



IBEW LOCAL 68 NEWSLETTER

3rd Quarter

July 1st - September 30th

Inside this edition:

A look back at our vibrant spring highlights—and a preview of the exciting moments awaiting us this summer!

Also included in this edition:

- Committee Updates
 - EWMC (pg. 6)
 - SOFTBALL (pg. 6)
- Apprenticeship (pg.7)
- Good of the Union (pg.7)
- Wireman's Brotherhood Fund (pg.8)

HIGHLIGHTS

- President's Report (pg. 2)
- Service Pin Awards (pg. 3)
- New Members (pg. 4)
- Memoriam (pg. 4)
- 2026 Negotiations Update (pg. 5)
- Apprentice of the Month (pg. 7)





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Brothers and Sisters!

Summer is here and that means the annual picnic will be happening soon. The Entertainment committee will be meeting on July 9, 2026 @ 5pm to discuss everything that needs to be done for the picnic; all members are welcome to attend this meeting. **We also are always looking for volunteers to help with the many things that need to be done for the picnic.**

Here's a list of a few items:

- Cleaning out horseshoe pits
- Running the horseshoe tournament
- Setting up and tearing down tables and chairs
- Trash

Anyone interested in volunteering this year, please contact me.

The picnic will be at the Elks Club in Westminster on August 15, 2026, starting at 11AM. We will be having Frank's BBQ, Simply Smiles (face painting, balloons, etc.), Kona Ice, beer, and door prizes. Come on out, bring the family and enjoy some brotherhood/sisterhood. Hope to see you all there!

Fraternally,

Debbie Tikka

A140711
IBEW #68 President

IBEW LOCAL 68
Mark your Calendars
Annual Summer Picnic

August 15, 2026
11am - 3pm
Westminster Elks
3850 W 69th Place
Westminster, CO 80030
(map on back)

Featuring:

- Horseshoes ◇ Face Paint ◇
- Balloon Animals ◇ Kona Ice
- Food & Drinks ◇ Prizes

Rally the family for food, games, and union fun,
Local 68 – brotherhood strong for everyone!
Bring your **current dues receipt** or **this flyer** with you.

Please, **no pets** allowed – thanks for helping us consider everyone who comes through!

Volunteers Needed: Please contact our office at 303-297-0229 if you would like to volunteer

*Congratulations***APRIL****25 Years**

Lynnette R. Smotherman

30 Years

James M. Wren

35 Years

Daniel J. Carroll

Daniel M. Burger

Isaac N. Hill

Kevin L. Feiock

Nicholas C. Manzanares

Robert H. Ciaranello

MAY**25 Years**

Michael J. Anselmo

James R. Blackmon

Dwain C. Boaz

Casey J. Curtin

Kenneth W. Dorman

30 Years

Daniel H. Clemens

40 Years

James P. Blakley

Thomas G. Crabtree

40 Years Cont.

Mitch Layton

William Reed

Mark Sainz

45 Years

Timothy R. Breen

Robert D. Gance, Jr.

Robin T. Hughes

Theodore J. Krattli

James D. Orr

Nigel Pilling

Charles D. Stearns

JUNE**25 Years**

Leslie C. Burg, Jr.

Tommy D. Clark

Vincent G. Budzien

35 Years

Jerzy P. Grzegorzewski

40 Years

Christopher Kriegel

Gregory R. Kimball

45 Years

Daniel A. Russom, Jr.

