



## IBEW LOCAL 343 UNION NEWSLETTER 1ST QUARTER

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### Dates to Remember:

- 1/1/24: Local 343 Offices CLOSED – New Year's Day**
  - 1/1/24: 1st Qtr Union Dues DUE**
  - 1/10/24: Union Meeting/ New Member Swear-In, Eagles Club, Owatonna,**
  - 2/14/24: Union Meeting/ New Member Swear-In, Eagles Club, Owatonna**
  - \*3/13/24: Union Meeting/ New Member Swear-In, Local 343 Hall, **Rochester****
  - 4/13/24: Award's Banquet – Signatures Vision Event Center – Winona, MN**
- \* indicates ROCHESTER HALL**

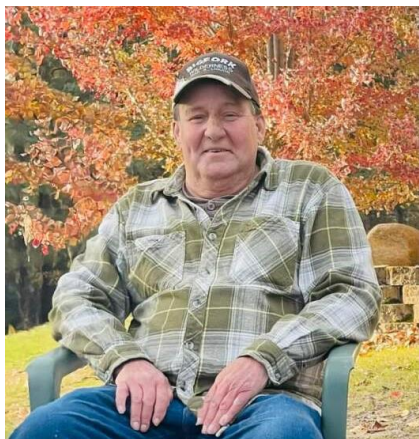
**ALL Union Meetings will begin at 6 p.m.**

**Where do Electricians get their supplies?  
The Ohm Depot.**

### Pension/Disability:

Eugene A. Zummach – Rochester, MN – Member since 2/19/1987 – Pension 10/17/2023  
 Joseph W. Keyes – Rochester, MN – Member since 12/1/1982 – Pension 10/31/2023  
 Larry L. Stroup – Blooming Prairie, MN – Member since 10/6/1977 – Pension 3/1/2023  
 Gary C. Gottschalk – Janesville, MN – Member since 10/12/2006 – Pension 11/24/2023

We honor and dedicate this page to our fallen  
Brothers and/or Sisters. Forever should they live  
in our hearts and our memories.



**Douglas G. Haines**  
Wirt, MN  
Member since 9/12/1991  
Passed away 11/3/2023



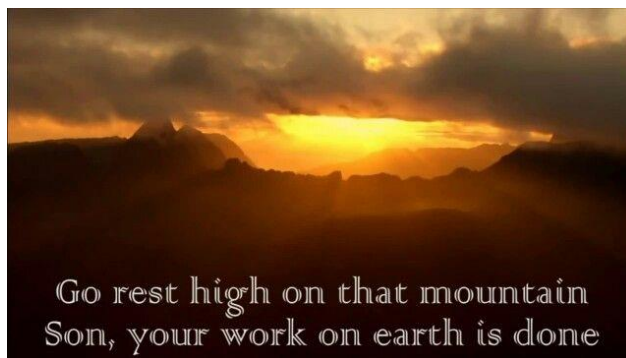
**Mark K. Landherr**  
Adams, MN  
Member since 1/9/1980  
Passed away 11/15/2023



**Maurice F. Brown**  
Rochester, MN  
Member since 9/29/1945  
Passed away 12/20/2023



**Bruce C. Johnson**  
Rochester, MN  
Member since 9/26/1969  
Passed away 12/25/2023



Go rest high on that mountain  
Son, your work on earth is done

# Business Manager Report

by Steve Cardell



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Hopefully this newsletter finds you all well.

This last quarter has been busy with the Prairie Island outage and a large repair project out there as well, in addition to the outage.

You have all heard about the large solar projects coming to our jurisdiction. Egan has hired apprentices as of now and should be putting out Journey Workers soon. Hunt Electric's project has also started, but will hire later, because they have the Kellen Research building wrapping up.

Another large project slated to start this spring is Mayo Clinic. The early numbers we have heard is 400 electricians through the course of this project. I told you all last quarter about the International's goal of a million members by 2025, that is because of the work outlook across the nation and Canada. Everything I see looks like this country is seeing one of the largest labor movements in history. With that said, keep your ears and eyes open to potential, good Journey Workers out there, that are looking for a change. We all hear that the unorganized are making the same money. I disagree. Very few are getting our package. The benefits and working conditions are what the IBEW is about.

