

LIVE WIRE



IBEW 602 NEWSLETTER

2nd Quarter 2025

Message from the Business Manager:

Greetings Sisters and Brothers!

Summer is here! And the heat is on—in more ways than one. We have *five* contracts to negotiate this year, and the AI Data Center is officially underway. Yep, it's here and starts this month. Between **900 to 1,200 electricians** are predicted to be needed for this job alone—and this is just one of the data centers being built in our area.

We've been told that **West Texas will become the next West Virginia of data centers**. This will bring unprecedented growth to our Local and generate **billions in economic development** for our region. Boomtown is going to be **BOOMING**, and so is our Local! Our way of life can bring prosperity to **hundreds of new members and their families**.

Unionism, in its most profound sense, embodies a vision of the good life—one rooted in **solidarity, dignity, and collective empowerment**. At its core, unionism is a moral and social philosophy that seeks to elevate the human condition by organizing workers not merely for economic gain but for a more just and fulfilling existence.

This ethical dimension of unionism is evident in models like *solidarity unionism*, which emphasizes **direct action** and **worker-led organizing** without relying on formal recognition or government mediation. Pioneered by the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), this approach fosters a sense of **collective agency and community**, empowering workers to take control of their labor—and by extension, their lives.

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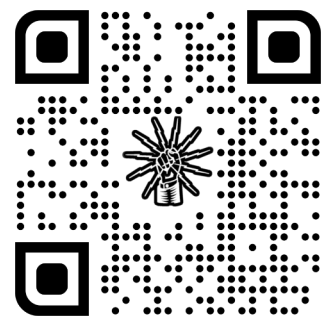
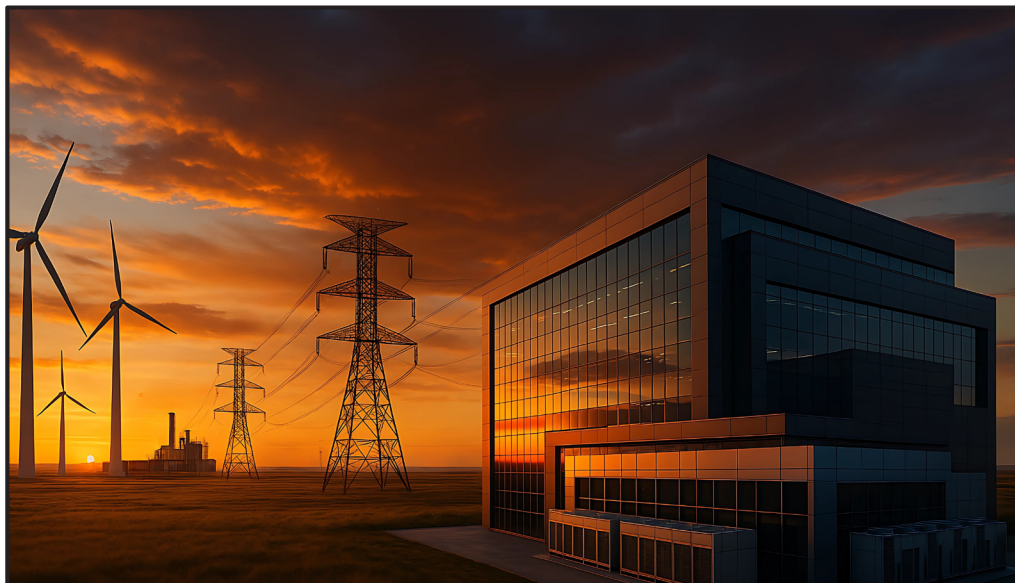
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HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Summer Picnic**
Aug. 9th
- **Member Spotlight**
Maurice Pierson Jr.



IBEW602.ORG

MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER (Cont. From Front Page)

In practice, unionism has led to tangible improvements in workers' lives: better wages, safer working conditions, and access to healthcare. These gains are not merely economic—they are integral to a broader conception of the good life that includes personal well-being, community engagement, and the pursuit of justice.