Edward Ayala

Michael A. Garcia

Michael E. Martin

45 Years Cont.

Robert Rainguet

Roderick K. Roberts

Terry W. Roth

2026**50+ Years of Service****50 Years**

Michael E. Cooper

Randolph J. Howes

Kathryn M. Jordan

William H. Jordan

Michael E. Otis

Larry Pacheco

John M. Ramirez

Steve A. Romero

Alfred R. Sandoval

Gary S. Silva

55 Years

Robert L. Allen

Herbert D. Bashor

Jerry E. Bouchard

Robert L. Connell

David C. Conrad

Kenneth R. Dresel

Michael Fortin

Francis Gersic

Howard H. Hall

55 Years Cont.

Robert E. Hartman

Hobart L. House

Jay L. Hutchcroft

Michael M. Hutchison

Stephen R. Jackson

Bruce M. Knoke

Phillip L. Martin

Robert H. Mourning

Dean R. Ocobock

Gottfried Pirkopf

Patrick M. Reilly

Leo V. Ruybal

Arthur P. Schaecher

Joseph D. Seal

Ronald D. Smiley

J. D. Williams

Robert E. Zidan

Dennis Vigil

60 Years

Willie Almazan

60 Years Cont.

Steven R. Ashlock

Gerald G. Burke

Larry L. Carson

John P. Corrington

Dennis E. Debell

Lawrence L. Dexter

Charles Karlstrum

Gary C. Oxelson

John P. Raecker

David R. Spencer

Raymond H. Spiker

Michael A. Temple

Donald F. Threlkeld

65 Years

Frank J. Bishopp

Robert W. Boetel

Lawrence R. Brown

Charles L. Clemenson

William A. Groves

Rodney J. Hahler

65 Years Cont.

Aubrey H. Knight

Douglas D. Lundberg

Edward L. Manor

Donald S. Mercer

Stanley R. Powell

Olen R. Pugh

Norval W. Randolph

Russell F. Rensink

Earl B. Scheaffer

Guy W. Selby

Leroy T. Serck

Dennis D. Shook

William C. Thomas

Norman E. Wilmot

Joseph P. Wofford

70 Years

Morton T. Stinnette

75 Years

Donald C. Gardner

2026

OATH OF OBLIGATION / MEMORIAM

Congratulations

April

Mackenzie Becker
 Lloyd Gardner
 Adam Gonzalez
 Jason Kamil
 Shabani Munyankindi
 Dalton Peck
 Peter Petropoulos
 Alexander Schlunt
 Michael Zamora

May

Roberta Aragon
 Christopher Argo
 Scott Blaisdell
 Joshua Campbell
 Alexander Gonzales
 Ravi Guerrero
 Alexis Ortiz
 Garrett Paul
 Robert Stone
 Mauricio Vargas

June

Brandon Chang
 Michael Hall
 Gregory Kazandjian
 Nicholas Krumenauer
 Jeremiah Lucero
 Jaron Richardson
 Julio Santamaria Gomez
 Jacob Todd
 Mark Vorhies
 Blake Window
 Michael Lee Zamora

Please take some time to welcome our newest IBEW Local 68 Brothers & Sisters!

With Sympathy and Remembrance

We regret to report the death of the following members:

Antonio Reales
 April 4, 2026

James Milleur
 May 3, 2026

Robert H. Mourning
 April 17, 2026

Patrick D. Francis
 May 13, 2026

Ralph Giardino
 April 21, 2026

Arthur P. Schaecher
 May 16, 2026

Patrick M. Reilly
 June 5, 2026

Our condolences to their family and friends.



Thank You Local 68

With this bargaining session finally in the past we would like to say thank you to all the members that stood in solidarity with each other by wearing their red shirts. From data centers to service van drivers, it is our effort to remind our employers and our selves the strength we have and that we are a Union.

Negotiation Update 2026

		RATE	PENSION	ANNUITY	DJEATC	JIPF	
Journeyman Wireman/Technician	base rate	\$46.80	\$5.25	\$3.00	0.63	0.05	
YEAR 1 - CHANGES							
		2.55	0.30	0.30	0.02	0.01	WAGE INCREASE @ \$3.18
Journeyman Wireman/Technician	base rate	\$49.35	\$5.55	\$3.30	\$0.65	\$0.06	
YEAR 2 - CHANGES							
		2.94	0.35	0.35	0.03	0.01	WAGE INCREASE @ \$3.68
Journeyman Wireman/Technician	base rate	\$52.29	\$5.90	\$3.65	\$0.68	\$0.07	
YEAR 3 - CHANGES							
		3.13	0.35	0.35	0.03	0.01	WAGE INCREASE @ \$3.87
Journeyman Wireman/Technician	base rate	\$55.42	\$6.25	\$4.00	\$0.71	\$0.08	

On April 27th, Business Manager, Zack Esquibel, sent out a letter to members to come to a special called meeting that was to be held on Thursday, May 7th, at 5:30 PM. The meeting was held for a vote over a Tentative Agreement (TA) between the IBEW Local 68 bargaining committee and Rocky Mountain NECA. The proposed TA was a total of \$10.73 wage progression over a 3-year contract, including one change in Article 4. This language change was a requirement by the I.O. to create a provision to allow any electrical workers with 12,000 hours or more to sign as Book 1 JW. On the night of the meeting, the membership voted in favor of ratifying the TA with 337 in favor and 34 against. Union leadership proposed to members 3 options to allocate the monies. The first being pension and annuity focus, the second being wage and pension even, and the last being wage heavy. The night wrapped up after a final vote with the body voting for a pension & annuity-focused distribution of funds. See photo for details.

Thank you to our Negotiating Committee!

Zack Esquibel
Business Manager & Chief Negotiator

Travis Trujillo
Assistant Business Manager

Julian Aguilar
Assistant Business Manager

Deb Tikka
President

Ricardo Felix Dominguez
Organizer

Steven Miller
Journeyman Wireman (Stand In)

James Lucero Jr.
Journeyman Wireman (Stand In)

Ben Metzler
3rd Year Apprentice Wireman (Stand In)

Members on the INSIDE CBA,
Login to view the agreement.



