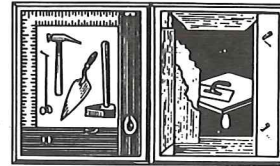


# QUARTERLY UPDATE

- Bricklayers
- Stone Masons
- Tilelayers
- Marble Masons



- Blocklayers
- Finishers
- Shopmen
- Cement Masons
- Pointers - Cleaners - Caulkers • Concrete Products Specialists

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 4

DECEMBER 1996

## ACTIVISM PAYS OFF IN GENERAL ELECTION

Trade unionists across Minnesota made working family issues **THE ISSUES** in the Nov. 5 election, and their activism and march to the polls swept AFL-CIO COPE-endorsed candidates to victory from the presidency to the legislature.

Labor's issues – jobs and job safety, education, health care, Social Security/Medicare, pensions – became the

defining issues of the campaign. Although trade unionists had focused on these issues months before the election, by the time voters went to the ballot box, all candidates – not just labor-endorsed candidates – were talking about these issues of concern to working men and women.

*Please turn to ELECTION on Page 7*

### Goblirsch reelected to 3-year term as Local 1 president

Gary Goblirsch, who has served as president of Local No. 1 Minnesota since March of 1992, has been reelected to a three-year term.

In other election results, Jim Lundquist, was elected secretary-treasurer, and Ronald AlMBERG, Roger Buirge and Robert Julkowski were elected vice chairmen.

In chapter elections, Dick Burt was reelected chairman of Chapter 1-St. Paul, and James Sipprell and Dallas Smith were elected to the Chapter 2-Minneapolis Negotiating Committee.

Ballots for the Bricklayer and Allied Craftworkers election were

*Please turn to LOCAL 1 on Page 7*



**Vice President Gore campaigns for Sen. Paul Wellstone**

### KEEP IN TOUCH

**LOCAL TELEPHONES**  
612-379-2966 AND 612-379-4230  
**OUTSTATE TELEPHONE**  
1-800-257-8636  
**FAX**  
612-379-8754

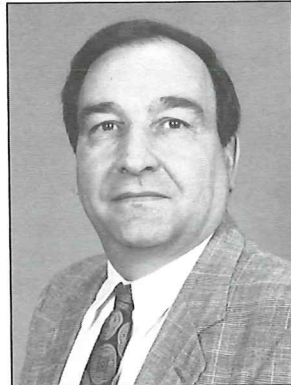
### INSIDE QUARTERLY UPDATE

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**PROFILE:** Jack Wallner has championed pension and other benefits for Tile Setters/3  
**PEOPLE:** Youngsters intrigued by the art of laying brick/4  
**THIS & THAT:** Plan to attend Local 1's Christmas Party/6

COMMENTARY

GARY GOBLIRSCH SAYS

**T**HE TRUSTEES OF the Twin City Bricklayers Health and Welfare Fund have decided to simplify the way your benefits are calculated. This change will provide equal, or better, benefits overall, while making the Plan easier to understand.



# Health & Welfare Fund calculations are simplified

In the past, three schedules were needed to determine what the Fund would pay: The base plan schedule, the major medical schedule and a series of "stand alone" benefits.

As of Jan. 1, 1997, these schedules will be replaced with a single, comprehensive schedule where the Plan will pay 95% of covered expenses. Deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums will remain the same.

A few "stand alone" benefits, which will be paid at 100% up to certain limits, will also remain for such things as physicals and cancer screening.

The changes will make it easier for Bricklayer families to compute what the Plan will pay, while maintaining high quality coverage. More details about these changes will be announced later.

**Buy American/Buy Union When you shop for holiday gifts**

Every time union members make purchases at stores ranging from Dayton's and J.C. Penney to Sears and Target this holiday season, they're making decisions that will affect hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs, including our own.

By looking for the union

label, we're not only saving U.S. jobs and strengthening the economy, but we're letting retailers know we want to buy products made in America.

No segment of corporate America has been more ruthless in its quest for cheap labor than the retail industry, and imports flooding our markets from countries with huge, cheap labor pools – often child labor pools – are affecting the livelihood of hundreds of thousands of American workers each year.

Unfortunately, the billions of dollars of imports, plant relocations and resulting U.S. job losses are going to grow, unless we put pressure on American companies that want to maximize their profits by minimizing wages.

