

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

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## **NEWSLETTER - 183RD EDITION**

### **NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016**

#### **OFFICERS**

Robert J. Boogren- Business Mgr/Financial Secretary  
Alan P. Rademacher - President  
Darrin L. Helget- Vice President  
Barbara L. Oakes - Recording Secretary  
Dan A. McConnell - Treasurer

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

James D. Dufour  
Kevin J. Kaeter  
Scott E. Knight  
Mark A. Ring  
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. 1, 2016 & January 5, 2017  
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall  
2909 Anthony Lane

**Becker:** Dec. 15, 2016 & January 19, 2017  
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St  
Becker Union Hall

**Mo Valley:** December 20, 2016 - 7:30 p.m.  
St. Anthony - Union Hall  
January 27, 2017- 7:30 p.m.  
Grand Rapids Union Hall  
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids

**Great River :** Dec. 8, 2016 & January 12, 2017  
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  
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 160'S UNION HALL WILL BE CLOSED ON:**

November 24th and 25th, 2016  
December 23rd and 26th, 2016  
And  
January 2nd 2017

## **IBEW Local Union Retirement Club**

On October 26, 2017 the Retirement Club started up their monthly meetings. The guest speaker was Joe Kovar (pictured below with his wife Sis and Pete Sandberg). Joe is a 93 year old Purple Heart recipient from WWII. Thank you Joe for coming and speaking to the group and thank you also for your service.

The retirees would like to welcome new member Ernie Suedel to the club.

**The meeting in November will be Wednesday the 16th and December's meeting (Christmas Party) is on Wednesday the 14th.**



## **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.



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

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

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, 2017, there will be an increase of two dollars (\$2.00) for the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contribution, which applies to “A” members only. There will be no change in the per capita that is paid to the General Fund, and therefore, the rate for all “BA” members shall remain the same.

Any member of the union is eligible to be an “A” member. Dues will be \$18.00 more per month. With the \$18.00 you have a small pension and a death benefit. If you are interested or have any questions, please call the Union Hall and talk to Rose (612) 781-3126.

The good news is as you read this, the elections and all their political ads will be over. Whatever the outcome is, we must be prepared to defend our way of life. The attacks on Unions, whether it's at the public or private sectors, won't be ending anytime soon. So stand tall and stand proud.

I am pleased to announce that Andrew Kieffer has agreed to become our Membership Development Coordinator. Andy has been a member of Local 160 since June 2003, and a Union Steward since March 2016. He has worked as a Groundman under the Mo Valley contract. Welcome aboard Andy!

With the Holiday Season once again upon us, it's time to celebrate with our families and friends. Please always be safe not only at work, but also at home. My wish for all of you is to have the happiest and safest of Holidays ever and may 2017 bring everyone Peace and Joy!

In solidarity,

Robert J. Boogren

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## **How St. Nicholas Became Santa Claus**

In the 16th Century in northern Europe, after the reformation, the stories and traditions about St. Nicholas became unpopular.

But someone had to deliver presents to children at Christmas, so in the UK, particularly in England, he became ‘Father Christmas’ or ‘Old Man Christmas’, an old character from stories plays during the middle ages in the UK and parts of northern Europe. In France, he was then known as ‘Père Noël’ in Germany, the ‘Christ Kind’. In the early USA his name was ‘Kris Kringle’. Later, Dutch settlers in the USA took the old stories of St. Nicholas with them and Kris Kringle became ‘Sinterklaas’ or as we now say ‘Santa Claus’!

Many countries, especially ones in Europe, celebrate St. Nicholas’ Day on 6th December. In Holland and some other European Countries, children leave clogs or shoes out on the 5th December (St. Nicholas Eve) to be filled with presents. They also believe that if they leave some hay and carrots in their shoes for Sinterklaas’s horse, they will be left some sweets.

St. Nicholas became popular again in the Victorian era when writers, poets and artists rediscovered the old stories.

In 1823 the famous poem ‘A Visit from St. Nicholas’ or ‘Twas The Night Before Christmas’, was published. Dr. Clement Clarke Moore later claimed that he had written it for his children. (Some scholars now believe that it was actually written by Henry Livingston, Jr., who was a distant relative of Dr. Moore’s wife.) The poem describes St. Nicholas with eight reindeer and gives them their names. They became really well known in the song ‘Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer’, written in 1949. Do you know all eight names?

Did you know that Rudolph might actually be a girl!? Only female reindeer keep their antlers throughout winter. By Christmas time most males have discarded their antlers and are saving their energy ready to grow a new pair in the spring.



