

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

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**TWIN CITIES, MN**  
**PERMIT NO. 4274**



## **NEWSLETTER - 188TH EDITION**

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017**

### **OFFICERS**

Robert J. Boogren- Business Mgr/Financial Secretary

Alan P. Rademacher- 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:** Dec 7, 2017 & January 4, 2018  
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall  
2909 Anthony Lane
- Becker:** Dec 21, 2017 & January 18, 2018  
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St  
Becker Union Hall
- Mo Valley:** December 19, 2017 - 7:30 p.m.  
St. Anthony - Union Hall  
January 26, 2018- 7:30 p.m.  
Grand Rapids Union Hall  
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids
- Great River :** Dec 14, 2017 & January 11, 2018  
6:00 p.m. - 12423 Pine St  
Becker Union Hall



### Local 160 Phone Ext.

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

**Attention Retirees:** Holiday Party will be held on December 20, 2017. Come join in the festivities (cake, door prizes, etc.) Yearly dues are \$15.00. So mark your calendars and come and enjoy.



## LOCAL 160'S HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Thanksgiving - November 23 & 24, 2017  
Christmas - December 25 & 26, 2017  
New Year's - January 1, 2018

## REMINDER

The Delegates of the 39th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in St. Louis, Missouri, during the week of September 19 through 23, 2016, approved several amendments to Article IX of the *IBEW Constitution*. Accordingly, effective January 1, 2018, there will be an increase of one dollar (\$1.00) for the per capita that is paid to the General Fund, and therefore, the rate for all members shall increase.

For the members who have payroll deduct for their dues, your employer will be notified of this change. The members who automatically have their dues deducted out of their checking or savings account once a month, will see the increase whenever your January dues are paid.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to call the Union Hall.



With the Holiday Season upon us, this is just a reminder to drive safely to and from your parties, always keep your tree watered, eat lots of goodies and have a very joyful season with your families and friends.

# *A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary*

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Once again we are approaching the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. The busy time of year where our minds might not be totally on the job but on the thought of everything we need to do to get ready for the holidays. We need to be focused on our jobs to prevent ourselves and others working with us from being injured. I want to see everyone go home to their families and celebrate the holiday season.

Speaking of focusing on the job and not being injured there seems to be more injuries this year but so far it appears the total number of injuries are lower, however, the ones we have had are more severe. So again, please be safe out there.

As you know Minnesota is the host for this years Super Bowl. That festive party in February that brings in millions of dollars and thousands of visitors to the metro area. Along with that comes a logistical nightmare. We will have members from our Overhead, Underground, Trouble, Breaker, and Relay departments working around the clock during that time so everything will go without a hitch.

Another item I wish to stress to our membership, every member is important no matter what classification you are working under. If at any time you have an issue or questions please feel free to call. If you can't get a hold of your rep due to them being out of the office ask to speak to another rep or myself. Everyone one at the hall is here to help the membership.

Have a safe holiday season, and remember to say thanks to all who are serving or have served our country because without them we would have nothing!

In Solidarity,

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

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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On September 21, 2017 I attended the fall I.B.E.W. Safety Caucus in Indianapolis, Indiana. There were many speakers and so much valuable information shared throughout the meeting I thought I would share a little of it with you.

The one topic that caught my ear was the Cyanide Gas being released due to underground fires in vaults. There is a Local Union out of New York who has raised the issue with O.S.H.A. (Occupational Safety and Health Administration). What they are finding is that the insulation that the wires are wrapped in are catching fire and is producing the gas, putting their members in harms way. Their equipment does not detect the gas, therefore, the local fire department is also dispatched when they are because they do have the proper monitors for the crews. The Company is in the process of purchasing the correct monitors for the crews.

From what they know, the insulation is a 3M product that was used in the late 60's.

I have brought this up to the Company at the Joint Safety Meeting. Also if anyone in the Xcel's Underground Section have any information, I would love to hear from you.

The Caucus ended on a very sad note. As of that date, the I.B.E.W. has lost four (4) members in Florida restoring power caused by Hurricane Irma and one (1) Lineman is in very critical condition. Please, please work safe and continue to take care of each other.

