

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112

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Travis E. Swayze

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.



A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

WORK PICTURE

Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to start with the facts surrounding the recent events that took place at our hall and our JATC. On the morning of August 25th, somewhere around 4:40 am, we received a call from Moon Security involving a break in and that the sprinkler system had engaged. It was our member, Ryan Kaufman, who had set the fires, as we had determined by our security system. We believe that he was also the person who set fire to the JATC, which was not discovered until Kris Tuura showed up for work around 7:15 am. Both buildings are currently under restoration. The JATC took a bigger hit with smoke damage than we did, and the hall has mostly water damage from the sprinkler systems going off. A lot of walls are being cut up and replaced to assure no mold grows inside the walls. At this point it may be November before all work is completely done. We do not know why he attacked the hall or the JATC, nor can we figure out why he took the lives that he did. What happened here is a small part of a bigger problem. What triggers a person to be so bold as to take multiple lives and set everything that he can on fire in the process? That is the question that may never be answered.

I have attended several conferences and zoom meetings that revolve around mental health and the pandemic. Some of the mental health issues I have seen predate the pandemic and could be as simple as depression that leads to drug use. In order to fully understand all of the mental health options the IBEW has to offer, I plan on researching mental health options with a counselor to learn how to identify issues and also learn how to pave the way for our Brothers and Sisters who may want help, but do not know how to get it. Once I have done the research, I will be sharing it via our website, union meetings, and newsletters. If you feel like you need information and have not seen any, please reach out to me and we will find the answers for you or get you pointed in the right direction.

A lot of questions go through our heads when we think about these horrendous and unthinkable events that happen in our own lives. One question makes me wonder how we can educate ourselves about mental health and motivate each of us to talk about our overall health. As I have addressed before, communicating our feelings and thoughts is one of the toughest things to do as a construction worker, but we are now realizing that it is vitally important for the mental health of our members and our families. My hope is to continually have these conversations at meetings, worksites, and social gatherings to help identify the need for awareness of these issues within our IBEW family.



The next Brotherhood Event will be the Union Sportsmen's Alliance Banquet scheduled for December 4, 2021. At this time, it is scheduled to be an in person banquet and auction at our hall and you will be able to reserve your spot in the coming months.

OCTOBER UNIT MEETINGS

Tri- Cities	October 7th	7:00 p.m.
Hermiston	October 14th	7:00 p.m.
Yakima	October 21st	7:00 p.m.
Executive Board	October 28th	5:30 p.m.

ORGANIZING REPORT

SaltingAn Important Tool

It was recently announced in the newspaper that Amazon is building a distribution center in Pasco. We have known this for some time, and we have also known that the electrical was awarded to Berg. There is little to no workforce for Berg to draw from in the area which means they will most likely be bringing people from the west side of the state. Considering the fan fair that local politicians have been heaping on Amazon for building here and the jobs it will create, you should, as I have done, write a letter to the editor about the importing of the workforce. But besides that, we want to try to control as much of that workforce as we can, which we can do through salting. If a large portion of their workforce is union members salting, we can keep them from importing workers and manufacture a labor shortage. We have already heard that the developer is concerned about Berg's ability to man that job, so if a large portion of their workforce suddenly quit to man work for a union contractor, it would create a crisis for Berg and that developer as there are significant penalties for missing deadlines.

If you are interested in salting Berg you must sign a salting agreement and clear it through the hall first. Give us a call.

Rylan Grimes, Membership Development Rep.



Hey everyone, ! At our last RENEW meeting, we decided to hold a "Trunk or Treat" at the hall on Halloween. We will be set up from 3pm to 7pm so bring your kids and let your Brothers and Sisters know. We will have a few cars set up in

the parking lot. The RENEW Conference has been canceled, so we will not be sending our five members to attend it. Thank you to everyone who came to the boat races and helped out and looking forward to Cool Desert Nights. Please join us at our next meeting on October 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the hall.

