



IBEW
CHARTERED AUG. 30, 1938
LOCAL
160

216TH EDITION | 4TH QUARTER 2023
NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this letter finds you well. As I write this letter another season is upon us and I am amazed at where the time has gone. So much has happened since our last newsletter has gone out. I am happy to report that our first annual Pig Out was a success. The weather was perfect, and the turnout was fabulous. It was so nice to see so many familiar faces enjoying the great food and conversations. We had a lot of positive feedback from our members, so I look forward to planning this event for next year. We were also able to show off our new Union Hall as well. We here at 160 are so happy with the way the building turned out and are excited to keep moving us forward. We closed on

our old building on October 3rd, the building was sold to our neighbors Architect Mechanical who are a Union HVAC Company.

Just to give you an update on our continued membership growth, as this is going to publication the CRS group at Monticello will be voting on their first contract, I am hoping for a positive outcome. We were also successful with 3 more organizing campaigns. We are in negotiations currently with the Monticello Procedure Writers and the TSO's of Xcel Energy. We are also going to be representing the Date Center Specialist's of Xcel Energy as well. Negotiations will be starting soon for them. I would like to thank my staff for all their hard work and effort that they have put in to get these groups to organize with us and negotiating their agreements.

As this letter goes to print, I have to say good luck to all the deer hunters who will be partaking and remember to be safe. I would also like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas as well. See you next year!

In solidarity,

Kurt Zimmerman

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE
PLYMOUTH HALL ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
AT 7:30PM.

DECEMBER 5 @ 7:30PM

JANUARY 2 @ 7:30PM

FEBRUARY 6 @ 7:30PM

MARCH 5 @ 7:30PM

Plymouth Union Hall

13220 Co Rd 6, Plymouth

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

HALL CLOSURES

Thursday, Nov. 23 & Friday, Nov. 24

Monday Dec. 25 & Tuesday, Dec. 26

Monday, Jan 1

MO VALLEY UNIT MEETINGS

NOVEMBER 17 @ 7:30PM

Grand Rapids

300 17th St SE, Grand Rapids

DECEMBER 19 @ 6:30PM

Plymouth Union Hall

13220 Co Rd 6, Plymouth

JANUARY 25 @ 7:30PM

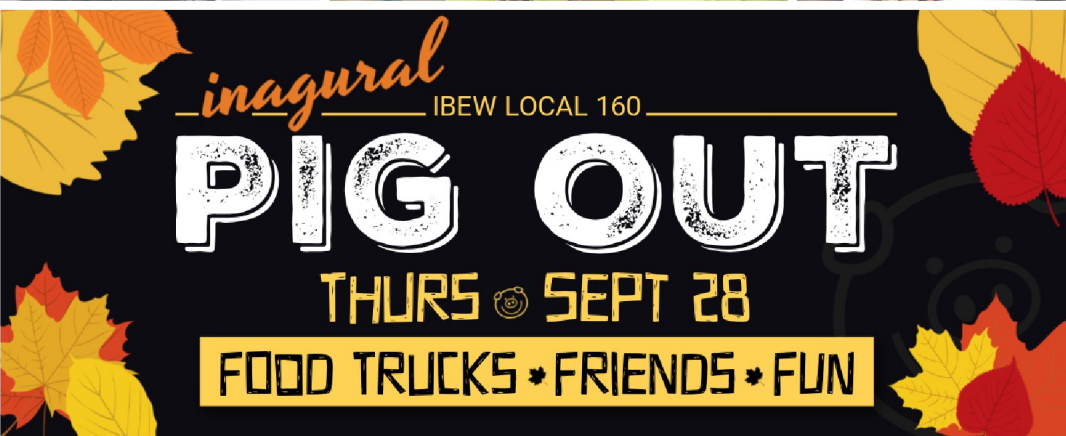
Grand Rapids

300 17th St SE, Grand Rapids

FEBRUARY 27 @ 6:30PM

Plymouth Union Hall

13220 Co Rd 6, Plymouth



Thank you to all of the 160 Members that took time out of their day to join us at the 2023 'Pig Out' that was held on Thursday, September 28th.

We estimate that there were nearly 700 people who stopped in throughout the day. The feedback was very positive—everyone loved the food—and we are already looking forward to next year's celebration!

