



IBEW
CHARTERED AUG. 30, 1938
LOCAL
160

220TH EDITION | 4TH QUARTER 2024
NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this letter we are approaching the Holiday Season. It has been a very fast and busy year at the Union Hall. Over the last 10 months we have seen our membership increase by 280 members with an additional 65 people who we are in contract negotiations currently for. Once we have a ratified Agreement, they will be added to our total.

I would like to take this opportunity to say Thank You to my staff, the office staff and Executive Board for putting together another successful Pig-out. We had a great day hosting the event. We had somewhere between 700-800 people attend this year and it was so nice to see so many of you. I would also like to thank the membership for approving the event.

Back in October, Myself, Mike Ringstad and Nick Steckelberg attended the 40th annual International Lineman Rodeo. It was an amazing event to witness. This year Local 160 had an Apprentice John Webster competing and he took 5th place. Congratulations John, you did an awesome job!!

As 2025 approaches, I would like to encourage everyone to make it a point to attend a general membership meeting in the upcoming year. This is where to get information on what is going on throughout your union. In closing, I would like to say Happy Holidays to everyone and I hope you have a great 2025.

In solidarity,

Kurt Zimmerman
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

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

JANUARY 2, FEBRUARY 6, MARCH 6, APRIL 10

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

HALL CLOSURES

December 24 & 25, 2024
January 1, 2025

MO VALLEY UNIT MEETINGS

JANUARY 30 @ 7:30PM

Grand Rapids, 300 17th St SE, Grand Rapids

FEBRUARY 25 @ 6:30PM

Plymouth Union Hall, 13220 Co Rd 6, Plymouth

MARCH 27 @ 7:30PM

Grand Rapids, 300 17th St SE, Grand Rapids

APRIL 29 @ 6:30PM

Plymouth Union Hall, 13220 Co Rd 6, Plymouth

IBEW LOCAL UNION 160 RETIREMENT CLUB

*Wednesday December 18th, 2024 – Christmas Party
Wednesday January 22nd, 2025 – Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
Wednesday February 26th, 2025 – Guest speaker: TBD
Wednesday March 26th, 2025 – Guest Speaker: TBD
Wednesday April 23rd, 2025 – Guest Speaker: TBD

Regular meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the month
**3rd Wednesday of the month*

**WISHING YOU ALL
A BLESSED**
Holiday Season!

Our Deepest Sympathy

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

CHARLES A. WILTS - RETIRED AGRALITE
DIED 12-27-23

THEODORE L. FRIEDRICH - RETIRED XCEL
DIED 7-28-24

WILLIAM P. WITKOSKI - RETIRED XCEL
DIED 8-3-24

WILLIAM G. COOK - RETIRED XCEL
DIED 8-6-24

GREG ECK - RETIRED MO VALLEY
DIED 8-19-24

KEVN J. RIELAND - XCEL ENERGY
DIED 8-31-24

RICHARD P. KOTHENBEUTEL - XCEL ENERGY
DIED 9-4-24

STEVEN J. BRUST - RETIRED MO VALLEY
DIED 9-6-24

DENNIS C. SCHWINN - RETIRED XCEL ENERGY
DIED 9-22-24

JUDY G. WELCH - XCEL ENERGY
DIED 10-19-24



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Brothers and Sisters,

It was good to see you all at the Pig Out! The weather was perfect and it was so nice catching up with the 160 members who stopped in! There are a lot of new members - it's great to see young folks engaging as they are the future of the 160.

Thank you to all the folks that headed south after the hurricanes. Storm work isn't easy and being away from home and loved ones can be challenging but your dedication to your trade is something to be proud of.

Good job to International Lineman's Rodeo participants who headed down to Kansas City to represent 160 - you all did a great job!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year!

Be your brothers keeper and have great day!

Scott E. Knight
Executive Board Member



Thank you to all of the 160 Members that took time out of their day to join us at the 2024 'Pig Out'! Mark your calendar for Thursday, September 25, 2025 for the 3rd Annual Pig Out!

