

# I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1439 NEWS



I.B.E.W. Local 1439 Newsletter

1st Quarter, 2022

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**By: Jeremy Pour**

**Business Manager/Financial Secretary**

JeremyP@ibew1439.com

Happy New Year Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Years. As we close the book on 2021 and look forward to 2022 there are many positives that happened in 2021. Thankfully, we were able to safely get back together in person for Union meetings and I look forward to holding all of our regular meetings in 2022. We successfully negotiated 4 contracts in 2021, settled a pending arbitration, reached multiple agreements and resolved the majority of our grievance in favor of our members.

Financially, I take the role as Financial Secretary very seriously, I am always trying to be a good steward of the members money. We have worked hard since the beginning of 2017 making sure this Local is fiscally sound and I am happy to report we were even better in 2021 than we were in 2020. We will continue to update our financial strategy, repeatedly examine our expenses all to make sure this local is secure for another 75 years.

All of the successes of 2021 could not have been achieved without the dedicated Executive Board, Officers, Business Representative, Stewards and the members behind us. It is a privilege and honor to serve as Business Manager, I thank each and everyone one of you for being a part of this great Organization. As successful as 2021 was let's take a look at what is ahead of us in 2022.

We have some challenges and great opportunities ahead of us in 2022 and I am excited. First, in this newsletter are the rules of two scholarship opportunities, please take a look and if you have a son/daughter that qualifies have them get involved. Secondly, we are bringing in a new Organizer/Representative into the Union office at the end of the first quarter of 2022. Their focus will be on organizing non-union companies or city's, continually organizing our two city contracts and helping do some internal organizing on our existing utility properties. The person coming in will also have some Representative duties on the Ameren contract and able to fill in when myself or Billy are away and on vacation.

Finally, we have our two city contracts up this year along with our Ameren contract. We are looking forward to these negotiations, never before has labor had had the momentum behind us as we do today. We will continue to work as hard as possible for all of our members, trying to achieve the best contracts, agreements and improvements as possible. This can only be achieved by having the continual support of our officers, executive board and members. Please stay active, attend union meetings and events, remember this is your Union. Stay safe and healthy and let's have a great 2022.

Jeremy

# I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1439 NEWS

The Locals on the Entergy property have been working to get MLK as a recognized holiday for its members. At first, the Company was not open to idea unless something was given up by the membership. After push back from the Labor leaders along with a grassroots effort by all the members in Arkansas the Company changed their mind. Below is the letter we received from Entergy granting all employees Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a holiday. Thank you to everyone that contacted their management and expressed frustration with the previous decision. This is what happens with solidarity in the Union work place!

January 7, 2022

Dear Union Leaders,

After numerous discussions between representatives of the Company and the Leadership of the IBEW in the Entergy system, I am happy to inform you that the Company will be offering Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a celebrated Entergy holiday for all employees.

Entergy, in pursuit of being a Premier Utility with an enhanced DIBs culture, looks forward to our continued relationship with the IBEW in achieving this mutual goal.

After our discussions with Union leadership, two (2) main factors drove our decision to provide the MLK holiday to all employees. First, Entergy in emphasizing Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging, and it emphasis on DIB's dovetails with providing the MLK holiday to all employees. Second, Entergy, in committing to becoming the Premier Utility, should be offering the MLK holiday to all of its employees and so we will.

As Dr. King stated on more than one occasion, "No work is insignificant. All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertake with painstaking excellence."

We believe, by the Company's action regarding the MLK holiday, we are following Dr. King's advice.

The Company looks forward to our continued good relationship and joint endeavors to reach solutions when issues arise.

Sincerely,



Kathryn A. Collins  
Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer

# I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1439 NEWS

## Business Manager's Report January 2022

### **Alliant:**

- We were bargaining the effects of the OSHA mandate, that is now unnecessary due to the Supreme Court ruling.
- Waiting on feedback from the Company regarding increasing FR allowance.

### **Ameren:**

- We were bargaining the effects of the OSHA mandate, that is now unnecessary due to the Supreme Court ruling.
- Grieving the change in Company policy regarding payment for quarantine.
- DORP and FR money has been deposited.
- Met w/Senior Leadership and Geraldine members concerning safety in the field.
- Meet w/Ryan Arnold over multiple issues in Energy Delivery.

### **Entergy:**

- Successfully negotiated MLK holiday
- We were bargaining the effects of the OSHA mandate, that is now unnecessary due to the Supreme Court ruling.

### **Liberty:**

- We were bargaining the effects of the OSHA mandate, that is now unnecessary due to the Supreme Court ruling.

### **City of DeSoto:**

- Talking with the City concerning retention of employees.