2023 COPE Drawing Winners

MILWAUKEE IMPACT WRENCH, BATTERY, CHARGER - AL KOERING
 \$100 CABELA'S GIFT CARD - TOM KOSLOSKE
 \$100 CABELA'S GIFT CARD - JIM EGAN
 \$100 HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD - CORY BOSSHART
 \$100 HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD - MICHAEL ZAWISLAK

2023 COPE Drawing Winners Continued

\$150 CABELA'S GIFT CARD - MIK SKALISKY
 \$150 CABELA'S GIFT CARD - ELIZABETH BAGNIEWSKI
 \$250 BALDAMAR'S GIFT CARD - KEVIN HAGENSON
 \$250 BALDAMAR'S GIFT CARD - RYAN BORGMAN
 META QUEST 2 - GEORGE HUBER
 DEWALT 4 TOOL COMBO KIT - TOM AKERS
 EASY STREET ELECTRIC GRILL CART - CHAD SKOOG
 WEBER GAS GRILL - RYAN BORGMANN
 \$100 HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD - MIK SKALISKY
 \$100 HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD - JOHN HARRIS
 HUSKY 140 PIECE MECHANIC TOOL SET - COLE HELGET
 MAKITA CHAINSAW AND IMPACT WRENCH - JAMES BROWN
 MAKITA CHAINSAW AND IMPACT WRENCH - DAVID J. OLSON
 TROY BILT GAS TRIMMER - BOB STEIN
 HUSQVARNA HANDHELD BLOWER - JOEL GANLEY

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Brothers and Sisters of the Local,

Approximately 18 months ago, Union Staff brought to the Executive Board the topic of a program called Labor Power. After the Board listened to the pitch and what it was going to be able to do for the members when instituted, the Board went forward

with the approval. This didn't mean that this topic was complete and movement forward was set forth, the Membership needs to approve such a move at the General Membership meeting, which it was.

Here are some things that need to be communicated to you all so we can utilize this program to its fullest potential. This takes just a bit of time from each member from every corner of our local, Co-ops, Outside Construction, Municipalities, Vegetation Management, Utilities, etc... This will only take a few minutes of your time at some point, by either calling the Union Hall or sending them an email. Below is a list of the information they need from each and every one of our approximate 3,500 members.

A current e-mail address

Your cell phone number

Confirmation of your mailing address

This personal information is needed to be able to send out at times, Union News, Section/Department information or anything found necessary for our members. We have the capability with this program to narrow it down to direct departments, Stewart's of the Sections and if necessary all of our membership only if we have your information on file. Your personal information is important to us. We do not take it lightly. Your information isn't shared or sold.

I bring this forward due the fact our Membership seeks to get information in a more direct and quick manner. Without your info, we can't not utilize Labor Power to its fullest potential. I again, urge each and everyone to update their information as soon as they can. While you're in the process I highly suggest that you make sure that your beneficiaries are correct. In the past 24 months members have found that after a family event that whom they thought was going to get benefits of a passed or injured member, wasn't whom they thought it was going to go to. I wouldn't like to see any more of our have to go through that painful process.

So just a quick recap to finish this message. Please get your info to the support staff, by any means possible, so the utilization of Labor Power and be used to its fullest capability and double check your beneficiaries are correct.

Kevin J Kaeter
Executive Board President



RETIREE'S CLUB LUNCHEON

2023
November 15
December 20

2024
January 24
February 21
March 27
April 24
May 15

10:00 AM Start Time

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



First off, I'd like to thank everyone who came to the new hall to enjoy the 'Pig Out'! It was great to see you all and to have the opportunity to chat in-person. I especially like the opportunity to catch up with retirees—remember, they paved the way and were instrumental in getting us some of the benefits that we have today!

That's what's so great about our union—there's a lot of history and positive changes that have happened.

If you ever want input on your working rules, chat with a retired member that was in that group to help understand why they had that rule in the first place. Somebody fought hard to get these rules in place and I would urge you to use caution and do your homework when questioning a rule. There are some working rules that have been in place for long time. Change is sometimes good—just think before you give up anything. Rules we have in our Union are for your safety and your financial benefit so that when you are off from work, you are healthy and able to enjoy fun times with your family.

I am so proud be a member of IBEW 160 where we work hard, earn great pay and benefits and can enjoy a nice retirement when that time comes.

Be proud. Be safe. Pass the word along to your coworkers.

Scott E. Knight
Executive Board Member

WE'VE MOVED!

NEW ADDRESS

13220 CO RD 6

PLYMOUTH, MN 55441

UPDATED OFFICE HOURS: M-F 7AM-3:30PM

UPDATES FROM THE HALL

MOBILE APP/ONLINE DUES PAYMENTS

IBEW 160 has a mobile app and online link to make dues payments for **outside power members (Mo Valley) and tree trimmers.**

To login to the ONLINE PAYMENT tool, click on the RESOURCES tab at 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.

