

MARCH
2006

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 1

QUARTERLY UPDATE

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is a battle-ground state/3

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BENEFITS

Check the Zenith Administrators Web site, www.zenithtpa.com or phone either 651-256-1801 or 1-800-879-4412

Minneapolis bricklayer is named 'the best'

THERE'S fast brick-laying and then there's the championship level: 13 bricks a minute, one every four seconds.

That's the rate at which Minneapolis bricklayer Patrick Baxter worked in Las Vegas Jan. 18, and he has \$5,000 and a new Ford F-150 XLT Supercab pickup truck to show for it.

Baxter, 26, is this year's winner of the SPEC MIX Bricklayer 500, a title that sponsor SPEC MIX, Inc., of Mendota Heights, shortens to simply "the world's best bricklayer."



Patrick Baxter lays 13 bricks a minute on his way to being judged 'the world's best bricklayer.'

The competition is an annual highlight of the World of Concrete convention, which was attended this year by some 80,000 people.

To win the title, Baxter laid 780 bricks in 58 minutes, using the last two minutes of the allotted hour to double-check his work. He considers it a middling performance. Not long ago, in a practice session, he laid 924 bricks in an hour. And last year, in the same competition, he laid

Please turn to BAXTER on Page 12



JIM LUNDQUIST
PRESIDENT/
SECRETARY-TREASURER

REMINDERS TO CEASE

Union dues, like rent, are due on the 1st

TAKE A LOOK at the back of your plastic union card. You'll find these statements: Any member or apprentice becoming in arrears for dues for two (2) months shall stand suspended **without notice**. Any member or apprentice in arrears for dues for three (3) months shall **cease** to be a member without notice.

Please turn to LUNDQUIST on Page 10

HELP WANTED

Dues increase will fund new field reps

A dues increase approved at the Jan. 7 special call meeting will enable us to hire two new field representatives for the metro area. The new reps will be chosen from journey workers who submit their resumes. If you're interested, I hope you'll send us a resume. Here's the address: Jim Lundquist, Local 1 MN/ND, 312 Central Ave., #328, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

We would also like outstate and North Dakota members to send in resumes for future appointments of field reps.

The local dues checkoff increase approved Jan. 7 added 1/4 of 1 percent to bring the total dues checkoff to 1% in all areas of Minnesota and North Dakota. The change will take effect May 1, 2006. Your I.U. (BAC International Union) checkoff will stay the same, at a similar 1% of total package.

THERE WERE 124 MEMBERS PRESENT at the wage allocation meeting on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2006. This was a meeting that included members from all chapters of the Local Union.

President James Lundquist announced that there was a need for a dues increase and explained to the members present why it would be necessary. President Lundquist said that hours are down, the per capita fees that the Local pays are increasing and the Local net assets have been decreasing over the last few years. He also explained that in order to add more staff, to replace those who had retired in the last few years, an increase would be necessary.

After much discussion, Dave Mensing made a motion to increase the Local dues check-off by 1/4%. Gary Jirovic seconded the motion. It was explained that this would be a permanent increase in the Local dues check-off to 1% of the total wage package in each wage area. The increase would be the same as the International dues and contributions and would begin on May 1, 2006. The vote was taken by secret ballot. The ballots were counted by Brothers Terry Wong and Bart Carroll. The vote was 95 to 27 to increase the dues.

Jim then discussed the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA). Jim explained that Bismarck and Grand Forks, N.D., are currently participating in the HRA. He explained that it was a personal account that could be used for medical and dental purposes. The money goes in before taxes and comes out untaxed, and it rolls over from one year to the next. There was much discussion with the members present on how the HRA would work. A more detailed explanation of the HRA appeared in the last issue of the Quarterly Update. It was noted that the contribution to the Health and Welfare Fund would increase \$.20 on May 1, 2006, to maintain benefits at the current level. The discussion on HRAs was tabled.

President Lundquist then talked about pensions. It was noted that the current contribution to the Minnesota and North Dakota BAC Pension Fund is \$4.20 per hour. The contribution rate to the Local Pension had not been increased since May 1, 2003. Jim noted that a \$.30 increase would make a pension credit worth \$170.75 a month. After much discussion, Dallas Smith made a motion to add \$.40 to the Local Pension. Jerry Lassahn seconded the motion. During the discussion, a question was asked about what a credit would be. Local 1 will notify the membership on

MIKE COOK
EXECUTIVE
VICE PRESIDENT

All-chapters meeting allocates funds

the new accrual rate after a determination has been made by the Fund actuaries and approved by the Board of Trustees at the next Pension Fund meeting. A vote was then taken by secret ballot. Terry Wong and Bart Carroll counted the ballots. The vote was 63 to 50 to add \$.40 to the Local Pension.

Discussion on the HRA was then reopened. Motion was made by Terry Steffen to not make HRA contributions. The motion was seconded by John Trebb. After much discussion a vote was then taken by secret ballot. Terry Wong and Bart Carroll counted the ballots. The vote was 64 to 55. The motion passed. The HRA would not be started this year.

