

LIVE



WIRE

IBEW 602 NEWSLETTER

Fourth Quarter 2022

Message from the Business Manager

Tis the Season! Brothers and Sisters,

As everyone is getting ready for Santa's arrival and the anticipation of coming together with family and friends to exchange gifts and hugs. I always remember the ultimate gift we received, the earthly birth of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. I don't usually use this as a platform for my own beliefs, but this one I hold very near and dear to my heart. God has truly blessed me and this Union many times over and I always look to give him the glory. I usually look forward for all the bargaining units of this Local, but this is the time of the year I like to look back. As a local we are growing exponentially. Work has been on the rise all year. Everybody that wants to work is working, and our organizers have been beating the weeds to find new guys to go to work and join the local. At our JATC, membership has risen from 72 % to 92% Union density thanks to the hard work of our new organizer Bill Bray. It's been a busy year, and I look forward to next year being even better. We negotiated 4 contracts this year. In all negotiations we gained substantial increase with no takes aways. It has been an excellent year for 602!.

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"I would like to thank you (the membership) for believing in solidarity and staying true to your union family"

— Robert Melton

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Message from the Business Manager (Cont. from Front Page)

I would like to take this time to thank all those who have helped get us to where we are today. Starting with our office staff, Stephanie Pantoja and Malorie Moran in Amarillo and Rita Sifuentes in Lubbock. These girls handle the front lines helping (you) the members with the daily rigors of business. My Assistant Business Manager Marcus Lundegreen who has helped me and our organizers fill calls and keep the paperwork straight. For our inside Organizers Bill Bray, Gilbert Salazar, and Outside organizer Jeff Johnson for searching and find new people to fill the calls and become members that helps our local grow every day. Next are the members that stepped up to help negotiate the contracts. For the West Texas Building Trades, Dave Burris. For Savage, Kirk Watts and Anthony Riley. Inside Bargaining unit Lubbock, Gilbert Salazar and Brody Apel. Inside unit Amarillo, Chay Gable, Nick Trevino, and Mark Walker and finally, for the SPS contract Mike Andrade, Dave Matthews, Jason Mosquera, Joseph Webster, (the Main Committee) and all the classification champions that came to the negotiations table. To all the members that come to the regular meetings and take information back out into the field. Most of all I would like to thank you (the membership) for believing in solidarity and staying true to your union family. Locals do not exist without members who care, members who stay informed and work in the field, building the IBEW's reputation as the most knowledgeable, equipped and professional workforce in the trades. There will always be those who say "ah the union did nothing for me" but we all know we have the best Insurance around, guaranteed wage increases by date, and retirement in some form or another. The non-union side cannot say that.

We have just learned our International President Lonnie Stephenson after 6 years as President will be retiring after December 31st. Kenneth Cooper our current International Secretary Treasurers will be filling his shoes. Stepping up to take the reins. The New International Treasurer Secretary will be 6th district IVP Paul Noble. I'd like to finish off this newsletter article the way I started and thank God for giving me the opportunity to take on this Job as Business Manger and fight for YOU the members of Local 602! To all the Brother's and Sister's of Local 602,

Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!!!

Snapshots of the Local



Titus Patrick, Harrison Hill, Hayden Daniel, and Stephen Randall take the oat in Lubbock.

