



# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD

## of ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION # 405

**CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY  
FEBRUARY 2022**

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**IT'S BACK!**



**LOCAL 405  
APPRENTICE  
POKER PARTY &  
CHILI COOK OFF**

**COME TO THE LOCAL 405 UNION HALL  
FOR FOR POKER, CORNHOLE AND  
OTHER GAMES.**

FEBRUARY 4TH • DOORS OPEN @ 6:00PM  
\$10 BUY IN FOR POKER  
FOOD AND DRINKS PROVIDED



**Prizes for apprentices!**

## BLOOD DRIVE



[BLOODCENTER.ORG](http://BLOODCENTER.ORG)

**IBEW Local #405**


**Saturday, February 26 8:00am – 10:30am**  
IBEW Hall (1211 Wiley Blvd. S.W.)

**MASKS AND APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED.**  
Scan the QR code to schedule your appointment.

**DONORS GET THEIR CHOICE  
OF A ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
SHIRT OR A GIFT CARD!**



Please eat before donating and bring Photo ID.  
Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 1/1/22  
Group Sponsor Code: 2548



# FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Iowa City Unit Meeting 4:30 pm	3 RENEW Meeting 6:00 pm  Iowa Women in the Trades 6:30 pm (Zoom)	4 Apprentice Poker Party	5
6	7	8 11th District Women's Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	9 E-Board Meeting 6:00 pm	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 General Meeting 6:00 pm	17 Retirees Luncheon	18	19
20	21	22	23 405 Women's Committee Meeting 4:30 pm	24	25	26 Second Annual RENEW Blood Drive
27	28 Retirees Newsletter at the Hall					

# BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Brothers and Sisters,

During the course of the past several months, we have been fighting to secure Union jobs on the proposed solar projects in our jurisdiction. Prior to the public hearings for the permitting of this project, we secured a Signed Letter of Intent from the EPC Contractor stating that they would utilize Union workers on this project. Historically, this contractor, RES Americas, utilizes non-union labor and temp-agency workers to build their solar facilities. Their commitment prompted all local Unions to attend the public meetings to vocally support the project to help ensure the passage of the permit. Local 405 called on our members for help and you showed up. On Monday, January 24th the Linn County Supervisors approved the Coggon Solar project.

However, this fight is far from over. The Palo Solar Project, which we have a signed Letter of Intent, is the next one in line to go through the permitting process with the Linn County Supervisors. As this process starts to play out, we will once again be calling on our membership to show up in solidarity with the other Union trades to help secure the passage of the permits. Every project that we secure for Union labor makes Local 405 stronger and ensures a consistent flow of projects for our members and our contractors.

As we progress into spring, all indications are that there will be no shortage of work for our members but possibly a shortage of manpower for our contractors. This will give us plenty of opportunity to organize new members from the non-union sector. If you know any individuals that are electricians or wanting to become electricians, talk to them about the benefits of being Union and send them our way. One of our top priorities as Unions is to create a better standard of living for everyone.

The 2022 Legislative session is underway and Labor Unions, education and mental health are under assault again. We will keep the membership updated with legislation that we support and oppose. As we continue with the updates, we will ask that our membership help by contacting their elected officials to keep them focused on the issues that affect us the most. Our political involvement as a Local and as individual members is key to our growth and strength as a Union.

In Solidarity,

Junior Luensman

# CONTRACT TOPIC OF THE MONTH

## CEDAR RAPIDS & IOWA CITY INSIDE:

**Section 5.13.** An apprentice is to be under the supervision of a Journeyman Wireman at all times. This does not imply that the apprentice must always be in-sight-of a Journeyman Wireman. Journeymen are not required to constantly watch the apprentice. Supervision will not be of a nature that prevents the development of responsibility and initiative. Work may be laid out by the employer's designated supervisor or journeyman based on their evaluation of the apprentice's skills and ability to perform the job tasks. Apprentices shall be permitted to perform job tasks in order to develop job skills and trade competencies. Journeymen are permitted to leave the immediate work area without being accompanied by the apprentice.

