

QUARTERLY UPDATE

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SEPTEMBER 2020

Tom Steinmetz Awarded Veterans of Foreign Wars Emergency Medical Technician of the Year



The VFW State Safety Committee selected Tom Steinmetz as the 2020 EMT award winner.

Although many applicants were very deserving of this prestigious award, the committee found his resume and background information to be outstanding and therefore has named him Emergency Technician Safety Award recipient.

Being a member of the Browerville Volunteer Ambulance and assistant director since 2012, his award also recognized his other activities. Being on the Browerville Veterans Board for six years, a member of the American Legion since 1967, Browerville School Board 1982-2002, Freshwater Board of Education 1988-2000 and Long Prairie Centra Care Health operating committee 2009-2018. All of his listed experience came after his honorable active duty in United States Army 1965-1967.

Being married in 1969 to his very nice wife Ramona and having three children along with working 50 years with the International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, it's quite obvious he is a busy man. He is on the sidelines at every home Tigers football game so the players have an EMT present. Being a member of the honor guard at all military funerals and color guard to bring in the flags for the anthem at high school events and parades.

Given the current COVID-19 crisis situation, the exact date of presentation has not been identified at this time. The Department of Minnesota VFW may consider presenting the award during the fall conference Sept. 25, 2020, in St. Cloud.

The Browerville VFW Post 8391 and auxiliary submitted Mr. Steinmetz for this award.



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Golf Update

This year's Duluth golf tournament scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020, has been canceled due to COVID-19.

Quick Links for Unemployment

You will also find these links and additional information on our website at <https://www.bac1mn-nd.org>

Minnesota - <https://www.uimn.org/applicants/needtoknow/news-updates/covid-19.jsp>

North Dakota - <https://www.jobsnd.com/unemployment-individuals/file-claim>

South Dakota - <https://dlr.sd.gov/ra/individuals/default.aspx>

DEALING WITH THE UNCERTAINTY

Remember that we have normal reactions to abnormal situations.

IT IS ABSOLUTELY NORMAL...

...to have worries, fears, confusion, anger, and other emotions in response to the recent death of George Floyd, the events that have unfolded as a result, and the ongoing unknown threat of the COVID-19 global pandemic.

BE KIND TO YOURSELF AND THOSE YOU CARE ABOUT BY:

1. Giving yourself permission to identify, acknowledge and accept feelings.
2. Recognizing that we, as human beings, are resilient and have been through other challenging situations in our lives.
3. Owning your own feelings and then connecting them to actions to make them feel manageable. Focus on your strengths. Focus on the areas within your control.

It's okay to accept help from others

and take opportunities to pay it forward in the future. Use any community programs and resources available in the moment.

TIPS TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR PHYSICAL NEEDS

To manage physical responses to uncertainty, such as changes in sleep & appetite, muscle tension, headaches, increased heart rate and upset stomach, practice good self-care by eating healthy food, exercising and getting enough rest. **Regarding COVID-19**, Continue to adhere to the recommended guidelines in an effort to keep yourself and others healthy.

AND YOUR EMOTIONAL/MENTAL HEALTH

To decrease heightened levels of stress & anxiety, limit the amount of time spent viewing media coverage. Talk to your support system about your emotions, seek out comfortable, familiar surroundings and avoid too much time alone.

It's not uncommon for reactions from past traumas to re-emerge so be sure to give yourself time to recover. Difficulties with concentration and memory, changes in sleep patterns, nightmares, flashbacks and "hypervigilance" may be experienced and will diminish over time. Seek help from a counselor to process your reactions, meditate and/or relax.

Together We Can and Will Get through This Uncertain Time

As an organization and as affected community members ourselves, we at TEAM acknowledge these turbulent times and offer our support and services.

Counselors are available 24/7 by phone. Scheduled telehealth sessions are also available



800.634.7710
team-mn.com

Cautiously Moving Ahead



Doug Schroeder,
President/
Secretary-Treasurer

While America was dealing with the coronavirus, the vibrant economy plummeted at incredible speed.

According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, the longest economic expansion in U.S. history ended abruptly and the country fell into a recession. Experts say that the recession may be short lived but given the severity of the economic slump the long-term effects may be felt for several years. Some economists are indicating that the strong economy may not return to

pre-recession levels until 2022.

