

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

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DECEMBER 2023

## Boeser's Humility and Focus Lead to a Successful Life

By Patricia Johnson



Howard Boeser recently received his 75-year BAC 1 member plaque.

Howard Boeser, 97-years-young, joined the Navy after leaving high school. The Richfield, MN, native served as a seaman 2nd class on the USS Cascade, a destroyer tender in the South Pacific for two and a half years before his discharge.

After his service in World War II, he married the love of his life, Patricia. Soon after he began his lifelong career first as a laborer then as a bricklayer with his one and only employer, Axel H. Ohman Concrete and Masonry in Minneapolis.

Boeser spent his decades working on “a lot of jobs” mostly in Minnesota; major Twin Cities’ projects included the Minneapolis Heart Institute, the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome, the IDS Center, and the former Metropolitan Stadium in Bloomington, once located on the current site of Mall of America.

In 1988, Boeser retired From BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD. He sold his co-ownership/partnership in Axel H. Ohman. After his retirement he played a major role in launching Bridging, a quality used furniture and household goods distribution organization for those in need, with its founder, his late brother-in-law Frank Heitzman. He continued

serving the community through volunteering at the Native American Community Clinic in Minneapolis and other construction projects.

Boeser and his wife enjoyed traveling coast-to-coast, including Alaska and Canada. They also wintered in Florida and enjoyed watching their family grow from four girls and three boys to 13 grandkids and 31 great-grandkids. Boeser sadly lost his wife of 69 years in 2016.

“Bricklaying is a great field to get into,” says Boeser as he grew his career from a laborer to co-ownership in the 96-year-old masonry business. Boeser is proof of his own advice, “75 percent of success is hard work.”

The very best to you, Howard, in your retirement years.



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➡ **Election Results are in** See page 8 ⬅

**REMINDER: All Chapters Holiday Party**  
**December 11, 7 p.m.**  
Delta Hotel, 1330 Industrial Blvd., NE Mpls. 55413

# Duluth Golf Tournament Winners



We had another great day of golf at Grand View Golf Links on September 9. Our winners are shown below.



**1st Place Team Winners**  
Pat Kackman and Bill Kero



**2nd Place Team Winners**  
Dana Hanson and Dan Olson



**Last Place Winner**  
John Asproth

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Doug Schroeder,  
President/  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Posting for Business Agent Position

As we start 2024, we would like to share that Randy Carlson is planning to retire and BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD will be looking to fill his position of Business Representative for the North Dakota area.

Applicants should have a good understanding of BAC's jurisdictional coverage and be a union advocate with the ability to work evenings and weekends. Reliable transportation is

necessary, and applicants must be comfortable with air travel and being away from home for extended periods of time.

In addition, the following abilities are recommended:

- Good communication skills
- Light computer skills
- Detailed note-taking skills
- Strong organizational skills
- Task-oriented
- Self-motivated
- Safety-focused

Interested parties should send their resumes to [info@bac1mn-nd.org](mailto:info@bac1mn-nd.org).



## Randy Carlson Retires

Thank you, Randy, for your many years of service and dedication to BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD and its members. Your retirement is well deserved. We wish you a long, wonderful retirement.

One final thought. Happy Holidays to the entire membership and their families. I and the staff at BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD thank you for your hard work and the support you extend to make our union one we are proud of. As the oldest operating union in North America, founded in 1865, please know that each of you are a vital part of our union's past, present, and future. Let's continue together to grow its rich history well into 2024.

## BAC Local 1 is Looking for Volunteers to Join the Organizing Committee

The organizing committee is made up of members and union representatives who meet quarterly with the goal to brainstorm ideas on how to recruit new members and represent BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD.

The committee acts as advisors to the management committee, where these suggestions are discussed and implemented.

To join, contact the BAC Local 1 office at [info@bac1mn-nd.org](mailto:info@bac1mn-nd.org) or call 612-379-2966 and ask for Jeremy Olson.

When you join, there will be mandatory COMET and stewardship training to be held on Saturdays during the 2023-2024 winter season. A training schedule will be determined once the committee is established.

