Minnesota Workers Memorial Garden Dedicated
By Patricia Johnson

On August 3, 2010, the Minnesota Workers Memorial Garden was dedicated under a summer’s day blue sky accompanied by relentless heat and humidity.

Yet no weather could be more appropriate to parallel the unyielding commitment of its founder, Dave Roe. Roe served as President of the Minnesota AFL-CIO for 19 years, from 1966 to 1985, and was named President Emeritus upon his retirement. (Note: For additional information on Roe’s influential career and the memorial, see Quarterly Updates, December 2009 and June 2010.) His burning desire to honor all of Minnesota’s workers who lost their lives on the job was a nearly 10-year project in the making. And now, this dedication day finally became a

Continued on Page 2

May Rides a Healthier Road in Retirement
By Patricia Johnson

Although David May retired in 2003, it wasn’t until two years later that his life took a major spin in a different direction.

After suffering a heart attack, May’s doctor advised him to exercise. So he did. He took to his road bike, got addicted and he hasn’t looked back. Since then, May has biked more than 10,000 miles and has surpassed his goal of 2,000 miles for this year alone.

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Memorial  Continued From Page 1

reality. It will also serve as a reminder of the loyalty and dedication of not only these workers, but of Roe himself.

Labor and community leaders and workers gathered at the memorial located on the grounds of the State Capitol to hear former Vice President Walter F. Mondale and Minnesota AFL-CIO President Shar Knutson speak on the significance of the memorial. The Twin Cities Labor Chorus also performed two opening songs.

Roe took center stage sharing his heart behind the project and thanked all who were involved in its design and build. "I'm very appreciative of the Cap Board (Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board) and everyone else who supported the project to honor those workers who have died in the work place," he said in an interview after the dedication. "I appreciate the work of the bricklayers and the cement masons, too. I'm very pleased."

Roe's next project is to look at the (Hubert H.) Humphrey and (Walter F.) Mondale tributes. "The Humphrey tribute has been sitting there for quite a while and I'm surprised the DFL or someone else hasn't picked it up," he says. "We have two vice presidents from Minnesota. I think that says a lot. So I'm going to do that and try to include Vice President Mondale's, too." He's started right away and doesn't expect these two projects to take nine years. "I'm retired so I have all the time I need. I don't need anytime off."

Mark Wickstrom, BAC Local 1, MN/ND member, carved and presented a plaque to Roe. The plaque, made of the same Kasota limestone and lettering used for the memorial, reads, "Thank you, Dave Roe" in recognition of his persistence and hard work from inception to dedication. "I was inspired by the fallen workers," Wickstrom says. "They're the ones who aren't here to thank Dave for what he has done. I made it a symbolic thank you from them."

Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale spoke to a crowd of labor and community leaders and workers during the dedication of the Minnesota Workers Memorial Garden on August 3.

Wickstrom worked seven weeks by hand to complete the carving of a portion of Langston Hughes's poem, "Freedom Plow" featured on the memorial. Advanced Masonry Restoration supplied a location that was best suited for the small and intricate work. Yet because of the material's highly reflective color, the carvings were difficult to read after they were installed on the monument by Kraus Anderson. In a last minute decision, Wickstrom applied a coating of antique gold Lithocrome paint to the carvings on site which made a huge difference in their appearance.

"I'm honored to be part of the project," Wickstrom says. "It was a satisfying moment on a personal level because I know how hard Dave has worked and how he's met numerous challenges. Hopefully everyone will keep that spirit alive. It's a spiritual place and hopefully it will continue to mean a lot to people down the road."

Mark Wickstrom worked long and steady hours to complete the stone carving of a portion of Langston Hughes's "Freedom Plow" in time for the memorial's dedication.
From the President
By Mike Cook, President/Secretary-Treasurer

In March, 2010, a seismic shift occurred in how health care insurance would be offered in the United States. On March 23, 2010 the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was signed into law; on March 30, 2010 a companion bill, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act was signed into law. The programs provided:

- An Early Retiree reinsurance program that provided a government subsidy for some claims incurred by early retirees, and their dependents.

Our health fund is participating in that program.

- As of January 1, 2011, the plan will have to provide dependent coverage of children to age 26. In that our plan is based on a family or “composite” premium, there will be no additional charge to a family for this coverage. The coverage is now available without tax consequences to the member’s family. However, this coverage requirement, along with other requirements under the new law, will certainly be added plan costs that will need to be structured into the premium in the future. Please note that the charges for dependent coverage for the retiree plan will stay in place; coverage will be available for this class of participants until your child reaches age 26.

