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- Active Membership: 1024
- Serving the IBEW Local 153 Six County Area

**June 2017**

# THE 153 METER

## Inside Contract Increase

Effective June 5, 2017 the following increases will be implemented

	<b>Current Rate</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>New Rate</b>
Gross Wage	\$32.75	\$0.85	\$33.60
H & W	\$8.90	\$0.25	\$9.15
H & W Plan 4	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.50
SBA	\$1.05	\$0.00	\$1.05
Annuity	\$4.11	\$0.08	\$4.19
Pension	\$5.45	\$0.15	\$5.60
NEBF	\$0.98	\$0.03	\$1.01
Total	\$53.24	\$1.86	\$55.10

## Residential Contract Increase

Effective June 5, 2017 the following increases will be implemented

	<b>Current Rate</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>New Rate</b>
Gross Wage	\$22.00	\$0.30	\$22.30
H & W	\$8.90	\$0.25	\$9.15
H & W Plan 4	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.50
SBA	\$0.65	\$0.00	\$0.65
Annuity	\$1.15	\$0.00	\$1.15
Pension	\$1.83	\$0.00	\$1.83
NEBF	\$0.66	\$0.01	\$0.67
Total	\$35.19	\$1.06	\$36.25

## Installer Contract Increase

Effective June 5, 2017 the following increases will be implemented

	<b>Current Rate</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>New Rate</b>
Gross Wage	\$25.88	\$0.12	\$26.00
H & W	\$8.90	\$0.25	\$9.15
H & W Plan 4	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.50
SBA	\$0.35	\$0.30	\$0.65
Annuity	\$2.50	\$0.24	\$2.74
Pension	\$2.00	\$0.00	\$2.00
NEBF	\$0.78	\$0.00	\$0.78
Total	\$40.41	\$1.41	\$41.82

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## Births

### Jacob & Crissy Carter

Son, born May 7, 2017  
His name is Seth Jacob  
Weight: 8lbs 1 oz  
Length: 20.5 inches

### Jeffrey & Jasmine Switalski

Son, born March 24, 2017  
His name is Wyatt James  
Weight: 8lbs 1oz  
Length: 20 inches

### Tyler & Malia Jaynes

Son, born March 29, 2017  
His name is Emmett Daniel  
Weight: 7lbs 10oz  
Length: 19 inches

### Ryan & Allison Younggreen

Son, born March 31, 2017  
His name is Brooks Lee  
Weight: 8lbs 13oz.  
Length: 21.75 inches

We will gladly list the birth of your children and grandchildren. Please contact the Union Hall with your information.

## Deaths

### Daniel Sexton Sr

Retired JIW, initiated June 27, 1983  
June 25, 1939—March 31, 2016

### William Kolasa

Retired JIW, initiated September 1, 1953  
June 27, 1925— March 29, 2017

### Brian Kniebes

Active JIW, initiated February 1, 1988  
April 24, 1964—April 8, 2017

### Larry Myers

Retired JIW, initiated March 24, 1960  
May 20, 1937—April 13, 2017

### Philip Weldy

Retired JIW, initiated August 1, 1988  
December 13, 1952— May 9, 2017

### Brian Sokolowski

Active JRW, initiated October 3, 2000  
October 7, 1966—May 18, 2017

## D.A.D.'s\* Day Poker Run

### \*Dollars Against Diabetes

On **Saturday June 17, 2017**, the St. Joseph Valley Building Trades will host the Dollars Against Diabetes (D.A.D.'s) Day Poker Run and Fund Raiser. This Motorcycle Run and Fund Raiser will start and end at the VFW Post 360 (on Jefferson in Mishawaka). There will be lots of cash prizes and giveaways. Come join the fun and help raise money to fight diabetes. First bike out at 10:00am-Last bike back by 5:00pm. For more information call (574) 23-BUILD or go to "special events" at [www.SJVBT.com](http://www.SJVBT.com).