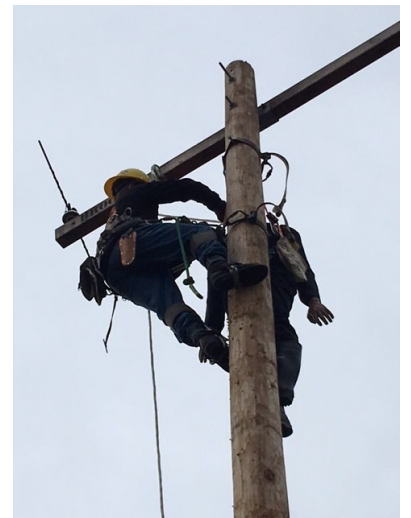
In Solidarity,

Kurt W. Zimmerman  
Business Representative  
Office: (612) 781-3126  
or  
(763) 262-1189  
Cell: (612) 991-0022

## Local 160 apprentices compete in the 34th annual International Lineman's Rodeo



*Left to right: Jon Michels (Business Rep), Mike Ringstad (Business Rep), Tyler Carlson, Garret Ernhart, Ben Kelly, Josh John, Bob Boogren (Business Manager) and David Borner (Mo Valley Instructor).*



More than 1,000 competitors and their families traveled to Kansas City for the 2017 International Lineman's Rodeo and safety conference. The competition was the largest in the event's 34-year history. During the multi-day event, apprentice linemen competed in splicing, knot tying, hurt man rescue, speed climbing, a distribution mystery event, and a written knowledge test.

IBEW Local 160 sponsored four Missouri Valley apprentices to compete in the 2017 Contractor Division. Minnesota instructor, David Borner, had been working with the participants throughout the year to prepare them for the competition. It was an exciting weekend with all four apprentices placing in the top 15, including two podium appearances. Garret Ernhart placed 3rd and Ben Kelly placed 5th to lead the Local 160 team. Finishing close behind was Tyler Carlson in 8th and Josh John wrapping up the team with a 15th place finish. Local 160 is very proud of all four of you and congratulations on your fantastic performances.

## 2017 34th Annual Pig Roast

It was another beautiful day in the neighborhood. Over 500 Local 160 members, retirees and business associates stood in line to sign up for door prizes, cope prizes, food and oh yes, the Plinko Board. The food was again excellent, thanks to Bill Cort and our chefs Dan Gardas, John Harris, Troy Gutzwiller and Skip Rosnow. Thank you guys.

Below are three behind the scenes pictures. Ami is ready along with Al Rademacher and Dan McConnell for the event to start. Our kitchen crew did a perfect job. Thanks guys, it is not easy to be the kitchen crew.

Winners of a fishing rod & reel from Grey Fox Financial are Jim Benolkin, Dan Boe Michael Kocak, Joe Morgan and Jamie Swartzter.

Winner of the Dewalt Tool Set from Union Advisors was Gerard Thomas.