The membership was then split into groups. Chapters #1, #4, #11 and parts of #8 members stayed in the main meeting hall. Chapter #1 Tile Layers, Tile Finishers and Marble Shop Workers went to the north end of the meeting room and pulled the curtain to separate the two meetings.

The Chapter #1, #4, #11 and parts of #8 meeting continued. After much discussion, a motion was made by Josh Marshall and seconded by Emilio Garcia to put the rest of the raise on the check and nothing into the Vacation Fund. A vote was then taken by secret ballot. Terry Wong and Bart Carroll counted the ballots. The vote was 58 to 13 with three uncountable votes. The remainder of the raise, \$.82 in the metro area, would go onto the check May 1, 2006.

Next was the allocation for Shopworkers. A motion was made by Jeff Buerke and seconded Steve Funk to add \$.25 to the International Union Pension. A secret ballot was taken. The vote was 3 to 4. The motion failed. A motion was made by Jeff Zrust to go into the Bricklayers Local Pension, there was no second. Motion was

Please turn to COOK on next page

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made by Jeff Buerke to add \$.20 to the International Pension; second by Cory Buerke. A secret ballot was taken. The vote was 4 to 3. The motion passed. A motion was made by Jeff Buerke to add \$.24 to American Funds and \$.50 on the check. A secret ballot was taken. The vote was 7 to 0. The motion passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda were the Tile Layer Allocations. Motion was made by Frank Bergstrom and seconded by Randy Redding to put the \$.50 into the International Pension Fund. A secret ballot was taken. The vote was 14 to 11. The motion passed. A motion was made by John Frazier and seconded by Kjell Schafer to add \$.31 to the Local Annuity Pension Fund. After a brief discussion the membership requested to just do a show of hands for the vote. The results of the vote were 19 to 6. The motion passed.

Next on the agenda were the Tile Finisher Allocations. Motion was made by Tom Herrick and seconded by Lynn Nierenhausen to add \$.30 to the Local Annuity Pension Fund. The vote was

COOK Funds allocated

5 to 1. The motion passed. A motion was made by Jared Jamar to put \$.31 on the check and seconded by Steve Zannmiller. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:34

p. m.

Other areas voted at their separate chapter meetings on their wage allocations. Rochester area voted January 9, 2006, to put the remainder of the wage package on the check. Duluth area voted on January 11, 2006, to add \$.63 to the annuity contribution; this would make the total contribution to the annuity \$3.00. Grand Forks, N.D., area voted on January 11, 2006, to add \$1.24 to the HRA contribution. This would make the total contribution to the HRA \$2.24.

Other areas including Bismarck, Minot, Brainerd-Bemidji, Fargo, Hibbing, Rochester Tile Layers and Finishers and the New Ulm Bricklayers and Cement Masons would be voting on their wage allocations at chapter meetings held in February and March.

This issue of Quarterly Update went to press before these meetings were held.

MINNESOTA IS A BATTLEGROUND STATE

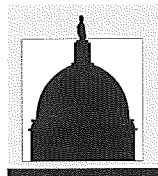
NO QUESTION about it. The AFL-CIO, both major political parties and candidates of every stripe are saying that Minnesota will be a battleground state during the run-up to election 2006.

Minnesota's union members are being asked to play a vital role in determining the outcome of those elections. Let's face it: The election winners play a key role in determining our future.

Will Minnesota invest in the transportation and construction projects that it needs—and create the jobs it takes to build them? The governor and legislators we elect in November 2006 will decide.

Will Minnesota be the first state to establish the right to health care? The voters who go to the polls in November 2006 will decide.

Will Minnesota abandon its prevailing wage laws? The legislators and the gov-



ELECTION 2006 — Our Issues

ernor we elect in November 2006 will decide.

Will our nation continue to offer tax incentives to companies that ship jobs overseas? The people we elect to the U.S. Congress in 2006 will decide.

For yourself, your family and your future, decide to make a difference in 2006. Here's what you can do:

1. Go to your precinct caucus at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 7.
2. Volunteer. Work for the issues you believe in.
3. Vote!

To find your caucus location, call your party: DFL, 651-293-1200; Republican, 651-222-0022; Green, 612-871-4585; Independence, 651-487-9700.

HERE'S WHAT'S AT STAKE

In 2006, Minnesotans will elect:

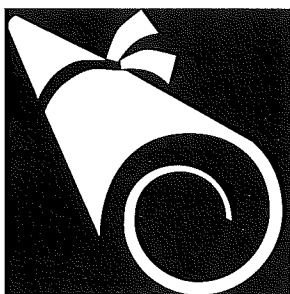
- 201 legislators—every state senator and state representative.
- The governor.
- The attorney general.
- The secretary of state.
- The state auditor.
- Eight U.S. Representatives—all of Minnesota's U.S. Representatives.
- One U.S. Senator.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadlines approaching fast

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNION MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES are available for the next academic year, but applicants should move quickly because deadlines are fast approaching.

