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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD ⁴ ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION # 405 Cedar Rapids/Sowa City February 2025

This Month in Labor History

February 16, 1926 - Twelve thousand New York furriers belonging to the International Fur and Leather Workers Union began a 17-week strike. Strikers varied in background, including people of Italian, Jewish, Greek and African-American heritage, but they knew that by acting together, they were in a better position to bargain and fought together for a 5-day work week with no reduction in pay.

Through the leadership of Ben Gold, strikers joined with members of various unions and allied organizations, including the New York State Federation of Labor, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and the international Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

With the strikers' unity and support from allies across the state, the employers saw they could not win and finally agreed to a new contract on June 11th. The contract gave an unprecedented benefit package to the workers, including an end to overtime from December through August, time-and-a-half overtime pay for half-days from September to November, a 10% wage increase, 10 paid holidays and as ban on subcontracting.

It was also the first contract the union negotiated that included a 5-day, 40hour work week, which in turn created more jobs and less unemployment.. The strike strengthened the unity between the New York City and state-wide unions for decades to come. With that solidarity, they would all soon win the benefits the furriers had gained in their collective bargaining agreements.

Sources: Union Communication Services, ILR School, Cornell University, "Labor's Untold Story" by Richard Boyer and Herbert Morais, History.com and Peoplesworld.org.

TEXT OPT-IN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	Board Game Night 6:00 pm	4 Renew Meeting 6:00 pm	5	6 Iowa Women in Trades 6:30 pm	7	8
9	10	11 RENEW Board Game Night 6:00 pm	12 E-Board Meeting 5:00 pm	13	14	15
16	17 11th District Women's Committee Mtg. 6:00 pm	18	19 General Meeting 6:00 pm	20 Retirees Social Club 11:30 am	21	22
23	24	25	26 Local 405 Women's committee Mtg. 4:30 pm	27	28	

BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Brothers and Sisters of IBEW L.U. 405,

We have been informed that the first data center has been awarded to multiple signatory contractors. The majority of the electrical work will be performed by CST. We have been informed of some of the site-specific requirements for employment and I would like to pass those on to everyone who may be interested in working there. Everyone on site will be required to have an OSHA-10 within the last two years and anyone in a leadership role will be required to have an OSHA-30. There will also be a background check, and a drug test required. As of this writing, the JATC has two OSHA classes set up and a third is being planned. We are expecting the first calls coming in for this project to be in mid to late February. As with any project, this size, things can change, but this is the best information that we have at this time.

We would also like to announce that we are going to start having monthly Stewards Meetings. Our first meeting is planned for 4:30 pm Tuesday, February 18th at the IBEW 405 Union Hall. These meetings are for anyone who has been or is currently a Steward. I would also like to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested in learning more about becoming a Steward in the future. The purpose of these meeting are to discuss what we are witnessing on the job and find solutions on how to approach those issues and ultimately resolve them. What we share at these meetings will better equip our Stewards for what may come up in the future. A robust Steward program in our Local will help ensure that we are all following the contract.

The Annual Apprentice Poker Party is also coming up this month. The party starts at 5:00 pm on Friday, February 21st. If you bring a batch of chili, entry is free. For those of you who do not bring chili, the entry fee is \$10.00 This is a great event that our members put on to raise money for our own apprentices. The spirit of this event embodies what it means to be a member of this union. So please come out and have some fun while supporting our next generation of 405 members.

In Solidarity,

Matt Resor

Contact Info

IBEW Local 405:

Cedar Rapids Office Phone: (319) 396-8241 E-mail to Resign: <u>ibew405@ibew405.org</u> Website: <u>www.ibew405.org</u>

Cedar Rapids JATC: Main Phone: (319) 654-9238 Website: <u>www.crejatc.org</u>

Auxiant:

Main Phone: (319) 398-3283 Main Fax: (319) 866-9889

Vanessa: Ext. 1221 For: Union Services or HRA

<u>*Tina:*</u> Ext. 1208 For: COBRA Coverage

<u>Rachel:</u> Ext. 6970 For: Short Term Disability

Jordan: Ext. 1299 For: Vision Claims & Prescription Safety Glasses

Covenant EAP: (833) 434-1335 Group Code:EAPIBEW22

Milliman: (866) 767-1212

Wellmark Health/Prescriptions: Customer Service:

(800) 524-9242 Group #: 56700 Union Liaison, **Bob Gilmore**: <u>gilmorer2@wellmark.com</u>

Delta Dental of Iowa (800) 544-0718 Group #: 1-35517-1

REFERRAL ÅGENT REPORT

Over the course of January, we have written 9 Journeyman Wireman referrals, 3 VDV referrals and 6 CE/CW referrals.

Unemployed:

• Book 1- 83

- Book 2- 10
- Book 3- 0
- Book 4- 5
- VDV- 2
- Resi- 0

The weather and work outlook will be warming up soon. Make sure to re-sign and check the job calls page/recorder so you don't get left out in the cold. The updated referral procedures are on the website and posted a the Hall. We've seen it before; large scale jobs often require the help of travelers to complete. Extended stays and hotels aren't always the best option. Any leads on clean, affordable, Union friendly accommodations for travelers to stay at is appreciated. We have implemented the new dues payment system. Your username is your card number and your password is your last name (all lower case) followed by last 4 of SSN. For example username: 7477713 PW: morehouse1234.