We all have different beliefs in our personal worlds—religions, political views, and cultural or ethical boundaries often dominate our thoughts. Social media keeps our attention fixed on what *someone else* wants us to believe or fight about. But at the end of the day, unionism is about making your life and your family's life more prosperous. It enables us to afford things like enrolling our kids in organized sports, going on vacations, and making home improvements.

In conclusion, unionism is more than a labor strategy; it is a pathway to a richer, more meaningful life. By fostering solidarity, promoting social justice, and empowering individuals, **unionism helps create a society where the good life is accessible to all**—not just the privileged few.

In solidarity,

Robert Melton

Business Manager / Financial Secretary

DATA CENTERS

Brothers and Sisters,

As many of you have heard, a massive data center project is coming to Claude, Texas. After looking into what's happening in Abilene, I wanted to offer some insight into what this could mean for us in Amarillo.

Crusoe Energy Systems and Lancium have secured over **\$15 billion** in funding for the clean-energy-powered data center campus in Abilene. We've been told Abilene was the prototype — and that Claude is shaping up to be even bigger.

Here are a few key facts about the **Abilene Data Center**:

The Build:

- **Phase 1:** 200+ MW across two buildings (~980,000 square feet), set to energize in early 2025
- **Phase 2:** Six additional buildings, scaling total output to 1.2 GW and over 4 million square feet
- **Capital Investment:** \$15+ billion, with \$11.6 billion secured in 2024 alone

Economic Impact:

- **Construction Jobs:** Up to 5,000 at peak, including more than 1,000 union electricians
- **Permanent Jobs:** 357 full-time tech and operations roles
- **Tax Incentives:** Up to 85% in property tax abatements
- **Community Boost:** Tech and tourism spending now accounts for 22.6% of local economic activity — adding more than \$500 million to the economy

As for **Claude**, though formal details are still emerging, here's what we know so far:

- **Rosendin**, one of our signatory contractors, calls Abilene a "prototype" and says Claude's site is significantly larger
- **Job projections** point to **1,500+ electrician positions** at the peak of construction
- **Estimated Scale:** 2.5–3.6 GW of capacity and over 8 million square feet of buildout

Beyond Claude, **multiple data centers are expected to break ground across West Texas**, and major infrastructure upgrades are already underway to support them.

This could be one of the **largest union construction opportunities** our jurisdiction has ever seen.

With the rise of digital infrastructure and clean energy, long-term union work is expanding fast — across **power, construction, and tech sectors**. As our jurisdiction evolves, so do the opportunities for IBEW 602 members.

Sisters and Brothers, our world is about to change significantly — there's no end in sight to the positive impact this will have on our region and our lives.

I look forward — as I'm sure you all do — to helping lead **LU 602** into the next phase of our transformation.

In solidarity,

Bill Bray

Assistant Business Manager

INSIDE MEMBERSHIP

Hello my Brothers and Sisters!

Work is about to explode, and we're ready for it!

I've been reaching out to a lot of non-union folks on social media and hitting up some of their job sites. Some have already made the switch, but most of the future members I talk to are gearing up for that data center project! Archer and Cornerstone are still my top priority contractors to organize, but I've also got my sights set on David's Quality Electric.

With all this work coming and our Local growing fast, we've got to remember the importance of Brotherhood. It's on *us* to teach these new members why being part of the IBEW matters—why it's crucial to our strength, and how it leads to better wages, stronger benefits, and a united front.

We're in a position—both inside and outside—to grow Local 602 bigger and stronger than ever. And I couldn't be more excited about what the future holds!

Solidarity isn't just about standing up for ourselves. It's about standing up for each other—because an injury to one is an injury to all. Whether we're striking, pushing for policy changes, or simply supporting our coworkers, solidarity builds stronger communities and more equitable workplaces.

I'm also working on starting a **RENEW charter** in Local 602!