Just a heads up that Day on the Hill has been scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This is an opportunity for you to meet your elected officials at the Capital to voice your thoughts and concerns about upcoming sessions. Brother John Swanson will again be spear-heading this event. If you are interested in attending, call the hall to get on the list.

Once again, we are sponsoring the Eagles Cancer Telethon breakfast on January 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 am to approximately 1:00 pm. We cook and serve breakfast at the Rochester Eagles Club, and most of the office staff will be there. It's always a fun event, and few extra helpers would be appreciated. Call the hall if you have time to help. If you are not interested in helping, consider stopping by the Eagles to have breakfast with friends and family for a great cause.

The banquet will be in Winona this Spring, so watch the website and your mail to RSVP.

I hope you all have a happy holiday season and enjoy a happy new year.

In Solidarity, Steve Cardell D748335



## What we offer:

Short term, face-to-face or telehealth counseling sessions FREE to you and eligible family members to solve personal problems and workplace issues that affect your ability to work safely and effectively. Our counseling services are available no matter where you work or live.

All services  
are confidential

24/7 Phone  
Assistance



800.634.7710  
startwithteam.com



## Rochester Rep Report by Bob Ernst

Hello Brothers and Sister,

Once again, the holiday season has come and gone. I hope all is well with you and your families. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone happy holidays and safe travels.

Heading into the winter months, there is definitely a lot of talk about upcoming work. It all seems very promising for our local's future work picture. The Louise Solar Site in Adams is underway and is going to start hiring any day now. This quarter has been busy with multiple meetings for the Bold Forward Unbound announcement by Mayo. Mayo has had many meetings pertaining to the upcoming projects that they are set to finish in the next 6 years. These projects are going to require many construction workers and especially a lot of electricians. These could be some challenging, yet exciting times for the growth of our Local.

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant had an unscheduled project over Thanksgiving, which is finishing up now, and the main outage is coming to a close. Job site visits for the quarter are as follows; Great River Flats in Lake City (Accord), So Rock Apartments (Accord), New Cub Foods in Rochester, (Hunt) has shell, (Collins) has the build out. Kwik Trip Eyota (Viking), Chester Woods Park Amphitheater project (Winkels).

Contractor visits are as follows, Ausin Electric, Adair Electric, Premier Electric, P&T Electric, Key Electric, and Viking Electric.

Work around the hall has been busy with many phone calls. We have started to work on the planning of this summer's picnic in Austin Mn. Feel free to contact me with any questions or ideas about the picnic.

I was also able to attend the Construct Tomorrow Event at RCTC in Rochester. This is a job fair event to introduce high school kids to the Trades. This is a positive event that I enjoyed, and I am hoping to attend another one that is taking place in Caledonia Mn this Spring.

In Solidarity, Bob Ernst



## Compliance Officer Report by Jeff Fields

Brothers and Sisters!!

As 2023 comes to a close, I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and wish everyone a happy new year! I appreciate all the members who have reached out to me this year. You truly are the eyes and ears of the local, and every bit of information you offer is invaluable.

In partnership with F.C.F. (Fair Contract Foundation), I have filed six complaints with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry since June. These issues include labor misclassification, contractors that underpay their employees, and contractors that are out of ratio. Since the prevailing wage and registered apprentice language are linked to all three investment acts (IIJA, IRA, CHIPS, and Science), I will be closely tracking and monitoring any project that uses this funding. Currently, over forty solar sites have been announced in our area that will seek Inflation Reduction Act funds.

The Minnesota legislature amended the state's Construction Worker Wage Protection Act (CWWPA) on August 1st, 2023. When the initial protection act was passed in 2019, it was thought to be one of the most strict wage protection laws in the United States; this latest addition only strengthens that position. The 2023 amendment pushes the liability for unpaid subcontractor employees upstream to the contractor. A contractor definition specifically includes construction managers and general contractors. Expanding the definition further, project owners may be considered a contractor as well: "an owner shall be deemed a contractor and liable as such under this section if said owner has entered into a construction contract with more than one contractor or subcontractor on any construction site". This amendment to the CWWPA is a win for unions!