Information on most can be found under the “scholarships” link on the Minnesota AFL-CIO Web site, www.mnaflcio.org. Tim Geelan, organizing director of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, also can answer questions about scholarship opportunities. Geelan can be reached by phone at 651-227-7646 (toll-free 1-800-652-9004) or by e-mail at tgeelan@mnaflcio.org.



Available only to high school juniors who are children of BAC members are two Harry C. Bates Special Merit Scholarships, which will be awarded as part of the National Merit Scholarship program. The scholarships, worth \$2,000 per year for up to four years, will be granted to students who have taken the PSAT test and plan to attend college in Fall 2007. Information about the Bates Merit Scholarships can be found online at www.bacweb.org, or through a telephone call to the BAC Education Department at 1-888-880-8BAC, ext. 3111. The application deadline is **March 1**.

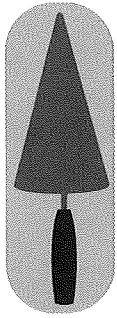
Due **April 1** are applications for the Bill Peterson Scholarship, which was established in honor of the man who served as Minnesota AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer from 1990-99. The scholarship is available to members of unions that contributed to the Bill Peterson Scholarship Fund in 2005 (BAC Local #1 was a contributor), and their spouses and children. Applicants must complete an essay on “How the Union has improved my family’s life.”

Four Martin Duffy Adult Learner Scholarship Awards of \$500 each are awarded to Minnesota union members affiliated with the Minnesota AFL-CIO or Minnesota Teamster Joint Council 32. All scholarship funds are applicable only to Minnesota education institutions. Applications are available at www.mnaflcio.org, or call 651-624-5020. The deadline is **April 30**.

The Minnesota AFL-CIO will award \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are union members or their dependents. The application deadline is **May 1**. These applicants must have at least a “B” average and must plan to attend a college or technical school located in Minnesota. Application forms can be found online at www.mnaflcio.org.

Scholarships for members of North Dakota union families are available from the North Dakota AFL-CIO, with an application deadline of **April 16**. Applicants must plan to attend a North Dakota university, college, technical or trade school. For information, call 701-223-0894, or e-mail ndaflcio@ndaflcio.org.

A link on the Minnesota AFL-CIO Web site leads to a national AFL-CIO Web site, Union Plus, where scholarship opportunities totaling more than \$4 million are described. During 2005, 120 Union Plus Scholarships ranging in value from \$500 to \$4,000 went to 120 students. Applications for 2007 scholarships will become available in September 2006, with a deadline **Jan. 31, 2007**.



STANDARDS PROTECT WORKERS

FOR MOST PEOPLE, the subject of codes and standards causes eyes to glaze and attention to wander, but it's one of the items that can make the difference between a successful, profitable project and one that's fraught with disagreements and misunderstandings.

IMI has taken a broad view of the value of codes and standards knowledge and the benefits such knowledge can bring to the industry. It has also placed a high priority on trying to affect the content of these documents, thereby protecting the interests of the union contractor and craftworker. This priority requires effort and developing a sphere of influence that now finds IMI staff members on virtually every national code and standards development committee important to our industry. The same is true at the local and regional level, where nearly all staff members participate on advisory boards and committees.

Why should all this time and effort be spent on code activities? There are a number of reasons, but two of the most important are that codes and standards have a direct impact on the cost of construction and can thereby affect the hours of Bricklayer and Allied Craftworker (BAC) members. Second, they have the potential to negatively affect an industry if that industry's interests are not protected. The reverse is also true if a proactive stance such as IMI has taken is employed. But why spend all that time training trainers and BAC members about codes and standards? Aren't the architect and engineer responsible for code compliance? Yes, they are, but

To learn more about the International Masonry Institute, visit us at www.imiweb.org on the Internet.

there are two main reasons why it's important to have that knowledge. One is that there are often code-related reasons for the high quality of workmanship demanded in IMI/BAC training programs. It's not just a matter of "do it this way because the boss says so." It's "do it this way because the code says so, and the code is law." Another reason is that knowledge is the

key to success, and it's much better to know what the code can do for us, than to sit back and wait for it to do something to us.

One example of the success of this involvement is the recent acceptance by the State of Minnesota of an IMI proposal that will save considerable dollars by reducing the length of lap splices required in reinforced masonry walls. Due to the collaborative effort with other organizations, a very similar proposal has been enacted at the national level with the 2006 IBC, but since this document likely won't be in force in Minnesota until 2008 or beyond, the early acceptance of the provision locally will save money and effort much earlier. A final example, also in the 2006 edition of the IBC (and the 2005 edition of the MSJC, the companion referenced masonry standard) is the increase in maximum grout lift heights from 5 feet to more than 12 feet, provided other conditions are met. This will greatly speed grouted masonry construction once the 2006 IBC is adopted in Minnesota.

