

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

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NEWSLETTER - 186TH EDITION

JULY/AUGUST 2017

OFFICERS

Robert J. Boogren- Business Mgr/Financial Secretary
- President

Darrin L. Helget- Vice President

Mark A. Ring - Recording Secretary

Dan A. McConnell - Treasurer

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Clayton E. Kaeter

Kevin J. Kaeter

Scott E. Knight

Randal L. Nass

James M. Tobin

OFFICE STAFF

Daniel J. Kieffer - Assistant Business Manager

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

Michael J. Ringstad - Business Representative

Andrew D. Kieffer - Membership Development

Rose M. Eiden - Bookkeeper

Shari L. Johnson - Office Manager

Stacy L. Helget - Secretary

Ami L. Johnson - Receptionist/Referral Clerk

General Membership Meetings

Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

- Minneapolis:** August 3 & September 7, 2017
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall
2909 Anthony Lane
- Becker:** August 17 & September 21, 2017
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall
- Mo Valley:** August 29, 2017 - 7:30 p.m.
St. Anthony - Union Hall
September 22, 2017 - 7:30 p.m.
Grand Rapids Union Hall
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids
- Great River :** August 10 & September 14 2017
6:00 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall



Local 160 Phone Ext.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Stacy - Ext. 102 | Ami - Ext. 101 |
| Kurt - Ext. 105 | Rose - Ext. 103 |
| Mike - Ext. 108 | Shari - Ext. 104 |
| Bob - Ext. 109 | Tom C. - Ext. 106 |
| Andy - Ext. 126 | 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

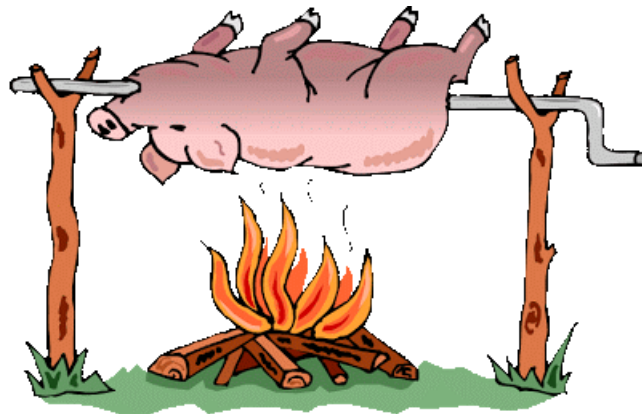
From the Editor

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.

In order to properly follow IBEW policies and procedures, effective June 2017, IBEW Local 160 will no longer be able to immediately process payments for expenses incurred (mileage, time off, attendance fees, hotels, etc.) by Local Union members, officers and staff. Checks will be disbursed as soon as possible and should be available within one month after expense statements are submitted.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we make this required change to our procedures.



IBEW Local Union 160's 34th Annual Pig Roast

When: Thursday, September 28, 2017

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where: IBEW Local 160's Hall
2909 Anthony Lane
St. Anthony, MN 55418

Last year when his high school held a fundraiser, Luis Sanchez hoped he'd have the winning bid on a trumpet that was being auctioned. Sadly, another student outbid Luis, but that made him even more determined to save for this year's auction.

Though music is Luis's passion, his family doesn't have the income to help him pay for a used instrument. Luis has worked and saved for years so he could buy his own trumpet.

Last year the winning bid was \$500. This year, Luis had his life savings of \$600 and the determination to walk away with the prize. Imagine the disappointment he felt when a bidding war started and the trumpet he wanted was sold for \$1200.

Before his sadness could take root, the winning bidder walked over and handed him the trumpet. It was the father of a student who knew how dedicated Luis was about playing, and had decided to buy the instrument for him.

Luis was moved to tears with gratitude. This act of generosity was a powerful reminder of the good that is happening in the world.

Adapted from KRCA Sacramento

A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I hope everyone is having a great summer. It's hard to believe we are already halfway through the summer.

As you well know, the election results are in (see next page) with the exception of the President. I would like to congratulate all the winners. Ballots went out for the runoff election on July 10, 2017. They will be counted on Monday, August 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the union hall. I would like to thank Judge Jeff Peterson and tellers Ken Weber, John Turpin and Wade Crittenden for all their hard work they have done and will continue to do until all offices are filled.

With the June 11th major hail/thunderstorm, and the recent damage from the storm this week (July 12, 2017) there are many tired members out working. There have been a couple of injuries in the last month or so. Matt Stachowski, Lineman for Connexus Energy and Travis Watkins, out of Local 426 were seriously injured on the job. To find out how Matt is doing there is a Caring Bridge site that Matt's wife Melissa keeps up. There are times when things do happen, but we must do everything we can to minimize the risk of injuries. Please, I can't stress this enough, we must take the time to do all of our jobs safely!

