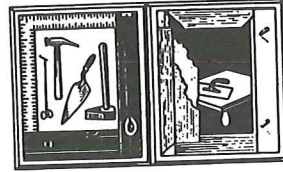


QUARTERLY UPDATE

- Bricklayers
- Stone Masons
- Tile Layers
- Marble Masons
- Terrazzo



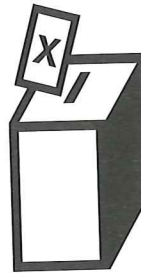
- Blocklayers
- Finishers
- Shopmen
- Cement Masons
- Pointers - Cleaners - Caulkers • Concrete Products Specialists

SEPTEMBER 2005

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 3

BAC CHAPTERS TO NOMINATE OFFICERS

ALL chapters of BAC Local #1/MN&ND are scheduled to hold upcoming Special Order of Business meetings to nominate chapter officers. Positions to be filled include chairman, record-



ing secretary, sergeant-at-arms and negotiating committee members.

A member may not be nominated unless he or she is present at the time of the nomination, unless he/she has filed a written affidavit with the President/ Secretary-Treasurer before the nomination meeting stating that he/she will serve in a specific office if elected.

Please turn to ELECTION on Page 2

Silicosis re-emerges as a danger for workers

A disease of the past has re-emerged as a threat that may be claiming the lives of thousands of workers each year. Among them can be bricklayers and stone and tile cutters.

MORE IN NEXT ISSUE

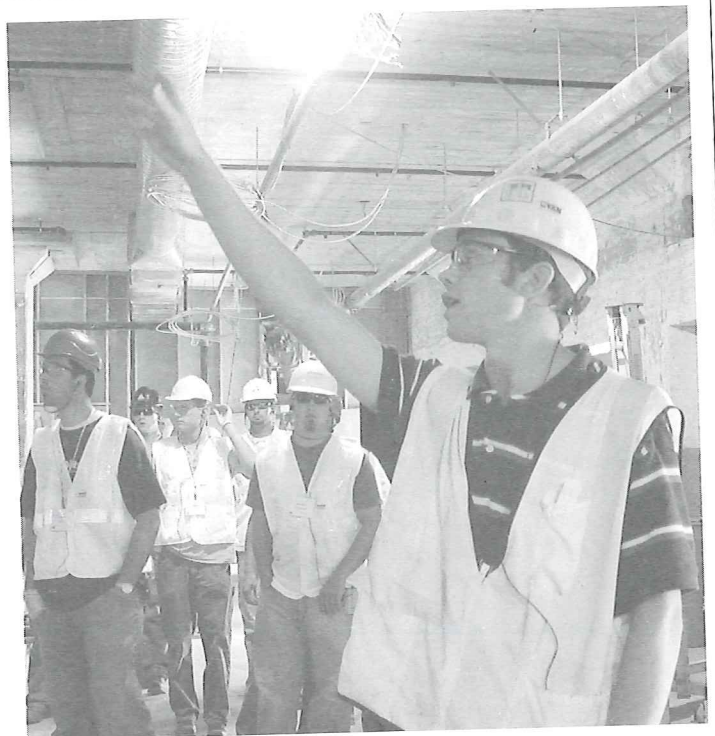
December's Quarterly Update will provide more information on silicosis, including an interview with Scott Whipps, the first Minnesota bricklayer known to have received a diagnosis of silicosis.

Silicosis results from breathing in microscopic particles of sand. Lungs bombarded over years harden with scar tissue. "Lungs literally become hard as rock," said the author of a book on the disease. "They can't breathe in. It's like having cellophane wrapped around your chest so tightly that you can't get a breath."

Worst cases die, in their fifties or earlier. For others, the lung impairment leads to a general decline in health. Sufferers become more susceptible to lung infections like tuberculosis and pneumonia.

Who's at risk? Anyone who works in an environment where sand-containing materials – stone, cement, brick, tile, glass – are cut or pounded with power tools so that dust lofts into the air. That includes construction workers, like the members of our union, but also workers in foundries (where sand is used in castings), sandblasting operations, mining and many others.

There are no reliable numbers of people whose health has been affected by silicosis, experts say. For one thing, no reliable data is being gathered, and for another, silicosis often is mistaken for more common asbestosis or emphysema, or is masked by diseases that people with breathing problems often develop. A 2003 report published in the American



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Ben Terry of Ryan Companies US, Inc., helps teach 'tech-ed' teachers. Please see IMI Corner on Page 4.