In the area of codes and standards knowledge, IMI has been a leader in educating contractors, craftworkers and masonry trainers in the codes and standards that affect their work. A two-hour course on the subject is now taught at IMI's Contractor College, and a full-day training session is conducted at ICP, the Instructor Certification Program that masonry instructors attend. Codes and standards consultation is also available locally from IMI staff. In fact, code-related questions rank among the most frequently asked by both contractors and designers. If you have a codes or standards question, call IMI at 612-332-2214, or in greater Minnesota, dial 1-800-IMI-0988. – **Olene Bigelow, Minnesota IMI Area Director**



To perfect craft, tile finisher apprentices (left photo) create art

At its best, tile setting becomes an art. Durable, colorful mosaics have given the modern world much of its information about ancient civilizations.

New members of the craft, working in BAC Local 1's apprenticeship training program, get a taste of that art. It's a way of teaching the quality of workmanship that tile finisher and apprentice instructor Rod Schmidt considers union's winning edge.

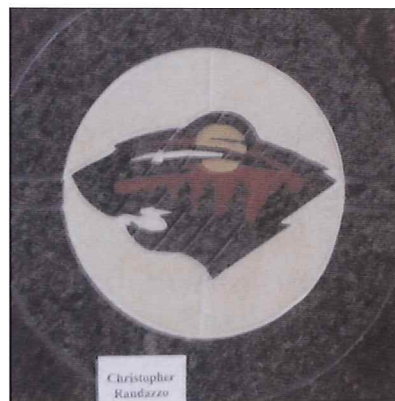
"By teaching these guys attention to detail and care about work, we're putting down habits that will last a lifetime," Schmidt said. "A lot of outfits get in and get it done, but the quality is bad. And we want to make sure our students don't want to accept this standard. Our union should be perfect – or as close to perfect as they can get. The better work they're going to do, the more contractors will want to use union work."

To foster a high level of workmanship, Schmidt for several years has required first-year tile-finisher apprentices to complete a mosaic project that he had designed – a Christmas tree set inside a diamond design.

This year, Schmidt said, second-year students wanted to take on something more challenging. So he gave them the assignment of creating tile projects of their own design. Students were required to use tiles of different thicknesses, so that they learned how to set them flush, and to incorporate into their designs shapes and patterns they had learned in class – circles, squares, and so on. Teachers signed off on designs before students started work.

What came in, Schmidt said, were imaginative designs that would stretch the students' skills: a rendering of the Minnesota Wild logo, complex geometrics, colorful renderings of houses and animals.

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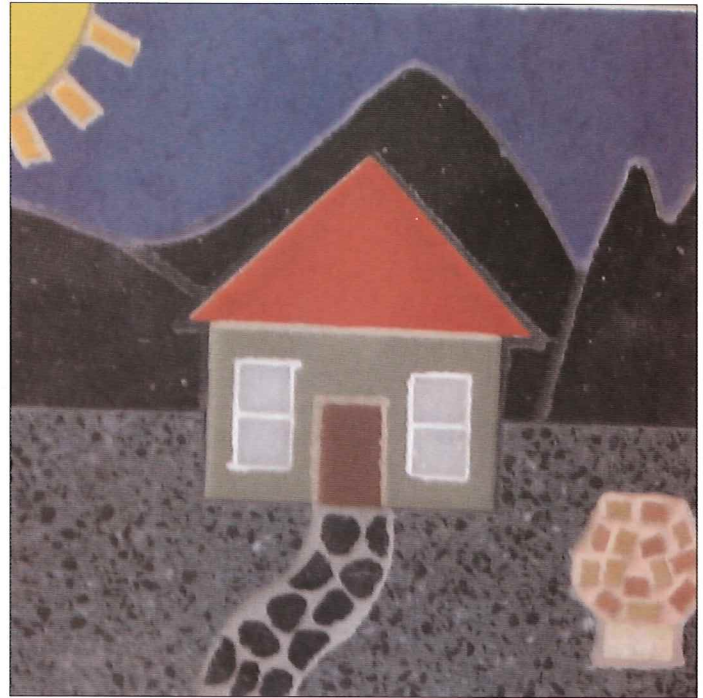
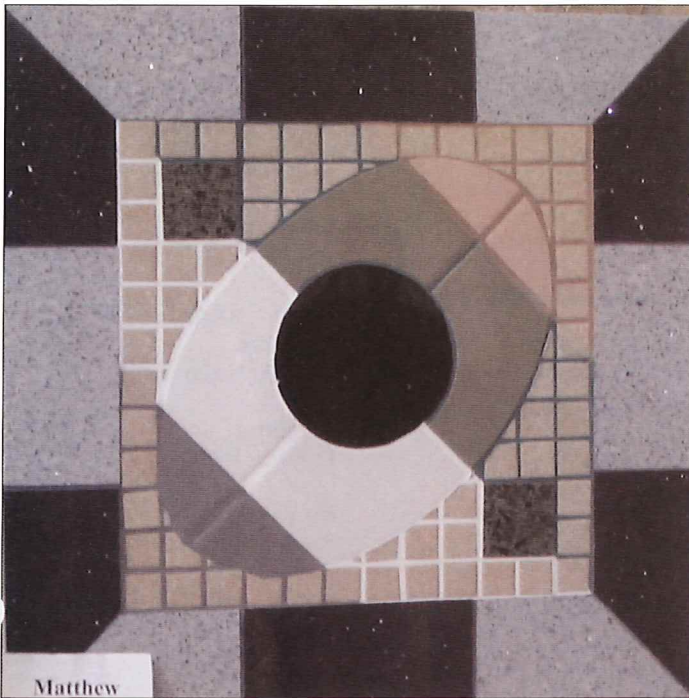
Students brought their completed tile pieces into the Apprenticeship Training Center for a showing Dec. 22, a few days before Christmas. There were no winners, Schmidt said; the event wasn't a competition. But he felt the informal art show showed the strides that are being made in apprentice training. "This is what this program is turning into," he said. "We've got some talented people coming up."

