



**449'er**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
2025 Q2 Edition



## WELCOME

On behalf of all our staff, thank you for reading the 449'er Newsletter and welcome to the IBEW Local 449 brotherhood! We're glad to keep you informed about the goings-on and events happening at Local 449 with this Quarterly round-up.

## WORDS FROM OUR OFFICERS

Hear from our Business Manager, Assistant Business Manager, Organizers, Local 449 President, and JATC Training Director!

FINISH READING ON PGS. 2-6



Want your photo to be included in the next edition? Speak with Kayla at the Hall for more details!

## RAFFLE & PTO CAMPAIGN

See the details of our Raffle to support the Wireman Wellness program, as well as the details of our ongoing PTO Campaign!

FINISH READING ON PGS. 7-8



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Read about exciting announcements, wish your brothers luck in their retirement, or send condolences to your brothers who have passed away.

FINISH READING ON PGS. 9-10



# A Message From Our Business Manager

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

In preparation for the upcoming negotiations in 2025 for the Inside Agreement, the Local has started a campaign to get PTO (Paid Time Off) added to the CBA. We have purchased shirts for our members to wear **every Wednesday** in hopes to show solidarity in this effort. If you haven't received a shirt, please reach out to get one. We will be having monthly meetings leading up to negotiations. They will be at the Hall or at our Twin Falls Office on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm**. Everyone is welcome!

2025 is election year for our local. If you have ever considered getting involved, now is the time to run for an elected position. These are 3-year terms within Local 449, and positions include President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary/Business Manager, Treasurer, Executive Board (5), Examining Board (3), and Delegates (2) to the IBEW Convention in 2026. Nominations for the offices will be in May 2025. Ballot counting will be in June 2025, and installation of officers will be in July 2025. Whether you plan on running or not, these 3 months are very important to have participation at the Regular Meetings.

I am very proud to be part of this BROTHERHOOD and I'm grateful that I belong to the greatest labor organization in the world!

Fraternally Yours,  
Clay Hirning  
D579851







# ASSISTANT B/A

# and Dispatcher

Brothers and Sisters,

As winter wrapped up, work was a bit slow, but with spring starting, work should be picking up around the area. With work at the INL and in Twin Falls, we should be able to get work for whoever wants it, and get our traveling Brothers and Sisters back home. Work has been steady for our Outside membership. With a lot of substation work going on, and some pole change-outs in the Twin Falls area, this should keep calls rolling in.

For the MSLCAT Apprenticeship, well what can I say, it's always busy with 5 states they deal with (Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, and Utah) and over 600 apprentices! If anyone is interested in the MSLCAT Line or Substation Apprenticeships, give the Hall a call and we can point you in the right direction.

There are a couple of items I would like to inform our Inside members of:

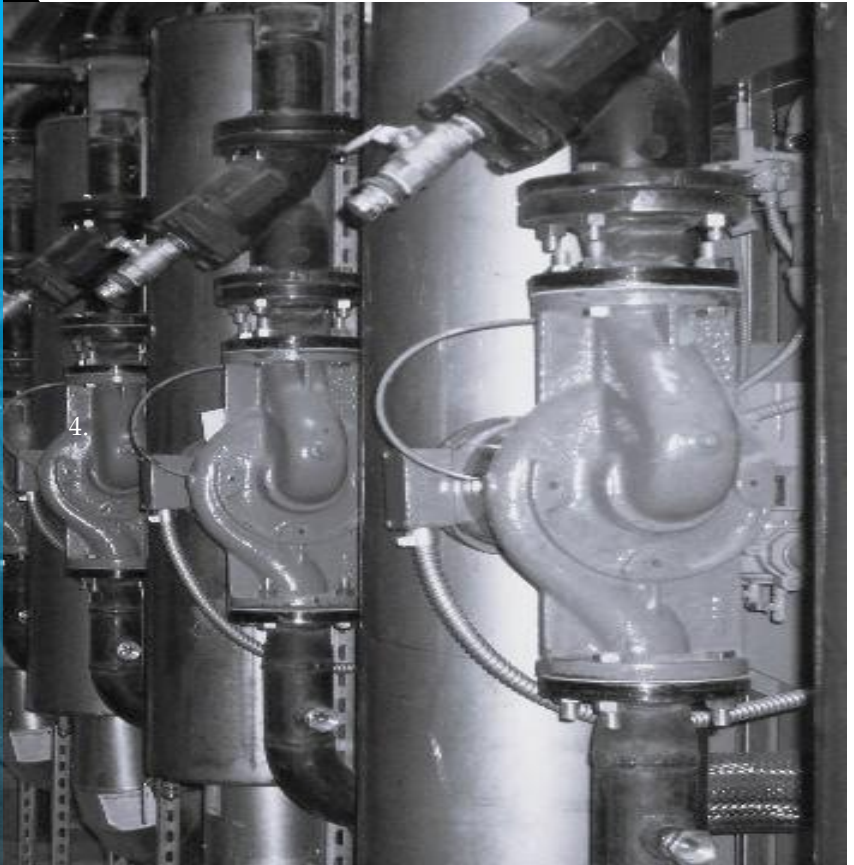
1. We have an incentive program through the LMCC. If you refer a new Journeyman, after 1 month, you will get \$500.00 or, if it's an upper year Apprentice, you will get \$250.00. You can go to our website and get more information about the program. It's also posted at the Hall.
2. Per our Inside Agreement, we have a voluntary Vacation Fund that you can contribute to. If you're interested in the Vacation Fund, contact the Hall and we can give you more information.
3. Any active or retired member can contribute into the IBEW Local 449 Death Fund. It's \$10.00 to start, and \$5.00 when a member passes away. The beneficiary will get a check from everyone that is participating in the Death Benefit Fund. So, the more the better! Just contact the Hall for more details.