- There are a complex series of rules regarding how fast a health plan needs to change, called the “grandfathering rules”. Plans in existence on March 23, 2010 can have some flexibility in the implementation of some of the mandates. However, the interaction between these provisions made it difficult for plan trustees to maintain grandfathered status without spending the plan’s reserves.

- There will be no pre-existing condition limitation in plans as of 2014 and children cannot now be subject to pre-existing condition limitations; our plan did not contain any exclusion for pre-existing conditions.

- Our plan had a $250,000 lifetime limit that was supplemented through the use of the state catastrophic insurance pool. This provided, at the cost of the health fund, a new $5.5 million of insurance for our most medically needy participants. Now, a new provision in the law mandates an unlimited lifetime maximum for all plans. This will result in the need to have the fund purchase a new layer of insurance (stop-loss) which will add significantly to the cost of plan operations.

- By 2014 a list of preventive health services will need to be available without any cost-sharing as part of the plan design. This cost will need to be structured into the premium. This change may come earlier, depending on the plan’s “grandfathered status”.

- There is a new requirement for plans to institute an external review/claims procedure. Historically, the Board of Trustees has fulfilled this function. This will add cost to plan operations.

I remain concerned that health care reform, as currently structured, ends up imposing significant costs on our type of health plan (Taft-Hartley self-insured), while doing little to require small non-union employers to treat their employees fairly with respect to health insurance. Many challenges lie ahead; as always, the interests of the membership are what will guide the Union and the Board of Trustees with respect to the implementation of these new federal mandates.

The Americans With Disabilities Act: What It Means For You

Employers and employees should be aware of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and what it could mean for you. The ADA prohibits discrimination based on disability. For example, it is unlawful to refuse to hire or discharge an employee because of a disability such as diabetes or a hearing impairment, as long as the employee can perform the essential functions of the job. Employees whose rights are violated may file a charge of discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, or may pursue a lawsuit for damages and injunctive relief in court.

The ADA prohibits conducting medical examinations of job applicants prior to offering them a job, or making inquiries as to whether an applicant has a disability or as to the nature or severity of the disability. An employer may inquire about the ability of an applicant to perform job-related functions. Postoffer, pre-employment medical exams can be conducted only if all entering employees in the job category are subject to such an examination and if they are job-related and consistent with business necessity.

An employee with a disability has the right to a “reasonable accommodation,” which is a modification to a work environment that makes it usable to the employee with a disability. Examples can include modifying work schedules, purchasing new equipment, or reassigning a person to an open position, as long as it does not create an “undue hardship” for the employer.
Dave May  Continued From Page 1

May, a Hutchinson, Minn., resident, followed in his father’s footsteps and became a bricklayer apprentice in June 1959. He first worked for Miller and Miller Construction and in 1967 May joined Bor-Son Construction where he worked as a masonry foreman until he retired 35 years later. His brother was also a bricklayer and he, too, has since retired.

Today, May’s retirement looks considerably different from when it first began. “I bike 20-30 miles every day, except for Thursday, my day off,” he says. Although he practices alone, about three times every year he rides a 60- or 100-mile tour with a couple of friends, and on weekends he’ll complete a 50- to 70-mile ride with a local bike club. And has he experienced any health changes since he began biking? “My LDL cholesterol is down and my HDL is up.”

His passion for biking has also been a positive influence on his six grandchildren. He bikes the trails in Lake Rebecca County Park with his grandchildren who live in St. Michael, Minn. “My oldest who is seven, is an avid biker and loves to ride with me,” May says. “He wants to know if he can have my fast bike when he turns 10.”

May hadn’t wore a bike helmet at all until recently. “I worked for 35 years with a hard hat on. Why would I want to wear one when I retired?” he says. “But, yes, I do now. I went into the ditch this year. I hit a gravel road and tipped over and got skinned up. I didn’t hit my head, but I thought I’d better wear one because next time it might be worse, so I bought one.”

Not only doesn’t he let a heart attack or a fall get him off track, neither does he let winter. May snowmobiles during the snowy months, a sport he’s enjoyed since the late 1960’s. He also travels with his wife for a couple of weeks to Mexico to see the sights or they go on a cruise. Yet biking isn’t far away. He has an indoor trainer which came with a DVD so he can ride all year long, logging in 15 miles a day.

