

MARCH 2015
VOLUME 23, 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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BAC LOCAL 1 TELEPHONE

612-379-2966

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 763-404-8345

BENEFITS

Check the Zenith American Solutions Web site, zenith-american.com

Call 651-256-1801 or 1-800-879-4412



BAC Members Build Winter Memories for Public to Enjoy

A wintery warm thanks goes out to Dick Kentzelman, Rich Beattie, Greg Jacobs, Doug Schroeder, Terry Wong, Joe Vanek and David Thell for all the time they spent on the icy project of building the 2015 Royal Ice Garden, King's Throne and Slide at Rice Park for the St. Paul

Winter Carnival. They helped harvest more than 1,100 ice blocks out of Lake Phalen used for the project. "It was fun to work on with these members and with all the other trades who contributed their time and talent," says Wong. "So many people were able to see and enjoy it all. And it was some good practice for a larger ice castle in conjunction with the 2018 Super Bowl."

Join Us at the Health Fair on March 28

Come Early for Free Tickets to the Sport Show

All BAC members and their families are invited to attend the 2015 Labor Health and Benefit Fair at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Sat., March 28, 2015. This free event runs from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Participate in health assessments, learn more about healthy living and address individual medical concerns. Speak with more than 80 representatives at health-associated booths. Children young and old will also

be able to burn off some winter energy in the Kidz Zone. Food shelf donations will be accepted and more than \$10,000 worth of prizes will be given away.

This year's fair will be held at the same time as the Northwest Sportshow. The first 100 BAC members and their families who come to our booth can receive free tickets to the sports show. BAC members can also register at our booth for prizes donated by BAC's Health Fund. The grand prize will be an Apple iPad Air 2. Second prize, iPad mini and third prize, a Kindle Fire. Members may also register at the BAC booth for one of 200 gift cards to Cub Foods.

For more info log on to www.healthandbenefitfair.org.



Single Sign-On Enhancement to Member Website

As a member of the BAC Funds, you have access to the participant portal provided by our third party administrator, Zenith American Solutions. The website can be accessed at www.zenith-american.com, and provides valuable information from your own computer. Once logged in, you have access to Member and Dependent Demographic Information, Eligibility Status, Claim Status, HRA Account Information, Work History, and Pension Information.

We are happy to announce a recent enhancement to the

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For more information, visit www.amplifonusa.com/bricklayers or call 1-888-402-1394.

website that will give you direct access to your HRA account. Just simply click on the "Evolution1 HRA Account" link on the main page, and you will be directed to your HRA account where you can view Contribution History, Account Balance, and Claims Status. You no longer need to have a separate username and password.

We encourage you to take advantage of this time saving alternative. As always, if you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact the fund office at 651-256-1801 between the hours of 7:30 and 4:30.

HRA Reminder for Retirees

If you and/or your spouse have been set up with a recurring HRA claim for premium reimbursement, it may be time to submit substantiation of your premiums for 2015.

A recurring claim form and substantiation of your premiums is required one time per year.

A new claim form was mailed to you in January. Simply fill out the request for reimbursement of recurring expenses with your name, premium amount, name of insurance carrier, and substantiation or proof of premium amount.

If you have any questions, please contact the fund office at 651-256-1801.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Video Conferencing Increases Participation in Wage Meetings



Mike Cook, President/ Secretary-Treasurer

Wage allocation meetings have been held in many areas already this year. We started off with a local-wide wage allocation meeting on Sat., Jan. 3, 2015, at the Union Hall in Minneapolis. We were successful bringing in two other areas through video conferencing. BAC union members in Fargo, North Dakota and in Duluth, MN, were able to join the meeting in their hometowns without having to make the drive to Minneapolis. While we have had video conferences before, this one was the most successful. As we get

more proficient with this technology, we hope to expand the video conferencing into more areas.

