

**MARCH 2010**  
VOLUME 18, NUMBER 1

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### LOCAL TELEPHONE

612-379-2966

### OUTSTATE AND ND

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.zenithadmin.com  
or phone either  
651-256-1801 or  
1-800-879-4412

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

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

## In Retirement, Rhen Makes the Old New Again

By Patricia Johnson

**W**hen asked about retirement, Rodney Rhen quickly responds, "I'm very busy, doing nothing." Yet soon you learn all that nothing really amounts to an interest he's held for years. And now in his retirement years Rhen is very busy doing what he loves. Restoring old tractors and trucks.

Born in Minnesota and raised in Leonard, a small town 25 miles west of Bemidji, Rhen joined the union when he was 18-years-old. It was 1957 and he worked alongside his dad, uncles and cousins. He eventually lived in St. Paul, Minn., for a couple years and Oregon for seven before returning to Minnesota. In 1967 he and his



Rodney Rhen restored his 1957 Ford 900 tractor which he purchased 25 years ago from his wife's cousin. He since has displayed it at the Lake Itasca Region Pioneer Farmers show.

wife, Lorraine, moved back to Leonard and purchased his parents' home two years later. Today, the Rhens continue to enjoy their lives in the same home. And like for many couples as the years progress, their family has grown

*Continued on Page 8*

## LaborCare Health + Benefits Fair 2010

April 10, 2010 at the Minneapolis Convention Center

**C**ome and join us at the 2nd annual LaborCare Health + Benefits Fair on Saturday, April 10, 2010, from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. This event is free.

"More than 4,400 participated last year. It was a tremendous success," says Dr. Ted Loftness, Medica vice president of labor health services. "We also received great input last year to make this year's health fair bigger and better. Because of this, we anticipate upwards of 7,000. We'll also have more of a family focused environment

TOOLS FOR BETTER LIVING



### HEALTH + BENEFITS FAIR 2010

offering a number of activities for attendees of all ages including a robust children's area."

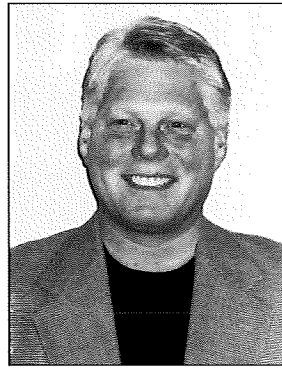
### LaborCare = F.A.M.E. – Fun, Activate, Motivate, Educate

Minnesota/North Dakota Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Health Fund along with Medica and eight other funds will host the event billed as a day of fun designed to activate, motivate and educate.

*Continued on Page 2*

**Follow-Up  
from Special  
Call Meeting,  
January 9, 2010**

Many of you were unable to attend the meeting on January 9, 2010, to share your thoughts on the up-coming negotiations. I would like to keep the membership informed on any progress or meetings that Mike Cook and I attend prior to actual negotiations. Please keep in mind that many crafts and areas have contracts that are expiring in the spring of 2010, but over the years many of these contracts have based their outcome on what was negotiated with the metro area Bricklayers and Pointers - Caulkers (P.C.C.), because this was the bigger group.



**Jim Lundquist  
President/  
Secretary-Treasurer**

In the last newsletter I may have been overly optimistic in thinking our contractors would be willing to meet early and come up with a fair resolve for both parties. In mid November Mike and I met with members of both associations representing contractors who employ our members. We came up with ideas to bring back to our negotiation team and members. Both parties at the time thought that a wage freeze and a one year extension would be fair for everyone. In mid December, Mike and I met with several members of the Minnesota Concrete and Masonry Contractors Association (MC&MCA) with the idea that we would continue to discuss that same issue. We were surprised that the MC&MCA contractors wanted nothing to do with any contract extension and would rather have a three year contract with some wage and benefit concessions.