I will be attending a few conferences this spring. I will keep you posted at our regular meetings (**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at 7:30pm**). See you there!

Respectfully,  
Cory Facer  
D579694



# Organizers' Reports



Brothers and Sisters,

Here is some 8<sup>th</sup> District History. Between 1968 and 1972, locals all across the district voted to start pensions and health insurance. This was an extremely tough fight in almost all locals according to the retired members I've talked to. I'm still digging through our meeting minutes and reaching out to other locals to find exact dates. I will write an update as soon as I get more information.

Now for some 8<sup>th</sup> District Insurance History. This is what I've found so far while talking to retirees. Roughly between 1996 and 2002, the 8<sup>th</sup> District membership voted to drop our hour bank down to avoid a 30-cent increase. They also voted to remove our 80/20 dental coverage instead of taking a 30-cent increase. 4 years later, the 8<sup>th</sup> District membership decided they wanted dental coverage back, and voted to accept a 35-cent increase only to get exams, cleaning, and partial coverage. Also during that time, the 8<sup>th</sup> District membership voted to drop our 80/20 optical insurance instead of taking a 30-cent increase. A couple of years after that vote, the 8<sup>th</sup> District membership decided they wanted optical coverage back. So, they voted to accept a 25-cent increase for new coverage that only covered optical exams.

Over 6 years, we've taken a 60-cent increase just to lose our hour bank, all optical coverage except exams, and most dental coverage except exams and cleaning. If we would've voted to accept the 90-cent worth of increases over 6 years, we would still have 80/20 optical and dental coverage, and a 6-month hour bank. It **always** costs more to get coverage back, than it does to vote to keep it. If you find this interesting and want more IBEW or 8<sup>th</sup> District history, please let me know.

Fraternally,  
Craig McDonald  
D998707

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope each of you have had a safe and happy holiday season! With spring approaching, I am looking forward to work picking up here in the Magic Valley. The expansion at Chobani in Twin Falls and the new ice cream plant in Jerome should give us a solid flow of calls over the next year, with each project topping out at 40-50 members each. This should give our members on the road an opportunity to work locally and hopefully provide the chance to organize new members of all experience levels.

There has again been a surge in interest for us here in the Magic Valley, as I have been speaking with non-union journeymen as well as mid-level apprentices. We have gained some momentum organizing in this area and I hope to keep that rolling. On that note, I would like to welcome and thank our new members who have joined over the last few months. Welcome!

As we roll into spring, I look forward to visiting local high-schools and getting the chance to meet the next generation of electrical workers. Magic Valley continues to expand both here, and in Boise. While we have been able to organize several great journeyman level workers from there, we need to work together moving forward to try and have a greater impact overall. I look forward to coordinating with Boise on this issue in the coming months.

I would like to invite any of our membership, at any level, to join me here in Twin Falls for a day (if you have a day off), to see what the organizers do and how we do it. I would love the opportunity, and this will work towards strengthening our local!

Fraternally,  
Dan Green  
6250420

# IBEW Local 449 President

Hello IBEW Local 449 Brothers and Sisters!

I certainly hope this letter finds everyone in good health and high spirits!

