

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

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NEWSLETTER - 165TH EDITION

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2013

OFFICERS

Thomas G. Koehler - Business Mgr/Financial Secretary
Alan P. Rademacher - President
Martin A. Carey - Vice President
Barbara L. Oakes - Recording Secretary
George G. Huber - Treasurer

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James M. Tobin

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Daryl C. Tindle - Business Representative
Daniel J. Kieffer - Business Representative
Robert J. Boogren - Business Representative
Shawn T. Daly - Business Representative
Charles R. Sable - Business Representative
Jon D. Michels - Business Representative
Kurt W. Zimmerman - Business Representative
Kevin J. Peterson - Membership Development Rep.
Rose M. Eiden - Bookkeeper
Shari L. Johnson - Office Manager
Jenny L. Olson - Receptionist, Referrals

General Membership Meetings



Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

Minneapolis: **October 3 & November 7, 2013**
7:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall
2909 Anthony Lane

Becker: **October 17 & November 21 2013**
7:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall

Mo Valley: **October 29, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.**
St. Anthony - Union Hall
November 22, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.
Sawmill Inn
2301 S. Pokegama Ave, Gr. Rapids



Local 160 Phone Ext.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Jenny - Ext. 101 |
| | Rose - Ext. 103 |
| | Shari - Ext. 104 |
| Kurt. - Ext. 105 | Shawn - Ext. 106 |
| Charlie- Ext. 108 | Dan - Ext. 205 |
| Bob - Ext. 109 | Tom K. - Ext. 115 |
| Jon - Ext. 125 | Kevin - Ext. 126 |

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
Daryl Tindle - (763) 262-1197
Dan K.- (763) 262-1198
Kurt Z. - (763) 262-1189
Fax # (763) 262-1168

Local Union 160 web site - www.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.

Do you have a Retirement Plan?

Here are some Questions and Concerns you may have...

What are my Retirement Pension Options?

What is the Process for me to Retire through the Local 160?

How could changes in my Pension affect my Retirement Plan?

What should I do for Health Care and Social Security during Retirement?

We at Union Advisors are Retirement Planning experts that work together with you to answer these questions and many more like them. **Please contact Mark Reichow or Mike Dolezal today to set up your complimentary retirement consultation at (651) 447-2235.**

Union Advisors are proud partners with the IBEW Local 160. We look forward to helping you create a plan and working with you in the future.

Retirement Club

The next meeting will be held on **October 23, 2013**. All Local 160 retirees are welcome to join.

Notice To All 'A' Members

If you are an 'A' member, you are paying into a small pension and death benefit through the I.B.E.W.

Lately, I have noticed that a many of you don't realize this. Local 160 does everything possible to make sure you don't lose this pension and death benefit, but sometimes our efforts fails.

I received a call from the wife of a member stating her husband had a stroke months back and that is why they hadn't paid any dues. She didn't realize that there was a pension and death benefit through the I.B.E.W. **It is very important to make sure your spouse or significant other knows about this.**

If you have any questions about your 'A' membership please feel free to call me and I will be more than happy to explain in detail about the pension and death benefit.

Rose Eiden
Bookkeeper

A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary

I am deeply saddened to report an IBEW Local Union 1002 member lost his life on the CapX2020 Brookings County-to-Hampton construction job August 14, 2013. While this article is being written the final report from Minnesota OSHA has not been released. Another member from IBEW Local Union 196 was seriously injured. He was treated and released from the hospital. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these two brothers.

As I've reported back in the March/April 2013 newsletter, the contract between the University of Minnesota and Foster Wheeler Twin Cities, Inc. is uncertain. All parties thought the bidding process would have been completed by now, but neither FWTC, Inc. nor the Local Union knows who the successful bidder is. We are currently operating under a contract extension.

The IBEW Joint Bargaining Committee and Xcel Energy have started contract negotiations. The five local unions sent out both the Company and Union proposed amendments to the Stewards. The Local Unions are asking the Company for more detail regarding their proposal. At the time of this writing, there have only been a few meetings. Both parties have agreed at the table to keep what is discussed during negotiations confidential, but the five local unions informed the company that when we feel an open dialog is needed with our members, we will discuss and get input from them on any proposed changes.

