

**MARCH  
2007**

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 1

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

- Bricklayers
- Stone Masons
- Tile Layers
- Marble Masons
- Terrazzo
- Blocklayers
- Finishers
- Shopmen
- Cement Masons
- Pointers - Cleaners - Caulkers
- Concrete Products Specialists

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## KEEP IN TOUCH

### LOCAL TELEPHONE

612-379-2966

### OUTSTATE & N. DAK.

1-800-257-8636

### BAC INTERNATIONAL UNION

1-888-880-8222

### FAX

612-379-8754

### INTERNET RESOURCES

General Information:  
BAC1MN-ND.org

Apprenticeship and Training:  
BACtraining.org  
or phone  
651-487-5500

## BENEFITS

Check the Zenith Administrators Web site, [www.zenithtpa.com](http://www.zenithtpa.com) or phone either 651-256-1801 or 1-800-879-4412

**T**HE MEMBERSHIP voted at the Local-wide Special Call meeting held in Minneapolis on Saturday, January 6, 2007, to begin contributions to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) for all members currently contributing to the Health Plan. Contributions will begin May 1, 2007, at the rate of \$.25 per hour. Benefits will be available after July 1, 2007.

The HRA is an individual account that will help our BAC members pay for their Health Care costs without being taxed. Funds are contributed by the employer for each hour worked. Like our pensions and other health

**N**EGOTIATIONS will begin soon for many areas under the jurisdiction of BAC Local 1 MN / ND.

Contracts that are expiring April 30 include Metro area Bricklayers and Bricklayers in Albert Lea, Duluth, Faribault, Hibbing, Mankato, New Ulm, Red Wing, Rochester, St. Cloud, and Winona. Also included are Metro Tile Layers and Finishers, Marble Shops, Precast, Cement Masons in New Ulm, CMU Insulators and Terrazzo.

Other areas have contracts that will still be in place for at least another year. Raises that are due May 1 for current contracts include Rochester area Tile Layers, \$1.40; Rochester Tile Finishers, \$1.25; Brainerd area Bricklayers, \$1.40; Brainerd Cement Masons, \$1.25; Fargo and Grand Forks Bricklayers,



### TILE DESIGNS WIN AWARDS

This design by Jasmin Hurtic won 3rd place in a design contest for apprentices at BAC Training Center. Please see Page 6 for 1st and 2nd place winners.

**MIKE COOK**  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

## Minnesota members OK HRA

care contributions, the money goes in tax free. Benefits are then paid out for health care costs incurred by the member and his or her spouse and dependents. Funds in the HRA account will automatically be paid toward deductibles and the member's

share of medical provider costs. Other items that the money can be used for are dental, including braces, and prescriptions.

The Health Fund will be

*Please turn to COOK on Next Page*



**JIM LUNDQUIST**  
PRESIDENT/SECRETARY-TREASURER

## Negotiations to begin

\$1.80; Bismarck and Minot Bricklayers, \$1.40, and Duluth area Tile, \$1.50.

Addendum books will be published later this year after all contracts have been settled. Contracts will be printed and mailed after all negotiations are complete. We will also put the contracts and the addendums on the website.

*Please turn to LUNDQUIST on Next Page*

# LUNDQUIST/Negotiations to begin

*Continued From Page 1*

## Don't permit 'banked' overtime

It has come to our attention that some contractors are refusing to pay overtime and are, instead, saying they will bank those hours at straight time and use them to fill in days lost to weather or vacation.

Those of you who practice this, it's time to stop. Both you and your contractor are breaking down wages and conditions of our contract, which was negotiated by both parties. There's nothing in the contract about banked hours, so if you leave employment with that contractor, we have no way to reclaim your lost pay.

We've heard for years about the practice of banking overtime hours, but had no proof. Recently, a member came forward with check stubs. Unfortunately, we couldn't help

him retrieve his money. In our agreement, any violation has to be reported within 10 days; beyond that time, we can't file a grievance.

All contractors are currently being audited at least once every three years by Zenith Administrators. In future audits, contractors will need to provide all time cards to be sure that overtime hours are being properly paid.

Your negotiation committee fights hard to get decent working conditions and the increases you deserve. We need rank and file members to help police the contents of our agreement, not just for themselves but for all BAC members.

