

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112

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Travis E. Swayze

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

WORK PICTURE

WTCC at the VIT Plant is back to a full workforce on site each day. The Data Centers are expanding to new sites and finishing up existing work. Potelco is ramping up for a 30 MB solar farm just north of Richland. Potelco's scope of work will be setting solar panels and tying them together. If you need any information on a specific job out there feel free to call the hall and ask for details. There are 57 on Book I and 85 on Book II.

The use of Material Handlers is new to our workforce and was negotiated into the current contract. The language for this classification is located on the last page of the contract and is very limited due to the fact that they are not electricians, but they are valuable members of the IBEW and useful for the contractors to lower their composite rate. This classification was created to help move material onto the site, manage material, and distribute to general laydown areas. They can also clean general areas, equipment, and major tools, but once the equipment is set, it is considered electrical work because it is electrified or ready to be electrified. A Material Handler may use a forklift to move material and spot for that forklift, but cannot rig or set any equipment. Because we live in states that require an electrical license, they are not allowed to be our tool partners which means they should not be used to spot aerial lifts that the Journeymen and apprentices are working in. Material Handlers can bring tools/materials from shop to job, and job to shop. The contract is very specific that Journeymen and Apprentices can give direction to a Material Handler, but Foremen also have the ability to lay out any person on their crew as per the chain of command.

While having Material Handlers on a jobsite can mean more work for our members by lowering the composite rate which allows our contractors to be more competitive in the private sector, another valuable feature is the ability feed the JATC with quality candidates. For those Material Handlers who have aspirations of getting into our apprenticeship, it gives the Material Handler a chance to prove that they will do well in our apprenticeship and gives us a chance to preview a person's work ethic, reliability, and character. As a committee member, it is really hard to tell for certain, who has these qualities. If you work with a person whom you feel has the qualities necessary to succeed in our apprenticeship, please take the time to help guide them into the apprenticeship and/or write that person a letter of recommendation so the committee can choose quality applicants. By having the best workforce, it puts our contractors in the position to be most competitive.

I would like to produce "A Year In Pictures of Local 112", so if you are on a job that allows photos and wouldn't mind being published on our website or in the Electrical Worker, send us some photos via email. Good examples would be something showing craftsmanship, group photos, and photos of our members with the job in the background.

REGISTER TO VOTE

WASHINGTON: www.sos.wa.gov

OREGON: www.sos.or.gov

ORGANIZING REPORT

License Reciprocity

While many of us are understandably excited about the prospect of being able to reciprocate our licenses between Washington and Oregon, many of our Brothers and Sisters who didn't have the opportunity to go through a state approved apprenticeship program, were excluded. For those in that situation, you have a bit longer path to be able to work in Oregon. For those who did not go through an apprenticeship program, you must work a total of 16,000 hours as a journeyman before Oregon will allow you to take their General Journeyman Exam. That means that it will take you nearly 8 years to get an Oregon license after you obtained your Washington license. After doing a little bit of research, we believe there may be a faster way to obtain an Oregon license if you did not graduate from an apprenticeship program. In the agreement between Washington and Oregon, it states that: "Reciprocity applicants holding an Oregon general supervising electrician license or Washington master electrician certificate that is current, active, and has no violations or conditions attached within the period specified by the reciprocating state, shall be deemed to have met the experience and education requirements of this Section". That means that if you hold a master electricians' certificate in Washington State, Oregon will let you reciprocate even if you did not attend an apprenticeship program.

So how do you become a Journey-Level Master Electrician in Washington? First you must be a 01-Journeyman Electrician for at least 4 years, and you will then be able to take the master electrician test. The master electrician test is the same test as the 01 Admin and if you already have an Admin license, once you hit that four year mark, you can combine them to get your Master Electrician Certificate without taking another test. Once you hold that Master Electrician Certificate you still need to work under it for at least 1000 hours before Oregon will allow you to reciprocate for a General Journeyman license in Oregon. So, it could take as little as four and a half years going that route.

If there is enough interest, we will work with the Training Center to put on an admin prep course for those who would like to take the admin exam in preparation for obtaining a Washington Journey-Level Masters Electrical Certificate. We also have a contact with the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries if you would like to find out more information from them. Just call the hall and we will get that information to you.

Rylan Grimes, Membership Development Rep.

