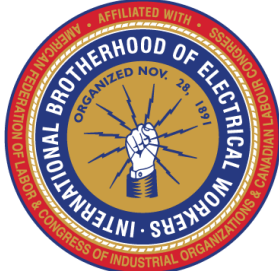




# Watt's Up ?!!!!



## IBEW Local 890's Newsletter

### BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

#### Fall Newsletter – 2025

Brothers and Sisters,

We continue to move forward with exciting developments here at Local 890, and I want to take a moment to share some important updates with you.

#### Education & Training Updates

In our last newsletter, we welcomed **Brother Brad Wildes** back as our full-time Day School Instructor and announced the generous **fire alarm system donation from Kidde**. I'm proud to report on the progress since then.

Brad has been busy implementing more **hands-on training** for our apprentices, highlighted by the addition of new **"9 board" labs** in the classroom. These labs allow students to practice real-world applications, strengthening their skills before they step onto the jobsite. Brad is also beginning the transition into the role of **Night School Coordinator**, where his leadership will continue to enhance our training programs. Alongside him, **Brother Brian Hauri** is instructing one of our two first-year classes while Brad leads the other.

Our partnership with **Kidde Fire Alarm** has also taken the next step. The donated systems are now part of a dedicated **Fire Alarm Lab**, giving apprentices the chance to train directly on full systems. Starting in December, Kidde will also host **introductory and basics classes**, which will work hand in hand with the curriculum we are building for a full fire alarm course.

#### Contract & Member Resources

With our contract finalized, the **CBA and Constitution booklets** are now headed to print. They will be available for pickup at the office in November once returned from the printer.

We are also coordinating with students and the WEEBF office to bring a **Health & Welfare class** to our members. This session will walk through the website, explain coverage details, and answer common questions. While the class is geared toward apprentices new to the plan, all members are welcome to attend for a refresher. Once the date is locked in—likely late November or early December—we will mail a postcard with details and offer a way to submit questions in advance and secure your spot.

#### Union Involvement & Outreach

The **IBEW State Conference** is continuing efforts to launch a **Union Electrician license plate** available through Wisconsin DMVs. Members can support this initiative by signing a petition or by submitting a plate design. Please contact the office if you'd like to participate.

#### Work Outlook

The work picture remains strong as we head into the next season. Calls continue to grow as projects ramp up, and membership is steadily increasing. At the **Ho-Chunk Casino development**, three of our contractors are currently at work: **Morse Electric** on the Casino, **Van Ert Electric** on the parking garage, and **Pieper Power** on the new 19-story hotel. More work is expected as development of that area continues.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Local 890. With the strength of our members—whether in the classroom, on the jobsite, or at the bargaining table—the future looks bright.

In Solidarity,

**Ben Myers**

Business Manager, IBEW Local 890

#### LOCAL 890 OFFICERS

- Ben Myers, Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary
- Robert Walters, President
- Alex Brellenthin, Vice President
- Nate Kalas, Treasurer
- Greg Phillips, Exec. Board
- John Bennett, Exec. Board
- Nick Bell, Exec. Board
- Greg Humphrey, Exec. Board
- Dan Reuter, Exec. Board
- Rob Rygula, Exam Board
- Jason Trumpy, Exam Board
- Garrik Harwick, Business Agent/  
Recording Secretary/Exam  
Board
- Josh Denzer, Business Agent/  
Organizer

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## ***Retirement Information***

We are planning a **Retiree Breakfast** this November. Retirees will join our first-year apprentice class to share stories, fellowship, and lessons learned. This event is an important way to honor those who built the path we walk today. Retirees interested in attending can contact the office for details.

And don't forget—our retiree group meets on the **first Tuesday of each month** at the Eagle Inn. It's a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

For questions call the hall at 608-752-0321

## ***Local 890 Updates!***

I hope you all had a great summer and we are looking forward to the fall in Local 890. First off, thank you to everyone who attended the Fall Festival. Our 2nd Annual Fall Festival was another big success! This year we added even more inflatables for the kids, along with a kids-only raffle where the grand prize was a Nintendo Switch 2 — congratulations to our winner!

Members also had the chance to win great prizes, including four years of dues, three Local 890 coolers, and more. We were thrilled to see such a strong turnout, once again matching last year's totals.

It was a beautiful day filled with families, fellowship, and fun- a great reminder of the strength of our Local and the value of coming together outside of the workplace. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success!

We are now in our night class season and are looking for more instructors to share their skills and knowledge with others. If you are interested in teaching, or just want information, please reach out to the hall so we can connect you with the night school coordinator. We would love to be able to offer more variety of classes, we just need more instructors.