RENEW stands for:
Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers

It's a national initiative within the IBEW focused on:

- Engaging younger union members (typically under 35)
- Educating them about the labor movement, union history, and leadership
- Developing future leaders and active members
- Promoting involvement in union activities and the broader labor movement

I'm looking for people interested in helping launch our charter. I'm not sure yet when we'll start holding meetings, but the **more people involved, the better!** Us young folks are the future of the IBEW, and it's time we step up. When it's our turn to take the reins, we need to be ready to keep growing this Local.

I'm also taking two other delegates to the conference this year—so if you're interested in going, **reach out to me soon.**

Y'all keep up the good work and never hesitate to reach out if you need anything from me!

In Solidarity,
Nick Trevino
Membership Development
Coordinator (Amarillo)

Contract Negotiations

Contract negotiations are active across several fronts. The West Texas Building and Construction Trades Contract and the West Texas Outside Agreement have both been ratified, while the Inside Agreement is still in progress. Additionally, SPS/Xcel Energy negotiations are set to begin this quarter. We remain committed to securing strong contracts that reflect the value of our members' work and appreciate your continued support and solidarity throughout the process. Once the approved versions are received, we will upload digital copies to the Member Resources section of the website and begin printing physical booklets for distribution.

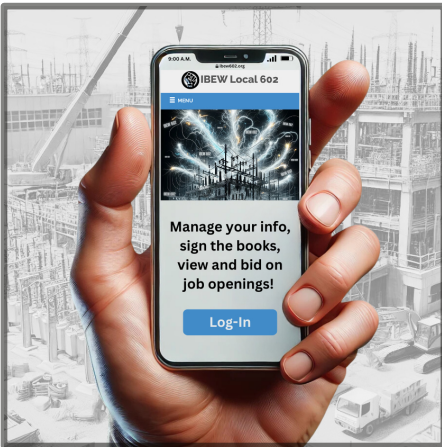
WHY EVERY ELECTRICIAN NEEDS A UNION

BETTER PAY
FAMILY HEALTH
RETIREMENT
JOB SECURITY
TRAINING

ALONE YOU WORK.

TOGETHER YOU WIN.

DUES SUMMARY



IS YOUR INFO CURRENT?

Please update your info through the member portal or give us a call if you've changed your:

- Address
- Phone Number
- Email
- Beneficiary
- Job-site, Location or Steward, etc.

Amarillo Office:

(806) 376-9945

Lubbock Office:

(806) 744-4062

Fax:

(806) 376-9407

Staff Contacts:

Stephanie Pantoja,

Amarillo/Lubbock Office Mgr.

spantoja@ibew602.org

Malorie Moran,

Amarillo Office Assistant

mmoran@ibew602.org

Rita Sifuentes,

Lubbock Office Assistant

rsifuentes@ibew602.org

Monica Ramos,

Lubbock Office Assistant

mramos@ibew602.org

INTERNATIONAL DUES INCREASE:

	7/1/2025 (All Members)
Per Capita (All Members)	\$24.00
Pension Fund (A Members Only)	\$23.00
Total:	\$47.00

LOCAL UNION PORTIONS:

Classification	Current Dues
Inside & Outside	\$5.50 + above rates(\$52.50)
Metal Trades	\$18.50 + above rates (\$65.50 A) (\$42.50 BA)
Savage	\$39.97 + above rates (\$63.97)
XCEL	\$82.52 + above rates (\$129.52 A) (\$106.52 BA)

PAYING YOUR DUES IS EASIER THAN EVER

You can pay:

- **In Person**
- Through the Member Portal at **ibew602.org**
- Using the **LaborPower App** (Available on iOS & Android)
- By **calling the Hall**

Payment Fees:

Venmo - **1.9% + \$.010**

Personal Check - **\$3.25 Flat Fee**

Credit Card by Phone - **3.50% Fee (Min \$2.95)**

 Payments made after 7:00 PM ET or on weekends/holidays will process the next business day.