The construction industry is a major contributor to the U.S. economy with 680,000 employers nationwide and builds nearly \$1.3 trillion worth of structures each year. Currently we have a national construction unemployment rate of 16.6% compared to the February 2020 rate of just 5.5%.

State government is struggling to come up with a bonding bill that would give us hope of work in the pipeline for the coming months while big government is struggling with a second round of stimulus checks.

Metro Chapter Meeting

It has been a long four months since we have been able to meet in person for our metro chapter meetings. I am happy to say that we have started them back up with our August meeting. Some if not all of the out-state meetings have commenced as those area facilities have been reopened to allow meetings of those group sizes.

The metro meeting will be taking place at the St Paul Labor Temple at 353 7th Street, St Paul, MN. The facility is allowing up to 25 people in attendance. We kindly ask that you RSVP by calling or emailing the hall at 612-379-2966 or info@bac1mn-nd.org. If we meet capacity, we will let the membership know when they call in or email.

As to the meetings, we need to be aware of the state mandate to socially distance and to wear a mask during these meetings. We will have masks and sanitizer available.

As it has been a while since our last metro chapter meeting, we will be going over the financials for all months that were missed.

Local and Chapter Elections

BAC Local 1 will be holding their local and chapter officers elections this year. Chapter elections will be taking place in the months of September and October around Minnesota, North and South Dakota. See page 4 for the letter that was sent out to the membership in August.

Along with elections we will be voting on the revised constitution. This information was also included in a letter to the membership. See page 4 for a copy of the letter.

The draft constitution can be viewed on our website or you can request a copy to be mailed to your home address.

State and Presidential Elections

I hope that you all are exercising your right to vote in the upcoming elections. We are one of the states that allows for voting by mail. The process is quick and easy, and you can vote in all state-run elections this way. For more information on how to register for voting by mail, <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail/>

For information on labor endorsed candidates please check out the AFL-CIO website at: <https://www.mnaflcio.org/>

COVID Update

We are all living in a different world these days and it does not look like things will be changing much anytime soon. The local has taken steps to make sure that we have the operating budget to keep services to our members in good shape.

We are monitoring the monthly income losses and making decisions that will help the local save monies. We have implemented a one-week layoff per month for each business agent. We have also reduced the pay of the President/Secretary Treasurer and the Executive Vice President. Office staff has remained unchanged as the daily business operations have not changed during this time.

Our office is open and has remained open during the COVID pandemic. We do ask that if you do come into the office that you comply with the building requirements as it relates to face masks and social distancing.

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

Local Union 1 Minnesota/North Dakota/South Dakota



312 Central Avenue SE
Suite 328
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414

"Building for the Future"

Douglas B. Schroeder
President/Secretary-Treasurer

Telephone: (612) 379-2966
Fax: (612) 379-8754
Website: www.bac1mn-nd.org

Notice of Nominations and Election for Local and Chapter Officers

August 10, 2020

To: BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD Membership

Dear Brother/Sister,

This letter is to inform you that there will be a Special Order of Business at the upcoming Local and Chapter meetings to accept nominations for all Local and Chapter officers. Nominations for Local Union officers will be accepted at the regularly scheduled semiannual meeting on:

Saturday, October 10, 2020, 353 West 7th Street, St. Paul, Minnesota, 9 a.m.

Nominations will be accepted for the following Local Union officers: President/Secretary-Treasurer, Executive Vice President, and three Vice Presidents. Terms of office are three (3) years beginning on the first day of December. Every officer will be a delegate to the Conventions and General Board Meetings of the International Union by virtue of their office.

The Chapter meetings at which nominations for Chapter officers are to be accepted are scheduled as follows:

- Chapter #4MN** – Central Minnesota – Thursday, Sept. 3, 2020
Brainerd American Legion, 708 Front Street, Brainerd, Minnesota, 7 p.m.
- Chapter #11MN** – Southwest Minnesota – Thursday, Sept. 3, 2020
Mankato Eagle's Club, 708 North Riverfront Drive Mankato, Minnesota, 7 p.m.
- Chapter #4SD**– Rapid City – Friday, Sept. 04, 2020
Rapid City Labor Temple, 922 E. St. Patrick Street, Rapid City, South Dakota, 6 p.m.
- Chapter #1SD**– Sioux Falls – Tuesday, Sept.8, 2020
Sioux Falls Labor Temple, 101 S. Fairfax Ave., Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 6 p.m.
- Chapter #3MN** – Northeast Minnesota – Wednesday, Sept.9, 2020
Duluth Labor Center, 2002 London Road, Basement Hall, Duluth, Minnesota, 5 p.m.
- Chapter #15MN** – Northwest Minnesota and North Dakota, Thursday, Sept. 10, 2020
Bemidji Elks Club, 116 4th Street NW, Bemidji, Minnesota, 5 p.m.
- Chapter #2SD**– Yankton – Friday, Sept.11, 2020
Yankton VFW 209 Cedar Terrace, Yankton, South Dakota, 6 p.m.
- Chapter #1MN** – Metro Area – Monday, Sept. 14, 2020
St. Paul Labor Temple, 353 West 7th Street St. Paul, Minnesota, 4:30 p.m.
- Chapter #8MN** – Southeast Minnesota – Monday, Sept. 14, 2020
Watertown VFW, Rochester, Minnesota, 7 p.m.
- Chapter #5SD** – Watertown – Monday, Sept. 21, 2020
Watertown VFW, 808 S Broadway, Watertown, South Dakota, 7 p.m.
- Chapter #3SD** – Aberdeen – Monday, Sept. 21, 2020
Aberdeen Central Labor Union, 617 S. 15th Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 7 p.m.
- Chapter #15ND** – Fargo– Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020
Dilworth Hi Ho Tavern, 10 Center Ave E, Dilworth, Minnesota, 5:30 p.m.
- Chapter #3ND** – Grand Forks– Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020
East Grand Forks American Legion, 1009 Central Ave, East Grand Forks, Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Nominations will be accepted for the following Chapter officers: Chairman, Recording Secretary, Sergeant-At-Arms, and two (2) negotiating committee representatives. Terms of office are three (3) years beginning on the first day of December. Each negotiating committee shall include two (2) representatives from the chapter or chapters covered by the agreement or wage and fringe benefit schedule being negotiated. Here is your chance to get involved and be part of the negotiating team.

Nominations for both Local Union and Chapter officers will be accepted from the floor from members in good standing. Written nominations will also be accepted by mail or fax if delivered to Election Committee at the Local Union office located at 312 Central Avenue SE, Suite 328, Minneapolis, MN 55414 or faxed to 612-379-8754, no later than 5 p.m. on the day the meeting is scheduled to be held. (A member intending to nominate a fellow member who will not be present at the nomination meeting should arrange to have the nominee send a timely written acceptance by fax or by mail to the fax number or mailing address provided above by 5 p.m. on the day of the meeting.)

The qualifications for any elected office are described below.

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.

Election

If an election is necessary, it shall be conducted by mail referendum. In such case, the ballots will be mailed out no later than October 16, 2020 and must be returned so that they are received at the post office box designated on the return mailing envelope no later than 5:00 PM on November 13, 2020.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Election Committee at 612-379-2966.

MNDLI Recovers Nearly \$320,000 for Workers at Digi-Key Expansion

On June 17, 2020, MNDLI announced nearly \$320,000 in back wages paid to 70 workers for Millennium Concrete on the massive Digi-Key expansion project in Thief River Falls. Millennium is from Coralville, Iowa, and substantially underbid several local contractors in order to win the contract. We now know that Millennium tried to gain an unfair advantage at the expense of its employees by misclassifying the work they performed in order to pay the lowest possible prevailing wages. Prevailing wage requirements ensure fair market competition in the public construction industry, and protect local contractors, workers, and communities from non-local contractors who import lower wages and weaker labor standards.

Through a coordinated investigation by the Fair Contracting Foundation, the Northwest Building Trades Council, and the Central Minnesota Building Trades Council, these violations were uncovered and a complaint was filed with the Minnesota Dept. of Labor and Industry (MNDLI), led by Nancy Leppink. Under her leadership, the agency exercised its full authority to ensure that Millennium was held accountable for their misdeeds.

Thanks to the efforts of everyone involved, this investigation led to the single largest prevailing wage recovery in state history. Nancy's leadership at MNDLI and tireless advocacy for workers in Minnesota will be sorely missed.

