



# IBEW MINNEAPOLIS, MN LOCAL 160

212<sup>TH</sup> EDITION | 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER 2022  
**NEWSLETTER**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### NOVEMBER

#### Becker - General Membership

November 17th, 2022

6:30PM Becker Union Hall  
12423 Pine Street, Becker

#### Mo Valley - Unit Meeting

November 18th, 2022

7:30PM Grand Rapids Union Hall  
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids

### DECEMBER

#### Minneapolis - General Membership

December 1st, 2022

6:30PM St. Anthony Union Hall  
2909 Anthony Lane, St. Anthony

#### Becker - General Membership

December 15th, 2022

6:30PM Becker Union Hall  
12423 Pine Street, Becker

#### Mo Valley - Unit Meeting

December 20th, 2022

7:30PM St. Anthony Union Hall  
2909 Anthony Lane, St. Anthony

### JANUARY

#### Minneapolis - General Membership

January 5th, 2023

6:30PM St. Anthony Union Hall  
2909 Anthony Lane, St. Anthony

#### Becker - General Membership

January 19, 2023

6:30PM Becker Union Hall  
12423 Pine Street, Becker

#### Mo Valley - Unit Meeting

January 27th, 2023

7:30PM Grand Rapids Union Hall  
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids

Please make sure you check our website for meeting cancellations each month.

### HALL CLOSURES

Nov 24-25th | Dec 23rd & 26th | Jan 2nd 2023



## REPS CELL PHONE #'s

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Eric Spielmann (612) 799-3997  
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Nick Steckelberg (612) 655-5210  
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## GRAND RAPIDS

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## WEBSITE

[www.ibew160.org](http://www.ibew160.org)

## EMAIL

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160

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# NEWSLETTER



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I hope that this letter finds you safe and well. I can't believe that this is the fall newsletter, where has the time gone? I have some exciting news to report on the organizing front. On October 13th we had an election for a group of Lineman at Renville Co-op and the election was unanimously to accept being represented by Local 160. This is a great win for our Local and I want to thank Crystal and the rest of the staff for getting this done. Great Job!

Also some exciting news on the new building. I am happy to report that we did close on the building in Plymouth that I talked about in the last newsletter. We closed on October 11th and the address for the building is 13220 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55441. The plan is to have the construction done on the building starting around the first of the year (getting the permits from the city by then) and hopefully having it completed in the spring. We will not move from our current location until everything is completed.

I will give an update on current contract negotiations with Xcel, as of today we have made some progress on some things and negotiations are ongoing at this point. Another negotiation session was held on October 26th where we came to a tentative agreement. Information meetings will be or were held (depending upon when the newsletter hits your mailbox!) on November 9th in Minneapolis and November 15th in Becker. Times will be at 7:00 AM 3:30 PM and 6:30 PM at both locations.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas in advance, enjoy family and friends during this season and continue to watch out for one another and take care of each other.

In Solidarity,

Kurt W. Zimmerman

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

## UPDATES FROM THE HALL

We are excited to announce the return of the IBEW 160 Retirement Club! All retired IBEW 160 Members are welcomed to join. The Club met on October 26th and the remainder of the dates for 2022 are listed below.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 10:00AM - Lunch will be provided

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 (Christmas Party) at 10:00AM





## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

It is exciting times at Local 160. We have gotten a lot of new members on board. Now it is all of our responsibly to mentor them. Encourage them and their coworkers to attend membership meetings. This is how we make our membership strong - we all need to work together to help each other out as proud members of IBEW local 160.

Fall is here and it is the best time of the year in my opinion! Jobs are nearing deadlines (to get done before winter) but that doesn't mean that we can forget about our safety rules. We can't cut corners just to get done fast. Cutting corners does not end well because someone could get hurt when we are careless. Take safety seriously - it is the best option for you to get home safely to your family and loved ones.