In Solidarity,  
Jeff Fields



## Western MN Rep Report by Mark Rutten

Season Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We are in the Holiday Season and work has slowed down as usual in the Western area of our jurisdiction. 2024 looks to be another good year for construction for our members.

Mankato Area Public Schools (MAPS) just passed a huge school referendum \$105million to be used on a variety of school buildings in the district. There was a big push from Building and Trades with phone banks and mailings, a big win for construction trades in the area. Despite a far-right opposition group Common Sense Minnesota spreading misinformation about MAPS systems. Now we have to count on our contractors to bid and get all this local work. In the past Local 343 has always endorsed school referendums in our local areas. New construction is what we know best, so I always Vote Yes on school referendums and I urge all 343 members to do also It's Our Work.

With the 2024 Election campaign season coming soon pay attention to all the misinformation that is in mailings, TV, radio, Facebook, and digital ads. Do your own research, it's easy to do. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is out there in full force and it's dangerous.

Check the Upcoming Work on our website under Jobs & Calls for an updated list of jobs coming or are in the planning stages.

Retirees meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Happy Chef in Mankato 10am.

If you or anyone you know is struggling with depression or suicidal thoughts, drugs, alcohol, contact TEAM for help at 1-800-379-1292 or go to their website [www.team-mn.com](http://www.team-mn.com) Your Mental Health Matters. It's ok to not be ok.

Stop by the Mankato Training Center anytime to visit, or call (507) 995-4880

Have a great Holiday Season!!!

In Solidarity, Mark Rutten



## Organizing Department Report by Charlie Cardell

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you all have had a great holiday season spent with friends and family!

The last few months have been pretty busy for organizing here in the local. We have been able to bring in a few JWs and apprentices into our union. Also, I have been having a bunch of talks with others looking to make the switch to the good side! This fall was busier to start off than it has been the last month but with some big projects on the horizon we will be going full bore I think very soon. I have also been able to help other locals throughout the state with their big organizing efforts as well.

We also have been in great talks with NU contractors in the area that are inching closer to making the switch and becoming signatory. There are more that we will be talking with soon as well.

The future of organizing looks bright as the international office has implemented a new organizing policy for us to follow, aimed at making organizing easier. We have a lot of big work coming it sounds with solar projects to Mayo in Rochester. With that, we will have a huge need for manpower. I am preparing for this task as it will be a tough one that will come on fast.

As always, be mindful to let the non-union know what it means to be union. There are OVER 1,000 of us in this local. That means if each one of us tells even one non-union worker the benefits of belonging to Local 343, we are communicating with nearly 100% of the non-union electricians in our jurisdiction. Furthermore, they will listen to you as they are your friends, neighbors and relatives.

In Solidarity,  
Charlie Cardell



## RETIREMENT QUESTIONS & ANSWERS: – by Bonnie Hinkle

### FAQ

Q) How far in advance of my retirement date should I start the NEBF and IBEW Pension Applications?

A) Approximately four (4) months. This way the pension should be in place at the time of the member's retirement.

**NEBF Pension Application:** (if married) After receiving the NEBF Application, NEBF will respond to the member with a document the member will need to complete as to whether the member wants a spousal benefit on the pension. There are two options for the spousal benefit: 50% of what the member will receive or 75% of what the member will receive. The dollar amounts options are indicated on the form. Of course, the member will receive a reduced pension if a spousal benefit is chosen.

**IBEW Pension Application:** After the member has completed the IBEW Pension Application, it needs to be mailed to the Local 343 Hall to be placed on the agenda for the upcoming General Membership Meeting where it is read at the meeting. It is then signed by the Business Manager/Financial Secretary stating that it was read at the meeting. It is then mailed to the IBEW International Office in Washington, DC. This pension also has a spousal benefit option, but this option needs to be chosen at the time of completing the application. It is 50% of what the member receives, and the member pension amount will be reduced per month if this option is chosen.