The items brought up to eliminate were travel pay, parking and sub-pay. The items discussed for change were the work week, overtime and a Saturday make up day at straight time for employees that did not have 40 hours of work in that week so that they could get a full week's pay. All of these items were discussed at the meeting on January 9. I believe that some of the contractors feel that this is their time to get back some of those benefits that we fought so hard to get.

Wage and benefit cuts will not create more work for our members. What it will create is animosity and an unproductive work atmosphere. Unemployment is at the highest level that we have seen in many years. We don't want to make permanent cuts because of a temporary problem. I saw a bumper sticker the other day that read: "Enjoy Your Weekend - Brought to You by Your Union." Let's all work together to keep it that way. While we have to consider that many of our members are not working now, we don't want to make drastic changes that will hurt us in the long run.

**LaborCare Health &  
Benefits Fair 2010**

*Continued from Page 1*

Come and meet celebrities such as Mark Kruger, star of "America's Biggest Loser." Walter Bond, motivational speaker and University of Minnesota Gophers basketball star will also make an appearance as well as other Minnesota Gophers sports athletes. Minnesota Twins are also scheduled to appear. T.E.A.M. will perform two special theatrical productions of *Worked to Death: Why I Don't Have Time for Wellness*.

More than 40 educational sessions will cover topics including:

- My Poor Bones (Orthopedic Help and Challenges)
- Heart Health, Smoking and Dealing with Stress
- Financial Health and Tough Times
- Community Health Initiatives
- Resources for Dealing with Health Issues
- Women's Health and Men's Health
- Poor Nutrition and Health Consequences

"We'll also address elder care and senior housing which are a huge need for many of our union members who are part of the growing sandwich generation," says Loftness.

More than 75 sponsors are featured this year providing an expansive variety of educational resources. Attendees will also have many opportunities to win prizes valued at \$50,000 total including dinners, flat screen televisions, electronics, travel and spa packages, golf-giveaways, sports memorabilia and more.

Non-fasting health screenings including blood pressure, cholesterol and health assessments will once again be available.

Children will have plenty of activities awaiting them at this year's health fair. Thanks in part to Medtronic, Earth Adventure, a 30 foot by 30 foot interactive display will give children an opportunity to explore Earth. And as a sponsor of the Twin Cities Marathon, Medtronic will also have on hand marathon runners to discuss with children the benefits of running and fitness. The Bakken Museum will present the play, *The Shocking News About Your Heart* and the Minnesota Zoo will bring a selection of children's favorite animals to view close up. In the safety area, Penn Cycle will discuss bike safety, and an ambulance and other interactive activities will be available courtesy of Allina Hospitals & Clinics.

Attendees are also invited to sit and enjoy a variety of refreshments and other light snacks. Vouchers will be available to help offset the cost of some of the food items.

Everyone is encouraged to pre-register for the event and the free health screening through the LaborCare Health Fair 2010 Web site: [www.lchealthfair.com](http://www.lchealthfair.com). Free parking vouchers are available online.

"Our goal is to motivate members and their families to make one positive health change in their lives. To help them activate this change by making available educational opportunities. And to do it all in a family focused, fun filled environment," says Loftness. "With all that we have planned, I'm certain we'll reach this goal."

# BAC Local Union 1 MN/ND

## Notice of Nominations, and Election, for Delegates to attend the 2010 International Union Convention that will convene in Las Vegas, Nevada on September 13, 2010

Our Local Union is entitled to send up to 23 delegates to the 2010 IU Convention. Among the purposes of the 2010 IU Convention is the election of all International Union Officers: President, Secretary-Treasurer, and three Executive Vice Presidents; and the election by region of the IU Regional Vice Presidents to serve on the IU Executive Council.

The Nominations Meeting at which the members of this Local Union will determine the number of delegates, if any, that the Local will send to the 2010 IU Convention; decide whether the Local will elect alternates to serve in the event that a delegate or delegates cannot attend; and, consistent with those decisions and the IU Constitution and Local Union Constitution, make nominations for the Local's open delegate positions – will be held at:

**UNITED LABOR CENTRE**  
**312 Central Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota**  
**2ND Floor – Room #218**  
**10:00 AM – SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2010**

The secret ballot IU Convention delegate election, if necessary, will be conducted by mail referendum. A mail ballot and accompanying instructions will be sent to each member of this Local Union during the week of April 12, 2010 and no later than Friday, April 16, 2010. Members must complete and then mail their ballots in the preaddressed envelope provided for that purpose so that the ballots arrive no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, 2010.