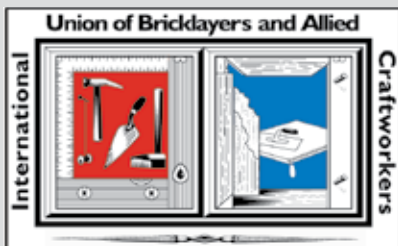
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**BAC LOCAL 1: 612-379-2966 BAC INTERNATIONAL UNION: 1-888-880-8222**

**GENERAL INFORMATION: BAC1MN-ND.org**

**APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING: BACtraining.org or phone 763-404-8345**

**BENEFITS: Check the Zenith American Solutions website: [zenith-american.com](http://zenith-american.com)**

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

# Industry-Recognized ACT Program Empowers Tile Installers with Comprehensive Certifications

*By Rebecca Nohava, Recruiter and Creative Logistics*

In the ever-evolving world of tile installation, a game-changer has emerged: the Advanced Certifications for Tile Installers (ACT). This groundbreaking initiative has swiftly become an industry standard, bolstering the skills and expertise of tile installers in seven key areas. From grouts to gauged porcelain tile and panels, ACT certifications have rapidly become a hallmark of quality in the field.

## Quality Assurance for Architects, Builders, and Manufacturers

At its core, the ACT program serves as a warranty of excellence to architects, builders, and manufacturers. When a project specifies ACT-certified installers, it guarantees that these professionals possess both the technical knowledge and the craftsmanship required for enduring, top-notch installations. This assurance fosters trust and peace of mind among stakeholders, ensuring that installations are built to last a lifetime.



## A Place in the TCNA Handbook

What sets the ACT program apart is its universal recognition and industry-wide support. Developed through the collaborative efforts of esteemed leaders in the tile and stone sector, ACT certifications have earned a coveted place in the Tile Council of North America (TCNA) Handbook's "Qualified Labor" section. Architects and designers are now encouraged to directly reference these certifications when drafting specifications, making it easier for them to ensure the highest level of expertise in their projects.

## Why Pursue ACT Certifications?

For tile workers pondering the relevance of ACT certifications, a proactive approach is critical. Even if you haven't yet encountered these certifications in your career, preemptively acquiring them can unlock opportunities. When projects mandate ACT specifications, the impact goes beyond personal skill development; it extends to the broader industry.



## Empowering the Union and Signatory Contractors

ACT certifications empower unions to ensure signatory contractors secure relevant projects. These certifications act as a competitive edge, giving contractors an upper hand in bidding for jobs that demand the highest level of expertise. In this competitive landscape, having ACT-certified installers can make all the difference in the awarding of contracts.



## A Glimpse into the Future

Recently, we completed the ACT gauged porcelain training with several journey-worker tile setters. The future promises more opportunities for tile installers looking to excel in the industry. If you're eager to stay ahead of the curve and stand out in your field, don't miss the chance to engage in future ACT training opportunities.

For more information on ACT certifications and upcoming training sessions, please contact John Slama. Your journey toward excellence in tile installation begins here. Don't miss out on the chance to set new standards of quality in the industry with ACT.

## Upcoming Upgrades at the Training Center

Metro CPR/First Aid – Dec. 27, 2023, 1-7 pm

OSHA 30 – Jan. 8-11, 2024, 7 am-3:30 pm

Mentorship Matters: Six Steps to Mentoring – Jan. 12, 2024, 7 am-3 pm

Duluth CPR/First Aid – March 18, 2024 – 7 am

Register for journeyworker upgrades at [www.bactraining.org](http://www.bactraining.org) or call/text John Slama 651-272-9910.



# MEMBER RECOGNITION



## **Duluth Gold Card Dinner: 25-Year Members**

(L-R) President/Secretary-Treasurer Doug Schroeder, 25-year members Nathan Toupal and James Richards, and Vice President/Business Representative Stan Paczynski



## **Hibbing Gold Card Dinner, MN: 40-Year Member**

(L-R) President/Secretary-Treasurer Doug Schroeder, 40-year member John Smith and Vice President/Business Representative Stan Paczynski

# Inaugural Ribfest Builds Beneficial Partnerships



Minnesota National Guard Photo Journalist Staff Sgt Mahsima Alkamooneh

Congratulations to the Red Bull team on their 2nd place Chicken Champion win on Saturday, Sept. 16, at the inaugural Ribfest. The event was hosted by the Minnesota Building Trades Beyond the Yellow Ribbon outside the Gen. John W. Vessey Readiness Center in Arden Hills, MN.