INTERNATIONAL DEATH BENEFIT (A Members)

For Active Members (6+ mos. continuous good standing)

- \$6,250 — Death by natural causes
- \$12,500 — Death by accidental means

For Retired Members

- Minimum of \$3,000

 *No benefit if dues are more than 2 months past due or payment of death assessments is 30 days or more delinquent.*

If no beneficiary is named, the order of payout is:

- Spouse
- Children
- Parents
- Estate

Set-Off Clause:

If pension checks were issued after death and not returned, that amount will be subtracted from the death benefit.

LOCAL DEATH BENEFIT

John M. Lively D710906 (#288)

Initiated on: 02/22/1994

Passed on: 03/19/2025

David K. Fansler D637389 (#289)

Initiated on: 09/01/1982

Passed on: 04/13/2025

Doug Morris D876179 (#290)

Initiated on: 02/01/1995

Passed on: 06/11/2025

*A death benefit notice was mailed to all participants.

☞ If you did not receive yours, please contact the Union Hall.

Each name listed represents a valued member for whom a benefit was paid, recognizing their standing within the Brotherhood and the legacy they leave behind.

We remember them with gratitude and continue to uphold the values they stood for. Visit ibew602.org/death-benefits for more information.

The following members are currently more than three (3) death benefits behind.

As stated in IBEW Local 602 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."

This means if something were to happen to you while delinquent, **your spouse, children, or other named beneficiary would not receive the death benefit**, which is currently valued at approximately **\$5,000**. Please review the list below and take immediate action if your name appears. If you have questions about your status or need assistance getting caught up, contact the Hall as soon as possible.

Apprentices

Rios, Joshua – DB#252

Avila, Isaiah – DB#258

Oneal, Jaxton – DB#258

Banda, Matthew – DB#259

Brinlee, Nathan – DB#262

Norris, Timothy – DB#262

Aguilar, Juan Luis – DB#267

Tidwell, Brandon – DB#267

Bowen, Weston – DB#269

Piccolo, Frank – DB#269

Pryor, Deven – DB#269

Hill, Harrison – DB#270

Sotelo Hernandez, Luis – DB#270

Bounds, Gavin – DB#274

Dykes, Coleman – DB#274

Wilborn, Kelly – DB#274

Const. Electricians

Green, Anthony – DB#284

Jaquez, Oliver – DB#274

Orosco, Enrique – DB#237

Pacheco, Marco – DB#280

Yarbrough, Jonathon – DB#267

Journeyman Linemen

Aufill, Kevin – DB#254

Bejarano, Adam – DB#269

Reynolds, Anthony – DB#276

Robason, Nathaniel – DB#280

Rosario, Gerald – DB#282

Ross, David – DB#285

Journeyman Wiremen

Blanco, Adam – DB#269

Brown, Billy – DB#274

Castanon, Aurelio – DB#269

Coursey, Bailey – DB#276

David, Byron – DB#284

Diaz, Gavin – DB#282

Dominguez, Diego – DB#279

Downs, Christopher – DB#269

Ellis, Logan – DB#285

Elsaesser, Mason – DB#251

Ester, Jameson – DB#285

Ethridge, Thomas – DB#280

Ferris, Donald – DB#280

Ford, William – DB#276

George, Trenton – DB#252

Grinie, Eric – DB#265

Hamby, Cash – DB#285

Hendricks, Steven – DB#271

Hughes, David – DB#284

Hunt, Zachary – DB#285

Johns, David – DB#276

Kilman, Michael – DB#258

Lammes, Jadon – DB#276

Lopez, Matthew – DB#272

Madrid, Eduardo – DB#263

Martinez, Johnathan – DB#280

Mathis, Mitchael – DB#285

Miller, Moses – DB#250

Molina, Blake – DB#252

Morris, Richard – DB#273

Murphy, James – DB#285

Nelson, Landry – DB#261

Noonan, Andrew – DB#251

Rodriguez, Christopher – DB#257

Sanchez, Ruben – DB#273

Stanford, Jack – DB#274

Strohriegl, Patrick – DB#281

Tebo, Skyler – DB#276

Thompson, Tairen – DB#267

Tinoco, Joshua – DB#272

Van Gundy, Abel – DB#277

Van Gundy, Eli – DB#269

Van Gundy, Jonathan – DB#268

Woods, Christian – DB#282

Wood, Benjamin – DB#276

PENSION RETIREMENTS

I.O. PENSION RETIREMENT OPTIONS

(A Members)

