



Watt's Up ?!!!!

IBEW Local 890's Newsletter



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, Asst. Business
Manager/Recording Secretary
- Josh Denzer, Business Agent/
Organizer

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Local 890 Update – Looking Ahead to a Strong Year

As we move into another busy year, we want to take a moment to reflect on recent successes, share what's coming up, and highlight the continued strength of our Local.

A Great Turnout at the Annual Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas Party on **January 10th** was a tremendous success. Over **360 members** attended, and more than **90 kids** were signed up for the kids' activities. The balloon artist was a huge hit, and the event ran smoothly from start to finish. Most importantly, it was great to see so many members and families come together to celebrate the season. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the night such a success.

Upcoming IBEW Hockey Event – April 3

We are excited to announce an upcoming **IBEW hockey event on April 3** at the newly built **Woodman's Center**, a facility proudly constructed by IBEW members. Final details are still being worked out, but **tickets and food will be provided**. Space will be limited, so members must sign up in advance by calling the hall or registering through our website. We're looking forward to another great night of solidarity and fun with our membership.

Annual Health Fair with Health Gauge

We will once again be hosting **Health Gauge** for our annual health fair and wellness checkups. Participation continues to grow each year, and this event has proven to be a valuable resource for our members and their families. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for dates, times, and details.

LMCC Update – Investing in the Future of the Trades

Through the LMCC, Local 890 has donated a **conduit bending lab to Beloit Memorial High School**, marking the **second lab** we have established in partnership with area schools. Our members are actively teaching advanced construction students and helping introduce them to the skilled trades. We remain committed to expanding these efforts across our jurisdiction to promote career opportunities in the electrical trade and strengthen the future workforce.

Member Spotlight – Cornerstone Power

We'd like to recognize **Cornerstone Power of Monroe, WI**, a member-owned contractor that has successfully completed its **first year as an IBEW signatory shop**. The company continues to grow, and we congratulate them on this milestone. We look forward to supporting their continued success in the western portion of our jurisdiction.

Health & Welfare Update for 2026

After careful review and discussion, the Health & Welfare Trustees approved a **modest adjustment to the medical out-of-pocket maximums** for the 2026 benefit year. Rather than increasing to the full ACA maximum, the medical out-of-pocket maximum will increase by **\$200 for individuals** and **\$600 for families**, effective in 2026. This approach balances rising healthcare costs while minimizing the impact on members. Additional discussions regarding contributions and future projections will take place later in 2026.

As always, thank you for your continued support, involvement, and dedication to Local 890. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events and continuing to move forward together.

Ben Myers
Business Manager/Financial Secretary
IBEW Local 890

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Retirement Information

Our retiree group meets on the **first Tuesday of each month** for breakfast 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**.

Thinking about retirement or don't know where to start? Call and set up a time with Billie to go over the process!



Local 890 Updates!

This year is shaping up to be a busy one for our jurisdiction, with several major projects potentially on the horizon. One of the most significant is a proposed data center at the former Janesville GM/JATCO site. Local 890 has been closely following this project and has expressed support for it. If approved, this development would create substantial opportunities for growth in the skilled trades and provide an estimated six to eight years of steady, family-supporting work. As the process moves forward, there will be additional opportunities for public input.

Looking ahead to 2026, it will be a critical election year nationwide and especially here in Wisconsin. There is a real opportunity to elect enough pro-labor candidates to the State Assembly and Senate to overturn "Right to Work" and other anti-worker laws. Combined with a pro-labor governor, we can begin to restore rights that were stripped away during the Walker administration. While there are many personal reasons to support a candidate, I encourage voters to carefully consider where candidates stand on labor issues and their commitment to Wisconsin's working families.