### Cope Prize Winners:

Bob Kaczmarek - Cordless Tool Combo Kit

Trevor Huerstel - \$100 Best Buy Gift Card

Jim Jechorek - \$100 Home Depot Gift Card

Jamie Swartzter - \$100 Scheels Gift Card

Wade Crittenden - \$100 Home Depot Gift Card

Brian Hopp - \$100 Cabela's Gift Card

Ben Carey (yes again :) - Dewalt Compact Drill/Driver Kit

Stacy Helget - \$100 Best Buy Gift Card

Kevin Kaeter - \$100 Cabela's Gift Card

Jeff Bosell - \$150 Cabela's Gift Card

Harry Sanich - Dewalt Cordless Circular Saw

Al Rademacher - \$100 Home Depot Gift Card

Terry Haley - Dewalt Brushless Impact Driver Set

Sue Boogren - \$100 Cabela's Gift Card

Jim Tobin - Dewalt Brushless Impact Driver Set

Dan Seawell - \$100 Gilleland Gift Card

Ben Carey - \$100 Best Buy Gift Card

Barry Alpern - Wild Tickets

Terry Stade - \$100 Cabela's Gift Card

Eric Spielmann - \$100 Gilliland Gift Card

Jerald (Sally) Sandberg - Wild Tickets



## CHRISTMAS TRIVIA QUIZ

- Which American state was the first to make Christmas an official holiday?
  - Connecticut
  - Alabama
  - Alaska
  - North Carolina
- Which state was the last to make Christmas an official holiday?
  - Oklahoma
  - Wyoming
  - Arizona
  - Michigan
- What was the name of the dog that belonged to the Grinch in Dr. Seuss' book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*?
  - Rudolph
  - Toto
  - Max
  - Cerberus
- Which star led the magi to Jesus?
  - Star of David
  - North Star
  - Star of Bethlehem
  - Angel Star
- Santa's only female sleigh-pulling reindeer, Vixen, has antlers. True or false?
  - False. Only the male reindeer have antlers
  - True. Both male and female reindeer have antlers.
  - True. But they are really no bigger than slight bumps on their heads.
  - False. Some females have been known to have antlers, but that is extremely rare.
- What was pictured on the first stamp printed for the Christmas season?
  - Santa Claus
  - An angel
  - A star
  - A rose
- Electric Christmas tree lights were first used in what year?
  - 1925
  - 1700
  - 1895
  - 1750
- Which of these events did NOT occur on Christmas Day?
  - Hong Kong fell to the Japanese in WWII.
  - Ebenezer Scrooge was visited by four ghosts.
  - King Arthur pulled Excalibur from the stone.
  - Charlemagne was crowned Holy Roman Emperor.
- How many sides does a snowflake have?
  - 6
  - 8
  - 10
  - 12

*Answers to Christmas Trivia Quiz*

1. b. Alabama
2. a. Oklahoma
3. c. Max
4. c. Star of Bethlehem
5. b. True. Both male and female reindeer have antlers.
6. d. A rose
7. c. 1895
8. b. Ebenezer Scrooge was visited by four ghosts.
9. a. 6



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**7th Annual Union Sportsman's Alliance Sporting Clay Shoot**

This years teams were:

1. Matt Donnelly - Grey Fox Financial with teammates Doug Bitzen, Ryan Signore, Mark Deters, Matt Oeffling
2. Keith Burandt - Local 160 Lineman with teammates Matt Bogart, Tony Ross, Reid Nelson, Noah Haaland
3. Jeff Kolodski - Union Advisors with teammates Will Henriksen, Jon Dunbar, Chad Bernu, Kyle Krueger
4. Andy Kieffer - Organizer with teammates Alex Mitchell, Troy Ecker, Mike Ringstad
5. Dan Kieffer - Bus Rep with teammates Wayne Zimmerman, Ben Carey, Darrin Helget, Chris Hicks.

Matt Donnelly's team won Best of Class Three

Dan Kieffer's team also won a prize

Congratulations guys.



**LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**

Eric Bodine	Vicente Cardona
Daniel Comstock	Matthew Croak
Paul Dyson	Richard Flipowski
Jason Gagnon	Reed Gleason
Michael Gunderzik	Logan Heddan
Will Henriksen	John Holcomb
Damian Johnson	Leah Kampa
Luke Granz	Terrance Kringstad
Dontae Langley	Thomas Lano
Christopher Linkletter	Jose Lopez
Shane Mattheisen	Brenden Myhran
Dan Nelson	Lucas Ohme
Tony Parsons	Bryce Polson
Jacob Smothers	Robert Stock
Brady Struna	TJ Swenson
Mikael Torgerson	Noah Troumbly
Joseph Tucker	Jesse Williams

**Membership Count = 3156**

***CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.***

Jayson Dreher - Xcel Energy  
 Richard Effertz - Xcel Energy  
 Douglas Frederickson - City of Madelia  
 Thomas Ganzer - Xcel Energy  
 Tim Gorman - Xcel Energy  
 Steven Hill - Xcel Energy  
 Merlin Knuth - Xcel Energy  
 Charles Lumley - Xcel Energy  
 Stephen Nappa - Xcel Energy  
 Jim Rousselage - Xcel Energy  
 James Savela - Xcel Energy  
 David Steinbach - Mo Valley  
 Tim Trisco - Xcel Energy  
 William Vaughan - Xcel Energy  
 Thomas Zimmerman - Xcel Energy



***GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE***

***FOLLOWING MEMBERS:***



Douglas Bryan - Great River Energy  
 Wade Crittenden - Xcel Energy  
 Kevin Kaeter - Xcel Energy  
 Matt McGraw - Xcel Energy  
 Kevin Pederson - Xcel Energy  
 Roy Peterson - Great River Energy  
 John Smaciarz - Xcel Energy  
 Barry Williams - Great River Energy



***IN MEMORIAN***

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

Wallace Jacobson - Retired NSP - Died 11/3/17  
 Robert L. Johnson - Active Xcel Energy - Died 10/17/17  
 Dale Maki - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 9/9/17  
 Steve Thoresen - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 10/27/17



***FROM ALL OF US HERE AT LOCAL UNION 160 TO ALL OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON.***