

DENVER'S IBEW LOCAL 68 NEWSLETTER

Your resource for info on IBEW's Local Union 68, Denver

Business Manager:	Jeremy Ross - jeremyr@ibew68.com
President:	Morgan Buchanan - morganb@ibew68.com
Vice President:	Julian Aguilar
Recording Secretary:	Felicia Hacknev

IBEW Local 68
 5660 Logan St
 Denver, CO 80216
 303-297-0229

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

It is with great honor that the newly formed Newsletter Committee can bring you this inaugural issue, Local 68's quarterly Newsletter.

You'll have to forgive us; the release dates of these publications will be relatively sporadic until we get our legs. Like our Union, this publication will only be as strong as the effort invested into it by its members. This Newsletter is your space, outside of in-person meetings, to be informed, communicate, and discuss the relevant happenings of our organization and our work.

I joined our Union a short time ago. In my brief time in the field, I have already met men and women of exceptional virtue and talent. I have met single parents coming up from the apprenticeship, running between the overtime shifts on jobs and the school to provide for their children. I have met men and women making the sacrifices that this work takes on their time and strength to create a better life for themselves and their families. Ours is an honest way of life, and it is worth preserving. I believe it is of remarkable importance that we hold this Union to the highest standard, as it serves to benefit the lives of everyone I have mentioned, and many more, who take on the task of building our country as well as the American Dream.

I believe that your readership and engagement does that, in its own small way, for our Union and our peers. So, thank you for being here.

- Joe Beaudoin, Newsletter Committee Writer

IN THIS JUNE'S INAUGURAL ISSUE

1. Greetings: A letter from the Newsletter Committee by Joe Beaudoin (pg. 1)
2. From the DJEATC: An Interview with Scott Sellers by Joe Beaudoin (pg. 2)
3. Labor History by Dominick Hinton (pg. 3 - 4)
4. Committee Updates reported by Dominick Hinton (pg. 5 - 7)
5. Manpower/Dispatcher's Report (pg. 8)
6. From the Business Manager (pg. 8)
7. Membership Update (pg. 9)

Upcoming Meetings:

General Membership Meetings
July 5th - Aug 1st - Sept 5th

Stewards/Good of the Union
July 19th - Aug 16th - Sept 20th

RENEW
July 13th - Aug 10th - Sept 14th

Newsletter Committee
July 20th - Aug 17th - Sept 21st

Special Events:

Benefit Fair - June 24th

Picnic - Aug 19th

Questions? Comments? Ideas?
Send your correspondence to:
newsletter@ibew68.com

This is YOUR Newsletter. We want to hear your suggestions!

FROM THE DJEATC – AN INTERVIEW WITH SCOTT SELLERS BY JOE BEAUDOIN, NEWSLETTER WRITER

Recently I had the pleasure of interviewing Scott Sellers and here are my initial thoughts afterwards. I try to go out of my way to find examples of brotherhood - real examples of union fraternity. Our trade is a tradition; an Apprentice learns from their Journeymen and that chain goes back generations. The less enlightened among us in our trade might in their day-to-day hold back much of what they know. They wouldn't care to bring the next generation up, wouldn't educate apprentices with the goal of making the next generation of Wiremen better. Those kinds of Wiremen certainly do exist, but they aren't worthy of mention here.

Being a young apprentice myself, I'm not in a position to be either older or wiser. So, I suppose that this sort of thing is obvious when you think about it, but it didn't hit me until I interviewed Mr. Scott Sellers - that the kind of guys who are practicing *real brotherhood* in committing themselves toward the next generation of Wiremen, those guys whose cups aren't selfishly guarded but instead *runneth over* - those guys are down at the school.