I am grateful to have had the honor to attend the Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas City as a judge. I am so proud of our Local 160's teams - they did well representing all of us in the trade! It was admirable to hear other locals talk about how well the Local 160 hands are trained. Our local 160 has a healthy workforce partly because of the many benefits including respectable wages, healthcare and retirement. The 160 is also a solid local because of all of you! Thank you for helping train our future workforce to be the best in our trade - it makes me proud to be part of this brotherhood!

In Solidarity,

Scott E. Knight  
Executive Board Member



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Brothers and Sisters,

Do you enjoy your lifestyle in the middle class? If so, is it that hard to commit yourself to the IBEW and what it stands for? The IBEW doesn't ask for a lot, but in turn, you and your family get to live a lifestyle in the middle class that many don't get to experience. That experience just starts in a very simple way of just being present at General Membership meetings, using your Stewards to follow your local CBA's which in turn keeps the

membership strong.

Paul Wellstone said, "When we all do better, we all do better.". A strong middle class grows as Union Members educate those that aren't in a Union. Give them the truth about being Union and how it benefits everyone when we bargain collectively. It's not always about the wages that are negotiated, it's about the whole package, the security we possess as a whole. I recently experienced an individual at the airport blaming the "Union bosses" for the delay in the security line. "There's Union Bosses sitting back telling the workers not to open up the line yet, as we sit here waiting." Well, little did that person know that there was actually a changing out of the security dogs at this time. That process took roughly 8-10 minutes. It made me realize that there a lot of Union misunderstandings and we as members need to change that.

In todays national climate you see workers getting tired of working long hours for low pay and very bad or no benefits at all. Those workers are now leaving their existing jobs or they are looking for new employment that has a living wage along with benefits that can support their families. As Union members we can now educate these workers about collective bargaining and being part of a Union which will better their lives. This in turn will not only strengthen the middle class but help out the less fortunate. A strong middle class benefits everyone. We built this county, while the upper 1% still made their profits and the country prospered. Let's not fool ourselves into thinking that we can't have a part in changing the minds of the general public. They're starving for a sense of belonging, fair pay for their services and benefits that can once again support a family. Let's to go back to the days where the middle class is strong and healthy, that growth starts with all of us. Whether you agree with this Presidential Administration or not, they have made it easier for groups to Unionize in this day and age. We need to take advantage of this time in history and rebuild the middle class which built this country.

In Solidarity,

Kevin J. Kaeter  
Executive Board President



## ONLINE AND MOBILE PAYMENTS ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce that there is now a mobile app and online link to make dues payments for **outside power members (Mo Valley) and tree trimmers**. In addition to these new payment options, you may still call with credit card information, send a check or use ACH (if you are enrolled).

**Information on how to download and set up the mobile app is below.**

The ONLINE PAYMENT tool can be accessed through our website ([ibew160.org](http://ibew160.org)) under the RESOURCES tab.

To login to the ONLINE PAYMENT tool, click on the RESOURCES tab at [ibew160.org](http://ibew160.org)

-Your Username is your Card Number

-Your Initial Password is your Last name and the last four digits of your SSN

-You will be required to change your password on your first login.

**This new payment option is only for members who are outside power members and those under the tree trimmer contract.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to call!

Stacy Helget  
Office Manager  
(612) 781-3126



Use your cellphone's camera to scan the QR Code to be directed to Online and Mobile Payments.



**FOLLOW IBEW 160 FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!**



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VIEW PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS AT [IBEW160.ORG](http://IBEW160.ORG)





## INTERNATIONAL Lineman's Rodeo

Local Union 160 would like to congratulate the following apprentices for their outstanding performance at the 38th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo held on October 12-15, 2022 in Overland Park, KS at the Overland Park Convention Center and in Bonner Springs, KS. The 39th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo will be held October 11-14, 2023.

Help us in congratulating our Local 160 Apprentices that placed in the Apprentice Contractor Division!

- (3) Jacob Osbjornson
- (4) Jack Welshinger
- (5) Bryant Sand
- (7) Sam Tauer
- (14) Cole Staloch
- (35) Cole Solie

We would also like to thank the volunteers that attended and helped judge the event and a special thanks to Missouri Valley and staff for the training and joining them at the competition.