ELECTIONS

Notice of Referendum Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #1 MN/ND/SD Constitution, Rules of Order and Codes

Members,

It has been many years since we last updated Local 1's constitution. Since then, much has changed—including a merger and change to our Local's geographic jurisdiction—necessitating an update to our governing documents. In order to incorporate these changes and place our Union on secure footing for years to come, following input from the membership and feedback from the IU, we have prepared a draft constitution for your approval. This letter is to provide you with notice that an approval vote is to be taken on the new proposed constitution.

The changes we have made in the document are shown in a blue highlight so as to easily identify our suggestions. The draft constitution will be available on the website for your review. If you would like a mailed hard copy, we ask that you please notify the local for one to be sent to your home address.

Included on this year's election of officer's ballot will be a request for you to approve the proposed changes to the constitution. If an election of officers is not necessary, then the only item on the ballot will be for the acceptance of the constitution as drafted.

Please review the draft constitution before voting. Ballots will be mailed no later than October 16, 2020 and should be returned by November 13, 2020.

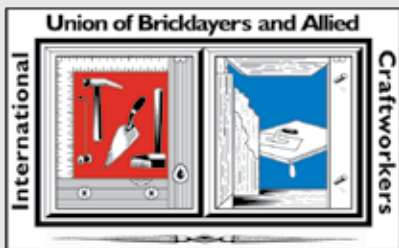
If accepted, the constitution will be printed and mailed to your last known address. If you have changed your address, please contact the office and we will make the necessary changes to update that information.

We thank you for your time and patience in this process.

Respectfully,

On behalf of the Management and Executive Committees of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
Local #1 MN/ND/SD

Douglas B. Schroeder



BAC LOCAL 1: 612-379-2966 **Fax** 612-379-8754

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

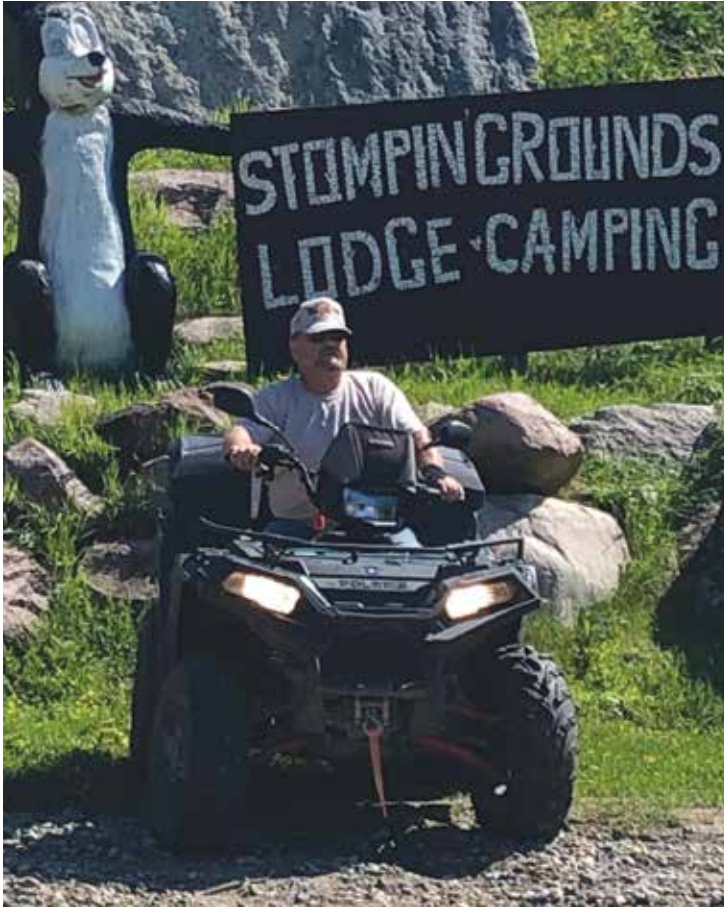
Call 651-256-1801 or 1-800-879-4412

Small Group Enjoys Great Outdoors

Friday night's three inches of rain proved favorable for the few participants at this year's annual camping and ATV ride held on Saturday, July 18. Mike Ganz, vice president/business rep, and four family members were joined by retired BAC Local 1 member Gary Eggerth and his son for a warm, but dustless ride at Stomping-Grounds in Akeley, MN.