If your contractor wants to bank your overtime hours, just say, "I don't think that's in our contract. I'll have to contact my union rep."

And then call us immediately.

# COOK/Minnesota members OK HRA

*Continued From Page 1*

mailing out information on the HRA in the near future. You can get more information, including the Summary Plan Description Appendix, for the HRA at [Zenithtpa.com](http://Zenithtpa.com) on the Web.

**New Health Care Premium Rates for Retirees**  
New Health Care rate will go into effect on Oct. 1, 2007 for Retirees and spouses. Please watch your mail for an invoice explaining the new rates.

### Dues

Please do not send dues to the Building Trades office in St. Paul. Monthly dues are owed on the 1st day of the month. Please check your cards and send the dues to: Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota, 312 Central Avenue, Suite 328, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414.

### Look for Changes in Health Plan

The Health Care industry in this country is changing. We have had double-digit inflation in the cost of health care across the USA for the past decade. Our Health Plan must change to reflect the times.

The BAC Health Plan has always had a hands-off approach to health care: let the member and their doctor determine what is best. On average, 20 percent of a plan's participants drive 50 percent of the cost. The current model is not working. We must refocus our plan to concentrate on the quality and not the cost of the care. The best care is preventive care. What we are finding out through studies is that we have to get involved in disease management programs – not to offer cheaper care, but to offer the best care and preventive care for BAC members and their families. We have to work on changing the behavior of our members toward their health.

Many of our members have asked about reimbursements for health club memberships and quit-smoking plans. These are benefits that are available in many other health care plans. The trustees are looking at ways to bring these benefits to you. By keeping our members healthier, we can keep our plan healthier.

We need to make a shift in the way we are looking at the health care for our members. We must engage our members and make an investment in our workforce by changing our plan. Look for many new changes to the Health Plan by the end of 2007.

## BRIEFS

### Apprentice Contest announced

Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers International Union has announced a 2007 Apprentice Contest. Three levels of competition will be involved, with winners at local and regional levels advancing to national finals. Finals will take place in Washington D.C. during September 2007, and will be held at the National Training Center in conjunction with the BAC Executive Council meeting and the International Masonry

Institute Annual meeting. Contests will be held for the following crafts: plaster, cement, tile, marble, terrazzo, PCC, brick and stone. Local 1 MN / ND apprentices have been notified of the Local Union contest. Winners of the Local Union contest will move on to the Regional contest at a time and place to be determined.

### Vacation Fund interest to be sent

Trustees of the Minnesota and North Dakota Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Vacation Fund voted Wednesday, February 7, to send out an interest payment for 2006 contributions to the Fund. The interest payment will be incorporated onto the same check as the May 1, 2007, vacation payout. The practice of including interest with the May 1 vacation payout began in 2006.

## Traveling members must guard benefits

**F**OR DECADES, employers in Minnesota have bargained with Local 1 over its operations within the state of Minnesota, and Local 1 has successfully negotiated for contracts guaranteeing our members the best wages and benefits. Many Local 1 members have built proud careers working inside the State of Minnesota under those union contracts.

Unfortunately, as many of you know, many employers do not have any long-term collective bargaining agreements with BAC covering work outside Minnesota / North Dakota. And that means that, with a few exceptions, you can't work outside Minnesota / North Dakota without working non-union – and that endangers your benefits, wages, and working conditions. If you work for an employer outside Minnesota / North Dakota, and your employer hasn't signed an agreement with BAC International Union, you aren't accruing pension credits or health credits, and IUBAC can't guarantee you fair wages, working conditions and safety on the job.

Local 1 is working hard to change that. Along with the BAC International Union, we've begun talking with some employers about a national agreement that guarantees your wages and benefits throughout the country, and that makes certain that you're covered by union standards wherever and whenever you work. Some of our contractors are Minnesota-based, but have a national scope of business – and BAC Local 1 MN / ND has a duty to ensure that our members are working under a collective bargaining agreement anytime or anywhere they work.