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

Stacy Helget
Office Manager
(612) 781-3126

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION?

Updates may be made via the mobile app, at ibew160.org/forms or by calling into the union hall.

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REPS CELL PHONE #'s

Kurt Zimmerman (612) 991-0022
Eric Spielmann (612) 512-8018
Mike Ringstad (763) 355-7283
Nick Steckelberg (612) 655-5210
Darrin Helget (763) 276-8908
Justin Arbach (763) 213-3536
Mike Enerson (612) 368-6299
Joshua Laven (612) 258-8617
Crystal Gregory (612) 258-5833

PLYMOUTH

Tel (612) 781-3126
Fax (612) 781-4225

GRAND RAPIDS

Tel (218) 326-0533
Fax (218) 326-0534

WEBSITE

www.ibew160.org

EMAIL

160@ibew160.org

FOLLOW IBEW 160 FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!



@IBEWLOCAL160



IBEW-160

VIEW PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS AT IBEW160.ORG



MO VALLEY JATC NEWS & UPDATES

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 749 Line Apprentices (100 are Local 160 hands)
**3 Apprentices out of work*
- 52 Substation Apprentices (4 are Local 160 hands)
- 18 Operator Apprentices (1 is a Local 160 hand)
- 18 Traffic Signal Apprentices
- 13 URD Technicians
- 6 Cable Splicing Technicians

For a grand total of 868 Apprentices and Trainees.

NEWS:

The International Lineman's Rodeo was held on October 13th and 14th this year. There were 1,316 journeymen and apprentice lineworkers that made up 732 teams from the U.S., Canada and Brazil. The local had 6 apprentices competing this year and 3 judges that were sent down to represent 160. This year the events for apprentices were: written multiple choice test, hurt-man rescue, egg climb, bad arrestor change out and replacing a preform on a span guy. The competition was tough this year! There was a total of 440 apprentices registered this year. It was great to see everyone competing and the brotherhood between all of the people who attended. To show you how tight the competition was, Dylan Kraemer who placed 28th overall in apprentice contractor division, his score this year, matched the 1st place winners score in our division last year in 2022! The results of our 160 apprentices in the overall contractor division are as follows: Dylan Kraemer (28th), Cole Solie (37th), Hunter Herzog (38th), Zach Gigstad (43), Ben Lieberg (50th), Nick Staloch (81). Our judges were: Jeff Bryczek, Garret Ernhart and Bryant Sand.

I would like to thank everyone mentioned above as well as the people in the hall who worked to help make this event happen. There is a fair amount of work behind the scenes. I would also like to thank the membership for continuing to vote to support these activities. If anyone has any interest in getting involved, in either competing or judging, please reach out to me and we can see what we can do. This invitation goes out to anyone on the line side of our hall. I'd be happy to help coordinate.

SAFETY:

Recently there has been a few primary incidents in Mo Valley JATC's 7 state jurisdiction. A few broad common denominators are that MAD was being broken on energized primary & cover and/or rubber gloves & sleeves were not being utilized. Here is a reminder that Minimum Approach Distance (MAD) is measured from the closest energized component. However, if you are handling a conductive object such as a tail, tie or tool that can break MAD, you have to extend MAD that far as well.

There are a lot of different directions that we can take this conversation, but for this newsletter, here is a friendly reminder if you are working on de-energized transmission. If at any point you are handling something that is conductive and it can break MAD on energized under build, make sure you take the time to cover and wear the appropriate class PPE while handling the tails until you can trim them shorter or secure it to the point if it gets away, you won't break MAD below you. In one recent instance, it only caused an outage. In another, old armor rod being removed from a conductor caused an electrical injury but thankfully not a fatality.

In solidarity,

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



 **INTERNATIONAL
Lineman's Rodeo**





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WELCOME NEW 160 MEMBERS!