Important Election Dates in Wisconsin

February 17, 2026: Spring primary

April 7, 2026: Spring general election

August 11, 2026: Primary

November 3, 2026: General election

In Solidarity,

Garrik Harwick
Asst. Business Manager
Registrar
IBEW Local 890



IBEW 890 AND WEEBF HOSTS SCREENING TO DETECT YOUR RISK FOR STROKE AT NO COST!!

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS/ELIGIBLE DEPENDENTS 18+/ELIGIBLE RETIREES UNDER THE PLAN SCREEN FREE

NON-ELIGIBLE PLAN MEMBERS/DEPENDENTS 18+/RETIREES SCREEN AT A DISCOUNTED RATE OF \$300 FOR WOMEN & \$330 FOR MEN

IBEW 890
1900 Reuther Way
Janesville, WI 53546
Wednesday, April 15, 2026
12:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Carla Gruetzmacher Administrative Manager I.B.E.W 292

"I am simply amazed by this service. I participated in a simple 10-minute ultrasound to find out if I had risk of stroke. In that 10 minute, I not only found out I had no risk of stroke, BUT I was made aware of what turned out to be thyroid cancer. This service explains what they are seeing with your ultrasound as they are performing the test. So, as the technician was scanning me, he explained that I had a small thyroid cyst that was very low risk, but that I should consult my doctor and let him decide next steps. I am so lucky I did! My doctor stated that without this ultrasound there would have been no way to detect such a small cyst, and finding cancerous cysts early is the key. My treatment was easy, and there was no need for any chemo or radiation. Please give an hour of your time even if you do not think you have risk of stroke, it very well may save your life."



Scan Me

To make an appointment (required):

Call 515-244-3080 or visit:

<https://WEE.hgscreenings.com/>

See reverse for a description of the screenings offered!


ULTRASOUND OF
ARTERIES & VESSELS


BLOOD DRAW


BIOMETRICS


COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH ASSESSMENT

TO SCHEDULE, CALL 515-244-3080 OR GO ONLINE TO <https://WEE.hgscreenings.com/>

Organizer Report



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As we move into another busy stretch of work, I want to take a moment to recognize the strength of Local 890 and the members who make it what it is. Every job we take on, every apprentice we train, and every new Brother and Sister we welcome reflects the skill, professionalism, and solidarity that defines the IBEW.

In the coming weeks, Local 890 will remain active both in our communities and in the field. We'll be attending high school career fairs, giving students a firsthand look at the opportunities the IBEW provides and the benefits of choosing a career as a union electrician.

Additionally, Local 890 will be joining forces with our sister Locals 430, and 127 for a joint organizing blitz to reach our eastern jurisdiction Walworth County, as well as Racine County (430), and Kenosha County (127) County. Working together strengthens our Brotherhood, grows our market share, and raises standards across the industry.

Thank you for the pride you take in your work and in this Brotherhood. Stay safe, stay involved, and never hesitate to reach out if you have questions or ideas on how we can continue moving forward together.

In Solidarity,

Josh Denzer
Organizer
IBEW Local 890



IBEW Local 890

Presents

Hockey Night!

Join us **April 3rd** at the Woodman's Sports and Convention Center in Janesville for the Janesville Jets vs Minnesota Wilderness. Members and their guests are invited to attend at no cost. Puck drops at 7:05pm. Come join your Local 890 brothers and sisters at this family fun event! You must call the hall or scan the QR code below to register.





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, March 5th at 6:00 p.m. at the Hall.
- Death Benefit #156
- 2026 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) and our Facebook page (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 890).

Accidents, Illness, Death of Members

- *Brother Bruce Raufman passed away on January 2, 2026. Brother Raufman was initiated into the IBEW on 9/1/1989 and was a 36-year member of IBEW Local 890.*

Quote of the Month

“My friends it is solidarity we want. We do not want to find fault with each other, but to solidify our forces and say to each other: We must be together; our masters are joined together and we must do the same thing.” – Mother Jones



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LET US KNOW YOUR IDEAS.
 CALL OR EMAIL US.

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March 2026



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