The first part of our meeting dealt with issues that involve all our members. We had our trust funds' attorney, Pete Rosene, on hand to help field questions. We also had management trustees from our Health Fund at the meeting to answer questions and to listen to the concerns of the membership regarding health care and health care costs. I would like to thank Ron Rasley, Darrin Drosky and

Pete Rosene for taking the time to attend this membership meeting.

Health care costs have increased at an alarming rate during the last decade; this, along with the impact of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has created a situation where our health fund contributions have not kept pace with the price of care. The Trustees of the Health Fund are

A special election was held on Jan. 3, 2015, for the position of Recording Secretary for Chapter 1, Metro, MN area. Rod Schmidt was elected to serve as the Recording Secretary for the current term which expires on Nov. 30, 2017. We congratulate Rod on his election.

continuing to search for innovative ways to reduce costs and improve quality. We all have to look for ways to live healthy, stay healthy and help reduce our overall health care costs.

Most areas and crafts voted to contribute a substantial amount of their 2015 wage increases toward health care. The new wage addendums for May 1, 2015, will be posted on our website as soon as they are complete. The new addendums will reflect the results of all of the wage allocation meetings.

Federal Pension Protection Undermined by New Law

Minnesota and North Dakota Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Pension Well Funded and Safe

We have had several questions regarding the status and the funding level of the Local Union Pension Plan. Our plan is well funded and in good shape. The trustees of the plan have acted prudently during the last few years to smooth out any bumps in the road that have occurred because of the market crash in 2008. However, we have also been asked, "How does the new law signed by President Obama at the end of last year affect our Plan?" The following is an explanation of that new law:

On Dec. 16, 2014, the President signed into law the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 ("MPRA14"). MPRA14 made permanent, with slight modifications, the Pension Protection Act of 2006, which had been scheduled to sunset at the end of 2014. Additionally, the Act created a new and unique ability to suspend and forfeit benefits notwithstanding the traditional protection created by federal law, known as the anti-cutback rule. Now, upon approval by the IRS, a multiemployer pension plan in "Critical and Declining" status may now permanently suspend current and future vested benefits to the extent required to avoid insolvency. The plan must still provide benefits that are at least 110 percent of the benefits guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation, a federal agency that is designed to guarantee payments for pensioners. The Act's suspension of benefits provisions broadly outline a process for developing and obtaining

approval of a benefit suspension by the IRS. The IRS is required to issue regulations under these provisions by June 14, 2015.

Participant Vote: If the IRS approves the suspension, the IRS will administer a vote by plan participants and beneficiaries within 30 days of approval. The board of trustees must provide the ballot. Unless 50 percent or more of the participants and beneficiaries vote to reject the suspension, it will be approved – regardless of voter turnout. This favors approval over rejection, as each participant and beneficiary that fails to vote is deemed to have approved the suspension. If the IRS denies the suspension, the board of trustees may appeal to federal court within one year of the denial, or may submit another application.

Many of our Union Brothers and Sisters from other Labor Unions will be seriously hurt by the erosion of the promise that had been created with ERISA, the pension law created in 1974 to protect workers from these kinds of defaults. Fortunately, we have been able to keep on top of funding levels for our local pension plan, as we will not need to contemplate any reductions. We are a "green zone" plan, which is the best available rating, with a strong balance sheet and a healthy population of members contributing to the fund.

TRAINING CENTER

2015 Journeyman Upgrade Schedules

All journeyman are welcome to attend any upgrade with RSVP Call new number at 763-404-8345 or visit us online at www.bactraining.org