Scott Sellers is a man of experience. I asked him what the trade was like back in his day. He told me it's not like they were just rubbing two sticks together back in the 60s. He stands over six feet tall, or at least he must be because I feel like he towers over me. He wears his hair long behind a ball cap, and I know he owns at least one pair of work boots but have never seen him in anything other than white New Balance tennis shoes. Recently, Scott was recognized for his excellence and service in teaching. He's been down at the DJEATC in that capacity for about eight or ten years by his estimation. But he came up through the program himself and has been with the union thirty-eight years.

I asked him why he became an instructor:

"We're a union and we're supposed to be looking out for one another. One way we look for one another, we gotta teach the next generation our job, basically. I mean, we can teach anybody to be an installer, you can hire anybody off the street. But to teach the person to be an electrician, well, he needs to... be able to understand *why* you're doing things."

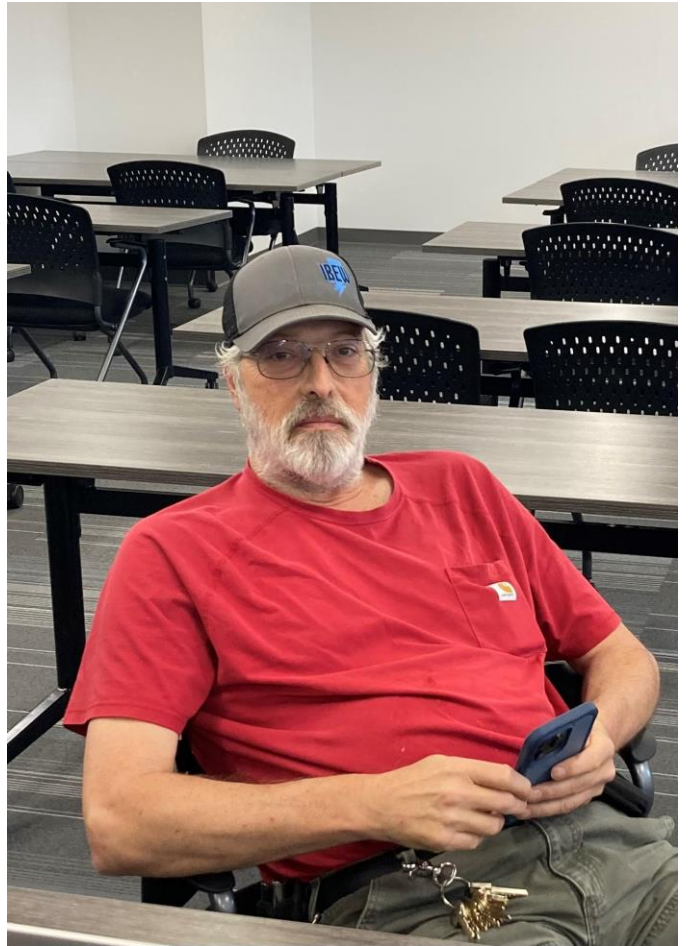
He expressed his enjoyment in teaching, which is something he's pursued ever since setting down roots here in Denver. He's always been a 68 hand, and during his tenure has worked on historic sites like the old Rocky Flats Plant and Mile High Stadium.

I asked Scott if he had any advice:

"Never forget your education because it's not ever gonna stop. I've told several apprentices over the years.... Get your NICET license. Fourteens and twelves are a lot easier to pull than 750's!"

Scott Sellers was awarded Instructor of the Quarter by the DJEATC back in March 2023. He was a pleasure to interview, and I am happy to present himself and his achievement to the membership for recognition.

Interested in making a difference at the DJEATC? Contact Stephan Huber @ shuber@djeatc68.com



LABOR HISTORY COLUMN – THE 8 HR WORKDAY BY DOMINICK HINTON, NEWSLETTER WRITER

In the United States, the majority of Americans' typical work week is Monday through Friday. On those workdays, most people work an 8-hour shift, typically from 9AM to 5PM. A lot of people start their day off sitting in traffic to work in a mundane office job, saying things like "I hate this job" or "These hours suck" and my personal favorite - "This day is taking forever". But when examining the origin of the 8-hour workday, it is a practice in realizing how great it really is compared to Americans in the past. Being an electrician isn't exactly the same as those who work in the office or from home, but while they are different, they are relatable in this aspect.