## IBEW 153 Night at Four Winds Field

The IBEW Local 153 Night at the Cove is scheduled for **Friday, July 14, 2017**. There will be a picnic prior to the game and fireworks following the game. The cost is \$10.00 per adult/\$5 per child (12 and under). Included is an all-you-can eat picnic at 6:00pm, reserved ticket seating, a free hat coupon. Game time is 7:35pm against the Quad Cities. Get your tickets and wristbands at the Union Hall. **Limit 12 tickets per person!**

## Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff

IBEW Local 153 and Ibid County Electric have jointly committed to performing the Electrical work needed for the Krasl Art Fair in St. Joseph Michigan. Set-up begins July 6<sup>h</sup>, Stand-by on the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Tear-down on the 9<sup>h</sup>. Volunteers are needed for this event! Please contact Bill at 800-986-1054 or 574-532-9995

## IBEW Local 153 Picnic

**Date:** Saturday, August 19, 2017

**Time:** 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Food served at 1:00pm

**Place:** Potawatomi Park Pavilions 3 & 4

**Address:** 500 S. Greenlawn Ave.  
South Bend, IN

Mark your calendar for this year's annual picnic. The Local will provide the main dish, beverages, and table service. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish to share (in a disposable container for easy clean-up!) There will be admission tickets available at the picnic for entry to the zoo. Mark your calendar for a day of family fun and fellowship!

## Retiree Breakfast

**DATE:** July 5, 2017

**PLACE:** Union Hall  
56475 Peppermint Road  
South Bend, IN 46619

**TIME:** 9:00A.M.

Call the Hall to make your reservation  
At 574-287-8655 or 800-986-1054.

**We hope to see you there!**

## BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT Bill Haase

As we approach the summer holidays and bar-b-ques, spend some time with your family and friends. IBEW 153 has lost many more than usual active and retired members this year, so please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers. Also take a minute to make sure you have your things in order for when it is your time to go. Is your beneficiary packet up to date? Is your current spouse the one listed on your beneficiary forms? If not please explain to your current spouse why his or her money is going to your ex-spouse, because I do not want to have that conversation. If you are off work for an injury or illness that is or isn't work related Call The Hall. There is a benefit that we can help you with. It's called a "Loss of Time" benefit and is available to those members who are eligible in the Michiana Area Health & Welfare Fund. If you are injured at work you get Workman's Comp. If you have a non-work related injury or are hit with an illness, this Loss of Time Benefit will pay you \$400 per week. There are also a few other items of assistance that will help you through this time off in either case.

As some of you may have heard I have been thinking of putting on a new Agent/Organizer. Beginning June 9, 2017 Bob Banaszak will be joining our office to police and map out jurisdiction as it pertains to non-members and non-signatory contractors. I would like to welcome Bob to the team and if you have any friends or relatives working for a non-signatory contractor, give Bob or Mike Leda a call.

Several new and exciting changes are coming to 153. Local 153 member Troy Warner is now an attorney and is now in practice on his own. This Local Union has placed Troy on retainer and as you will also read in this newsletter, Troy will be at the Hall one night per month to assist members with legal advice. If you live in Michigan, Troy can refer you to an attorney that practices in that state. Congratulations Troy and welcome back to the office. Another thing going on is a new exterior for our building that is now out to bid. The bids are due on June 13<sup>th</sup> and if the prices come in to our liking, a vote of approval will be held at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> Union Meeting. The changes will include an update to the exterior façade, some much needed insulation, a new entrance and some fence removal.

Also new is a Trust Fund for the Inside, Residential, and Installer Techs to assist current and future retirees in paying for Health Care and keeping our promises to those same retirees that helped move our Local Union along all these years. This new Fund is to be called "The Michiana Area Electrical Workers Plan 4". To start, each classification will allocate \$0.50 from this year's raise to begin the funding for what is hoped as a January 1, 2019 start. More information will be mailed to each current

retiree and active members in the Health and Welfare fund as soon as all the details are finalized.

I want to thank Doug Jaqua, Mark Stewart and our President and Agent Mike Leda for helping to negotiate a new one year agreement for our Burkhart Sign members. Burkhart is going through a transition period that includes new management and some uncertainty going into the future. I have no doubt that Burkhart will continue to grow and prosper with the help of our dedicated and talented members.

I did make a change to the referral policy that begins on June 1 of this year. This new policy is actually a policy that was in place before 2013. I struggled with the decision to limit the Book 1 out of work list to those out of work. If a member is performing any electrical work in any of the six counties of our jurisdiction they will not be allowed to sign the out of work list. This work includes any electrical maintenance work. Once a member becomes unemployed doing electrical work in our six counties they are welcome to come sign the out of work list.

