

**LOCAL UNION 160, IBEW
2909 Anthony Lane
St. Anthony, MN 55418**

**NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 4274**



NEWSLETTER - 167TH EDITION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014

OFFICERS

Thomas G. Koehler - Business Mgr/Financial Secretary
Alan P. Rademacher - President
Martin A. Carey - Vice President
Barbara L. Oakes - Recording Secretary
George G. Huber - Treasurer

EXECUTIVE BOARD

James P. Brereton
Dan A. McConnell
Michael J. Ringstad
Daniel S. Seawell
James M. Tobin

OFFICE STAFF

Daryl C. Tindle - Business Representative
Daniel J. Kieffer - Business Representative
Robert J. Boogren - Business Representative
Charles R. Sable - Business Representative
Jon D. Michels - Business Representative
Kurt W. Zimmerman - Business Representative
Thomas D. Cassidy - Business Representative
Kevin J. Peterson - Membership Development Rep.
Rose M. Eiden - Bookkeeper
Shari L. Johnson - Office Manager
Jenny L. Olson - Receptionist, Referrals

General Membership Meetings

Retirement Club

Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

- Minneapolis:** **February 6 & March 6, 2014**
7:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall
2909 Anthony Lane
- Becker:** **February 20 & March 20 2014**
7:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall
- Mo Valley:** **February 25, 2014 - 7:30 p.m.**
St. Anthony - Union Hall
March 28, 2014- 7:30 p.m.
Sawmill Inn
2301 S. Pokegama Ave, Gr. Rapids



Local 160 Phone Ext.

- Jenny - Ext. 101
Rose - Ext. 103
Shari - Ext. 104
Tom C. - Ext. 106
Dan - Ext. 205
Tom K. - Ext. 115
Kevin - Ext. 126
- Kurt. - Ext. 105
Charlie- Ext. 108
Bob - Ext. 109
Jon - Ext. 125

Minneapolis Tel # (612) 781-3126
Minneapolis' Fax # (612) 781-4225

Jon Michels, Grand Rapids
Tel. # (218) 326-0533
Fax # (218) 326-0534

Becker Office Numbers
Daryl Tindle - (763) 262-1197
Dan K.- (763) 262-1198
Kurt Z. - (763) 262-1189
Fax # (763) 262-1168

Local Union 160 web site - www.ibew160.org

The Retirees Club would like to welcome the following new members: George Huber and Bob Minell.

They held their annual Christmas party on December 18, 2013. Every year all retirees that show up to the party receives a ham and nuts as Christmas gifts. Approximately 60 members showed up for this years event, and enjoyed the good cake, coffee and conversation with each other.

A special thanks goes out to Pete Sandberg, Fran Stade, Tom Aspinwall and all the helpers who coordinate the meetings, cook and make the get together a great day.

All retirees are welcome to come and join for a mere \$12.00 a year.



From the Editor

Rose M Eiden

The information contained in this newsletter has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, & the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy. However, the Local Union does not guarantee that contents of the publication are correct, & statements attributed to other sources do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Local Union #160.

Perhaps they are not stars in the sky but rather openings where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are happy.

Positivity, Love and all things Good.

A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year's break.

This winter is proving to be a very cold one for us in Minnesota. My hope is that all of you and your families stay safe when venturing outside into the cold, whether you are working or just playing. Safety is very important.

As many of you know by now, Business Representative, Shawn Daly, retired on December 31, 2013. I have had the privilege of knowing Shawn for many years, as our fathers worked together and our families over the years have gotten together socially. Shawn, your dedication to the job was superb and I would like to take this time to thank you and wish you and Maureen a long, fruitful, healthy retirement. You made the days in the office more enjoyable and you will be missed.



At the beginning of December Tom Cassidy agreed to become Local 160's Business Representative to replace Shawn. Tom comes from Xcel Energy's Trouble Department. He has been involved as a union steward for many years and I know as he familiarizes himself in the job he will be a great asset to Local Union 160 as well.

The outside construction work is still going strong. Of course the bitter cold has definitely slowed down the work, but it will pick up again when the sub-zero temperatures start to rise. Local 160 has put out a record number of apprentice linemen for the outside construction area. We currently have 169 apprentice linemen and are always looking for more.