Normal Pension:

- Age 65+ with 5+ years continuous good standing
- \$4.50/month per year of service
- \$5.50/month beginning in 2023

Early Retirement:

- Age 62-64 with 20+ years
- 6.66% reduction for each year under 65
- Dues must be paid up until approved

Disability Pension:

- Must have 20+ years continuous membership
- Must provide Social Security Disability Award Letter

NEBF RETIREMENT

Available to vested retiree participants from the electrical industry.

Normal Retirement: Ages 65 & Older

*The current NEBF retirement benefit is \$32 per month for every year of credited service.

Early Retirement: Ages 62–64

Reduced Early Retirement: Ages 60–61

Type of early retirement benefit depends on age, years of service, and time out of covered employment.

 **Call Stephanie 2–3 months before your planned retirement**

2025 Qtr 2 YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

*Please notify the office if your name is missing from the list.

Pins can be:

- Presented at a regular meeting
(Lubbock or Amarillo)
- Picked up at the Hall
- Mailed upon request

50+ year pins come from the I.O. and are mailed separately.

Regular Meeting Times:

Lubbock: 1st Thursday of each month – 6:30 PM
(405 50th St, Lubbock, TX)

Amarillo: 2nd Wednesday of each month – 6:30 PM
(200 S. Fannin St, Amarillo, TX)

We congratulate the following Active and Retired Members on their service milestones!