Earlier this year May rode from Hutchinson to his brother’s home in Alexandria, Minn., a 116-mile ride. It took about 7 ½ hours and his wife brought him water at various rest stops along the way. In early August, he participated in the Tour de Tonka with 2,900 other avid cyclists. He did the 65-mile tour nearly all in the rain. His helmet visor kept the rain off his glasses and in spite of the inclement weather, he was proud that he reached his goal of maintaining his average speed of 16 mph for the entire tour.

May, who turns 67 in October, says road biking is a great way to see the country. And a good mid-level, crossover bike will get you started. “You don’t have to buy the fancy road bikes, a $500 bike is sufficient, even the top models at Target are good bikes,” he says. The Web site MNTrails.com offers a great listing of biking trails along with a magazine packed with information. You can also find free brochures at rest stops throughout the state.

And does he miss working? “Well, the pension is good and I don’t miss getting up at 4 a.m. or 5 a.m. to get to work and I don’t miss the hot weather,” he says. Yet his advice to those still on the job: Have fun and enjoy what you do. And remember to wear your helmet; both on the job and on the road.

DeGray, 86, Makes Hole-In-One

On Sunday, August 8, Cy DeGray, 86, made a hole-in-one at the Falcon Ridge Golf Course in Stacy, Minn. He was on the third hole – 91 yards – using an eight iron. “I put it right in there and damn near jumped out of my shoes,” DeGray says. This was his first ever since he started playing golf at the age of 18. He caddied in the 1930’s when “everything was free back in those days.” His son-in-law who was with him at the time couldn’t believe DeGray’s shot and an onlooker offered to be a witness. “I golf in the summer, fish in the winter, and go to the doctor all year long. I’m 86. What the hell else is there left to accomplish. I’ve done it all!” He didn’t receive a certificate or plaque, but a call was made to the local newspaper.

DeGray says retirement is beautiful. The best thing the union ever did is when they started the pensions. He’s been a BAC Local I MN/ND union member since 1961 and retired in 1988.

2010 Journeyman Upgrade Schedules

OSHA 30 Night Classes will be held at the Training Center, 415 Minnehaa Avenue in St. Paul.
Every Wednesday for 3 weeks starting September 15, 2010 until November 3, 2010 at 4:00 PM

OSHA 30 Day Classes will be held at the Training Center, 415 Minnehaa Avenue in St. Paul.
October 11-15 7:30-3:30 PM
December 13-17 7:30-3:30 PM

Ariel Lift and Scissors Lift Certification
October 13 8:00-3:30 PM
FOR MN & ND BRICKLAYERS & ALLIED CRAFTWORKERS LOCAL 1 MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION

This is a summary of the annual report for the MN & ND Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Mutual Relief Association, (Employer Identification No. 41-0164670, Plan No. 501) for the period January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $463,780 as of December 31, 2009, compared to $473,581 as of January 1, 2009. During the plan year, the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of $9,801. This decrease includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year, or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the plan year, the plan had a total income of $46,266, including income from investments of $3,024 and employer contributions of $43,242. Plan expenses were $56,067. These expenses included $42,784 in benefits paid and $13,283 in other expenses.

Your Rights To Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. An accountant's report;
2. Financial information and information on payments to service providers;
3. Assets held for investments;
4. Transactions in excess of 5 percent of the plan assets.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of the Plan Sponsor: International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 1 MN/ND Plan Sponsor, 328 United Labor Center, 312 Central Ave., Minneapolis, MN, 55414 41-0164670 (Employer Identification Number) (612) 379-2966.

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. These portions of the report are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan: International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 1, 328 United Labor Center, 312 Central Ave., Minneapolis, MN, 55414 and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: Public Disclosure Room, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Suite N-1513, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees
James Lundquist
Michael Cook
Michael Hawthorne
Michael Ganz
Terry Wong
Oakdale, MN: 25-Year Members
Gold Card Party on July 15 at the Prom Center
Front row, left to right: James Geiger, Kenneth Becklin, Marvin Neuerburg, and Dale Hauble
Back row, left to right: Michael J. Cook, President; Steve Bailey, Regional Director; Henry Kramer, IU Secretary-Treasurer; Michael Hawthorne, Executive Vice President; Terry Wong, Vice President; and Michael Ganz, Vice President.

