

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

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 4274



NEWSLETTER - 197TH EDITION

3rd Quarter 2019

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. Wilson - Receptionist/Referral Clerk

General Membership Meetings

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

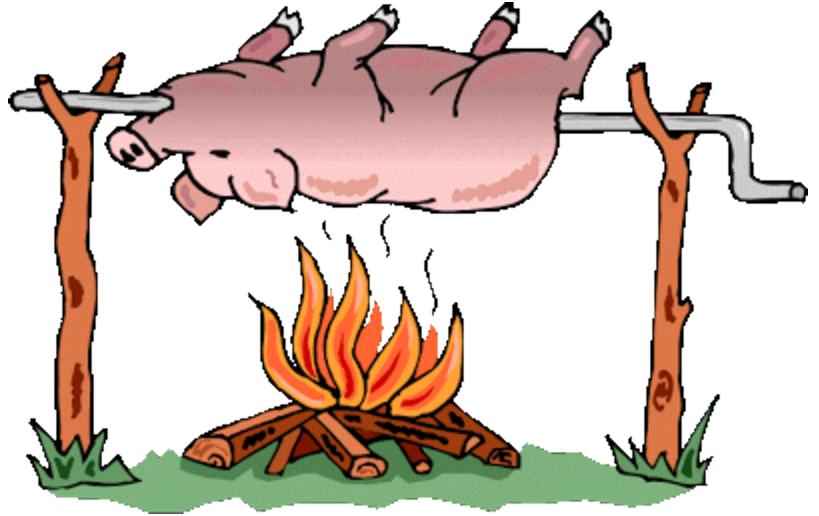
Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

Minneapolis: July 11, Aug 1 & Sept 5, 2019
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall
2909 Anthony Lane

Becker: July 18, Aug 15 & Sept 19, 2019
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall

Mo Valley: August 27, 2019 7:30 p.m.
St. Anthony - Union Hall
July 26 & Sept 27, 2019- 7:30 p.m.
Grand Rapids Union Hall
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids

Great River : July 11, Aug 8 & Sept 12, 2019
6:00 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall



IBEW Local 160's 36th Annual Pig Roast

When: September 26, 2019

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

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



Reps Cell Phone #'s

Bob Boogren - (612) 308-5520
Dan Kieffer - (612) 309-8640
Jon Michels - (612) 750-3755
Kurt Zimmerman - (612) 991-0022
Tom Cassidy - (763) 213-3536
Marty Carey - (612) 723-2001
Eric Spielmann - (612) 799-3997
Mike Ringstad - (763) 355-7283
Andy Kieffer - (612) 258-5833

Minneapolis Tel # (612) 781-3126

Minneapolis' Fax # (612) 781-4225

Grand Rapids Phone Number

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

Local Union 160 web site - www.ibew160.org

L.U. 160 general email address - 160@ibew160.org

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.

This message is for all members, whether you are a new member or not.

All Local 160 member's have either a pension, 401(k), annuity or some form of savings account for when they retire. I have dealt with helping many families of Local 160 members who have passed away. Members' spouse's, children, parents or siblings. Member's whose ages range from in the 20's to 90's. Members that had been prepared and many that have not. And one thing that happens is many members do not have a beneficiary listed.

Many plans have a line of progression if there is no beneficiary listed where the benefits will go to the spouse, or if none; children in equal shares, or if none; parents, or if none; estate. Many families have had to deal with the probate courts and extra forms to fill out because of no beneficiary being named.

So please members, check to see if you have a beneficiary or beneficiaries listed and/or they are still who you want as your beneficiary. Younger members especially need to be aware of their benefits. Families are devastated enough and don't need to have more problems to deal with.

Rose

A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Recently we have had some challenges to the scope of work performed by Local 160. We are not only battling non-union contractors but other trade unions such as the Operating Engineers, Laborers, and Carpenters. These groups are trying to lay claim to work we have historically performed. One of best defenses is to be the workforce of choice.

The IBEW's Code of Excellence is a perfect way to accomplish this. It proves we are the safest, best trained, most qualified to do the work.

It really isn't that hard to follow. Just be safe, and give our employers an honest day's work for our wages.

On the safety note, we need a little improvement. I fully understand that this is a dangerous business we are in, and I am not downplaying that fact. The reality is most injuries are preventable. For the last 125 years safety is something the IBEW has been fighting for, yet we disregard the very rules put in place to keep us safe. The employers are using words like "intentional" and "willful" to describe safety violations, and as a result of that we are seeing a dramatic increase in the level of disciplines being issued for safety violations. DO NOT put yourself at risk by using shortcuts, it's not worth your job just to save a little time.