| Date | Time | Branch Of Trade / Location | Class |
|--|--|---|--|
| 3/4/15 Hands-on presentat | 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. ion of new and existing thin | Tile / Metro n-set mortars, grouts (cement and epo | Custom Building Products oxy) and crack isolation products. |
| 3/9/15 Safety Certifications | 8:30 - 3:30 p.m through Minnesota Safety | All Trades / Metro Council that includes 1st Aid, CPR, ar | First Aid/CPR/AED and AED (use of automated external defibrillator). |
| 3/10/15 Classroom/Hands-o | 5 - 9 p.m. n Workshop | Brick / PCC / Refractory / Cotton | Intro to New Welding Booths |
| | 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. ding held Tuesdays one nig ill add additional dates to m | | Blueprint Reading size is limited to 10 students. Call to be put on |
| 3/11/15 New materials and Certification is requi | | Bricklayers / PCC / Metro hese portions of trowel trades work to | Grout Certification hrough lecture and demonstration. |
| covers OSHA policie | neets on Wednesdays. Thenes, procedures and standard SHA construction standards | ds, as well as construction safety and | OSHA 30 nd 5/6. This course for private sector personnel health principles. Topics include scope and e areas that are the most hazardous, using |
| | | | Flashing and Moisture Control ues for completing these portions of trowel ctice and the installation characteristics of |
| 3/18/15 Hands-on demonstr | 4 - 8 p.m. ration of self-leveling mortal | Tile / Cotton rs and installation methods. | Self-leveling Mortars |
| 3/25/15 | 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Bricklayers / PCC / Metro | Flashing and Moisture Control (repeat) |
| 4/1/15 Grouts and Thin-set | 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. ts focus on large format tile | Tile / Metro mortars. | Laticrete |
| 4/7 - 5/26/15 TUES This 8-week class I | . 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. meets on Tuesdays. | All Trades / Metro | OSHA 30 (repeat) |
| 4/23/15 Classroom/Hands-o | 2 - 8:30 p.m. on workshop | Bricklayers / PCC / Metro | Ashler Stone |
| | 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. tion of new and existing pro | | TEC |
| • | 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. m Pittsburg Corning Glass E ortarless glass block installa | | Glass Block demonstrate methods and techniques for |

TRAINING CENTER

BAC Training Center Provides Exciting Opportunities for Membership

Now located at 5420 International Parkway, New Hope, MN

By Mike Ganz, Executive Vice President and Interim Director of the Training Center

As many of you know we have moved in to our new training center. With the move, we have experienced a new environment of change; a change which will provide greater opportunities for our members to further develop their skills. The center will also provide increased staffing and we'll also own the center instead of renting. The BAC Local 1 training program continues to be rock solid and this change will keep us number one well into the future.

The center is easily accessible with plenty of parking. The 21,659 square feet of space is more than twice the size of the former building. The building is split up into three large bays; one for PCC/Safety, a second for Brick/Masonry and the third for Ceramic Tile/Terrazzo. There are three classrooms, two of which can be combined into one large room to hold 88 students. The front reception area includes two conference rooms, two offices, a copy room and large reception area. Staff and students will enjoy a large break room. The rear area of the building has room for mixing mortar and two large overhead doors for receiving products.

Under direction from the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee, we now have split the apprenticeship coordinator's job into two new positions: a masonry/ PCC coordinator and a tile/terrazzo coordinator. Both coordinators will instruct and are responsible for the classes of their respective trades.

Masonry coordinator Joe Vanek was hired October 2014 and has been doing a great job assisting with set up of the center. He brings 25 years of experience in the field of masonry construction and valuable organizational skills in to his new position.



Sam Greenwood was hired January 2015 as an interim full-time tile and terrazzo coordinator. He has 16 years of experience in the tile industry field, a huge plus for our membership, as he develops classes and assists with recruiting new apprentices. The tile industry is evolving and is definitely where Sam shines and is on top of his game. He also has been a tile instructor and OSHA 500 trainer

for 10 years.

Day and evening PCC classes were held from January thru February for first-, second- and third-year brick apprentices. The new center is providing many hours of training for BAC members.

The staff and center are also busy with school tours. Along with classroom talks about the trades, the coordinators offer hands-on experiences for visiting youth looking to begin their careers. There are also many opportunities to do Journeyman Upgrades at the new center. Please feel free to suggest any classes that would benefit our membership.

The International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers will once again sponsor an apprenticeship contest in 2015. The BAC Local 1 MN/ND apprenticeship



program will be holding its contest for the Minnesota and North Dakota members on April 25, 2015. Please contact your coordinator or instructor to register for the contest.