65 Years Member

Pierson Jr, Maurice – 6/1/1960

60 Years Member

Bell, William – 4/1/1965

50 Years Members

Jones, Ricky – 5/1/1975

Moore, Mark – 6/1/1975

Head, Billy – 6/30/1975

45 Years Member

Smith, David – 5/1/1980

40 Years Members

Ingels, David – 4/1/1985

Whitfield, Jerry – 5/1/1985

35 Years Members

Long, Gregg – 4/1/1990

Smith, Terry – 4/1/1990

Bass, William – 5/1/1990

Stewart, Tink – 5/1/1990

Mercer, James – 6/1/1990

30 Years Members

Diaz, Santos – 5/1/1995

Inman, James – 6/1/1995

25 Years Members

Paxton, Craig – 4/1/2000

Potter, Cody – 4/1/2000

Ingle, William – 5/1/2000

Lloyd, Jamie – 5/1/2000

Salazar, Paul – 5/1/2000

20 Years Members

Valdez Jr, Filemon – 4/1/2005

Cruz, Jaime – 5/1/2005

15 Years Member

Westbrook, Robert – 5/1/2010

10 Years Members

Jackson, Lukes – 4/14/2015

Hernandez Jr, Carlos – 5/15/2015

Barnes, James – 5/15/2015

Banner, Phillip – 5/15/2015

Parker, Nathan – 5/15/2015

Solis, Marc – 5/18/2015

Janssen, Jason – 5/18/2015

Coleman, Stephan – 5/18/2015

Romero, Ryan – 5/19/2015

Barber, David – 5/19/2015

Montanelli, Ryan – 6/1/2015

Novic, Nenad – 6/1/2015

Townsend, Joshua – 6/15/2015

Schwertner, Eric – 6/15/2015

Moran, Isaac – 6/15/2015

Britten, Billy – 6/15/2015

Boggs Sr, Warren – 6/15/2015

Avara, Rex – 6/15/2015

Barber, Christopher – 6/8/2015

5 Years Members

Waddell, Gunner – 4/16/2020

Hunt, Ethan – 4/16/2020

Hamilton, Colten – 4/16/2020

Burrow, Elliot – 4/16/2020

5 Years Members

Marquez, Abelardo – 4/16/2020

Singleton, Daniel – 5/12/2020

Price, Korbin – 5/12/2020

Gilliland, Eric – 5/12/2020

Bell, Jenson – 5/12/2020

Forrest, Matthew – 5/19/2020

Colias, Anthony – 5/19/2020

Auffill, Kevin – 5/19/2020

Gomez Sr, Michael – 5/20/2020

Travis, Garrett – 5/29/2020

Martin, Randall – 5/4/2020

Van Allen, Gregory – 5/5/2020

Nunez, Erick – 5/8/2020

Mcdaniels, Vincent – 6/10/2020

Solis, Andrew – 6/11/2020

Andrade Jr, Ted – 6/19/2020

Sanchez, Gustavo – 6/22/2020

Escamilla, Juan – 6/22/2020

Ornelas, Alfonso – 6/23/2020

Escamilla, Guillermo – 6/23/2020

Harris, Cory – 6/24/2020

Moulthrop, Jason – 6/25/2020

Arenas, Andrew – 6/25/2020

Cardoza Olivas, Hector - 6/29/2020

Miller, Johnny – 6/8/2020

Martinez, Joseph – 6/8/2020

Reyes, Cameron – 6/8/2020

Ruiz, Carlos – 6/8/2020

DID YOU KNOW?

Line-workers are among the most in-demand and essential tradespeople in the country. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, about **10,700 new line installers and repairers** will be needed **each year over the next decade** to keep up with expanding utility networks, grid modernization, and increased storm recovery needs.

As extreme weather events become more frequent and the need for energy accelerates, **IBEW linemen are leading the charge**—building resilient infrastructure, restoring power, and keeping our communities connected.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Line Installers and Repairers, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/line-installers-and-repairers.htm> (last modified April 18, 2025).

UTILITY UPDATES

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Half of the year is already gone, and it seems time is moving faster and faster. By the time this reaches most of you, we will have already begun contract negotiations with SPS/XCEL. As many of you know, our focus this round is on improving our benefits package. There hasn't been much improvement since we secured FMCP insurance for the bargaining unit, and it's time we addressed other areas.

We need better numbers on the company match for the 401(k), enhancements to vacation, and strong wages that help offset the rising cost of just about everything. Your negotiations committee is committed to working hard on your behalf and doing the best they possibly can. That said, we must all remember: the true strength of our union lies in your vote.

If we return from the table with a package that doesn't meet your expectations, you—as members—have the right to vote it down. Only you know what you can live with and what you need to take care of your family. Voting down a contract is not a decision to take lightly. Many of our bargaining unit brothers and sisters feel tied to their jobs due to financial obligations, but should we ever reach a point where a strike becomes necessary, there are options to help ease the burden.

Many creditors will suspend payments and extend the note if you contact them and explain that your local union is on strike and you are obligated to participate. Additionally, if you hold an A Ticket, you can travel and work for a contractor during the strike.

Of course, our hope is to reach a fair resolution at the table. Voting for the contract will be conducted by mail, so please make sure the Union Hall has your most current information—address, phone number, email, classification, and work location. You can update this by calling the Union Hall at 806-376-9945 or by informing your Steward, who will notify me directly.

It is critical that all of our members exercise their right to vote—both in these contract negotiations and in the upcoming elections next year. Let your voice be heard.

Until next quarter,
Mike Andrade
SPS/XCEL Representative

OUTSIDE MEMBERSHIP

Brothers and Sisters,

As of late, the outside construction side of our hall has seen steady and continuous growth. More contractors continue to come in, with jobs ranging from one-week projects pushing cotter keys on lattice towers to large 345kV rebuilds. This is all great news for our hall in a multitude of ways.

For starters, this continued growth helps make Local 602 one of the larger union halls in the state of Texas by overall workload, which increases both our market share and recognition. As our market share grows and the union footprint expands, we gain much greater leverage when negotiating with contractors—both individually and collectively.