Along those same lines, we will be hosting some IBEW-specific classes in the near future. I will be putting on a P.A.L.s class. The Politics, Activism, and Livelihood (PALs) is an IBEW developed course to show the connection between our union rights and the political sphere. One of the questions answered in this class is "Why is the IBEW involved in politics at all". This will be a 3hr class. We are also looking forward to running the IBEW Comet class to teach how we can all be union organizers in our own way on jobsites..

Lastly, thank you to all of the members who have signed up for our recurring dues program. This is proving to be a very helpful asset in retaining membership.

In Solidarity

Garrik Harwick

Asst. Business Manager



## New Team Member!

Greetings, team!

My name is Meghan. I am the new Office Assistant at Local 890. I have over 20 years of administrative/office experience. From fax machines to keeping records – I love all things office related.

In my free time I like to sculpt pumpkins, paint and woodworking. I love playing older video games – especially Zelda and Mortal Kombat. I enjoy spending time hiking with my dog, Akuma. I absolutely love animals, especially dogs – the bigger the better!

Everyone has been so welcoming these first few weeks, and I am really enjoying learning about the union world. I look forward to assisting with a variety of tasks to ensure everything runs smoothly for our members.

Thank you,

Meghan Arnold



## Organizer Report



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

This past June, I had the honor of stepping into the role of Organizer for Local 890. It's been a busy start, and I'm excited to share some of the work we've been doing to grow our union and strengthen our presence in the electrical industry.

Organizing is about more than just signing cards—it's about building relationships, educating workers on the benefits of union membership, and showing contractors the value of partnering with the IBEW. Since taking on this role, I've been meeting with non-union electricians and contractors in our jurisdiction, listening to their concerns, and talking about what makes Local 890 strong: fair wages, quality benefits, safer working conditions, and the solidarity that only comes with being part of the IBEW.

We know that corporate contractors and anti-union groups will continue to push back, but our best tool is you—the membership. Every conversation you have on the job site, every time you wear your IBEW gear with pride, every time you share your story of what the union has done for you and your family – you're helping the cause of organizing.

In the months ahead, I'll be focusing on strengthening our visibility in the community and continuing to support Local 890's contractors by helping them stay competitive with a highly skilled and professional workforce.

I want to thank all of you for the warm welcome into this position. Together, we'll keep building our local, growing our membership, and ensuring that the IBEW continues to be the standard for excellence in the electrical industry.

In Solidarity,  
Josh Denzer



### Billie's Joke of the Day:

*The scarecrow loves his job! He always says, "this job isn't for everyone but hay....it's in my jeans!"*





### Upcoming Events:

**Shawn's Toolbox**– 1st Saturday after the Union Meeting, 1-3p.m. at the Local 890 Training Center

**Renew Meeting**– The Renew Committee meets at 5 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month before the Union Meeting.

Check out our Facebook page, **IBEW 890 Renew**, for updates and events!

Cody Krause

Renew Committee President

## Announcements

- Next Union Meeting is: Thursday, November 6th at 6:00 p.m. at the Hall.
- Death Benefit #155
- 2025 Monthly Dues- \$50.02—Quarterly- \$150.06—Annual \$600.24. If sending payment via check, please call ahead for exact amount depending on time of year paid.
- Watch for the latest news and work updates concerning Local 890 on our website ([www.ibew890.org](http://www.ibew890.org)) and our Facebook page (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 890).

### *Accidents, Illness, Death of Members*

- *Brother Merle Marshall passed away on June 27th, 2025. Brother Merle was initiated into the IBEW in 1964.*
- *Brother Liam Elliot passed away on July 1st, 2025. Brother Liam was initiated on July 5th, 2023.*

### **Quote of the Month**

“The story of the labor movement needs to be taught in every school in this land.... America is a living testimonial to what free men and women, organized in free democratic trade unions, can do to make a better life. We ought to be proud of it.” Hubert Humphrey

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LET US KNOW YOUR IDEAS.  
CALL OR EMAIL US.

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# October 2025



| Sun | Mon | Tue                     | Wed | Thu                    | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-------------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|-----|
|     |     |                         | 1   | 2 Union Meeting 6pm    | 3   | 4   |
| 5   | 6   | 7 Retiree Breakfast 9am | 8   | 9                      | 10  | 11  |
| 12  | 13  | 14 A&T Meeting 3pm      | 15  | 16 E-Board Meeting 5pm | 17  | 18  |
| 19  | 20  | 21                      | 22  | 23                     | 24  | 25  |
| 26  | 27  | 28                      | 29  | 30                     | 31  |     |