### **City of Potosi**

- Meeting with Sam and Jeff to discuss changes to this years agreement.

# I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1439 NEWS

## IBEW LOCAL 1439 VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

### SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST RULES

The purpose of this essay contest is to provide the selected candidate with financial assistance toward the attainment of higher education at a trade/technical school with the ultimate goal of securing a career with Ameren Missouri and IBEW Local 1439.

**Eligibility for all applicants:** Applicant must be the child of an active member of Local Union 1439 in good standing and must have completed their junior year in high school. Applicants cannot be a child of a full-time employee at the Local 1439 Union Hall.

Applicant will be required to submit the completed scholarship application, two letters of recommendation from a non-relative, instructor, principal, counselor or supervisor, and a 500-1000 word on the subject designated by the Executive Board. Essays must be submitted on 8 1/2" x 11" paper, single-sided, preferably typed and doubled spaced with **the essay topic at the beginning** of the essay. Names should not be included on the essay only on the application.

Applications may be requested by contacting the Recording Secretary of Local Union 1439 (Michelle Henkhaus) or by calling the Union office.

**Applications and essays must be mailed to I.B.E.W. Local 1439, 2121 59<sup>th</sup> St., St. Louis, Mo. 63110 or emailed to [local.1439@ibew1439.com](mailto:local.1439@ibew1439.com) and must be received by Friday, April 1, 2022 .**

The scholarship will be awarded only to a candidate who intends to enroll full-time in an institution and program approved by Local 1439 and Ameren Missouri.

Checks will be paid to the institution upon presentation of proof of enrollment and tuition bill to the Local Union.

**Scholarship winner must begin their studies in their next term, no later than the fall semester.**

Each year, the scholarship will be presented to the winning applicant at the St. Louis General Membership meeting in May. The recipient and their parents will be invited to be present.

**Judging:** Essays will be assigned a random number with names removed. A panel consisting of three (3) judges: two judges will be selected by Local 1439 and one judge will be selected by Ameren Missouri. Judges will rank the top three essays and points will be assigned. Three points for first place, two points for second, one point for third. The essay with the most points will be declared the winner.

**Award:** One winner will be selected to receive a one-time scholarship for up to \$10,000. Approved trade or vocational school must be approved by Local 1439 and Ameren Missouri. Upon completion of Trade or Vocational school applicant will take the Ameren Missouri CAST test. Upon passing of CAST test, applicant will be considered for a Pre-Apprentice position Labor under the terms of the Agreement between Ameren Missouri and Local 1439.

#### **2022 Essay Topic:**

*How does labor partnering with companies like Ameren better the quality of the work environment?*

# I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1439 NEWS

## JOHN L. DURHAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

### CONTEST RULES

The purpose of this essay contest is to provide the selected candidates with financial assistance toward the attainment of higher education.

**Eligibility for all applicants:** Applicant must be the child of an active member of Local Union 1439 in good standing and must be a high school senior, college freshman or sophomore. Applicants cannot be a child of a full-time employee at the Local 1439 Union Hall.

Applicant will be required to submit the completed scholarship application and a 500-1000 word on the subject designated by the Executive Board. Essays must be submitted on 8 1/2" x 11" paper, single-sided, preferably typed and doubled spaced with **the essay topic at the beginning** of the essay. Names should not be included on the essay only on the application.

Applications may be requested by contacting the Recording Secretary of Local Union 1439 (Michelle Henkhaus) or by calling the Union office.

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**Award:** A first place award of \$1000.00 and a second place award of \$500.00 will be given.

### **2022 Essay Topic:**

*How did Unions adapt to the changing conditions created by the pandemic?*

# I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1439 NEWS



## Blue Hat Report

**By: Aaron Mehrstens and Brandon Shortt**

Emphasis Discussion Points this month:

- Mental Health; EAP, Brochures, Personal Experience
- Prepare for Winter– Hand warmers, ice cleats, winter gloves, salt etc.
- Cargo Securement
- Truck Housekeeping
- Situational Awareness

Field Work:

- Meeting with Standards to discuss 34kv switch handle locations.
- Evaluate Viper switch locations/bypass.
- Hot line clamp issues/usage
- Participating on EDET team to review various pieces of equipment/ideas to deliver rock/materials to job sites
- Sharing information about new tools that METOC team is exploring
- Special emphasis to speak to Apprentices/PALS in the field and at Operating Centers
- Attended JSB meeting
- Spoke at Superintendent meeting representing JSB discussing ladder language in CSM
- Working with Ameren HR around subject of Mental Health First Aid training
- Working with various departments to find and verify Westinghouse LCB and ITE HPL-C switch locations and procedures
- Worked with Safety to schedule Athletico to do an ergonomic assessment on using a 35-40' extendo out of an elevated basket to perform switching on viper bypass switches.
- Joined kick off meeting SAFE DRIVING INIATIVE.