The North Central Region will be holding contests beginning on May 30 for Brick and Tile, followed by June 6 for Cement, Marble, PCC and Terrazzo and finishing up with Stone and Plaster competitions on June 13. Local 1 can send two brick, two PCC and four tile apprentices onto the regional competition. Winners of the regional competitions will go on to the International Union contest that will be held September 11-12, 2015 in Bowie, MD. This year marks the 150th year the International Union has been in continuous existence. An apprenticeship contest is a great

way to celebrate this milestone.

In closing we would like to extend an invite to all of our members to visit and tour the new training center. If you have any interest in sharing your knowledge with new members, please contact us, as we are always looking for substitute



instructors and mentors to lend a hand from time to time.

Remember "We train for you."

Lunch Break

Don't cut your time short! The 30-minute lunch break is an integral part of the work day. Our contracts state that all members are to take that break during the day. The 30-minute break is designed for everyone to get a chance to get refreshed, relax a bit and get ready for the second half of the work day. Don't give up your break. If you employer is asking you to shorten your lunch break, please call your local area Business Representative.

MEMBER RECOGNITION



Brick Apprentices at the Oakdale Prom Center

First-year apprentices were sworn in at the holiday meeting on Dec. 8, 2014

Front row, left to right: Masonry Instructor Jimmy Gonzalez, Frank Tregoning, Lisa Max, Chue Yang, Christopher Olmscheid. Back row, left to right: Former Apprenticeship Coordinator Rick Martagon, Buki Alderete, Christopher Larson, David Thell, Stephen Kolby, Jesse Dylla, Loren Land, Masonry Coordinator Joe Vanek.



Tile Apprentices at the Oakdale Prom Center

First-year apprentices were sworn in at the holiday meeting on Dec. 8, 2014

Front row, left to right: Instructor Rod Schmidt, Michael Przetycki, John Wolter, Kayleigh Monroe, Yardley Stebbing, Kabba Williams, Benjamin Ramulic, Instructor-Pete Sotelo, Former Apprenticeship Coordinator-Rick Martagon. Back row, left to right: Logan Hanson, Kyle Andreasen, Jacob Paden, Andrew Hanson, Christopher Baker, Tyler Mohrbacher, Rian Ferrian, Tyler Russell.

MEMBER RECOGNITION



PCC Apprentices at the Local Office

First-year apprentices were sworn in at the meeting on Jan. 12, 2015

Front row, left to right: Alan Tachequi, Alex Tachequi, Danielle Powell, Michael McNally. Back row, left to right: Instructor Gary Jirovec, Carly Carlson, Gustavo Vega Alvarado, Jarrett Petersen, Gary Parrish, Tyler Lundberg, Carlos Ortega, Dakota Baldwin, Masonry Coordinator Joe Vanek.



Oakdale, MN: 25-Year Gold Card Members

Gold Card Dinner at the Prom Center on Dec. 8, 2014

Left to right: Executive Vice President Mike Ganz, 25-year members Dennis Swanson and Betuel Ibarra and Vice President Doug Schroeder.

First Ever Disaster Relief Motorcycle Ride Planned

This year will be the first ever Bricklayers for Disaster Relief motorcycle ride in Morgantown, WV. The motorcycle ride will be in conjunction with MountainFest from July 22-25, 2015. The bricklayers ride will be on



July 24, 2015. The cost will be on a donation basis and there will also be t-shirts on sale.

Please invite all members, friends and family who like to ride and have a good time. This is open to all types of motorcycles and anyone who just wants to spend time with friends and enjoy West Virginia's mountains. Information such as lodging and tickets can be found at http://bricklayersdisasterrelief.com.

We are also looking for sponsors. Please ask anyone who would be willing to help make this event a success to click on sponsor information at www.bricklayersdisasterrelief.com

If you have any questions and concerns please contact John Mason at 248-202-6069 or Jm.jmasone@gmail.com.

