

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

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NEWSLETTER - 180TH EDITION

MAY/JUNE 2016

OFFICERS

Robert J. Boogren- Business Mgr/Financial Secretary
Alan P. Rademacher - President
Michael J. Ringstad - Vice President
Barbara L. Oakes - Recording Secretary
Dan A. McConnell - Treasurer

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Kevin J. Kaeter
Scott E. Knight
Mark A. Ring
James M. Tobin

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Charles R. Sable - Business Representative
Jon D. Michels - Business Representative
Kurt W. Zimmerman - Business Representative
Thomas D. Cassidy - Business Representative
Martin A. Carey - Business Representative
Eric W. Spielmann - Business Representative
Rose M. Eiden - Bookkeeper
Shari L. Johnson - Office Manager
Jenny L. Olson - Receptionist, Referrals
Stacy L. Helget - Secretary

General Membership Meetings

Retirement Club

The next meeting dates are May 25th and June 22nd. All retirees are welcomed to join for just a mere \$15.00 per year.

Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

- Minneapolis: June 2 & July 7, 2016**
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall
2909 Anthony Lane
- Becker: June 16 & July 21, 2016**
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall
- Mo Valley: June 28, 2016 - 7:30 p.m.**
St. Anthony - Union Hall
- July 29, 2016 - 7:30 p.m.**
Grand Rapids Union Hall
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids
- Great River : June 9 & July 14, 2016**
6:00 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall

At this time, there are approximately 600 Local Union 160 members taking advantage of the Automatic Dues Deduction either on the first or the third Thursday of each month.

One problem that seems to occur is that the members are out of town and they do not receive their current dues receipt until they get home. It is very important for the members to carry a current dues receipt with them at all times.

A solution to solve this problem is to pay a month ahead so you will always have a current dues receipt. You can do this by calling in and paying an extra month by credit card or by having Local 160 take out two months one time only.

If you are interested in doing this, please call Stacy or Rose at the office and we can take care of it.



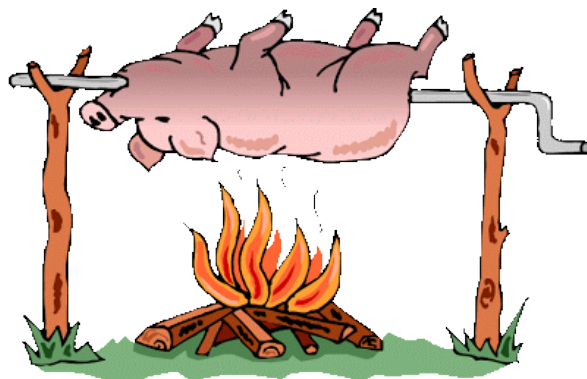
Local 160 Phone Ext.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Stacy - Ext. 102 | Jenny - Ext. 101 |
| Kurt - Ext. 105 | Rose - Ext. 103 |
| Charlie- Ext. 108 | Shari - Ext. 104 |
| Bob - Ext. 109 | Tom C. - Ext. 106 |
| | Dan - Ext. 205 |
| | 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
Marty C.- (763) 262-1197
Eric S.- (763) 262-1198
Kurt Z. - (763) 262-1189
Fax # (763) 262-1168



IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE

2016's 33rd Annual Pig Roast date has changed due to the International Convention being held the week of September 19, 2016.

So please mark your calendars: September 29, 2016 will be Local Union 160's Annual Pig Roast.

All 'A' Members Please Take Notice

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.

If you are an "A" member with the IBEW Local Union 160 or any other IBEW local you do have a small pension and death benefit that you are earning credits for every year you are an 'A' member. If your dues are more than six months behind, the International Office will drop you as a member and you will lose this benefit.. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Rose with any questions. We would hate to see you lose this benefit.

A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary

I recently had an opportunity to attend a couple of IBEW conferences. There were some common themes presented. This being an election year, we all must be very critical of the candidates. This office will not ask you to vote for a certain party, that is a personal matter. I will ask you to consider labor friendly candidates. Sometimes it is hard to get past single issues and look at the big picture, I understand that.

Our very way of life is being threatened now more than ever. Our sisters and brothers in the Public Sector Unions are having many of their rights stripped from them. Don't kid yourselves, we are next. Part of the problem is education. We need to do a better job of convincing people that Unions are not a corrupt, evil entity that only protects bad workers. Unfortunately for us the other side has done an excellent job of portraying us as such.

Everyone must do their part to change this image of Unions. A few years ago the International office instituted a program called "Code of Excellence". Compelling our members to give 8 hours work for 8 hours pay. Furthermore, we should be honest and ethical in all of our actions, do not try to cheat or steal from our employers, our behavior should be above reproach and prove the value of Union labor. The majority of our members live up to these standards, however there are some who do not. It is our obligation to encourage these members to amend their ways. We need to be known as the Union that has the hardest working, best qualified workforce, not one that protect unmotivated people.

