

LOCAL 15

AMALGAMATED MAY 1, 1994

AFFILIATED WITH AFL-CIO AND CLC



UNITY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

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Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters. In 2022 Labor Day will be celebrated on Monday, September 5th



Labor Day is celebrated in cities and towns across the United States with parades, picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays and other public gatherings. For many Americans, particularly children and young adults, it represents the end of the summer and the start of the back-to-school season.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories, and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages. People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities, and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and pay. Many of these events turned violent during this period, including the infamous Haymarket Riot of 1886, in which several Chicago policemen and workers were killed. Others gave rise to longstanding traditions:

On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S. history. The idea of a "workingmen's holiday," celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, when a watershed moment in American labor history brought workers' rights squarely into the public's view.

On May 11, 1894, employees of the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago went on strike to protest wage cuts and the firing of union representatives. On June 26, the American Railroad Union, led by Eugene V. Debs, called for a boycott of all Pullman railway cars, crippling railroad traffic nationwide. To break the Pullman strike, the federal government dispatched troops to Chicago, unleashing a wave of riots that resulted in the deaths of more than a dozen workers.

In the wake of this massive unrest and in an attempt to repair ties with American workers, Congress passed an act making Labor Day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. On June 28, 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed it into law.

Source:History.com

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IBEW LOCAL 15 UNITY



-OFFICERS-

TERRY MCGOLDRICK

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BEN BUSSER

Vice President/ Senior Assistant Business Manager

GEORGE LONGORIA

Treasurer

GLADYS NEGRON

Secretary

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-BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES-

-CLERICAL-

MIKE FREEMAN

Senior Assistant Business Manager

Arbitration Coordinator

Elgin, Glenbard, Mt. Prospect

630-442-9864

FREEMAN@IBEW15.ORG

LISA SIMS

Aurora, Bolingbrook, Bradley, Braidwood, Cantera, LC1/2/3, Comm Center, Crestwood, Dixon, Dekalb, Dresden, Freeport, Joliet & CCC, LaSalle, Maywood, Rockford, STC, Streator, University Park

630-487-7571

SIMS@IBEW15.ORG

FABIAN VELA

Aurora, Bolingbrook, Bradley, Braidwood, Byron, Cantera, Chase BLD, Chicago North-South, Comm Center, Crestwood, Dixon, Dekalb, Dresden, Enertouch, Goodcents, Freeport, Joliet- CCC/DDC, LaSalle, Maywood, Tech Center, Quad Cities, Rockford, STC, University Park

773-717-6073

VELA@IBEW15.ORG

-GENERATION-

BRIAN DANIELS

Braidwood, Dresden, LaSalle

815-272-1950

DANIELS@IBEW15.ORG

DAVE GROOMS

Joliet 8-29, Kincaid, Powerton, Waukegan, Will County

815-677-3137

GROOMS@IBEW15.ORG

-COMMERCIAL PHYSICAL-

CHRIS RISER

Senior Assistant Business Manager

Comm Center, Bolingbrook, Elgin, Glenbard, Maywood, O'Hare, Tech Center

630-809-5334

RISER@IBEW15.ORG

JIM COLLINS

Chicago North, Chicago South

630-569-3571

COLLINS@IBEW15.ORG

MIKE KEATING

Bradley, Channahon, Crestwood, Joliet, Pontiac, SSG South, Streator, University Park

630-600-1106

KEATING@IBEW15.ORG

MARK SHAULIS

Aurora, Dekalb, Dixon, Freeport, Quad Cities SSC, Rockford

815-312-7581

SHAULIS@IBEW15.ORG

SHAWN WACHTER

Barrington, Crystal Lake, Highland Park, Libertyville, Mt. Prospect, Skokie, SSG North, Woodstock

815-347-2644

WACHTER@IBEW15.ORG

IBEW LOCAL 15 UNITY

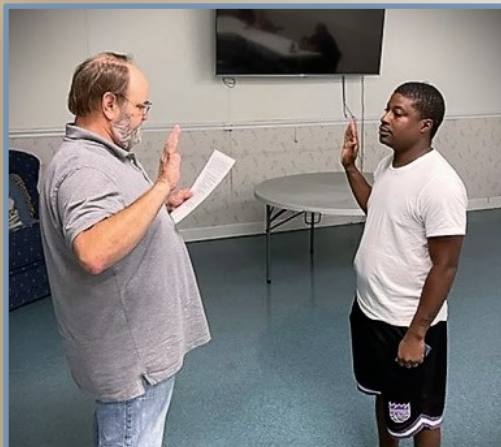
CONGRATULATIONS!