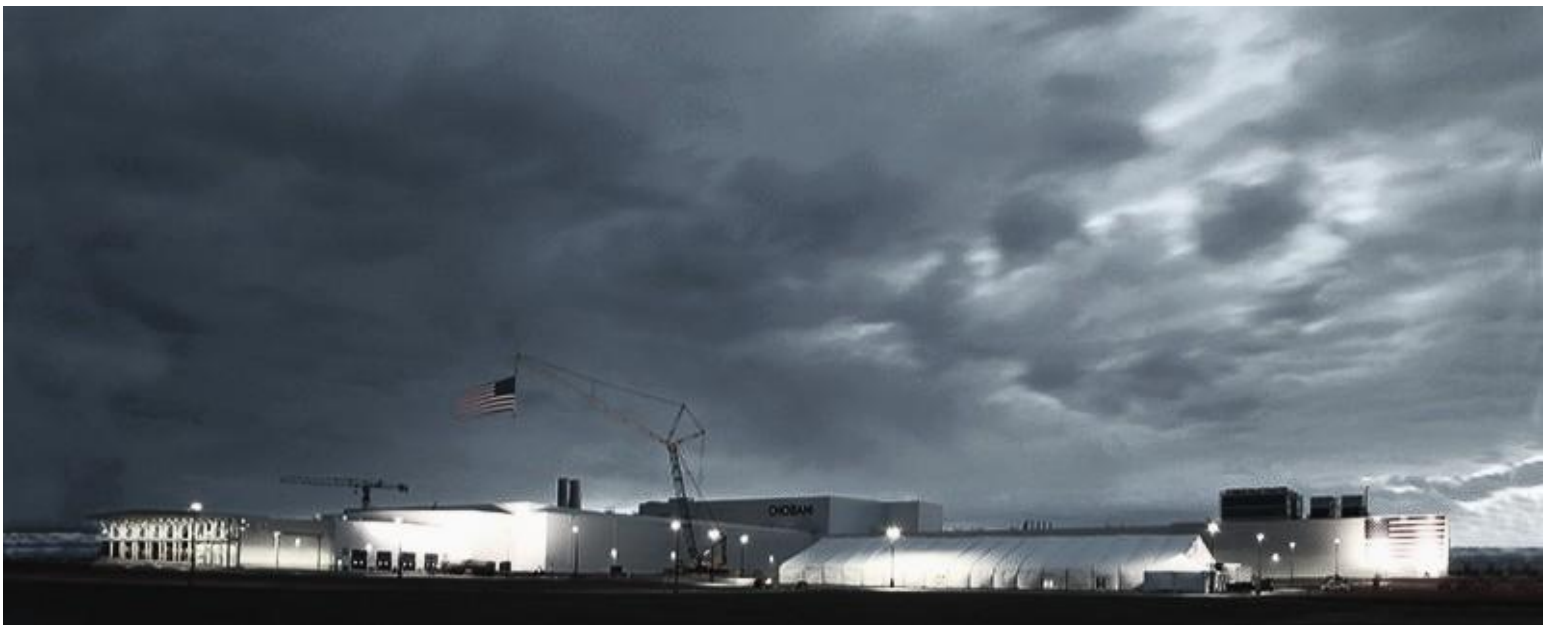
I would like to remind everybody about the importance of attending Regular Meetings at the Hall on the **1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month**. And don't forget, we have monthly PTO Meetings the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month**.

Sir Francis Bacon created a phrase in 1597, "knowledge itself is power". We as Local 449 members can acquire knowledge and solidarity by attending meetings and being informed about what's to come in the future.

