

# Brotherhood Broadcasts

## Local Union #112

October 2023

Travis E. Swayze

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

#### POLITICS MATTER

This month I would like to give a brief overview of why politics matter, why we should pay attention to politics and how they affect our livelihoods.

As I have discussed before, politics in my world is building relationships with people who have influence on our Brothers and Sisters' hours, wages and working conditions. We must continue to promote people who understand our needs in the electrical industry as union members. We must support people who understand that "Right to work" is not a good thing and elect people who understand that apprenticeship is vitally important to how we do business and fight to keep apprenticeship standards high. These same people will promote Project Labor Agreements (PLA's) with apprenticeship utilization language on projects because they understand that this is how the next generation will earn a career and learn the skills of the trades.

We have always taken the position at IBEW 112 that our resources will be used for local politics from the statewide races down to school board positions, because we know it is important to have someone in the room who will have our backs. Some of the races may seem insignificant, but they can change the narrative of who performs the work and where money is spent. For instance, with public money, we believe it should be spent responsibly on projects with livable wages and benefits. Our opposition believes our public money spent on projects should be done with the lowest wages possible and to the lowest bidder with no apprentice standards requirements.

What we need are more politicians to understand that these higher wages are what keeps people in the industry versus being a steppingstone to a higher wage job, thus creating sustainable careers within our communities. We all know that money spent in a community should stay in the same communities so our local economies will prosper. There is a lot of federal funding coming down the pike and we need to seat like-minded people who understand how to responsibly manage it.

Voting is a foundational right to democracy and if you believe that politics affect your family's livelihood, please review Local 112 PAC vetted recommendations, and cast your vote by November 7th.

#### BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

The end of the year events are coming up and that includes our Veterans' Day breakfast, Sportsmen's Alliance Banquet and our Christmas parties, for both the adults and kids.

Details of the Veterans' Day breakfast on November 10th are included in this broadcast.

If you want to attend the Sportsmen's Alliance Banquet on Saturday, December 2nd, call the hall and put your name on the list to reserve a seat at the table.

Tickets for the adult Christmas party will go on sale November 1st and will be \$10 each. The party will feature dinner, music, dancing and gift drawings throughout the evening. The Women's Committee will have wreaths to be auctioned, with proceeds going to charity. Bring an unwrapped gift for "Toys for Tots" and your name will go into a drawing at the party.

The kids' party will also be December 16th at the hall beginning at 11:00 a.m. and is free to attend.

### ORGANIZING REPORT

#### Salting—It Can Make a Difference

As many of you may know, the first major solar project along Highway 24 in Washington called Goose Prairie went to a non-union shop. We recently met with this shop, and although we are a long way off from being able to sign them, we did discuss the potential of sending some of our members to salt them. Last year we were successful organizing around the solar work in Klickitat County but since then, work has been slow in the Yakima area.

Many members have been working out of jurisdiction and would welcome the opportunity to work a little bit closer to home. The reasoning behind salting them is twofold. This contractor has been burned by other IBEW Locals in the past and we want to show them that we are different and secondly, there is a lot more solar work coming to that stretch of highway and if any developer wants to take full advantage of all the tax incentives available, they will need to sign a Project Labor Agreement so the lions share will be done under a PLA. We will need to keep our current membership in the area and ready to move over to those projects when they break.

If anyone is interested in salting, please reach out to me and I will give you all the details. I also cannot stress this enough. It is a violation of the IBEW Constitution to work for a non-union employer without first signing a Salting Agreement, so please do not go out and do this on your own, as it must be done under the direction of the Hall.

*Rylan Grimes, Lead Organizer*

### 112 ⚡ SISTERS IN SOLIDARITY

The Women's Committee will get together on Saturday, November 4th at 5:00 pm to make wreaths to be auctioned at the Christmas Party on December 16th. Net proceeds will be donated to a charity yet to be determined. Last year's event was a big success and we look forward to this year being even bigger. The wreaths are beautiful and very creative and a popular item at the party. If you can to help out on "Girls Night Out", contact the hall for more info.