Oakdale, MN: 40-Year Members
Gold Card Party on July 15 at the Prom Center
Front row, left to right: Michael Hawthorne, Executive Vice President; Ronald (Dave) Christensen, Randall Fedder, and Herbert Mielke. Back row, left to right: Michael J. Cook, President; Steve Bailey, Regional Director; Henry Kramer, IU Secretary-Treasurer; Terry Wong, Vice President; and Michael Ganz, Vice President.
Oakdale, MN: 50-Year Members
Gold Card Party on July 15 at the Prom Center

Front row, left to right: Gerald Reardon, Joe Hofmann, Ray Huston, Norman Haedtke, Daniel Soltis, Herbert Fedder, and Gerald Remer. Back row, left to right: Michael J. Cook, President; Henry Kramer, IU Secretary-Treasurer; Steve Bailey, Regional Director; Terry Wong, Vice President; John Steinbring, Dean Wichman, Michael Hawthorne, Executive Vice President; and Michael Ganz, Vice President.

Golf Winners
Pheasant Acres
July 31, 2010

Winners of this year's BAC Local 1 MN/ND tournament at Pheasant Acres on July 31, 2010 were: Al Zutz, Jim Lundquist, Jim Westrum and Steve Carter. Retired President Jim Lundquist has spent the first few months of his retirement brushing up on his game.
Workplace Survivor Syndrome:
When You Are the One Left Behind

It’s one thing to read about layoffs in your local paper, it’s quite another to see a close colleague pack his kid’s pictures into a heavy box and hobble for the door.

You’ve been spared – for now, at least. But being lucky never felt so bad. Miserable is how most downsizing survivors would describe it – grinding through massive daily workloads while waiting anxiously for the other shoe to drop.

The Fallout

What your feeling is called “workplace survivor syndrome,” a term coined by organizational psychologists to describe the emotional, psychological and physical effects of employees who remain in the midst of company downsizing.

Is it real? Multiple studies suggest that job cuts are just as hard on the people left behind as they are on those who’ve been downsized. Many organizations report depression, plummeting productivity and poor morale among surviving staff.

“But Aren’t You Glad It Wasn’t You”?

A 2008 study by Leadership IQ reported that “guilt” was one of the top three words used by layoff survivors to describe their feelings.

It’s tough, there’s no question about it. Here are some strategies to help you cope:

• Resist the temptation to “avenge” lost coworkers. What’s done is done. Holding a grudge helps no one, least of all you.

• Cut yourself some slack. Do your best each day, but don’t burden yourself with the expection that it’s up to you to single handedly save the company.

• Allow yourself time to grieve. The emotional trauma of saying goodbye to long time coworkers is very similar to losing a loved one.

• Ask for clarification on how job cuts were chosen. Understanding the reasoning behind each decision can help alleviate the guilt of being spared.

• Use your company’s Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Most offer a wide range of free or discounted services that can help you get through a rough time. Be sure to ask about programs and materials geared specifically toward coping with layoffs.

If you have found yourself unemployed, you may want to consider contacting your local Work Force Center to learn about the variety of free job search resources that are available to you. www.mnwfc.org

Negotiations Update

As this newsletter was going to print, the Terrazzo Negotiations are still ongoing with the next meeting scheduled. The Southwestern, Western and Northwestern Minnesota Ceramic Tile Negotiations are starting, with a meeting scheduled. The Duluth Ceramic Tile Negotiations and the Rochester Ceramic Tile Negotiations are also still ongoing; however, no future meetings have been scheduled. The Marble Shop Negotiations have not yet started.
Bigelow Retires to a Slower Pace

By Patricia Johnson

Olene Bigelow, director of market development and technical services for the International Masonry Institute (IMI), may have officially retired on July 30, but according to her, she will never truly retire. She’s simply changing focus, cutting back and slowing down.

This small town girl was born and raised in Oberon, North Dakota, a “one horse town and farming community” as she calls it. She later moved to Saint Peter, Minn., to attend Gustavus Adolphus College where she earned a bachelor’s degree in music education. “Like a lot of young people, I escaped from the prairie and never went back,” Bigelow says.

In fact, that’s not all she left behind. After teaching private voice and piano lessons, her music major took a back seat when she took a position at the American Institute of Architects (AIA) of Minn. “I like to tell people I’m in this business under false pretenses. This (AIA) is where I was baptized into the construction industry. It really gets in your blood.”

A vocational aptitude test later substantiated that her newfound interest was a natural fit when she scored high in the areas of artistic and mechanical; a natural passion that would allow her to work well with architects and satisfy her curiosity on the how’s of building construction.