The best way to apply pressure, this holiday season or any time you shop, is to demand the union label. The union label is the only label guaranteeing that a product not only was made in America, but that it was produced under safe conditions and for a fair level of wages and benefits. ■

**Ho, Ho, Ho to American-Made  
No, No, No to Imports**

Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

*No segment of corporate America has been more ruthless in its quest for cheap labor than the retail industry, and imports flooding our markets from countries with huge, cheap labor pools – often child labor pools – are affecting the livelihood of hundreds of thousands of American workers each year.*

PEOPLE

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH MEMBERS OF LOCAL 1



PROFILE: JOHN (JACK) WALLNER HAS CHAMPIONED PENSION AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR TILE SETTERS

**J**OHN (JACK) WALLNER has had a chair at both labor and management's side of the negotiating table, but regardless of which side he's been on, he's championed pension, health, vacation and other benefits for tile setters.

Thanks to the efforts of Wallner and other original members of the Minnesota Ceramic Tile and Allied Trades Fringe Benefit Funds, Local 18 tile setters and helpers were among the first building tradesmen in the state to win fringe benefits that are now second to none.

Wallner, the retired president of Drake Marble Co., still serves on the board of the Pension Fund. But as a tile industry representative on the national Bricklayers Pension Plan Board of Trustees, his commitment to continually improve the trade's benefit programs has had an effect far beyond Minnesota.

"I've never felt any conflict serving on both sides of the table," Wallner said. "I started out on the union side pushing for benefits, and I still want to see these programs move ahead. Many of the men I worked with have retired, and I want their retirements to be secure. I always want to see our trade change for the better."

**W**ALLNER'S AMBIDEXTROUS CAREER ACTUALLY STARTED by accident. After serving in the South Pacific during World War II, he returned to St. Paul and hoped to enroll in what is now the University of St. Thomas. But his class was full, thanks to the throngs of returning GIs, and he opted for a tile setter apprenticeship.

Wallner served his apprenticeship at Drake, where he had an "in" because his father was vice president of the firm. He became a tile setter in January of 1950.

It wasn't long before Wallner's concern for his trade, his co-workers and their lack of benefits spurred him to union activism. By 1953, he was serving as the tile setter's unpaid business agent – his "salary" was not having to pay dues – and pushing for the pensions, health coverage and vacation and holiday pay that are now an

accepted part of the tile setter employment package.

Wallner's union career was cut short, however, when his father, John E. Wallner, died of a heart attack at age 54 in 1955. Wallner laid down his tools, moved into Drake's office and eventually became president and co-owner of the firm, which was established on St. Paul's West Side in 1892. He remained as president until Drake was sold to Twin City Tile & Marble Co. of Minneapolis five years ago.



Wallner

Over the last four decades, Wallner, 72, not only has served his industry, but he has chaired and been a leader on the boards of countless community, business and civic organizations.

He is a past president of the Tile Contractors Association of America, served as state chairman of Ducks Unlimited, chair of the Home-A-Rama Show, and in 1988 received the Builders Exchange of St. Paul's Distinguished Member Award for his work as director, vice president and president.

**W**ALLNER, HELEN, HIS WIFE OF 49 YEARS, AND THEIR cocker spaniel, Muffy, live in Vadnais Heights, in a home that brings constant reminders of his life with stone and marble. The Wallners have three children and four grandchildren.

As Wallner relaxed in his comfortable kitchen, he said he has no regrets that his career shifted from college to tile setting. "There was such a demand for tile setters after the war, that I never went to school," he said. "But I've never been sorry. It's been a very good life. "

But Wallner doesn't dwell long on the past. He wants to see a future tile industry that continues to offer exemplary benefits, that organizes the unorganized and that brings cooperation between labor and management.