“We just want to thank everybody for coming out and supporting us,” said one of the team members. “We were the only Army team that was here.”

“We value our partnership with the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council,” said Army Maj. Gen. Charles Kemper, the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division’s Commander. “They are tremendous supporters of our service members and their families.”

The council became a Yellow Ribbon Company in July 2022 and comprises fifteen construction trade unions representing more than 70,000 construction workers.

“Our relationship with the Minnesota National Guard is strategic, and we see it as a benefit to both organizations,” said Joe Fowler, Minnesota Building Trades Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Committee Member. “We want to give back and recognize those who keep us safe. Minnesota Guard members make good apprentices for the construction trades. They show up on time, do what is asked of them, give a fair day’s work for a fair day’s pay, and they do not shy away from hard work.”



The Minnesota National Guard’s Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Shawn Manke addresses the crowd at the Ribfest. Gov. Tim Walz was also in attendance (third from the left).



# Election Results



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## ***Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 MN/ND/SD***

Pursuant to a letter of agreement dated October 12, 2023, signed by Douglas Schroeder on behalf of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 MN/ND/SD, hereinafter referred to as “Local 1”, the American Arbitration Association hereinafter referred to as the “Administrator”, agreed to conduct an Election of Officers.

One Thousand Two Hundred Sixty (1,260) General ballot packets and One Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Six (1,496) Metro Area ballot packets were mailed to eligible voters on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. Three Hundred Thirty-One (331) Metro Area ballot packets were mailed to eligible voters on Wednesday, October 24, 2023. Local 1 provided the Administrator with a list of persons who were eligible to vote

The deadline to receive ballots was set for Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 9:00 AM. The Administrator received One Hundred Forty-Seven (147) General ballot packets and Two Hundred Ninety (290) Metro Area ballot packets prior to the reception deadline. Twenty-Eight (28) General envelopes were set aside because the voter was a member of the Metro Area voter list and not the General voter list (*Due to a discrepancy on the voter list, General ballots were initially mailed to certain voters who belonged to the Metro Area list. Metro area ballots were subsequently mailed to these voters*).

The tabulation of results took place after 10:00 AM on Thursday, November 16, 2023. The secrecy of the votes was maintained at all times. The results are certified to be as follows:

<b><u>Executive Vice President</u></b>	
JOSEPH VANEK	227
MATTHEW HOPKINS SR	178
BLANKS/VOIDS	4

<b><u>Chairman of Chapter #1 Metro Area</u></b>	
JESSE STONEHOUSE	103
SPENSER DOWD	99
MATTHEW HOPKINS SR	84
BLANKS/VOIDS	4

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hiroyuki Kawahara".

Hiroyuki Kawahara  
Director of Elections  
Dated: November 16, 2023





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## POST-9/11 VETERAN SERVICE BONUS AVAILABLE

The 2022 Legislature passed and Governor Walz signed the first-ever Veterans Omnibus Bill that included funding for a service bonus payable to eligible Veterans who served from 9/11/01 to 8/30/21. The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) is honored to facilitate this program for eligible Veterans, currently serving service members or Veterans' beneficiaries.

**WHEN:** The application period began on July 7, 2022. The last day to apply is June 30, 2024, unless the funds have been exhausted before then.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE:** Veterans, currently serving service members, Veterans' beneficiaries, or Veterans' guardians, conservators or legally appointed personal representatives. Veterans in Minnesota are defined under Minnesota statute 197.447. Visit the website for more details.

**AMOUNT:** There are three tiers of the Post-9/11 Veteran Service Bonus: \$600, \$1,200 and \$2,000. Visit the website for more details.

**HOW TO APPLY:** The online application is located at [VetServiceBonus.mdva.mn.gov](http://VetServiceBonus.mdva.mn.gov).



For more information or to apply, visit: [MinnesotaVeteran.org/ServiceBonus](http://MinnesotaVeteran.org/ServiceBonus)

For additional questions contact your local County Veterans Service Officer at [MACVSO.org](http://MACVSO.org) or call LinkVet at **1-888-LinkVet**.