Journal of Industrial Medicine estimated that there had been 3,600 to 7,300 new cases of silicosis each year from 1987 to 1996.

Gerald Markowitz, author of a 1991 book about silicosis, called that estimate "an astounding number."

Please turn to SILICOSIS on Page 10

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

ELECTION/Chapters to nominate officers

Continued from Page 1

Chapter meetings are scheduled as follows:

Chapter #1 – Minneapolis and St. Paul, including Bricklayers and PCC's, Tile Layers and Finishers (formerly known as Chapters #18 and #107T) will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, 2005, at 312 Central Avenue, 2nd Floor, Room #218, in Minneapolis.

Chapter #3 – Duluth and Iron Range will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2005, at the Duluth Labor Temple, 2002 London Road, Hall B, Duluth.

Chapter #4 – St. Cloud will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2005, in the basement of the St. Cloud Labor Home, 1903 4th Street N., St. Cloud.

Chapter #8 – Southeastern Minnesota will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, 2005, in the basement of Rochester Union Hall, 11 4th Street, Rochester.

Chapter #11 – Mankato-New Ulm will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, 2005, in the basement of the Mankato Teamsters Hall, 816 South Bend Avenue, Mankato.

Chapter #15 – NW Minnesota & North Dakota will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2005, at the Bemidji Elks Club, 116 4th Street, Bemidji.

Election of chapter officers, if necessary, will be conducted by mail referendum during the month of October 2005. To be eligible to vote, your dues must be paid through September 2005. Ballots will be mailed by Oct. 1, 2005 and must be returned by Oct. 31, 2005. Ballots will be counted on Oct. 31.

Local union nominations

There will be Special Order of Business at the next semiannual meeting of the BAC Local #1/MN&ND for nomination of all local union officers. Positions to be voted on include president/secretary-treasurer, executive vice president and three vice presidents. The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Prom Center, 484 Inwood Avenue, Oakdale, Minn.

A member may not be nominated unless he or she is present at the time of the nomination, unless he/she has filed a written affidavit with the President/Secretary-Treasurer before the nomination meeting stating that he/she will serve in a specific office if elected. Election of local union officers, if necessary, will be conducted by mail referendum during the month of October 2005. To be eligible to vote, your dues must be paid through September 2005. Ballots will be mailed by Oct. 1 and must be returned by Oct. 31. Ballots will be counted on Oct. 31.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RULES OF ORDER

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.

CHAPTERS TO MERGE

BAC Local #1/MN&ND Chapters #1 and #18 will combine to form a single chapter and will include:

- all members of Chapter #1, metro area bricklayers and PCC's.
- all tile layers and finishers from Chapter #18
- all terrazzo members

The newly formed Chapter will be referred to as Chapter #1.

Chapters #11 – Mankato and #6 – New Ulm-Springfield will also combine to form a single chapter and will include all bricklayers and cement masons in the two areas. The newly formed chapter will be referred to as Chapter #11 – Mankato-New Ulm.

Each of the above-mentioned Chapters will nominate and elect one set of chapter officers during this year's election.