So, for now, remember that many employers are generally not signed to BAC agreements outside of Minnesota / North Dakota. If you're asked to travel outside the state to work for any employer, give us a call to see if they are signed for your project. If they're not signed, don't travel. Meanwhile, Local 1 and the International Union are going to keep working on a national agreement. If you have any questions, or if you just want to talk about working around the country, give us a call. And we'll keep you updated on our progress.

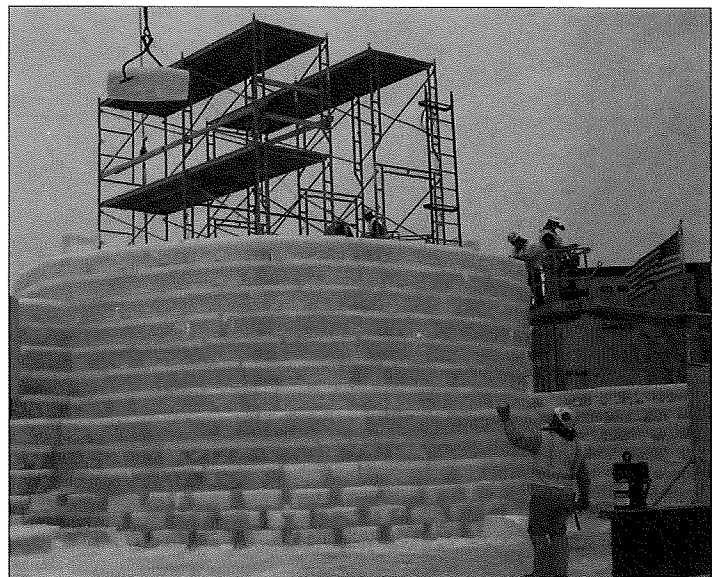
– *Michael Cook, Executive Vice President*

## Willing to volunteer? Call the local!

**M**embers of our union have coveted skills. You probably have people in your family who want you to help them build this or that. We get the same requests here. Worthwhile organizations are always calling to ask if we have members willing to volunteer.

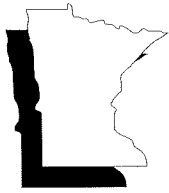
We do have generous members. Our people are always stepping up to donate free know-how and labor. Over the past few years, BAC members have built veterans memorials, a high school snack stand and, as always, the Winter Carnival Ice Palace and Ice Mazes. Retirees often report to work for these kind of jobs.

When we get calls for volunteers, we tend to ask the same people over and over again. We know they're willing to work because they have before. But we're certain there must be more members who would be willing to help out with projects if they knew about them. We have decided to create a list of volunteers – people to call when requests come in. If you're willing to be on that list, please call Mike Cook at 612-379-2966 or 800-257-8636. The choice of whether to volunteer for a particular project will still be yours, but it will help us share the workload.



**BAC volunteers helped build the St. Paul Winter Carnival Ice Palace.**





**MINNESOTA**

**#1MN – ST. PAUL  
25 years**  
Douglas D. Eiklenborg  
Scott G. Erlandson  
Mark A. Smith  
Robert C. Zaffke

**40 years**  
Melvin Eveslage  
Allan G. Gillan  
Hans Lebrecht  
Walter E. Masters  
Dennis J. Melgaard  
Thomas E. Teske  
Dennis L. Trendera

**50 years**  
James Alfson  
Donald Denn  
John W. Emerson  
John R. Frank  
Peter E. Glieden Jr.  
Edward L. Halonen  
Robert W. LaPlante  
Dale R. Luoma  
Leroy Monette  
Allan Zeis

**#2MN – MINNEAPOLIS  
25 years**  
Kenneth J. Mariette

**40 years**  
Thomas G. Bonsignore  
Milton G. Boser  
David R. Christy  
Stanley R. Erickson  
Warren R. Foss  
Milo E. Heddan  
Mathias E. Jacobs

**DURING 2007, 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 longtime members:**

James A. Larson  
Leonard F. Meuleners  
Leroy Miller  
Clarence N. Olson  
David C. Royce  
Leo F. Schahn  
Lowell W. Schrupp  
Dennis Stanius  
Laverne R. Terwey  
Jerome Vizenor

**50 years**  
Joe J. Julian  
James A. Kapaun  
Duane T. Larson  
Arthur Olsen  
Joseph G. Ondarko Jr.  
Kenneth Schroeder  
John S. Young