Conducted 79 C2C's, attended hearing conservation training.

# I.B.E.W. LOCAL 1439 NEWS

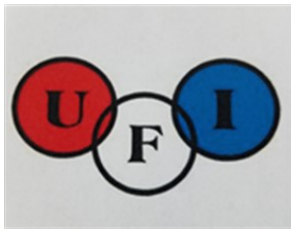
## 1st Qtr. 2022 Member News

### Memoriams

Darren Sims  
William Miller Jr.  
Norbert Tonkovic  
Robert Busby

### New Members

Robert Ashworth  
Noah Bellew  
Tim Borawski  
Preston Brumley  
Matt Borghesi  
Blake Burlage  
Rafael Cardenas  
Maxwell Chase  
Miquel Cotton  
Evan Friedman  
Kenny Griffin  
Anthony Hall  
Yahiness Knight  
Edgar Pullen III  
Michael Reyonlds  
Colton Rickman  
Justin Schaefer  
Matthew Scott  
Aaron Stengel  
Thomas Wagner  
William Wilson  
Ethan Wingerter



## Union Financial Updates

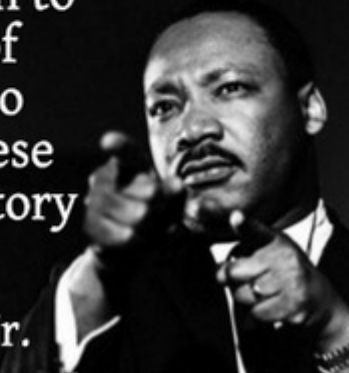
By Matt Kopecky  
(314) 495-9166  
Kopecky.Matthew@principal.com

Contact Matt Kopecky, Financial Advisor for IBEW Local 1439 at 314-495-9166 or email him at [kopecky.matthew@principal.com](mailto:kopecky.matthew@principal.com) to help you construct a strong financial plan.

**Monday January 17, 2022 is Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. As we honor Dr. King and thank him for his contribution and tireless work with the Civil Rights movement let us also remember him for his work and support of the Labor movement.**

History is a great teacher. Now everyone knows that the labor movement did not diminish the strength of the nation but enlarged it. By raising the living standards of millions, labor miraculously created a market for industry and lifted the whole nation to undreamed of levels of production. Those who attack labor forget these simple truths, but history remembers them.

-Martin Luther King Jr.



# Calendar of Upcoming Events

## 1st Quarter 2022

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
01-03-2022	Executive Board	4:30 pm	1439 Union Hall
01-04-2022	Regular St. Louis Mtg	4:30 pm	1439 Union Hall
01-11-2022	Jefferson Meeting	4:00 pm	Case & Bucks
01-12-2022	St. Charles Meeting	4:00 pm	Knights of Columbus
01-18-2022	Franklin Meeting	4:00 pm	Hagie's
01-25-2022	St. Francois Meeting	4:00 pm	Spokes
01-28-2022	Alliant Meeting	4:00 pm	The Hawkeye
02-03-2022	Jackson Meeting	4:00 pm	Jackson HQ
02-03-2022	Sikeston Meeting	4:00 pm	Shriners
02-07-2022	Executive Board	4:30 pm	1439 Union Hall
02-08-2022	Regular St. Louis Mtg	4:30 pm	1439 Union Hall
02-16-2022	City of DeSoto Mtg	4:00 pm	TBD
02-17-2022	Caruthersville/Malden	4:00 pm	TBD
02-22-2022	Potosi/City of Potosi	4:00 pm	Potosi Elks
03-03-2022	Butler Meeting	4:00 pm	Butler HQ
03-07-2022	Executive Board	4:30 pm	1439 Union Hall
03-08-2022	Regular St. Louis Mtg.	4:30 pm	1439 Hall
03-09-2022	Blytheville/Hayti Mtg.	4:00 pm	TBD
03-15-2022	Jefferson Meeting	4:00 pm	Case & Bucks
03-16-2022	St. Charles Meeting	4:00 pm	Knights of Columbus
03-17-2022	Kirksville Meeting	4:00 pm	TBD
03-21-2022	Walnut Ridge Meeting	4:00 pm	TBD
03-22-2022	Franklin Meeting	4:00 pm	Hagie's
03-31-2022	Callaway Meeting	4:00 pm	Callaway HQ

**ATTENTION MEMBERS:**

If you have moved, changed your email or phone number please contact the Union office (314) 644-6111 or local.1439@ibew1439.com to update your contact information.