Finally, I am being told that the final paperwork is being signed off between the University of Minnesota and Veolia. Veolia will be taking over the contract the Foster Wheeler Twin Cities, Inc. has had with the U of M since 1992. It sounds like everyone in the bargaining unit working at Foster Wheeler will be hired on by Veolia.

Stay warm and stay safe!

Faternally,

Thomas G. Koehler

Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year. I hope the start of this year has been a good one for all of you.

After 40 years as an IBEW 160 member, six of the last years as a Business Representative for Local 160, I decided to retire on December 31, 2013. It is a bittersweet decision, but I am looking forward to the chapters not yet written.

I wanted an opportunity to thank the many people that supported me during my tenure - first and foremost Tom Koehler who has always mentored me and with his leadership and knowledge has successfully guided not only our union but many others in the labor movement. Special thanks to all of the 160 Reps. Daryl Tindle, Dan Kieffer, Bob Boogren, Kevin Peterson, Charlie Sable, Jon Michels, Kurt Zimmerman, as well as the Executive Board, Officers, Stewards and you my brothers and sisters of Local 160.

Please welcome my replacement Tom Cassidy. He has worked as a lineman and troubleman for over 30 years. He has been a steward in the Trouble Department for many years. His experience will be an asset in the days ahead. I know he will have the same support as I received.

Thanks to Shari, Rose and Jenny. I hate to call them 'Office Staff' as they are so much more than that to me. We could not do our jobs without them.

I have two things for you to consider in 2014.

1. Be more committed to making our union strong by getting involved in the labor movement - talk to your co-workers and attend monthly membership meetings. Every union member has a voice. We are only as strong as the weakest link.
2. Work safe and smart. Take care of each other, watch your brother's/sister's back as you would your own family. It will have a positive affect going forward. We owe it to ourselves as well as the future IBEW members.

With Gratitude,
Shawn Daly

26th Annual Nuclear Conference

I was fortunate enough to attend the 26th Annual IBEW Nuclear Conference in Las Vegas on December 4th, 5th and 6th. This was my first trip to the conference as a Business Representative for our Local Union.

The 3 day event was filled with many speakers from throughout the industry. One speaker was Vicki Bor, an attorney for the IBEW, Scott Sloan and Paul Harris, who works for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), spoke on the 10CFR26 Fitness For Duty programs.

One speaker who I found to be the most interesting was Dr. Rosa Yang. She is the Senior Technical Executive for E.P.R.I. (Electric Power Research Institute). Dr. Yang has made seven trips to Japan since the Fukushima disaster, that took the lives of five workers at the plant. She commented that the five deaths were not related to radiation exposure, but to the Tsunami itself. She said that the Japanese are taking steps to protect themselves and their reactors by building walls made of concrete around the plant sites to act as a barrier against future Tsunamis and earthquakes. They hope to have some plants running in the next year, but the decontamination and decommissioning could take up to forty years to complete.

I would like to thank our Business Manager, Tom Koehler, for the opportunity to attend the conference. It was a valuable conference for me.

In Solidarity,

Kurt Zimmerman

Business Representative

Federal Regulators OK Power Output Increase At Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

MINNEAPOLIS - The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved Xcel Energy's application to increase output at Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant to 671 megawatts from 600 megawatts.

"The Monticello nuclear plant currently generates about 10 percent of the electricity we provide customers in our Upper Midwest service territory, and it's carbon-free energy," said Dave Sparby, president and CEO, Northern States Power Co.-Minnesota, an Xcel Energy company. "The increased output will provide additional low-cost energy to our customers."

Karen Fili, site vice president at Monticello, thanked plant employees for their effort in attaining the milestone. "This is good news for our customers, for the Monticello community and for all Monticello plant employees," she said.

Within about a month, plant operators will begin slowly increasing power at small intervals to ensure everything is operating as designed. In addition to the license amendment, Xcel Energy awaits an NRC decision in spring 2014 that will allow more operator flexibility before the plant ascends to the full 671 megawatts.