The basic link, she says, is the marketing communications she had done along the way including a stint working for a city and managing her own marketing communications business for seven years. “I did the same thing but it was for members of the design and construction industry and then when the IMI came calling, it was a pretty easy leap from there, from having my own business to working for the masonry institute.” And still she was able to draw further back to her educational years since so much of the technical services and marketing communications was education.

It was in 1989, when Bigelow landed this new job for the then Minnesota Masonry Institute (MMI), one of approximately 150 local organizations around the country designed to promote masonry. Nine years later, in 1998, MMI merged with IMI, a move that would take advantage of a nationwide knowledge base to benefit union craftworkers and contractors locally in all the trowel trades. With the merger, the primary focus became one of influencing individual projects in favor of masonry by working with building owners and architects, engineers, contractors and others.

Bigelow stayed with the organization throughout the merger and beyond until her retirement this year. “I was

Continued on Page 10

Wickstrom is New Director at IMI

On September 1, Mark Wickstrom, BAC Local 1 MN/ND member and former apprenticeship coordinator, will become the new Director of Market Development and Technical Services for the International Masonry Institute (IMI), vacated by Olene Bigelow on July 30. Wickstrom has worked with IMI in different capacities and at times traveled to Europe. Both he and Bigelow have worked together with the apprenticeship and the University of Minnesota Masonry Workshop as well as many other programs.

“Mark will do a stellar job for the BAC because he comes from the field. He has the passion that is necessary. He’s a perfect fit; absolutely the perfect choice for this job,” Bigelow says.

“Olene’s made some wonderful connections with the architectural community and the industry in general; some pretty big shoes to step into,” Wickstrom says. “I’m going to try to do the best job I can and give it my full energy.”

The IMI Minnesota office covers all areas of BAC Local 1 MN/ND. It also handles technical questions from a broader geographic area that includes South Dakota, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas. IMI’s marketing focus is to influence jobs in favor of union masonry. To accomplish that, its staff of construction professionals work as a team, drawing on one another’s expertise, to develop tools to most effectively get the job done for all the crafts, brick, block, stone, tile, marble, terrazzo, restoration and, in many areas, plaster and cement.

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

Continued From Page 9

a bridge between the two organizations so essential I have been doing the same job for 21 years; the last 12 years under the IMI umbrella,” she says.

After college, she married Larry, her semi-retired husband of 45 years, and raised two daughters in the Minneapolis suburbs of St. Louis Park and Plymouth. She and her husband currently reside in Maple Grove, Minn.

Today, Bigelow has changed her focus back to her love of reading, container gardening and music. She hasn’t sat down at the keys in a long while, but it’s on her agenda. Bigelow loves murder mysteries and courtroom dramas and cites Sue Grafton and Michael Crichton novels as a couple of her favorite reads. She is also editing her mother’s novel. And sometime in the future Bigelow and her husband will visit her retired sister in New Mexico. And of course, spending much needed time with family is definitely on the to-do list.

“Working with IMI was more than a fulltime job especially for someone who felt as passionate as I did,” she says. “All of the people I worked for and with shared that same kind of passion. You can’t give 110 to 120 percent like I and many others did in eight hours a day. It’s impossible.”

She is also consulting on a part time basis, which allows her to cut back on invested time, but still provides her an outlet to continue nurturing her passion.

“The friends that I’ve made in the industry will be friends forever. I will miss working with them, but they’re friends I’ll always keep,” she says. The ability to work with people was the common denominator through Bigelow’s career and the common thread, the education. “Every day I was learning something, everyday I was teaching something, never a dull moment.”

Bigelow also expresses that the people that she worked with - the craftworkers, architects, engineers, owners, building inspectors, and building officials - were just a joy; being able to learn from and teach was very rewarding. “I will really miss working with the craft workers, doing the journey level upgrade classes like we did at the training center, and getting out and meeting them at the union meetings.”

BAC Local 1 MN/ND gave her a send off at the Metro Area Gold Card Luncheon on July 15 held at the Prom Center in Oakdale, Minn. Another special time that Bigelow is genuinely appreciative of.

Her final thoughts? Bigelow says that life is 10 percent what it is and 90 percent what you make it. Being able to enjoy what you do is as much attitude as anything else.

