



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD

of

ELECTRICAL WORKERS

LOCAL UNION # 405

Cedar Rapids / Iowa City

May 2025

May is Labor History Month

Labor History Month, celebrated each May in the United States, is a powerful tribute to the workers who have built, shaped, and sustained the nation. It's a time to honor their contributions, recognize their struggles, and celebrate the victories of the Labor Movement; victories that have transformed lives and redefined what fairness and dignity mean in the workplace.

The spirit of Labor History Month is rooted in the courage and determination of workers from the late 19th and early 20th centuries; people who organized, marched, and risked everything to demand justice on the job. May was chosen for this observance because of its deep historical significance, marked by milestones like the Haymarket Riot of 1886 and the founding of the American Federation of Labor; events that ignited a movement still felt today.

Throughout the month, communities come together through lectures, exhibitions, and educational events to learn and reflect. It's not just about history, it's about continuing the fight for workers' rights, honoring the sacrifices made, and ensuring that future generations understand the power of solidarity and collective action. Labor History Month is a reminder that every right we enjoy in the workplace was hard-won, and must be fiercely protected.

Find us on



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May 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Iowa Women in Trades 6:30pm	2	3
4	5 RENEW Board Game Night 6:00pm	6 RENEW Meeting 6:00 pm	7	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day	12	13 RENEW Board Game Night 6:00 pm	14 E-Board Meeting 5:00pm	15 Retiree's Social Club 11:30am	16	17 IBEW Local 405 Night at the Ballpark 6:35pm
18	19	20 Stewards Meeting 5:00 pm	21 General Meeting 6:00pm	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day (Holiday)	27	28 Retiree's Bus Trip Women's Committee 4:30pm	29	30	31

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BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Sisters and Brothers of IBEW LU. 405,

On Friday, April 18th, our Executive Board, President and I had the distinct honor of handing out pins to our 10-year members all the way up to our 60-year members, as well as watches to our 2024 retirees. These longtime members are the foundation upon which our Local is built on today. The event was well attended by family and friends, as well as our former Office Manager Judy Bull and other Local 405 retirees. Congratulations to all members who hit these important milestones. If you were on the list to receive a pin, but were not able to attend, please stop by the Hall, and if you were to receive a retiree watch, we will put it in the mail.

I would like to highlight some upcoming events that foster camaraderie amongst our membership. The first event will be the 405 Night at the Kernels Ballpark, on Saturday, May 17th. If you are interested in attending this event, tickets can be purchased at the IBEW Local 405 Hall for a cost of \$10.00 each, for members and their immediate family. Bring the family and enjoy the fireworks after the game. This event was greatly attended last year, so hurry in and get your tickets before they are all gone.

After a long hiatus, we are bringing back the Local 405 Golf Outing. This event will take place at the Airport National Golf Course on Sunday, June 22nd. There are spots available for 30 teams of 4, at a cost of \$20.00 per person. Teams will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Proceeds will go to Foundation 2. After you finish golfing, lunch will be provided. Come out and enjoy a fun day of golfing with your Brothers and Sisters.

All across the country, we are seeing rallies in response to what the new administration is doing on the Federal level. We have seen this administration fire Union Members without cause, and unilaterally through executive order cancel hundreds of thousands of Federal Workers Collective Bargaining Agreements. I don't think it is a stretch that the private sector Unions will be next. So, we must become active in lobbying our legislators and participating in collective action against these labor rollbacks.

Keep an eye on the ibew405.org homepage for upcoming rallies. This is the defining fight of our generation. Just as past generations rose up to win the rights we now see slipping away, it's our turn to stand up, speak out, and carry their legacy forward. The mantle is ours now-and we must not let it fall.

In Solidarity,

Matt Resor,

Business Manager

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Contact Info

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ibew405@ibew405.org

Website: www.ibew405.org

Cedar Rapids JATC:

Main Phone: (319) 654-9238

Website: www.crejatc.org

Auxiant:

Main Phone: (319) 398-3283

Main Fax: (319) 866-9889

Bill: Ext. 1363 For:

Union Services or HRA

Tina: Ext. 1208 For:

COBRA Coverage

Rachel: 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:**

gilmorer2@wellmark.com

Delta Dental of Iowa

(800) 544-0718

Group #: 1-35517-1

REFERRAL AGENT REPORT

Over the course of April, we wrote 23 JW referrals, 2 CE/CW referrals and 1 VDV referral.