"Cooperation is important so tile setters feel they are a part of the industry," he said. "And as a management person, I want tile setters to be good union people. If both sides uphold our union contracts, there will be no problems in our industry." ■

PEOPLE

## Youngsters at Fair intrigued by art of laying brick

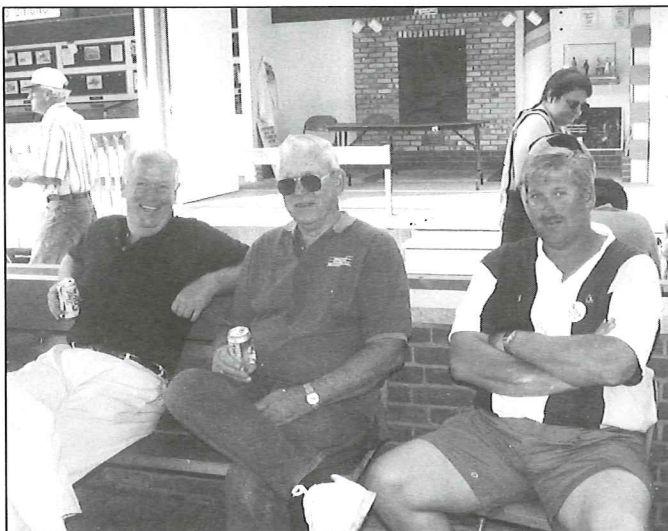
Visitors to the Minnesota State Fair had a chance to try their hands at laying brick in Local 1's booth at the state AFL-CIO House of Labor. Although fairgoers of all ages took turns with the trowel, youngsters were especially intrigued by the art of laying brick.

The House of Labor gives fair visitors a chance to meet the men and women of Minnesota's unions and see the services and products union labor provides. Union-made pencils, key chains and other mementos were given away free at the union label booth, and drawings for union-made prizes brought a steady flow of visitors to the federation exhibit.

We want to thank our retirees for manning Local 1's booth and answering a wide variety of visitor questions. ■



Retirees Bob Julkowski, left, and Karl Kolander took a break and reminisced a bit about their days in the trade. Julkowski was in charge of Local 1's booth.



There's nothing like the fair for people watching, visiting and just plain relaxing, and Ed Kranz, of Sieben, Grose, Von Holtum, McCoy and Carey, Bob Julkowski, center, and Dallas Smith, did all three as they rested for a spell in front of Local 1's booth.



A spectacular exhibit of brick was a perfect spot for Harold Stener, Bob Julkowski and Ray Axt to pose.

**B R I E F L Y**

## Special Meeting scheduled for B.A.C. Chapters 1, 2, 4, 11

Jan. 11, 1997, will be a special meeting for B.A.C. Chapters 1, 2, 4 and 11. There will be a wage increase on May 1, and the membership will vote at the special meeting on whether to increase the contribution rate to any of the existing Funds (pension, health and welfare and vacation).

The meeting will be at 9 a.m. in the St. Paul Labor Center, 411 Main St.

To be eligible to vote, your dues must be paid through the month of November and you must have your dues card.

## New Apprentices

All new apprentices will be sworn in at the December union meeting.

## Thank You

We want to extend a special "thank you" to the following companies which donated material for the Bricklayer apprenticeship classes: Arsenal Sand Inc., Anchor Block, Ochs Brick Co., Stahl Construction and Corning Donohue.

Classes started on Tuesday, Sept. 24, for third-year apprentices. The class is taught by John Skradski. Second-year apprentices started classes, taught by Michael Cook and Charlie Taylor, on Monday, Oct. 7. And on Tuesday, Oct. 8, classes started for first-year apprentices. The first-year class is taught by Daniel Quinlan and Richard Kentzelman.

## Pins to be Awarded to Tilelayers

All new 25- and 40-year pins will be awarded at the Dec. 10, 1996 meeting of Chapter No. 18 Tilelayers in Room 219 of the Minneapolis Labor Centre, 312 Central Ave. This meeting – and all future meetings – will be held at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served at the Dec. 10 meeting.

## Dues sent to wrong address

Many members are still sending their union dues to the wrong office, and some are still sending the wrong dollar amount.

Dues payments should be sent to 312 Central Ave., Room 328, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

## T.E.A.M., Inc.

*Total Employee Assistance Management  
Accessible, confidential counseling service*

700 Transfer Road  
St. Paul, MN 55114

**Office: 612-642-0182**  
**Toll Free: 1-800-634-7710**  
*Phone Answered 24 Hours a Day*

T.E.A.M., Inc. is your employee assistance program, and it was established to assist when you or any of your family members need help.