Bigelow admits that she hates boredom, something she thankfully never experienced while on the job and likely won’t in the future either. “Neither I or Larry will sit around and do nothing,” As she says, back then she had two speeds - fast and stop. Now after July 30, she simply added a third - slower - and with a different to-do list.

Olene, we wish you many long and happy and “slower” years ahead.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome our new members...

Lucas Ambuehl
Matthew Berry
Corey Brandvold
Shane Brekke
Andre Carpenter
Isidro Carrillo
Christopher Falck
Jeremy Fleck
Lorenzo Gonzalez
Luke Graham
Jesus Gutierrez
Jamie Johnson
Terry Leger
Richard Linder

Chad MacCloskey
Curt Maiborn
Salvador Navarro
Thomas Ness
Thomas Noye Jr
Leon Rixen
Adrian Sandoval
Michael Schwender
Mark Simonson
Craig Steffen
Bryan Taylor
Efrain Torres
Yates White Buffalo

DECEASED MEMBERS

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

#2 MN—Minneapolis
Peter Eisenzimmer
Gerald Jacobs
Duane Larson
Gerald Macki
Lavern Nelson
Anton Sturm

#3 MN—Duluth
Dale Nelson

#8 MN—Rochester-Faribault
Edward Meyer

Real Estate, Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning/Administration

Rosene, Haugrud & Staab, Chartered
PHONE: 651-227-6621 • FAX: 651-297-6642
EMAIL: Mail@rhstchd.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.
2010 CALENDAR

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. 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. Sept. 8, Dec. 8
Hibbing, Electricians Hall:
7 p.m. Nov. 10

Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd
St. Cloud Labor Home,
1903 4th St. N.: 7 p.m. Sept. 1,
Nov. 3, Dec. 1

Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault
Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall:
7 p.m. Sept. 13, Dec. 6
Faribault, VFW: 7 p.m. Nov. 1

Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm
Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club:
7 p.m. Sept. 2, Dec. 2
New Ulm, American Legion:
7 p.m. Nov. 4

Chapter 15-Bemidji & North Dakota
Bemidji, Elks Club: 5 p.m. Sept. 2,
Nov. 4, Dec. 2
Dickinson, St. Anthony Club: 8 p.m.
Dec. 17
Fargo, FM Labor Home: 7 p.m. Nov.
16 (meeting and Gold Card Dinner)
Grand Forks, N.D., E. Grand Forks
American Legion: 7 p.m. Nov. 15
(meeting and Gold Card Dinner)
Minot, VFW: 7 p.m. Sept. 23, Dec. 16

OTHER EVENTS

Retirees Club Breakfast Meetings
Jax Cafe, Minneapolis
9 a.m. 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. Oct. 1

Semiannual Meeting-All of
Minnesota & North Dakota
312 Central Ave., Minneapolis
10 a.m. Oct. 2

GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

Chapter 3-Duluth-Iron Range
Duluth area: Downtown Radisson,
6 p.m. Oct. 8
Iron Range: Valentini’s Supper Club,
Chisholm 6 p.m. Oct. 9

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SEPTEMBER 2010 • QUARTERLY UPDATE • 11
POLITICS
- Our Issues

By Shar Knutson, President of the Minnesota AFL-CIO

What's at Stake This November

It is a critical time for Minnesota. Like all states, we've been hit hard by the economic downturn. However, even before the credit market imploded, Minnesota was already becoming a shadow of the "good life" we saw on the cover of Time Magazine so many years ago.

We've been resting on our laurels. We have deferred needed investment in our state and now feel the consequences. We aren't growing jobs; our employment growth rate ranks an abysmal 39th in the nation. More Minnesotans are going without health insurance, meaning higher costs for everyone.

Our roads and bridges are literally falling apart. Every year, the state finds itself in a budget crisis. Finally, greater reliance on fees and shifts to local property taxes has meant the middle class now pay a higher share of their income in taxes than the rich do.

We must move our state in a better direction. We want a Minnesota where taxes are fair and properly invested. We want a Minnesota with public schools that are the envy of the nation. We want a Minnesota with a safe transportation infrastructure that actually helps business.

We want a Minnesota where everyone who wants to work, can earn a family sustaining wage.

If we want to make Minnesota great again, we need a governor who is committed to investing in our state again. Mark Dayton can be that Governor. That's why he has the endorsement of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, the state's largest labor federation.

Mark Dayton has a plan to get Minnesotans back to work. Mark will make taxes fair for middle class families again. He will work to make health care more affordable and available.

The choice is clear this November.