Additionally, the type of work we are seeing is very well-rounded: wind farm construction, substation construction, and an increase in live-line transmission

maintenance. Our staple over the past 3–5 years has primarily been de-energized transmission construction and wind farm work. That focus has now shifted toward a significant amount of transmission maintenance, specifically on Oncor and AEP property in the southeast region of our jurisdiction. Our jobs board is updated in real-time daily and regularly features calls for those who are qualified and ready to work. We invite you all to visit our website to see what's available. If interested, sign the books and follow our bid/dispatch/referral policy.

Lastly, our workload has grown to the point that it can no longer be managed by just one individual. We've recently hired a second Journeyman Lineman to join the Outside Construction effort—Mr. Josh McVay. We've been bringing him up to speed on the transition from being a union member in the field and on the tools to working primarily in an

office role on behalf of the union. We do not believe in a sink-or-swim mindset or in releasing the floodgates on someone's first day. My training plan for him is to start slow and build from the basics, adding more fundamentals along the way. Josh is expected to be fully up and running—making contributions across the entire Outside Construction realm—in the coming month or two. During this time, we will be making guest appearances at some upcoming meetings for formal introductions.

Stay safe out there, and if you need anything—or even just have questions—don't hesitate to call and discuss.

Jeff Johnson
Outside Construction Organizer

IBEW LOCAL 602 AMARILLO SUMMER PICNIC

FOR ALL MEMBERS, RETIREES & FAMILY
FOOD AND DRINKS PROVIDED!

AUGUST 9, 2025



Join us for the IBEW Local 602 **Amarillo Summer Picnic** on **Saturday, August 9, 2025**, at **Thompson Park – Area 36** from **12:00 PM to 3:00 PM**. This family-friendly event is open to all members, retirees, and their families. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon with great food, cold drinks, and union camaraderie. This year's picnic will feature **Yolo's Food Truck** serving up tasty meals, the **COW Ice Cream Trailer** offering cool treats, and a **bouncy house** to keep the kids entertained.

Don't miss out on the fun—RSVP today at ibew602.org/picnic or call (806) 376-9945.



Four new members proudly took the obligation to join IBEW Local 602, marking the beginning of their journey in the Brotherhood. Surrounded by fellow union members, they pledged to uphold the values of **solidarity, integrity, and excellence** in the electrical trade.

Their commitment strengthens the future of our local and the labor movement as a whole.

GENERAL NEWS



The Lone Star Lineman Rodeo was a huge success, bringing together families, friends, and industry professionals for an evening of lineman pride and community spirit. The event kicked off on June 27th with a packed Vendor Show at 4:30 PM, followed by thrilling rodeo competitions at the Don Taylor Training & Rodeo Grounds. IBEW Local 602 was proud to be part of the action—thank you to everyone who stopped by our booth for swag, conversation, and camaraderie. It was an honor to support the hardworking linemen who keep our communities powered!

The 2025 Texas AFL-CIO Conference was an inspiring and energizing event, packed with valuable insights and success stories from unions across the state.

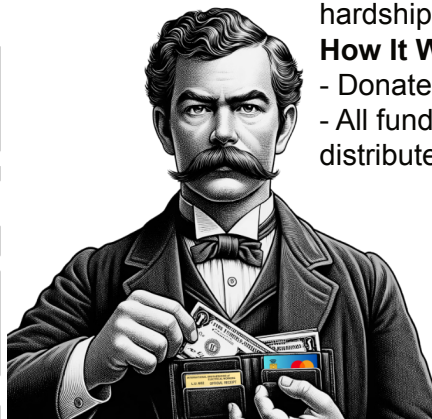
Nick Trevino and Willie Pate joined hundreds of union leaders to learn how diverse groups—from skilled trades to nurses, teachers, government workers, and even film crews—are organizing and winning major campaigns.

Branded “A Labor Movement as Big as Texas!”, the convention focused on empowering working families through organizing, strategic communication, and community engagement.

The experience revitalized our commitment to the labor movement, helping us build new skills, strengthen connections, and gear up for the challenges and opportunities ahead.



venmo



We now accept Venmo donations to support our Brotherhood Fund. Simply send your contribution to **@IBEW602** and include “**Brotherhood Fund**” in the notes. Every dollar helps members facing unexpected hardships.