**#3MN – DULUTH  
50 years**  
Thomas R. Amendola  
Richard E. Johnson  
Donald A. Seabury  
Marvin W. Sulliin

**#4MN – ST. CLOUD  
50 years**  
Eugene Backes  
James Klein

**#7MN – WINONA  
50 years**  
Richard Stahmann

**#8MN – ROCHESTER  
50 years**  
Donald Rush

**#11MN – MANKATO  
50 years**  
John M. Frank  
John W. Reichel

**#12MN – CROOKSTON  
40 years**  
Dean E. Kaushagen  
Daniel C. Leier

**50 years**  
Kenneth G. Noreen

**#15MN – BRAINERD  
40 years**  
Roger Bilden  
Corrado Giorgini  
Rodney A. Sletten

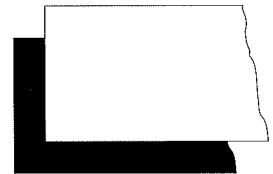
**50 years**  
Clyde Bell  
Joseph Hawkins

Rodney Rhen

**#17MN—Red Wing  
50 years**  
Frederick G. Sprick

**#18MN – METRO TILE LAYERS & HELPERS  
50 years**  
Leroy E. Emery

**#21MN – ALBERT LEA  
25 years**  
Kevin A. Lesto



**NORTH DAKOTA**

**#1ND – FARGO  
40 years**  
Ray Sigurdson

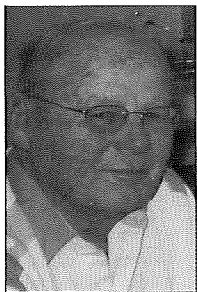
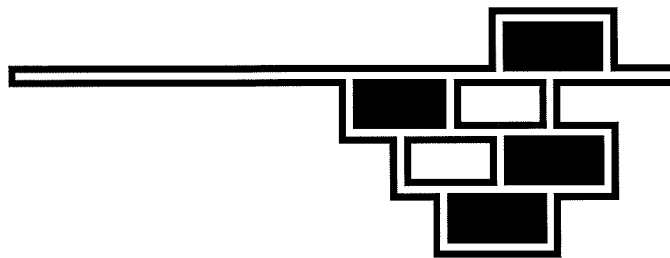
**#2ND – MINOT  
50 years**  
John A. Gefroh

**#3ND – GRAND FORKS  
25 years**  
John J. Perkerewicz

**40 years**  
Lyle Rygg

**50 years**  
Algot I. Ohlander  
Charles O. Rygg

**#4ND – BISMARCK  
50 years**  
Arthur Hilfer  
Leo J. Kuntz  
Herbert C. Ritz  
Erwin Schaedler



**Harstad**

**OBITUARY: Arden Harstad, former ND Local 2 president**

Arden Harstad, who served for years as president of former North Dakota Local 2 in Minot, died Dec. 10, 2006, at age 74.

A Minot native, Mr. Harstad had been a stonemason for decades. He entered the trade in 1952 and spent most of his career working for Fugelseth

Masonry, becoming a partner in the firm. He retired as a Gold Card member in 1994. He also was involved with baseball throughout his life, playing fastpitch softball for 25 years.

Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Darlene, two daughters and five grandchildren. He is

also survived by one son, Ross Harstad, who has been bricklayer in Minot since 1974.

“He was quiet and very competent at his work,” said Field Representative Randy Carlson. “His work has stood the test of time.”

**MINNESOTA**

**January**

**Ronald E. Jacobson**  
#15MN—Brainerd  
**Donald D. Patton**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Ronald J. Schutz**  
#1MN—St. Paul  
**Michael E. Vanda**  
#1MN—St. Paul  
**William J. Sauter**  
#1MN—St. Paul

**February**

**Lowell M. Halvorson**  
#4MN—St. Cloud  
**Richard M. Mensing**  
#15MN—Brainerd

**March**

**Daniel P. Erpelding**  
#1MN—St. Paul  
**Dejay S. Heath**  
#2MN—Minneapolis

**Jerry D. Petit**  
#1MN—St. Paul  
**Clarence R. Long**  
#15MN—Brainerd

**April**

**Danny K. Nelson**  
#1MN—St. Paul  
**Dennis L. Gowell**

**RETIREED MEMBERS**  
**Congratulations to the members who retired during 2006. We wish them a long and happy retirement.**