KEEP IN TOUCH

LOCAL TELEPHONES

612-379-2966

AND

612-379-4230

BENEFITS

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

OUTSTATE TELEPHONE

1-800-257-8636

FAX

612-379-8754

A W A R D S

Minnesota projects are honored in national contest

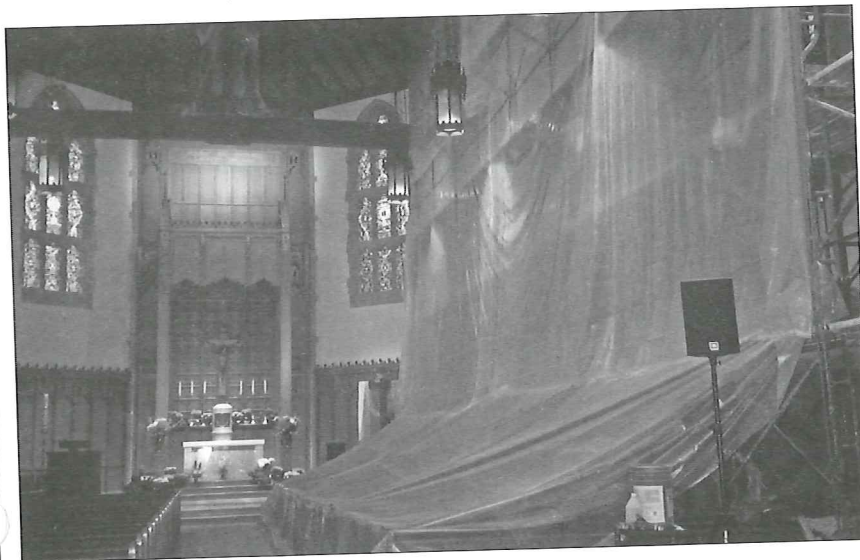
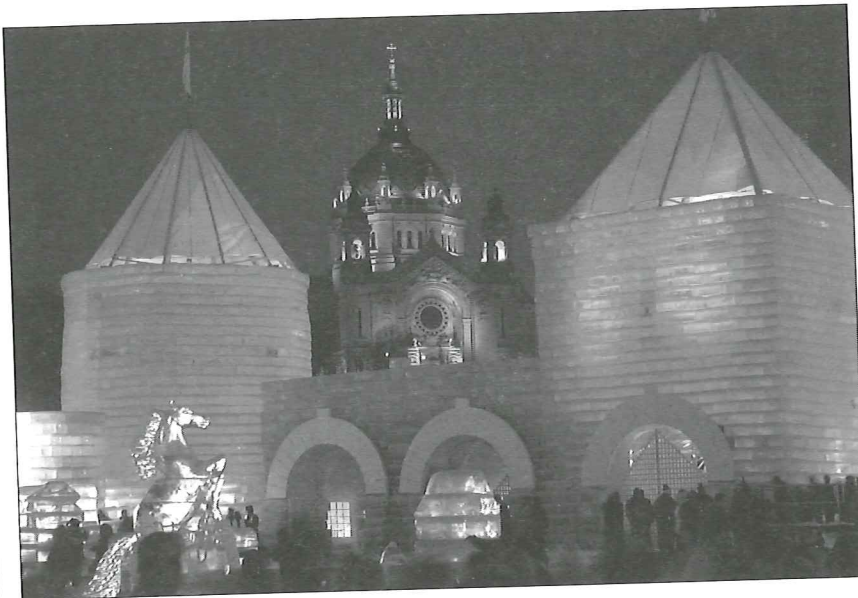
Three notable Minnesota projects were cited for National Craft Awards at BAC's Executive Council meeting held in St. Louis in early June. The winning projects were selected from nearly 200 entries in nine craft categories. Four additional categories for individual and local union public service and leadership are also recognized annually.

The 2004 St. Paul Winter Carnival Ice Palace (left, top) took top honors nationally for Outstanding Public Service by a Local Union. Especially noted by the judges was the amount of volunteer time dedicated by members of Local #1/MN&ND for their work on the project.

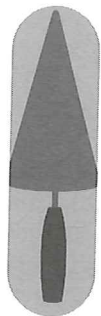
Rochester's Gonda Building (left, center), the new "gateway" building for the Mayo Clinic, was built by craftworkers from Twin City Tile and Marble. It has captured virtually every other national award available for marble and stone design and construction, and was named the winner in the Marble Category.

The winning project in the Restoration/Rehabilitation/Maintenance category was Nativity of Our Lord Church in St. Paul (left, bottom, work pictured in progress). Restored by craftworkers from American Masonry Restoration, the church's tight working conditions, high quality interior stone restoration work and the fact that the sanctuary continued its activities in and around the restoration work all contributed to the award.

Projects submitted for the National Craft Award Competition are those projects winning the Minnesota design awards competition conducted each fall by the Minnesota Concrete and Masonry Contractors Assoc. The winners of that competition are announced by MC&MCA in late winter, and are entered in the BAC National Craft Awards competition the following summer/fall.



IMI Corner



EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION

For nearly 10 years, the Minnesota Masonry & Concrete Academy (MCMA) has been helping high school industrial arts teachers (now called technology education, or “tech-ed,” teachers) learn about masonry and concrete so they can provide new classroom activities and new career options for their students. During that time, trainers from the BAC Local #1/MN&ND training program and Local #1 field staff have been visiting these high schools to do classroom presentations, participate in Career Day programs and provide all-day, hands-on activities for those schools requesting the help.

Literally hundreds of these visits have happened since the program was launched in 1996, and many new recruits have joined the bricklayer ranks as one result. Another benefit has been the nearly 200 teachers and others who have become masonry ambassadors in their communities, spreading the word to countless others about the benefits of union masonry and the career opportunities it provides.

Over time, the program has evolved from a simple two-day workshop to a full two-week summer session run through St. Cloud State University, and now it also attracts students of construction management and project management.