Apprentices who have satisfactorily completed the first four years of related classroom training using the NJATC curriculum and accumulated a minimum of 6,500 hours of OJT with satisfactory performance, shall be permitted to work alone on any job site and receive work assignments in the same manner as a Journeyman Wireman. An apprentice shall not be the first person assigned to a job site and apprentices shall not supervise the work of others.

## RESIDENTIAL:

**Section 5.11.** The apprentice is to be under the supervision of a Residential Wireman, or a qualified supervisor. Supervision will not be a nature that prevents the development of responsibility and initiative. The apprentice shall be permitted to perform any and all job tasks in order to properly develop trade skills and become proficient in the work processes associated with the trade. A Residential Wireman is not required to constantly watch or observe the work of the apprentice. The apprentice is not prohibited from working alone when the Residential Wireman or Supervisor is required to leave or is absent from the job, respecting any wage and hour regulations that may exist.

## VDV:

**Section 3.01** Technicians shall be responsible for the following: · cable pulling · blueprint reading · system layout · system grounding · checking circuit continuity · identifying faults · certifying system operation · ground verification · cable & wire terminations and testing · installation of panels & network devices · installation of cross connects, interconnects, backbones and horizontals · splicing of optical fiber cable · system repair, service, testing and troubleshooting · fabricating for field installations

NOTE: technicians can perform any and all work of the installer.

Installers shall be responsible for the following: Version 2.6 15 · blueprint reading · cable pulling · underground installations of cable · support & fastening of cables · splicing of wires and cables · installation of junction and device boxes · assist in cable and wire terminations and testing.

NOTE: installers cannot perform any of the work of the technician.

# COMMUNICATIONS

## IOWA CITY UNIT

The Iowa City Unit Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 2nd at 4:30 pm.

## VDV UNIT

Technology Term: GUI - It is the common method of interacting with a computer that allows any image to be displayed on a screen according to PC Magazine. You may only hear this phrase if you are the technician working with the end user but it is a popular abbreviation in the IT world.

Are you keeping up on your BICSI credits? Be sure to check out manufacturer's websites or the supply houses for available credit.

## WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

The IBEW Women's Conference has been confirmed to be going this year. It will be in Washington, DC from September 7-11th. More details to come. Unfortunately, we didn't have any local Zinner from our raffle, but we were able to raise over \$3,400.00 for Gateway To Hope. Thank you to all of you who donated to our fundraiser.

Iowa Women in the Trades will be hosting a Women's Leadership Conference on March 12th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in Coralville. We will be covering topics from history to developing stronger leadership skills. This event will be free for participants.

Upcoming meetings: Iowa Women in the Trades - February 3rd at 6:30 pm via Zoom, 11th District IBEW Women's Committee - February 8th at 6:00 pm via Zoom, Local 405 Women's Committee - February 23rd at 4:30 pm at the Hall with Zoom option.

## RENEW

The Annual Apprentice Poker Party is back! Join us at the Hall Friday, February 4th at 6:00 pm. No chili cook-off this year.

We are hosting another blood drive on Saturday, February 26th. It only takes about 30 minutes and saves lives. A sign-up link will be made available in early January.

## JATC TRAINING CENTER NEWS

**\*\*JW classes are available!\*\*** At newsletter publication, classes are available on our website; visit [www.crejatc.org](http://www.crejatc.org) to register for classes available at the JATC Training Center.

Recently added is a 4-hour Motor Control course, as well as an 8-hour Motor Control hands-on course. The 4-hour course is a prerequisite for attending the 8-hour hands-on course.

Masks are currently required for attending JW classes!