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## Retired Members

BAC Local 1 members who have retired in 2023. We are grateful for your dedication to work and we wish you a great future!

Philip Gould  
Robert Hartman  
Richard Hirsch  
Brian Irvin

Kenneth Reis  
Craig Thumstedter  
Robert Wagner



## New Members

Jason Allord  
Fahad Cabdi  
Kolton Heisler  
Kosal Keo  
Jonathan Kubat

Roman Neria  
Carter Reins  
Joseph Schwartz  
Andre Scott  
Eric Smiley



## Deceased Members

**#1 MN - St. Paul**  
Andrew Ostertag

**#3 MN -Duluth/Hibbing**  
Randy Gaskell

**#1 ND - Fargo**  
Brett Larson

**#4 ND - Bismarck**  
Rod Belgarde

**#1 SD - Sioux Falls**  
Allen Aaberg  
Toby Faehnrich

**#8 MN -Rochester**  
Jerome Mullenbach

**#2 MN - Mpls**  
William Baert

**#10 MN - Faribault**  
Charles Tanner

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## Allocation reminders

Local wide allocations will take place on Jan. 6, 2024, at 312 Central Ave SE, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55414, second floor meeting rooms. All chapter allocations can be found on our website calendar and in the calendars mailed out to all members.

# 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Chapter 1-Fargo, ND

Dilworth Hi Ho Tavern: 5:30 p.m. Dec. 5

## Chapter 1-Sioux Falls, SD

101 S. Fairfax Ave., Sioux Falls Labor Temple: 6 p.m. Dec. 12

## Chapter 2-Yankton, SD

Alexandria RJ's Sports Bar: 7 p.m. Dec. 8

## Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range, MN

Duluth Labor Center: 5 p.m. Dec. 13

## Chapter 3-Grand Forks, ND

E. Grand Forks American Legion: 7 p.m. Dec. 4

## Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd, MN

Brainerd American Legion: 7 p.m. Dec. 7

## Chapter 4-Rapid City, SD

Rapid City Labor Temple: 6 p.m. Dec. 1

## Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault, MN

Rochester, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Dec. 4

## Chapter 11-Mankato, MN

Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Dec. 7

## Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Bemidji, Eagles Club: 5 p.m. Dec. 14

## OTHER EVENTS

### All Chapters Holiday Party

Delta Hotels, 1330 Industrial Blvd., NE Mpls.: 7 p.m., Dec. 11

## Metro Retirees' Breakfast

Jax Cafe 1928 University Ave. NE: 9 a.m., Dec. 7

**Duluth area Retirees' coffee meetings** The Chalet Lounge: Duluth 9:30 a.m., First Wednesday of each month

## Iron Range Retirees' coffee meetings

Sportsman's Cafe: 9 a.m., Hibbing Third Monday of each month

## St. Cloud Retirees' coffee meetings

Brigitte's Café: 9:30 a.m., Third Tuesday of each month

# 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Chapter 1-Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN

312 Central Avenue SE, Mpls - 4:30 p.m. Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 11

## Chapter 1-Fargo, ND

Dilworth Hi Ho Tavern: 5:30 p.m. Jan. 23

## Chapter 1-Sioux Falls, SD

Sioux Falls Labor Temple: 6 p.m. Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 12

## Chapter 2-Minot, ND

Minot VFW: 7 p.m. Mar. 1

## Chapter 2-Yankton, SD

Yankton VFW: 7 p.m. Jan. 12  
Alexandria RJ's Sports Bar: 7 p.m. Feb. 9

## Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range, MN

Duluth Labor Center: 5 p.m. Jan. 10, Mar. 13  
Valentini's, Chisholm: 6 p.m. Feb. 14

## Chapter 3-Grand Forks, ND

E. Grand Forks American Legion: 7 p.m. Jan. 22

## Chapter 3-Aberdeen, SD

Central Labor Union: 7 p.m. Jan. 15, Mar. 18

## Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd, MN

Brainerd American Legion: 7 p.m. Feb. 1

## Chapter 4-Rapid City, SD

Rapid City Labor Temple: 6 p.m. Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 1