Remember we are our brothers and sisters keepers!

Fraternally,

Robert J. Boogren

The Code of Excellence is turning heads around the industry. Our work leaves no margin for error and no room for mistakes. We're the best - thanks to our Code of Excellence.

The IBEW's Code of Excellence program ensures that everyone is on the same page when it comes to a job. Our unique approach, a partnership jointly administered by both labor and management, allows our electricians to be more productive. Emphasis is placed on communication, leading to increasing returns on worker productivity, job site efficiency and accountability.

Being competitive is about more than just wages and compensation. It's also about efficiency and accountability. Through classroom training and continuing worksite education, each worker has a clearly defined role and conduct expectation on each job site.

Each electrician in the IBEW is expected to adhere to the strictest standards of professionalism. This creates increased confidence among electrical construction and maintenance users about the value provided by IBEW workers and signatory contractors.

By setting clear standards of conduct, accountability procedures and working to educate members, IBEW workers and their contractors are the best value in business.



RETIREMENT PRESENTATION FOR IBEW LOCAL 160 MEMBERS

Preparing for Retirement: Navigating Health Care and Social Security

Come listen to professionals in their industry discuss how to properly plan, prepare, and implement your Retirement. Find out how to make the most of your Social Security benefits and navigate the new Health Care Reform. Also, learn about the importance of a sound Retirement Plan and how IBEW Members can receive a complimentary plan from Mark Reichow and Union Retirement Alliance.

The following is the seminar date and location to attend for IBEW Local 160 Members and their Spouses:

6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 7th, at Local 160 Union Hall: 2909 Anthony Lane, St. Anthony, MN 55418

- *All IBEW 160 Members are welcome
- *Spouses and Significant Others are encouraged to attend
- *Food and Beverages catered from Marino's
- *Gift Giveaways to those who attend

***To RSVP Call or Email Mark Reichow at (952) 683-9100 or mark.reichow@lpl.com.
(Please leave your name/contact information for Members and Spouses Attending)***

Unable to attend or have questions please call Mark Reichow at (952) 683-9100

Securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA/SIPC

IBEW Builds First U.S. Offshore Wind Farm

Three miles off the coast of Block Island—and 16 miles off the Rhode Island mainland—will stand the first offshore wind farm in the U.S. waters, another sign that wind energy is making inroads in North America.

It has added significance for Providence, R.I., Local 99. The construction of the five-turbine farm is a chance to be a part of history and also put IBEW members in line for good-paying jobs now and in the future.

“We’re at the dawn of a new source of energy. Being on the ground of this initial project will hopefully give us a leg up on the next project,” Business Manager Michael Daley said.

Daley said about 50 wiremen from Local 99 are expected to work on the Block Island project, most of them at the Port of Providence, where Local 99 members helped build a temporary construction facility last winter.

They have been replaced by crews assembling the five turbines and cables to support them. The turbines will be put on barges and transported to the Block Island site sometime this summer. Deepwater Wind, the windfarm owner, expects it to be generating power later this year.

It hasn’t been the easiest work. Heavy rains during the winter slowed construction of the temporary facility. So did the unexpected discovery of methane gas. Most of the parts were built overseas and French– and Spanish– speaking workers also are on the jobsite, leading to some communication difficulties.

“I’ve never been a part of anything else like it,” said Local 99 member Jack McGee, who interrupted his retirement to serve as construction manager at the temporary facility for IBEW signatory contractor Aladdin Electric.

But it’s all worth it.

“There’s going to be a lot of new construction because of this and we want to be part of it,” said Local 99 member Jeff Audet, co-owner of E.W. Audet & Sons, who heads a crew of IBEW workers assembling the turbines.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

You will most likely be receiving this newsletter in your mail boxes as the 2016 legislative session ends on May 23, 2016.

As I write this article, the Minnesota House of Representatives are in the process of blocking millions of dollars in new infrastructure investments in Minnesota. This will stop thousands of jobs to become a reality due to the GOP not willing to give Minnesotans middle class a chance to move forward and better themselves and their families.

How you may ask? Well if you recall two years ago we organized Michels Communication into our local. And with the border to border broadband roll out that is going on across the many rural counties of Minnesota, Michels has the possibility of taking a good portion of this market share away from all of the non-union contractors that have been doing most of this work for the past two years. Michels Communications has broken through this barrier last fall when Rock County, in southern Minnesota, awarded them a \$12.5 million dollar bid to install their broadband system, in part due to the State of Minnesota prevailing wage laws. This project has started early this spring and the crew are all dues paying IBEW Local 160 members, under our Tele-Data Communications Agreement. So if you happen to see Michels Communication crews out there in your travels across the state, say hi to your brothers and sisters and welcome them to Local 160.