(Left) Joliet Unit Meeting Chairman Jose Garza swears in new IBEW Local 15 members:
 Daniel Holton Overhead Joliet
 Cale Brooks MMD Braidwood
 Nicholas Starasinich EMD Braidwood
 Vincent Phillips Operations NRG Joliet
 Richard Pfister Construction Worker Joliet
 Chris Norvais Construction Worker Aurora
 Nicole McMahon Clerk Joliet



(Right) New Members Alec Crandall, Matt Forristall, Ryan Rokis, Josh DeMoss, Robert Bielema are sworn in at the Dixon Unit Meeting.



(Left) Business Rep Dave Grooms swears in Reggie Wynne at the Kincaid Unit Meeting

(Right) Don Tegeler, a Quad Cities Senior Mechanic, is presented with his retirement watch from Vice President Busser after 35 years of work.



UNITY MEETINGS CALENDAR

Thursday
Sep. 1st

Dixon Unit Meeting * 6:00pm
 American Legion - 1120 W. First St., Dixon
Elmhurst Unit Meeting 6:30pm
 American Legion - 310 W. Butterfield Rd, Elmhurst

Tuesday
Sep. 6th

Northern Region Unit Meeting 5:30pm
 American Legion - 749 Milwaukee Ave, Gurnee

Wednesday
Sep. 7th

Powerton Unit Meeting 4:00pm
 Pace - 300 McLean St, Pekin
Joliet Unit Meeting ** * 5:30pm
 Stone City VFW- 124 Stone City Drive, Joliet

Thursday
Sep. 8th

Rockford Unit Meeting * 5:30pm
 Holiday Inn - 7550 E. State St., Rockford

Wednesday
Sep. 14th

Kincaid Unit Meeting 3:45 pm
 South Fork Building - 124 Central Avenue, Kincaid
Chicago Unit Meeting ** 5:00pm
 IBEW Local 134 2722 S MLK Dr, Chicago

** President McGoldrick will attend

* Vice President Busser will attend

EXELON EMPLOYEE GIVING CAMPAIGN

ARE YOU READY FOR A KICKOFF?!

SEPTEMBER KICKOFF DATES

CTC 9-7, **GLENBARD 9-12**
 SKOKIE/HIGHLAND PARK 9-13
LC1 & 3/ CRESTWOOD 9-14
 LC2/ LIBERTYVILLE 9-15
MT. PROSPECT 9-16, COMM CENTER 9-19
 CHICAGO NORTH 9-20, **BRADLEY/ UPA 9-21**
WEST TECH 9-22, STREATOR 9-23
 CHICAGO SOUTH 9-26, **METRO GARAGE 9-27**
JOLIET 9-28, BOLINGBROOK 9-29
MAYWOOD 9-30

OCTOBER KICKOFF DATES

OCC 10-5, AURORA 10-6
 ROCKFORD 10-7, **ELGIN 10-11**
 WOODSTOCK/ CRYSTAL LAKE 10-13
DEKALB 10-14, CHANNAHON 10-18
 CHASE TOWER TBD, **FREEMONT 10-20**
 DIXON 10-21

Check with your local representative for time
and location at the barn/office

CAMPAIGN TEAM

Chair

Phil Calderon

Co Chair

Theresa Sierzega

Administrator

Kandy Helson

REGIONAL TEAM

Chicago Region: Gil Avalos & Felton Cole,

South Region: Christina Jones & Kenny Johnson,

North Region: Chenell Wilcox & Kathleen Waszak,

West Region: Ebonee Smith,

Lincoln Center Region: Karen Lebron & Michelle Supilowski

\$1 for \$1 Match from the Exelon Foundation up to \$5000 for Employees

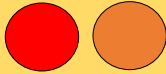
Donate to the
Non-Profit of your
choice

Donate to your
local United
Way

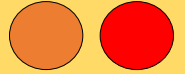
\$1 for \$0.50 match from the Exelon Foundation to the United Way in your home zip code




BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS FOR DRIVERS



HEAD UP, PHONE DOWN!



CELL PHONES: A DEADLY DISTRACTION



Summertime offers a reprieve from school year activities, but once fall rolls around again, life becomes much more hectic. Parents and kids have a lot of new distractions to deal with: carpools, early schedules, after-school activities, bus traffic, and more. As your children march out the door on that first day of school – and every day – there is really only one priority: Making sure they get home safe. Back in 1995, children ages 5 to 9 were more at risk than any other age group under 19 for being struck by a vehicle while walking. Today, there has been a noticeable demographic shift. It is now much more likely a teenager will be hit by a car than his younger counterpart. According to Injury Facts, over all age groups since 2009, pedestrian fatalities have trended up sharply, totaling 6,205 traffic-related deaths in 2019.