Again, I want to thank Tom Arnold for his service not only as a Business Representative, but also as a plant steward. I wish him a long and successful retirement. Tom was able to get Kurt Zimmerman out to the different plants and meet many of the members and local management people. I am confident that Kurt will be able to pick up where Tom left off.

I want to thank Dan Kieffer for putting together the four teams to represent IBEW Local Union 160 at the 3rd Annual Union Sportsmen's Alliance Clay Shoot. There is an article and some pictures later in this newsletter.

The Minneapolis City Council took public testimony on August 1, 2013, regarding ballot question of becoming a municipal utility. I testified against this concept. The Local 160 Executive Board took a position opposed as they felt it would not only be harmful to the membership, but also be a negative to the customers/rate payers. The City Council passed a resolution with a number of resolves. The highlights are; working towards environmental energy goals, gave direction to City Staff to begin negotiations to renew franchise agreements, not conduct the special election ballot questions.

Lastly, don't forget to come to our annual pig roast on Thursday, September 26, 2013 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Faternally,

Thomas G. Koehler

Dear Sisters and Brothers

The Delegates of the 38th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada during the week of September 19 through 23, 2011, approved several amendments to Article IX of the *IBEW Constitution*. Accordingly, effective January 1, 2014, there will be an increase of two dollars (\$2.00) in the per capita that is paid to the General Fund, and therefore, the rate for all members shall increase. The following rates will apply to the International Office (I.O.) portion of all monthly dues payments for January 2014, and thereafter:

| | <u>"A" Members</u> | <u>"BA" Members</u> | <u>"FP" - fee payers</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Per Capita: | \$17.00 | \$17.00 | \$17.00 |
| Pension Fund: | <u>\$15.00</u> | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
| Total: | \$32.00 | \$17.00 | \$17.00 |

In accordance with Article IX of the *IBEW Constitution*, \$17.00 per month from each member will be deposited in the General Fund, and the additional amount paid by "A" members (\$15.00 per month) will be deposited into the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is with deep sorrow that I report to you today about a fatal accident that happened on the CapX2020 Brookings County-to-Hampton construction site. Brother Robert Fernstermacher of IBEW Local 1002 in Tulsa, OK was fatally injured. Brother Jeremy Moye of IBEW Local 196 in Rockford, IL was also injured but was treated and released the same day. As of today, there is still an ongoing investigation and not a lot of answers. Hopefully we will know more soon. Please keep you prayers with the families affected by this tragic incident. Below is a statement from Great River Energy released on August 14, 2013 at 4:26 p.m.

We were deeply saddened to hear of the accident that occurred at the CapX2020 Brookings County-to-Hampton construction site this morning. The accident, which occurred at approximately 8:38 a.m. involved two contruction workers from Aldridge Electric. One of the men was killed and the other was seriously injured and was treated and released from the hospital.

The accident happened north of New Prague on structure 35, which is approximately 3 miles east of the Helena Substation on Scott County Road 2. Aldridge Electric workers acted quickly to aid their co-workers. Emergency response also was provided by the New Prague Fire Department.

A number of investigations are either underway or have been completed. OSHA is currently at the site and the insurance investigation will soon begin. The Scott County Sheriff’s Department and medical examiner have conducted their investigations. Great River Energy’s safety and risk management personnel are working with the investigating parties.

Although investigations are not complete, early reports are that crews were digging a hole approximately 50 feet deep for a foundation, and preparing to pump concrete into the hole for structure 35. During the process, crews install a large, rebar cage into the hole for support. Two workers were nearby. The rebar cage was suspended from a crane and the cage fell due to an unknown cause. The two workers fell and one was trapped near the edge of the hole. That person was hospitalized. The other fell in the hole with the cage material and he was fatally injured.

Aldridge Electric has suspended work and they will not resume work until at least next week. Great River Energy has extended their resources, including the use of the company aircraft, to help the families of the workers.