Like I said earlier the Minnesota House GOP Caucus is wanting to block the broadband bill by underfunding the bill. Whereas, Governor Mark Dayton is asking that \$100 million be budgeted this year and the Senate is looking for \$85 million. These two later amounts will go quite a ways as to installing and employing more workers, and hopefully our members.

Due to the prevailing wage wording put in the bill, (first mile/last mile) meaning that prevailing wage rates will apply to the fiber installed from, town to town, ped to ped. And last mile, meaning, ped to home will not be prevailing wage rates. This was a contested battle in committee meetings because of the House GOP not wanting to have prevailing wage rates at all. To no end we fought back and ended up with this language in the bill. HF 3931.

We also have a stake in the transportation bill. The house bill has no dollars for transit, but the senate bill does. House bill \$7 billion and the Senate bill \$11 billion for roads, bridges, as well as transit. The Share of dollars needed from the State Legislators to get the Southwest Light Rail (SWLRT) off the ground is \$135 million. The SWLRT employees are Missouri Valley Unit members under Local 160.

After the 2016 session ends, we will be starting to look at endorsing candidates for the November 8th Election. We will need people to man the phone banks this summer and fall. If you would like to get involved, call me at the numbers below, or send me an email.

In Solidarity,

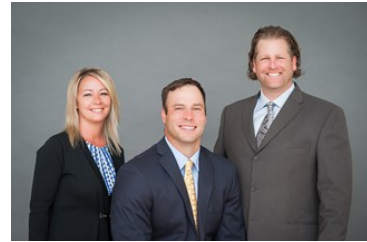
James A. Samuelson
Political Coordinator
Office: 612-781-3126
Cell: 651-263-6297
Email: jas@ibew160.org

Trivia Questions.

1. What was the name of the ship that rescued the survivors of the Titanic?
HMS Endeavor
RMS Carpathis
The Olympia
U.S.S. Constitution
2. What was the name of the play that President Lincoln was watching when he was shot and mortally wounded?
Our American Cousin
A Bitter Fate
Uncle Tom's Cabin
The Heart of Maryland
3. In 1906, the town of Derry Church, Pennsylvania was renamed after which man?
Samuel Adams
Benjamin Franklin
Milton Hershey
Charlie Chaplin



'We Are Your Retirement Team'



ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT RETIRING IN 2016?

WHAT WE HELP MEMBERS WITH;

Pension Option Questions

Social Security Benefit Planning

Secure Income in Retirement

Long Term Care Planning

Pension Application Questions and Execution

We have extensive experience working with members like you, a solid understanding of Your pension plans, and strong focus on retirement income planning.

Please contact Mike Dolezal or Jeff Kolodjski with Union Advisor to schedule a complimentary, no obligation meeting. We look forward to helping you pursue the answers you are looking for!

Office: 651-447-2235 and visit our website www.uadvisors.com

Securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA/SIPC

Investment advice offered through Great Valley Advisor Group, a registered investment advisor.

IBEW 160, Union Advisors, Great Valley Advisor Group, and LPL Financial are all separate entities.

Trivia Questions Continue.

4. President Ronald Reagan would give out jars of which candy to White House visitors?

- Gummi Bears
- Hershey Kisses
- Jelly Beans
- Skittles

5. What did Elvis Presley do for a living before he became "The King of Rock and Roll"?

- Hairdresser
- Disc Jockey
- Truck Driver
- Bricklayer

6. Whose official residence is on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C.?

- Secretary of Defense
- U.S. Vice President
- FBI Director
- Mayor of Washington, D.C.

Connecticut Line Workers Win Significant Arbitration Against PSNH

Workers win arbitration case after being suspended for refusing to do work that put their health and safety at risk.

Some people claim that “unions are no longer necessary” because they have already done their job. Thanks to unions we have workplace protections and occupational safety requirements. Just because these laws are in place does not mean that employers actually abide by them.

During the week of Thanksgiving in 2014, most of New England was buried in snow and ice from a barrage of winter storms. One storm knocked out power for most of the southern part of New Hampshire.

Tens of thousands of Granite Staters spent the Thanksgiving holiday in their homes with no heat, hot water or electricity.

To help restore power as quickly as possible Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) sent out the call to line workers across the region. Workers from Connecticut Power and Light (IBEW Local 420) answered that call. Giving up on their own holiday plans they drove through the remnants of the storm to help restore power to the people of New Hampshire.

Once they arrived in New Hampshire they were informed of their duties and what they would need to do to get power restored.