The National Safety Council, is focused on efforts to eliminate distracted walking – specifically walking while using a mobile device. Kids often don't recognize the dangers of distracted walking, before your children head out, remind them of these year-round safety tips:

- Never walk while texting or talking on the phone
- If texting, move out of the way of others and stop on the sidewalk
- Never cross the street while using an electronic device
 - Do not walk with headphones in your ears
 - Be aware of your surroundings
- Always walk on the sidewalk if one is available; if you must walk on the street, face oncoming traffic
- Look left, right, then left again before crossing the street
 - Cross only at crosswalks

KIDS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES DISTRACTED

Drivers have a lot to pay attention to in school zones, too, and there is never an occasion that justifies using a phone while driving. One call or text can change everything. A study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and prevention reveals that the most common form of travel to school for students age 5 to 14 is the family car. That translates into a lot of cars in school zones at the same time. Eliminating all distractions is key to keeping children safe.

IBEW LOCAL 15 UNITY

DOE Announces \$20 Million to Produce Clean Hydrogen From Nuclear

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced \$20 million in funding to demonstrate technology that will produce clean hydrogen energy from nuclear power. This innovative approach will allow clean hydrogen to serve as a source for zero-carbon electricity and represent an important economic product for nuclear plants beyond electricity. The project, based in Arizona, will make progress on DOE's H2@Scale vision for clean hydrogen across multiple sectors and help meet the Department's Hydrogen Shot goal of \$1 per 1 kilogram in one decade. This announcement is part of a week-long celebration of Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day that culminates on October 8.

"Developing and deploying clean hydrogen can be a crucial part of the path to achieving a net-zero carbon future and combatting climate change," said Deputy Secretary of Energy David M. Turk. "Using nuclear power to create hydrogen energy is an illustration of DOE's commitment to funding a full range of innovative pathways to create affordable, clean hydrogen, to meet DOE's Hydrogen Shot goal, and to advance our transition to a carbon-free future."

The project, led by PNW Hydrogen LLC, will receive \$12 million from the DOE's Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office (HFTO) and \$8 million from DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy (NE) for a total award of \$20 million. The project will produce clean hydrogen from nuclear power at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in Phoenix, Arizona. Six tones of stored hydrogen will be used to produce approximately 200 MWh electricity during times of high demand, and may be also used to make chemicals and other fuels. The project will provide insights about integrating nuclear energy with hydrogen production technologies and inform future clean hydrogen production deployments at scale.

PNW Hydrogen, LLC will be the primary recipient of the DOE award and will collaborate with multiple stakeholders in research, academia, industry and state-level government including Idaho National Laboratory, National Energy Technology Laboratory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, OxEon, Electric Power Research Institute, Arizona State University, University of California Irvine, Siemens, Xcel Energy, Energy Harbor and the LA Department of Water and Power.

Source: *Energy.gov*

Condolences to the Family of Chicago (Calumet) SSC A Mechanic Marcell Jennings



On August 22nd the world lost Marcell Jennings, an amazing son, brother, father and friend. Marcell's life was tragically cut short doing what most of us do everyday, returning home from work.

Marcell was a hardworking outstanding young man, who was loved by all. He was a devoted father to his six children. An incredible friend, who would have given the shirt off of his back and who was always there to lend a helping hand.

While we will never be able to take away the pain or sadness of losing Marcell, we ask that everyone who loved him come together to ease the financial stress caused by this devastating loss.

<https://gofund.me/67777b4c>

Source: Luriechildrens.org

SEPTEMBER is CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WE HONOR — AND — REMEMBER

16,000 children under 19
are diagnosed with cancer
each year

1 in 5 children diagnosed
with cancer do not reach
the 5-year survival
milestone

Only 4% of federal cancer
research dollars are
dedicated to pediatric
cancer

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month—a time to increase pediatric cancer awareness, support families facing childhood cancer and inspire funding for research, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and support. Let's join together to make a difference for the kids who need it most.

SHAWN WACHTER'S CHICAGO MARATHON FUNDRAISER

Supporting Cal's Angels and Pediatric Cancer



Meet Frankie!

I am running the 2022 Chicago Marathon in her honor. In 2020, at just 3 years old, Frankie was diagnosed with High Risk Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.