#16MN—Hibbing

**May**

**Kenneth J. Diedrich**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**John M. Schmitz**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Orlen E. Torke**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Leo W. Tutewohl**  
#1MN—St. Paul  
**Loren D. Tvrdik**  
#4MN—St. Cloud

**June**

**David L. Hochstedler**  
#18MN—Metro Tile Layers  
**Todd H. Nyen**  
#18MN—Metro Tile Layers  
**Jeffrey T. Skaar**  
#1MN—St. Paul

**July**

**Richard L. Rierson**

#4MN—St. Cloud

**Rodney A. Sletten**  
#15MN—Brainerd  
**Kenneth Solarz**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Wallace J. Tiedeman**  
#16MN—Hibbing

**August**

**Thomas M. Bobich**  
#1MN—St. Paul  
**Ronald L. Olson**  
#18MN—Metro Tile Layers

**September**

**Gerald R. Brown**  
#15MN—Brainerd

**October**

**William F. Betterman**  
#15MN—Brainerd  
**Charley W. Smith**  
#2MN—Minneapolis

**November**

**Robert D. Calverley**  
#3MN—Duluth  
**Gerald L. Murphy**  
#8MN—Rochester

**December**

**James F. Adolfson**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Loren L. Davis**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Michael F. Nelson**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Rick H. Peterson**  
#2MN—Minneapolis  
**Daryl E. Scroggins**  
#2MN—Minneapolis

**NORTH DAKOTA**

**January**

**Kevin T. Litchy**  
#3ND—Grand Forks

**June**

**Orland M. Stephenson**  
#1ND—Fargo

**September**

**Darold Hahn**  
#1ND—Fargo

**October**

**Dennis L. Nelson**  
#2ND—Minot

**NEW MEMBERS**

**We Welcome these new members...**

Kurt Anderson  
Christopher Bolin  
Kallon Brogan  
Shawn Eggerth  
Michael Hieserich  
Norman Jacobson III  
Dean Jangula  
Michael Johnson  
Joshua Larson  
Charles Lofgren  
Rebekah Lord

Chad McKellar  
Branden Mueller  
Mark Mulroy  
Justin Neis  
Dustin Nelson  
Gerard Rocheford  
Jose Rodriguez  
Christopher Sellers  
Daniel Staver  
Randolph Thieschafer  
Kyle Tilden  
David Tyler  
Troy Velde  
Curtis Welle

Daniel Shite  
Hardy White III  
Jason Williams  
David Wilson

**DECEASED MEMBERS**

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

**#1MN – St. Paul**  
James A. Dickinson  
Ronald A. Pavlak

Kenneth V. Lee  
Rolland Cowley

**#2MN – Minneapolis**

Luverne E. Fryxell  
Vernon E. Johnson  
Orlean N. Carlson

**#4MN – St. Cloud**

Leslie H. Cave

**#1ND – Fargo**

Lloyd C. Gerstner

**#2ND – Minot**

Arden Harstad



**Cave**

**OBITUARY: Les Cave, former field representative**

Les Cave, a union field representative for nine years, died Jan. 6 at age 67. He is survived by his widow, Luella, and seven children.

A native of Regent, N.D., he started laying brick at age 20. He and his family moved in 1965 to St. Cloud, then settled 10 miles north in Rice. Joining the union, he was elected vice

president of the former Local 4-St. Cloud in 1969, and later was chosen as Chapter 4 president.

In 1992, he became field representative for an area that extended over much of western and central Minnesota stretching from Sleepy Eye to Mankato, Marshall to Worthington. He represented members and worked hard to

bring new people into the union.

Mike Ganz, who became field representative for the area when Mr. Cave retired in 2000, said he had been much respected, both for his workmanship and for his representation of members. "He was calm and efficient," Ganz said. "He got the job done."