MEMBER MILESTONES

CONGRATULATIONS, MEMBERS!

BAC Local 1 MN/ND recognizes long-standing members dedicated to their craft.

25-Year Members

#1 MN-St. Paul
Thomas Curwick
Peter Erickson
Hudson Fleming III
James Gonzalez
Kent Leonard
Douglas Montzka
Russell Olsen
Jeffery Taplin
Thomas Tate

#2 MN-Minneapolis

John Weinand III

Mark Wohlwend

Tyson Betterman Richard Blaser Raymond Cowan Richard DeVitt Kenneth Eckstrom Charles Eliason William Falck Robert Hanson Jerry Johnson Thomas Juckel Anthony Kampa Albert Lambrecht James Leduc Scott Pedersen Rick Peterson Harry Prawdzik Michael Schermerhorn James Super Craig Thumstedter

#2 ND-MinotFredrick Forsberg
Matthew Gefroh

#3 MN-Duluth

Robert Calverley Scott Calverley Jack Magnuson

#3 ND-Grand Forks

Matthew St. Claire

#4 MN-St. Cloud

Scott Bartylla
Floyd Pfannenstein
Michael Popp
Daniel Weimer

#15 MN-Brainerd

James Knowles Casey Nelson Mike Robinson

#16 MN-Hibbing/Virginia

Michael Louhi Eugene Swedeen Stacy Tiedeman Paul Wiita

#18 MN-Tile Layers-Metro

Daniel Graham Peter Hedden Daniel Loahr James Osiecki Mark Qualseth Ronald Shawd Rose Vojgt

#6 MN-Springfield/ New Ulm Joel Maieski ~21 1/5

John Melchert - 18 175

#23 MN-Duluth Tile Mark Welch

40-Year Members

of the state and a war

#1 ND-Fargo

Brian Jacobs

#2 MN-Minneapolis

Frederick Fors
Lonnie Matye
Thomas Matye
Lyle Straub
Lourny Donovan

#3 MN-Duluth

Michal Rzatkowski

#4 MN-St. Cloud

James Benusa Robert Sadlo Kenneth Solarz

#16 MN-Hibbing/Virginia

Chris Schol

50-Year Members

#1 MN-St. Paul

Ronald Anderson Hardis Boyce Richard Boyd Eugene Brunette Leonard Seliga

#2 MN-Minneapolis

Brian Balfe Richard Benson Phillip Gnerer Wilfried Groegor Francis Hanrahan Brian Hedman
Duane Johnson
Anthony Kotla
Duane Lindberg
Richard Mouritsen
David Oien
John Savage
Cyrus Swenson
William Thiede
Orlen Torke
Harold Traen

#3 MN-Duluth

Rodney Walters

John Berg ✓ Duane Colby ✓

#**3 ND-Grand Forks^X** Dale Hearn

#4 MN-St. Cloud

James Allen Ralph Sauer

#4 ND-Bismarck

Larry Geiger

#8 MN-Rochester

Jerome Mullenbach

#15 MN-Brainerd

Dwight Wegner

#16 MN-Hibbing/Virginia

Richard Gould >

#18 MN-Tile Layers-Metro

Louis Geislinger Curtis Streman

Save the Date!



July 11, 2015

3rd Annual ATV Member Ride Stompin' Grounds Lodge & Camping, Akeley, MN More information to come.



Thomas Ottman Financial Advisor Cell: 612-867-0534

thomaso@efsadvisors.com



If you would like a no obligation consultation, please contact Thomas Ottman at 612-867-0534 or via email at thomaso@efsadvisors.com

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IMI CORNER

IMI Outreach Extends to Educational Institutions and Design Professionals Statewide

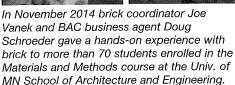
IMI MN Marketing Director Mark Swanson, along with Mike Cook, President of BAC Local 1 MN/ND staffed the IMI booth at the American Institute of Architects (AIA) annual convention in Minneapolis in November. The convention brings together more than 2,000 architects and building industry professionals. It was a great opportunity to reach out and network with the design community. Many AIA seminars and project consultations have resulted from contacts made at the event.