Frankie is a smart, kind, caring, sassy kid and an absolute **WARRIOR!**

Frankie and her amazing parents, Gina and Chris have been through so much over the last 2 years. They Continue to battle every day.

All Proceeds Go Directly to Cal's Angels. For More information on this amazing organization please visit Calsangels.org

2,000+ Wishes Granted
125,000+ Toys Distributed
\$1,250,000 Pledged to Chicagoland Hospitals

calsangels.org
Wishes Awareness Research

Please visit my [Chicago Marathon Donation Page](#) by

Scanning the QR Code Below!

Anything you can donate helps and is greatly appreciated



IBEW LOCAL 15 UNITY



Three Local 15 members from Kincaid station spent the day on 8/15/2022 representing IBEW members in the AFL-CIO booth at this year's Illinois State Fair in Springfield.

Pictured left to right, (Afl-CIO) Amy Rueff, Joe Dooley, Rick DeSart and Tim Brown.



Wednesday August 24th marked the Grand Opening of the Overhead Transmission Training Center in Sugar Grove.

The Ceremonial Ribbon cutting was performed while suspended from a helicopter at the entrance to the new Training yard.



Do you have something you would like in the UNITY?

Fundraiser? Announcement? Pictures? Important Article or Information?

Please send to Wachter@lbew15.org

Local 15 Members Honored at The 101 Club Awards Breakfast



IBEW LOCAL 15 UNITY

R E T I R E M E N T S

Congratulations and Thank You for Your Service
from Your IBEW Local 15 Sisters and Brothers

22-Jul	Joseph O'Connor	Crew Leader Construction	Maywood	Jul-85
22-Jul	Ricardo Salazar	Underground Prot Elec	Chicago North	Nov-84
22-Jul	Robert Tate	Control Systems Tech	Byron	Jul-90
22-Jul	Todd Tobler	Crew Leader Line	Mt. Prospect	May-88
22-Jul	Bart Dobbins	Sr. Elec Mech, Nuclear	Quad Cities	Apr-85
22-Jul	Robert Hoskins	Senior Mechanic	LaSalle	Nov-92
22-Jul	Brian Ahlgrim	Control Systems Tech	Byron	May-97
22-Jul	Duke Chew	Crew Leader Line	Chicago North	Sep-91
22-Jul	Ronald Snook	Equipment Operator	Quad Cities	Feb-91
22-Jul	William Warren	OHT Crew Leader Line	Channahon	Sep-90
22-Jul	Bradley Noble	OHT Lead Crew Leader Line	Rockford	Nov-83
22-Jul	Paul O'Keefe	OHT Crew Leader Line	Channahon	Oct-83
22-Jul	Raymond Campos	OHT Lead Crew Leader Line	Channahon	Apr-85
22-Jul	Lala McCarthy	Cust Credit Rep	Commercial Center	May-98
22-Jul	Ellen Klopp	Comml Clerk I	Commercial Center	Jun-82
22-Jul	Monty Smolik	Control Systems Tech	LaSalle	Sep-87
22-Jul	Richard Pitman	Control Systems Tech	Byron	Feb-06
22-Jul	Timothy Stokes	Senior Mechanic	LaSalle	Jun-10
22-Jul	Derrick Moore	Sr. Energy Tech - Physical	Libertyville	Nov-88
22-Jul	Vida Robinson	Construction Order Clerk	Crestwood	Jun-99
22-Jul	Amelia Pulido	Cust Service Rep	Lincoln Center	Feb-07
22-Aug	Michele Mott	Construction Order Clerk	Rockford	Nov-84
22-Aug	Michael Pichelmann	Control Systems Tech	Byron	May-97
22-Aug	Donald Tegeler	Sr. Mechanic Nuclear	Quad Cities	Dec-87
22-Aug	William Winkelmann	Control Systems Tech	Braidwood	Feb-90
22-Aug	Suzanne VanValin	Construction Order Clerk	Woodstock	Jun-84
22-Aug	James Kling	Matl Handler	Rockford	Aug-89
22-Aug	Karen Morgan	Comml Clerk I	Lincoln Center	Jul-96
22-Aug	Jesus Palomino	Nuclear Station Operator	Braidwood	Sep-90
22-Aug	Kathleen Flynn	Comml Clerk I	Lincoln Center	May-84
22-Aug	David Graham	Crew Leader Cable	University Park	Feb-88
22-Aug	Roosevelt Clayton	Matl Handler	Joliet	Jul-99
22-Aug	Mark Bonarek	Sr. Maint Elec	Braidwood	May-08