Unemployed:

- Book 1- 65
- Book 2- 16
- Book 3- 0
- Book 4- 1
- VDV- 1
- Resi- 0

We are looking at billions of dollars of work in the corridor. Multiple data centers, improvements and new medical tower at UIHC, the casino, potentially restarting DAEC, factory updates and expansions, new commercial and warehouse space, the list goes on and on. While the prospect of working on large projects is exciting, we cannot let our traditional work get scooped out from under us. From the PMs and estimators down to the apprentice and CW, who are just getting started. We must all show up every day and show our customer base why they do business with the IBEW and our signatory contractors. Let's man all the work, take time to train our apprentices, and continue to organize and improve the lives of the men and women who are already working in our trade.

In Solidarity,

London Morehouse, 7477713

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COMMUNICATIONS

JATC Training Center News

We are entering the time of year where the program has begun to make offers of apprenticeship; almost two-dozen offers have been made so far. Based on information provided by the shops, this year's class will likely be just as large, if not a little larger, than last year's class. Large classes, combined with the shorter term of the apprenticeship, will make it that much more important that the Journeymen assigned to the apprentices provide effective on-the-job training as well as taking the time to properly complete the apprentice's jobsite performance evaluations to ensure Local #405 continues to produce Journey-level Electrical Workers to the standard we have come to expect.

Along those lines, if you know someone who has applied for the program, be sure to let them know that there are ways to qualify for an additional interview. The most common method to receive an additional interview is that 90-days have passed since the previous interview and the applicant has managed to accumulate 450-hours of OJT of electrical construction experience. It is highly recommended that if the individual qualifies for the additional interview, they should take the opportunity. The average score necessary to receive an offer has increased due to CW re-interviews, so what used to be a solid interview score, may not be high enough to receive an offer. CEU courses are continuing to be posted to the calendar, keep an eye on the website to find classes as they become available. In addition, the training center is considering offering some courses throughout the summer months if there is enough interest. To renew the State of Iowa Journeyman Wireman License, an individual needs a minimum of 18-hours of continuing education by December 31, 2025, with a minimum of 6 of those hours being Code-related.

In Solidarity,
Jebediah Novak

Retirees Social Club

The Retirees Bus Trip is coming up on May 28th. They will be traveling to Circa 21 Dinner theatre in the Quad Cities. There are still a few spots available on the bus, so if you are a retiree and would like to go, make sure you get signed up!

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!

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Alcohol Awareness Month: Risks and Benefits of Alcohol Use

April is Alcohol Awareness Month and a good time to consider the impact of alcohol, both positive and negative, on our lives. While moderate alcohol use has been linked to some social and even health benefits, excessive alcohol use can have devastating consequences. An appreciation for the benefits and risks can help us make more informed choices about alcohol use.

What are the benefits of moderate alcohol consumption? Moderate drinking is defined as up to one drink per day for women and up to two drinks per day for men.

- **Social Connection:** Alcohol may help some people feel more relaxed and may, therefore, act as a social lubricant, enabling individuals to engage more comfortably in social activities and conversation, enhancing the social experience.
- **Heart Health Benefits:** Although in dispute, some studies suggest that moderate alcohol consumption, particularly red wine, may increase “good” cholesterol and provide helpful antioxidants such as resveratrol.
- **Stress Reduction and Relaxation:** When consumed responsibly and not over-relied upon, alcohol use at the end of a long or taxing day can help promote relaxation.
- **Culinary Enjoyment:** For many, pairing a great beer, wine, or cocktail with a meal can enhance the flavors of the food and elevate the dining experience. Because there is often a family tradition of these pairings, they can conjure fond memories of past gatherings.

What are the risks of misuse of alcohol? Regrettably, the negative consequences of excessive alcohol use are as well known to us as the benefits of moderate use.