**NOTE: Nominations by Local Union members in good standing may be made (i) in person at the**

**Nomination Meeting; or (ii) by mail; or (iii) by FAX.**

The mail or FAX nomination must be received by the Local Union no later than 4 p.m. on April 9, 2010.

The mailing address of the Local Union is:

**Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers**  
**Local 1 Minnesota / North Dakota**  
**312 Central Avenue – Suite 328**  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414**

The FAX number of the Local Union is **612-379-8754**.

A mail or FAX nomination must be signed by the member making the nomination and must bear his/her name in printed form and his/her IU Member Number. In addition, the nominee must also provide the Local Union with his/her consent to run. The nominee may mail or FAX his/her written consent with the mail/FAX nomination or may mail or FAX his/her consent separately. Whichever choice is made, the written consent to a mail/FAX nomination must be received by the Local Union no later than 4 p.m. on April 8, 2010. Alternatively, the nominee may signify his/her consent in person at the Nomination Meeting.

**This meeting will be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled semi annual meeting April 10, 2010.**

Sincerely,

James R. Lundquist  
President / Secretary – Treasurer  
Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers  
Local Union 1 Minnesota / North Dakota

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## Excerpts from Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local Union 1 MN/ND

### ARTICLE X - DELEGATES

Paragraph 1, Subparagraph C.

The qualifications required to nominate and vote for delegates and to be a candidate for the position of delegate shall be the same as those required in elections for Local Union office.

### ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS

Paragraph 4, Subparagraphs A-D  
Qualifications for Office.

- A. In order to qualify as a candidate for any elected office in this Local Union a member shall be required:
- (1) to have been a journeyman member continuously in this Local Union and in the International Union for a period of two (2) years immediately prior to nominations; and
  - (2) to be current in the payment of his/her dues; provided that the President/Secretary Treasurer

shall accept payment of any dues in arrears at the nomination meeting prior to the opening of nominations.

- B. No person who has been debarred by the International Union or any Local Union after trial from holding office shall be qualified as a candidate or hold office during the period of his/her debarment.
- C. A contractor member, or a supervisory member who works in a supervisory position on a continuous and ongoing rather than project by project basis, with the effective authority to hire, fire or impose substantial discipline, may not be a candidate for or hold office.
- D. Retired and disabled members who are collecting Local Union pension or IU pension benefits may not be a candidate for or hold union office unless they cease being a retired or disabled member for a period of twelve (12) months prior to the date of nominations.



# 2010 Journeyman Upgrade Schedules

## Tile Classes

Date	Topic
3/10	TEC
4/7	Custom Products

All classes are held at the Apprenticeship Training Center in the metro area. Training runs from 4 - 8 p.m.

## Masonry Classes

Date	Topic
3/5	Marble & Granite
3/26	Ashlar Stone

All classes are held at the Apprenticeship Training Center in the metro area. Training runs from 7 - 3:30 p.m.

**NOTE:** General policy for Journeymen Upgrade classes

Stipend                      8 hour: \$100      4 hour: \$50

**NOTE:** BAC members may attend any training made available, but stipend reimbursement will apply only to participants actively registered to perform work in a specific trade area. For example: A tilelayer will not be reimbursed for taking a Flashing Upgrade course. And likewise, a bricklayer would not be reimbursed for taking a Shower Pan Installation Upgrade course.

**Course Description:** Federal Mediation and Conciliation service is an independent agency of the Federal Government established in 1947 by the Taft-Hartley Amendments to the Labor-Management Relations Act. The mission of the agency is to promote sound and stable labor-management relations, prevent or minimize work stoppages, advocate collective bargaining and foster constructive joint relationships of labor and management leaders. The information presented during this course will include: Collective Bargaining, Relationship

Development Training, Grievance Mediation, and Alternative Dispute Resolution.

