

Brotherhood Broadcasts

Local Union #112



September 2023

Travis E. Swayze

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Bus. Mgr. / Fin. Secy.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good mental and physical health.

This month I would like to highlight the reputation of the IBEW. Reputation as a person, as a Brother or Sister representing the IBEW on the job, or as an IBEW member in the eyes of the public are all leading factors when discussing the reputation of the IBEW as a whole.

I am not going to discuss how to build a 'good' reputation because it is subjective and there are several ways to do that which would lead to a debate all its own. I would like to discuss the actions while reflecting the image of the IBEW, and in some cases, creating a liability for everyone in our membership. Anytime we wear the IBEW gear, work under an IBEW contract, or identify as an IBEW member, we have the ability to influence anyone within eyesight or earshot. The smallest comments or actions can influence in a positive or negative way. Obviously, if we are going to grow the IBEW we want to not only keep existing members, but also be an organization that others want to be a part of.

When we are out and about, we need to be aware that 'snapshots' are being taken all the time. Right, wrong, or indifferent, this is the world we live in, and we need to recognize it. Almost everything we do is tracked by somebody on and off the job, especially when we are wearing our branded IBEW gear. When we wear the brand with pride, whether on a shirt or on social media, we need to accept the notion that we are representing the entire IBEW. To wear it and act irresponsible is to 'sacrifice the interest' of the IBEW and comes with consequences, but to advertise the IBEW and do something outstanding is to "bear true allegiance to it' and deserves praise and recognition. We love to hold up and celebrate those actions that are selfless and exemplify the IBEW Code of Conduct. If you feel someone is not acting as they should, feel free to question their actions as we should all have enough respect for each other to at least convey our concerns, as well as listen to each other with an open mind.

I will share with you a phrase I often use and give to other people for thought. "A person is measured by what they do when no one is around". To me, this simply means that we all know the difference between right and wrong, but the choice we make when no one else is there to judge us will determine our character and reputation.

The choice is ultimately each of ours to make, knowing that each of us make up the IBEW. This message is to offer the idea that each of us can increase the recognition of the IBEW when we 'ride for the brand', and together we can work to better the reputation of the IBEW to new heights in order to deliver a better IBEW for the next generation.

BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

With fall upon us, we will be holding several events for the membership . Middleton Farms Fall Festival, Trunk or Treat, Veteran's Day annual breakfast, Sportsmen's Alliance Banquet, and the Christmas parties for both kids and adults. Watch the Local Union's website and Facebook for information concerning these events and we hope you will able to come and enjoy the fun with your family and fellow IBEW Brothers & Sisters.

ORGANIZING REPORT

Recruiting vs Organizing

It has been a busy year to say the least. After September, we will have attended nine different organizing blitzes including our own. And while a shortage of work in Washington has stifled our recruitment efforts a bit, there is no shortage of work that needs to be done.

For the last five years, it seems that all I have had time to do was recruit for the work we had. Unfortunately, recruiting and organizing aren't quite one and the same. Organizing involves a little bit more than just sending people out to jobs. It involves helping them understand the key benefits of what it means to be a Sister or Brother of the IBEW. That what one can't accomplish on their own, the group can. That is why it is so important that we put adequate resources into organizing. Having the extra help that Cody has brought, and will continue to bring, has been so important. From reaching out to developers and general contractors, to hitting jobs sites and following up with leads from our blitz or sources. The fact of the matter is that it is just too much for one person to do alone, and without that extra help, we aren't organizing, we're just recruiting.

Rylan Grimes, Lead Organizer



The Local's PAC Committee has met with and interviewed several candidates who are running for various positions in the upcoming November election. We ask them how they feel about apprenticeship programs, union labor and support of the local work force, along with several other issues important to the IBEW. You can view the endorsements on the home page of Local 112's website @ ibewlu112.com.

