

# The 688 Wire

## IBEW Local 688

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Local 688 Website:

[www.ibew688.org](http://www.ibew688.org)

Facebook: [IBEW Local 688](https://www.facebook.com/IBEW-Local-688)



## This Issue

Message from the

Business Manger **P.1**

Organizers Report **P.2**

Good of the Union **P.3**

Special Messages **P.4**

25 on Book 1    2 on Book 2    0 Inside Apprentice    1 CW    1 CE    0 Tele data Tech

I would like to apologize to the body for the conduct of some of our members at the Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup> Union Meeting, especially Mark McDanel, who moved his seat to retreat from the loud behavior. I have spoken to President McPeek about keeping the meeting under control. After some thought, I have decided to make changes to the Referral Policy, which I have full supervision and direction over (Bylaws Article 15 Section 10). Typically, I allow input from membership for decisions made for the referral policy, but I do feel the need to go a direction where those that are willing and want to work rather than those “cherry picking” the next best job. Highlights of the changes are as follows effective **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**:

1. If applicant is rejected or turned down by the contractor, they will receive a turndown.
2. You will be allowed 3 turndowns without penalty and you will roll completely off the book for the 4<sup>th</sup> turndown. You must call job line or office to be placed at the bottom of the list within 48 hrs.
3. Turndowns will be given for calls deemed 14 days or less and calls for AK Steel.
4. Turndowns will be given for calls contractors deem 3 weeks or less to those IBEW 688 members working out of town.

The New Referral Policy can be seen here <https://ibew688.org/>

Additionally, after the Tuesday meeting, I was threatened with bodily harm, therefore the union hall will be on lockdown with limited access to the lobby/window area unless access is approved by myself or staff. The safety and wellbeing of our staff is important. I regret any inconvenience this may cause.

Negotiations with employers begin soon, hopefully the negotiating team will have something to bring to you late April for ratification. Please make yourself available to participate in the process once the date has been set.

In Solidarity,

*Carl Neutzling*

# Organizers Report



## Officers of Local Union 688:

President: Brian McPeek

Vice President: Tory Gorka

Recording Secretary:  
Sean Spears

Treasurer:  
Todd Simmermacher

## Executive Board

Donnie Hankins

Dane Hart

Dustin Endicott

Josh Klass

Malcom Salyers

Michelle Smith

Eric Ruffner

## Examining Board

Jesse Crumlick

Brian Wittibschlager

## Century Link Unit Officers

Chairman (Mansfield):  
Steve Frazee

Chairman (Greenville):  
Walker Branson



# MANSFIELD I.B.E.W. 688



## Organizers Report

I would like to apologize for not being in attendance at the General Meeting Tuesday, as I was out of state for a family medical emergency. I have had continued positive communications with a Foreman from Area Energy and Electric. I have also had continued conversations building a good relationship with electricians from Cogburn Electric, Carter Electric, Buckingham Electric, Clouse Electric, Vaughn Industries, and Area Wide Electric out of Dayton. I made some new contacts with a couple of guys from Peak Power, who are working on a project that has had been boarded up with construction fence for months, where the activity has just begun in the past few weeks.

Carl and I sat with other locals around the 4<sup>th</sup> District, as well as International Reps, and District and State Organizers via Zoom. The meeting was focused on training us in the Call Evo program, a program that would allow us to mass text all the unrepresented workers that we have contact information in our database. This program is funded by the 4<sup>th</sup> District and some of the other locals who have used this program have reported positive feedback. They are setting our local up now, and we should hopefully be online this week.

As always, if you know any unrepresented electricians, please let me know or pass on my contact information to them.

In Solidarity,

*Dave Carnes*



## Calling all Volunteers!

Calling all interested in volunteering for to help wrap up our Choice Material's project, Saturday, March 13, 2021. Choice Material's provides used items to the needy, including our own members. We are installing a sub panel in a separate building with an overhead tri-plex drop and installing some conduit for some lights and receptacles. The weather is getting nice and all help would be greatly appreciated. [Click here for map](#)

If this is something that you would like to help out with, please contact Dave Carnes at (419) 689-2421 or call the hall.



## IBEW Local 688

### Southwest Agreement Start Form:

**Employer:** Speelman Electric

**Jobsite:** Lexington 7-12

103 Clever Lane

Lexington, OH 44904

**Manhours:** 26,000

JW Hours: 10,000

Apprentice Hours: 4,000

CW Hours: 6,000

CE Hours: 6,000

**Start Date:** 02/22/2021

**Job Duration:** 16 Months

Speelman Electric put in a Regional Agreement Variance Request form and was granted the variance, which allowed them to be competitive enough to win this project.

As can be seen from the Southwest Agreement start form, the Southwest Agreement is doing what it was created to do, create Union jobs for Journeyman and apprentices alike, while at the same time allowing the contractor to be competitive, which is required to compete with the non-union contractors.

# Good of the Union



## MANSFIELD I.B.E.W. 688



### Health of the Union

4<sup>th</sup> Period Apprentice, Steven Hunt, has been released

Jack Pifher has completed round 2 of chemotherapy and is doing well.

Normally, we pass a donation container around for collection at the monthly meeting, however, due to the pandemic, we don't know when that may occur. But, if you would like to donate to the Hurt and Hungry fund, or just to help these guys through a tough time right now, you can drop off donations at the Hall and we will make sure they get it.

### Good of the Union



The Rehab Center Telethon was a huge success and we just learned that the Labor Hour, comprising of all the local labor unions, was the most successful hour this year! We doubled last year's donations of \$10,000+, with \$21,641! Thanks again, because without all those that donated and volunteered, we would not have been able to do this You can read more about it [here](#).

Deborah Rush, widow of the late Jack Rush, was overwhelmed with bills as she awaits her pension application. We have received \$901.00 in member contributions, \$500 from BCU, and \$500 from the IBEW Local 688 General Fund in donations to help her through this difficult time. If you would wish to make donation, please contact the hall for more information.

## Special Messages



**MANSFIELD I.B.E.W. 688**



"Because we organized; we broke the back of the sweatshops in this country; we have child labor laws. Those were not benevolent gifts from enlightened management. They were fought for, they were bled for, they were died for by working people, by people like us. Kids ought to know that."  
– Utah Phillips

"The trade union movement represents the organized economic power of the workers... It is in reality the most potent and the most direct social insurance the workers can establish."  
– Samuel Gompers

"With all their faults, trade unions have done more for humanity than any other organization of men (and women) that ever existed. They have done more for decency, honesty, for education, for the betterment of the race, for developing of character in men (and women) than any other association."  
– Clarence Darrow

### *Congratulations*

Mr. and Mrs. Josh Klass are the proud new parents of beautiful twins!  
Congratulations from all your Brothers and Sisters at IBEW Local 688

### *Thank you for your Service*

Tim Miller Applied for Pension for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

### *In Memoriam*

Retired Brother Fred Harold Baughman

January 24, 1929 – February 28, 2020

### *In Sympathy*

The officers and members of Local Union No. 688, IBEW extend their deepest sympathy to the families on the sorrowful loss of their loved ones.

Code Update Class has been scheduled for April 17, 2021 at the JATC Training Center  
Check out the flyer @ <https://ibew688.org/>

New Referral Policy Effective April 01, 2021 can be seen here

<https://ibew688.org/>