The Monticello plant, which is about 40 miles northwest of Minneapolis, began operation in 1970 under a 40-year license from the NRC. The NRC subsequently approved a 20-year operating license extension. The plant currently generates enough electricity to power nearly a half million homes.

Senate confirmed Richard Griffin to serve as General Counsel. For the first time in more than a decade, the National Labor Relations Board has a full complement of members and general counsel. "A functioning NLRB is good news for all workers - whether they belong to a union or not - seeking to exercise the rights they are guaranteed by law. These essential rights include the right of workers to stand together and bargain for fair wage, safe workplaces, and other improvements on the job. America's working families applaud the Senate for taking much needed action on all NLRB nominees," declared AFL-CIO head Richard Trumka. Earlier this year, Griffin lost a nomination to the full board as part of the Senate compromise to overcome GOP opposition to a number of President Obama's nominations.



Do you have a Retirement Plan?

Here are some Questions and Concerns you may have...

What are my Retirement Pension Options?

What is the Process for me to Retire?

How could changes in my Pension affect my Retirement Plan?

What should I do for Health Care and Social Security during Retirement?

We at Union Advisors are Retirement Planning experts that work together with you to answer these questions and many more like them. **Please contact Mark Reichow or Mike Dolezal today to set up your complimentary retirement consultation at 651-447-2235.**

Union Advisors are proud partners with the IBEW Local Union 160. We look forward to helping you create a plan and working with you into the future.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Union Plus 2014 Scholarships are now available. The scholarships can be accessed online at www.unionplus.org. Click on the Legal and Education tab and then click on the Union Plus Scholarship. The deadline for this scholarship is January 31, 2014.

All other scholarships will become available sometime at the end of January 2014. All Scholarships will be accessible on our website to download, otherwise they can be mailed out to you.

If you have any questions please contact Jenny Olson at the union hall (612) 781-3126.

Day On The Hill

The IBEW Minnesota State Council's annual IBEW Day-On-The-Hill is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2014.

The IBEW State Council will schedule a meeting with the respective Minnesota Senator and House of Representative for all attendees.

The day starts off at IBEW Local Union 110 Hall. Registration is from 7:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M. At 8:30 A.M. handouts on material and explanation of the legislation and the positions the IBEW State Council has taken on each of the issues. After the meeting, members are to go to the State Capitol and meet with their respective legislators. There may or may not be Senate or House Committee meetings because the legislation (that is important to the IBEW) is being heard, but we may ask members to attend these hearings. This information will be provided during the 8:30 A.M. meeting.

If you are interested in attending, please contact the Union Office by February 26th. This is limited to the first 30 members.

Union Plus

Union Plus Mortgage Program available through Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

Home financing benefits designed with union families in mind.

If you're an active or retired union member, or the parent or child of one, you may be eligible for exclusive home financing benefits through the **Union Plus** Mortgage Program (for participating unions).

Looking to buy a home or refinance your current one?

Let us help you reach your homeowners goals - with valuable programs and tools, a wide range of financing options, and the following exclusive benefits:

- **\$500 My Mortgage Gift Award** - compliments of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage when you buy or refinance a home.
- **Exclusive mortgage assistance benefits** - with an interest-free loan or grant from **Union Plus** if you become unemployed, disabled, locked out or are on strike.
- **\$500 First-Time Home Award** - first-time buyers have an opportunity to earn a Union Plus First-Time Home Award, provided by **Union Plus**.

Call me today!

I'm a **Union Plus** Mortgage specialist with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage - and I'm here to help you find the home financing that meets your needs.

Thomas Gilbert
Union Plus Mortgage Specialist
3200 Main St. NW
Minneapolis, MN 55448
(612) 316-2114

Fifty-four Walmart workers and community, faith and union supporters were arrested during a sit-down protest in Los Angeles in a major demonstration November 9 over the company's low wages and anti-worker policies. They were jailed after sitting down in an intersection outside a Chinatown Walmart before more than 500 cheering and chanting Walmart workers and supporters. Among those taken into custody was Maria Elena Durazo, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. The action followed a day of strikes by Walmart workers at several Southern California stores. A nationwide protest against Walmart was held on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving which has become one of the biggest retail sales days in the U.S. Walmart workers and their supporters held rallies and walkouts at the retail's major facilities across the nation.

