



IBEW
CHARTERED AUG. 30, 1938
LOCAL
160

219TH EDITION | 3RD QUARTER 2024
NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I want to start off by saying Happy Summer. I hope everyone is enjoying the sunshine, but with summer comes the stormy weather. I would like to thank all our members who have been putting in long hours after the recent storms, once again showing that the IBEW is the right choice. I would like to welcome Kayla Skalisky to my team. Kayla started with us on July 8th, and she will be serving in the roll of Receptionist/Referral Clerk, I am super excited to have her on board.

As I write this letter the 2nd annual Pig Out is fast approaching and I wanted to inform you all about our parking for the event. We will be able to park at the school district office parking lot just down from our building as well as the brick building across the street. We will have signs posted on the day of the event. Hope to see everyone there on September 26th from 11: AM-5:00 PM.

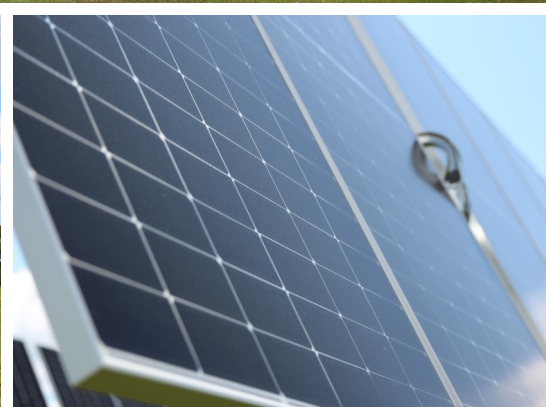
As you know we have been in negotiations with several new groups over the last year, I am happy to report that we have 11 new members at the Federated Co-op. They ratified their contract 2 weeks ago. We are hoping to wrap up the 4 other groups soon.

Mike Ringstad and I had the opportunity to get a tour of the new solar project that is going on in Becker. Last year or so we negotiated a PLA with Blattner Energy to use our 160 groundman on this project setting solar panels and other work. This PLA and the size of this project was a first for us. This project has provided roughly 80 members with work that will continue for a while. We have also negotiated the work on the next 2 phases as well. This project when completed will have about 1.5 million panels. (see the pictures below)

With that, I hope to see everyone soon and please look out for each other and be safe.

In solidarity,

Kurt Zimmerman
Business Manager/Financial Secretary



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Brothers and Sisters,

It's that time of year; May, mental health awareness month when I wrote this letter. A definite topic that is seldomly talked about until it's too late, whether it's at work or in our personal lives. I wrote about some of my own personal experiences a couple years back in the News Letter. My hope was to allow the great members of our Local to see that the topic is ok to converse about, or to be able to watch out for signs that someone maybe struggling with some mental health things at work.

We now live in a time where life is busy, children's sports, social media, maybe an unexpected illness in family dynamic. All of those things can become a burden on a person and as work mates we should be able to lend an ear, or a helping hand without judgement.

You may be asking yourself, "What does this have to do with anything work related?", or "What does this have to do with any Union business?". Well my friends, we spend countless hours, weeks, and years with people at work, and to be frank, we probably spend more time at work than we do with our own families. We are our Brothers/Sisters keepers, we need to keep an eye out for each other.

Everyone's employer, utility, co/op, municipal, or Mo. Valley outside construction has an "Employee Assistance Program". There's usually a phone number on the back of your health insurance card where you can call and find the help you or a work mate. Don't let yourself or a friend become overwhelmed shame and guilt, or get to the point where you feel completely lost and don't know where to turn. Remember, there's help out there for whatever is ailing you and you are not alone in that battle.

Let me reiterate. Mental health doesn't need to be taboo, because at some point in our lives we've all been stuck in a situation we needed help navigating through and that's ok. Be willing to listen to a co-worker if needed. Keep that conversation confidential, keep the trust of your fellow workmate. In the end it'll all work out.

In Solidarity,

Kevin Kaeter
Executive Board President

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Brothers and Sisters,

The Xcel Energy Labor Agreement Contracts, which outline the terms and conditions of employment, including wages and benefits, are now available for your review. While the contract is lengthy, it's important to take the time to familiarize yourself with its contents, as it reflects the collaborative efforts to ensure fair and respectful compensation and benefits for all IBEW 160 Members. If you have any questions or need clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to your designated Steward or Business Representative for assistance. As a proud member of the Local IBEW 160, it is crucial to prioritize safety and look out for the well-being of your colleagues at all times.