**1st PLACE**

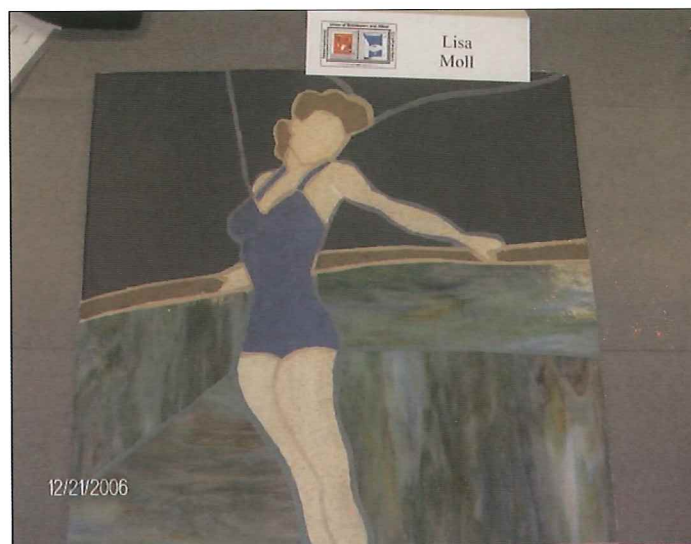
This design by Leonardo Luna won the \$100 1st place prize in the contest for 2nd-year tile apprentices at the BAC Training Center in St. Paul.

# TILE DESIGNS WIN AWARDS

**C**LASS PROJECTS by second-year tile apprentices turned into a Christmas-season art display held at the BAC Apprenticeship Training Center, in St. Paul.

This year, for the first time, apprentices' artworks were judged and prizes were awarded from the Tile Promotion Fund. A \$100 first-place award went to apprentice Leonardo Luna. Second-place winner Lisa Moll won a \$50 award, and third-place winner Jasmin Hurtic won \$25.

Students were required to use tiles of differing thickness set flush in designs that



**Lisa Moll's design won a 2nd place \$50 prize in the contest. (Other entries on adjacent page.)**

incorporated shapes and patterns they had learned in class. Instructors signed off on designs before work began.

Apprenticeship Coordinator Mark Wickstrom said the exercise reminded him of time-honored apprenticeship customs in Europe, where he was trained. "You submit an apprentice piece to a guild for review, and then a journey-level piece," Wickstrom said. "If you take it far enough, you would submit a masterpiece."

Teachers decided to award prizes this year because they thought the competition would provide an incentive for students to do their best work. "When you

give them an opportunity to produce something that's a finished work, it raises the bar," Wickstrom said.





Scholarships for members of union families are available from many sources. Here are some, listed by application deadline.

**March 1** – Scholarships worth \$2,000 per year for up to four years, for children of BAC members currently high school juniors who have taken the PSAT test. Information online at [bacweb.org](http://bacweb.org), or phone 888-880-8222, ext. 311.

**April 1** – Bill Peterson Scholarships provide awards of \$1,000 to union members, spouses and children. Download application at [www.mnaflcio.org/bp%202006.pdf](http://www.mnaflcio.org/bp%202006.pdf), or contact Lori Williams at Minnesota AFL-CIO, phones 651-227-7647 or 800-652-9004 or by e-mail to [williams@mnaflcio.org](mailto:williams@mnaflcio.org).

**April 15** – North Dakota AFL-CIO

## Scholarships available to members of union families

awards four scholarships of at least \$250 each, information online at [ndaflcio.org](http://ndaflcio.org), or phone 701-223-0784.

**April 30** – Martin Duffy Adult Learner Scholarship Awards of \$500 each for students planning to attend Minnesota schools. Download application at [www.mnaflcio.org/duffyscholappAFL-CIO-07.pdf](http://www.mnaflcio.org/duffyscholappAFL-CIO-07.pdf) or call 651-624-5020.

**May 1** – Minnesota AFL-CIO will

award five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are union members or their dependents. Application forms online at [www.mnaflcio.org](http://www.mnaflcio.org) or contact Lori Williams as described above.

**June 1** – Associated General Contractors of Minnesota awards scholarships to students in Minnesota construction programs. Applications at website [agcmn.org](http://agcmn.org), or call Jane Sanem, 651-796-2187.

**June 15** – Ten \$1,000 scholarships to members of Minnesota Building Trades Federal Credit Union. Find scholarship form at website [mbtfcu.com/applicat.htm](http://mbtfcu.com/applicat.htm), or call 763-315-3888.