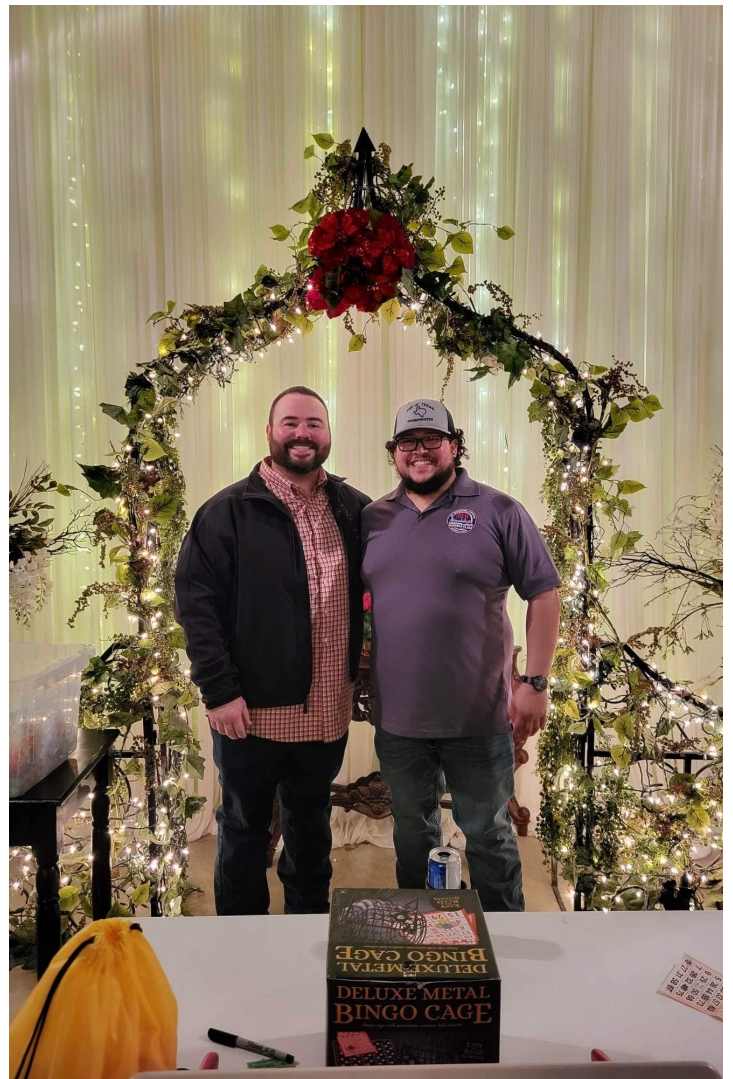


Tim Norris takes the oath in Lubbock.

Snapshots of the Local



Santa at the Amarillo Christmas party.



Aaron Ramos and Nick Trevino at the Amarillo Christmas party.



From the Training Director

Happy Holidays! It's hard to believe that another year is almost over. As I get older, the years seem to be going by faster and faster.

As of this writing we only have one apprentice in Amarillo not working and zero in Lubbock. We currently have 126 apprentices (112 in Amarillo and 14 in Lubbock). At our last committee meeting it was noted that we were at 91% membership of apprentices. That is an awesome number, and a big shout out goes to Bill Bray, Marcus Lundegreen, and Gilbert Salazar for doing a great job.

The dates for the continuing education classes for the new year will be:

Amarillo

February 11, 2023

April 8, 2023

May 10, 2023

Lubbock

February 18, 2023

April 15, 2023

May 17, 2023

Registration forms will be available at each hall, or you can just call or email me to be placed on the list.

The work picture looks good for the new year, and I foresee us needing a decent number of new apprentices. We take applications year-round, so if you have someone in mind, send them my way. Applications are taken online at wtxjatc.org/applicants.

The JW Prep class took a hiatus for the holidays, but classes will resume 1/5/2023. Classes are Thursdays from 6 PM to 10 PM at the Training Center. If you are working on getting your JW license and need help studying for the test, call me and we can sign you up. Classes are free for members.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Paul Salazar
psalazarjatc@wtxjatc.org
806-372-1581



Our banner up on the wall in the Electrical classroom at AmTech.

From Lubbock

Hello Brothers and Sisters, I hope everyone is doing well and you enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday. Christmas is fast approaching and with our upcoming Christmas parties, it will be an excellent time to get together for some food, fun, and fellowship. As we near the end of 2022, I reflect on the strides we have made throughout the year. With the increase in membership and the promising work ahead, it is a great time to organize and a great time to be a union electrician. We are so blessed to be in this position and have much to be thankful for.

D&K Hunt Electric remains the front runner as they continue to pursue a multitude of projects to keep our members employed. They will be moving forward to obtain the south endzone project at Jones AT&T Stadium on the Texas Tech campus. This project will require approximately 30 wiremen. A brand new cancer center at UMC is in the process of being built. D&K Hunt hopes to be awarded this project. In turn, more job opportunities will arise. Sachs Electric is slowly starting to hire for the Leprino Foods cheese plant and will soon need several more wiremen. A-1 Electric was awarded the Toot'n Totum stores in Lubbock and Lamesa, and they will likely need more hires to complete these projects. While it may be a challenge to continue to look for workers to meet these labor needs, we are up for the task.

I would like to express my feelings about the thoughtfulness of this local. Our Brothers and Sisters at local 602 have constantly stepped up to help one another when one of us is ill or in distress. Whether we are donating to someone from our Brotherhood funds or paying dues for a member who is struggling to make ends meet, this local always reaches out to help. One of our Lubbock members, Shannon Fox, passed away last month. Before his passing, several of our members reached out to Shannon and helped pay his dues while he was unable to work. This is a wonderful example of our Brotherhood at work, and it truly made a difference for Shannon. Brother Shannon Fox was an exceptional wireman and a friend to all. He will truly be missed.