Congratulations 2024 COPE Drawing Winners

\$100.00 HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD - BEN CAREY
\$100.00 HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD - MIKE HARTFIELD
\$100.00 LOWE'S GIFT CARD - DEREK PATNODE
\$100.00 LOWE'S GIFT CARD - ZACH MORIARTY
MVEC GIFT BAG - ZACH HALLAS
MILWAUKEE M18 DRILL - JAMES MAXWELL
ECE PACKAGE - ERIK KINDEM
MILWAUKEE M12 COMPACT INFLATER KIT - JEFF BRYCSEK
PATIO BISTRO CHAR-BROIL ELECTRIC GRILL - ZAC SCHEELE
VIKING'S PARTY PACK - BRETT HENTNI
50" VIZIO TV - GREG JOHNSON
50" VIZIO TV - MERRILYN PAULSON
HUSKY 119 PIECE MECHANIC SET - GREG JOHNSON
HUSKY 119 PIECE MECHANIC SET - TAYLOR W
MILWAUKEE M18 2 TOOL DRILL/IMPACT KIT - CLAUDIA SWEDLUND
DEWALT 2 TOOL DRILL/IMPACT KIT - ELIZABETH BAGNIEWSKI
MILWAUKEE XL TOOL BOX - DENNIS FRANSCHOUK
URBAN PEAK FROST BUDDY GIFT SET - BRAD DESPOT
\$100.00 AMAZON GIFT CARD - ROB LAMOTTE
\$100.00 AMAZON GIFT CARD - ROB PFEIFER
\$100.00 AMAZON GIFT CARD - THOMAS KORAN
\$100.00 AMAZON GIFT CARD - JEFF PETERSON
\$100.00 AMAZON GIFT CARD - GEORGE HUBER
HUSQVARNA HANDHELD BLOWER - COLE HELGET

3rd Annual
IBEW LOCAL 160 MEMBER

PIG OUT

THURSDAY
SEPT 25, 2025
11AM-5PM



FOOD TRUCKS • FRIENDS • FUN

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SAVE THE DATE!



MO VALLEY JATC NEWS & UPDATES

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 687 Line Apprentices (91 are Local 160 hands)
**14 Apprentices out of work (0 are Local 160 hands)*
- 74 Substation Apprentices (10 are Local 160 hands)
- 9 Operator Apprentices (1 is a Local 160 hand)
- 14 Traffic Signal Apprentices
- 7 Cable Splicing Technicians

For a grand total of 791 Apprentices and Trainees.

NEWS:

Dash Cams:

Many contractors have started installing vehicle cameras. This is a new technology to our industry. There have been privacy concerns among employees. If you have any concerns about them you should contact your supervisor and ask them what the policies and procedures are if any of the footage is being used. The idea behind the dash cams is to help protect the contractor and employees from frivolous lawsuits and improve overall safety performance while driving. Here are a few examples:

Recent Dash Cam Incidents:

- A utility contractor faced accusations from three witnesses who claimed the lineman had struck a little girl on a city sidewalk. However, after reviewing surveillance footage, it was determined that the child had been pushed into the vehicle in an attempt to seek financial compensation.
- Two utility workers were having lunch in a digger derrick when one accused the other of sexual harassment. During the investigation, the driver noted the dash cam footage. It was revealed that the accuser was actually the one responsible for the harassment.
- A line truck was side-swiped by a merging vehicle on the interstate. Fortunately, dash cam footage revealed that the merging driver failed to yield, proving the line truck wasn't at fault. This evidence saved the company from increased insurance premiums and legal liability.
- A contractor's dash cam activated during a truck break-in, capturing footage of the individual stealing tools and personal items. The police were able to identify the perpetrator and return the stolen items.

Everyone will have their own opinion on the topic. At the end of the day if you are doing what is right, this can't negatively impact you. It will offer a layer of protection when its needed most (incase of an accident). All industries evolve over time. With the amount of miles we drive at work this is the next natural step in our industry to help keep accident rates and costs low. The better our safety records are, the more work we can secure and maintain. If you have any questions please reach out to your contractor or you local.

In solidarity,

Dave Audette

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT:

STEVE BARRER - BENCO

KEVIN BELLAND - MO VALLEY

RANDALL BERTHIAUME - MO VALLEY

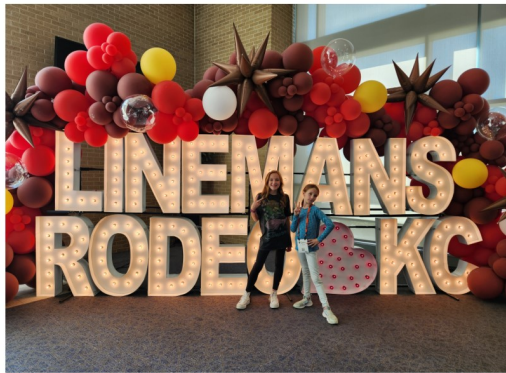
DOUGLAS BITZEN - EAST CENTRAL ENERGY

KIM HANSON - BENCO

CHRISTOPHER LAVOY - MO VALLEY

SHELDON MOE - WRIGHT-HENNEPIN

MARK RUSTAD - MO VALLEY





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WELCOME NEW 160 MEMBERS!