See you at the next Meeting,

In Solidarity

Bill Haase

## ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT Stan Miles

Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings to you and your family. It seems the seasons are like the stock market and go from one extreme to the other. So I say be careful with each and be prepared for what happens next.

We just finished our Quarterly Trustee meetings and I thought I would share some of the highlights on Health Care and Plan 4.

First, I'll start with Health Care. The H&W trustees are continuing to review revenues and expenditures making sure there the fund continues to be in good shape. It continues to have modest gains as a fund. This is attributed to many things. Probably the most important thing is the number of hours that our members/participants are working continue to stay strong. With the work picture looking the way it is, our members don't have time to go to the doctor. This could be a contributing factor in the reduced expenditures. Historically, our members get themselves "fixed up" when times are slow.

Here are a few notes provided by Humana for our Medicare retirees and participants.

### Healthcare can be overwhelming

It can be hard to know what you need. Sometimes it can feel as if you have too many options for care. Other times there aren't enough choices. Humana At Home Care

## ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT cont Stan Miles

Managers help you make informed decisions and connect with resources.

### What does this cost me?

Nothing extra. Humana members who qualify receive this service at no additional cost.

### What can I expect?

Your Care Manager will talk with you to learn your needs. Together you will make a plan. We will then follow up to help make sure the service is working for you.

### What kind of support may I receive?

Humana will work with you one-on-one by phone, video or in your home. We may also offer you in-home technology.

As a member of our insurance plan, all members should set up their own account with Humana at Humana.com. If you're in the active plan, you can see information about your prescriptions. If you're in the Medicare part of our plan, then you'll be able to see additional information regarding your prescriptions and medical care information and billing.

Second, I'll give you some information about Plan 4. What is Plan 4? Where did the name come from? Well here is a few answers to these questions. Plan 4 is the fourth Trust Fund established. We have a Health & Welfare, Pension, and Money Purchase Plan already so the new Trust Fund is Plan 4. It is also a play on words if you really think about it. What is the purpose of Plan 4? It is designed to help you "plan for" your health insurance retirement insurance subsidy. The more years you have in our health insurance plan the more service credits you will have towards your subsidy. We took a hard look at our older population to see what impact if any we would have on them. The older population was defined as those members and/or participants including widows who were retired or disabled prior to January 1, 2013. In the near future, you will receive communications from the Plan 4 Trust Fund so pay attention to your mail.

We held three separate wage distribution meeting for our contracts. We started with the Inside contract by inviting the Officers and Trustees to this meeting. At this meeting, it was decided by them to take \$ 0.50 from our raise to start funding Plan 4. The next wage distribution meeting was a joint meeting. We sent out letters to all Journeymen Installer Technicians, Journeymen Residential Wireman, and apprentices in these classifications. At this meeting, the Residential wiremen in attendance decided to take \$ 0.50 from their raise to start funding Plan 4. Next the Journeymen Installers in attendance decided to take \$ 0.50 from their raise to start funding Plan 4.

This collectively puts all three contracts funding Plan 4 equally. Everyone receives the same credits for their hours worked in our Local.

The next time you will receive a newsletter from your Local Union will be in early August. With that, from our family to yours, we wish you a great summer. We hope to see you at IBEW 153 events:

IBEW Night at the Cove:	July 14, 2017
IBEW Picnic:	August 19, 2017
In Solidarity, Stan Miles	

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT Mike Leda

Members;

It is hard to believe that half the year is about done. With summer, just around the corner and all the hard work you, the members, have been putting in, make sure you take some time for yourself and your family. Take them to the baseball night at the Cove/Four Winds field, Friday July 14. Or bring them to the IBEW 153 picnic at Potawatomi Park, Saturday August 19. Hope to see everyone and their families there.

With the amount of work going on and the amount of calls going unfilled, organizing is going full steam ahead. With that being said, Bob Banaszak will be coming on staff as an Organizer. We have a unique opportunity to use this as a chance to grow our market share and membership. So when you see a new face welcome them in, and help them to grow and succeed as strong Union members.

Bob will be resigning from the Executive Board at the June Executive Board meeting. Any interested members willing to serve on the Executive Board need to send a letter to me at [President@ibew153.com](mailto:President@ibew153.com), or drop off a letter of interest at the Hall for the open position. This needs to be done before the July Executive Board meeting. I will be announcing this opening at the June membership meeting.