In conclusion, the growth we are experiencing is vital to the strength of our local. It will be our responsibility to retain our new members by educating them on the importance and benefits of being union. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

In Solidarity,

Gilbert Salazar
Membership Development

From Amarillo Membership Development

Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile - Albert Einstein

Since our accomplishments this last year has already been discussed by Robert I'm going to focus on the future.

This future includes our veterans and our future veterans, the men and women who wrote and are writing a blank check to the United States of America. Recently I was contacted by the Texas Veterans Commission. The goal of both the State of Texas and IBEW Lu 602 is the same. We will be working hand in hand to help promote and give Veterans an option. As part of this on-going effort Lu 602 has developed a direct entry program for Honorably Discharged Veterans.

Other things we are doing is helping High Schools get the word out about our program. Last year we put up a couple of large banners promoting the IBEW and NECA and have more to produce for the future. The more we go out and talk with these students, especially in rural areas, the more interest there is in the Electrical world. There will be many more of these next visits next year and hopefully we will see an influx of students coming out of High School into the Union.

We will be targeting the out-of-town non-member electricians that have been brought into the area. We are developing a campaign to reach out to these individuals to show them what a much better life there is in being part of a bargaining unit vs. having to negotiate by themselves every time they go to another project. Education is the biggest part of this endeavor. Educating skilled electricians to the true benefits of Union Membership is another way we serve others today.

As this year comes to a close, I would like to ask that all of us remember the men and women serving our country and pray for their safe return home.

With that being said, the future for all of us looks great, the current work is good, and the future work looks very promising. On that note I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Bill

OUTSIDE ORGANIZING!

Brothers and Sisters,

First let me say Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! The end of the year is here and lets all hope that 2023 brings nothing but prosperity for us all. I will keep this newsletter short and sweet because after all, I know we all have better things to do during the holidays.

Outside construction has been steadily increasing with several union contractors remaining in our jurisdiction. Some have been short calls lasting 30 days but they get picked right back up for another 30 day contract all throughout the Odessa area. Others are large jobs that will last longer than a year. Those are the ones fighting the material storm. Delays remain on material shortages and our contractors are doing all they can to keep us working while they balance the road blocks. There is a good amount of work left on the horizon with several large transmission projects currently on hold pending the arrival of material.

As far as the membership as a whole goes, we are going strong and continually growing at a steady rate for outside construction. We have consistently helped many go forward with the JATC path making sure we keep the trade strong and value the hard work it takes to top out. The JATC is on a very short turn around right now from time of application to the time of becoming an indentured apprentice.

To end this, make sure everyone is safe through the holidays and always be careful out there working. The weather is rapidly changing with all 4 seasons throughout each day in West Texas. Watch out for one another and for those traveling through the holidays, safe travels.

Again, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Jeff Johnson

DUES UPDATE!!!
Effective January 1, 2023

The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted May 9 through 13, 2022, approved several amendments to **Article IX** of the *IBEW Constitution*. Effective January 1, 2023, there will be an increase of two dollars (\$2.00) for the Per Capita, there will also be an increase of two dollars (\$2.00) in the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contribution, which applies to "A" members only.

The following rates will apply to the International Portion of all monthly dues payments for January 2023, and thereafter.

\$2.00 Per Capita Increase- *Applies to ALL "A" & "BA" Members*
Additional \$2.00 Pension Benefit Fund Increase- *Applies to "A" Members only*

A Members-	\$4.00 INCREASE
BA Members-	\$2.00 INCREASE

Inside and Outside Construction- 2023 Dues \$48.50

	<u>"A"</u>	<u>"BA"</u>
Pantex	\$61.50	\$40.50
Savage	\$82.97	\$61.97
XCEL	\$115.40	\$94.40

Please Note: A letter regarding the dues increase has been sent to all members and employers. If you have paid dues past 2022, you will have a balance on your account. Notices will be mailed out to those members.

All dues and death benefits can be paid on the IBEW 602 website at www.ibew602.org, or the payment portal <https://portal.icheckgateway.com/IBEWWorkers/> **Please note that a non-refundable payment fee will be added to your transaction and will appear as a separate line item on your bank account or credit card statement.**

Business or Personal Check



A \$2.95 Flat Fee will be added.

Major Credit Card



A 3.50% Fee will be added (Minimum \$2.95).

Death Benefits
By-laws- Article XII, Section 6

“Any member who is 30 days or more delinquent in payment of death assessments, after being notified by mail, and death occurs, the beneficiary shall not receive the death benefit payment.”