In more recent times, it's been proposed that our society should change the traditional 8-hour day to something like working four workdays consisting of 10-hour days and a 3-day weekend. At first, that sounds amazing, right? As we are aware, in construction, the five-day work week at eight hours a day is industry standard. Even though some might disagree with the 8-hour workday, it is an important step in labor history and a hard-fought contribution to all working people that built our country.

In this column, we will explore many key factors in the making of the 8-hour workday and why bloodshed, picket lines, and hard-fought legislation made it possible to have these better conditions for working people, as many of us tend to forget the importance of these labor laws.

Prior to the 1930's, labor laws that would enforce an 8-hour workday were non-existent. The local governments that standardized the 8-hour day had limited power to enforce these laws. With limited change in workday hours, it was not uncommon to work 12-16 hours a day, six to seven days a week, for most people.

The result of this led to worker collaboration and organized protests for shorter workdays and overtime requirements. Unfortunately, not all of these protests were peaceful - one of the most violent of these protests was the Haymarket Massacre in Chicago, Illinois.

On May 4, 1886, in Haymarket Square, there was a group of peaceful protesters that were rallied in support of the 8-hour workday, as well as to show solidarity for a worker who was killed, and another injured, at the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company. The Chief of Police at the time was asked by the Mayor of Chicago to not interfere, as those participating were not causing civil chaos. But he knowingly disobeying a direct order, and the chief of police sent his battalion to the peaceful gathering.

When the police were breaking up the rally, an unknown (still to this day) assailant threw a pipe bomb into the crowd, killing seven police officers, four civilians, and injuring many others. The labor leaders that organized the event (who were deemed anarchists and communists) were arrested. They were later charged and tried for these crimes, and hanged with no significant evidence that supported their convictions.

A monument for the martyrs was later erected, with the list names of those who were unjustifiably hung. These men were posthumously given pardons by Governor Altgeld and their names were engraved on a plaque on the back of the memorial. The Haymarket Massacre is just one example of the many protests where people died fighting for better working conditions.

Not all of the picket lines ended up in bloodshed between workers and the police or national guard, though. Many of the battles to establish the 8-hour workday happened at state capitals across the country, and aside from some spilled ink and loud arguments outside of these capitals, the legislative fight for the 8-hour workday had many successes.

One of the earliest wins for labor was back in 1864, prior to the Haymarket incident, by the Chicago Labor Movement. They were able to get the Illinois general assembly to pass an 8-hour workday law, but there was still no enforcement for employers.

Another great win for working people was the establishment of the Adamson Act. The Adamson Act, named after William Charles Adamson, a Democratic Representative of Georgia, worked with the railroad union to write a law which would require railroad companies to pay their workers overtime after an 8-hour workday. After it passed in 1916, this law created the standard for an 8-hour workday, at least for railroad workers. This was a huge win for labor because it was the first federal law to regulate work hours for private companies. It was also the first to be enforced by the supreme court. This started a snowball effect, causing other working people in other industries to want the same standards.



It was not until Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration during The Great Depression that the Fair Labor Standards Act was written into law in 1938. The voice of the working people can be remembered as “eight hours of sleep, eight hours of work, and eight hours for what we will.”

The people we call “The Greatest Generation” were the first to see overtime after eight hours. This was for the majority of Americans, aside from agricultural workers and other exempt workers.

The Fair Labor and Standards Act (FLSA) of 1938 was the first to actually enforce the 8-hour workday and made employers pay overtime if their employees worked more than eight hours a day.

The FLSA is not anything new for working people, but it can be easy to forget the history behind the law. When we remember events such as The Haymarket Square Massacre, it reminds us how working Americans died for the 8-hour workday. The fair standards of today wouldn't be fair if it weren't for the unfair working conditions our ancestors went through.