May brought our quarterly Trust Fund meetings. The Money Purchase plan and Pension has hit an all-time high, with the Pension fund being driven by the rise in the market. We have to rely on our investment consultant to continue with those gains. Money coming into the Pension plan from all the hours worked does not equal to benefits going out. The Pension will start seeing some help with organizing, and our first biggest Apprenticeship class has reached their third year, where they start receiving contributions to the Pension fund. Our consultant is constantly working to keep this fund growing. In fact, we had a second meeting on May 30, 2017 to discuss investment opportunities for our Pension fund. The Health and Welfare numbers continue to grow, but at a slower pace, which is common for the first quarter of every year. The newest Trust Fund, Plan 4 is continuing to take shape. Trust documents are just about finalized, and money

will be starting to flow into the fund in June.

Burkhart Sign contract was finalized in May. Thanks to Mark Stewart and Doug Jaqua for their work on the Burkhart contract. ***The Inside negotiations will start right after the first of the year.***

As Bill stated in his article about short term disability, please call the Hall as soon as possible to see if you qualify for this benefit. Whether it's an injury at home, on the job or sickness, call the Hall so we can get the right disability forms for you. We just had a member off since January and never knew of this benefit! Sometimes it's the last things on your mind during sickness or injury, so remind your fellow members of this benefit.

With another busy summer coming up please work safe, and start putting a little away for the future. You never know what's around the corner.

Have a nice summer.

Michael Leda

## **TRAINING COORDINATOR Steve Egyed**

We are winding down another school year with very few casualties. We are near 200 apprentices and 50 CW's. I would like to congratulate all of the apprentices who have complete the classroom portion of the apprenticeship. Steve~

### **Quote of the Month**

"Education: the path from cocky ignorance to miserable uncertainty."

— Mark Twain

### **Congratulations to New Journeymen**

#### **Inside:**

James Helmke  
Joshua Herman  
Jacob Hill  
Raymond Ivers  
Kyle Kauffman  
Paul Krause  
Philp Leja  
Jeremy Merrill— Outstanding Apprentice  
Stacy Noland  
Timothy Spurr

#### **William Haase top GPA:**

Kyle Kauffman- Inside  
Bradley Huntman- I.T.

#### **INSTALLER TECHNICIANS:**

Bradley Huntman  
Kendall Pickens

#### **Don Lode Perfect Attendance:**

Joshua Herman  
Jacob Hill  
Raymond Ivers

## **Things You Should Know**

The SBJATC has opened up our monthly 1<sup>st</sup> AID & CPR training to include members immediate families and all contractors office staff. There is NO cost for taking the classes and no extra burden to the school, because we are already putting the class on. Most importantly, the more people who have these *lifesaving* skills the better off we all are! Call, reserve your seat, and bring your spouse down to the training center.

### **Course Title & Dates**

CPR/ 1 <sup>st</sup> Aid	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues. + Thurs. 5:30 PM
OSHA 10 Hour	email for online voucher
OSHA 30	Fall 2017
Trouble Shooting	In development
ICRA	Spring 2017

Call 574-233-1721 to reserve your seat. Some classes are limited in size.

For other classes visit: [JATC153.com](http://JATC153.com) OR

Send an email to: [tsmith@jtc153.com](mailto:tsmith@jtc153.com) and put "EVENTS" in the subject line. We will add you to a direct email list, and you will receive an email when we put on a class.

## **LEGAL BENEFIT PROGRAM FOR IBEW 153**

IBEW 153 dues paying and retired member and their families will now get access to a new Legal Benefit Program automatically — no enrollment forms or fees required. Beginning in June all IBEW 153 members, current and paid up on dues, and retirees will have the availability to take part in a free 30-minute legal consultation at the Union Hall every first Thursday from hours of 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Pre-registration is required** at least three days prior to the open consultation day and is done by contacting attorney Troy Warner at the contact information listed below. Consultations can also be scheduled at other times and to be held at the office of Warner Legal Services by setting up a time with attorney Warner. The program will cover the following services: **Free Initial Consultation, Free Simple Document Review and Explanation, Discounted follow-up Services.**

Further information can be found at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BwCGeOJq2HebR01PNmtkbS14NHc/view?usp=sharing>