We at Local 160 cannot stress enough the importance of being safe. Remember, safety is not just at work, it is also at home.

In Solidarity,

Charlie R. Sable
Outside Business Representative

The Gift Of Knowledge

James Lewis Macie was born in 1765. His father was a British noble, and his mother was a wealthy heiress. Because his parents were not married, Macie’s standing in society was non-existent.

It wasn’t until after the duke’s death that Macie adopted the surname of his father, Smithson. However, because of his illegitimate status, Macie could never inherit any of his father’s estate, title, or lands. He also could not hold public office, or join the church.

As a young man Macie entered the university and embarked upon an education and career in science. He achieved great fame during his lifetime as a well-respected scientist. He’d inherited his mother’s wealth, but he never married nor had children of his own. Some speculate that he did not want to pass along the illegitimate status and the legal and social limitations it had placed on his life.

Upon his death, his fortune was ultimately bequethed to the United States to establish a foundation whose mission would be to increase knowledge. It is believed that his love of democracy and the ideals on which this country was founded were behind this action. Macie’s gift is a group of museums recognized today as the Smithsonian Institution.

The Union Sportsmen’s Alliance sponsored the 3rd Annual Roofer’s Twin Cities Sporting Clay Shoot. This event was held at Wild Marsh Sporting Clays in Clear Lake, Minnesota. There were a total of 195 people shooting in this year’s event. Teams consist of five shooters. Local Union 160 had four teams entered this year. Local Union 160 sponsored two of the four teams. Mike Dolezal and Mark Reichow of Union Advisors, and Mike Follse of Principal Financial Group each sponsored one of the other two teams.

Every shooter tries to break 100 clay pigeons over a course of 22 different stations. No two stations are the same which makes sporting clays a real challenge. There are team and individual winners in three different classes. The day concludes with lunch at the lodge. Awards and prizes are given out following the lunch. Local Union 160 was well represented this year.

This event has grown over the past three years but there is still room for any 160 members that wishes to participate in 2014. It’s a lot of fun meeting and competing with Union members from many different trades. People of all levels and abilities are welcome to join up. Dan Kieffer, Local Union 160 Business Representative is the coordinator for the 160 teams and he is already looking for people who are interested in shooting in next year’s event. There will be a notice prior to next year’s shoot in the 160 newsletter.

Brother Jim Brereton
Executive Board Member



The National Labor Relations Board Has Five Senate Confirmed Members

Today, for the first time since August 21, 2003, the National Labor Relations Board has a full complement of five Senate confirmed members. Four new members, all nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed last month by the U.S. Senate have been sworn into office. NLRB Chairman Mark Gaston Pearce was also confirmed last month to an additional five year term on the Board. Biographies of the five members of the Board are below:

- ◆ Mark Gaston Pearce is currently Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), a position he has held since August 2011. He has served as a Member of the NLRB since March 2010. Mr. Pearce was a founding partner at Creighton, Pearce, Johnsen & Giroux and previously a partner at Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll, Salisbury & Cambria LLP. From 1979 to 1994, he was a district trial specialist for the NLRB in Buffalo, NY. He has served by appointment of the Governor as a Board Member of the New York State Industrial Board of Appeals, and he has taught labor studies courses at Cornell University's School of Industrial Labor Relations Extension. Mr. Pearce received a B.A. from Cornell University and an J.D. from State University of New York at Buffalo. Board Chairman Pearce will be sworn in later this month for a term ending August 27, 2018, and the President has designated him to continue to serve as Chairman.
- ◆ Nancy Schiffer was Associate General Counsel to the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization (AFL-CIO) from 2000 to 2012. Previously, she was Deputy General Counsel to the United Auto Workers (UAW) from 1998 to 2000. She also worked as Associate General Counsel for the UAW from 1982 to 1998. Earlier in her career, Ms. Schiffer was a staff attorney in the Detroit Regional Office of the National Labor Relations Board and worked as an attorney in private practice. Ms. Schiffer received her B.A. from Michigan State University and her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School. Board Member Schiffer was sworn in on August 2, 2013, for a term ending December 16, 2014.
- ◆ Harry I. Johnson, III was a partner with law firm Arent Fox, LLP, a position he held since 2010. Previously, Mr. Johnson worked at the Jones Day law firm as a partner from 2006 to 2010 and as associate from 1994 to 2005. In 2011, he was recognized by The Daily Journal as one of the "Top Labor & Employment Attorneys in California". Mr. Johnson received a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University, an M.A.L.D. from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. Board Member Johnson was sworn in on August 12, 2013 for a term that expires on August 27, 2015.
- ◆ Kent Hirozawa was chief counsel to National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) Chairman Mark Pearce. Before joining the NLRB staff in 2010, Mr. Hirozawa was a partner in the New York law firm Gladstein, Reif and Meginniss LLP, where he advised clients on a variety of legal and strategic issues, including Federal and state labor and employment law matters. Mr. Hirozawa previously served as a field attorney for the NLRB from 1984 to 1986. He was a pro se law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1982 to 1984. He received a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from New York University School of Law. Board Member Hirozawa was sworn in on August 5, 2013 for a term that expires on August 27, 2016.
- ◆ Philip A. Miscimarra was a partner in the Labor and Employment Group of Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP, a position he held since 2005. Since 1997, Mr. Miscimarra has been a senior fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Business School. Mr. Miscimarra worked at Seyfarth Shaw LLP as a partner from 1990 to 2005 and as an associate from 1987 to 1989. Mr. Miscimarra received a B.A. from Duquesne University, an M.B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business, and a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Board Member Miscimarra was sworn in on August 7, 2013 for a term that expires on December 16, 2017.

Established in 1935, the National Labor Relations Board is an independent federal agency that protects employers and employees from unfair labor practices, and protects the right of private sector employees to join together, with or without a union, to improve wages, benefits and working conditions. The NLRB conducts hundreds of workplace elections and investigates thousands of unfair labor practice charges each year.

Can you believe my damned union?

The following Letter to the Editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer by Chemical Workers Local 747 member Ken Spring was in response to Nordstrom Dept. store employee who voted to decertify the United Food and Commercial Workers in an intense anti-union campaign that many employees believe was initiated and financed by the company. Said a leader of the Nordstrom employees opposed to the union: "Unions want to take our money and we have said, 'No'.

"I must agree with the leader mentioned above," he wrote, "as I belong to a union and I must also give my union \$39 per month. And all that I get for my monthly dues are:

- ◆ I must accept only \$18.33 per hour.
- ◆ If I am called in early on my shift or on weekends, I must accept three hours pay for call-time, plus time-and-a-half pay for all hours worked on a weekend.
- ◆ I must accept good medical and dental coverage plans that my employer pays for.
- ◆ I must take seven weeks vacation after 20 years with the company, fully paid.
- ◆ I must be protected by seniority rights that move me up the progression ladder in a fair and just manner.
- ◆ I am forced to have a good grievance procedure so that I am treated fairly by management.
- ◆ I am forced by my damned union to work in a safe and healthy environment.
- ◆ I also cannot believe how that pushy union is going to force on me a good, company-paid pension when I retire.
- ◆ My union also is very democratic and regularly asks for my input. What is wrong with our union leaders, anyway, running a union like this? My union leaders tell me that I am the union. Some nerve, huh?

Unions are really terrible that's for sure. I think that I will contact the National Labor Relations Board and see if I can get my union decertified.

I am sick and tired of the union doing all of these things for me. Just think, when all of my benefits are gone and I am working for \$4.25 per hour, at least I will not have to pay any more lousy union dues!

The Perfect House

A young girl lived in a small, simple house on the top of a hill. She spent her days playing in the garden and for a long time was quite content.

As she grew older and taller, she was able to see the world that existed over the fence of her yard, and she spotted the "perfect house" on a hill across the valley from where she lived.