In the next few years, most buildings will be constructed using some form of construction management or design/build project delivery system. It is critical, therefore, that students in these programs have positive learning experiences with masonry before they graduate. The combination of construction management students and technology educators is working well, as two completely different perspectives are represented in class.

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

In partnership with Dr. Kurt Helgeson at St. Cloud State, IMI works with members of Minnesota Concrete and Masonry Contractors Assoc., MCMA and BAC Local #1 staff to provide speakers for the sessions, transportation for the tours, tour guides, some meals, printed materials, coordination of hands-on activities and other needed elements. In the words of one of the class members, the Academy “... covered everything, from the quarry to the wall.”

Class members commented most frequently on two things. One was the eye-opening effect of the tours and the other was the opportunity to hear from contractors, craftworkers, construction managers, association staff and manufacturers of masonry materials about the real-world challenges of getting a project built. One said, “I was struck by the technology “savvy” of the people in this industry – from the driver who uses GPS technology (global positioning system) in his or her truck, to the computer-controlled manufacturing processes in the plants.” Many were impressed with the number and variety of careers available in the masonry industry as well.

Special thanks goes to all those in the industry who helped make the Academy a success, and especially to Mike Ganz, BAC Local #1/MN&ND field representative, and Mark Wickstrom, Apprenticeship and Training Coordinator, for their help with the hands-on activities.

– Olene Bigelow, Minnesota IMI Area Director

R E C R E A T I O N

CONGRATULATIONS TO TOURNAMENT'S TOP FOURSOME



The 2005 BAC Golf Tournament was held July 30 at Pheasant Acres, with 144 players competing for prizes. Members of this year's top foursome, left to right, were Mark Severson, Steve Hagen, Larry Hines and Dale Johnson.



PEOPLE

CHAPTERS #1 AND #18 METRO honored their longtime members with a Gold Card Dinner held July 14 at Prom Center, Oakdale.



25-YEAR MEMBERS David Hewitt, left, and Charles Hart, right, are shown in the front row. In the back row, L-R, are Executive Vice President Mike Cook, BAC International Union Regional Director Randy Kelly, Vice President Roger Buirge, and President Jim Lundquist.

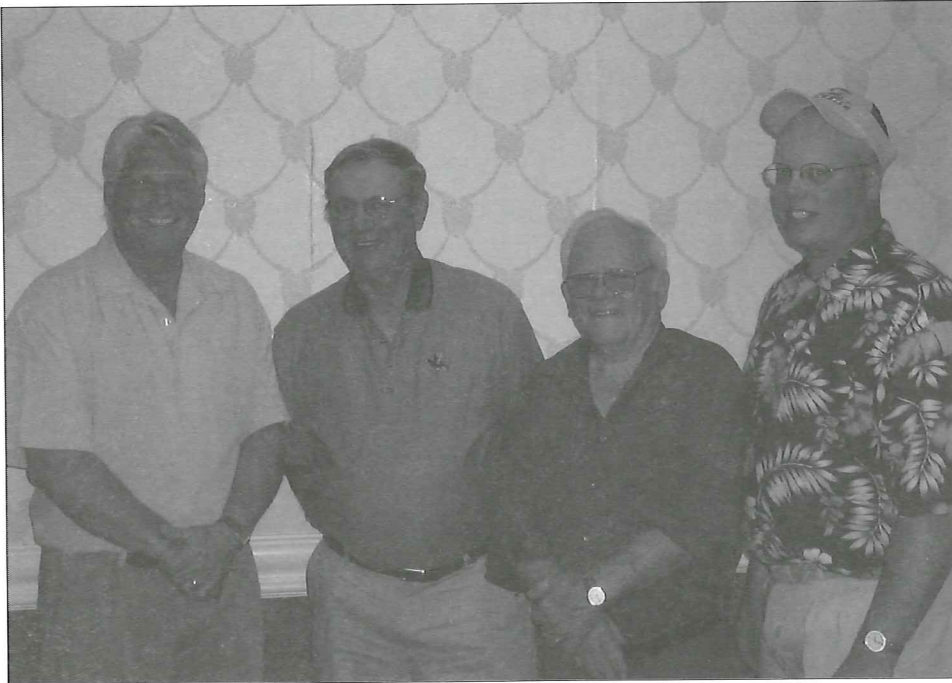


40-YEAR MEMBERS, front row left to right, are John Savage, William Thiede, Brian Balfe, Brian Hedman and Ronald Anderson. In the back row are Cook, Kelly, Buirge and Lundquist.