## Chapter 6-Springfield/New Ulm, MN

New Ulm American Legion: 7 p.m. Apr. 4

## Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault, MN

Rochester, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Jan. 8, Mar. 4

## Chapter 11-Mankato, MN

Mankato Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Jan. 4, Feb. 4, Mar. 7

## Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Bemidji, Eagles Club: 5 p.m. Jan. 11, Mar. 14  
Ashby American Legion: 7 p.m. Feb. 8

## GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

## Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd, MN

St. Cloud Eagles Club: 6 p.m. Apr. 6

## Chapter 11-Mankato, MN

Mankato Eagles Club: 6 p.m. Apr. 26

## Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Bemidji, Eagles Club: 6 p.m. Apr. 19

## Chapter 1-Fargo, ND

TBD: 6 p.m. Mar. 19

## Chapter 2-Minot, ND

Badlands Restaurant: 5:30 p.m. Feb. 19

## Chapter 3-Grand Forks, ND

Speedway Restaurant: 6 p.m. Mar. 18

## Chapter 4-Bismarck, ND

TBD: 6 p.m. Feb. 20

## OTHER EVENTS

### All Chapters Wage Allocation

312 Central Avenue SE, Mpls - 9 a.m. Jan. 6

### Metro area Retirees' coffee meetings

Jax Cafe 1928 University Ave. NE: 9 a.m., Mar. 28

### Duluth area Retirees' coffee meetings

The Chalet Lounge: Duluth 9:30 a.m., First Wednesday of each month: Jan. 3, Feb. 7, Mar. 6, Apr. 3

### St. Cloud Retirees' coffee meetings

Brigitte's Café: 9:30 a.m., Third Tuesday of each month: Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Mar. 19

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

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

7 Corners Printing  
to add current  
mailing indicia  
and Permit #

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

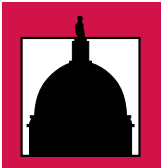
Postmaster: Send address corrections to Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota/South Dakota, 312 Central Avenue, Suite 328, Minneapolis, MN. 55414.

President.....Doug Schroeder

Editor.....Patricia Johnson

Design & Production.....Peggy Zetah

## GOVERNMENT POLITICS: OUR ISSUES



### POLITICS - Our Issues

#### 2023 Records Historic Gains; Continue the Pace in 2024

By Bernie Burnham  
MN AFL-CIO President

As of this writing, the snow has held off for most of the state, but we all know that Minnesota's signature winter weather will soon be on the way. It also means the new year will soon be upon us, filled with another legislative session and vital elections for President, U.S. House and Senate, State House, and local offices. These events will impact Minnesotans in multiple ways, but especially our jobs.

2023 was a year with historic gains for working people at the State Capitol. Our elected leaders listened to thousands of union volunteers who knocked on doors in 2022, showed up to vote for labor-endorsed candidates, and continued to show up at the Capitol this year to enact the most pro-worker policy agendas Minnesotans have seen in more than a generation.

DFL lawmakers and Governor Walz passed sweeping legislation to improve

the lives and livelihoods of Minnesota's Building Trades workers. They passed legislation to ensure construction projects with even the smallest of public involvement, pay tradespeople prevailing wage, which increase the number of union jobs. They invested in nearly \$2 billion into infrastructure projects that, combined with matching funds from President Biden's infrastructure bill, will keep union construction workers busy for many years to come. Along with new investments, DFL lawmakers and Governor Walz strengthened our state's wage theft law to hold contractors accountable for subcontractors that fail to pay workers what they are owed.

This year we learned once again that it matters who we vote for. We learned that when we elect enough labor-endorsed candidates, good things happen for working people.

In 2024, the two major decisions we face will be whether to re-elect President Biden



and whether to keep the pro-Labor DFL majority in the Minnesota House. I know it's early, but it gives us an opportunity to really do the research to see what these leaders have done for working people and whether their opponents are making legitimate criticisms or just blowing hot air designed to divide us.

I encourage you to visit [www.mnafflcio.org](http://www.mnafflcio.org) to check out a soon-to-be-released legislative report to learn how your representative voted on the issues that matter to working people in every corner of our state.