**NOTE:** Completion of Course I and II is not required to enroll in the Federal Mediation course, but is recommended.

Part 1                                      3/1 & 3/2                                      4-8 p.m.

**All Red Cross courses** require a minimum class enrollment of eight participants. If the minimum enrollment is not met, training will be cancelled and participants will be notified by phone no later than three days before the scheduled date.

First Aid	3 year certification
CPR	1 year certification
AED	1 year certification

If an individual is certified in First Aid/CPR in 2008-09 they would only need to take CPR/AED training this training year.

**OSHA 30 Classes** will be held at the Training Center, 415 Minnehaha Avenue in St. Paul.

March 1-5	Class is full
March 15-19	Class is full
April 5-9	

## New Journeyman Upgrade Sign Up Policy

Due to large numbers of no shows for previous Journeyman upgrades, starting September 1, 2009, all journeyman upgrade classes will require a \$50 deposit at the time of registration, by personal check, to hold your spot in the class. Your check will be returned to you at the time of the class. Checks will be deposited if you do not cancel 10 business days before the class is scheduled to be held.

## Engineers' Masonry Conference Well Attended

Over 100 participants and a dozen exhibitors heard presentations by some of the nation's best-known authorities on masonry construction November 18 at the Masonry Design and Construction Conference held at the University of Minnesota.

The conference, attended by structural engineers and some architects covered topics as varied

as "Rational Design of Veneers", "Special Masonry Inspection" and "Seismic Design of Masonry". These and three other subjects filled out the day-long program.

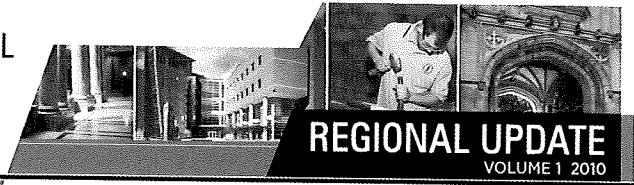
This year's conference is a new format for what formerly was a six-session series of seminars held over the fall and winter. The series is cosponsored by the International

Masonry Institute with local IMI staff as chair of the committee, along with the Minnesota Concrete and Masonry Contractors' Association, (MC&MCA), the Minnesota Concrete Masonry Association (MCMA), The Masonry Society (TMS) and the Council of American Structural Engineers/Minnesota (CASE/MN).

# IMI CORNER: Annual Report for 2009

- From new construction to restoration, traditional refractory work to the latest in sustainable design, IMI programs helped keep masonry center stage in Minnesota and North Dakota in 2009.

INTERNATIONAL  
MASONRY  
INSTITUTE



- IMI combines training, technical assistance and market development programs to show design and construction decision makers how masonry offers the best solutions.
- Key initiatives in 2009 included sustainability, structural masonry design, new products and systems, and upgrade training/certifications. To learn more about these programs and their impacts, go to [www.imiweb.org](http://www.imiweb.org)

## 2009 IMI Project Involvement in Minnesota and North Dakota

- IMI provided direct assistance, and influenced dozens of projects in favor of union masonry in 2009 with the education work alone totaling nearly \$500 million in Minnesota and North Dakota.
- Three civic/community-event centers are also on the docket and funding for them is currently in the state's bonding bill under both the Senate and House versions. The Bemidji Event Center was also funded in this manner and proved to be a real boon to masonry with its conversion from a predominantly precast structure to mostly masonry (see March, 09 feature in this publication.) Other northern Minnesota projects of note are refractory and mining projects involving IMI and BAC staff for at least three years.
- One place the recession hasn't affected greatly is North Dakota, where construction remains fairly strong, especially further west. Currently, IMI is tracking projects worth more than \$250 million, including a number of border crossing stations, a hospital, and work at Minot Air Force Base.
- All of this activity is designed to increase work hours and help assure that, when the economy begins to rebound, union-built masonry will be in the best position it can be. For additional details on the specific projects, call 612-332-2214 or email [obigelow@imiweb.org](mailto:obigelow@imiweb.org).
- **Twin Buttes School Goes Masonry - with Bentley structural masonry software**