Scott E. Knight
Executive Board Member

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE PLYMOUTH HALL ON THE ***FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6:00PM.**

**SEPTEMBER 5, OCTOBER 3
NOVEMBER 7, DECEMBER 5**

*Except when the meeting date falls on a holiday. Please make sure you check our website for meeting cancellations each month.

HALL CLOSURES

Labor Day - Monday, September 2

MO VALLEY UNIT MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 19 @ 7:30PM

Grand Rapids, 300 17th St SE, Grand Rapids

OCTOBER 29 @ 6:30PM

Plymouth Union Hall, 13220 Co Rd 6, Plymouth

NOVEMBER 21 @ 7:30PM

Grand Rapids, 300 17th St SE, Grand Rapids

DECEMBER 17 @ 6:30PM

Plymouth Union Hall, 13220 Co Rd 6, Plymouth



2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2024 Amy O'Sullivan (On-Going) \$1,000 Scholarship Recipients

Corrine Knettel
Lilian K. Laven
Chaz Steinhofer
Hunter James Tauzell
Mason A. Brown
Bailey Lucille Muehlbauer
Alan Gruhlke
Emily Rutoski

2024 David C. Ring \$1,500 Scholarship Recipients

Celia Gulbranson
Gabriella Borresen
Kyra Caauwe
Hudson Laven
Logan Schauer
Mason Brown
Paris Kube
Tyler Gruhlke

OTHER - 2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2024 Nathan Blomquist Memorial \$500 Scholarship Recipients

Mason Brown
Kyra Eischens
Logan Schauer

Congratulations!



MO VALLEY JATC NEWS & UPDATES

NEWS:

First, I'd like to congratulate Wes Roberson on his retirement from the apprenticeship. He has had a long career and it is well deserved! Best wishes and I hope you enjoy it! Wes's connections and impact on our industry have been tremendous from his career in the field, and at the apprenticeship. Best wishes and I hope he enjoys it!

Secondly, it is with a heavy heart to inform those of you who may not have heard that Paul Hughes has passed away. It was sudden and unexpected. In the time leading up to Wes's retirement, Paul Hughes was stepping up to take over the apprentice coordinator position (job calls). His drive and personality was larger than life. Most of the younger journeyman that have come through our apprenticeship recently, and all of our current apprentices would have had Paul for their orientation class. He was a great guy to work with and be around. His loss will be felt for a long time as he had his hands involved with almost everything going on with the day-to-day operations here at Mo Valley. He looked at every challenge as an opportunity to overcome.

If anyone has questions regarding apprentice job calls, please contact Matt Poutre. His email is listed on our website.

In solidarity,

Dave Audette
160 Journeyman Lineman
Instructor @ Mo Valley JATC
(651)238-3823
Daudette@movalleyjatc.org

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 602 Line Apprentices (75 are Local 160 hands)
**7 Apprentices out of work (0 are Local 160 hands)*
- 67 Substation Apprentices (8 are Local 160 hands)
- 11 Operator Apprentices (1 is a Local 160 hand)
- 16 Traffic Signal Apprentices
- 1 URD Technicians
- 5 Cable Splicing Technicians

For a grand total of 709 Apprentices and Trainees.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT:

SCOTT CIESLAK - XCEL ENERGY
MICHAEL SCHEDIVY - ASPLUNDH
DAVID RYCHMAN - CONNEXUS
CRAIG MCFETRIDGE - ASPLUNDH

PATRICK AYERS - XCEL ENERGY
MICHAEL CONRATH - GREAT RIVER ENERGY
CYNTHIA MILLESS - GREAT RIVER ENERGY
BILL MASON - MO VALLEY

SCOTT BENZ - ASPLUNDH TREE
ROBERT JENNIGES - REDWOOD ELECTRIC
CARRIE HUNTER - XCEL ENERGY

Thinking of you

**WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO
THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

DONALD BOS - STEELE WASECA
DUANE HAUS - XCEL ENERGY
TARA ROSSMAN - XCEL ENERGY

Our Deepest Sympathy

**WE ARE DEEPLY SADDENED BY THE
LOSS OF OUR BROTHERS.
OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY GOES OUT TO THEIR
FAMILIES & FRIENDS.**

DONALD R. GOODALE - MO VALLEY - 12-20-23
EARL L. NORDSTROM - XCEL ENERGY - 4-25-24
ROGER J. VANDENHEUVEL - RETIRED MO VALLEY - 5-11-24
ROY A. ROBISON - RETIRED MO VALLEY - 6-26-24





IBEW
CHARTERED AUG. 30, 1938
LOCAL 160

WELCOME NEW 160 MEMBERS!