50-YEAR MEMBERS, front row, left to right, are Arnold Schroeder, Richard Sternberg, John Ricker, Robert Lofgren, Robert Broberg, Tom Andersen, Albert Georges, Floyd Hanson, Virgil Dahl, James Herberg, Fred Reins and Norbert Rau. In the back row, L-R, are member Ron Pavlak, Mike Cook, member Richard Schmidt, Randy Kelly, Roger Buirge, members Ernest Frederick, Fred Lautizi, Wayne Paschke, Roger Koland, Eugene Emerson, Fred Kehren, Robert Bratrud, Arnold Olson, Doug Squires and Harold Halvorson, and Local #1 President Jim Lundquist.

PEOPLE



CHAPTER #15 – Brainerd-Bemidji & North Dakota honored two 50-year members with a Gold Card Dinner held June 18 at the Northland Inn, in Bemidji. Shown, left to right, are BAC Local #1/MN&ND President Jim Lundquist, members Al Johnson and Marvin Cornelliussen, and Vice President-Field Representative Mike Ganz.



CHAPTER #8 – Rochester-Faribault honored its longtime members with a Gold Card Dinner held June 3 at the Rochester Marriott Hotel. Shown, left to right in the front row, are 50-year members John VanDeWalker and Dennis Speedling, and 40-year member Jerome Mullenbach. In the back row, left to right, are Business Representative Mark Caron and BAC Local #1 officers Roger Buirge, Michael Hawthorne, and Michael Cook.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Major projects bring jobs to Rochester and downtown Minneapolis

BAC field representatives log thousands of miles each year visiting job sites, dealing with worker concerns and participating in negotiations. Often, they're our best source of news about working conditions for our members. With this issue, we begin sharing some of that news with you.

Mike Ganz, Western Minnesota: *A sales talk and a hot dog*

Work in the area has been relatively slow but **the horizon is looking brighter**. The Brainerd area probably has the most work, but some work will be coming up in St. Cloud. Work is proceeding on a new \$63 million Crow Wing County law enforcement center, community center and county jail. Late summer and fall will include visits to county fairs, where I help man building trades booths and tell people about the union – give them a sales talk and a hot dog. I guess **one of my biggest concerns is getting apprentices started**. We need more work in the long run, but we need to get new ones started too.

Mark Caron, Southern Minnesota: *80% have work*

Large construction projects are going up in the Rochester area, **including a \$23 million addition to John Marshall High School and the addition of four floors to the Mayo Clinic's Stable Building**. A new \$22 million high school will be starting in Byron, outside Rochester. There's also a \$10 million addition being built at Winona Medical Clinic. A \$22 million school is coming up for bid in Lake Crystal, near Mankato. And in New Ulm, **a burned-out butter plant will be replaced**. Probably 80 percent of members in this area have work.

Dick Kentzelman, Minneapolis area: *Downtown condos dominate*

Construction here is **dominated by the downtown Minneapolis condominium revival** – anywhere from \$11 million to \$80 or \$90 million, depending on the type of condos being developed. Right now there are four just getting started. These are the very high-end ones, where they're remodeling existing buildings and maybe doing walkways. More work is planned in Bloomington, near the Mall of America, including a water park. At the Sears Tower, they're starting to work on the upper floors; ceramic tile is going in. There's also **a new Cabela's going up in Rogers**.

Rodney Sletten, Northwest Minnesota & North Dakota: *Money reclaimed*

The **best thing for our new North Dakota members** is the new HRA (Health Reimbursement Account) fund we've helped them get going. The money they lost before, they're reclaiming. It's a very good thing. In Northern Minnesota, I volunteered onto a task force, going around too cities and counties and seeing if we can implement prevailing wage ordinances. A lot of contractors like prevailing wage; they get a better chance of bidding, and a better deal for people in that area. **The work situation is real strong right now**. Everybody's working and it looks like it will continue right into winter.

PEOPLE

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome these new members...