In Solidarity,

TEXT OPT-IN

London Morehouse, 7477713

COMMUNICATIONS

Women's Committee

We want to thank everyone for their participation at our blanket making event. We were able to make 20 blankets for the Catherine McAuley Center and 14 blankets for the Cedar Valley Humane Society, as well as cash donations. Even better, we had 18 members/family members help us! As a reminder, we area family friendly group, so please feel free to bring the whole crew.

Our upcoming events: We will be having a photo scanning event on February 12th at 1:00pm to work on accumulating our history. If anyone wants to come in for an interview, let me or the Hall know ahead of time, so we can be ready for you. As always, we appreciate any help you can provide. We will be having a couple of women's leadership events in March. One is the 11th District Women's Committee will be hosting a training event in St. Louis on March 1st (Saturday) and the other is the Iowa Women in Trades Leadership Summit will be in Des Moines on March 8th. This one is free and several of us will be carpooling up. You can register at any time for this, but talk to the Hall or our Women's Committee for the 11th District event. This last month the Electrical Minority Workers Caucus, IBEW Affiliated group, hosted their annual conference. In their wrap up, they asked about any locals that do not have a chapter and I posted ours. If you are interested in this group for our Local, please let me know so I can send you some information. Otherwise, you can always follow them on Facebook, EWMC RENEW.

In Solidarity, Amanda Cooling, Women's Co-Chair VDV Tech, 7477624

VDV Unit

It's a new year, so we need to check our BICSI accreditation! Our JATC is looking to start offering classes and I want to know what you want to see. With data center work coming our way, this would most likely help us as a unit, but we are needing your input. On the topic of data centers, it's our time to shine. In order to be ready and probably covered elsewhere in the newsletter, Google is requiring OSHA 10 classes. Call in to ensure you get on the list to brush up on your OSHA. As always, any topics you want to see discussed or research can be sent to the Hall or myself.

In Solidarity, Amanda Cooling, 7477624

Retirees Social Club

The Retirees meet every third Thursday at 11:30 am for lunch at the Union Station. These lunches are a great way to meet new friends and to re-unite with some old friends that you may have lost contact with since retiring. Stop by the Union Station this month and enjoy some memories!

COMMUNICATIONS

JATC Training Center News

The Training Center's website currently has classes listed for individuals requiring additional CEU's to qualify for renewal of their state licenses, and we will continue to add more though the spring. Check the Training Center's website at <u>www.crejatc.org</u> to see a complete list of available courses and class dates. You will also find a document detailing who is qualified to take classes at the training center.

In addition to the CEU classes, the Training Center will now be providing training for First Aid & CPR. We finished one class earlier this week, and just added an additional class to the calendar. The classes for other than apprentices will be blended classes; the student will receive a keycode on week prior to the start of class that will allow access to the online curriculum. On the night of class, students will be performing a hands-on skills assessment of the topics covered online. Apprentices will continue to do the full in-person course.

For the first classes we are utilizing the same company that provides this training for the apprentices. We are in the process of getting two of our members approved to conduct both the full in-person classes and the blended course as well. Last month, the Training Center scheduled an OSHA 10-hour class that will take place on the first two Saturdays in February; February 1st and 8th. At this time, there are still available openings for this class. As reported by the Business Manager earlier in this newsletter, with the upcoming data center projects requiring everyone to have an OSHA 10-hour card that was issued in the last two years, additional classes are being added to the calendar. One will be scheduled for the first two Saturdays in March (1st and 8th). The second class is planned and will be added to the calendar soon; this class will probably be in the evenings for individuals who are not able to attend Saturday classes.

Later in the spring an OSHA 30-hour course will be offered as well. Individuals who take the OSHA 10hour training are permitted to take the additional 20 hours of instruction to receive the OSHA 30-hour card if they do so within six months of the OSHA 10-hour class and it is taught by the same instructor. The class will be added to the calendar once it is scheduled.

Construction Wiremen are eligible to attend the First Aid/CPR course as well as the OSHA 10-hour course. Any apprentice who would like to take the OSHA 10-hour course because their card is over two years old are also able to sign up; apprentices are kept current with their First Aid /CPR certification during normal class hours so these classes would not be necessary for them.

In Solidarity, Jebediah Novak, Training Director

COMMUNICATIONS

New Log In Requirements coming for myWellmark®

Protecting member health data is a top priority at Wellmark. That's why we're adding an additional layer of security against unauthorized access, damage or information theft.

Beginning March 1, 2025, Wellmark will require two-step verification for myWellmark access.

Why is two-step verification necessary and how does it work?

The short answer is two-step verification keeps your online health data safe from cyberattacks. When you log in to your myWellmark account, two-step verification helps prove "you are who you say you are."

Beginning March 1st, when you log in to myWellmark, you'll confirm your identity with your username and password plus a system-generated code that will be sent to a registered mobile device or email address.

What you need to do

Set up two-step verification on your myWellmark account today! Simply log in to your myWellmark account and follow a few prompts. If you don't wet up two-step verification prior to March 1, you will be prompted to do so the next time you log in.

myWellmark navigation relocated

Beginning December 5th, navigation will look a little different when you log in to myWellmark. Site navigation will now appear at the top of the page with drop-down menus showing what's available in each section of the site.

Questions? Please contact customer service at the number on the back of your ID card.

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IBEW 405 POKER PARTY!

Whip up a batch of chili and put on your poker face! The Poker Party is back and on Friday, Feb. 21st!

Party starts at 5PM! \$10 buy in or free if you bring chili! Prizes for 1st-3rd! Raffles! Limited Edition Shirts!



IBEW LU405 1211 Wiley Blvd SW Cedar Rapids



IBEW LOCAL 405 1211 WILEY BLVD, SW CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404

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