How It Works:

- Donate Anytime via Venmo
- All funds are reviewed monthly at our Main Meeting and distributed to members in need by a body vote.
- Donations made after the last Main Meeting up to the current meeting date will count toward meeting night red tickets for the prize raffle—provided you're in attendance at that meeting.

Your support keeps our brotherhood strong.
Thank you for your solidarity!

GOLF TOURNAMENT RECAP

On May 3, 2025, IBEW Local 602 and the West Texas Chapter of NECA teamed up through the Labor-Management Cooperation Committee to host the **7th Annual Golf Tournament** at Ross Rogers – Mustang Course. This growing partnership brought together electricians, contractors, families, and friends for a full day of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition. The tournament followed a **4-person scramble format with blind draw flights**. Participants enjoyed a range of included perks, such as lunch, drink tickets, door prizes, and various contest entries—all contributing to a memorable and successful event.



Huge thanks to all participants, sponsors, and volunteers who helped make this year's tournament a success! The friendly competition, networking, and outstanding sportsmanship displayed by everyone reflect the true spirit of our union family.

Make plans to join us next spring for another great event!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Decades of Service...

Retired member **Maurice Pierson Jr.**, who held numerous roles within the Local over the years, was honored with his **65-year pin** at the June meeting. He accepted the award in person and was met with a heartfelt standing ovation from the membership in recognition of his decades of dedication and service.

Thank you for continuing to lead by example.

Contest Winners:

Closest to the Pin #6
Eric Norris

Longest Putt Holed #7
Mason Rivers

Longest Drive #9
Jared Gallegos

Closest to the Pin #15
Dustin Davis

Longest Putt Holed #13
Chris Rodriguez

Longest Drive #16
Mary Cinelli

Flight Winners:

1st Flight-

1st Place:
Eric Kelley, Cory Heider,
Andrew McWaters, Ty Bebout
Score: 53

2nd Place:
Oscar Pedroza, A.J. Ivy, T.J.
Flores, Kris Cherne
Score: 55

2nd Flight-

1st Place:
Nick Trevino, Aaron Ramos,
Kannon Boynton, Josh Cox
Score: 63

2nd Place:
Robert Melton, Jack McClure,
Tommy Monk, Dave Burris
Score: 64



WEST TEXAS ELECTRICAL TRAINING

Apprenticeship Program Update

From **Paul Salazar** – Training Director (Statistics as of June 9, 2025)

The West Texas Electrical JATC continues to grow and evolve, with a strong cohort of apprentices and pre-apprentices currently engaged across our jurisdiction. As of June 9, 2025, there are **152 registered apprentices** actively working toward their Journeyman classification — 126 in Amarillo, 25 in Lubbock, and 1 in Midland.

We also have **32 individuals in our Pre-Apprenticeship** program, with 24 based in Amarillo and 8 in Lubbock. Of those, **10 are already working in the field** — 9 in Amarillo and 1 in Lubbock — gaining valuable on-the-job experience.

So far this year, **22 new apprentices have been registered**, all in Amarillo. Unfortunately, 21 apprentices have canceled out of the program, including 15 from Amarillo and 6 from Lubbock. However, **9 apprentices have successfully transitioned to Journeyman Wireman status and 5 have passed the TDLR exam**, continuing our tradition of excellence in training.

At the time of this report, **only 4 apprentices** are currently **not working** — 3 in Amarillo and 1 in Lubbock — showing a strong placement rate throughout our program.

Looking Ahead

We are anticipating a strong fall intake, with plans to accept approximately **80 new apprentices and pre-apprentices in Amarillo, and 10 to 20 in Lubbock**. This

influx will help meet the growing demand for skilled electrical workers across the region.

JATC Facility Expansion

We have acquired additional parking space across the street and construction of the **new addition to the Amarillo JATC building** is progressing well and will hopefully be completed by September 2025. The additional space will enhance our ability to deliver high-quality hands-on training and classroom instruction.



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