We can see that the events that happened during the Chicago Labor Movement, The Haymarket Massacre, and the Adamson Act were tipping points for the labor laws we enjoy today. Although a three-day weekend at the expense of a 10-hour day four days a week may sound like a great tradeoff, knowing the history behind the 8-hour day, *should* we change our conditions back to 10 hours? What would happen with our overtime laws? Would working families be able to take care of their children, or other relatives that need extra care? We also have to think about growing inflation, food insecurities, and economical inequalities.

In my opinion, the work/life balance would actually be negatively impacted, with people not being able to bear the responsibilities of daily life after ten hours. Without a clear resolution and overtime laws that are extensively rewritten, employers have an opportunity to exploit their people through loopholes.

Thank you to all of my brothers, sisters, and siblings for taking the time to read this quarter's labor history column. Remember to stay informed, union proud, and union strong.

In Solidarity,

Dominick Hinton

Journeyman Wireman

Vice President of Renew

Writer of the Local 68 Newsletter

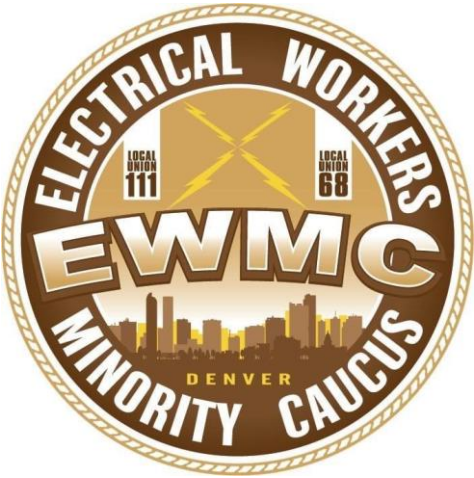


Denver Electrical Worker Minority Caucus

The EWMC is devoted to creating a more equal and diverse workforce for minorities in the IBEW. The Denver EWMC is constantly working in the community, especially in underserved communities to be a resource, and to promote building trades to the non-traditional backgrounds. So - what are we up to?

JANUARY-

This year, Local 68 and Local 111 hosted the national leadership conference for the EWMC at the Hyatt Regency in Denver on January 12th-15th. Members of Local 68 participated in a day of service, with several locations, like Denver Inner City Parish and the Second Chance Center, for example. Local 68 worked with IBEW brothers and sisters from around the US and Canada to accomplish painting, electrical work, flooring, demolishing, and cleaning for these locations. The next several days were followed by presentations from speakers like Business Managers from other locals, doctors, International Office Representatives, and even a member from NECA. A few members from Local 68 even participated in Sergeant at Arms for the Conference, working closely with siblings from Local 3, 25, and 1245, just to name a few. The day followed with seminars, development trainings, and of course, a few nice dinners and lunches. The most notable dinner was the Delegates Reception hosted by LU 68 and 111 at the Kevin Taylor's Restaurant, as well as the EWMC Reception and Dance, where the Denver EWMC was awarded a couple of great awards for their efforts.



FEBRUARY -

On Friday, February 25th, a few members of The Denver EWMC were interviewed on 104.7 FM "The Drop 303", on Suga Bear's morning show in his segment known as "Community Corner".

This effort was to promote diversity in building trades, and these members were given a platform to show the community that the EWMC is there and that joining the IBEW can give you a successful career and middle-class standard of life.





APRIL -

On April 1st, members of the Denver EWMC participated in the yearly Cesar Chavez March in North Denver, to show solidarity to Latino-American culture and park dedications.

MAY -

On May 28, members of Local 68 and Local 111 participated in setting flags on family headstones at Fort Logan National Cemetery. We gave our respects to American veterans that have passed away.

UPCOMING -

In June, members of the EWMC are working on being part of the Juneteenth march, to celebrate and show solidarity to our Black American members and Black communities.