DENVER ELECTRICAL WORKER MINORITY CAUCUS



On May 4th 2025 the Denver EWMC's members went out to the Denver's Westwood neighborhood to celebrate Westwood's annual Cinco De Mayo Festival. Chapter members set up a EWMC booth to educate the community about the EWMC, IBEW, and the apprenticeship.

The Denver EWMC in late May returned to Ft. Logan Cemetery to place flags in front of veterans graves. This EWMC partnered up with the IBEW Local 68 Veterans Committee. The following week after members return to remove recently placed flags.



Upcoming Events

September 2026

Louisville's Labor Day Parade

Monday, September 7th
Time and Location TBD



For general information, visit the EWMC website [here](#).

IBEW LOCAL 68 SOFTBALL TEAM



2025 8th District Softball Tournament

It is finally here and after much preparation, the hosting committee is putting the final pieces together for the **54th Annual IBEW Midwest Regional Softball Tournament**. This is the very first time the tournament will be hosted in the Denver city and as much as 1000 IBEW members, their families and more are expected to be there, all from various local unions from coast to coast.

Join us for a fun weekend full of softball, food, and drinks from Friday July 31st through Sunday August 2nd.

(See Itinerary for more details)

[View Itinerary](#)

Contact Julian Aguilar
Phone: (720) 960-3303

The Hosting Committee is still looking for Volunteers to help during this weekend. If interested please see Julian Aguilar



Pictured from left to right: Gregory Capp, Edward Stackman, Billy Lima-Castro, Ben Metzler, Bradley Gialamas, Vincent Clouse



GOOD OF THE UNION

APPRENTICESHIP

In March the DJEATC sponsored a team of apprentices to participate at the Independent Alliance of the Electrical Industry (IAEI) industry tradeshow. These apprentices were given the opportunity to learn from inspectors, see new products from manufacturers, and network with other electricians.

The apprentice also participated in the "Code Challenge Breakfast" where our own apprentices Bradley Gialamas and Billy Lima-Castro one 1st place and Ben Metzler and Edward Stackman took 2nd. IAEI awarded all 6 of our apprentices a scholarship to our JATC program.

Apprentice of the Month

May 2026 **Skylar Bachand**



June 2026 **Ben Metzler**



On Saturday June 6th, IBEW members came together for the very 1st IBEW local 68 car. with more than 30 members who showed up with their rides the afternoon was full of high octane rubbers.



Members brought out their classic muscle cars, trucks, motorcycles, imports, and more. The event organizer Adam Boardman (Union Steward) mentioned of a possible fall car show but nothing set in stone at this time.



On May 30th members came together again to participate in another game night. The game night featured an assortment of games and provided by members. These fun-filled afternoons give members a space to relax, and remind us that the union hall isn't always just for business.

The next game night is Saturday July 25th from 12pm to 6pm.



Wireman's Brotherhood Fund: Golf Tournament

WIREMAN'S BROTHERHOOD FUND



Wireman's Brotherhood Fund: Clay Shoot

It is an object in our constitution of the IBEW that we are to "assist each other in sickness or distress."

One way members can accomplish this is by

becoming a member of the Wireman's Brotherhood Fund or by donations or participating in our annual events. This helps us by fostering solidarity and creating feelings of friendship in a time when they may feel vulnerable.

For just \$25 a year, your membership guarantees you pay from the fund if you are ever sick or injured and can't work. Funds are raised and given back to our union siblings experiencing unfortunate circumstances. Join now!

Upcoming Events

August 2026

WBF Golf Tournament

Saturday August 29th @ 7:30am

Greg Mastriona Golf Courses at Hyland Hills
9650 Sheridan Blvd
Westminster, CO 80031

[More Details](#)

September 2026

Annual Clay Shoot Tournament

Saturday September 19th @ 9 am

Colorado Clays, LLC
13600 Lanewood St
Brighton, CO 80031

[More Details](#)

For general information, visit the WBF website [here](#).

WIREMEN'S BROTHERHOOD FUND
CALL: (970) 518-0671



[Join Here](#)

Before You Go...

Don't see your committee?

Please reach out to the Local 68
Newsletter Committee at

newsletter@ibew68.com

Big Thanks to our Newsletter Committee

August Gummere

Editor & Apprentice Wireman

Micheal Rhoads

Writer/ Editor & Journeyman Wireman

Dominick Hinton

*Writer/ Cofounder
Journeyman Wireman
Union Steward*

Denver EWMC Member at Large

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OPEIU # 30*