More scholarship and education planning information can be found online at [Unionplus.educationplanner.com](http://Unionplus.educationplanner.com).

**PAID ADVERTISEMENTS** – Quarterly Update has begun this new feature that both will help our members and help us pay publication costs. We have opened a limited space to paid advertising, choosing individuals and firms we have worked with and trust. Occasionally, many of us as individuals need professional services like those seen here, and these ads can serve as a guide to resources that we have found reliable. Let us know what you think.

### RETIREMENT, EDUCATIONAL, PERSONAL INVESTMENTS

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Our law firm has been General Counsel for BAC Fringe Benefit Funds in Minnesota since 1985. We are a full service firm, dedicated to providing quality legal services. Our firm has received an A. V. rating from Martindale-Hubbell (highest possible rating on legal ability and ethical standards.) Our practice area includes Real Estate, Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning/Administration. For additional information or an appointment, please contact us.





**2007 – 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.

**Chapters #1** – Minneapolis-St. Paul  
312 Central Ave., Minneapolis: 4:30 p.m. March 12, May 14, June 11, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Nov. 12  
Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave., Oakdale: All Metro members, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10

**Chapter #3** – Duluth-Hibbing  
Duluth, Duluth Labor Center: 7 p.m. March 14, June 13, Sept. 12, Dec. 12  
Hibbing, Electricians Hall: 7 p.m. May 9, Aug. 8, Nov. 14

**Chapter #4** – St. Cloud-Brainerd  
St. Cloud Labor Home, 1903 4th St. N.: 7 p.m. March 7, May 2, June 6, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, Nov. 7, Dec. 5  
Brainerd, American Legion: 7 p.m. May 3, Sept. 6, Dec. 6

**Chapter #11** – Mankato-New Ulm  
Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club: 7 p.m. March 1, June 7, Sept. 6, Dec. 6  
New Ulm, American Legion: 7 p.m. May 3, Aug. 2, Nov. 1

**Chapter #8** – Rochester-Faribault  
Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall: 7 p.m. March 5, Sept. 11, Dec. 3  
Faribault, VFW: 7 p.m. May 7, Aug. 6, Nov. 5 (Faribault Bean Feed)



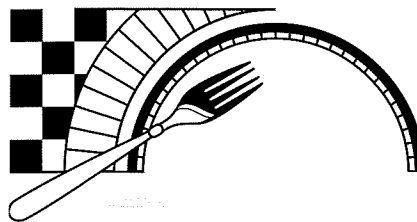
**Chapter #15** – Bemidji & North Dakota  
Bemidji, Elks Club: 7 p.m. March 1 (Wage Allocation meeting), June 7, Aug. 2, Nov. 8  
Bismarck, AmVets: 8 p.m. March 16, Sept. 13  
Dickinson, St. Anthony Club, 8 p.m.: June 14, Dec. 13  
 Fargo, Moorhead Travel Lodge: 7 p.m. March 15, May 9, Aug. 9, Nov. 14

**BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED CRAFTWORKERS LOCAL 1 MINNESOTA/NORTH DAKOTA**

**NOTES**

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

Grand Forks, N.D., E. Grand Forks American Legion, 7 p.m. June 13, Sept. 12, Dec. 12  
Minot, VFW: 7 p.m. May 10, Aug. 10, Nov. 15



**GOLD CARD DINNERS**

Cards will be mailed

**Metro Area Gold Card Luncheon**  
Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave., Oakdale  
11 a.m. Thursday, July 12

**Chapter #3 – Duluth-Iron Range**  
Duluth area: Downtown Radisson, 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12  
Iron Range area: Hibbing Knights of Columbus, 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13

**Chapter #4 – St. Cloud-Brainerd**  
Eagles Club, 6 p.m. Saturday, April 7

**Chapter #11 – Mankato-New Ulm**  
Best Western Hotel, Mankato  
6 p.m. Friday, April 27

**Chapter #8 – Rochester**  
Rochester Marriott Hotel  
6 p.m. Friday, June 1

**Chapter #15 – Bemidji & North Dakota**

Bemidji: Northern Inn, 6 p.m. Saturday, June 23  
 Fargo: Moorhead Travel Lodge, 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 9