Another trade show event that IMI uses to influence designing with masonry is the MN School Board Conference held in January at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Mike Cook, Mike Ganz and Rhonda Anderson from BAC assisted Swanson at the IMI booth. Architects and engineers and contractors from around the state who specialize in public school design exhibited at the conference. Several contacts with these architects and general contractors were made with the goal of influencing school design with masonry solutions throughout the state.

IMI and BAC together have been very active at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture and Engineering. In November brick coordinator Joe Vanek and BAC business agent Doug Schroeder gave a hands-on experience with brick







to more than 70 students enrolled in the Materials and Methods course at the School of Architecture. This event took place in the indoor courtyard at the Rapson Hall. Students divided into two groups. One group worked with brick and mortar on 2x4 stations that Joe and Doug set up and the other group worked on brick patterns while waiting for their chance to work at a station. Class instructor Dan Handeen was pleased to see the enthusiasm and creativity from the students. The event generated a lot of exposure for IMI and BAC, and photos from the event landed on the School of Architecture's Facebook page.

In December, Sam Rubenzer, PE, IMI's consulting engineer, lectured again at the University of Minnesota engineering school. Demonstrating the benefits of masonry to future engineers is important since engineers are crucial to the future of masonry.

In addition to covering the large firms in the Twin City metro area for seminars and consultations, Swanson also reaches out around the state. Recent seminar

presentations by Swanson include a Flashing and Moisture Control seminar to Brunton Architects in Mankato, MN. TDKA architects and engineers in Duluth have also registered for multiple seminars from IMI.

Mark Swanson can be reached at mswanson@imiweb.org, 612-332-2214 or on his cell at 612-840-8695.

To learn more about the International Masonry Institute, visit www.imiweb.org.

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2014 RETIREES

We are grateful for your dedication of work...

#1 MN-St. Paul

Douglas Bergstrom Chris Jr. Holton Adam Jacobson Ronald Jost Thomas Kroger Marty Millard Jerry Mitchell Ricky Peterson Daniel Quinlan Donald Sorensen Harold VanDorp

#1 ND-Fargo David Ehlert

#2 MN-Minneapolis

Jeffrey Anderson Tracey Anderson Jon Bell Patrick Berscheid Mark Christopherson Thomas Clark Gary Eisenschenk Duane Jeske Richard Kentzelman Brion Klande Rick Morris Charles Schultz Michael Sellnow Douglas Sigfrid Jeffrey Torkelson Carl Watts

#2 ND-Minot

Fredrick Forsberg Matthew Gefroh Thomas Lock

#3 MN-Duluth

Jeffrey Jacques James Mikrot Shawn Murphy Bill Perryman

#4 MN-St. Cloud Tom Shea

#4 ND-Bismarck Donald Ell

#8 MN-Rochester

David Bakke

#10 MN-Faribault

Richard Gates Allen Seykora

#15 MN-Brainerd

Robert Royce

#18 MN-Tile Layers-Metro

James Drew Steven McNamee James Osiecki Steven Sundquist

#23 MN-Duluth Tile

Allen Shovein

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome our new members...

Justin Auger
Patrick Bloomquist
Taylor Brummer
Jeffery Caviness
Robert Claffey
Tad Davidson
Carlos Duran
Dennis Engelkens
Rian Ferrian
Eric Flatten
Andrew Gerold
Shayne Goodson

Dave Hill
Francisco Ibarra
Jason Jabas
Stephen Kolby
Jason Lindquist
Brody Marietti
Brenden Marjama
Michael McNally
Tyler Mohrbacher
Joel Nelson
Nathan Petersen
Danielle Powell

Steven Sanchez Jr.
Jason Schendel
Brian Steffen
Alan Tachequi
Karl Thinesen
Reid Thompson
Rory VanderAvond
Benjamin Warner
Chue Yang
Luke Young

DECEASED MEMBERS

We are sorry to report the deaths of these members...