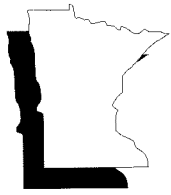
Next year's training exercise might be turned into a contest, Schmidt said, "just to see if I can get a little more creativity

out of the students, see who can do the best job.

"The more attention to detail they pay to their work in class, the more it will carry over into their regular workday. We will be pickier about joint size and flushness than on a regular job, but when they go on a job they won't settle with somebody saying, 'Oh, that's good enough.'"

"Doing projects like this helps teach pride in their work," Schmidt said. "Every time you do a job, it's like signing your name: 'I did this.' You can feel pride when you say that."





MINNESOTA

During 2006, many BAC Local #1 members will be celebrating significant anniversaries of joining the union. Marking milestones, as members of their old locals, will be these valued and longtime members:

**#1MN – ST. PAUL
25 years**

Leroy H. Crapser
Kenneth M. Dahlgren
Roger M. Ingalls
Adam L. Jacobson
Douglas R. Meyers
Ronald W. Ockwig
Gregory E. Olson
Jeffrey R. Stanley
Donald P. Wiener
Mark A. Wolters

40 years

Roger C. Buirge
Richard J. Caron
Donald F. Gallmeier
Kenneth A. Johnson
David R. Kurth
Lavern L. Kusilek
Donald R. Leonard
Richard F. Meyer
Robert I. Plummer
Gary J. Scott
Joseph Skerjance
Bruce Tahnk
Charles E. Taylor
Lawrence Vrieze
Cyrus W. Wendorff

50 years

Kenneth J. Arcand
Robert L. Christenson
Frank H. Fischer
Rudolph R. Hayek
Gerard Jenniges
Bernard Kane
David G. Kemp, Sr.
Raymond L. Larson
Richard E. Leyde
John Ludins
Paul Theisen
Irwin M. Wahlin

**#2MN – MINNEAPOLIS
25 years**

Tracy A. Anderson
Mark L. Barclay
Richard D. Clabo Jr.
Daniel P. Longsdorf
Gelario J. Marlow
Bruce A. Paulson
Dudley Sankey
Bradley A. Schaefer

Alan L. Snowaert

40 years

James F. Adolfsen
Richard G. Bjorklund
Gary P. Bradley
Eddie R. Carlson
Duane O. Dotseth
Robert H. Ess
Gary J. Ferdelman
Reynold R. Hamann
Robert T. Hodgson
Roger H. Janke
Robert M. Keech
Roger Keller
Darrell L. Lentz
Edward J. Penner
Gerald W. Pierce
Lyle Ramberg
Richard G. Rolland
Jerome H. Sarvela
Marvin A. Schommer
Eugene J. Simon
Charles L. Sutter
Richard P. Zich

50 years

Elmer Ackerman
Robert K. Anderson
Emil J. Biederman
James D. Carroll
Rodney J. Christopher
Richard D. Clabo
John H. Crowell
Frank J. Derksen
Robert L. Ferdelman
Gerald P. Fleagle
Gerhard Fritsch
Wallace D. Grabinger
Walter D. Grabinger Jr.
Rawland F. Hagstrom
James W. Heinisch
Gerald M. Jacobs
Donald D. Kerner
Eino W. Koitila
Kenneth R. Landborg
Donald Niebergall
Dwayne L. Persell
Wilfred Prawdzik
Lowell C. Prestegord
William F. Proshek
Willard J. Ratike
Vernon E. Stromberg
Jim Vanguilder

C. G. Vantatenhove
Ben F. Vickery Jr.

**#3MN – DULUTH
50 years**

Roger H. Carlson
John F. Nordback

**#4MN – ST. CLOUD
25 years**

Dennis R. Ebensteiner
Phillip E. Forcier
Steven J. Posch

40 years

Alois C. Einyck
Jerrold J. Nordby
Gerald M. Paggen
Dennis Steen

**#6MN – NEW ULM-SPRING-FIELD
50 years**

Roman Johnson

**#7MN – WINONA
40 years**

Jerome M. Jaszewski

**#8MN – ROCHESTER
40 years**

Gerald L. Murphy

**#10MN – FARIBAULT
40 years**

Robert G. Novotny

50 years

Charles E. Wells

**#11MN – MANKATO
50 years**

Arthur L. Rame

**#12MN – CROOKSTON
40 years**

Arthur W. Bossman Jr.