Future events will be determined moving ahead due to decreased participation.

Photos provided by Mike Ganz





IMI Masonry Minute

Key IMI Activity Highlights

IMI Director Mark Swanson does many things, but his main goal is to create more job opportunities for members of BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD. Swanson accomplishes this by providing masonry education and consulting expertise to the design and construction community, and promoting masonry and skilled union craftworkers.

Recent IMI Seminars and Contractor Support

In-person visits to firms have been at a standstill since the pandemic broke out, but IMI MN continues to provide education and technical assistance to architectural and structural engineering firms, encouraging each to use masonry aesthetically, structurally and efficiently in their projects. As part of the MN Structural Masonry Coalition, IMI consulting structural engineer Sam Rubenzer, and Swanson have been providing support to the area. Recent efforts include a series of webinars for MBJ structural engineers in Rochester, MN.

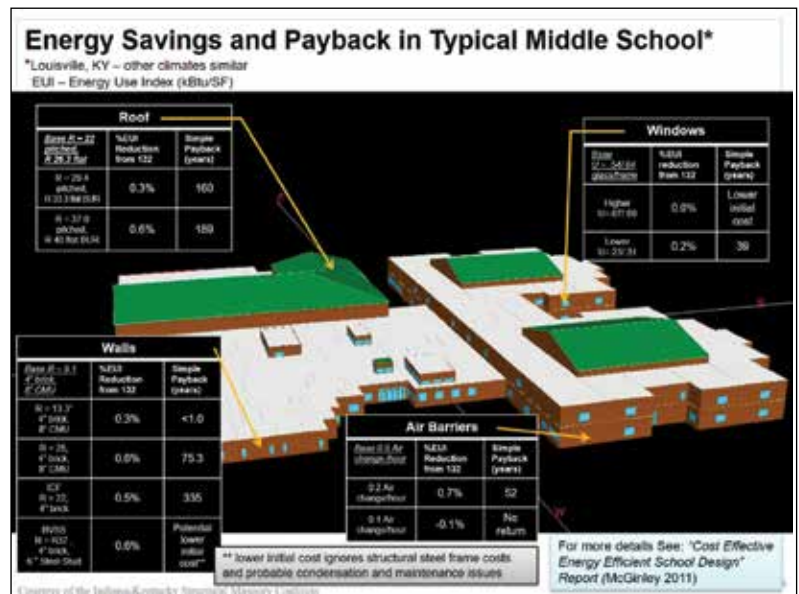
Rubenzer and Swanson recently assisted signatory contractor D.R. Frantz on a project where they were questioning the lintel design provided by the engineer. Swanson and Rubenzer provided design assistance to both the contractor and the engineer so that it could be built along with the concept that D.R. Frantz suggested.

Technical Assistance to the Design and Engineering Community

Swanson and Casey Weisdock, Philadelphia IMI director, were recently on a Microsoft Teams call with Kevin Vazquez, a structural engineer from MBJ, working on a historic church preservation project in St. Paul. Microsoft Teams is a video conferencing platform that allows attendees to see each other and to share their screens. Vazquez was able to show photos of the areas of question so Swanson and Weisdock could assess and make recommendations. MBJ was concerned about finding skilled craftworkers for the project. Swanson provided Vazquez with a list of qualified BAC Local 1 restoration contractors who have been through the IMTEF Historic Masonry Preservation Certificate program. It is this level of training that sets BAC contractors apart and brings new work opportunities for BAC contractors and members.

Building Enclosure Council - MN

Swanson continues his efforts on the board of directors for the Building Enclosure Council Minnesota chapter (BEC- MN). Having a seat at the table with general contractors, architects, engineers, and material suppliers is key in keeping a pulse on industry trends in our region and promoting masonry as the best solution for the exterior building enclosure. Swanson also serves on their programs committee.

