

- 56475 Peppermint Road, South Bend, IN 46619
- Telephone: 574-287-8655 Fax: 574-233-5234
- Website: www.ibew153.com
- Active Membership: 1032
- Serving the IBEW Local 153 Six County Area

February 2019

THE 153 METER

Spouse Employment Form

If you did not return the **Michiana Area Electrical Workers' Health & Welfare Fund Spouse Employment Information Form** to the Fund Office in Lansing, Michigan your spouse has been dropped from the Health Insurance as of January 1, 2019. The form is available at the Union Hall or online at www.ibew153benefits.org. Once the Fund Office receives your completed form your spouse's coverage will be reinstated the first of the month after receiving the form. You **MUST** fill out this form if you are married or not! **YES, IT COMES YEARLY!**

Rebuilding Together

The work day for the Rebuilding Together Project in South Bend, Indiana is scheduled for **Saturday, April 13, 2019**. There will be a breakfast meeting to hand out work assignments and t-shirts. Lunch will be provided, as well as an "after" party. Please contact the hall to sign-up to help "Make our Community Brighter!"

RENEW 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament

Date: Saturday, February 23, 2019
 Time: First round starts at 12:00pm
 Place: Union Hall
 Cost: \$20 per team or comparable food donation

Inside this issue:

Announcements & Events	1 & 2
Business Manager Report-Bill Haase	3
Asst. Business Manager Report-Stan Miles	3 & 4
President's/ Business Agent-Mike Leda	4&5
Training Coordinator's Page-Steve Egyed	5
Tech Corner-Jim Overmyer	6

Fundraiser

Troy Warner for Common Council

Please join Troy for Bingo & Barba'koa!

All you can eat dinner by Barba'koa Texas Kitchen and one Bingo card.

Date: Sunday February 24, 2019

Time: 4:00pm—7:00pm

Cost: \$25.00 Adults

\$5.00 Children

Location: MR Falcons

3212 Keller St, South Bend, 46628

Help Troy "Sock it to the Cold". Additional Bingo cards can **ONLY** be obtained by bringing pairs of new socks to be donated to Youth Services Bureau & the Center for the Homeless.

Retiree Seminar

March 23, 2019 RSVP required Active members age 50 and older in 2019, you and your spouse are invited to attend the IBEW Local 153 Retirement Seminar to aid you in retirement planning. Presentations will be made by TIC (Pension Plan) TIC & Humana (Health & Welfare Pension) TIC (Plan 4) and Merrill Lynch (Money Purchase Plan). Representatives will be available to answer any questions. We will also have information regarding NEBF and the International Pensions. This should be very helpful in planning for your retirement. **Please call the Hall at 574-287-8655 or 800-986-1054 on or before March 18th** to reserve your spot.

BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Bill Haase

2019, can you believe it? When I was a kid I thought that I would be old and decrepit in the year 2000, where does the time go? Speaking of time, come this June we will have been in our current building for five years. Since we moved to this building we have been blessed with work opportunities and have taken advantage of them by improvements to our building. The exterior building renovations are now complete with the addition of a terrazzo floor in the main entry. Come check it out it looks great. I have been asked what may be next, I have made a couple suggestions such as a working solar array on the south side of the building facing IN-2. This could be a turnkey installation or could we work with our JATC to make it a learning experience for one of the apprenticeship classes. Another suggestion was to spend some money on sealing the parking lot and preserving what we have that is still in good shape. Whatever we do will be with suggestions and motions from our Building Committee and the membership.

Another member is entering the political arena! Troy Warner our current legal counsel for IBEW 153 and a great friend of mine has announced he is running for the 4th District South Bend Common Council. If you have followed on Facebook, the COPE committee has already contributed to help jump start Troy's campaign. At this time it looks like Troy will have an opponent for the primary on May 7 2109. If you can help in anyway contact Troy at troywarner.law@gmail.com or 574-232-5883. Thanks Troy for stepping up. Your commitment to IBEW 153, all of labor and the community has if anything increased since we first met. I know that I am very proud to call you Brother. Troy has a fund raiser on February 24th please see front page for details.