- **Alcohol-Related Deaths:** It is surprising to many that the acute and chronic misuse of alcohol results in the death of over 140,000 people per year. Acute misuse may result in deadly accidents, while chronic misuse may result in chronic conditions such as liver disease or poor cardiac health.
- **Drunk Driving:** In 2022, the last full year for which numbers are available, 13,524 people were killed in alcohol-impaired traffic incidents. It is worth noting that the blood alcohol level of nearly 70% of the drivers in those accidents was twice the drunk driving limit of .08.
- **Increased Risk of Disease:** Chronic excessive alcohol use may negatively impact the immune system, making the user more susceptible to illnesses such as pneumonia and other conditions. While also being causally linked to liver disease, pancreatitis, multiple cancers, and heart disease.

What are some other consequences of alcohol misuse or abuse? Unfortunately, the misuse of alcohol or alcohol use disorder impacts all aspects of the users life.

- **Family:** The misuse of alcohol has a profound and negative impact on the families of the afflicted and commonly results in domestic disputes and violence, the neglect of children in the home, and divorce. In a surprising and unfortunate twist, several studies have found that individuals with an alcoholic parent are significantly more likely to marry someone with alcohol-related issues and that non-alcoholic daughters of an alcoholic parent are twice as likely to marry an alcoholic than the non-alcoholic daughters of non-alcoholics.
- **Financial Hardship:** The person suffering from an alcohol use disorder and those around that person often encounter a host of financial burdens related to the amount of money spent on alcohol and legal entanglements associated with the user’s behavior when drinking, such as fights and DUIs.

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- **Workplace Issues:** While most people with an alcohol use disorder will go to great lengths to insulate their employment from the negative consequences associated with their alcohol use, absenteeism, reduced productivity, unreliability, accidents, and poor peer relationships may, at some point, spill over into the workplace.

So how do I find a healthy balance? Whether you drink alcohol or not is a personal choice. Make choices that work for you in your life.

1. **Know your family history:** Like it or not, if there is a history of alcohol use disorder or addiction in your family, your risk of developing a problem is elevated.
2. **Know your limit:** Time and experience will inform your choices about how much and what kind of alcohol you can drink without experiencing negative consequences.
3. **When the use of alcohol begins to cause problems in your life, slow down or stop the use of alcohol** and evaluate on your own or with the help of a professional counselor how best to proceed. Call your organization's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for support.

Members In Arrears As of April 30, 2025

A & B Electric
Roger Steichen

Acme Electric
Brayden Bennett-Casali
Lamel Brandon
Marcial Carte
Jacob Durgin
Lucas Long
Shawn McQuade
Neal Pfiffner
Joseph Stewart

BIS Industrial
Gracy Kennedy

Commonwealth Electric
Ryan Phipps

ESCO Electric
Matthew Kramer
Garrett Kubovec
Daniel Peters
Drew Richardson
Nathaniel Robbins

Gerard Electric
David Hanna
Hunter Mann
Shayn Mason
David Thompson

Hawkeye Electric
Chad Andersen
Jeffrey Christian
Mark Gallagher
Nolan Smith

Justice Electric
Kevin Kipp

Munson Electric
Michael Feltman
Keanan Neuhaus

Paulson Electric
Zach Davis

Premier Electric
Billy Willingham

Ruyle Mechanical
Mitchell Mckusick
Jeffrey Steffensmeier

Tech Solutions
Mike Ammeter
Tyler Steinwand

Trey Electric
Beau Nelson

Tri-City Electric
Keith Kaiser
Michael McMeins
David Rees
Jeffery Steege
Aaron Sweet
Garrett Wolverton

Out of Work
Cory Barta
Edward Brewer
Michael Brinkmann
Jared Crary
Lance Handel
Todd Kelly
Gregg McGee
Steven Morrow
Dana Pasker
Vincent Price
Timothy Ruhd
David Ruhs

Delinquent Members

Michael Amling
Kristian Anderson
Brett Balliet
Lonny Beck
Matthew Biewen
Trevor Denman
Lonnie Dennis Jr.
Mike Dodsworth
Tyler Goettsch
Dallas Grant
Michell Mckusick
Ricky Ralston
Thomas Roney
Daniel Rubalcada
Terry Slaughter
Matthew Thewke
Cody Whittom

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