50 years

Gordon D. Berggren

**#13MN – LITTLE FALLS
40 years**

Paul L. Aslagson

**#15MN – BRAINERD
25 years**

Mark K. Beaulieu

40 years

David I. Arndt
Harlan D. Chisholm

50 years

Conrad Beaulieu
Alfred M. Bragstad
George Rhen

**#18MN – METRO TILE LAYERS & HELPERS
40 years**

Fred R. Atkinson
Robert R. Cole
Harold G. Laing
Frank H. O'Hern
Albert E. Seviola
Richard A. Soltis

50 years

Thomas Hammer
Emmett P. McGlade

**#21MN – ALBERT LEA
25 years**

Terry J. Stenzel



NORTH DAKOTA

**#1ND – FARGO
40 years**

Charles M. Siggerud
Orland M. Stephenson
Earl G. Thomas
Darrell J. Williams

50 years

Wilbur J. Gabel

**#3ND – GRAND FORKS
25 years**

Gary R. Halvorson

40 years

Leroy V. Toso

50 years

Floyd L. Anderson

**#4ND – BISMARCK
50 years**

Jon L. Anderson

Chad Arneson
 Angel Avila
 Craig Brisson
 Adam Bruce
 Peter Carlson
 Gabriel Contreras
 Nathan DeBlois
 Edhem Demirovic
 Brandon Ellis
 Clinton Ewalt
 Burt Griffin
 David Gunder
 Edward Hedrick
 Jeremy Hedrick

NEW MEMBERS
 We welcome these new members...



Brian Helgeson
 Herbert Hubbard
 Robert Jacobs
 Andrew Johnson
 Maksim Megega
 Michael Merrell

Chad Metzger
 Yauheni Musatau
 Nick Nagan
 Aaron Nyquist
 Garardo Ramirez
 Uziel Rincon
 Jeff Spence
 Alexander Sticha
 Andrey Svistun
 Daniel Trepanier
 Armando Valdez
 Weston Weber
 Peter Woodbury



DECEASED MEMBERS

We are sorry to report the deaths of these members, who are listed under their pre-merger locals...

MINNESOTA

January

Michael G. Bell
 Roger Bilden
 Leroy H. Crapser
 Stanley W. Eller
 John C. Johnson
 Ned B. Lundgren
 Darwin S. Muchow
 Julian E. Sauser
 Jack K. Schultz
 Gerald L. VanDeWalker

February

Virgil M. Hoffman

March

Alan L. Gruett
 Leo F. Schahn
 Charles E. Seifert

April

Frank V. Blue

May

Darrell L. Jones
 Stanley J. Schuster

June

William M. Fromel

RETIRED MEMBERS

Congratulations to the members who retired during 2005. We wish them a long and happy retirement.



Harvey A. Whipps

July

Glenn L. Ostrom

August

Wynn R. Ostlie
 Gerald F. Perttula

September

Norman B. Mossberg

October

Richard F. Gruber
 William L. Johnson

November

Leo J. Lingofelt
 Roger H. Reil

NORTH DAKOTA

January

Jerome S. Liska
 Ray Sigurdson

March

Venal J. Kraemer
 Darrell J. Williams

July

Donald R. Dronen

#1MN – St. Paul
 Raymond J. Lenz
 Joe M. Lindroth
 Gordon Youngren

#2MN – Minneapolis
 Edward P. Cedergren
 Howard N. Nelson
 Jorgen R. Nelson

#13MN – Little Falls
 Joseph J. Allen

#16MN – Hibbing
 Lawrence T. Lapatka
 Peter Taramelli

#17MN – Red Wing
 William Kehren

#18MN – Metro Tile Layers
 George R. Paulsen

#3ND – Grand Forks
 Leroy Shelquist

#4ND – Bismarck
 Steve J. Mosbrucker

OSHA 10

MARBLE SHOP SAFETY SESSION SET

A special federal OSHA 10 safety training class with curriculum tailored to marble shop workers has been scheduled for successive Saturdays, March 4 and 11, at the BAC Apprenticeship Training Center, 415 Minnehaha Ave. W, St. Paul.

The classes, which pay a stipend of \$100 per day, have been designed specifically for members who work in the Twin Cities' marble shops, including Twin City Tile & Marble, Grazzini Brothers, and Northwestern Tile & Marble. The two Saturday sessions form a single class;

participants should plan to attend both.

Other OSHA 10 training classes will be held at the Apprenticeship Training Center through the spring.

Anyone who hasn't completed a course should call the Union office (phone 612-379-2966) to register.

Current contracts require all members to have completed training by May 1. Sessions are scheduled for March 10 and 13, March 24 and 27, April 7 and 10, and April 21 and 24.

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For example, if your dues are paid through March 2006 on April 1, 2006, you owe dues for that month. If you haven't paid for April by May 1, 2006, you are two months in arrears and could be suspended. On June 1, 2006, if you still owe for April you are now three months in arrears.

At that point, you would be dropped from membership and would have to pay an additional \$80 reinstatement fee plus your past dues to become a member in good standing again.