Two groups recently signed their first contracts, Damage Prevention Technicians and Distribution Operations Coordinators, both with Xcel Energy. Please welcome these new members into IBEW Local Union 160. Recent contracts that have been ratified are East Central Energy, Minnesota Valley Electric Coop, North Itasca and Veolia. I would like to thank the Business Reps and negotiating committees for all their hard work and long hours everyone had put into the negotiations of the contracts.

We are continuing our talks with Xcel Energy to supply a temporary workforce for the Sherco transition from coal to gas. The plan is to work Sherco like we did with Riverside Plant and Black Dog Plant.

I hope the rest of your summer is full of joyful times with your families and friends. Stay safe out there.

In Solidarity,

Robert J. Boogren
Office: (612) 781-3126
Cell: (612) 308-5520
Fax: (612) 781-4225

Dave Audette

Dave Audette has been nominated by the apprentices of Local 160 as the June 2017 Journeyman of the Month. Dave is a Local 160 journeyman lineman who graduated from the Missouri Valley Line Apprenticeship program. He has over 10 years of experience and is currently working for MP Technologies as a distribution foreman. Dave is a proud union member who regularly attends union meetings and is serving as a union steward.

Dave is known for his patience and willingness to teach. His calm personality makes him very approachable for questions and concerns. Dave is very thorough with paperwork, tailboards, and job procedures. Apprentices state that his crew is both fun and rewarding. Dave is dedicated to completing his work in the safest and most efficient way possible. He encourages his apprentices to problem solve and also educates them on proper procedures and techniques. One apprentice stated "Dave stands out! He is an example of how every journeyman should be!" Another apprentice wrote "Dave makes this trade better!".

Missouri Valley would like to congratulate Dave and commend him for engaging in the education of the next generation of lineman.



Local Union 160 would also like to congratulate Dave on this wonderful award. We are very proud of you Dave.

2017 ELECTION WINNERS

President:

Vice President: Darrin L. Helget

Recording Secretary: Mark A. Ring

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Robert J. Boogren

Treasurer: Dan A. McConnell

Executive Board:
 Clayton E. Kaeter
 Kevin J. Kaeter
 Scott E. Knight
 Randal L. Nass
 James M. Tobin



As of the results of the Ballot Count, there will be a “Runoff Election” between candidates Kenneth R. Conrad and Alan P. Rademacher for President. The “Runoff Election” ballots will be counted on August 7, 2017

Congratulations to all.

2017 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

David C. Ring College/University Scholarships:	Winners:	Abigail Wolters	Parent - Kevin Wolters
		Alyssa Wagner	Parent - Kenneth Wagner
	Alternates:	Cassidy Resmen	Parent - Allen Resmen
		Connor Bryan	Parent - Doug Bryan
David C. Ring Vocational, Technical or Trade:	Winners:	Isaac Zimmerman	Parent - Kurt Zimmerman
		Brandon David Wolff	Parent - Brian Wolff
		No other eligible applicants	
Amy O’Sullivan College/University Scholarships:	Winners:	Cassandra Hamm	Parent - David Hamm
		Savanah Bettin	Parent - Susan Bettin
	Alternates:	Anastasia Klecker	Parent - Patrick Klecker
		Jayde Kaeter	Parent - Kevin Kaeter
Amy O’Sullivan Vocational, Technical or Trade:	Winners:	Rachel Hockert	Parent - Douglas Bitzan
		Jackson Kmitch	Parent - Joel Kmitch
	Alternates:	Samuel Albin Kmitch	Parent - Joel Kmitch
		Isaac Zimmerman	Parent - Kurt Zimmerman

Congratulations to all the winners and alternates.

SAFETY NEWS

BEWARE OF FALLING OBJECTS

Bill was a foreman on a lattice erecting crew. He was standing near the base of the tower when he was hit by a bolt that had fallen out of a worker's hand. Luckily Bill's hardhat took the blow. The hardhat broke and fell to the ground. Upset and dazed, Bill looked up to see who had dropped the piece of hardware from above. Unfortunately, a nut had also been dropped and Bill took a direct hit to the forehead. Bill was knocked out and suffered severe bleeding and brain swelling. Bill was rushed to the hospital and remained there for two weeks until he was cleared to leave.

Objects are dropped or thrown from heights daily on many line crews. This is a huge hazard and safety concern. There are more than 50,000 "struck by falling object" OSHA recordables every year. That is equivalent to a dropped object every 10 minutes!

The types of objects that commonly fall are hand-held radios, hard hats, cell phones, pieces of construction debris, nuts and bolts, small tools such as hammers, wrenches and pliers.