**All licensed Journeyman Electricians need a minimum of 18-CEU's by 12-31-2022. A minimum of 6-hours must be code related.**

# MEMBERS IN ARREARS

Delinquent Members (4-6 months late, owe \$30.00 reinstatement fee): 3 members

Arrears (1-day to 3 months late): 108 Members

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Arrears/Delinquent</b>	<b>Non-Members Working</b>
A&B Electric	1	2
Acme Electric	13	13
Baker Electric	1	0
Baker Group	1	5
BIS Industrial	3	2
CI3	1	2
Dependable	0	0
Cord Electric	0	0
ESCO Electric	12	12
Gerard Electric	4	10
Hawkeye Electric	17	41
Justice Electric	1	3
Munson Electric	8	14
Nelson Electric	6	27
Paulson Electric	5	8
PEC	0	1
Premier Electric	3	1
SE Electric	2	0
Shay Electric	1	2
Streff Electric	2	4
Tech Solutions	3	4
Trey Electric	8	8
Tri-City Electric	10	12
Not on referral	9	

# BENEFIT COMMUNICATIONS

## IBEW Local 405:

Cedar Rapids Office Phone:  
(319) 396-8241

Cedar Rapids Office Fax:  
(319) 396-3083

E-mail to Resign:

[ibew405@ibew405.org](mailto:ibew405@ibew405.org)

Website: [www.ibew405.org](http://www.ibew405.org)

## Cedar Rapids JATC:

Main Phone: (319) 654-9238

Website: [www.crejatc.org](http://www.crejatc.org)

## Auxiant:

Main Phone: (319) 398-3283

Main Fax: (319) 866-9889

**Vanessa:** Ext. 1221 For:  
Union Services or HRA

**Devin:** Ext. 1208 For:  
COBRA Coverage

**Jacey:** Ext. 1220 For:  
Short Term Disability

**Jordan:** Ext. 1299 For:  
Vision Claims &  
Prescription Safety Glasses

## Mercy EAP:

(319) 398-6694

## Milliman:

(866) 767-1212

## Wellmark

### Health/Prescriptions:

Customer Service:

(800) 524-9242

Group #: 56700

### Delta Dental of Iowa

(800) 544-0718

Group #: 92485

## Health & Welfare Total Hours Worked

Work Month	2020	2021	Difference
January	159,629	132,431	(27,198)
February	142,652	123,995	(18,656)
March	142,982	114,303	(28,678)
April	117,460	154,489	37,029
May	145,573	137,399	(8,173)
June	128,458	135,058	6,608
July	157,879	167,202	9,322
August	144,101	135,832	(8,268)
September	132,058	155,798	23,740
October	149,253	185,751	36,498
November	131,965		
December	151,668		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,703,674</b>	<b>1,442,263</b>	<b>22,223</b>

## Health & Welfare Fund Balances

	H & W Balance	HRA Balance	Dollar Bank Balance	Months in Reserve
October 2021	\$20,881,383.66	\$6,436,804.37	\$1,235,879.69	13.2
November 2021	\$20,630,764.66	\$6,545,434.80	\$1,234,607.59	12.9



## Coverage for OTC COVID-19 Testing

Federal agencies (Department of Labor, Health and Human Services and the IRS) jointly issued guidance on Jan. 10, 2022, as directed by the Biden Administration, that requires all issuers and group health plans to begin covering over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 tests with no member cost share. Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield is currently working to implement the specifics of this newly released guidance.

### What tests are covered by Wellmark?

- **Community-based testing.** Iowa's program, called Test Iowa, has drive-up locations throughout the state. It includes an online assessment that was developed in coordination with the Iowa Department of Public Health. South Dakota has a similar public testing program through the South Dakota Department of Public Health. These programs do not submit health insurance claims and are free of charge.
- **Health care provider testing.** COVID-19 tests provided through the member's doctor or hospital will be processed through insurance and covered in full.
- **OTC tests approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).** Check the FDA's website. Once on that page, find the search box near the middle of the page and enter "OTC" in the search field to view the tests that qualify.

### Can you get a test without paying money up-front?

Yes! The federal government has made free at-home COVID-19 tests available. Visit this site to submit an order.

Also, Wellmark has partnered with CVS Caremark® to provide members with a streamlined purchase experience where members will not have to pay anything up-front for the OTC COVID-19 test in most situations. You must purchase the test from the pharmacy counter of an in-network pharmacy to be covered with no out-of-pocket costs. If you purchase the test from a regular check-out, you will need to pay retail price and submit a claim to CVS Caremark for reimbursement. Keep in mind, this is still relatively new and some pharmacies may not be ready to process point-of-sale claims.