### “A” MEMBERS – IBEW DEATH BENEFIT

An “A” member after six (6) months of continuous and active good standing will have a death benefit in the amount of \$6,250.00 or accidental death benefit in the amount of \$12,500.00. However, 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, unless it can be demonstrated that the arrearage was not the fault of the member, in which case the death benefit will be reduced by the amount of the arrearage.

If an “A” member dies after retirement, the death benefit amount will be the \$6,250.00, less the pension payments made to the member, but the benefit will never be less than \$3,000.00. The accidental part of the death benefit goes away after an “A” member's retirement.

**Beneficiaries:** “A” members may name a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive the death benefit. If the member fails to name a beneficiary or the beneficiary is deceased or unable to accept the benefit, the death benefit shall be payable to the following individual(s), in the indicated order of priority: 1) member's spouse; 2) member's children; 3) member's parents; and 4) member's estate.

*For more information or to obtain a Beneficiary Designation Form, please contact Bonnie Hinkle at the Local 343 Union Hall 507-282-7081, ext 112.*



HUGE shout out 🙌 to Michael Saufferer, owner of Owatonna Electric, for donating his time on the Veterans Memorial in Owatonna. And, appropriately enough, it was complete...just in time for Veterans Day!! 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸

Again, thank you Mike, so much for the hours of labor (and love) that you donated to this wonderful project. We can never thank our Veterans enough. Ever.





# 2024

## IBEW LOCAL 343 Calendar

### January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

### March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

 - Union Meetings

 - Membership Dues are DUE

 - Awards Banquet - Winona



= HOLIDAYS - Local 343 offices are CLOSED: January 1st - New Year's Day; May 27th - Memorial Day; July 4th - Independence Day; September 2nd - Labor Day; November 28th & 29th - Thanksgiving & Day After; Christmas Eve Day - December 25th - Christmas Day; December 31st - New Year's Eve Day



= PROVISIONAL HOLIDAYS - Local 343 offices are CLOSED: March 29th - Good Friday; November 11th - Veteran's Day;



= Re-Sign (JIWs) 10th - 16th

*\*Calendar is subject to change\**

Keep up-to-date with changes or announcements on our website at

<https://www.ibewlocal343.org/jobs-calls/>



## Upcoming Work – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024

### Rochester area

Kellen research building - Hunt  
 Tunnel project for Jacobsen Building - Hunt  
 Mayo Proton Beam Addition - Bidding  
 41st Street Apartments - Accord  
 Byron solar project (200 mw) Early 2024 - Planning  
 SOROC Apartments buildings 4,5 - Accord  
 Byron School - McMartin  
 Kellen Research bld. Temp Control - Paape  
 Catholic Diocese of Rochester - Accord  
 New Cub Foods - Hunt  
 Christ Lutheran Church Ministry Zumbrota - Accord  
 Kasson Fire Station - BLK  
 Olmsted County Detention Center - Accord  
 Baldwin Building Exam Room Remodel - Egan  
 New Kwik Trip Kasson - Viking Electric  
 Soldiers Field Improvements - Hunt  
 Oxbow Nature Center Phase 2 - Winkels  
 RMH Surgical Services Renovations Phase 3 - Egan  
 Western Digital/SIT Lab/Feeders - Adair  
 Mayo Baldwin 5th Floor Refresh - Premier  
 O2B Kids 1 - Accord  
 O2B Kids 2 - Accord  
 Valleyhigh Flats 2 - Accord  
 Louise Solar Project - Egan  
 Fillmore County Solar Project - Hunt

### Austin

Hormel - Egan  
 Austin WWTF - Fox  
 Hormel Daycare - Fox

### Albert Lea

Mayo Hospital - \$15M remodel planned

### Red Wing/Lake City/Plainview/Wabasha

Great River Flats - Accord  
 Copperfield Terrace Event Center (Plainview) - HG Electric

### Winona Area

Caledonia WWTF - Key Electric  
 Traffic Management System Winona - Egan  
 Jefferson Elementary School - P&T  
 Washington/Koscisko School - Key Electric  
 Wincraft New Building Expansion - Key Electric  
 New Concert Hall & Art Gallery - Hunt  
 Winona Volunteer Services - Key Electric