Matt Morris
Committee Member



COMMISSIONING TECH CORNER

What is new at WTCC??? One more milestone to add to the books; Hanford Tank Farms is now connected to Waste Treatment Immobilization Plant. The underground piping has been connected and will be ready for waste transfers. This is a big moment for us as we have been going through extensive training to facilitate all activities involved with handling the waste at Hanford Tank Farms. The LAW (Low Activity Waste) houses our two melters that will be used for waste processing. One of the two melters will be heated up for testing this upcoming December. Stay tuned as we reach many more milestones.

We would like to give a grand THANK YOU to Omar Velasquez and Tanner Korenkiewicz. Your time and effort as a Steward are very much appreciated.

Irene Pacheco, D Crew Steward

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

Things are heating up at the Training Center. We were part of the incidents that occurred on August 25th. The Training Center was lit on fire and destroyed one of our classrooms and has caused smoke damage to other rooms around it. We are trying to get everything put back together, but we will not be back to normal for a little while. The Hall has graciously allowed us to use the meeting room for classes and we also have the ability to use our lab areas at the Training Center.

We are currently in the process of going through interviews for new applicants. Bringing on new apprentices has been ongoing with the steady work in the area. New applications will be available starting January 2022. Anyone interested in joining the program should visit our website to get more information to learn how to be prepared. www.jatc112.org

If you are a 2020 or 2021 graduate and was unable to attend the graduation ceremony, please contact the Training Center to pick up your certificates and gifts!

Journeyman classes have been put on hold while we rebuild from the ashes. Until we get set up, CEU's can be taken through a variety of online companies such as Pellco, Blue Volt, and Jade Learning.

As we come back into the new school year and people's stress starts to elevate, don't be like a mummy – take time to unwind.

Kris Tuura, Training Director

BUY "MADE IN U.S.A."

Retirees' Breakfast
 Friday, October 1st @ 9:00 a.m.
 Local 112's Office

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SAFETY SPOT

Electricians are consistently exposed to the dangers of electricity throughout their workday. It is interesting to note, however, that electricity is not to blame for the majority of injuries seen in the trade. The extreme variety of job site and working conditions are what make a job as an electrician risky, not necessarily the exposure to electricity. So how dangerous is being an electrician? Depending on the job, or even the day, electricians might work indoors or outdoors at homes, businesses and construction sites. They often need to crawl into tight spaces or climb up high on a ladder to get to the area where the electrical work needs to be done.

Electricians are most often hurt from falls, electrical burns, exposure to toxic materials and even face increased risks from working in small, tight spaces and varying outdoor conditions. Falls are common for electrical workers who often need to perform work on a roof top or reach overhead power lines. They also need to access electrical wiring in attics and ceilings. Working in these high places puts an electrician at an increased risk of falls.

Electric shock is one of the most serious injuries faced by an electrician. Complications of electric shock can include severe burns, confusion, trouble breathing, interruption of heart rhythm, cardiac arrest, muscle pain and contractions, seizures, loss of consciousness and even death. Electrocutation occurs in extreme cases of electrical shock that results in death. Even exposure to a small amount of current can result in death. Although it is a risk, fortunately electrocutation is not as common as other injuries.

An electrical burn is a burn to skin or tissues caused by an electrical shock and /or arc flash. Typically, damage is only seen on the surface of the skin. However, a more extreme burn can sometimes damage deeper tissue and even nerves. While some tasks performed by an electrician are inherently dangerous, many risks can be avoided by taking proper safety precautions. Safety is a big responsibility for everyone working in the field. One way to reduce accidents and injuries is to closely follow all procedures and safety recommendations outline by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA). All electricians have or should undergo OSHA training. An electrician can also do a few simple things to increase their own safety on the job, like making sure the power and the switch or circuit breaker is turned off and LOTO before starting work, always using the most updated safety tools and wearing the right personal protective equipment (PPE). A job safety analysis (JSA) is very important and should be re-visited if the scope of work changes during the day.

On another note, remember to use our resources offered through our Health & Welfare Plan to assist you with any depression and anxiety that you may be experiencing. Covid is putting an additional strain on us all. Have a great fall and stay healthy & safe!

Butch Manthei, Committee Chairman

David Glessner, Committee Member



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