## **2016 33rd Annual Pig Roast**

The Weather was great and the attendance was up from 2015.

It was great to see so many Retirees and members enjoying themselves, eating the delicious food and winning door prizes.

Thank you Bill Cort (East Central Energy) for ordering the food and delivering it to the Union Hall.

Thanks also goes out to the office staff for the planning of the Pig Roast and to the Reps, Officers and Executive Board members for helping make the day flow with out problems.

And as usual the cooks - John Harris, Steve Adams, Troy Gutzwiller and Dan Gardas did an awesome job cooking the meat. Thanks Guys.



Winners are as follows:

Union Advisor: Dewalt Screwdriver - Greg Olson

Grey Fox Financial: Fishing Poles - Soua Vang and Brad Mechelke

Union Retirement Alliance: Muzzleloader - Gene Kluk

### **COPE Prize Winners**

Ron Baumgartner - Canvas Bag with Tools

Jose Rodriguez - Home Depot Gift Card

LuAnne Miller - Best Buy Gift Card

Mark Harris - Compact Drill/Driver/Impact Driver Combo Kit

Luke Christopherson - Home Depot Gift Card

Paul Goenner - Cabela's Gift Card

Darrin Helget - Gander Mountain Gift Card

Mik Skalisky - Dewalt Drill/Driver Kit

Eric Hagaen - Home Depot Gift Card



Marty Carey - Menard's Gift Card

Colin Casey - Cabela's Gift Card

Mark Harris - Best Buy Gift Card

Robert Ballmann - 128L Trimmer

Robert Boogren - Canvas Bag with Tools

Cody Martell - Best Buy Gift Card

Bob Burnett - Home Depot Gift Card

Eric Spielmann - Cabela's Gift Card

Dan Kieffer - Compact Brushless Drill/Driver Kit

Todd Bohnen - Cabela's Gift Card

Bob Garberg - Rigid Wet/Dry Vac

Mark Rask - Gander Mountain Gift Card

Brad Rosenberger - Weber Q1000 Gas Grill

# 33rd Annual International Lineman's Rodeo

The 33rd Annual International Lineman's Rodeo was held in Bonner Springs, Kansas on Saturday, October 15, 2016.

Because of some unforeseen events happening, two (2) of our apprentices were not able to make it. So at the last minute Tyler Carlson (6th Step Apprentice Lineman) and Garret Ernhart (7th Step Apprentice Lineman) stepped in to help represent Local Union 160 along with Jason Fratzke (7th Step Apprentice Lineman) and Joey Silva (7th Step Apprentice Lineman). Their Instructor this year was David Borner.

There were 284 Apprentices that competed. Our team did very well and Local Union 160 is honored to have sponsored you guys. Business Manager Robert Boogren and Business Representative Mike Ringstad (both are Lineman) watched the competition and cheered our guys on.

The following is a message from our team:

Thank you for sponsoring the 2016 Missouri Valley Apprentice Rodeo Team. It was an honor to represent Local 160 at this year's competition. This was an exciting event to attend and to share with some of the best linemen in the world. We will continue to strive for excellence on the job and in the classroom. The skills and attitudes we pursue will strengthen the brotherhood for future generations.

Thank you!

Missouri Valley Rodeo Team





## 6th Annual Union Sportsman's Alliance Sporting Clay Shoot

The 6th Annual Union Sportsman's Alliance (USA) Sporting Clay Shoot put on by the Twin Cities Roofers and Water Proofers at Wild Marsh Clays in Clear Lake, Minnesota had an excellent turnout. This year's event set a new attendance record with 228 shooters. The weather also cooperated for the day of competition with mild temperatures and little wind.

Local Union 160 was well represented with seven (7) teams. A special thank you goes out to Mike Follese of Grey Fox Financial, Mike Dolezal and Jeff Koldjski of Union Advisors and Marilyn Lattin with Amaril Uniforms for sponsoring teams. This year Local 160 took home 3 trophies.

Bringing home the honors for High Overall Team score, with a score of 424, the team from Xcel Energy's Sherco Plant comprised of current and retired members Tom Klemik, Fred Fernelius, Nick Dunning, Barry Dunning and Ken Dirkes.

2nd Place in Division "C" went to the team comprised of Connexus Energy members Dustin Jude, Tom Akers, Ryan Brockway, Trenton Kolles and John Young.

3rd Place in Division "C" went to the team comprised of Connexus Energy and Xcel Energy members Darrin Helget, Charlie Hamers, Chris Allen, Chris Hicks and Jamisen Smith.