- One of the North Dakota project success stories is the Twin Buttes, ND school. It was being planned as a precast concrete structure, until IMI showed architect and engineer how masonry was both preferable and achievable with masonry design software. IMI provided custom in-house software training for the project, via WebEx connection to five DLR offices: Minneapolis, Omaha, Lincoln, NE; Phoenix, Kansas City, MO, and Seattle. A similar session was held for another engineering firm doing military work, two group sessions were conducted and two more are planned.

## 2009 IMI Education and Outreach Events

- Education as a primary promotion tool has always been an IMI strength, and in 2009, a stellar lineup of these programs put IMI front and center with engineers, architects, owners and design students alike.
- Two of the largest of these events were the **Engineers' Conference at the University of Minnesota, which drew 152 structural engineers** for an entire day of masonry education. In April, the **New Masonry Systems Workshop** attracted 15 demonstrators of six different rain screen wall systems, plus self-consolidating grout and AAC viewed by architects, engineers and contractors.
- Presentations were also given at **BAC Local 1 MN/ND** chapter meetings in St. Cloud, Bemidji, Grand Forks, Bismarck, Minot, Rochester and

*Continued on Page 8*

# MEMBERS

## RETIRED MEMBERS

**Congratulations to the members who retired during 2009.  
We wish them a long and happy retirement.**

### #1 MN-St. Paul

David Bearden  
Lowell Bergloff  
Michael Demoe  
Theodore Droneck  
Mark Duncan  
Randall Fedder  
Paul Gergen  
Jerry Jerome  
Jerry Lee  
Kent Leonard  
Greg Loritz  
Donald McDermott  
Richard Newman  
Delbert O'Neill  
William Patzoldt  
Michael Ryan  
Ronald Vrieze

### #1 ND-Fargo

Ronald Nelson

### #2 MN-Minneapolis

Stephen Anderson  
Mark Barclay

Eddie Carlson  
Ed Chmielewski  
Dale Determan  
Daniel Deziel  
John Dinwiddie  
Kelly Erickson  
Daniel Evans  
James Geiger  
Eugene Gmach  
Dale Hauble  
Roger Jacobson  
Randall Kellar  
August Keller  
Kenneth Kiffmeyer  
Thomas Kraft  
Albert Lambrecht  
Gary Larson  
James Larson  
Gerald Lassahn  
Kent Lindblad  
Gerald Luedke

Wesley Mathwig  
Lonnie Matye  
Thomas Matye  
Thomas Munn  
Marvin Neuerburg  
Eugene Newell  
James Nohava  
Mark Olson  
Jay Papke  
Wayne Paskey  
Michael Renslow  
Larry Roepke  
Richard Rolland  
Karen Russell  
Bradley Schaefer  
Richard Shelley  
Craig Weise  
Glen Welle

### #3 MN-Duluth

Donald Hansen

### #4 MN-St. Cloud

David Auer  
Michael Bergmann  
John Kohman, Jr  
Thomas Mattson  
Michael Popp

### #8 MN-Rochester

Kenneth Dondlinger  
Carl McLaughlin

### #10 MN-Faribault

Michael Allen  
Larry Deelstra  
Daniel Soltis

### #11 MN-Mankato

John Helland  
Tedford Kenne  
Peter Straub

### #18 MN-Tilelayers-Metro

Larry Cook  
Ricardo Dengel

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome these new members...