**OTHER EVENTS**

**Retirees Club Breakfast Meetings**  
Jax Café, Minneapolis  
9 a.m. Thursday, March 22, Sept. 20, Dec. 6

**Duluth-area Retirees meetings**  
9:30 a.m., Miller Hill Mall food court, Duluth  
First Wednesday of each month

**Wage Allocation Meetings**  
Bemidji: Elks Club, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1  
Western North Dakota area: Beulah, 10 a.m. Saturday, March 17

**Executive Committee meeting**  
312 Central Ave., Minneapolis  
9 a.m. Saturday, April 13, Oct. 5

**Semiannual Meeting – All of Minnesota & North Dakota**  
312 Central Ave., Minneapolis  
10 a.m. Saturday, April 14, Oct. 6

**Chapter #1 Apprenticeship Banquet**  
Jax Café, Minneapolis  
6 p.m. Thursday, April 26

**Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Golf Tournaments**  
All members are welcome at both tournaments.  
Twin Cities Metro area: Pheasant Acres Golf



Club, Rogers  
7 a.m. Saturday, July 28  
**Chapter #3 area:** Grandview Golf Links, Duluth  
8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

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

**Postmaster:** Send address corrections to Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota, 312 Central Avenue, Suite 328, Minneapolis, MN. 55414.

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## QUARTERLY UPDATE

Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers  
Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota  
312 Central Avenue, Suite 328  
Minneapolis, MN 55414



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## GOVERNMENT

**A**S THE 2007 SESSION of the Minnesota Legislature gets under way, the state's leading labor organization has begun to push for issues it has identified as important to working families.

In a statement issued in January, President Ray Waldron told all state legislators that the Minnesota AFL-CIO will be focused this year on "The issues that drew union voters to the polls in November — education, health care, transportation and jobs.

"We believe that the legislature must take a fresh look at each of these issues in order to strengthen the state's middle class — and to build a better Minnesota."

"Minnesotans support their public schools wholeheartedly," the letter stated. "We urge the 2007 legislature to affirm that support."

"An increasing number of working people are either going without health care coverage or cannot afford it," the letter noted. "We call on the legislature to move toward ensuring that all Minnesotans have health care coverage."

"Prosperity depends on a healthy economy and jobs that pay well," the letter continued, urging support for legislation to strengthen jobs and the economy.

"Minnesotans value the tradition that insists on high quality public services funded by a system of fair taxes," the let-



## POLITICS — Our Issues

### Labor to Legislature: Think about the Middle Class

ter read. "It is time for the legislature to demonstrate its support for that tradition."

Waldron called on legislators to:

Fully support public education, by

- Providing full funding for all levels of public education from Early Childhood to higher education.
- Funding voluntary, all-day, every-day kindergarten.

Make quality health care available, by

- Passing the health care disclosure act to identify large employers whose workers are enrolled in MinnesotaCare and other state-funded health coverage programs.

- Restoring past MinnesotaCare cuts and expanding the program to more working Minnesotans who do not have or cannot afford coverage through their employers.

- Supporting a constitutional amendment to make health care available to

all Minnesotans.

Strengthen jobs and the economy, by

- Affirming workers' rights to join unions by prohibiting public and private employers from using state funds to influence organizing efforts.

- Safeguarding the state's apprenticeship programs and use of project labor agreements.

- Improving the state Minimum Wage Act by eliminating the training wage, increasing the small business wage, and beefing up enforcement.

- Passing a long-term, comprehensive transportation funding bill.

- Passing the Consumer Right to Know Act, requiring corporations doing business in Minnesota to tell consumers where their call centers are located.

- Passing the Jobs, Trade & Democracy Act, requiring legislative approval before the Governor can sign off on international trade agreements.

Affirm tax fairness, by

- Passing property tax relief.
- Restoring local government aid.
- Closing corporate tax loopholes.
- Rolling back tax breaks for the wealthy.

These will be the priorities of the Minnesota AFL-CIO as the Legislature does its work this spring. Do you agree? Disagree? You can comment by contacting the organization at 651-227-7647. The website address is [www.mnaflcio.org](http://www.mnaflcio.org).