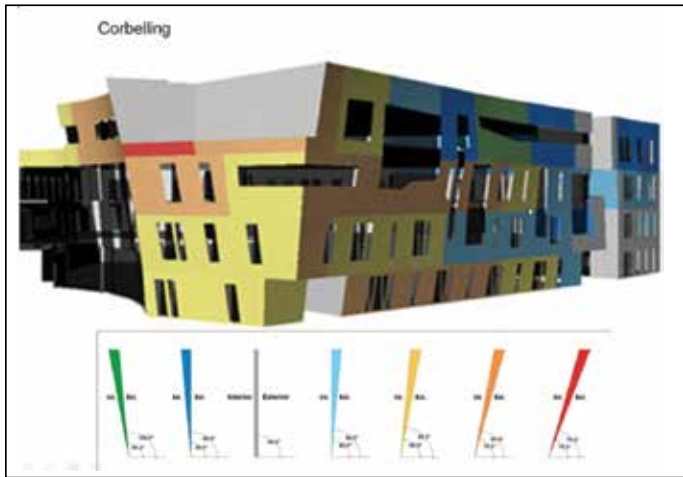


McGinley — Energy Savings for School Designs

Masonry Wednesdays

Masonry Wednesdays have been converted to webinar format for the remainder of 2020. The remaining webinars have been elevated to the IMI national webinar series and offered across the entire United States providing a greater attendance and exposure for the BAC Local 1 region. Swanson invited Dr. Mark McGinley from the University of Louisville to present on “Masonry and Energy Compliance Methods” to more than 375 people on June 17. Swanson delivered an IMI national webinar on “Rainscreen Options and Solutions” to more than 280 people on June 23. Upwards of 500 people registered for the July 15 Masonry Wednesday webinar where Swanson invited David Biggs, PE, to give a webinar on “Extreme Masonry Veneers”. In August, Swanson presented a webinar on 5 Strategies you can use to Design Structural Masonry to more than 300 attendees. These

Continued on page 9



Biggs — BIM Model showing angles of exterior brickwork



Biggs — Extreme Masonry Veneers

webinars and attendance have been so successful that Swanson and administrative assistant Meghan Bittner have been asked by IMI to assist with lining up speakers for the 2021 IMI national webinar series. Swanson and Bittner have also begun planning for the 2021 Masonry Wednesdays with a local region focus.

Training Programs for You

Swanson is always advocating the advantages of using skilled union labor whose training is unmatched in the construction community. To learn more about training programs available to BAC members, visit www.IMTEF.org and www.bactraining.org.

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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Welcome OUR NEW MEMBERS

Jason Breitung Breitung	Daniel McDonnell
Wendel Clark	David Miller
Dylon Collings	Jess Nelson
Zachary Crandall	Thomas O'Hotto
Tori Deshanne	Jeffrey Pelletier
Branden Doyle	Palmer Peterson
Steven Dragseth	James Peterson
Chris Foley	Christopher Piersiak
Jake Foley	Brendon Rackow
Jonathon Fredricks	Thomas Raden
Jason Gallagher	Matthew Sandgren
Joseph Gouws	Ryan Steil
Sandy Holm	Brandon Stewart
Joseph James	Brandon Tompkins
Benjamin Koistinen	Colton Weckwerth
Timothy Lukkason	Lance Wirkus
Ryan Luukkonen	Adam Wollenburg
Victor Lyakh	Kurt Wyandt
Jacob Lynch	

Retired Members

Some BAC Local 1 members have retired in 2020. We are grateful for your dedication of work and we wish you a great future in your retirement years!

#1 MN-St. Paul Bradley Burlingame Dennis Nohava	#8 MN-Rochester Carl McLaughlin
#4 MN-St. Cloud Richard Wozney Lowell Halvorson	#1 ND-Fargo Charles Willits Gary Zachariason
	#4 SD-Rapid City Maynard Grabow



Deceased Members

#1 MN-St. Paul
William Dukowitz

#1 SD-Sioux Falls
Eugene Tracy
Willie Wiebe

#2 MN-Mpls
Lowell Schrupp

#15 MN-Brainerd
Arthur Bossman

#107T-Terrazzo Workers
Richard Connelly

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2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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, MN
312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:
4:30 p.m. Sept. 14, Nov. 9, Delta
Hotels-Mpls. NE, 1330 Industrial Blvd
NE, Minneapolis: All Metro members 7
p.m. Dec. 14

Chapter 1-Fargo, ND
Dillworth Hi Ho Tavern: 5:30 p.m.
Sept. 22, Dec. 8

Chapter 1-Sioux Falls, SD
101 S. Fairfax Ave., Sioux Falls Labor
Temple: 6 p.m. Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov.
10, Dec. 8