All you have to do is call T.E.A.M., and an appointment will be set up within 24 to 48 hours. If you're in the middle of a crisis, you can reach a counselor by phone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

If it's necessary, the counselor on duty will arrange to help you in person.

Bricklayer dues are \$26 per month; Tilelayer dues are \$21 per month.

## Verification Slips to be Mailed Dec. 15

July, August and September verification slips for Chapters 1, 2, 4 and 11 will be mailed on Dec. 15.

## Out of Work?

If you are out of work, please call the office. We have calls!

## Retiring?

If you're considering retiring, please contact the Union Office three months in advance to fill out the necessary papers.■

### DECEASED MEMBERS

We are sorry to report these deaths:

NAME	CHAPTER
John Dombrowski	No. 1
Roy Gasman	No. 2
Harold Horsman	No. 2
Stanley Murzyn	No. 18
Floyd Person	No. 18
Chester Ruud	No. 2
Dean Weis	No. 4

**T H I S   &   T H A T**

## Job information System set up by International

As part of its ongoing effort to expand services to its members, the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers has established a Job Information System to match BAC members with available jobs throughout the U.S. and Canada.

The BAC program is designed to help local unions serve the needs of their members by assisting them in manning jobs when the manpower resources in a local area are exhausted.

When a local needs additional workers, it asks the Job Information Center for a list of members with appropriate skills who have indicated they are willing to travel to the local's area.

Once the local union gets the list, it contacts the members by telephone.

If you are called, the local union will provide information about the job opening, travel and housing arrangements and whether there are arrangements for travel subsidies.

Please contact the Local 1 office to receive a three-page enrollment form that must be completed to participate in the program.

At the center, your form will be entered onto a computer and you will be sent a letter confirming that you are part of the system and given an "800" number, which you can use when you want to indicate that you are available to travel for work. You can also use the "800" number to change or deactivate your enrollment form.

The Job Information Center is located in St. Louis, MO. ■

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL! PLEASE PLAN TO...

## ...Join Santa at Local 1's Annual Christmas Party



Santa will join in the holiday merriment and be available to hear each child's special Christmas wish list. Entertainment will be provided by Comedy Ventriloquist Ian Varella, and there will be fun and Christmas treats for all.

F R O M T H E F R O N T P A G E

## ELECTION: *Labor wins big in the state Legislature*

*Continued From Page 1*

But trade unionists didn't just talk. They worked. They manned phones to get out the vote, pounded signs, and on the Saturday before the election – the Day of Labor – thousands of labor people turned out to distribute literature. They also ran for office.

Bernard Brommer, Minnesota AFL-CIO president, said “never in recent history” have there been so many union people involved in an election or such a large number of union people running for office.

The activism paid off. At the top of the ticket, labor-endorsed President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore were reelected, the first Democrats since Franklin Roosevelt 60 years ago to win a second term. Nationally, union households voted 59% for Clinton.

Perhaps in no race was the margin of victory provided by union members for pro-working family candidates more obvious than in the rough battle for the U.S. Senate. Sen. Paul Wellstone, whose lifetime 93% labor voting record and advocacy for working families made him the target of a nationally-financed, attack-ad campaign, survived the blows and scored a resounding victory over former Sen. Rudy Boschwitz.

In U.S. House races, labor retained six of Minnesota's eight seats and came close to grabbing a seventh. With the help of trade unionists in the 1st district, COPE-endorsed Mary Rieder just missed unseating incumbent Gil Gutknecht, who blamed labor for his near defeat.

Labor-endorsed candidates also scored successes in the Legislature. Minnesota AFL-CIO COPE-endorsed candidates unseated incumbents in five key House races, and COPE endorsees – of both parties – hold a majority of legislative seats.

To help in Minnesota's overall labor effort, nearly 40 union staff workers were hired or assigned full or part time by state and national unions and the Minnesota AFL-CIO to assist with issues education, work on cam-



## Business far outspent labor in '96 campaign

It's no secret that for many years America's working families have had little voice in our political system.

That's why the AFL-CIO allocated \$35 million in 1996 for an educational campaign to push key issues important to working families and to give voters the records and positions of candidates on these issues.

While the tough campaign gave organized labor new respect and effectively made working family issues THE ISSUES in the Nov. 5 election, the dollars from labor were swamped by money from business.