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Gregory L. Aakre | Daniel J. Johnson |
| Jay E. Basel | Steven G. Johnson |
| Dale W. Beach | Christopher P. Kasinger |
| Gary J. Best | Shawn L. Kiefer |
| Cary V. Boyd | Steven H. Kirchner |
| Adam C. Bragg | William J. Knight |
| Douglas Calandra | John P. Kozicki |
| Jacob W. Carlson | Kyle A. Kush |
| Charles W. Chapin | John C. Lochridge |
| Craig L. Cottew | Cole M. Longtin |
| Cory E. Crust | David L. Martin |
| Benjamin T. Dalsing | Yauheni N. Musatau |
| Jeffrey L. Davis | Scott E. Natzel |
| Joseph R. Deose | Lynn R. Nierenhausen |
| John R. Devries | James H. Pemper |
| Joshua J. Dyer | Mike O. Reiter |
| Wayne M. Effertz | Renne N. Ritter |
| Jason W. Ehlert | Shawn E. Ronning |
| Aaron S. Fischer | Collin J. Rusin |
| Michael A. Gade | Leah M. Schreiner |
| James W. Goff | William E. Schroeder |
| Daniel E. Gregoire Jr. | Bryan D. Schwanke |
| Joseph S. Hoffman | Jason K. Shea |
| Kristopher T. Hughes | Richard L. Simpson |
| Todd M. Huntley | Paul A. Snowaert |
| Claude F. Johnson | Eric L. Steffl |

DECEASED MEMBERS

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

- #1MN – St. Paul**
 Richard W. Biskupski
 John G. Larson
 Melvin F. Volkenant
- #2MN – Minneapolis**
 Claus R. Johnson
 Delbert L. Johnson
 Richard O. Kammer
 Fred G. Mattson
 John K. Parsons
- #11MN – Mankato**
 Steven R. Nerem



- #16MN – Hibbing**
 Kazimar Hozian
- #4ND – Bismarck**
 Paul P. Omafray

- David M. Sticha
 Kevin L. Storer
 Justin L. Strom
 Petr I. Suistun
 Juan Villanueva
 Charles L. Walsh

- James J. Walsh
 Eli D. Wenninger
 Edwin M. Winkelman Jr.

BRIEFS

OSHA 10 classes to resume

Worker safety training classes will resume this fall at the BAC Apprenticeship Training Center, 415 Minnehaha Ave., St. Paul. The classes, each lasting two days and paying a stipend of \$100 per day, are to help members to meet a May 1, 2006, deadline on federal OSHA 10 certification. Topics include electrical systems, scaffolding, hazardous materials, tools, stairways, ladders and personal protective equipment.

Training sessions will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on these dates: Group I – Sept. 16 and 19; Group J – Sept. 30 and Oct. 3; Group K – Oct. 14 and 17; Group L – Nov. 11 and 14, and Group M – Dec. 9 and 12

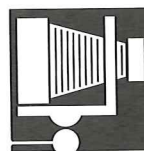
Call the Union office (612-379-2966) to register. The winter schedule of classes will be announced in the December issue of Quarterly Update.

Local #1 joins conservation group

Your Union has joined with other labor organizations and individuals as affiliate partners in the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership. TRCP's goal is to "guarantee us all places to hunt and fish," so that our

children and grandchildren can enjoy these outdoor sports as much as we have.

The organization also sponsors a new hunting and fishing TV show, Life in the Open, which is to begin airing this fall on the Outdoor Life Network. More information about the organization, including how to join as an individual, can be found on its Web site, www.trecp.org, or by phoning 1-877-770-8722.



Hunters and fishermen

Share your photos with other members. When you catch a trophy fish or bag a big buck, we invite you to send a photo and brief description for use in future issues of Quarterly Update. News and photos can be e-mailed to local1mn@aol.com.

Local #1 needs hardhat sticker

We hand out hardhat stickers provided by BAC International, but we'd like to have another designed just for us – Local #1/MN&ND. If you have an idea for a design, drop it by the office or e-mail it to local1mn@aol.com. The winner will receive a prize.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Continued from Page 1

"From the 1930s on, we have known that silicosis is entirely preventable, and yet it is not prevented as we enter the new millennium," Markowitz said in a recent interview. "It continues to afflict workers and continues to kill them. This is a public health tragedy of the first order."

Markowitz wrote "Deadly Dust" after his work on occupational diseases turned up a puzzling fact. Silicosis, a hot issue in the 1930s and 40s with many deaths blamed on it and national conferences devoted to it, had completely dropped off the radar screen by the 1980s. How, he wondered, could a disease so feared have become virtually unknown.

Markowitz and his co-author, David Rosner, concluded that knowledge of silicosis had been eclipsed by two developments – improvements in medical care and the deliberate spreading of misinformation. Antibiotics largely eliminated the tuberculosis that had speeded the death of many silicosis sufferers. The misinformation came from influence over federal regulation exerted by a consortium of industries that had a strong financial interest in putting a stop to escalating insurance claims made by disabled workers.