Mile High RENEW

RENEW stands for “Reachout Engaged Next Generation of Electrical Workers”. RENEW is working on creating more membership participation. RENEW strives to get younger members to participate in a committee and get younger people to join the trade.

What Are We Up To?

FEBRUARY TO NOW -

The 2023 8th District Softball Tournament
August 5th, 2023 8AM – 5PM

Softball Tournament? Yes! RENEW has been working on the 8th district softball tournament. After reaching out to several different locals in the 8th district, the softball committee decided to host the tournament in Denver in 2023. Find more information under the "Latest News" tab, [here](#).



MARCH-

RENEW welcomes new officers! Jeffrey Clarke stepped down from committee chair due to the age restriction that officers must abide by. We are happy to have our new officers step in and fill these positions! They are as follows:

President: Brandon Trykowski LU 111
Vice President: Dominick Hinton LU 68
Recording Secretary: Monique Cisneros LU 68
Treasurer: Ricardo Felix LU 68
Officer At Large: Steven Miller LU 68

APRIL -

On April 29, RENEW hosted a *COMET* training (Construction Organizing Member Education Training) and Labor History Class at Local 111 Union Hall. The class was to celebrate May Day, also known worldwide as International Labor History. Our Labor History Presenter was Dr. Jim Walsh, leader of the Romero Theater Group, an assistant professor at CU Denver, who also recently ran for Mayor of Denver and founded the Colorado Labor Educators Association. Lunch was also provided to the class for their dedication that day.



Wireman's Brotherhood Fund (WBF)

AUGUST -

WBF is hosting their annual Golf Scramble on August 12, 2023 at the Hyland Hills Golf Course. The tournament starts at 7:30 AM and costs \$110 per person. This event is open to all members and families/friends. The registration form can be found in the front office at the hall or on the website under the "Latest News" tab, [here](#). This event fills up fast so if you are interested make sure to turn in your form. Payment secures your spot!

*If you are not already a WBF member please consider joining! Dues are only \$25 a year and go towards taking care of your sick or injured brothers and sisters!



Better for our Local

On May 17th, 2023, two presenters came to Local Union 68 to talk to members about personal experiences with arch flash and hot work safety. This was coordinated as a joint effort between a few members of the E-Board and the Apprenticeship Director.

How Can I Help?

If you would like to get involved with any future events or want to know more how to get involved and help in your community, please email us below.

Denver Electrical Workers Minority Caucus

denverewmc@gmail.com

RENEW

milehighrenew@gmail.com

Don't see your committee? Please reach out to the Local 68 Newsletter Committee at newsletter@ibew68.com!



Quick Look: Manpower



Books I and II, All Regions

	INSIDE
<u>METRO</u>	
BOOK I	276
BOOK II	26
<u>MOUNTAINS</u>	
BOOK I	281
BOOK II	25
<u>NORTH</u>	
BOOK I	276
BOOK II	25
<u>PLAINS</u>	
BOOK I	277
BOOK II	25
<u>SHORT</u>	
BOOK I	272
BOOK II	23
<u>WIND TURBINE</u>	
BOOK I	6
BOOK II	0

A MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Brothers and Sisters,

The first 5 months of 2023 have been busy. Between coordinating the cleanup from the unfortunate incident on Christmas Day to running and winning yet another piece of legislation to engaging in the Denver Municipal Elections it has been busy.

We are proud to say that our bill, SB23-292, passed with great support from all of the Senate Democrat Caucus with no Senate Republicans and all but 1 House Democrat supported our bill and 1 House Republican was in support. Governor Polis came to our hall on May 23 for the celebratory signing. This Bill puts into law requirements that the Public Utilities Commission must utilize Prevailing Wage and Best Value Contracting or PLA's. This is a big win for the IBEW, so big in fact that one of the Senior Executives for Encore Electric testified to the House Committee that this bill needed to be killed because "it is the biggest IBEW give away of [his] lifetime". We were very fortunate to be able to bring in support from all affiliates of the Colorado Building Trades, NECA, Blue Green Alliance, Xcel Energy, Tri-State, Black Hills, Rocky Mountain Mechanical Contractors Association, and many others. With that said we owe a special thanks to NECA, UA Plumbers and Pipefitters and Blue Green Alliance. These folks all came out to lobby, testify and support this bill in every way possible. We built such a strong coalition, we were unstoppable.