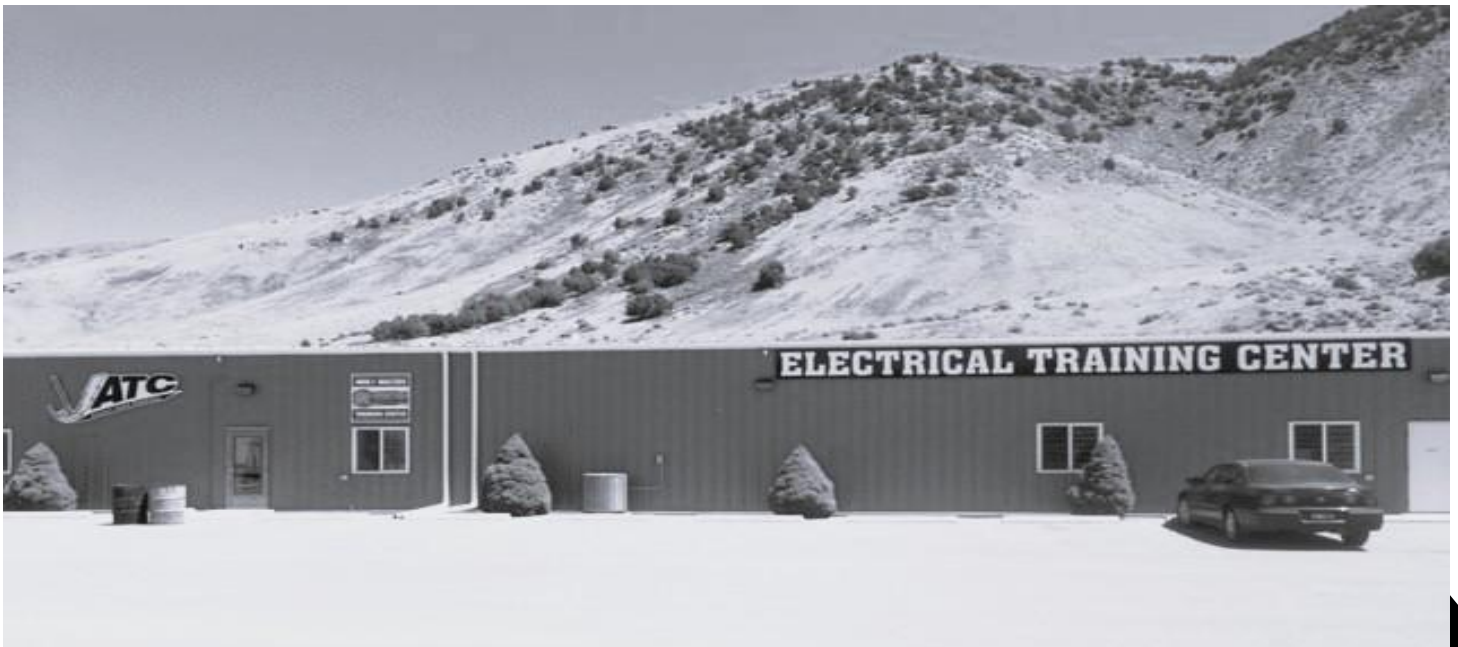
Nominations of Officers for Local 449 will be happening during the Regular Meeting on **May 1<sup>st</sup> 2025**. I truly hope to see the meeting room completely filled with 449 members! Now more than ever, our local needs more people to contribute as officers. With this, we can pass the torch on to the next generation, and continue our labor movement progress. Without more people getting involved, that responsibility is put upon the same core group that has been doing it for years. It's time for a change, and a time for new blood to get in there and bring new energy to this vital work! What we do as one of the best labor organizations in the world is make the world a better place.

My favorite object of the IBEW Constitution:  
"To reduce the hours of daily labor."

Respectfully,  
Ross Harrington  
711161







# JATC Training Director

Brothers and Sisters,

There have been a lot of developments at the JATC. The apprenticeship went from a 5-year to a 4-year program, and the class schedule has changed. The apprentices will now come for one week at the start of the year, then only come Thursday-Friday once a month after that. This helps the apprentices by only needing them to take one day off a month, instead of five, which means they can make more money and keep their benefits. This new training schedule is supposed to allow for more lab training, and they'll also finish up school faster! The JATC also has five new instructors, but we're still looking for a few more to help with teaching and lab classes. So, if you're interested, please contact me.

The State of Idaho has changed how they renew licenses. They're going to continue using CE Broker to reference everyone's CEU classes, but they will be transitioning over to a program that they use for all the other building trades. If you get caught in the middle of the transition and need a certificate, call the JATC and we'll get it to you. It will take some time to get the information to you, so be patient. Also, **MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW UP WITH THE STATE ON YOUR CEUs**. They do not have a lot of staff, and it takes them time to get to everything.

If you have the opportunity to work with some of the apprentices, please take the time to teach them everything you can. They are the future of the Local and the IBEW. When you fill out their monthly report forms, make sure that you are truthful with the information you write down. **DON'T PENCIL WHIP IT!** If you do, you're not helping the apprentices to learn and grow. You're doing a disservice to them and yourself if you are not truthful. In the long run, it will hurt the apprentice, you, the Local, and your contractors. Remember, your money is going to train them and yourself. Don't throw your money away.

Well, I'll get off my high horse and wish everyone a happy spring. Be safe, and check in on friends and family!

Fraternally  
Chris Lochridge  
D721975

# PTO



## PAID TIME OFF CAMPAIGN



IBEW Local 449 is currently fighting for Paid Time Off (PTO) for all!

PTO is extremely important because it provides time away from the back-breaking work that electrical workers do on a daily basis. This helps maintain a better work-life balance, which can improve not only your mental health, but your physical health as well! Even if you're as tough as nails and healthy as can be, you still deserve time off. PTO can give you time to spend with your families on holidays, or even a chance to take a relaxing vacation.