Formed in 1936, the Air Hygiene Foundation provided an early model of how industries could organize to effectively write their own laws. The foundation proposed a course of action that included gathering information on silicosis and other dust-related diseases, setting standards of exposure and determining the guidelines that doctors would use in making their diagnoses. The foundation intended to bring silicosis under the control of industry and cut off public debate, and in that, he wrote, "they succeeded beyond their wildest expectations."

"Our argument was that the various industries associated with industrial hygiene worked very hard to say 'we have solved this problem,'" Markowitz said. "Workers were reassured. As a result, workers stopped being as concerned as they could have been and should have been." Meanwhile, he said, "they continued to become sick."

Partly because of the publication of Markowitz's book, knowledge of silicosis is again on the rise. A national conference on the subject was organized in 1997. Lawsuits by disabled workers against their employers also have become more common.

Several lawsuits on behalf of workers diagnosed with silicosis have been filed against a Minnesota foundry by the Hastings law firm Sieben, Polk, LaVerdiere & Dusich. Attorney Scott Hertogs said the first suit filed in 1994 later was joined by two other workers at the same foundry. After

SILICOSIS/ *A danger once again*

three years of litigation, he said, the suit was settled.

Of the three workers represented, Hertogs said, two are alive and still suffering from shortness of breath. The third died at 63.

While silicosis appears more common among foundry workers, Hertogs said, he has also handled cases for bricklayers who apparently had developed the disease after cutting brick and cement. In some cases, Hertogs added, he had to prod medical doctors to take another look at what they had initially diagnosed as asbestosis. A bricklayer with little exposure to asbestos but diagnosed with asbestosis is unlikely to win a claim.

If silicosis develops slowly – symptoms often don't show up for 20 years or more – and if there is no treatment for it, why pursue an accurate diagnosis or compensation claim? Two reasons, Hertogs said: to limit exposure to something you know is making you sick, and to get help in handling future medical expenses.

"If they get sick enough, it's going to cost a lot of money to be treated for a disease that's generally progressive," Hertogs said. "They don't want their relatives paying for their final illness. It's almost always an occupational disease. The worker compensation claims, the employers fight them vigorously, but a silicosis worker's comp claim is a pretty solid claim."

SILICOSIS SYMPTOMS, PRECAUTIONS

Silicosis symptoms can include shortness of breath following physical exertion, severe cough, fatigue, loss of appetite, chest pains and fever. Victims often have no symptoms until a minor illness (flu, for example) rapidly escalates into severe or chronic breathing difficulties. Those who suspect they may have silicosis are urged to see a pulmonologist, or lung specialist, and make certain the doctor is aware of work history. To prevent on-the-job exposure to silica dust, the union recommends these precautions:

- DO NOT dry-cut masonry products or stone; always use water. This is the best way to limit dust. If you can't use water, use a vacuum with a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter or another dust control system. If this is not possible, use a full-face respirator as part of a complete respiratory protection program that includes proper selection of respiratory cartridges, training and fit-testing to see if you are able to wear a respirator.
- MINIMIZE dust that is carried home on clothes and personal belongings such as cars and tool boxes.
- DON'T SMOKE, because smoking in combination with silica dust exposure increases your risk of lung cancer.

MORE INFORMATION ON SILICOSIS can be found on the Web site of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/silfact1.html>. The BAC International Web site, www.bacweb.org, also provides information; click on "Safety and Training." Those seeking information on legal recourse, including worker compensation claims, can contact attorney Scott Hertogs, phone 651-437-3148 or e-mail shertogs@siebenpolklaw.com.

KEEPING UP



2005 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 and #18 – Minneapolis-St. Paul

All meetings 7 p.m.
312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:
Sept. 12, Nov. 14
Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave.,
Oakdale: All Metro Chapters, Dec. 12

Chapter #3 – Duluth-Hibbing

All meetings 7 p.m.
Duluth, Duluth Labor Center: Sept. 14, Dec. 14
Hibbing, Electricians Hall: Nov. 9

Chapter #4 – St. Cloud

All meetings 7 p.m.
St. Cloud Labor Home, 1903 4th St.
N.: Sept. 7, Nov. 2, Dec. 7

Chapters #6 and #11– Mankato- New Ulm

All meetings 7 p.m.
Mankato, Teamsters Hall: Sept. 1,
Dec. 1
New Ulm, American Legion: Nov. 3

Chapter #8 – Rochester-Faribault

All meetings 7 p.m.
Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall:
Sept. 12, Dec. 5
Faribault, VFW: Nov. 7

BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED CRAFTWORKERS LOCAL UNION #1 MINNESOTA & NORTH DAKOTA

NOTES

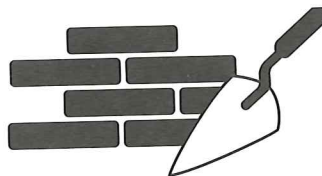
√ There will be no chapter meetings in October.