-Jim Horsfall  
-Scott Knight  
-Charlie Sable

The lineman rodeo is held annually with various challenging events. These apprentices were chosen by Missouri Valley instructors to volunteer and show off their skills. We are proud to see their work pay off and they should be proud as well.

Check out the photos in this newsletter and congratulations Jacob, Jack, Bryant, Cole and Cole! You did an outstanding job representing IBEW Local 160!

Nicholas J. Steckelberg







 **INTERNATIONAL  
Lineman's Rodeo**







# MO VALLEY JATC NEWS & UPDATES

## BY THE NUMBERS:

- Missouri Valley currently has 805 Line Apprentices
- 4 apprentices out of work
- Of those 805, 96 are Local 160 hands
- 41 Substation Apprentices total
- 15 URD Technicians total
- 3 Cable Splicing Technicians total

For a grand total of 887 Apprentices and Trainees.

## NEWS:

A few weeks ago we attended the International Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas City. It was a great turnout and awesome to see all of our apprentices competing from all over the area. In total, our apprentices comprised 30 of the 86 contractor apprentice competitors. In the final results, Mo Valley apprentices took the first 9 out of the top 10 places in the apprentice contractor division, and 13 out of the top 20. If you have never been, it is worth the trip and a great way for you and your family to see what you do!

At the last board of trustees meeting, a new program was approved. Beginning the summer of 2023 we will have a directional drilling apprenticeship starting. The details are still being worked out. For more information, please monitor our Facebook page or contact the office.

## RECRUITING:

Apprentice monthly evaluations are a tool used to track an apprentice's progress, as well as their performance. In addition to the grades given for each line item on the eval, the feedback that you provide in the comments provides better information for tracking purposes. Being clear with your expectations on the job will make it easier for apprentices to gauge their own performance on your crew. Giving accurate and honest feedback is the only way to improve our workforce. If you have any additional comments (positive or negative for your apprentices' evaluations) please contact Matt Poutre. Matt's number is on the bottom of every monthly evaluation.

## SAFETY:

With winter coming and daylight decreasing, I would like to turn your attention to your daily commute. As we begin to get snow and ice, please allow yourself enough time to get to work without rushing in poor road conditions and possibly getting into an accident. Early mornings and late nights, being outside in the elements all day and then driving home in a warm vehicle is also a hazard. It brings out a type of fatigue that many of our newer brothers and sisters may not be familiar with. Please be sure to stay alert and focused while driving.

In Solidarity,

Dave Audette  
160 Journeyman Lineman  
Instructor @ Mo Valley JATC  
(651)238-3823  
Daudette@movalleyjatc.org



# Suicide Prevention

## 5 Things You Should Know

Suicide is a leading cause of death among workingage adults in the United States. It deeply impacts workers, families, and communities. Fortunately, like other workplace fatalities, suicides can be prevented. Below are 5 things to know about preventing suicide.



### Everyone can help prevent suicide.

Mental health and suicide can be difficult to talk about—especially with work colleagues—but your actions can make a difference. When you work closely with others, you may sense when something is wrong.



### Know the warning signs of suicide.

There is no single cause for suicide but there are warning signs. Changes in behavior, mood, or even what they say may signal someone is at risk. Take these signs seriously. It could save a life.



### Ask "Are you okay?"

If you are concerned about a coworker, talk with them privately, and listen without judgment. Encourage them to reach out to your Employee Assistance Program (EAP), the human resources (HR) department, or a mental health professional.



### If someone is in crisis, stay with them and get help.

If you believe a coworker is at immediate risk of suicide, stay with them until you can get further help. Contact emergency services or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.



### Suicide prevention resources are available.

- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), or text "TALK" to 741741.
- Visit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention ([www.afsp.org](http://www.afsp.org)) to learn more about suicide risk factors, warning signs, and what you can do to help prevent suicide.