### Owatonna/ Waseca

Owatonna Wastewater Treatment Facility - Killmer Electric  
 Mayo Clinic Waseca Expansion - Premier  
 Kamp Automation - Master Electric  
 Home 2 Suites - J. Becher Electric IBEW  
 Owatonna District Office & Maintenance Facilities - McMartin Electric

### Mankato

CHS Mankato - Egan  
 Hospital Projects - Master & BLK Electric  
 MSU Small Projects- Master  
 Mayo Clinic Bed Towers - Parsons  
 Lincoln Community Center - BLK Electric  
 Mankato Area Public Schools Early Learning Center - BLK Electric  
 Candlewood Suites - Egan  
 MSU Armstrong Hall - Planning  
 Mankato City Center Hotel Renovation - Planning  
 Burton Apt. - Planning  
 Axis Lofts - Planning  
 Volk Transfer - BLK  
 Mankato WWTP - Planning  
 My Place School/Daycare - Paul's Electric  
 Wal-Mart Lighting Retro-Fit - Rock River Electric IBEW

### St. Peter/Le Sueur

Cambria - Planning  
 Le Sueur K-5 School - Muska  
 Le Sueur High School Remodel - Planning  
 St Peter Regional Hospital - Planning

### New Ulm/Redwood Falls/Marshall

3M - Hunt  
 Kraft Projects - Parsons  
 Springfield Public Schools Addition - Paul's Electric  
 Redwood Falls Apartments - Muska  
 Mn Valley Lutheran High School Addition - Paul's Electric  
 Marshall Kwik Trip - JT Electric  
 ADM Marshall - Tri-City Electric  
 New Ulm Childcare - Paul's Electric

### Fairmont/Amboy/Medelia

Ethanol Plant Work - Master Electric  
 Sherburn Wastewater Treatment Plant - O'Conner Electric  
 Martin County Public Safety and Justice Center - Planning  
 Fairmont Community Center - Planning  
 WWTF Amboy - O'Connor  
 Syngenta Seeds Amboy - BLK

### Renville/Olivia/Winthrop

Beet Plant Expansion Phase II - Planning  
 GFW School - Planning

### Windom/ Jackson/St James

Lakefield WWTF - Schammel Electric  
 Medelia Health Clinic Windom - Paul's Electric  
 Jackson Law Enforcement Center - Dewar Electric  
 Windom Area Hospital - Dewar Electric



## “A MINUTE WITH MIKE” - SCMNJATC Training Director, Mike Bambrick

Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
Happy New Year! Hard to believe it's already 2024. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season filled with family, fun, and cheer, and that everyone received everything they had on their holiday wish list.

The new year also marks the approximate halfway point for our apprenticeship classes. Our new instructors have been working hard to get themselves up and running and things to be humming along pretty good now. Our program's new educational model that has the instructors presenting their curriculum in both the Rochester and Mankato facilities seems like it's working well, and we've now been able to outfit the Mankato facility with the same equipment and lab experience that we're able to provide in our Rochester facility. We're excited to see the way our program has been able to grow since Local 343 has made the investment in the Mankato facility, and we look forward to seeing how that investment is going to continue to benefit both Local 343 and the SCMNJATC.

As far as the JW continuing education classes are concerned, I have in-person 2023 NEC Code Update classes lined up through March of 2024 at this point and will look to add some more dates soon. The online option we were able to line up through RocketCert has also been incredibly popular. The ability to complete the required CE hours at the user's convenience has been the biggest draw that I've heard from our members that have used this option, and the overwhelming response I get from most members is that they will continue to utilize this format if it's an option moving forward. If you would like more information on how to use this format, please let me know and I will be more than happy to send you the instructions.

Casey Saunders was also able to complete his first cycle of the Electric Vehicle Charging Systems classes with our fourth-year apprentices in the classroom and the next step is to start offering these courses to the general membership. We will be getting a couple of dates on the calendar for this training during 2024, and you will be able to sign up online at either [ibewlocal343.org](http://ibewlocal343.org) or at [scmnjatc.org](http://scmnjatc.org) once we have those classes set.

I hope everyone has a great start to their 2024, and I look forward to connecting with you at a future union meeting, code class, or any other upcoming 343 events!!