JUAN ACOSTA
HERNAN ALMENDAREZ
TYLER AMY
SETH ARCHAMBEAULT
KATO ASK
HEATH BAILEY
JEFFREY BARNES
TIMOTHY BERRY
STEVEN BARTHIAUME
KYLE BLANEY
JEREMY BOOGERD
GARY BOWLING
JEFFREY BROITZMAN
CARSON BROWN
BENJAMIN BUCHLER
DUNCAN BUKOVICH
MICHAEL CARLSON
RON CARTER
RYLEY CHAPMAN
KYLE CHRISTENSON
BRANDON CLARKE
BARRY CLOSMORE
RAUL CORRER
AARON CORRIGAN
JAUN CORTEZ VALDEZ
BRETT COTA
THEO DEROODE
CHASE DONAHUE
JONATHON DRESCHER
MICHAEL EARHART
DYLAN ELIASSON
JOSE ESTRADA
HANNAH FOLSTROM
JURT FOLSTROM
CODY FOSSUM

DAVID FRANKLIN
MATTHEW FURST
ZACHARAY GALLAGHER
GUADALUPE GARCIA
CHARLES GEROLD
MATTHEW GOODWIN
CARSON GRANGROTH
ANTONIO GUTIERREZ DELUQUE
TYLER HAUGE
JADYN HAMILTON
JACOB HANSON
DEVYN HERMEL
CHRISTIAN HIGGINS
THOMAS HOBBS
DILLAN HOFFMAN
KOHL HORSCH
RAMON HURTADO
YOSHUA ISRAEL
DAVID JACOBSON
SAMUEL JAMES
LIAM JENKINS
DIEGO JIMENEZ
EASTON JOHNSON
IAN JOHNSON
LANE JOHNSON
VANESSA KAISER
JAMES KASSA
CARSON KISNER
WYANTT KLOSS
EZRA KREMSREITER
JACOB KUMMER
ALEX KUNZ
JACK KVASNICKA
ZANE LANGREHR
JESSE LAUER

ANDREW LAWRENCE
CHARLES LEWIS
STH LINNELL
JESUS LOPEZ
CHOU LOR
KYLE LOUDEN
JOHN LUND
LUKE LYS DAHL
KYLE MAHER
SAWYER MALLAK
DYLAN MALMBORG
DYLAN MARTINEZ
JAVIER MARTINEZ
REECE MAXWELL
LONI MCMANIGAL
ALEX MEDINA
BERNARDO MEDINA
DANIEL MILLER
SEQUOIA MINOR
MATTHEW MONETTE
DYLAN NELSON
JONATHON NIESCHE
ANDREW O'TOOL
CROSS OKERSTROM
EMMIT OLSON
TANNER OLSON
CODY ORTHWERTH
CODY PALMER
NOAH PARISH
DREW PARKS
JAYEN PATRICK
SCOTT PATTERSON
JACOB PODVIN
DAVID RADZIWILL
CHRISTIAN RIECK

NOAH RINGNELL
HUBER RIVERA
JADEN ROESNER
JAVIER ROSAS
BLAKE RYAN
KADEN SAFRATOWICH
CHASE SALERNO
DYLAN SANCHEZ
JOSE SANCHEZ
CASEY SCHOELLERMAN
LEO SIEKMANN
EASTON SJOSTRAND
DONALD SMITH
SOPHEAKTRA SO
JACOB SODERHOLM
ROBERT STELTER
KOLE STUART
SAMUEL STUTZKE
AARON TERRELL
VINSON TORP
COLE TRAN
ROSS VANDENHEUVEL
KOLLIN VANDEVERE
LUCKIE VANG
JOSE VIVAS
HARRISON WAIDELICH
GARY WALBURN
JOSEPH WEAVER
CARSON WEBBER-VANZUILEN
CALEB WIDA
ZACKERY WOJANN
RYAN YELSKY
AUSTIN YOUNG
DUSTIN ZAHARA

TOTAL MEMBER COUNT 3,797

FOLLOW IBEW 160 FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!



@IBEWLOCAL160



IBEW-160

VIEW PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS AT IBEW160.ORG

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Wade S. Crittenden - Vice President
Jeffery R. Polson - Recording Secretary
Travis J. Sullivan - Treasurer

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