Chapter 2-Minot, ND
Minot VFW: 7 p.m. Nov. 11

Chapter 2-Yankton, SD
209 Cedar Terrace, Yankton VFW:
7 p.m. Sept. 11, Nov. 13
Butch's Tavern: 7 p.m. June 12, Aug.
14, Oct. 9, Dec. 11

**Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron
Range, MN**
Duluth, Duluth Labor Center: 5 p.m.
Sept. 9, Dec. 9
Hibbing, Crown Ballroom: 6 p.m.
Nov. 11

Chapter 3-Grand Forks, ND
E. Grand Forks American Legion: 7 p.m.
Sept. 23, Dec. 9

Chapter 3-Aberdeen, SD
617 S. 15th St., Aberdeen Central Labor
Union: 7 p.m. Sept. 21, Nov. 16



Chapter 4-Bismarck, ND
Bismarck, AmVets: 7 p.m. Nov. 10

Chapter 4-Rapid City, SD
922 E. St. Patrick St., Rapid City Labor
Temple: 6 p.m. Sept. 4, Dec. 4

Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd, MN
St. Cloud Labor Home: 7 p.m. Nov. 4
Brainerd American Legion: 7 p.m.
Sept. 3, Dec. 3

Chapter 5-Watertown, SD
808 S. Broadway, Watertown VFW:
6 p.m. Nov. 20

Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault, MN
Rochester, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Sept.
14, Dec. 7
Faribault, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Nov. 2

Chapter 11-Mankato, MN
Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club:
7 p.m. Sept. 3, Dec. 3

Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND
Bemidji, Elks Club: 5 p.m. Sept. 10,
Nov. 12, Dec. 10

GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range, MN

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

Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault, MN
Rochester, Rochester's Eagle Club:
Cancelled

OTHER EVENTS

Retirees Club Breakfast meetings

Jax Cafe: Minneapolis, 9 a.m., Sept. 24,
Dec. 3

Duluth area Retirees coffee meetings

Miller Hill Mall Perkins: 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

Executive Committee meeting

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:
9 a.m. Oct. 9

Semiannual Meeting-All of MN/ND/SD

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:
9 a.m. Oct. 10

Some meetings are beginning to resume.

Refer to our website for the most up-to-date information.

QUARTERLY UPDATE

QUARTERLY UPDATE

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

Ambassador
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

By Bill McCarthy,
MN AFL-CIO President

Everything is on the Line this November

The 2020 election was always going to be important. Now, with the COVID-19 pandemic putting working families under even more stress, it will be even more important who we elect to public office.

No matter where we come from or what we look like, working Minnesotans are depending on our leaders at the state and national level for support during this pandemic. While Governor Walz has done a great deal of good with his constitutionally authorized emergency powers, Minnesotans are still waiting for more assistance from President Trump, Congress, and the Minnesota Legislature.

Nearly four months ago, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the HEROES Act, a comprehensive COVID-19 relief bill that would provide extended unemployment insurance benefits, hazard pay, an emergency infectious disease standard, money for the U.S. Postal

Service and safety measures for schools to open safely. Right now, President Trump and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell are refusing to act on that bill as working people continue to suffer.

On the state level, Republicans in the Minnesota House are withholding the few additional votes needed to pass a bonding bill.

A bonding bill, which will create tens of thousands of new union construction jobs, is exactly what Minnesota needs to recover from the economic damage this pandemic has caused. Now, instead of urging their colleagues in the House to provide the needed votes, Senate Republicans decided to remove the state's Commissioner of Labor and Industry, the person responsible for enforcing prevailing wage and worksite safety measures. This blatantly partisan move, meant to embarrass Governor Walz, serves only to hurt workers in the long term.

What's clear is that it's time to join together as a Labor Movement to elect leaders who share our values and will



put working people ahead of divisive and partisan self-interests. The Minnesota AFL-CIO has done the research, interviewed candidates and endorsed a slate of candidates committed to working with us to build a better state and nation.

If we're united, the union vote could very well determine the outcome of this year's election. How you vote is a personal choice, but I hope you will consider supporting Labor-endorsed candidates. Visit mnaflcio.org to learn where the candidates stand and how to vote early from the safety of your home.