#1 MN-St. Paul

Roger Anderson Jerome Cokley Marvin Cook Donald Flood Richard Sundberg Dennis Wold

#2 MN-Minneapolis

Alden Arlt Earl Bloom Orlean Boen Stanley Borowiec Frederick Kehren

#3 MN-Duluth

William Olson Clyde Oswell

#3 ND-Grand Forks

Merlyn Rhen

#4 MN-St. Cloud-Brainerd

Clifford Livedalen

#7 MN-Winona

Jerome Jaszewski

#15 MN-Brainerd

George Rhen

#18 MN-Tile Layers-Metro

Mike Seviola

Welcome, Rod Schmidt!



Congrats to Rod Schmidt who was recently hired as the new business agent which becomes effective March 2. He was elected the recording secretary which begin January 2015. He has been a tile and stone mason for 20 years and a trustee for the Tile Annuities for 15 years. This year will mark his 15th and last year as a tile instructor. He'll be "passing on the torch to younger guys" allowing

him to accomplish more for the membership in his two new positions. He will also continue to participate in Construct Tomorrow and instruct OSHA classes.

Congrats, Rick Martagon!



In January Rick Martagon began his new job as the supervisor of apprenticeship division for the Department of Labor. His 15 years of apprenticeship background will serve him well as he tackles new responsibilities such as field representative, budget, document review, department processes and the development of apprenticeship programs with focus on outreach targeting women, minorities and veterans. He

will continue to be involved with Construct Tomorrow, and as Martagon puts it, "I'll continue to be a dues-paying BAC member forever. I'm proud to have that card."



2015 CHECK YOUR CALENDAR FOR

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. 9, May 11, June 8, Aug. 10. Sept. 14. Nov. 9 Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave., Oakdale: All Metro members 7 p.m. Dec. 14

Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range

Duluth, Duluth Labor Center: 5 p.m. Mar. 11, June 10, Sept. 9, Dec. 9 Hibbing, Electricians Hall: 7 p.m. May 13, Aug. 12, Nov. 11

Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd

St. Cloud Labor Home, 1903 4th St. N.: 7 p.m. Mar. 4, May 6, Aug. 5, Nov. 4 Brainerd American Legion: 7 p.m. June 3, Sept. 2, Dec. 2

Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall: 7 p.m. Mar. 2, Sept. 14, Dec. 7 Faribault, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. May 4, Aug. 3, Nov. 2

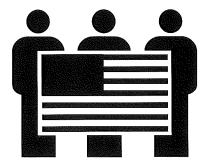
Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm

Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club: 7 p.m. June 3, Sept. 3, Dec. 3

Chapter 15-Bemidii and ND

Bemidji, Elks Club: 7 p.m. Jan. 8 (Wage Allocation meeting), Mar. 12, May 14, June 11, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, Dec. 9 Minot, KC: 11 a.m. Mar 20 (Wage Allocation meeting), 6 p.m. Mar. 20, 7 p.m. Dec. 17

Fargo, West Fargo VFW: 5:30 p.m. Mar. 24, June 23, Sept. 22, Nov. 18 Grand Forks, E. Grand Forks American Legion: 7 p.m., Mar. 25,



June 24, Sept. 23, Nov. 19 Minot, Udder Place: 6 p.m. Mar. 19, May 21, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Dec. 16

GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

Metro Area Gold Card Luncheon Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave., Oakdale: 11 a.m. July 16

Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-

Iron Range Duluth area: Holiday Inn, 6 p.m. Oct. 9 Iron Range: Valentini's, 6 p.m. Oct. 10

Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd

St. Cloud Eagles Club: 6 p.m. Mar. 21 NW MN-Nevis, Bullwinkles: 5 p.m. Apr. 25

Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester, Rochester's Eagle Club: 6 p.m. June 5

Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm

Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club: 6 p.m. Apr. 24

Chapter 15-Bemidii and ND

Bismarck, AmVets: 6 p.m. Mar. 19 Fargo, West Fargo VFW: 6 p.m. Nov 18 Grand Forks, Speedway: 6 p.m. Nov. 19 Minot, Minot KC: 6 p.m. Mar. 20

OTHER EVENTS

Health Fair, Convention Center, Minneapolis: 8 a.m., Mar. 28

Retirees Club Breakfast meetings Jax Cafe, Minneapolis 9 a.m., Mar. 26, Sept. 24, Dec. 3

Duluth area Retirees meetings Miller Hill Mall Perkins, Duluth 9:30 a.m., First Wednesday of each month

Iron Range Retirees Breakfast meetings

Iron Kettle, 9 a.m., Chisholm Third Monday of each month

St. Cloud Retirees Breakfast meetings

Brigittes Café, 9:30 a.m., Third Thursday of each month

Executive Committee meeting 312 Central Ave., Minneapolis 9 a.m. Apr. 3, Oct. 2

Semiannual Meeting-All of MN and ND

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis 9 a.m. Apr. 4, Oct. 3

Chapter 1 Apprenticeship Banquet: 6 p.m. Mancini's Char House, June 4

BAC Golf Tournament

Pheasant Acres: 7 a.m. July 25

Chapter 3 Golf Tournament Grandview Golf Links, Duluth 8 a.m. Aug. 22

ATV Member Ride Akeley, MN July 11

Applications Wanted for Director and Coordinator Positions

The interim position of the Tile and Terrazzo coordinator will terminate on May 31, 2015. The Apprenticeship Board will be taking applications for the full-time positions of a **Tile and Terrazzo Coordinator**, along with a Training Center Director, which will begin on June 1, 2015. The chairman of the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, Tim Miller, will be accepting

applications by mail. All resumes must be postmarked before March 31, 2015. The committee will then review all applications. Some applicants will be called for an interview with a subcommittee before a final hiring decision is made. Visit BACtraining.org and BAC1MN-ND.org for job descriptions and more details.



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QUARTERLY UPDATE

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GOVERNMENT



POLITICS

- Our Issues

By Shar Knutson, President of the Minnesota AFL-CIO

2015 Legislative Session Presents Challenges and Opportunities

The 2015 legislative session is nearly two months old and Minnesotans are presented with a very different situation than we were in 2013 and 2014. While Governor Dayton was reelected and DFL majority remains in the Senate, Republicans now control the Minnesota House.

While the new Republican House majority might not be interested in helping empower working people, that isn't a reason for Labor to sit on the sidelines.

That's why we're advocating for a Shared Prosperity and Job Creation agenda.

Pass Comprehensive, Long-Term Multi-Modal Transportation Funding Minnesota cannot grow and attract good jobs when our infrastructure is wearing out and transit options are woefully inadequate. Too many of our roads and bridges have exceeded their lifespans and are in desperate need of repair.

Ending Wage Theft

A shocking number of unscrupulous employers often pay less than what was agreed, force workers to perform duties off the clock, cheat state and local governments out of legally required taxes and insurance contributions, and sometimes, withhold pay all together.

The legislature can help by legislation that toughens penalties for employers who engage in wage theft and makes it easier for workers to report wage theft.

Require Paid Family Leave and Earned Sick Days

We all get sick. But not all of us can stay home when we are contagious. In cities and states without earned sick day standards, two of every five workers don't earn a single day of earned sick leave.

We strongly support the passage of both earned sick and safe time and paid family leave.



Fair Scheduling

The retail, service and healthcare sectors are now the fastest growing industries in our state. The increase in the minimum wage has and continues to be a great boost for retail, service and healthcare workers. However, full-time positions with stable schedules are also vitally important. Minnesota workers need scheduling standards that support families and help make their lives predictable.

In addition to this Shared Prosperity and Job Creation agenda, the Minnesota AFL-CIO will support a range of issues that address income inequality, economic opportunity, and tax fairness.