THOMAS ABFLATER
BENJAMEN AHLISCHLAGER
JACOB ANDERSON
NICHOLAS ANDERSON
BEN ANTONSON
CHRISTIAN ARONSON
HEATH BAILEY
JUAN BARRERA
WILLIAM BARTH
KARSEN BEHNKEN
DARYEL BELL
CALEB BELTRAN
JOSEPH BERG
WYATT BERG
TAWFIQ BILAL
SEAN BLACKOWIAK
ROAN BUCHHOLZ
JANET CAFFERTY
DECARLO CANTY
MARC CARTER
THOMAS CHAP
GREGORY CHASE
MAX CHRISTEN
JESSICA CHRISTENSEN
JOSEPH CONNELLY
ASHTON COOK
MARJACE CRAWFORD
JAYDEN CREVER
RYDER DAHL
DRU DAKIS
BRADY ERNST
MASON ETZBACH
TRENTON EVJEN
ALISAD FERNANDEZ
MICHEL FERNANDEZ
CHARLES FINCKBONE
RICHARD FOREMAN
MICHAEL GILLESPIE

DYLAN GRANGROTH
FRANKLIN GRANT
JOSH HADZIMA
MARSHALL HAYES
MICHAEL HEDGES
JORDAN HEIKKILA
MASON HEINO
JAMIE HENTILA
BRANDON HOMMERDING
TYSON HUTTON
NYLES JACKSON
HUNTER JOHNSON
ZACHARY JOHNSON
SCOTT JORDAN
TRENT JUUSOLA
ERIK KINDEM
DAKODA KIRK
ERIC KLAYSMAT
THOMAS KORAN
MELISSA KRAEMER
GAGE KRECH
ALEXANDER LANE
ALEX LAVEAU
JOSEPH LAVEAU
MITCHELL LINDAU
JAMIN LINSKI
JACOB MALM
DYLAN MARTIN
KENT MARTIN
DYLAN MARTINEZ
PARKER MEYER
YUNIOR MIRANDA MANTILLA
HUNTER MONDOR
JESUS MONTEMAYOR
CORBIN NELSON
ROBERT OLSON
ROMONE OWENS
ERIC PETERSON

TOMAS PIEPKORN
DOMINIC PLAUTZ
ADAM POST
COLTEN QUADE
JORGE RAMIREZ
ANDREW REICH
EUGENIO RENDON LOPEZ
JUNIOR RENDON OSORIO
BILL RIDER
DAVID RIVERA
STEVEN ROBINSON
CONNOR RODGERS
ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ
AARON ROURKE
GABRIEL RUDOLPH
NETHAN RUEBKE
DEVIN RUPRECHT
TANNER SABLE
KEVIN SENICA
KYLIE SKALLMAN
JAYDEN SNOW
JASON SOUKUP
RIDEL STOPINALES SOSA
JONATHON SUFKA
TYLER SUMNER
HUNTER TAYLOR
BRADY TOENSING
LOGAN TOLAND
RYAN TORMANEN
WILLIAM TRAUT
XAI VANG
LADD WANTAJA
AUSTIN WEAVER
MATTHEW WEBER
AUSTON WEIMER
OSCAR WICKMAN
PAYTON WIEGERT
HUNTER WINCKLER

JEROD WRAA
ROBERT YANG
BENITA YOUNG
ZACHARIE ZINIEL

TOTAL MEMBER COUNT 3,555



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.

1
BE AWARE

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.



2
PAY ATTENTION

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.



3
REACH OUT

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.



4
TAKE ACTION

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.



5
LEARN MORE

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) 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



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT:

LARRY MOORE - KANDIYOHI
JOSE SOLIS - WRIGHT TREE
ROBERT DOEMEK - MO VALLEY
LORI JERANSON - MO VALLEY
KEVIN BORST - XCEL ENERGY

ROBERT LAMOTTE - XCEL ENERGY
JIMMY JOHNSON - MO VALLEY
JACK MEYER - XCEL ENERGY
DAVID SWANSTROM - ZIELIES
WILLIAM KROENING - VEOLIA

ALLEN HAUGEN - XCEL ENERGY
MARK LIANE - MO VALLEY
TIMOTHY FRINK - ZIELIES
WESLEY NELSON - ASPLUNDH

Thinking of you

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

COLE DONELAN - MO VALLEY
JOHN TURPIN - RETIRED XCEL



Our Deepest Sympathy

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

STEPHEN J. BAUMAN - DIED 6-1-23
ROGER "PETE" HANSEN - RETIRED XCEL ENERGY - DIED 6-6-23
JOHN FREDERICK - RETIRED XCEL ENERGY - DIED 7-16-23
GERALD F. KOVARICK - RETIRED XCEL ENERGY - 7-25-23
LEON KELLEN - RETIRED XCEL ENERGY - DIED 8-11-23
THOMAS F. HOPPE - RETIRED XCEL ENERGY - DIED 8-27-23

**WISHING YOU ALL
A BLESSED**
Holiday Season!

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LOCAL UNION 160, IBEW
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Plymouth, MN 55441

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