*Laura Leahy, Committee Chair*



### ELECTION DAY IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. VOTE BY NOVEMBER 7TH

#### NOVEMBER MEETINGS

Tri-Cities	November 2nd	7 :00 pm
Hermiston	November 9th	7:00 pm
Yakima	November 16th	7:00 pm
Executive Board	November	5:30 pm
RENEW	November 8th	6:00 pm
Safety Committee	November 14th	6:00 pm
Women's Comm	November 15th	6:30 pm

# 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**

The Training Center is busy with the new school year under way and has also been very active in the local Outreach Programs and Career Days through the many high schools in our jurisdiction. Not only have we participated in the high school programs, we have also attended the career fairs at Yakima Valley Tech, Tri-Tech, the Yakima Sun Dome and the Benton Franklin Fair Grounds. In total, we have talked with hundreds of potential applicants to our apprenticeship program and have found it to be a very positive way to communicate with our future members. The apprentices who are participating in the ARC Program have also been active in these outreach and career days.

Congrats to Mark Phipps, a 2nd year apprentice, who was named this month's Apprentice of the Month.  
*Geoff Arends, Training Director*



RENEW has had an eventful year so far as we have completed our last two major events. The Middleton's Farm pumpkin patch and our Trunk or Treat. We would like to thank all of our members, but more importantly our volunteers and ARC participants who have helped to make our events a success. Before the year ends, we are hosting a T-shirt and coin design contest. Anyone can enter the contest and we ask that all designs are submitted to the hall

no later than November 30, 2023. You can submit more than one design or a design for a shirt and one for a coin, and we ask that you annotate what you would like your design to be considered for. We will gather all designs and vote on them at December's meeting.  
*Mark Uribe RENEW Chairman*

**REACH OUT AND ENGAGE NEXT-GEN ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

**Retirees' Breakfast**

Friday, November 3rd @ the Hall—9:00 a.m.



**DECEMBER 16TH - \$10**  
**RED LION HOTEL—KENNEWICK**

*Tickets go on sale*  
*November 1st at the hall*



**VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023**

**FLAG RAISING AT 8:30 A.M. WITH**

**BREAKFAST TO FOLLOW**



Members of all affiliates of the Central Washington Building Trades who are veterans or active military are invited to attend a free breakfast so we may honor and recognize your service to our country.

Join us as we raise the flag at 8:30 a.m. followed by a delicious breakfast catered by Henrys.

If you or a family member have served, please mail or e-mail a military photo to IBEW Local 112 with information to be displayed during the breakfast.

**LOCATION:**

IBEW LOCAL UNION 112  
114 N. Edison Street, Kennewick, WA

***We thank you and appreciate your service!***

[lorij@ibew112.com](mailto:lorij@ibew112.com)



**SAFETY SPOT**

**WORKING SAFELY WITH SCISSOR LIFTS—PART 2**

We need to be watchful when a scissor lift is moving near a fixed object; when a moving vehicle and the scissor lift are operating closely; and when the scissor lift passes under a fixed object, such as a door frame or support beam. When using scissor lifts near energized power lines, it is important to position the lift to avoid electrocution, arc flash and thermal burns. Some electricity can jump or arc from the power lines to the scissor lift or worker. Electrocution can occur even if neither the scissor lift nor the worker touches the power line.

We have the right to working conditions that do not pose a risk of serious harm, to receive information and training in a language and vocabulary the worker understands about work hazards and methods to prevent them, and OSHA standards that apply to the specific job. We can also receive records of work-related injuries and illnesses. We have the right to file a complaint asking OSHA to inspect the workplace if we believe there is a serious hazard or their employer is not following OSHA's rules. OSHA will keep all identities confidential. We can exercise our rights under the law without retaliation, including reporting an injury or raising health and safety concerns with our employer or OSHA. If a worker has been retaliated against for exercising their rights, they must file a complaint with OSHA as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after the incident. *Butch Manthel, Chairman*



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