### How do I submit a claim for reimbursement?

You can find step-by-step instructions and other relevant information at [Wellmark.com/Coronavirus](https://www.wellmark.com/coronavirus).

### What tests are not covered by Wellmark?

- Wellmark will not cover OTC COVID-19 tests used for employment purposes, meaning that if you're required to test for COVID-19 weekly or other routine basis, you should not be purchasing those and submitting them to CVS Caremark for reimbursement.
- COVID-19 testing performed for travel purposes, including, but not limited to, flying internationally or boarding a cruise, is not a covered health plan benefit.
- OTC COVID-19 tests only qualify for coverage and reimbursement if the test is both self-administered and self-read at home – no laboratory or health care provider is involved.
- Coverage and reimbursement of OTC COVID-19 tests is limited to eight OTC COVID-19 tests per member per month, claims totaling more than that will not be reimbursed by Wellmark.

Learn more by reading this story from *Blue*<sup>SM</sup> online.



# RETIRES SOCIAL CLUB

The Retirees meet every third Thursday at 11:30 am for lunch at the Union Station. These lunches are a great way to meet new friends and to re-unite with some old friends that you may have lost contact with since retiring. Stop by the Union Station this month and enjoy some memories!

## Sudoku Puzzles

Puzzle 1

2		8			7	3		
	4		8					
	7					9	6	
	6	5						
	3	1				6		5
	2	9	6				7	
6	9						2	1
				5	1			6

Puzzle 2

					9			
1	5			3		7		4
	9		1		8			
9								5
		5		1	3			7
8		6						
4	2	3					8	
	1	7		5				
5							1	

Puzzle 3

			9	8				2
	9					3		5
					4	9		
				1	6			
8		2	7				4	
			3					
2	3		5					
		1	6	2	3	5	8	
7	8							

Puzzle 4

				1	5	6		
		3		9				8
							7	
5			6					
				7	2	8		
		8						4
9				8	4			3
	6	4		3		1		
7		2	1		9			

### Answers

3	8	7	2	5	1	4	9	6
5	1	2	4	9	6	8	3	7
6	9	4	3	7	8	5	2	1
4	2	9	6	8	5	1	7	3
8	3	1	7	2	9	6	4	5
7	6	5	1	3	4	2	8	9
1	7	3	5	4	2	9	6	8
9	4	6	8	1	3	7	5	2
2	5	8	9	6	7	3	1	4

Sudoku Puzzle 1 Solution

5	8	9	3	6	4	1	7	2
6	1	7	8	5	2	3	4	9
4	2	3	7	9	1	5	8	6
8	7	6	4	2	5	9	3	1
2	4	5	9	1	3	8	6	7
9	3	1	6	8	7	4	2	5
7	9	2	1	4	8	6	5	3
1	5	8	2	3	6	7	9	4
3	6	4	5	7	9	2	1	8

Sudoku Puzzle 2 Solution

7	8	5	4	9	1	2	3	6
9	4	1	6	2	3	5	8	7
2	3	6	5	7	8	1	9	4
6	7	9	3	4	2	8	5	1
8	1	2	7	5	9	6	4	3
3	5	4	8	1	6	7	2	9
5	2	7	1	3	4	9	6	8
4	9	8	2	6	7	3	1	5
1	6	3	9	8	5	4	7	2

Sudoku Puzzle 3 Solution

7	3	2	1	6	9	8	4	5
8	6	4	2	3	5	1	9	7
9	1	5	7	8	4	6	2	3
6	2	8	9	1	3	7	5	4
3	9	1	4	5	7	2	8	6
5	4	7	6	2	8	9	3	1
1	5	6	8	4	2	3	7	9
2	7	3	5	9	6	4	1	8
4	8	9	3	7	1	5	6	2

Sudoku Puzzle 4 Solution

IBEW LOCAL 405  
1211 WILEY BLVD, SW  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52404

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