Onto the building. It has been slow moving. First, Insurance took a while to assess the damages and give us the go ahead to start cleanup. Second, once we got to cleanup, it was slow going, as we expected. Now we are onto contacting architectural firms to start the rebuilding process. I will continue to communicate the progress at every monthly membership meeting.

As far as Denver Elections go, 90+ percent of our endorsed candidates have won with a few having to go to runoff elections and we hope to help them win their runoff.

In closing, I would like to thank 8th District VP Jerry Bellah for recommending me for a seat on CIR. Since that recommendation, I have been appointed and look forward to learning this process from behind the scenes to better represent the Brothers and Sisters of Local 68 and the entirety of our great Brotherhood.

Fraternally,
Jeremy Ross



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Congratulations to the following members who will receive a service pin:

Congratulations to the following members on taking their Official Oath of Obligation:

July	Terry Kinyon
Stanley H Asmus	James M Krueger
Kham Q Au	Wayne Landwehr
Kirk R Brown	William L Stone
Stephen P Carberry	Ted C Thomas
James A Clary	Brett R Westerfield
John H Homyak	Derald O Huber
Ronald A Kimsey	Yahweh
Thomas S Madler	September
Dennis I Page	Earl A Aukland
Wayne A Paul	Don Valdez
Thomas F Rutherford	Wendel Vantine
Timothy W Smith	Felix A Gomez
Michael Hernandez	Glenn Lucero
James L Schneider	Dale L Tidwell
Jerry J Palmerino	Gerold L Windholz
David W Hudnall	David B Brigham
Douglas L Gifford	Richard J Crawford
August	Kevin D Demars
David J Lehr	Barri K Helms
Larry D Metherd	Paul L Kempter
Michael P Anderson	Leon G Payne
John P Arellano	Dustin C Smith
Dionisio F Blan	William J Watters
James S Carroll	Christopher J Hofland
Robert P Corso	James R Garner
Jerald C Coulter	Ed Knox
John R Debary	Kenneth D Nickolson
Allen L Denes	Michael R Santello
Lance T Johnson	James I Reddington

April	Samuel Stange
Ian Coulter	Mark Sutton
Todd Fellows	Jackson Tarr
Ahmad Gilchrist	Isaiah Terrazas
Francisco Jaquez-Murillo	Daniel Zarate Gonzalez
Lucas Murphy	June
Mateo Paez	David Breeden
Joel Tuel	Braydon Burtard
Alan Villarruel	Vincent Clouse
May	Zachary Galek
Melissan Dezotelle	Robert Gilliland
Scott Foley	Jason Head
Bradley Gialamas	Miles Lowe
Joseph Karlak	Preston Troxel
William Montgomery	Caroline Uribe
Ryan Paavola	Douglas Winger
Lance Sisneros	

Congratulations to the following members on their recent retirement:

Richard G. Jordan
Jeff C. Glodt
Robert N. Berry
Robert E. Koenig

We sincerely regret to report the death of the following members:

Clifford R. Lane	Ronald J. La Rose
Jimmie W. Wallace	Jerry M. Jackson
Edward R. Archer	Martin P. Neimes Jr
Ernest L. Carey	Nathan P. Shelton
Ralph D. Boes	Gabriel M. Gonzales
James C. Kloverstrom	Charles K. Herrick
Joseph M. Vacilek	Michael D. Shears
Andrew W. McPherson	James A. Connell