262	Jack Hardin	Passed away September 30, 2022
263	Shannon Fox	Passed away November 16, 2022

I.O. Death Benefit Level for Active “A” Members

\$6,250.00- If member dies from natural causes
\$12,500.00- If member dies by accidental means

I.O. Death Benefit for Retired “A” Members

\$3,000.00

No Death Benefit shall be payable upon the death of a non-retired “A” member if such member was more than two (2) months in arrears in dues payments.

Please pay Death Assessments in a timely manner, also, make sure your dues are current

Please notify the Hall to update any of the following:

Locations, Stewards, Classification, or if you have a change of address, phone number, email, etc.

Amarillo Office#: (806) 376-9945
Fax#: (806) 376-9407

Lubbock Office#: (806) 744-4062
Fax#: (806) 744-7852

Stephanie Pantoja,	Office Manager	spantoja@ibew602.org
Malorie Moran,	Office Assistant	mmoran@ibew602.org
Rita Sifuentes,	Lubbock Office Assistant	rsifuentes@ibew602.org

2022 4th Quarter Years of Service Recognition.....

IBEW Local Union 602 Staff would like to congratulate the following Active and Retired members for their years of Service. It would be an honor to present your Years of Service Pin at the Regular Meeting. Please let us know which meeting you will be attending, so we can have your years of service pin ready to present.

Amarillo Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm (200 S. Fannin St. Amarillo, TX)

Lubbock Meeting: 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30pm (405 50th St. Lubbock, TX)

If you'd rather come by the Union Hall to pick up your pin, you can do that as well, or you can call and request that it be mailed. Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

			Initiation	
Member Name		Date	Yrs. of Service	
COLETEN	M	AGEE	12/13/2017	5 Year
NASEEB	J	ALI	12/14/2017	5 Year
MIGUEL	A	AYALA	10/30/2017	5 Year
BERNARDO		BARRIENTOS	12/15/2017	5 Year
LUNDY	R	BATES	12/13/2017	5 Year
ROBERT	J	BECCO	10/12/2017	5 Year
CHANCY	A	BERNSON	10/12/2017	5 Year
HESSTON	L	BOHL	10/11/2017	5 Year
CASEY	R	BOYETT	10/10/2017	5 Year
MATTHEW N.		DE LA ROSA	10/30/2017	5 Year
BRYAN		DUNN	11/14/2017	5 Year
JOSHUA		ESCOBEDO	10/30/2017	5 Year
RICHARD	K	FORD	11/15/2017	5 Year
JOSE	M	FRAGOSO	10/12/2017	5 Year
TERRENCE	J	FULLER	10/12/2017	5 Year
RICARDO		GONZALES	10/30/2017	5 Year
BRANDAN	S	HAMILTON	10/10/2017	5 Year
DUSTAN	E	HARP	10/12/2017	5 Year
BRUCE	R	HEDTKE	11/13/2017	5 Year
OLIVERIO		HERNANDEZ JR.	10/10/2017	5 Year
VENTURA		HERRERA SANCHEZ	10/18/2017	5 Year
JOSE	D	HERRERA SANCHEZ	10/18/2017	5 Year
BOGGY		JONES	10/10/2017	5 Year
TONY	R	LEE	10/10/2017	5 Year
MATTHEW	R	MARTINEZ	11/13/2017	5 Year

JOSE LUIS		REYES VILLANUEVA	10/17/2017	5 Year
JOSUE	D	RODRIGUEZ	10/12/2017	5 Year
HORACIO		SANCHEZ	12/21/2017	5 Year
DILLON	T	SELMAN	11/13/2017	5 Year
JACK	W	STANFORD	12/4/2017	5 Year
CHRISTOPHER	O	WILLIAMS	10/31/2017	5 Year
MARK		WURZER	10/23/2017	5 Year
MERLE	G	BLAKELY	11/5/2012	10 Year
WILLIAM	R	BROWN	10/19/2012	10 Year
BOBBY	N	CLARIDY	12/17/2012	10 Year
ERIK		COLUNGA	10/31/2012	10 Year
NICK	C	FORD	11/9/2012	10 Year
CHARLES	M	HARTLESS	10/31/2012	10 Year
JERRY	G	HARTLESS	11/16/2012	10 Year
BRYAN	A	JOHNSTON	12/27/2012	10 Year
REX	L	MANCUSO	12/17/2012	10 Year
DESHAWN	J	MARTINEZ	10/8/2012	10 Year
MARCOS	V	SAMARON	10/9/2012	10 Year
CHRISTOPHER	L	THORNE	10/9/2012	10 Year
KEVIN	M	VICTOR	12/17/2012	10 Year
OSCAR		ZAPATA JR.	11/5/2012	10 Year
TIMOTHY	F	DILLON	12/1/2007	15 Year
DANIEL	L	FOSHEE	11/1/2007	15 Year
BRAD	L	HELTON	12/1/2007	15 Year
RICHARD		MERSHON	10/1/2007	15 Year
EDDIE	R	TRUJILLO	12/1/2007	15 Year
RYAN	D	WARREN	12/1/2007	15 Year
CORY	R	YESEL	10/1/2007	15 Year
BRANDON	P	ZAHN	11/1/2007	15 Year
ANTHONY	E	GRIEGO	11/1/2002	20 Year
ANDY	W	ROBISON	11/1/2002	20 Year
DARIN	R	WILKERSON	11/1/2002	20 Year
STACY	L	WILLARD	12/1/2002	20 Year
GILBERT		CARDENAS	11/1/1997	25 Year
WILLIAM	A	CLARK	11/1/1997	25 Year
JEREMY	E	NOBLE	10/1/1997	25 Year