The way the sun shone on the windows made them shine like gold and the girls spent her days imagining what it would be like to live in a house with golden windows.

She believed her life would be much better if only she could live in the perfect house across the valley, and she vowed to go there as soon as she was able.

When she was old enough, she was allowed to play outside of her yard, and even ride her bike down the lane to explore the neighborhood. It was only a matter of time before she rode her bike across the valley to her dream house on the opposite hill.

She left her bike at the fence post and walked up the long winding lane to the house. With each step her anticipation of what she would find grew. Imagine her disappointment when she arrived at the house to find that it was rather plain and in need of a good paint job; the windows were dirty, and a loose shutter banged against the side of the house when the wind blew; weeds were overtaking the yard.

She looked across the valley to her own home. The way the sun shone on the windows made them appear to glisten like gold. She looked back at what she thought was her dream house and realized that things at a distance can offer the illusion of perfection, but to appreciate the things you have is the best assessment of a thing's worth. As she raced back to her bike and pedaled home she thought about all of the good things that awaited her at home.

LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Jeffrey Anderson | Kelly Anderson |
| Michael Bolduc | Freddy Anduvay-Cavbajai |
| Ryan Borgmann | Christopher Bostrom |
| Justin Boyum | Carl Closmore |
| Kelli Daly | Anthony DeMuri |
| Dillon Decker | Thomas Dollard |
| Daniel Ermann | Randall Fehn |
| Alan Fischer | Larry Ford |
| Jared Forner | Jason Fratzke |
| Norman Gonzales | Collin Grover |
| David Haegele | Lucas Hafften |
| Jonathan Hart | Ross Homola |
| Blake Hoover | Joseph Hubler |
| Adam Jachymowski | Michael Jaques |
| Kyle Kaskinen | Kevin Klocke |
| James Knuuttila | Blake Krey |
| Cody Kruger | Curtis Kuehn |
| Tyler Kunshier | William Kyllo |
| Christopher LeClaire | Jose Lopez |
| Jeremiah Lueth | Todd Meier |
| Robert Merta | Charles Michealson |
| Alexander Mitchell | Daniel Murphy |
| Chad Nelson | Jacob Nelson |
| Robert O'Connor | Barret Olson |
| Isaac Olson | Grant Olson |
| Sherman Plank | Andrew Plude |
| Matthew Puchalski | Shane Pust |
| Jesse Rain | Jeremy Reid |
| Ethan Schetter | Cody Schladweiler |
| Marcu Skelton | Curtis Sletten |
| David Snyder | Corey Sperstad |
| Corey Struxness | Jacob Swenson |
| Mark Thorson | Tyler Villarreal |
| Thomas Vogel | Justin Weber |
| Tyler Westlund | |

Membership Count = 2990

GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE

FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

T. Joseph Davis - Mo Valley
Thomas Jacobs Sr - Xcel Energy
Tim Johanix - Xcel Energy
David Kirkeeide - Mo Valley
Robert Lahti - Mo Valley
Kevin O. Peterson - Mo Valley
Jesse Riegelman - Mo Valley
Mark Schuerman - Xcel Energy



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.

Terrance Blair - Xcel Energy
Mark Benson - Xcel Energy
Tyrone Colby - Xcel Energy
Percyell Davis - Xcel Energy
James Engelen - Xcel Energy
Terry Haley - Xcel Energy
Paul Hoffman - Steele Waseca
James O'Fallon - Xcel Energy
Jerry Pals - Xcel Energy
Patrick Roering - Xcel Energy
Steven Ross - Xcel Energy
Mark Schafer - Xcel Energy
Denny Willert - East Central Energy



Relay Exam

The Relay Department is planning on adding several apprentices in the near future. A posting is expected to go up some time in September. At this time the target date for the exam is on October 15, 2013. Anyone who is interested in the position of Apprentice System Relay Specialist please watch for the posting. Begin studying for the test immediately. The best study material is Delmar's Standard Book of Electricity.

Local Union 160 has DVD packets that are also used to study, so just come into the hall and pick them up or call and they can mail them out to you.