We are still in negotiations with North American Sign. It is taking longer than expected because NAS has brought in a former NLRB attorney from Dublin Ohio that works very slow and deliberately. So far it is a pain staking process that provides very little progress at each meeting. I want to thank our members there at NAS for staying strong through this prolonged process and a thank you to the negotiating team for putting up with someone other than the owner to deal with.

The Southwest Michigan Building Trades met with Kiewit concerning the Niles Natural Gas Power House. Kiewit is hopeful of a start this year. Kiewit has a signed contract, prints are being made and the yet unscheduled start should be sometime late summer. They wouldn't have called this meeting if they were not confident of a start sooner rather than later. No news on the Four Winds Hotel at the South Bend property as of yet. The DC Cook outage begins March

7, 2019 all remaining calls should be filled during the first week or two of February. Many thanks to all the travelers from all over the country for coming here to help us man our work.

Upcoming events are of course the Union Meetings on the 4th Thursday of the month, ReNew Euchre Tournament on February 9th, HELP Chili Cook-off February 23rd and the 105th Birthday of IBEW 153 on April 27th. See you soon.

In Solidarity,
Bill Haase

ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT - Stan Miles

Brothers and Sisters,

Our Health and Welfare continues to see modest overall gains. The Trustees have been completing a lot of research lately and is looking at starting our own Health Clinic. We have looked at these things in the past and didn't think we were in position to attempt this. With that being said, we have engaged Activate Health Care to stand up a joint venture clinic between Local #153 and the Plumbers & Pipefitters (UA) #172. Please stay tuned as I will keep pushing out information as we learn more. We expect that the clinic to be located in the area of US 31 Bypass and the Cleveland/Brick Road exit. Can you imagine going to the doctor and not having a co-pay to see the doctor. Some generic medicines could be a no co-pay format as well. We met with the Mishawaka City Activate Health Clinic doctor. She told us that she is happy to being seeing patients. It's not being about how many patients I can see in a day but truly a patient centered practice. We are happy with the partnership between us and the UA #172. We will jointly hire a doctor that has our membership's best interests in mind. Then we will hire what is expected to be either a Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant and two Medical Assistants.

Plan 4 was successfully launched on January 1, 2019. We haven't seen any numbers yet but from all the numbers we were projected to see it should go well. With the contributions lagging by a couple of months, we expect to be able to a better idea after the Trustee's quarterly meeting in March 2019.

If you are going to retire in the next 6 months, give me a call. I will help you prepare your retirement applications. During this process we will cover your Local Union Pension, NEBF, and International Pension. We will be able to approximate your Health Insurance premiums. Things you need to bring to meeting include: copy of your birth certificate, copy of your Social Security card, copy of marriage license, copy of spouses birth certificate, copy of spouses Social Security card, also if you and/or your spouse have been divorced then

ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT cont

Stan Miles

you will need to bring copies of all divorce decrees including Property Settlements and/or Qualified Domestic Relief Orders (QDROs). You should also bring your banking information with you for where you would like your money direct deposited. On March 23rd, we will host a retiree seminar for those that are at least 50 years old. At this seminar we will review the following things: Social Security, International Pension (IO) and Death Benefit, National Electrical Benefit Fund (NEBF), Local Pension, Local Money Purchase Plan (MPP), Health and Welfare (regular retirement and disability premiums), Plan 4 benefits. We will have coffee and doughnuts at 8:30 then begin about 9:00 AM. Spouses are invited to attend.

Attend if you are 50 or over, as we usually only do these seminars once every three years. Call the Hall to sign up.

Hope to see you at the RENEW committee Euchre Tournament and/or the Chili Cook-Off. As always hope to see you at the Union Meetings.

I know its winter time however more people become dehydrated in the winter than in the summer. Drink plenty of water or liquids with electrolytes. Be safe and stay warm.

In Solidarity,

Stan Miles

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mike Leda

Members

As I was writing this article for the newsletter the week before everyone was wondering where winter was and here it came. With the cold weather on us please watch out for each other on the job. If you are working by yourself let everyone know where you are at. And always drink plenty of water!