COMMISSIONING TECH CORNER

Currently we have 141 Commissioning Techs working at the Waste Treatment Project at Hanford. Congratulations to those who successfully finished the Fundamental Course and good luck moving forward into Systems Training. WTCC has decided to start a new day shift for the CTs. The individuals who volunteered for the new shift will be supporting plant operations.

As you may know, Commissioning Techs are considered "Essential Personnel". They continued to man the site by running pumps, attending training and validating procedures for initial use during the recent smoke hazard time period.

I would like to take a moment and thank Nic Callihan for the time he spent as Steward on D shift. Nic did an outstanding job representing his fellow D shift co-workers. **Bob Legard, MDR**

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

~~Bringing The Power To You~~

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APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

At the Training Center, we are moving into the year virtually and hope to move into a hybrid model for labs as soon as we can. This also means that we will not be holding any in-person journeyman classes for the time being, but we would like to do some virtual classes.

We are in the process of renewing and planning these Journeyman classes and are looking for input. Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WWXLZ8M> and help us make these classes better for you. Until we get set up virtually, CEU's can be taken through a variety of online companies such as Pellco, Blue Volt, Jade Learning, and Mike Holt.

We are also on hold for interviews and aptitude tests until our region reaches a phase where we can have larger gatherings. If you know anybody in the process, let them know that we will conduct them as soon as we are allowed.

In an effort to help some of our members and future members, we would like to reach out to any recent graduates of the program to see if they would like to donate their Tech Math and/or Rigging textbooks. Contact the Training Center to schedule a time to drop them by.

Thanks to all the people who turned in applications for the 3rd instructor position. We look forward to getting someone hired in the near future.

Help us get back to trainings at the Training Center: mask up, stay safe, and stay healthy.

Kris Tuura, Training Director



In Memory of

*G. Neil Knight
1939-2020*

Brother Neil Knight passed away on September 4, 2020 at the age of 81 from injuries sustained in a fall at his home. He was a 59 year member of the IBEW and attended the Yakima unit meetings well into his retirement.

Neil was initiated into Local 112 as an apprentice wireman in 1961 and completed the four year program, becoming a Journeyman Wireman in June, 1965. He worked the early part of his career in the Yakima area before going to the Hanford area in 1977, where he worked until his retirement.

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



**ARE YOUR BENEFICIARIES CURRENT ?
Contact the hall for information on how to make changes**

If you have recently had a change in your life, such as marriage, new baby, divorce or death, it is important that you keep your beneficiary information current with the hall and the applicable plans, such as pensions, H & W, etc.

**OCTOBER MEETINGS
All unit and committee meetings for the month of October have been cancelled due to COVID.**



**IBEW LOCAL 112
DEBIT CARD**

We now have our own debit card with Tri-CU Credit Union in Kennewick. Just show your dues receipt as proof of membership and you are eligible to get one. Tri-CU Credit Union was started by the membership of Local 112 in 1969. GET YOURS TODAY !!
3213 W. 19th Ave., Kennewick, WA

LICENSE RECIPROcity IS HERE



WASHINGTON STATE

https://lni.wa.gov/forms_publications/F500-148-000.pdf



OREGON STATE

<https://www.oregon.gov/bcd/formslibrary/4794.pdf>



SAFETY SPOT

About five workers are electrocuted every week. Electricity causes 12% of young worker deaths in the work place. It takes very little electricity to cause harm and there is a significant risk of causing fires. There are four main types of electrical injuries: Electrocutation, electrical shock, electrical shock burns and falls. Electrical shock can also cause broken bones, heart attack, cuts and scrapes. Electrical accidents are caused by a combination of unsafe factors including equipment and/or installation and environment work practices. Some of the hazards are inadequate wiring, exposed electrical parts, wires with bad insulation, ungrounded electrical systems and tools, overloaded circuits, damaged power tools and equipment, overhead power lines and using the wrong PPE and tools. All hazards are made worse in wet conditions. Some of the protective measures we can take are proper grounding, use of GFCIs, use of fuses and circuit breakers, guard live parts, proper use of flexible cords, lockout / tagout, close electrical panels and training. In summary, proper lock out / tag out procedures are a critical part of keeping us safe.

We must also remember electrical equipment must be listed and labeled, free from hazards and used in a proper manner. If you use electrical tools, you must be protected from electrical shock and provided the necessary safety equipment. Please have a safe fall and remember, if you are not sure about something, ask someone.

Butch Manthei, Committee Chairman

David Glessner, Committee Member



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