**OSHA**® Occupational  
Safety and Health  
Administration

**1-800-321-OSHA (6742)**  
TTY 1-877-889-5627  
[osha.gov/preventingsuicides](http://osha.gov/preventingsuicides)







# Wheelock Investment Group

**Brad Wheelock, AIF®**

Managing Director – Branch Director  
Senior Portfolio Manager – Portfolio Focus

**Selected as the #1 Wealth Advisor in Minnesota**

*Barron's* magazine – 2020

**Listed Among the Top 1% of Wealth Advisors  
in the Nation – for 13 years in a row**

*Barron's* magazine – 2021–2009

**Ranked Among the Top Wealth Advisors  
in the Country for the last 5 years**

*The Wall Street Journal* – 2021–2017

**Ranked the #2 Wealth Advisor in Minnesota**

*Barron's* magazine – 2021, 2018  
*StarTribune* – 2012

**Named One of America's Top Wealth Advisors**

*Forbes* magazine – 2021–2019 and 2017

**Recognized Among the Top  
Wealth Advisors in America**

*Financial Times* – 2019 and 2013

**Featured in “America's Top Wealth  
Advisors 2016: The Pros Millionaires  
and Billionaires Trust With Their Money”**

*Forbes* – 2016

**Recognized as One of the Top Wealth  
Advisors in the United States**

The National Association of Board  
Certified Advisory Practices – 2012, 2011

**Listed Among the Top 25  
Advisors in the Country**

*REP* magazine – 2012

(Turn over for “Background  
and methodology of  
independent recognition”)

Accepting new client relationships  
– \$500,000 minimum



**Wealth  
Management**

Wheelock Investment Group

Investment and insurance products offered through RBC Wealth Management are not insured by the FDIC or any other federal government agency, are not deposits or other obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank or any bank affiliate, and are subject to investment risks, including possible loss of the principal amount invested.

\*IBEW Local Union 160 does not endorse any specific financial advisor\*



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**160**

# **WELCOME NEW 160 MEMBERS!**

JESSE ALTO  
CARSON ARTHUR  
JAIDYN ATCHLEY  
LANCE BARKER  
BRANDON BEHNKE  
DEAN CAIN  
ALEXANDER CAMPBELL  
BERTIL CANNON  
AMARIAN CARTER  
MICHAEL CHAVEZ  
JONATHAN CHRISTIANSON  
YORDANIS COLLAZO  
IZAIAH DEMARS  
TYLER ELIASSON  
HEATHER ELY  
JARED ERICKSON  
DAIN FANDEL  
CASEY FENTON  
LAZARO FERNANDEZ  
ROGELIO FERNANDEZ  
JOSEPH FILIPCZAK  
ARNOLDO FONSECA NADALS  
JACKSON GIBBS  
BRAYDEN GIBSON  
JARRETT GOLOMBIECKI  
YASSER GONZALEZ  
RAYMOND GUTIERREZ  
EDWARD HALL  
KELLY HANNASCH  
LACEY HENDRICKS  
ALINA HERNANDEZ  
CANDIDA HERNANDEZ  
ALEXIS HERNANDEZ-LANG  
DAYSI HERRERA  
NICHOLAS HILSGEN  
BRODIE HOFFMAN  
DYLAN HOLLOM

CHAD HUERKAMP  
KYLE HUHTA  
STEPHANIE JOHNSRUD  
TREVOR JORGENSEN  
SKYLAR KARSJENS  
JOHN KERN  
COREY KLEINSCHMIDT  
KYLE KOSTKA  
RYAN KREMERS  
CHEYENNE KRUMRIE  
KADEN LARSON  
SHANNON LENDT  
JAMES LEWIS  
SOPHIA LEWIS  
RUSTY MACKAY  
JAY MARCUS  
JASON MCPHEETERS  
YSRAEL MEDINILLA  
BRADY MILLER  
TY MONTOMEY  
IGNACIO MOSQUEDA  
JOSE MOSQUEDA  
BAYLEY MUELLER  
KADEN NACHREINER  
KYLE NELSON  
DANIEL NEUTZ  
BENJAMIN NORTHWOOD  
BEATRIZ OCHOA  
MAYKEY ORTIZ  
SHANE PFARR  
BENNETT POULIOT  
KEITH REEMTS  
JOSHUA REIMER  
COLETON RIEHLE  
HAYDEN RISHOVD  
KELLY RIVERS  
JACOB ROBINSON