Short term disability: If you get injured at home or work, call the hall. If you are active in our insurance and you happen to get hurt at home, such as knee, shoulder, or some other injury. You may be eligible for short term disability from our insurance. Once you and your doctor fill out the paperwork you will be eligible for \$400.00 a week for up to 26 weeks. It also freezes your insurance bank for the time you are off. Your monthly **UNION Dues** will be paid for if you are off for more than a month or longer for that time period. This is the same information for short term disability for sickness. Even If you get hurt on the job let us know. After you get the proper paperwork filled out, your insurance bank freezes and your monthly

UNION Dues will be paid for you if you are off for a month or more. There is a one week waiting period. For all short term disability, after the 29th day your waiting week will be covered. Example: if you get hurt and are off five weeks, five weeks off X \$400.00= \$2000.00. Plus your insurance bank is frozen for that time and one month of UNION dues are paid. Always check with the hall to let us know how you are doing. Also for us to help you get the proper paperwork started.

If you are 50 or older, you should have received a letter from the hall about the Retirement Seminar on Saturday, March 23, 2019, at 8:30 am. Call the hall so we can get a head count of the people coming. This seminar is also open for spouses to attend as well. We sent out almost 400 letters to our members that are 50 and older.

The Money Purchase Plan will have a class with the third year Apprentices on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, beginning at 5:30 pm. The general membership will have a class Wednesday, April 17, 2019, starting at 5:30 pm here at the hall. Spouses are invited. Please call the hall to reserve a spot! This class will show you how to maneuver around the Merrill Lynch system and explain the different investment options.

The Michigan code update class is required this year. Check with the Apprenticeship for class schedules and all the additional continuing education classes available. Their number is 574-233-1721.

Residential and Burkhart sign contract negotiations will start this Spring. Call the hall with your ideas and suggestions. Contract negotiations with North American sign are still continuing.

In case you have not heard, we are having the 105th Anniversary Party on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at the Century Center. Doors will open at 4:30 pm with cocktails starting at 5:00 pm and dinner at 6:00 pm. The band will start playing around 7:15 pm and will play until 10:30 pm with the event ending at 11:00 pm. Invitations will be sent out soon. If you want or need to spend the night, you can reserve a hotel room at Aloft in downtown South Bend.

It has been awhile since I have asked: have you had or scheduled your yearly physical? If not, please do. Detecting something early can save your life.

Speaking of health insurance, at the last Union meeting the members were informed about the possibility of partnering with the Plumbers & Pipefitters Local about opening a health clinic. This could help the fund save money and you, the members, wouldn't have to pay a copay for visiting a doctor; it would eliminate the long wait at the Doctor's office. Some generic medicines may be at no copay as well. Stay tuned for more information as the insurance Trust Fund works out the details and feasibility if this is where the fund needs to go.

The Renew Committee is having their 2nd Euchre Tournament at the hall on Saturday February 9, 2019, at 5:00 pm. You can call ahead to reserve a spot or show up

President's Report cont

Mike Leda

and they will get you seated. Cost is \$20.00 a team or \$10.00 a person. This is a pot-luck event so bring a dish to share. Water and pop will be provided.

Hope everyone has a chance to stop by the Chili cookoff/ RENEW Bean Bag Tournament on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at the hall. \$20 per team or a comparable food donation. Bring some chili and sample many other styles of chili. It starts at 11:00 am.

Dyngus Day is coming soon

Michael Leda

unaware of who we were and what we do. A big thank you to Adrianna Young for her help.

I am starting to work on another Industry Night. Industry Night is a job fair for electricians only. We are in need of more Residential Electricians. That market is still going well. With the Niles Power Plant expected to break ground in late April. With the I.O. saying to not bank on travelers coming in to help, we will need to do something. So as always if you meet someone at a supply house, or you are working alongside them at a job site. Chat with them, discover how the IBEW can improve their lives and help them see it as well. Then send them down to the hall to speak with Mike or I.

Bob Banaszak

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Bob Banaszak

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this winter finds you fairing the weather well.

I have been busy with searching and meeting with the unrepresented workers in the area. Also, with trying to fill in some content on our new website. We hope to have it finalized soon. I believe it will be a nice update to our current site. The increased ability to add and share content should make the website much more user-friendly. Also bidding jobs online and online dues could be a reality by the time you read my next article. That project is nearing completion as well.