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**Joshua Stirneman, electrician – South Central Minnesota Electrical JATC employed by Premier Electrical Corporation**



Joshua Stirneman

**MN DOLI Apprentice of the Week**

A third-year apprentice with the [South Central Minnesota Electrical JATC](http://South Central Minnesota Electrical JATC), Joshua Stirneman is being recognized for his excellence both in the classroom and on-the-job. Described by his instructors as a quick learn and a dedicated worker, Stirneman is quickly developing into a leader in the electrical trade.

# 1st Quarter 2024 SCMN JATC NEWSLETTER

**CONGRATULATIONS to our newest graduates**  
**Payton Anderson, Brady Clark, Jeffrey**  
**Hilmanowski, Taylor Lamphear, and Devan**  
**Nitschke**

## NEC CLASSES 2023 CODE

### PURCHASING CODE BOOKS

**2023 NEC Softcover Code Books** are available for \$125.00

**2023 NEC Spiralbound Code Books** are available for \$138.00

**2023 NEC Handbooks** are available for \$227.00

**2023 NEC Code Book Tabs** are available for \$23.00

Contact Mike to schedule a time to pick one up.

### Upcoming Classes

**WHEN:** January 27-28 – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Daily

**INSTRUCTOR:** Cari Helberg

**WHERE:** Rochester – IBEW Local 343 Union Hall, 9 80th St. SE

**WHEN:** February 24-25 – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Daily

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dan Goodew

**WHERE:** Mankato – IBEW Local 343, 816 South Bend Ave

**WHEN:** March 16-17 – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Daily

**INSTRUCTOR:** Scott Higgins

**WHERE:** Rochester – IBEW Local 343 Union Hall, 9 80th St. SE

**NEC 2023-1 Changes for Chapters 1-2&3, SATURDAY is an 8 HOUR CLASS** good for ceu's in MN-(8 Code), WI-(8 Code), N.D-(8 Code),(IOWA-(9 Code) 9 hr class)

**NEC 2023-2 Changes for Chapters 4-5-6-7&8, SUNDAY is an 8 HOUR CLASS** good for ceu's in MN-(8 Code), WI-(8 Code), N.D.-(8 Code),(IOWA-(9 Code) 9 hr class)

No partial credit of classes is granted, you must attend the entire approved class to receive credit.

**THESE CODE CLASSES ARE GOOD FOR 16 CEU HOURS IN MN, WI & ND. IA IS GOOD FOR 18 CEU HOURS**

You can register for classes by visiting our website [ibewlocal343.org/education/journeyman-training-classes/](http://ibewlocal343.org/education/journeyman-training-classes/) or by contacting MIKE BAMBRICK at [mbambrick@scmnjatc.org](mailto:mbambrick@scmnjatc.org) or by calling 507-529-7721.





INTERNATIONAL  
BROTHERHOOD  
OF ELECTRICAL  
WORKERS,

900 Seventh Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202.833.7000  
www.ibew.org

LONNIE R. STEPHENSON  
International President

KENNETH W. COOPER  
International  
Secretary-Treasurer

September 7, 2022

### **VIA EMAIL AND US MAIL**

To: All IBEW Local Union Financial Secretaries

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

The Delegates of the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Chicago, Illinois, during the week of May 9 through 13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the *IBEW Constitution*. Accordingly, effective January 1, 2023, there will be an increase of two dollars (\$2.00) for the per capita that is paid to the General Fund only. 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 office portion of all monthly dues payments for January 2023, and thereafter:

	<u>"A" Members</u>	<u>"BA" Members</u>	<u>"FP" – Fee Payers</u>
Per Capita	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00
Pension Fund	<u>\$21.00</u>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Total:	\$43.00	\$22.00	\$22.00
Additional \$2.00 for LU:	<b>\$45.00</b>		

In accordance with Article IX of the *IBEW Constitution*, \$22.00 per month from each member will be deposited in the General Fund, and the additional amount paid by "A" members (\$21.00 per month) will be deposited into the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund.