MARGARITO SANCHEZ ROSENDO  
KEVIN SEELEY  
GAGE SIGVERTSEN  
RYAN STEMIG  
MITCHELL THESING  
ALLEN TITEL  
RENEE TOAL  
DONALD TODD  
PATRICK TROTMAN  
NICHOLAS TYLER  
GERALD VANWAGNER  
LAMAR WALLACE  
LEVI WALLENSTEIN  
THOMAS ZEHOWSKI  
AARON ZOSEL



**IBEW**  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
**LOCAL**  
**160**

# **TOTAL MEMBER COUNT 3,412**



# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT:

JEFFREY ANDERSON - XCEL  
NORMAN BARFNECHT - XCEL  
DAVID BENOY - XCEL  
MONICA ENGBRECHT - XCEL  
JAMES ENGELKE - WRIGHT TREE  
DONALD GOODALE - MO VALLEY  
LARRY HAGBERG - GREAT RIVER  
GARY HOST - XCEL

DALE JOHNSON - XCEL NUCLEAR  
LYLE KLOCEK - MO VALLEY  
CHRIS LEHN - GREAT RIVER  
TIM NAGLE - MO VALLEY  
DAVID OLSON - XCEL  
TYROYCE PRINGLES - XCEL  
JOHN RICHARDSON - XCEL  
GARY ROSS - WRIGHT HENNEPIN

MARK SADUSKY - XCEL  
CRAIG SCHWARTZKOPP - XCEL  
HARRY SHINAUL - MO VALLEY  
RUSSELL SPEER - GREAT RIVER  
JOHN VOLKMUTH - XCEL  
ERIC WIGER - XCEL

## *Our Deepest Sympathy*

**WE ARE DEEPLY SADDENED BY THE LOSS OF OUR BROTHERS. OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY GOES OUT TO THEIR FAMILIES & FRIENDS.**

REX SWEDENBORG - RETIRED XCEL - DIED 5-2-22  
SCOTT STEDJE - MO VALLEY - DIED 7-11-22  
ISAAC SCHUMAN - MO VALLEY - DIED 7-30-22  
PAUL LAINE - RETIRED MO VALLEY - DIED 8-1-22  
ROBERT STECKLBERG - RETIRED XCEL - DIED 8-5-22  
STANLEY GARMAN - RETIRED XCEL - DIED 8-24-22  
HERMAN EIFFERT - RETIRED XCEL - DIED 9-5-22

## *Thinking of you*

**WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

JOSEPH CEBALLOS - CONNEXUS  
NICHOLAS STECKELBERG - IBEW 160 OFFICE  
ADAM NORSTEN - XCEL  
CHAD HANSON - XCEL  
AARON COIL - XCEL  
JOHN DENNEHEY - XCEL RELAY

# WISHING YOU ALL A BLESSED *Holiday Season!*



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2909 Anthony Lane  
St. Anthony, MN 55418

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### **OFFICERS**

Kurt W. Zimmerman - Business Mgr./Financial Secretary  
Kevin J. Kaeter - President  
James A. Anderson - Vice President  
Jeffery R. Polson - Recording Secretary  
Travis J. Sullivan - Treasurer

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Kenneth R. Conrad  
Clayton E. Kaeter  
Scott E. Knight  
Randal L. Nass  
Keith A. Burandt

### **OFFICE STAFF**

Eric W. Spielmann - Business Representative  
Michael J. Ringstad - Business Representative  
Nicholas J. Steckelberg - Business Representative  
Darrin L. Helget - Business Representative  
Justin M. Arbach - Business Representative  
Mike K. Enerson - Business Representative  
Joshua S. Laven - Business Representative  
Crystal A. Rourke - Membership Development  
Stacy L. Helget - Office Manager  
Anna J. Wilson - Bookkeeper  
Mackenzie A. James - Referral/Receptionist