Here are six ways in which workers can mitigate the risk and injuries associated with falling objects.

1. **Provide warning** - Verbally warn and communicate with both employees and the public about the drop zone. Place signs and caution tape around drop zone.
2. **Secure loads** - Properly secure loads that will be lifted to a higher level. Use proper rigging equipment and techniques during picks.
3. **Properly move loads** - When moving a load, it is important to never lift, lower, or swing a load over any person. Use a designated spotter to keep employees away from drop zone.
4. **Keep a clean worksite** - Clutter and debris are one of the main causes of falling objects. Keep work areas clean and tidy while putting tools in proper storage devices when not in use.
5. **Administrative controls** - Administrative controls are used to prevent or stop falling objects in the workplace. Examples of these type of controls include toe boards on scaffolds, nets to capture falling objects, fences and barricades to keep workers out of fall zones, and tool tethers to keep tools attached to a structure or person.
6. **Protective equipment** - When all else fails the last line of defense is personal protective equipment. Anyone who is going to be in an area where the potential for falling objects exists needs to wear a hard hat and steel toed boots.

Pre-Trip Inspection

It is required by law to inspect the truck and trailer before the start of the work day. The driver is responsible to ensure the vehicle is safe for operation and free from defects.

Currently there are no guidelines as to how long a pre-trip inspection should take. The key to a good inspection is to take your time and work systematically around each section of the vehicle. If everything is checked properly a full inspection can take approximately 30 minutes.

Unfortunately in linework, taking the time to complete a thorough pre-trip inspection can add up to a large amount of time that could have been spent on the right of way. This is probably why inspections become rushed. Although inspections usually exceed minimum requirements, we all can occasionally miss a few details.

Here are some commonly overlooked inspection items:

Are the wheels chocked? Chocks are a simple safety measure that help prevent accidental movement of the vehicle. During inspection, the engine is running and tests are performed on the braking system and other apparatus under the vehicle.

Is the cab clean? If the dash is filled with junk, it can prevent the windshield defrosting and defogging from working properly. Garbage can also hinder mechanical operations by getting lodged under pedals and other devices. Also, cleanliness of the cab gives a quick impression of the operator.

Are the brakes in working order? Inspecting the brake system requires checks to be made from both inside and outside of the cab. Brakes are one of the hardest working components on any vehicle and are subject to a lot of wear and tear. Take time to insure air lines are secure and free of leaks at the seals on the glad hands.

Do you have an emergency kit? It is required to carry an emergency kit containing spare fuses/circuit breakers, warning hazard triangles and a fire extinguisher. Keep warning triangles clean and check the service date on the fire extinguisher.

Are the reflectors clean and working? Reflectors can greatly increase the visibility of your vehicle at night and can pose a hazard if they are not functioning properly. Make sure that reflectors are free of cracks and clean off any dirt. *Continued on next page*

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Do you have the correct paperwork? Pre-trip and post-trip inspections are to be completed daily and the driver's daily log book needs to be filled out correctly. Keep annual vehicle inspection reports, insurance cards, and other documents in a safe clean location. Keep track of expiration dates on annual inspection reports and insurance cards.

Do you know the height of the vehicle? Most construction vehicles will have the height labeled in the cab. If there is no height reference have a company mechanic or fleet manager measure from the highest point of the vehicle to ground and note the height in a visible spot in the cab.

Questions and concerns should be brought forth to both foreman and fleet manager.

CRAZY LAWS - MORE FUNNY THOUGHTS TO PONDER

It is illegal to die in the Houses of Parliament.

It is an act of treason to place a postage stamp bearing the British king or queen's image upside-down.

It is illegal for a woman to be topless in Liverpool except as a clerk in a tropical fish store.

Eating mince pies on Christmas Day is banned in Britain.

The head of any dead whale found on the British coast automatically becomes the property of the King, and the tail of the Queen.

If someone knocks on your door in Scotland and needs the use of your toilet, you are required to let them enter.

In the UK a pregnant woman can legally relieve herself anywhere she wants, including in a policeman's helmet.

In Trinity College students can demand a glass of wine at any time during an exam, provided they are wearing their sword.

It is legal to murder a Scotsman, within the ancient city walls of York, but only if he is carrying a bow and arrow.

In Ohio, it is against state law to get a fish drunk.

In England it is illegal to be drunk on Licensed Premises. [pubs, clubs and bars, restaurants]

In London, it is illegal to flag down a taxi if you have the plague.

In Florida, unmarried women who parachute on Sundays can be jailed.

In Scotland it is illegal to be a drunk in possession of a cow.

In France, it is forbidden to call a pig Napoleon.

Also in France it is illegal to kiss on railways.

In San Salvador, drunk drivers can be punished by death before a firing squad.