**WARNER LEGAL SERVICES, L.L.C.**

**Troy D. Warner, Attorney & Counselor-At-Law**  
**Office 574.289.7112**

**Email [troywarner.law@gmail.com](mailto:troywarner.law@gmail.com)**

## TECH CORNER

### JIM OVERMYER

Each year it comes up, I am not surprised when a student utters the statement “the current and voltage are inversely proportional”. This tells me they are convinced that as the voltage rises the current will go down. It is imperative as electricians that we know that the current and voltage are directly proportional. Let’s take a 100 watt incandescent bulb rated at 120 Vac which has a resistance of 144 ohms and will see a current of .833 ma. Right now most of us will admit that if we double the voltage the lamp will fail in a few milliseconds. This is absolutely true, but if you start to talk motors or transformers, they are right back to inversely proportional. They back their theory with the high voltage low current when connecting motors. They fail to consider that when reconnecting a motor on low voltage the coil connections have gone from a series connection to a parallel connection which will reduce the impedance by 4 while the voltage is reduced by 2. This will double the current and reaffirm the conviction that as the voltage goes up the current goes down. “What about transformers” they ask trying to back their beliefs once again. An easy explanation follows with the question back to them on how a transformer is rated. They usually respond that the transformers are rated in VA or kVA. It is easy to then have them work out the current at the primary voltage and again the current on the secondary. This works with both step down and step up units, using both turns ratios from primary to secondary or figuring the current at the lower voltage in the formula. Remember, the primary windings are the coils connected to the source, and the secondary winding are the coils connected to the load. A customer has a need for a 480 volt source and has only a 120/240 3 phase service in the building. A dual wound transformer with two 240 volt coils with H markings on the high voltage windings, and two 120 volt coils with X markings on the low voltage windings would be used in this, a step up application. A point to remember is that the primary is connected to the source, whether it has X leads or H leads, while the secondary is connected to the load whether it has X leads or H leads. Another misnomer we need to deal with is that some would have us believe that a motor will run better on the high voltage hookup than the low voltage connection. Where does this come from I would like to know, as the motor has no idea whether the source is 480 vac or 240 vac. When connected to the high voltage source, the coils are in series. If it is a wye wound stator, the rule is E coil=E line X .58. With 480 feeding the stator, the coils are in series so it’s easy to find the voltage across each coil.  $.58 \times 480$  gives us a coil of 278.4 volts from the phase to the center tap. With the coils in series, this results in each coil seeing a voltage of 139.2 vac. This hookup is considered a 1Y. If the source is 240, the coils are in parallel. Using the formula again,  $.58 \times 240$  renders a coil of 139.2 from the phase to the center tap. This connection would be considered a 2Y. Since the coils are in parallel and the rule “Voltage remains the same in a parallel circuit” applies we still have 139.2 across each coil. Inductors act the same as resistors, so two inductors of equal impedance in parallel will see a reduction 4 times the rating. With such low impedance of the coils in parallel, and a source half of the high voltage, the current will double. The motor will run the same on both source potentials. Only the source voltage and currents will change, as the motor never knows the value of the source. When installing a new system, the high voltage will be chosen, as when the currents on many motors are considered, the smaller conductors and smaller conduits will be far more economical using the high rather than the low voltage. Another act of incompetence comes to mind when a student working at the Compton Ice Arena at Notre Dame came to me with a story about hooking up a single phase sharpener for skates. The machine was connected for low voltage, so the run windings were connected in parallel and would see a potential of 120 vac across the windings. Some Bozo came up with the idea that the machine would run better on the high voltage connection, so they pulled in another phase conductor and reconnected the motor. Problem was that the service in the building was 120/208, so when the windings were connected in series they only saw a potential of 104 across a 120 volt winding. Not good, as in this case, the motor actually ran poorer at the high voltage. Some goof ball made a decision without the knowledge or taking the time to find out if his suspicions were correct. My latest sheet of “Acronyms, Rules, Definitions, and Formulas have just came in from the printer and are available at the Training Center. They can be picked up there simply by calling Steve or Tawny at 574-233-1721 and asking for a copy. They are printed on a heavy stock and can keep you up to speed on many of the different things needed to keep your memory fresh on important facts in our trade.

JimmyO

## June & July 2017

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



**IBEW Local 153**  
56475 Peppermint Road  
South Bend, IN 46619

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