According to the non-partisan Center for Responsive Politics, business groups donated \$242.4 million, nearly seven times more than labor's \$35 million. The figures obviously rebut New Gingrich's claim that “Washington union bosses” were spending unprecedented amounts in “an open effort to buy and control the Congress.”

The figures also show something else: The most dollars don't necessarily buy the best ad campaign. The AFL-CIO's series of television ads targeting the anti-worker records of Republican Congress members in 14 key districts was described by *Adweek* magazine as “arguably the most powerful political ad campaign of 1996.” ■

paigms and get out the vote.

While state trade unionists went to the polls to vote for “bread and butter” issues, union families also led the march with renewed strength around the country.

Union households accounted for 23% of the overall vote, up from 19% in 1992 and 14% in 1994.

Local 1 President Gary Goblirsch thanked members who helped with labor's election efforts and made their voices heard with their votes. “This campaign put working family issues back on the table,” he said ■

*Continued From Page 1*

## LOCAL 1: Goblirsch reelected

mailed to members on Oct. 12, and results were tabulated on Nov. 13. The election was conducted by the American Arbitration

Association to assure its neutrality and fairness. The A.A.A. supervised the printing, mailing, collection and tabulation of ballots.

Goblirsch, who was appoint-

ed president in March 1992 and was elected to his first, three-year term in 1993, thanked everyone who took part in the election. Watch for more election details in the next *Quarterly Update*. ■



**K E E P I N G U P**



*HOLIDAY GREETING • The officers of Local 1 Minnesota wish our members and their families a joyous Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.*



**CHECK YOUR CALENDAR FOR IMPORTANT DATES**

Please clip the calendar and post it in a convenient spot so it's handy when you want to check meetings and events.

**December, 1996**

**Annual Children's Christmas Party**  
Dec. 7 • 9:45 a.m., Second Floor,  
United Labor Centre, 312 Central  
Ave.

**Retirees Club Meeting**  
Dec. 19 • 9 a.m. Jax's Cafe,  
Minneapolis

**1997**

**NOTE**

There will be no chapter meet-  
ings in April and October.

Turkeys will be given away at all  
December union meetings.

**Retirees Club Meetings**  
9 a.m. Jax's Cafe, Minneapolis  
March 27, June 26, Sept. 25, Dec.  
18

**Chapter 11-Mankato**  
7 p.m. Teamsters Hall  
Jan. 7, Feb. 4, March 4, May 6, June  
3, July, cancelled, Aug. 5, Sept. 2,  
Nov. 4, Dec. 2

**Chapter 4-St. Cloud**  
8 p.m. Basement, 1903 4th St. N.  
Jan., cancelled, Feb. 5, March 5, May  
7, June 4, July, cancelled, Aug. 6,  
Sept. 3, Nov. 5, Dec. 3

**Chapter 6-Springfield**  
8 p.m. American Legion Hall  
Jan., cancelled, March 6, June 5,  
Aug. 7, Nov. 6

**Chapter 6-New Ulm**  
8 p.m. American Legion Club, 13 S.  
Minnesota  
Feb. 6, May 1, July, cancelled, Sept.  
4, Dec. 4

**Chapter 1 & 2-Minneapolis**  
7 p.m. Second Floor, 312 Central  
Ave. SE.  
Feb. 10, June 9, Aug. 11, Dec. 8

**Chapters 1 & 2-St. Paul**  
7 p.m. Labor Centre, 411 Main St.  
Jan. 9, March 13, May 8, July, can-  
celled, Sept. 11, Nov. 13

**Chapter 18-Tilelayers**  
7 p.m. Second Floor, 312 Central  
Ave.  
Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 11, May 13,  
June 10, July, cancelled, Aug. 12,  
Sept. 9, Nov. 11, Dec. 9

**Other Events**  
Semi-Annual Meetings for Chapters 1,  
2, 4, 6, 11, 18  
10 a.m. Second Floor, 312 Central  
Ave.  
April 5, Oct. 4

**Gold Card Dinner**  
Thunderbird Hotel  
June 20

**Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers  
Golf Tournament**  
Saturday, July 26



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Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers  
Local #1 of Minnesota  
312 Central Avenue, Suite 328  
Minneapolis, MN 55414



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**PAGE 1: ACTIVISM PAYS OFF IN GENERAL ELECTION**