Local 1 MN/ND has always sent reminder notices to let you know you will be dropped if your dues are not received by a certain date. The Local has been spending approximately \$10,000 per year sending out reminder notices, and that's money that can be put to much better use in serving our members.

LUNDQUIST/ \$10,000 spent on reminders will go to a better use

As of May 2006, we will no longer be sending out reminder notices. Your dues are your responsibility, just like any other monthly bill you may have.

Currently we have more than 1,600 members on automatic deduction of dues from their vacation funds.

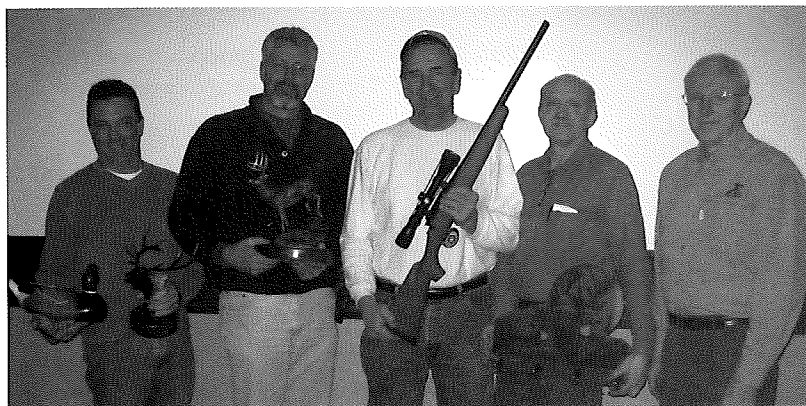
Members using this service tell us how much they like being freed from having to remember to pay their dues by the first of the month. We encourage you to call the Local to request an Auto Dues form.

(Automatic dues payment from Vacation Fund are not yet available to Duluth and Hibbing bricklayers and tile setters, New Ulm cement masons. Bricklayers in Minot, Bismarck and Grand Forks also don't currently qualify.)

Don't get stuck paying an \$80 reinstatement fee plus accumulated dues. Get on Auto Dues or pay in advance.

We appreciate your cooperation.

PEOPLE



DECEMBER PRIZEWINNERS

A highlight of Chapter 1's December meeting was the awarding of prizes to winners of a Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership raffle. The grand prize, a rifle, went to Keith Steffensmeier. Winners, left to right, were Craig Thumbstedter (a bronze elk and mallard decoy), Paul Mikrot (a bronze deer), Steffensmeier, Louis Geislinger (a painted coatrack), and Ron Hren (bronze bookends, not shown). The meeting was held Dec. 12 at the Prom Center, in Oakdale.

APPRENTICE INITIATION

New apprentices were initiated at the Twin Cities metro-area Chapter 1 meeting Dec. 12 at Prom Center, Oakdale. Shown left to right, front row, are Apprenticeship Coordinator Mark Wickstrom, Brick Instructor Dan Quinlan, and tile finishers Robert Guth and LouTong Saepanh. In the back row, left to right, are Brick Instructor Dave Mensing; bricklayers Dustin Nilsson and Donald Sorensen Jr.; tile finisher Leonardo Luna; bricklayer David Sticha; tile finishers Jason Shea, Adam Schwitalla, Christopher Michaelson, Jason Moore, James Sletten, Ron Jolly, Lynn Nierenhausen (in front), Safet Ramulic and Paul Snowaert; Tile Instructor Rod Schmidt (in front); bricklayer James Wolff, and Tile Instructor Rick Martagon (in front).



2006 – 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.

Chapter #1 – Minneapolis-St. Paul

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:
7 p. m. March 13; 4:30 p. m. May 8, June 12, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Nov. 13
Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave.,
Oakdale: All metro chapters, 7 p. m. Dec. 11

Chapter #3 – Duluth-Hibbing

All meetings 7 p.m.
Duluth, Duluth Labor Center: March 8, June 14, Sept. 13, Dec. 13
Hibbing, Electricians Hall: May 10, Aug. 9, Nov. 8

Chapter #4 – St. Cloud

All meetings 7 p.m.
St. Cloud Labor Home, 1903 4th St. N.: March 1, May 3, June 7, Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Nov. 1, Dec. 6

Chapter #11 – Mankato-New Ulm

All meetings 7 p.m.
Mankato, Teamsters Hall: March 2, June 1, Sept. 7, Dec. 7
New Ulm, American Legion: May 4, Aug. 3, Nov. 2

Chapter #8 – Rochester-Faribault

All meetings 7 p.m.
Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall: March 6, Sept. 11, Dec. 4
Faribault, VFW: May 1, Aug. 7, Nov. 6 (Faribault Bean Feed)

Chapter #15 – Brainerd-Bemidji & North Dakota

All meetings at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted
Bemidji, Elks Club: March 2 (Wage Allocation meeting), June 8, Sept. 14, Nov. 9
Bismarck, AmVets: 8 p.m. May 13; 7 p.m. Aug. 11 (meeting and Gold Card Dinner)
Brainerd, American Legion: May 4, Aug. 3, Sept. 7, Dec. 7
Crookston, Northland Inn: June 9, Dec. 15
Dickinson, St. Anthony Club, 8 p.m.: May 11, Nov. 16
Fargo, Moorhead Travel Lodge: May 10, Aug. 10, Nov. 15
Grand Forks, N.D., E. Grand Forks American Legion, June 10, Dec. 13

BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED CRAFTWORKERS LOCAL 1 MINNESOTA/NORTH DAKOTA

NOTES

√ *There will be no chapter meetings in April, July and October.*

Minot, VFW: 8 p.m. March 9; 7 p.m. June 9 (meeting and Gold Card Dinner), 8 p.m. Sept. 14, 8 p.m. Dec. 14
Thief River Falls, VFW, March 8, Sept. 13

GOLD CARD DINNERS

Cards will be mailed

Metro Area Gold Card Luncheon

Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave., Oakdale
11 a.m., July 13

Chapter #3 – Duluth-Iron Range

Duluth area: Downtown Radisson, 6 p.m., Oct. 13
Iron Range area: Hibbing Knights of Columbus, Hibbing, 6 p.m., Oct. 14

Chapter 4 – St. Cloud

Eagles Club, 6 p.m., April 1

Chapters #6 and #11 – Mankato-New Ulm

Best Western Hotel, Mankato
6 p.m., April 28

Chapter #8 – Rochester

Rochester Marriott Hotel

NOTICE

Metro Chapter #1 meetings will switch to 4:30 p.m. from May through November. If a late afternoon meeting works better for you, let us know.

6 p.m., June 2

Chapter #15

Bemidji: Northern Inn, 6 p.m., June 24
Bismarck: AmVets, 7 p.m. Aug. 11
Fargo: Moorhead Travel Lodge, 7 p.m. Aug. 10
Grand Forks: E. Grand Forks American Legion, 7 p.m. June 10
Minot: VFW, 7 p.m., June 9

OTHER EVENTS

Retirees Club Breakfast Meetings

9 a.m., Jax Café, Minneapolis
March 23, Sept. 21, Dec. 7

Duluth-area Retirees meetings

9:30 a.m., Miller Hill Mall food court, Duluth
First Wednesday of each month

Executive Committee meeting

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis, 9 a.m.
March 31, Oct. 6

Semiannual meetings for all chapters – statewide

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis, 10 a.m. April 1, Oct. 7

Chapter #1

Apprenticeship Banquet

Jax Café, Minneapolis
6 p.m., April 27



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Golf Tournaments

All members are welcome at all tournaments.
Twin Cities Metro area: Pheasant

Acres Golf Club, Rogers

7 a.m., July 29

Chapter #3 area: Grandview Golf Links, Duluth

8 a.m., Sept. 9

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Quarterly Update is published four times a year by Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota to communicate with its members.

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QUARTERLY UPDATE

Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers
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FROM THE FRONT PAGE

BAXTER: He's a member of BAC Local 1

Continued from Page 1

840. He would have won then, he said, except that another bricklayer backed into one of his corners and knocked it askew. "He got disqualified and so did I," Baxter said.

Jack Gray, owner of Summit Concrete & Masonry and Baxter's employer, estimated that the average bricklayer's rate is about 800 a day.

Baxter was helped by laborer Bill Larsen. The two have worked together for six years, he said, and both work for Summit Concrete & Masonry, Forest Lake.

"Bill keeps the mud consistency the way I like it," Baxter said. "He sets the brick up for me. He's the best man for the job."

Baxter also had the assistance of a coach, bricklayer Dennis Nohava, another Summit employee. "He gets me moving. If I slow down a little, he tells me to pick it up. He sits there and times everything, keeps an eye on the other guys."

Nohava also had coached him through six practice sessions to get ready for the meet, Baxter



Baxter (photo at left) won \$5,000 and a new Ford F-150 XLT Supercab pickup truck.

said.

Sometimes his lower back and elbow bother him when he's working at that rate, Baxter said, but not this time. "I guess the practice must have paid off."

Baxter's prizewinning wall measured 26 feet long with double-width brick. He started at 19 inches off the ground on a previously-laid foundation of two courses of block and one of brick. To that, he added 12 course leads, ending up with a wall 4 1/2 feet high.

"It's not just a matter of slamming in as many bricks as you can," Gray said. "The leads have to be within 1/4 inch of plumb and the wall within 1/4 inch of height, and you have to have no more than twenty 1/4-inch voids or you're disqualified. It's quality as well as quantity."

What turns a bricklayer into a

really fast bricklayer?

"Discipline and determination, I guess," Baxter said. Plus, he said, he had a tough teacher – bricklayer Kevin Bernhagen, who then worked for Summit. "He stayed on me a lot. I just wanted to whup him on the wall, and one day I did, and I never looked back."

Baxter, Nohava and Bernhagen all are members of BAC Local 1.

In the aftermath of his big win, Baxter has become a bit of a media star. He was featured on CBS Sunday Morning on Jan. 22 and has been featured in Twin Cities newspapers and radio.

Gray said he has taken a Summit team to World of Concrete for the last three years and will return next year for Baxter to defend his title.