I was able to attend the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. breakfast at the Century Center this year. They had another powerful keynote speaker and incredibly, talented local acts. As always it surprises me the amount of inequality that is experienced in the world. It makes me very glad to be 153!

I have been assisting with the 105th-anniversary planning committee. We are narrowing down a venue. We hope to have invitations out in the month of February. Everyone should have received a save the date magnet for the 27 of April. I hope to see everyone there!

Make sure you guys are following our contracts. We have had a few new contracts that have come out this last year. We would hate to give anything away for free. Plus, we wouldn't want to teach our Apprentices and newly organized members any bad habits. Don't forget everyone is a Steward upholding our CBA's. The same way everyone is a Safety Officer making sure every person goes home at the end of the day.

I attended a job fair at University Park Mall again this January. I didn't find our next big job runner there, but I had lots of great conversations with people who were

TRAINING COORDINATOR

Steve Egyed

Things You Should Know

We are now offering online basic computer courses: Access, Adobe Acrobat, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Excel, FileMaker, Google Suite, Graphic Design, Keynote, Outlook, PowerPoint, Prezi, Windows, and Word. They are high quality learn at you own pace type classes. The cost for each is \$7.11. Stop in or email me at segyed@jatc153.com, if you are interested.

Monthly work cards are to be filled out by ALL Apprentices and CW's. The accurate and honest assessment is very important to ensure our people are getting the necessary training. Be sure that you are signing your work card, they will not be accepted without a signature. We ask the Journeymen filling these card out take their time and be honest, good or bad we need to know. Every work card handed in is reviewed by the SBJATC.