TERRY	L	ANTWINE	11/1/1992	30 Year
RICKY	W	COLLOM	11/1/1992	30 Year
CHARLES		CONLEY	10/1/1992	30 Year
FRANKIE	T	DIAZ	11/1/1992	30 Year
CHARLIE	V	GONZALES	12/1/1992	30 Year
REUBEN		RAMIREZ	11/1/1992	30 Year
JEFF	H	SMITH	10/1/1992	30 Year
CARL	L	BARNES	11/1/1987	35 Year
KEITH	W	BARTLEY	11/1/1987	35 Year
DAVE		CORONADO	11/1/1987	35 Year
DENNIS	R	CHAPMAN	10/1/1972	50 Year
KENDALL	A	BAUMGARDNER	11/1/1967	55 Year
CARL	D	SHAFFER	12/1/1967	55 Year

From the Utility Rep

Greetings to all of our members,

I would like to start off by wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

May all of you get a great start into the 2023 year. As all of you know, this year was a Contract Negotiation Year. The membership ratified the Xcel Energy Contract, so we are good to go for another three years. If you know of anyone that did not receive a voting ballot, be sure to let them know that SPS does not forward an address change to the Union Hall, that has to be done by each individual member. Have them Call Stephanie or Malorie at 806-376-9945. Next year we will have election of officers and I would like to see a good strong turnout. Ballots will be mailed out to your individual homes, that is why we need your current addresses. Every time we have Contract negotiations, we have some groups that feel that their groups got missed out or were not properly represented. It is very important to start now with items that need to addressed. Keep a notebook or give these items to your Steward or to me.

I feel that our membership is as strong as it has ever been, but we still have a lot of work to do. We need to look at the big picture, what are the things that affect all of us, what can we do to get stronger as a membership? Sometimes we feel that our issues are ignored and we get upset, then we want to get out of the Union, not realizing that our strength is in our numbers, we have to look at what is best for all of us as a whole instead of what is best just for me or my group. I believe that we have good , honest members and life is sometimes frustrating but we have to stand in the gap together and support, educate, and reassure our members that we are headed in the right direction, sometimes it's an uphill climb, but success is achievable. Let's work together in the coming new year to identify the items that need to be addressed. Let's work on figuring out how we need to approach some of our issues and continue to move forward.

God Bless and I will be seeing you next year.

Mike Andrade

FROM DISPATCH

Work has slowed very slightly since the publication of the third quarter newsletter. This is typical of the holiday season and winter months. However, we are not slow by any means, there is still much work both with inside and outside construction. It is expected to remain steady into the start of the new year before ramping up into a very busy summer again for both Amarillo and Lubbock areas on the inside and throughout the jurisdiction for outside construction.

New member orientation pages for our website are still under construction and input is requested from the membership. Pantex plant orientation is now published alongside inside construction. Outside orientation will be posted soon and Xcel orientation is getting underway. I am urging Xcel members to visit local 602's website and view the orientation tab. Please send ideas in regarding what should be included to help new members become acquainted with the Brotherhood and working at Xcel. We also have updated pdf versions of various agreements and our bylaws available for download under new member orientation.

In closing this final article of 2022, I wish Happy Holidays to all our members! May the New Year bring good fortune to every member of IBEW 602 and may we continue to share our good fortunes with each other in Brotherhood.

In Solidarity,

Marcus Lundegreen

IBEW 602
P.O. Box 143
Amarillo, TX 79105

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

IBEW: The Right Choice for your Future!

Contact Us

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Amarillo, TX 79106

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digital copy of the newsletter.



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Group Page go to:

<https://goo.gl/NSKgZV>