brother Bruce was an apprentice wireman who began his apprenticeship in June, 2017. He joined Local Union 112, IBEW in October of 2018 and was currently working for OEG at the data centers in Oregon.

YAKIMA
Meeting cancelled due to the coronavirus



SAFETY SPOT

When it comes to electrical hazards, prevention depends on safe equipment, safe environment and safe work practices. Most electrical accidents result from one of the following three factors: Unsafe equipment on installation, unsafe environment or unsafe work practices. These accidents can be prevented with the use of safe equipment, guarding, grounding, circuit protective devices and safe work practices. Lack of lockout / tagout procedures and use of proper isolation equipment is a leading cause of unsafe work practices. Only trained, authorized employees should maintain and install electrical equipment.

The construction industry is most at danger from electrical hazards, accounting for 54% of all electrical fatalities in the United States. There was an 18% increase in fatal electrical injuries between 2017 and 2018. 9% of all electrical injuries in 2018 were fatal. 3% of all workplace fatalities were caused by contact / exposure to electricity. There were 160 electrical fatalities in 2018, which was an 18% increase over the previous year and the highest number since 2011. The number of fatalities varies between the ages. 6% occurred in workers age 20-24, 31% in the 25-34 age group, 30% in workers 34-44, 14% in workers age 45-54, 14% in 55-64 and 4% in those age 65 and older.

Construction and manufacturing lead the non fatal electrical accidents at 36% . Electrical shocks accounted for 1,080 of the non fatal injuries, while burns accounted for 490. Please keep safety foremost in your thought process as you plan and go about your day.

Ed Manthei, Safety Committee Chairman

David Glessner, Committee Member



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