Chapter #15 – Brainerd-Bemidji & North Dakota

All meetings at 7 p.m.
Bemidji, Elks Club: Sept. 14, Nov. 9
Bismarck, AmVets: Nov. 11
Brainerd, American Legion: Dec. 8
Crookston, Northland Inn: Dec. 15
Dickinson, St. Anthony Club:
Dec. 16
Fargo, FM Labor Temple: Nov. 10
Grand Forks, N.D., VFW: Sept. 15
Minot, Elks Club: Sept. 16

GOLD CARD DINNER

Cards will be mailed



Chapter #3 – Duluth

Iron Range area: Knights of
Columbus, Hibbing, 6 p.m., Oct. 15
Duluth area: Downtown Radisson,
6 p.m., Oct. 14

OTHER EVENTS

Retirees Club breakfast meetings

9 a.m., Jax Café, Minneapolis
Sept. 22, Dec. 1

Duluth-area Retirees meetings

9:30 a.m., Miller Hill Mall food
court, Duluth
Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7

Executive Committee meeting

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis,
9 a.m. Sept. 23

Semiannual meetings for all chap- ters – statewide

Sept. 24, 10 a.m., Prom Center,
484 Inwood Ave., Oakdale

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Golf Tournament

All members are welcome.
Chapter #3 area: Grandview Golf
Links, Duluth
8 a.m., Sept. 10

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE LABOR NEWS in Minnesota, visit the Workday Minnesota Web site – a cooperative effort of the Labor Education Service at the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota AFL-CIO.

Updated daily, the labor news service features information about union and workplace activities; in-depth articles on history, the economy and other topics; materials on labor for use in classrooms; and



www.wordayminnesota.org

and viewpoints.

links to many other sites.

The news service also is interactive through a bulletin board on which readers can share information

QUARTERLY UPDATE

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POLITICS

2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION OFFERS HOPE

Minnesota's 2005 Legislative Session was painful to watch and experience, especially for 10,000 state employees locked out of their jobs, but the results are encouraging. A massive bonding bill was passed to pay for overdue infrastructure improvements, a bill that will put thousands of building trades members to work in the coming year. Perhaps as important were signs of improved cooperation between the parties – a loosening of gridlock politics.

This spring's Session is a direct result of last fall's election, which in turn was a result of Republicans' relentless attack on working families' priorities in 2004. House Republicans had an 85-53 majority last year and used it, together with Republican Governor Tim Pawlenty, in an attempt to repeal or change



ELECTION 2006 – Our Issues

decades of labor law affecting every union sector. They put forth a budget that cut education spending, restricted health care options and provided no long-term solution for our outdated and clogged transportation network.

With the help of union members and their lobbyists, the DFL-dominated State Senate fought off all attacks.

And then a funny thing happened.

In November, the voters threw out 13 obstructionist Republican representatives and shrank the party's overall majority to 68-66. We have seen immediate results at the Legislature.

Senate and House DFLers and enough moderate Republicans worked together to pass the first increase in the minimum wage in eight years. They repealed the apprenticeship fee and fully funded state oversight of the apprenticeship program. They kept the Dislocated Worker training budget intact and

passed tougher laws to regulate the illegal misclassification of independent contractors. They also passed a much-needed \$8 billion transportation bill, but Pawlenty vetoed it.

As the Legislature went into overtime Special Session and ultimately government shutdown, Republicans and DFLers battled over education funding, MinnesotaCare health insurance, and whether the state would raise new revenue by raising taxes on the wealthy and corporations.

Results were mixed. Workers paying for MinnesotaCare will continue to receive coverage, and education funding was increased for the first time in three years.

The bad news was that money for education came from a regressive, new 75-cent cigarette tax, with Republicans continuing to protect corporations and the wealthy.

So, why is this a hopeful scenario?

Because the governor and House Republicans no longer can demand "It's my way or the (gridlocked) highway." They will have to work with DFLers to pass legislation. Everyone will have to work together to make the state work. And that can only be a good thing!