Quote of the Month

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today" H. Jackson Brown Jr

*****Michigan has adopted the 2017 NEC. Classes will begin soon!**

TECH CORNER

JIM OVERMYER

Each time I start one of these articles I usually have an idea as well as the text rattling around in my head, but sometimes I need a jump start. One of my favorite references (other than our own) is the book "Transformers" by Gebert & Edwards. This book was one that was on the list when I was an apprentice and covers anything you will ever need to know about these fascinating machines. There is a large difference between then and now, mainly my ability to understand and comprehend the authors text. As an apprentice reading required material to complete a lesson, I was able to read the written word and find the answer, but comprehension was not my strong point. Over the years it became easier as I concentrated on the losses, efficiency, construction, and operation, which made the written word so easy to understand. Just because you see it in print, doesn't mean it's gospel. Case in point, the second printing of our book "Motors". The first edition "All About Motors" was an excellent book, whereas the second edition was filled with so many errors it was embarrassing. The editorial staff at the publishers lacked the experience and knowledge to edit a manuscript of it's nature, and had to set the book up for another printing just after it was released due to the errors in the first printing. In the conferences I attended to correct the text, the chairman made a remark that said, " I only came to this meeting just to see how far Overmyer would go with his insults directed at the editorial staff." My list of rules, definitions, acronyms, and formulas were the reason I gained enough knowledge to understand the principles of operation. To quote G & E's book, "The transformer works on the principle that energy can be efficiently transferred by magnetic induction from one set of coils to another set of coils by means of a varying magnetic flux produced by an alternating current, provided both sets of coils are linked together with a magnetic circuit that is common to both coils." One of the rules I always explain to my students is that the **H** leads are the high voltage leads and not the primary, while the **X** leads are the low voltage leads and not the secondary. If the unit is being used as a step-up, then the low voltage leads would be connected to the source and considered the primary delegating the high voltage leads to the secondary. When it comes to the efficiency of transformers, it is fairly high. If not for the losses, we would be almost perfect. First we will deal with the two main losses in the magnetic circuit, which are hysteresis and eddy currents. **Hysteresis**, a Greek word meaning *to lag*, is the magnetizing of the molecules (magnetic domains) and the alignment of said molecules in the direction of the flux in that half cycle. As soon as the field changes polarity, the magnetic domains are now pointing in the opposite direction, which takes power to reverse them. Remember, when the source coil is de-energized some of the magnetic domains will stay in some form of alignment, and be slightly magnetized, a term known as **residual magnetism**. **Eddy currents**, circulating currents in the iron core take power to produce and are an arch enemy of any AC or DC machine. The heat produced in the core if left un-controlled, would destroy the transformer. Early in my career at Koontz Wagner, I was ordered to report to a company in Benton Harbor to help take apart the gear in the power distribution room and get ready for the new gear that was ordered. The old gear was also new, but totally destroyed, had been installed by a scab outfit out of Chicago and lasted only a few days. What do you think destroyed the gear, Eddy Currents. Each phase was fed by 3-750 mcm cables and were piped in from the sub by 4 rigid conduits, each large enough to contain 4-750s. Trouble is the first conduit held all the A phase feeders, while the second held the B phase and so on. These idiots knew nothing of eddy currents and how to contain them. The eddy currents circulating in the top of the gear melted the steel and it dropped down onto the bus and wala, purple haze. Had they ran each phase and a neutral in each conduit, no problemo. I once wired a series of truck heater recepts on a fence at Steel Warehouse in a blizzard. Butch Hall and I would work until we had to warm up in the van, but we got the job done. We had a 200 amp service on a pole and used sealtite from the panel to the runs. A driver tore the thing down that night, so maintenance put it back up the next morning. I got a call the following day that it was tripping most of the breakers and what did I do wrong? I went there and found that when the maintenance dimbulbs rebuilt the system, they ran all the phases in one sealtiite and the neutrals in a separate sealtiite. All the plastic was melted on the sealtites and it was a mess. When I questioned them about how they rebuilt the system, their reply was, "What's wrong with that?" Just as it was at AUSCO, they knew nothing of controlling the eddy currents with flux in the opposite direction canceling flux and limiting the induction in the conduits and gear. In the magnetic circuit of a transformer or induction motor, we control the eddy currents by laminating the core. If you take a solid core and laminate the material into seven sheets, the currents will be reduced by 49 times, which is just an example of how this works. In an induction motor both the stator and rotor are laminated while both the armature and the field frame have the process in DC machines. In a transformer all the iron in the magnetic circuit is laminated, which means hundreds of sheets are used to construct the core. Each sheet is oxidized, which insulates each from the other. The induced voltage is super low, so this process can prevent shorts between the sheets. These are the two main losses in the core, along with flux leakage and saturation. If you would like a copy of my rules, you can pick them up at the training center on any weekday or ask an apprentice to pick them up for you. Each time I write or talk about transformers, I am reminded of my former student and co-worker, Roger Mutti. Rog is one who took all he could from me and went on to the next level. This is an example of the student becoming the teacher, and I am so proud of what he has become. We miss him at the training center and wish him well.

JimmyO

February & March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 10:00am Building Trades	5 1:30pm LMCC	6	7 8:00am ION	8	9 5:00pm RENEW Euchre
10	11	12 9:00am SWMI Building Trades 4:30pm EIA 5:30pm First Aid @ JATC	13 4:30pm Exec Bd Mtg 4:30pm HELP 7:00pm South Central CLC	14 5:30pm CPR @ JATC	15	16
17	18 10:00am Building Trades	19	20	21 9:30am MBOSS 4:30pm COPE	22	23 11:00am Chili Cook Off 12:00 ReNew Cornhole
24	25 6:00pm JATC Meeting	26	27 5:30pm Exam Bd Mtg	28 7:00pm UNION MEETING <i>Last Day to Pay March's Union Dues Without Being Late</i>		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 10:00am Building Trades	5	6 9:00am Retiree Breakfast @ Union Hall 	7 8:00am ION	8	9
10	11	12 9:00am SWMI Building Trades 4:30pm EIA 5:30pm First Aid @ JATC	13 4:30pm HELP 7:00pm South Central CLC	14 4:30pm Exec Bd Mtg 5:30pm CPR @ JATC	15	16
17	18 10:00am Building Trades	19	20	21 9:30am MBOSS 4:30pm COPE	22	23 8:30am Retiree Seminar
24/31	25 6:00pm JATC Meeting	26	27 5:30pm Exam Bd Mtg	28 7:00pm UNION MEETING	29 <i>Last Day to Pay April's Union Dues Without Being Late</i>	30



IBEW Local 153
56475 Peppermint Road
South Bend, IN 46615

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