For your reference and information, all of the rate changes that were approved at the 40<sup>th</sup> International Convention are summarized below:

Effective Date:	1/1/2023	7/1/2024	1/1/2025	7/1/2025
Per Capita:	\$22.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$24.00
Pension Fund:	<u>\$21.00</u>	<u>\$21.00</u>	<u>\$23.00</u>	<u>\$23.00</u>
Total:	\$43.00	\$44.00	\$46.00	\$47.00
Additional \$2.00 for LU:	<b>\$45.00</b>	<b>\$46.00</b>	<b>\$48.00</b>	<b>\$49.00</b>

Members who pay their dues in advance must be charged the appropriate rate. Please notify all members in your local union concerning this dues increase. In addition, you must notify the employers to increase their payroll deductions. Local unions submitting electronic per capita reports must make





**INTERNATIONAL  
BROTHERHOOD  
OF ELECTRICAL  
WORKERS®**

All IBEW Local Union Financial Secretaries

September 7, 2022

Page 2

arrangements to update their software to ensure that the most current version of the LaborPower Express software package is installed. It will not be necessary to amend the local union bylaws with respect to this dues increase, because these changes were approved at the IBEW International Convention.

The payment of monthly per capita and Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contributions to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is a duty that is required of each individual member. Moreover, each financial secretary is responsible for collecting and forwarding all per capita and PBF payments to the international office in a timely manner.

With best wishes, we are

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lonnie R. Stephenson".

Lonnie R. Stephenson  
International President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth W. Cooper".

Kenneth W. Cooper  
International Secretary-Treasurer

LRS/KWC:bmm

Copy to All International Vice Presidents

All International Executive Council Members

All International Executive Assistants and Directors

All International Representatives

All Local Union Business Managers



## IBEW Local Union 343

CLIP &amp; SAVE

# UNION DUES -First Half of 2024 UNION DUES – Second Half of 2024

DUE DATES.....DUES AMOUNTS.....PROCESSING FEES.....I.O. REINSTATEMENT FEES.....  
AUTOMATIC DUES WITHDRAWAL PLAN..... PAYMENT METHODS

- DUE DATES:**

Union Dues are due the 1<sup>st</sup> of each (beginning quarter):

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter = January 1<sup>st</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter = April 1<sup>st</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter = July 1<sup>st</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter = October 1<sup>st</sup>

- Union Dues AMOUNTS:**

“A” Members: Per quarter (3 months)

1<sup>st</sup> Half of 2024

Jan – June 2024

\$135.00

**INCREASE**

\$138.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Half of 2024

Starting July 1, 2024

“BA” Members: Per quarter (3 months)

\$72.00

**INCREASE**

\$75.00

- Processing Fees:**

Dues are to be paid (at least) Quarterly in advance. If your dues are not paid by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the designated month, there is a \$20.00 Processing Fee added to your account (monthly) until your Dues are paid.

- I.O. Reinstatement Fees:**

If your dues are still in arrears after three (3) months, there is an I.O. Reinstatement Fee added to your account:

\$30.00 for “A” Members and \$3.00 for “BA” Members

*Local Union Processing Fees added to your account as well*

- Insufficient Funds Charge: Per the Executive Board Policy (revised 10-17-11)**

Each member writing a check with insufficient funds to Local 343 shall be charged **\$30.00 fee**. After writing a check with insufficient funds to Local 343 all future payments, for a one-year period, shall be made by cash, money order or credit.

- Methods of PAYMENT:**

Cash – In person only

Check (**Be sure to include Member’s full name**)

Money Order (**Be sure to include Member’s full name**)

Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card–In Person, or On-Line (NO Telephone payments!)