Other members that participated were: Jason Little, Andrew Kieffer, Michael Maki, Keith Burandt, Randy McAlpine, Stephen Schallock Brian Sell, Eric Kloss, Ryan Cronemiller, Timothy Pribyl, Mark Markovic, Michael McCarty, Marty Carey, Eric Spielmann, and Mike Ringstad.

The day ended with a huge buffet lunch and door prizes.





## GRAND RAPIDS

On October 3 and 4, 2016, Business Manager Bob Boogren (below right) along with his Business Representatives (from L to R) Kurt Zimmerman, Jon Michels, Mike Ringstad, Eric Spielmann, Tom Cassidy, Marty Carey and Assistant Business Manager Dan Kieffer (not pictured) went up to the Grand Rapids building and laid down plastic and shoveled 10 yards of rock along the sides of the building, put gutters on and bulldozed the yard to even out the lot.

With a collaborated effort, the place is looking good. Thank you guys for the hard work and pride you put into this.



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### NAME THAT CHRISTMAS MOVIE!!!

Here's the quote, you name the Christmas movie that it's from!

1. "Teacher says, every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings."
2. "What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas perhaps, means a little bit more."
3. "It's a one year membership to the Jelly of the Month Club."
4. "You'll shoot your eye out kid!"
5. "He never got his picture on bubble gum cards, did he? Have you ever seen his picture on a bubble gum card? Hmmm? How can you say someone is great who's never had his picture on bubble gum cards?"
6. "Uh, since the United States Government declares this man to be Santa Claus, this court will not dispute it. Case Dismissed"
7. "Bless this highly nutritious microwavable macaroni and cheese dinner and the people who sold it on sale. Amen."
8. "We're your worst nightmare...Elves with attitude."
9. "Fog as thick as peanut butter."
10. "Lovely, glorious, beautiful Christmas, upon which the entire kid year revolved."
11. "The thing about trains...it doesn't matter where they're going. What matters is deciding to get on."
12. "Strange, isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives. When he isn't around he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?"

*See Answers On Next Page*

## **LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**

Chase Ballard	Christopher Bernu
Jodi Blessner	Benjamin Bocnuk
Dylan Carlson	Justin Carrigan
Kaleb Dahlvang	Chase Danielson
Erik Davidson	Jonathan Davis
Dustin Dole	Todd Ege
Cale Ehresmann	Kevin Engebretson
Justin Eschenbacher	Cody Fairley
John Fairley	Richard Fairley
Zachary Gigstad	Justin Gilliam
Javier Gonzalez	Steven Goodrich
Lucas Gravos	Daniel Grosso
Kasey Habana	Cole Halvorson
Shawn Hansen	Brian Hauck
Anthony Hawes	Justin Hill
Teressa Husnik	Casey Johnson
Dustin Johnson	John Johnson
Dustin Kern	Seth Kern
Lucas Kinnaman	Clint Klinksick
Eric Korpela	Matthew Lefebvre
Yordani Lluveres	Ricky Lundquist
Noel Mains	William Martin
Allen Mcleod	Glenn Moe
Daniel Mondeel	Justin Nanik
Keith Nohner	Cameron Paulson
Zachary Shallen	Tyler Stage
Justin Strese	Daniel Tuma
Aaron Vanderpool	Zachary Walburn
Darin Waldhauser	Michael White

**Membership Count = 3165**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**  
**FROM ALL OF US AT L.U. 160**  
**TO ALL OF YOU AND YOUR**  
**FAMILIES**



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

### ***FOLLOWING MEMBERS:***



James Horsfall - Mo Valley  
Roy Landowski - Xcel Energy  
Rick Wallen - Xcel Energy

## **IN MEMORIAM**

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

Michael Beattie - Active Xcel Energy - Died 9/27/16  
Edward Czech - Retired NSP - Died 9/3/16  
Marvin Herwig - Retired Mo Valley - Died 9/24/16

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

Tom Goebel - Xcel Energy  
Odean Iverson - Willmar Municipal  
Harvey Jacobson - City of Lake Crystal  
Douglas Schilling - Redwood Electric  
Michael Schmitz - Xcel Energy  
James Schwendemann - Agralite Electric  
Jerome Theis - Xcel Energy  
Richard Totz - Xcel Energy



### ***Answers To Quotes From Previous Page***

1. It's A Wonderful Life
2. How The Grinch Stole Christmas
3. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
4. A Christmas Story
5. A Charlie Brown Christmas
6. Miracle On 34th Street
7. Home Alone
8. The Santa Clause
9. Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer
10. A Christmas Story
11. The Polar Express
12. It's A Wonderful Life