ISSAC ABILEZ
HEATHER ADAMS
GREBING AGUILAR
OSCAR AGUIRRE GARCIA
COLE AKEMANN
RENE ARELLANO
MANUEL ARIZA
DALE ASLESON
CHARLES ATKINSON
DONALD BALLARD
SYDNEY BARRY
NICHOLAS BEGGIN
CRAIG BENSON
RIGOBERTO BERMUDEZ
ALEXANDER BERRETH
JADON BOOTS
ETHAN BOUGHTON
EIVIND BROGGER
PRESTON BROWN
RYAN BUHL
TREVOR BUSHEY
JEFFREY BUSHNELL
CASEY CASTILLO
FRANCISCO CHAMORRO
GRIFFON CHARTER
COOPER CHRISTENSEN
EDWIN CHUY PUERTAS
CARLOS CISNEROS
NOLAN COBB
AUSTIN COGGER
CARSON COIL
BRETT CONWAY
HEVER CORTES RIVERA
DALLAS COSSETTE
BROCK COSTANZO
TREVOR COWELL
ADAM CRAIG
TANAR CREECH
BLAIR CULLIMORE
MICHAEL DAUER
DEREK DAVIS
SHELDON DENNING
NICHOLAS DEWEY
LUIS DIAZ

DIRK DIETER
JOSHUA DOBBS
STEVEN DOBBS
JAMES DOLAN
KELLI DOOLITTLE
JOHN DRAYNA
JONATHON DRESCHER
BRAYDEN DUNN
RAQUEL EBELING
JOE ESTRADA
LUCAS EVANS
THAD EVANS
JAMIE FELDHEGE
MICHAEL FETTERS
BODIE FITZSIMONDS
PAUL FLORES
ANDREW FREIER
BLAKE FREUDENBERG
DANILO FUENTES CON-
CEPTCION
LUIS GARCIA
BRENT GIEBENHAIN
CHARLES GIESE
JEVIN GLENN
PEYTON GOLYER
DAMIEN GOMEZ
TOMAS GONZALEZ
JOSHUA GRIFFIN
DYLAN GRUENING
SAMUEL HARREN
LEVI HARTMAN
LANDON HASZ
SETH HASZ
DAVID HEIKKILA
KEVIN HENDERICKSON
BLAINE HENSEL
EDUARDO HERNANDEZ
CASTREJON
JOSHUA HORTON
MICHAEL HORTON
RICO HORTON
HAYDEN JASPER
FIDEL JASSO
RICARDO JOVE
JONATHON KAWLEWESKI

CODY KELLERMANN
ALEX KJOLSTAD
TRACY KNIGHT
BROCK KOEHNEN
JAKE KOLB
PRESTON KRAKER
ANDREW KREBSBACH
CHASE LABEAU
DESHUN LANGLEY
LUCAS LARSON
JACOBSON LAWRENCE
KOBE LEE
BEN LEWANDOWSKI
HUMBERTO LOPEZ
CARLOS LOZA CORONA
JOEL LOZANO
HUNTER LUCAS
WESTON LUMLEY
OTONIEL MACIEL ZARCO
RILEY MADDEN
LOGAN MAGNEY
FRANCISCO MALDONADO
JOSEPH MARSHALL
ELDER MARTINEZ
MARSHALL MASON
DAVON MASSIE
DAVID MCBRIDE
JACOB MCDONALD
JASON MCKNIGHT
NICHOLAS MCMANUS
JOEB MCNINCH
JORGE MEDINA
JERICHO MEHRHOFF
MANUEL MENDEZ
TYLER MEYERS
ALEATHEA MILLS
EHTAN MOE
FRANK MONTOYA
CARY MOORE
WALTER MOORMAN
FIDELMAR MORA
JOSE MORA ABURTO
MARIN MORALES
JOSEPH MORAVEC