IBEW Local 449 has purchased shirts for the membership to show our desire for PTO to our partners. Please stop by or contact the Hall to get your PTO shirt!

IBEW Local 449 is holding monthly PTO meetings! They will be **every THIRD Tuesday** of each month at **6:30pm**. You can attend at either the Hall in Pocatello or in Twin Falls!

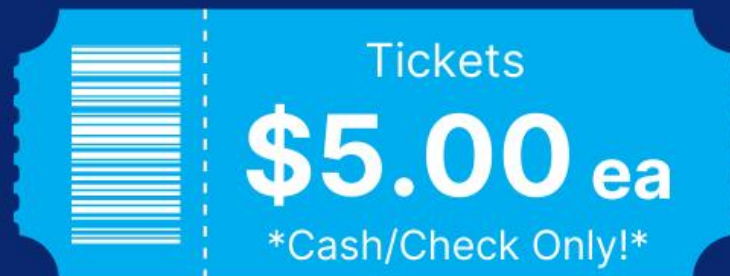


# WIREMEN WELLNESS FUND RAFFLE

**Only 50 Tickets Available!**

*\*First Come, First Served\**

**Call The Hall At 208-232-5263**



**Enter To Win**



**26 Qt. ORCA Cooler**

Winner Will Be Announced Once All 50 Tickets Are Sold!





**Motorcycle Club Meeting**

April 12, 2025 at 10:00a.m.

At Martha's in Blackfoot, ID

We will be planning the rides for the summer,  
so if you're interested, please attend!

Curtis Stephens | 04/01/2024

Stacy Holesinsky | 08/01/2024

Paul Neal | 09/01/2024

Donald Neal | 10/01/2024

Mike Ford | 11/01/2024

David Briggs | 01/01/2025

Todd Campbell | 01/01/2025

Scott Tovey | 01/31/2025

Tracy Gifford | 02/01/2025



Gary J. Triplett | Journeyman Wireman | 01/29/2024

Richard D. Long | Journeyman Wireman | 02/06/2024

Michael T. McKay | Tree Trimmer | 02/26/2024

Rick M. Chase | Journeyman Wireman | 05/08/2024

Leonard G. Howell | Journeyman Wireman | 09/10/2024

Charles W. Featherston | Journeyman Wireman | 12/28/2024

Ben Erickson | 02/05/2025

# April 2025



S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3  Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.	4 Construction & Maintenance Conference	5
6	7	8  E-Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11	12  Motorcycle Club Meeting 10:00 a.m.
13	14	15  PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m.	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Eighth District Progress Meeting		30	1	

# May 2025



S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1  Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13  E-Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	14	15	16	17
18	19	20  PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23	24
25	26  Hall Closed For Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31

# June 2025



S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5  Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.	6	7
8	9  IDAHO AFL-CIO Convention	10  E-Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	11 AFL-CIO Convention	12	13	14
15	16	17  PTO Meeting 6:30 p.m.	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28  449 Picnic at Ross Park
29	30	1 <b>\$1.00 Dues Increase Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> 2025!</b>				

# How To Pay Dues Online



1

Go to [ibewlocal449.org](http://ibewlocal449.org) and select “Pay Dues/Death Online” at the top of the screen.

2

## Log in to the payment portal.

If it's your first time logging in, your username will be your card number, and your password will be your last name plus the last 4 of your SSN.

User Login

User Name Required

Enter your User Name...

Password Required

[Show Password](#)

Enter your password...

Remember Me

Login

- Your username is your Card Number.
- Your initial password is your last name and the last four digits of your SSN.
- You will be required to change your password on your first login.

If you have forgotten your password, you can [Reset it here](#).

Passwords are not case sensitive.

3

On the next screen, make sure that all of your personal information is up-to-date. Then, select “Dues” and “Pay Dues Online” up at the top right.

My Account ▾ Registration ▾ **Dues ▾** Log Out

Pay Dues Online

50 Characters

City Required, Maximum 35 Characters

Home Phone Maximum 20 Characters

Basic Paid Thru

05/31/2025

Save

4

Select when you'd like to be paid through, then select “Pay Charges”.

If you are making a payment on the Death Fund, the “Paid Thru” amount minus the “Death Benefit (Current count)” amount is how many deaths you have on your account.

<b>Dues</b>	
Dues charge assessed on every month.	
Paid Thru	5/2025
Paying Thru	Choose... ▾ \$0.00
Death Benefit (Current count: 6)	
Death Benefit charges.	
Paid Thru	17
Quantity	Choose... ▾ \$0.00
<b>Prior Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Due</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Pay Charges