But there was a problem.

PSNH instructed the CT line workers to repair damaged 34.5k voltage lines throughout the area. The CT crew was not trained or equipped to handle these high voltage line repairs. When the workers objected the PSNH supervisor, Enos Stevens, told them, the lines would not be energized and they could just test the line for “potential with hot sticks.”

Again the workers objected as they were not trained nor equipped to handle these types of lines. Stevens responded by saying, “this is the work we are doing.”

After the workers objected, Stevens threatened the workers with disciplinary actions for failing to do their assigned tasks. Stevens said, “If you are not going to do the job, you are all going home.”

Instead of risking their own personal safety, seventeen of the workers continued to refuse the assigned tasks and were sent home. It was not until a few days later that the workers found out that they had all been suspended without pay for insubordination.

“[PSNH] had other work available but chose to send the workers home instead of sending them out to work on lower voltage lines,” said Frank Cirillo Business Agent for the IBEW Local 420 in a recent phone interview. Cirillo estimated that only one of the ten possible tasks the workers could have been assigned would have required handling this 34.5k voltage lines. “They could have been utilized in other areas to help restore power to the people in New Hampshire, but instead were sent home.”

The union immediately filed grievances on behalf of the workers and took the case all the way to arbitration.

In his decision the arbitrator clearly stated that, “the Company did not have just cause to suspend the grievants for 5 days without pay,” He went on to say, “An employee is under no duty to obey an order which would endanger his life or health.”

All seventeen workers had their records expunged and were “made whole for all wages and benefits lost as a result of the suspension.”

After the arbitrator’s decision was made, Cirillo said, “This is an excellent decision.”

Cirillo said he was “not surprised by the decision,” but highlighted the importance of the arbitrator’s decision to uphold the workers safety concerns and that workers should not be forced to do a job that would put their safety at risk.

This case once again proves that even though we have mandatory safety requirements, employers choose to ignore them and risk the health and safety of workers. Without the support of their union behind them these workers would have been wrongfully disciplined or worse seriously injured on the job.

It is a fact that unions helped to pave the way for many of the safety regulations we have in place now, but without unions who will hold employers accountable for abiding by these safety regulations?

This just one example of why unions are needed just as much today as they were a hundred years ago.

LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Francisco Arroyo	Christian Bakken
Robert Braa	Zachary Bray
Wayne Brown	Douglas Chapman
Nicholas Dennison	Phillp Dorn
Ethan Duchene	Cody Eischens
Michael Erlitz	Wes Greeley
Brad Heller	Samuel Hesse
Jesse Hill	Zachary Hoernemann
Aaron Hyams	Joseph Johnson
Kevin Johnson	Logan Josephson
Connor Karth	Eric Kasel
Lucas Lamay	Richard Leight
Cody Martell	Tanner Olson
Jacob Reinartz	Garrett Remker
Cody Riedel	Nathan Schwartz
Mitchell Siefert	Allen Topinka
Reinier Torres Perez	Kyle Wicklund
Kyle Zimmerman	

Membership Count = 3102

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.

Sam Alfano - Xcel Energy
Timothy Fabel - Xcel Energy
Keith Haugen - Xcel Energy
Daniel Holland - Xcel Energy
David Hoo - Xcel Energy
Frank Keck - Xcel Energy
Dennis Lange - Xcel Energy
Paul Lundgren - Willmar Municipal
William McCarron - Xcel Energy
Lawrence Peluf - Xcel Energy
Mark Rask - Xcel Energy
James Rowan Jr. - Mo Valley
Timothy Saari - Xcel Energy
Paul Seawell - Xcel Energy
David Shappell - Connexus Energy
Byron Stahl - Wright Tree Service



GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE

FOLLOWING MEMBERS:



Joshua Beam - Veolia
James Beinhorn - Xcel Energy
Ivey Borgwardt - Veolia
Charles Busch - Xcel Energy
Thomas Cox - Xcel Energy
Eric Kloss - Connexus Energy
Terrance Lien - Great River Energy
John Rahier - North Istasca
William Scott - Veolia
Benjamin Sillerud - Wright Hennepin
John Voita - Mo Valley

IN MEMORIAM

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

William Black - Active Great River Energy - Died 4/26/16
Craig Riendeau - Active Mo Valley - Died 4/20/16
Dave Winter - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 3/15/16

Answers to the Trivia Questions

1. RMS Carpathia
2. Our American Cousin
3. Milton Hershey
4. Jelly Beans
5. Truck Driver
6. U.S. Vice President

Sail beyond the horizon; fly higher than you ever thought possible; magnify your existence by helping others; be kind to people and animals of all shapes and sizes; be true to what you value most; shine your light on the world; and be the person you were born to be.

Blake Beattie