The 6th district Women's conference will be held in Chicago on September 24, 2019. We are sending up to six women to this conference. If interested please call Shari Johnson at the hall no later than July 31, 2019.

Please be safe out there and watch each others backs and of course, my door is always open to members with questions, or if you would like to chat about anything.

In Solidarity,

Robert J. Boogren

MEMBER ORIENTATION

Local Union 160 will be holding two (2) sessions of member orientation.

The first one will be Tuesday, July 30, 2019 at the St. Anthony Hall and the second one will be Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at the Becker Hall. Both dates will have a start time of 6:30 p.m.

A member can expect to learn how the union works, a little history of the IBEW and basic information about their membership.

Local Union 160 encourages any member, not just new, to attend one of the two orientation classes. Food and door prizes will be included!

You may sign up by calling Local Union 160 at (612) 781-3126 no later than July 26, 2019 so we know how many books need to be made up and how much food to buy.

In Solidarity,

Andy Kieffer

Membership Development Coordinator

(612) 258-5833

Dear Local Union 160 members,

I have been the Editor of the newsletter since December 2002 when Denny Ganley retired. This is my 95th edition and I am needing your help in gathering articles.

What I would like to see in future newsletters are stories about your Brothers and Sisters that are news worthy. For example: I know many of you know Crystal Rourke, Mo-Valley Senior Groundman/Truck Driver. Crystal was asked to speak at the 2018 Women's Conference about her story and how she got into this business. She did such a fantastic job, the IBEW made a video of her story. I would love to see this newsletter be something that the members want to read.

So please, I ask you to keep your eyes and ears open and call me with any current event or human interest story.

Thank You

Rose Eiden

(612) 781-3126



For the 2nd year in a row another major snowstorm had hit the State of Minnesota right when the snow was melting and Spring Fever was in the air. Southern and Western Minnesota got hit the hardest with the wind, snow and ice.

Lines and poles were down one after another. Some trucks had to be pulled out of the mud and snow by tractors.

Linemen from MN Valley Electric, Connexus Energy, Agralite, East Central Energy, Wright Hennepin, Meeker, McLeod, Mo-Valley contractors/Linemen and Xcel Energy along with many out of state contractors joined together in restoring the system.

The pictures on this page doesn't really show just how much damage there really was.

The ice that was wrapped around all the power lines was as thick as a water bottle as a couple of the pictures below show.

Local Union 160 wants to say thank you to all 160 Brothers/Sisters and the contractors for your hard work in restoring the power for the customers. Great job.





TEMPORARY RETURN TO WORK AMENDMENT

As you are aware, the Board of Trustees for the NEBF has approved a Temporary Return to Work Amendment for calendar year 2019, which permits certain eligible retirees to return to covered and contributory employment for a period of time without a loss of pension benefits from the NEBF. We wanted to provide you with a copy of this Amendment for your reference.

In order for a participant to work under this amendment, he or she must return the Temporary Return to Work Notification form to the NEBF. If Local Union 160 does receive the form, we will submit it to NEBF.

Please note the following about the Temporary Return to Work Amendment:

1. Participants can only work under the amendment if their Pension effective date is December 2018 or earlier, and participants receiving a disability benefit from the NEBF are ineligible.
2. Participants must go through their Local Union to participate under the amendment. In other words, you must also 'Return to Trade' with the IBEW and start paying dues again.
3. Once a participant has completed 600 hours of covered and contributory employment, they will no longer be able to take advantage of this amendment, and the "normal" Return to Trade rules (permitting work in the electrical industry for less than forty (40) hours per month without a suspension of benefits) will apply. Once the 600 hours are met, the participant should notify the NEBF of plans to continue working or not.
4. Retirement Benefits may be suspended for any calendar month worked 40 or more hours in the electrical industry. Disability Benefits will be terminated if a participant returns to any type of work.
5. In order to restore a participant back to active pension status, the last day of work must be submitted to the NEBF in writing. If the correspondence is sent by the participant, it should include their name, social security number and signature.
6. The NEBF is a separate Pension Plan from the IBEW and Local Union Plans. Participants must notify the NEBF if they return to work.

The Temporary Return to Work Notification forms are also available for download on the NEBF website at www.nebf.com under the 'Recent News' section.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the NEBF at (301) 556-4300.

PLEASE NOTE

If your Pension effective date occurs in calendar year 2019, please check the NEBF website at www.nebf.com in December 2019 to see if the Trustees have approved this amendment for calendar year 2020. You can find this amendment and its related notification forms under the 'Recent News' section of the NEBF website. The amendment will only appear in this section if it has been approved by the Trustees for 2020.