In Vermont, women must obtain written permission from their husbands to wear false teeth.

In Massachusetts Christmas was outlawed in 1659.

In New Hampshire it is against the law to tap your feet, nod your head or in any way keep time to the music in a tavern, restaurant or café.

In Oklahoma criminals can be fined, arrested or jailed for making faces at a dog (Barking Mad).

In Germany it is illegal to wear a mask.

It is illegal for a student to walk through Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, without a sword.

In Anthwerp, Belgium, it is illegal to wear a red hat and walk down the main street.

In Singapore failure to flush a public toilet after use may result in a very large fine.

In Australia it is illegal to dress up as batman.



UADVISORS

Identify. Plan. Pursue. Independent Advice.
Goal Based Planning.

Interest Rates are Rising

What Impact will this have on your Pension Benefits?

As of 2014, the GATT rate calculations changed from November rates to August rates. This may bring up the following questions to address regarding pension and retirement planning:

What is the GATT rate?

How does this interest rate affect my Pension Benefits?

Is this the right year for me to retire?

How do I plan for my retirement?

Reach out to our office to discuss how this could effect you individually.

Your Retirement Team!

Office: (651) 447-2235

Email: Info@UAdvisors.com

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, Great Valley Advisor Group, U Advisors and LPL Financial are separate entities.

GREY FOX
FINANCIAL PARTNERS

**Retirement is earned.
You deserve to enjoy it.**

*We help you take full advantage of the opportunities this new lifestyle entails.
Contact us to learn more about how to plan your retirement today.*

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LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Joseph Anderson	Daniel Bengston
George Buchholz	Tyler Fosse
Julius Franklin	Christopher Grant
Noah Haaland	Adam Hurt
Brent Johnson	Michael Karlinsky
Cody Korva	Nicklous Labarre
Matthew Lutterman	Mark Neumann
Daniel Nohner	Ryan Pappenfuss
Tyler Peterson	Andrew Prescott
Hunter Rademacher	Kristopher Roberts
Jordan Rock	Kevin Scheiber
Michael Seavy	Ryan Tremain
Cory Wensmann	Jeremy Wroblewski
Devon Young	

Membership Count = 3169

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.

Barry Adams - Great River Energy
Gregory Baker - Asplundh Tree
Mark Bistodeau - Xcel Energy
Thomas Cox - Xcel Energy
Kenneth Dehn - Xcel Energy
Jeffrey Erickson - Xcel Energy
John Hackey - Xcel Energy
James Hansen - Xcel Energy
Patrick Heller - Xcel Energy
Gregory Holcomb - Xcel Energy
Andrea Houselog - Lyon Lincoln
Kevin Jelen - Xcel Energy
Paul Laberda - Xcel Energy
Sherwood Lowry - Xcel Energy
Mark Markovic - Xcel Energy
Timothy McCann - Xcel Energy
Greg Olson - Xcel Energy
Scott Olson - Xcel Energy
Kevin Preiss - Xcel Energy
Ronald Soukup - Veolia
Randy Sterry - Wright Tree



GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE

FOLLOWING MEMBERS:



Lloyd Brandt - Great River Energy
Brian Hayes - Great River Energy
Jeffrey Hicks - Connexus Energy
Terry Lien - Great River Energy
Marvin Mickelson - Great River Energy
Michael Shanahan - Xcel Energy
Eric Spanier - Xcel Energy
Matthew Stachowski - Connexus Energy
Trevor Stoneberg - Great River Energy
Charles Wilson - Xcel Energy

IN MEMORIAN

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

Phillip (Bud) Biren - Retired NSP - Died 6/2017

Joshua Fontenoy - Active Mo Valley - Died 5/30/17

James Hunter - Retired NSP - Died 6/14/17

Emil (Jake) Jakubic Jr. - Retired NSP - Died 1/26/17

Dale E. Johnson - Retired NSP - Died 5/28/17

John Novakowski - Retired Mo Valley - 5/26/17

A man was not very fond of his wife's cat. One day while she was away, the man took the cat for a drive, and let him out in the park.

When he returned home he was surprised to find the cat lounging in the driveway.

The next day the man once again snatched up the cat, but this time drove him to the next county, 30 miles away. Once again the cat was comfy and content at home by the time the man returned.

The following day, the man put the cat in the car drove a few miles, made a left turn, continued on for few blocks and made a right turn, crossed the bridge, made a left turn, drove a few more miles, parked and let the cat out.

The man phoned his wife hours later and asked, "The cat wouldn't happen to be there, would he?"

"Of course the cat is here," his wife replied. "Why do you want to know?"

"Can you put him on the phone?" the man asked. "I'm lost and I need directions."

Adapted from the SunnySkyz website