CODY MORROW
ALEX MORTENSON
RYAN MUSBURGER
WILL MYERS
MYRON NAPPER
CARSON NASS
AUSTIN NELSON
ELIJAH NEWHOUSE
BRYCE NORBY
JOSEPH NORDIN
RYLEE OEHRLEIN
PEDRO OJEDA
JESSE OLSON
MARJORIE OTTO
IAN OVREBO
JOEL PALACIOS
MASON PALMER
JOSUE PARADA
MARIANO PARADA
ULISES PARADA
AARON PERKINS
GAVIN PETERMEIER
ELIJAH PETERSEN
COLIN PROTSMAN
RICHARD RAMBO
MICHAEL RAMIREZ
RAMIRO RAMOS SOLORZANO
SETH REED
JUSTIN REGALADO
MARCOS REYES
JEFFREY RICHARDS
NECTALY RIOS GONZALEZ
ALEJANDRO ROLDAN
EVIN ROMA GONZALEZ
JAVIER ROMERO
KELSIE RONKE
CODY ROSENDAHL
HUNTER ROSFJORD
ALEX ROYCE
BRALLAN RUIZ
EDWIN RUIZ
SIXTAS SALAZAR
BENIGNO SALGADO
DAWSON SAMPLE

NEW MEMBERS CONTINUED

BRIAN SANCHEZ
MIGUEL SANCHEZ
KELLIE SCHLIE
JOSHUA SCHMITZ
GRIFFIN SCHNEIDER
CODY SCHULTZ
JOSE SERA
MANUEL SERA
MIGUEL SERA
TYSON SHOBERG

RODNEY SMITH
WILLIAM SOMPAMITWONG
FELIPE SORIA NAVARRETE
KELLY SRDAR
DEVIN STROM
SHAWN SWOOPE
JESUS TAFOLLA REYES
TANNER TOMASEK
MATTHEW TRAPP
COLIN TRAUTT
VALENTIN URIBE RAMOS

ISRAEL VALADEZ ALONSO
CJ VANG
EDWIN VASQUEZ BELLOSO
GABRIEL VERA
LUKE VOGEL
HANS WALDEN
JOSEPH WALDOCK
KASAUNDRAL WALLEN
LEVI WALLENSTEIN
HAYDEN WALTERS
WILLIAM WEHE

JACOB WELTER
JORDAN WHITE
MASON WICKSTROM
KEVIN WIGGINS
CHRISTOPHER WOOD
CHANYEES XIONG
JAIDEN YOUNG
MARIO ZARCO
NICILAS ZARCO
ALBERTO ZAZUETA LOPEZ
THOMAS ZIMMERMAN



TOTAL MEMBER COUNT 3,764

2nd annual
IBEW LOCAL 160 MEMBER



PIG OUT

THURS  SEPT 26, 2024  11AM-5PM

IBEW LOCAL 160 UNION HALL, 13220 CO RD 6, PLYMOUTH, MN

FOOD TRUCKS • FRIENDS • FUN

BBQ, TACOS, BURGERS, ICE CREAM & DONUTS!



**FOLLOW IBEW
160 FOR THE
LATEST UPDATES!**

 @IBEWLOCAL160

 IBEW-160

VIEW PREVIOUS
NEWSLETTERS AT
IBEW160.ORG



LOCAL UNION 160, IBEW
13220 County Road 6
Plymouth, MN 55441

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 4274

REPS CELL PHONE #'s

Kurt Zimmerman (612) 991-0022
Eric Spielmann (612) 512-8018
Mike Ringstad (763) 355-7283
Nick Steckelberg (612) 655-5210
Darrin Helget (763) 276-8908
Justin Arbach (763) 213-3536
Mike Enerson (612) 368-6299
Joshua Laven (612) 258-8617
Crystal Gregory (612) 258-5833

PLYMOUTH

Tel (612) 781-3126
Fax (612) 781-4225

GRAND RAPIDS

Tel (218) 326-0533
Fax (218) 326-0534

WEBSITE

www.ibew160.org

EMAIL

160@ibew160.org



IBEW
CHARTERED AUG. 30, 1938
LOCAL
160

219TH EDITION | 3RD QUARTER 2024
NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS

Kurt W. Zimmerman - Business Mgr./Financial Secretary
Kevin J. Kaeter - President
Wade S. Crittenden - Vice President
Jeffery R. Polson - Recording Secretary
Travis J. Sullivan - Treasurer

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tom S. Carlson
Kenneth R. Conrad
Clayton E. Kaeter
Scott E. Knight
Randal L. Nass

OFFICE STAFF

Eric W. Spielmann - Business Representative
Michael J. Ringstad - Business Representative
Nicholas J. Steckelberg - Business Representative
Darrin L. Helget - Business Representative
Justin M. Arbach - Business Representative
Mike K. Enerson - Business Representative
Joshua S. Laven - Business Representative
Crystal A. Rourke - Membership Development
Stacy L. Helget - Office Manager
Anna J. Wilson - Bookkeeper
Mackenzie A. Schuhmacher - Secretary
Kayla M. Skalisky - Referral Clerk/Receptionist