Muamer Crnalic	Tanner Monroe
Christopher Flores	Michael Nelson
Jason Foley	Darwin Schroeder
Matthew McKenzie	Richard Stearns
Peter McKenzie	Jack Tannehill
Doug Mohrbacher	Melvin Tannehill



## DECEASED MEMBERS

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

### #1 MN—St. Paul

Louis Gilbert  
Raymond Kunze  
John Ludins  
Ronald Ockwig

### #1 ND—Fargo

Donald Beeler  
Arthur Jensen

### #2 MN—Minneapolis

Richard Bjorklund  
Russell Kopecky

### #4 MN—St. Cloud-Brainerd

Rawland Hagstrom

### #11 MN—Mankato-

#### New Ulm

Jerry Gappa

### #15 MN—Bemidji & North Dakota

Clinton Ewalt

### #16 MN—Hibbing

Bruce Lampman

## Real Estate, Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning/Administration

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400 Robert St. N, Suite 1800, St. Paul, MN 55101

PHONE: 651-227-6621 • FAX: 651-297-6642

EMAIL: Mail@rhschtd.com

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.

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# 2010 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:  
4:30 p.m. Mar. 8, May 10, June 7,  
Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Nov. 8  
Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave.,  
Oakdale: All Metro members  
Dec. 13

## Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing

Duluth, Duluth Labor Center:  
7 p.m. Mar. 10, June 9,  
Sept. 8, Dec. 8  
Hibbing, Electricians Hall:  
7 p.m. May 12, Aug. 11, Nov. 10

## Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd

St. Cloud Labor Home,  
1903 4th St. N.: 7 p.m. Mar. 3, May  
5, June 2, Aug. 4, Sept. 2, Nov. 3,  
Dec. 1

## Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall:  
7 p.m. Mar. 1, Sept. 13, Dec. 6  
Faribault, VFW: 7 p.m. May 3,  
Aug. 2, Nov. 1

## Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm

Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club:  
7 p.m. Mar. 4, June 3, Sept. 2, Dec. 2  
New Ulm, American Legion:  
7 p.m. May 6, Aug. 5, Nov. 4

## Chapter 15-Bemidji & North Dakota

Bemidji, Elks Club: **5 p.m.** (new time)  
Mar. 4, May 1, Apr. 6, June 3, Aug. 5,  
Sept. 2, Nov. 4, Dec. 2  
Bismarck-Minot, Americlnn:  
Beulah, 10 a.m. Mar. 27 (Wage  
Allocation meeting)  
Bismarck, AmVets: Mar. 26 (meeting  
and Gold Card Dinner)  
Dickinson, St. Anthony Club: 8 p.m.  
Dec. 17  
 Fargo, Moorhead VFW:  
7 p.m. May 25, Nov. 16 (meeting and  
Gold Card Dinner)



Grand Forks, N.D., E. Grand Forks  
American Legion: 7 p.m. May 26,  
Aug. 11, Nov. 17 (meeting and Gold  
Card Dinner)  
Minot, VFW: 7 p.m. Mar. 25 (meeting  
and Gold Card Dinner), June 24,  
Sept. 23, Dec. 16

## GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

### Metro Area Gold Card Luncheon

Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave.,  
Oakdale: 11 a.m. July 15

### Chapter 3-Duluth-Iron Range

Duluth area: Downtown Radisson,  
6 p.m. Oct. 8  
Iron Range: To be determined,  
6 p.m. Oct. 9

### Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd

Eagle's Club: 6 p.m. April 10

### Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester Eagle's Club:  
6 p.m. June 4

### Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm

Mankato: Mankato's Eagle's Club,  
6 p.m. April 30

### Chapter 15-Bemidji & North Dakota

Bemidji Elks Club: 7 p.m. March 12

Moorhead VFW: 7 p.m. Sept. 8  
Grand Forks Am. Legion: 7 p.m.  
Sept. 9

## OTHER EVENTS

### Retirees Club Breakfast meetings

Jax Cafe, Minneapolis  
9 a.m. Mar. 25, Sept. 23, Dec. 2

### 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. April 8, Oct. 1

### Semiannual Meeting-All of Minnesota & North Dakota

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis  
10 a.m. April 10, Oct. 2