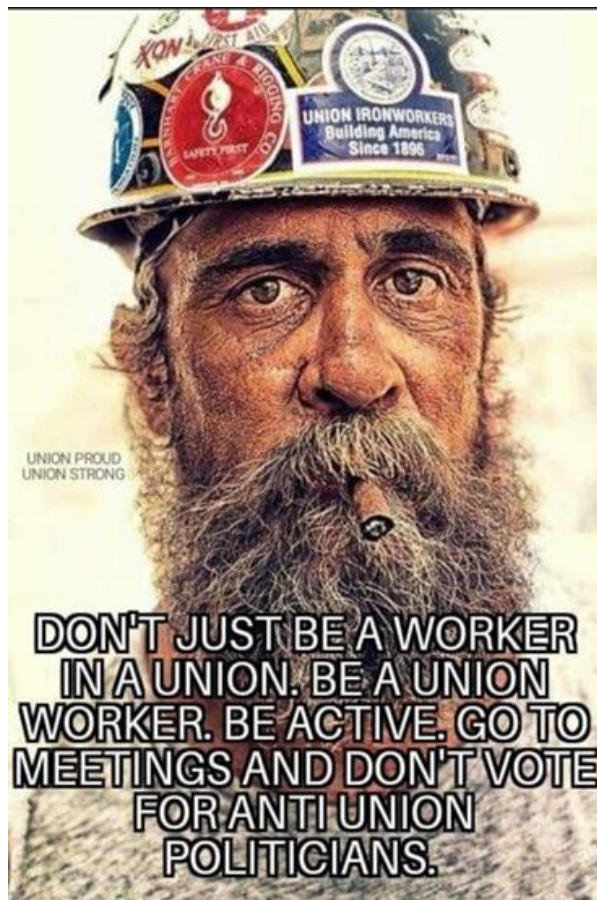
Automatic Dues Withdrawal from your Vacation/Holiday check (if you qualify for this option – talk to Colleen for details)

Drop Box (not Pick up Box!)– Located next to Front Door at Union Hall (Rochester only)



# Challenge Coins are now available for sale at the hall! \$13.00 each (silver or gold)

Scan the QR code for the  
rules of the challenge coin.





*December 14<sup>th</sup> Retiree Luncheon in Rochester was a great turn out. Two Birthdays were celebrated (Tom Huiting and Ray Goodew) and cake was provided by Bonnie Hinkle. What a great day!*







Many, many thanks go out to the guys that help us with the newsletter. In September, we had a newbie join the ranks 😊 as our “anchor” Tom was missing. From left to right, around the table, we would like to say thank you to: Steve Olson, Rob Kochie, Bob Meyer, Jim O’Neill, Ray Kranz and Jeff Bilyue.

We truly do appreciate you, and it’s always great to hear the stories, laughter and a little bit of b.s. coming from the room as they work away. Again, thank you!

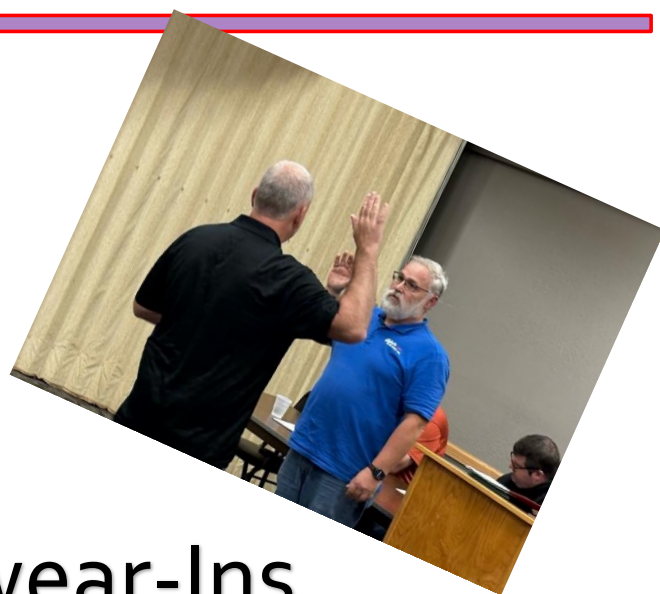




## Welcome New Members!!!



## October Swear-In



## November Swear-Ins



## December Swear-In



# I.B.E.W. - N.E.C.A. ELECTRICAL TRAINING

## Contact Us:

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**Save the date! The Spring Award's Banquet is April 13, 2024, at Visions Event Center in Winona, MN**

**SAVE THE DATE & MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at Todd Park in Austin, MN**

**The summer picnic is**

**This just in:**



## GROUNDWIRE

IBEW Local 343 Newsletter  
9 80<sup>th</sup> Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904