If you have not yet registered to vote, you can register online for any of the sates at : vote411.org

The deadline for Washington State is as follows:

Online: October 30th
By Mail—received by October 30th
In Person: November 7th

The deadline for Oregon State is as follows:

Online: October 17th
By Mail—postmarked October 17th
In Person: October 17th

**ELECTION DAY IS
NOVEMBER 7th**



OCTOBER MEETINGS

Quarterly dinner feeds at the unit meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Tri- Cities	October 5th	7 :00 pm
Hermiston	October 12th	7:00 pm
Yakima	October 19th	7:00 pm
Executive Board	October 26th	5:30 pm
PAC	October 10th	6:00 pm
RENEW	October 11th	6:00 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



APPRENTICESHIP & JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

All apprentices are currently working. The 23/24 school year has started, and classes are going well. The JATC currently has 263 apprentices, and we are bringing on 25 more apprentices through this month. The Milwaukee Apprentice of the Month is 5th year Levi Kauffman, Levi is employed by CREM.

CODE UPDATE CLASS—8 hr credit—\$30 per member
Electrical Training Center—Kennewick

Tuesday, October 17th—6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 19—6:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.

Contact the JATC at 509-783-0589 to register for this class

Geoff Arends, Training Director



RENEW is looking for individuals who would like to participate in the Trunk or Treat, as it is an ARC event. All you have to do is show up! Candy and decorations are provided to decorate your vehicle, unless you have a certain theme and you want to bring your own. We hope to see you on Saturday, October 28th in the hall's parking lot from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm.

REACH OUT AND ENGAGE NEXT - GEN ELECTRICAL WORKERS

GET YOUR BOOKS AND TUITION REIMBURSED

Any apprentice who completes the **Apprenticeship Reimbursement Challenge** during the school year will get the full cost of their books and tuition reimbursed. Requirements include: Attending unit meetings, committee meetings, volunteering to help the local community and furthering the purposes for which the IBEW was instituted by participating in Local 112's annual organizing blitz. If you are an apprentice enrolled in the 2023-2024 school year, call the hall for more information. You still have time to enroll and get started in the program.



The Local's RENEW Committee will be hosting a fire pit with smores, hot chocolate & cider at Middleton Farms Fall Festival. Bring your family to one of the biggest fall events in the Tri-Cities and enjoy all the events the farm has to offer. Navigate through the corn maze, hop on a hayride around the fields, pick your favorite pumpkin, ride the barrel train, go pumpkin bowling, face painting, food and much more. Tickets are free to the members

and their families. Call the hall to sign up for tickets.

OCTOBER 14th—5:00 P.M.—8:00 P.M.

MIDDLETON FARMS—1050 Pasco-Kahlotus Rd., Pasco



In Memory

Steven G. Strait
1949—2023

Brother Steve Strait passed away in August 2023 at the age of 73. Brother Strait was initiated into Local 112 in 1971 as an apprentice wireman, becoming a Journeyman Wireman in November 1975. He was a 51 year member of the IBEW.

Brother Strait worked for several contractors on a variety of job sites in his early career on the Washington side of the jurisdiction, including the Hanford site. But he enjoyed working for the small shops and worked the majority of his career in the commercial and light industrial sector.

Steve will be missed at the monthly retiree breakfast, as he attended regularly and enjoyed reminiscing with old friends and co-workers.



Retirees' Breakfast

Friday, October 6th @ the Hall—9:00 am



SAFETY SPOT

WORKING SAFELY WITH SCISSOR LIFTS



We need to access the work sites to identify all possible hazards. Only trained workers should be allowed to use scissor lifts and employers should make sure that those workers are able to use a scissor lift properly. We need to read the manufacturers instructions for safe movement. Moving the lift when it is elevated or from the ground may not be recommended, or there may be some important information on using the lift this way. Moving the lift elevated can cause the lift to tip over easier. We must also remember the side pressure for pulling or pushing is usually quite low - 100 to 150 lbs. We need to isolate the lift or implement traffic control measures to ensure that other equipment cannot contact the scissor lift. Select work locations with firm, level surfaces away from hazards that can cause instability. Only use a scissor lift outside when the weather conditions are good. Lifts rated for outdoor use are generally limited to wind speeds below 28 MPH, so know your lift. Positioning the lift to avoid crushing or electrocution hazards is important or safe use. Make sure you are inside the hand rails when raising and lowering the lift, as they present hazards similar to vehicles or other mobile equipment on worksites. More to come next month on working safely with scissor lifts.

Butch Manthei, Committee Chairman



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