Two service technicians working for the gas company conducted an ongoing rivalry to break up the monotony of their jobs. One day, as they went around to the back of a house to read the meter, the woman who owned the house idly watched them from her kitchen window.

When they finished their business, the two technicians decided to race back to the truck—and burst into a run. As they reached their vehicle, they were surprised to see the woman from the house close on their heels.

“What’s wrong?” one asked.

She panted, “When two gas men run from my house, I figure it’s time for me to run, too!”

Opinions

On the first day of school, a first grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. It read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents...'

Ketchup

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone... 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now, she's hitting the bottle.'

Police #1

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, 'Are you a cop?' 'Yes' I answered and continued writing the report. 'My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?' 'Yes, that's right,' I told her. 'Well, then,' she said as she extended her foot toward me 'would you please tie my shoe?'

Police #2

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. 'Is that a dog you got back there?' he asked. 'It sure is,' I replied. Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, 'What'd he do?'

Elderly

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

Dress-Up

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.' 'And why not, darling?' 'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

Death

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his versions of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Father, and unto the Son, and into the hole he goes.'

School

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'

Bible

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out. 'What have you got there dear?' With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'

LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Colby Bunkers	Christopher Bunkers
Max Capra	Justin Chilefone
Brian Cleek	Mason Cook
Christopher Czech	Joseph Dishman
Michael Dolecki	Benjamin Erickson
Tyler Fittante	Curtis Fogel
Brian Grinsteiner	John Hindy
Brandon Horn	James Jusuf
Kevin Lind	Weston Lovelette
Christopher Mikulak	Eric Newman
Daniel Ocker	Jared Ortgiesen
Michael Pues	William Redinger
Cole Solmonson	John Takala
Kyle Varnson	Bradley Wesely

Membership Count = 3003

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.

- Andrew Anderson - Benco Electric
- Steve Brandes - Xcel Energy
- John Cielinski - Xcel Energy
- Jim Curry - Meeker Cooperative
- Shawn Daly - IBEW Local 160
- Raymond Dickson - Xcel Energy
- John Halvorson - Xcel Energy
- Michael Hammerlund - Xcel Energy
- Scott Hansen - Xcel Energy
- Robert Harms - Xcel Energy
- Mark Harris - Xcel Energy
- Rodney Horne - Xcel Energy
- Terry Johnson - Xcel Energy
- Robert Kaczmarek - Xcel Energy
- Kim Kadrmas - Xcel Energy
- Randy Kemper - Xcel Energy
- Dale Kipp - Xcel Energy
- Michael Korfiatis - Xcel Energy
- Debra Leech - Xcel Energy
- Thomas Mielke - Xcel Energy



GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE

FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

- Michael Blackstone - Xcel Energy
- Scott Burkland - Xcel Energy
- Thomas Carlson - Mo Valley
- Brian Ely - Xcel Energy
- Reggie Greene - Mo Valley
- Michael Kehn - Xcel Energy
- Douglas Nadeau - Mo Valley
- Bruce Rokala - Xcel Energy
- Brian Sell - Wright Hennepin



IN MEMORIAM

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our brothers. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families & friends.

- Jorge Campos - Active - Wright Tree - Died 11/21/13
- Donald Wytttenbach - Retired NSP - Died 1/4/14
- Brian Zambo - Active - Xcel Energy - Died 12/31/13

Retirements Continue

- William Moeller - Xcel Energy
- Roger Moen - Xcel Energy
- James Opatz - Xcel Energy
- Fred Packineau - Xcel Energy
- Anthony Pavlin - Xcel Energy
- Arthur Peterson - Xcel Energy
- Al Rademacher - Xcel Energy
- Dan Seawell - Xcel Energy
- Barb Sherwood - Xcel Energy
- David Sturgeon - Xcel Energy
- Larry Trushenski - Xcel Energy
- Thomas Turner - Xcel Energy
- Joy Waddick - Xcel Energy
- Mark Wheeler - Xcel Energy
- David Winter - Xcel Energy