### Chapter 1 Apprenticeship

**Banquet:** Jax Café, Minneapolis  
6 p.m. April 29

### BAC Golf Tournament: Pheasant

Acres, 7 a.m. July 31

### Chapter 3 area:

Grandview  
Golf Links, Duluth  
8 a.m. Sept. 11





# 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.

**President** . . . . . Jim Lundquist

**Editor** . . . . . Patricia Johnson

**Design & Production** . . . . . Peggy Zetah

## QUARTERLY UPDATE

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



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## GOVERNMENT



### POLITICS – Our Issues

## Jobs: Our Number One Priority

**By Shar Knutson,  
President of the  
Minnesota AFL-CIO**

Right now in Minnesota jobs are our number one priority.

Since the recession began in the state, we have lost 224,000 jobs and in the last two months, more than 6,000 jobs. According to [www.jobsnowcoalition.com](http://www.jobsnowcoalition.com) there are eight job seekers for every job, and of those job openings, 41 percent are part time, and less than half offer health care, and one out of four jobs pay less than \$8 per hour. They've also determined the median wage for all openings is \$10 per hour.

We need bold, decisive action from Republicans and Democratic members of the legislature to create jobs and revenue.

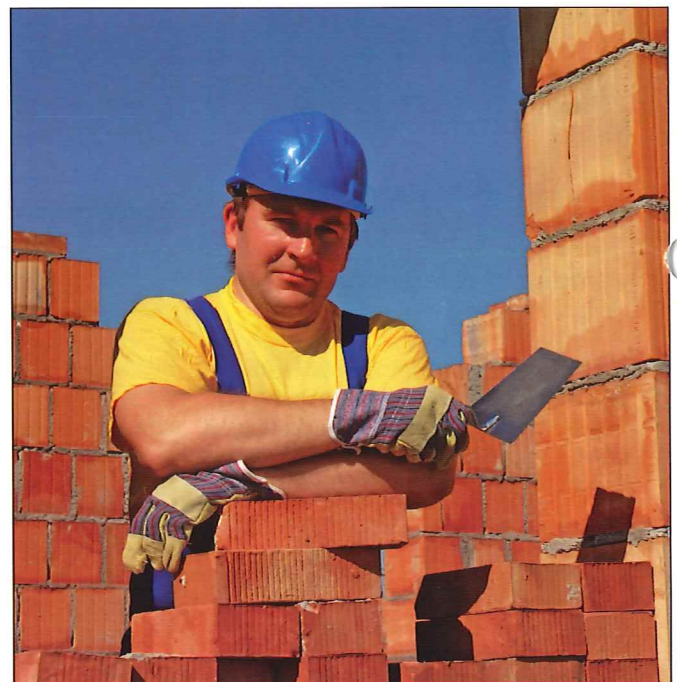
First of all we want to quickly pass a bonding bill of at least \$1 billion early in the session to get Minnesotans back to work.

Second, we also need to pass the Construction Jobs Coalition bill.

This bill will put people back to work by leveraging and stimulating private investment in the construction of commercial, industrial, energy-efficient retrofit, and residential projects across the state.

Third, we need to enact a wage subsidy program up to \$12 per hour because this will address short term job needs that employers would have. This method has been proven to have beneficial effects over several years, and it's one of the most efficient ways of getting people back to work.

We also need to look at passing an overall revenue raising package as a significant part of the solution to the state's budget deficit. We must have a balanced approach because budget cuts or delayed payments alone are actually more harmful to the state's economy. We believe they are gimmicks. We get very concerned when the governor talks about reducing aid to local governments because it won't take care of the problem. Instead, it will push it downward.



We also want to make the tax system fair. Minnesota's middle class families (\$35,000 - \$97,000) pay 12.4 percent of their income in state and local taxes while those in the top income brackets (\$194,000 and more) pay only nine percent. We believe those in the higher brackets should pay the same rate as those who make significantly less.

We need to continue pushing the bonding and construction bills and the wage subsidy program so people can get back to work quickly. We want to make sure it is a productive session. We have to do our very best to help the workers of Minnesota.