REGISTERING FOR THE PORTAL

Registering for the Online Benefits Portal is easy! Log onto the portal by visiting either www.nebf.com or www.neap.org and clicking Online benefits in the top menu bar. On the portal's homepage, click 'New User?' and provide the requested information to verify your identity. Then follow the instruction to enter your email address and create your password and security questions. You'll also have the option to go paperless when you sign up. Once you're registered, you'll be able to access your NEBF and NEAP accounts in the portal!

Please note you must have a valid address on file with NEBF or NEAP to register for the Online Benefits Portal. Please contact the Benefits Office to update your address, if needed.



Are you in the **Retirement Red Zone**?

If you are within 5 years of retirement, you are!

Has your advisor reviewed how you are currently invested to see if you are on track for your retirement date?

Get prepared by letting us do the research to see where you are at and help make any necessary adjustments.



Mike Dolezal CFP(R), AIF(R), Financial Advisor
Jeff Kolodjski AIF(R), Financial Advisor
Jon Jandro APMA (R), Portfolio Manager
Amanda Luke, Operations Manager

YOUR RETIREMENT TEAM!

-  (651) 447-2235
-  info@uadvisors.com
-  www.uadvisors.com
-  12 Long Lake Road, #5
Mahtomedi, MN 55115

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.

Some of the most ridiculous, but real, travel complaints ever!!

Sometimes, we have every right to whine about what befalls us during our dream holiday - flight delays, grotty hotel rooms, hidden fees. These complaints are justified.

However, it's clear other travelers should have kept their frustrations to themselves. Here are some of the most ridiculous complaints collected by travel agents, online travel companies and hotels.

- ♦ "It took us nine hours to fly home from Jamaica to England. It took the Americans only three hours to get home. This seems unfair."
- ♦ "We had to line up outside to catch the boat and there was no air-conditioning."
- ♦ "We booked an excursion to a water park but no-one told us we had to bring our own swimsuits and towels. We assumed it would be included in the price."
- ♦ "The beach was too sandy. We had to clean everything when we returned to our room."
- ♦ "We found the sand was not like the sand in the brochure. Your brochure shows the sand as white but it was more yellow."
- ♦ "They should not allow topless sunbathing on the beach. It was very distracting for my husband who just wanted to relax."
- ♦ "No one told us there would be fish in the water. The children were scared."
- ♦ "Although the brochure said that there was a fully equipped kitchen, there was no egg slicer in the drawers."
- ♦ "I compared the size of our one-bedroom suite to our friends' three-bedroom and ours was significantly smaller."
- ♦ "The brochure stated: 'No hairdressers at the resort'. We're trainee hairdressers and we think they knew and made us wait longer for service."
- ♦ "There were too many Spanish people there. The receptionist spoke Spanish, the food was Spanish. No one told us that there would be so many foreigners."
- ♦ "It is your duty as a tour operator to advise us of noisy or unruly guests before we travel."
- ♦ "I was bitten by a mosquito. The brochure did not mention mosquitoes."
- ♦ "The roads were uneven and bumpy, so we could not read the local guide book during the bus ride to the resort. Because of this, we were unaware of many things that would have made our holiday more fun."
- ♦ "My fiancé and I requested twin-beds when we booked, but instead we were placed in a room with a king bed. We now hold you responsible and want to be reimbursed for the fact that I became pregnant. This would not have happened if you had put us in the room that we booked."
- ♦ "I drove over 2 hours to visit this beach (Emerald Isle Beach) memorial day weekend and cannot recommend it to anyone. First of all, the traffic was terrible, second, there were so many sea gulls, my 3 year old did not enjoy the beach at all. They had rip current warnings up all over the place so you can't even swim and it was so crowded, I could barely find a place to put my towel. The sand was not good quality and it was so hot that we all got blistering sunburns. Unbelievably disappointing experience. Next time we will go to Carolina beach."

Teacher: How old is your father?
Kid: He is 6 years.
Teacher: What? How is that possible?
Kid: He became father only when I was born.

Teacher: Maria, go to the map and find North America.
Maria: Here it is.
Teacher: Correct. Now, Class, who discovered America?
Class: Maria.

Teacher: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile'?
Glenn: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L
Teacher: No, that's wrong.
Glenn: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

Teacher: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?
Donald: H I J K L M N O
Teacher: What are you talking about?
Donald: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

Teacher: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?
Clyde: No, sir; It's the same dog.

LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Aaron Beck	Micaiah Becker
Mitchell Bengtson	Leo Berg
Cory Bosshart	Chase Brennan
Peder Brevig	Luke Broberg
Kyler Burggraff	Andrew Burk
Dustin Carlson	Timothy Colvin
Troy Cowart	Gary Dudek
Ross Edleman	Jared Eikos
Eric Evenski	Nolan Freeman
Michael Geier	Dionisio Gonzalez
Derek Groebner	Daniel Grue
Douglas Gusa	Zachary Hallas
Christopher Haskins	Jackson Helget
William Hendricks	James Heying
Alexander Hilsen	Edward Hohenstein
Matthew Horstman	Daniel Johnson
Patrick Kenoyer	Jason Klein
Zachary Kral	Jeremy Kramer
Grant Kulzer	Tyler Kunkel
Tim Landrus	Shawn Lang
Nicholas Langan	Jason Lariscey
Lance Lefebvre	Connor Lenander-Tholo
Austin Liebeck	Rand Lobbstaef
Jacob Luhman	Dakota McGeehan
David Mickaili	Todd Mujwid
Michael Munnelly	Corey Napper
Jordan Nies	Jonathan Niesche
Jacob Osbjornson	Jordyn Polfliet
Brian Powers	Thomas Preiss
Bruce Purull	Cary Rand
Riley Reding	William Robison
Brandon Russell	Bryant Sand
Brian Sandstrom	Kyle Scanlon
Matthew Scanlon	Kevin Scheiber
Duane Schlagel	Tyler Schroeder
Brian Seelen	Steven Shellito
Lukas Smith	Nathan Sommerstad
Walker Stadheim	Cole Stiles
Marc Stoltenberg	Jordan Studer
Colton Sunvold	Joseph Thell
Jacob Tweed	Parker Wagner
Lee Werner	David Williams
Jordan Wohlwend	Austin Zapzalka

Membership Count = 3188

GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS



Randy Breeggemann - MN Valley
Alan Golden - Agralite Electric
David Hazard - Xcel Energy
David Hoppe - Xcel Energy
Robert Horacek - Great River Energy
Jim Jones - Mo-Valley
Jan Jorgensen - Xcel Energy
Rodney Karls - Xcel Energy
Michael Kenning - Connexus Energy
Michael Otteson - MN Valley
Jackie Peterson - Xcel Energy
Zachary Scheele - Xcel Energy
Keith Shafer - Mo-Valley

IN MEMORIAN

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

Leroy Aanerud - Retired Mo-Valley - Died 4/1/19
James Fidler - Retired Mo-Valley - Died 5/25/19
Eugene Gruhlke - Retired NSP - Died 3/4/19
Aloys Hopper - Retired NSP - Died 4/5/19
Arthur McClellan - Active Mo-Valley - Died 4/23/19
Gary Nelson - Retired Willmar Municipal - Died 1/2/19
Tom Pelzer - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 5/1/19
Clebourne Sandvold - Retired NSP - Died 4/5/19
John (Jack) Smith - Retired MN Valley - Died 4/6/19
Todd Thompson - Active Mo-Valley - Died 4/25/19



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS & SISTERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.

Donald Anderson - Xcel Energy
Wayne Bauer - Xcel Energy
Kristen Beaudet - Xcel Energy
Emerson Blunt - Xcel Energy
Peggy Brackenbury - Pine County
Dwayne Budreau - Xcel Energy
Kevin Burggraff - Xcel Energy
Karen Davis - Xcel Energy
Scott Duddeck - City of North St. Paul
John Fischback - Xcel Energy
Gary Graf - Xcel Energy
Thomas Gross - East Central Energy
James Harlander - Xcel Energy
Gary Hedlund - Xcel Energy
Steven Hillenbrand - Willmar Municipal
Gerald Holmquist - Mo-Valley
Raymond Isle - Mo-Valley
Larry Konarski - Mo-Valley
Thomas Lano - Xcel Energy
Jennifer Moses - Xcel Energy
Steve Nelsen - Redwood Electric
Betty Otremba - Xcel Energy
Ronald Otremba - Xcel Energy
Kevin Pederson - Xcel Energy
Ronald Ploeger - Mo-Valley
Wade Plotz - City of Redwood Falls
Daniel Ratke - Xcel Energy
Jeffrey Robinson - Xcel Energy
Steven Robinson - Xcel Energy
Thomas Serre - Mo-Valley
Stephen Smieja - Mo-Valley
Roslyn Steinert - Xcel Energy
Kent Taber - City of Redwood Falls
Paul Torgerson - Xcel Energy
Clifford Van't Hul - Connexus Energy
Thomas Wilmes - Benco Electric
Ronald Woeste - Xcel Energy

