

QUARTERLY UPDATE

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SEPTEMBER 2023

Holmstrom – A Carpetbagger’s Heart of Service

By Patricia Johnson



Robert Holmstrom recently received his 75-year BAC 1 member plaque.

Robert Holmstrom looks back on his 97 years of life as “very rewarding”. “I have always liked helping people,” says the 75-year BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD member.

“Helping” barely describes his decades of service and sacrifice for the United States, its military vets, and its WWII allies. The Two Harbors, MN, native, born January 1926, joined the US Army the month he turned 18. He took his childhood love of flying with him in hope of becoming a fighter pilot during WWII. The pilot program was cancelled and Holmstrom was assigned secretive duties in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS); the first US independent intelligence agency and a forerunner to today’s Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He would soon be part of Operation Carpetbagger; one of World War II’s best-kept secrets, according to www.taraross.com.

“These were highly-covert missions flown by a group of specially - trained U.S. airmen, who were code-named ‘Carpetbaggers’,” writes S. Fabian Butalla in her book, *Warbirds in the Cloak of Darkness*.

The sole purpose of the operation was to airdrop spies, building and communications equipment, food, medicine, blood plasma, bicycles, weapons, shoes, clothing, anything and everything that would aid underground-resistance forces in the war against Germany and its allies. Missions were flown across Europe, only at night by moonlight, 500 feet above ground, lasting upward of 9-10 hours each mission. Only the flight navigator and pilot had knowledge of the

drop destination and its associated cargo. “German politicians had confiscated all the citizens’ radios and there were Germans who opposed the war, so we also dropped leaflets,” says Holmstrom. Each drop site was marked by a row of three fires with one off to the side.

“I flew two missions with pigeons,” gunner Robert Holmstrom remembered. “The pigeons were in a Quaker tubular container and had three days of food and the capsules and a pencil. The carrier pigeon would fly back to London with the message—a week or 10 days later and then we’d deliver what they ordered. Socks, medicine, radios, hand grenades, throwaway pistols, bicycles, anything to help them get along.”
— www.Taraross.com

Each flight crew consisted of 10 men armed with 20 50-caliber machine guns. He often sat with a 50-caliber machine gun at each elbow while opening the turret for the cargo drop. Holmstrom,

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REMINDER: Local and Chapter Elections to take place in September and October.
Please check the calendar for these dates and times.

Holmstrom *Continued from page 1*

the youngest of the group, flew 30 of these suicide missions in a B-24 Liberator 4-engine bomber, painted entirely black, until the end of the war.

Operation Carpetbagger's headquarters was hidden three-stories underground in London, England. It had a five-mile security perimeter, and about 25 percent of its military population were unaware of what we did, he says.

After the war ended, Holmstrom and his crew continued to supply the destroyed Germany with medical supplies often landing on the autobahn. The autobahn was highly advanced at the time, he says, along with other aspects of the country.

Before his Army discharge, Holmstrom took an oath of silence to never talk of the missions for 40 years. If broken, it would result in prison or execution. In the 1980's operation carpetbagger was declassified freeing Holmstrom and many others from their silence.

He then returned home, and married the girl from four-blocks down. The girl he walked to school with and went skating with; his high school sweetheart, Lorraine. By January 1946 Holmstrom was once-again working at his pre-war job of meat packing at Swift and Co. It was a fulfilling job for him, he says, because he was fast with his hands, often working until 10 p.m. and he earned B-money, also known as bonus money. Within a few months Holmstrom lost his coveted job due to a workers' strike and went on to attend St. Paul Vocational Technical School, now known as St. Paul College.

Holmstrom speaks highly of his father-in-law, William, a father of four daughters, who took Holmstrom in as his own son. The care and concern were gratefully received by Holmstrom, whose family financially struggled and relationships were enormously strained.

William was a tile setter at Drake Marble and Tile in St. Paul and Holmstrom became his helper. "You'll be helping your teacher," William had said to Holmstrom as he mixed concrete for the experienced tile setter.

Holmstrom eventually completed his three-year tile setter apprenticeship, and spent decades in the trade before retiring in 1988. In the early days, union membership was only offered through invitation. The tile setters had their own union. It later joined Local 1 MN/ND/SD.

Holmstrom and Lorraine, married 69 years until her passing, went on to raise two children: Bob Jr, now a retired tile setter, and Jenny, who serves as Holmstrom's historian and manages his speaking engagements and special appearances. "I'm so busy, it's terrible," he says.

Holmstrom volunteered for 35 years at the Veterans' Administration (VA) hospital in Minneapolis; 14 years at its nursing home and 14 years at the VA nursing home in



Holmstrom said he had more medals than shown in the picture above

Hastings, MN. "Always on different days and hours," he says with a chuckle.

In March 2018, he and his fellow Carpetbaggers were honored with the United States' highest expression of appreciation, the Congressional Gold Medal in Washington DC. This medal is exclusively reserved to honor the distinguished achievements and contributions of individuals and organizations. Holmstrom has also been honored at Minnesota Twins and Vikings games, participated in Honor Flight, and will present at Fagen Fighters WWII Museum in Granite Fall, MN, later this year.

He is the last remaining flight crew member alive today.

He spends time quite often with his six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, who all live near his suburban St. Paul home. One grandson, Jerome, is also a tilesetter.

On the day we spoke, Holmstrom had lunch plans and still drives his "nice Chevy Equinox with 15,000 miles on it."

The tile setter trade has been good," he says. "I've met a lot of nice people. The camaraderie is great and I have been treated well. Everyone has been helpful, and I appreciate that."

"It's been a terrific life for me," Holmstrom says with lightheartedness in his voice.

Thank you for your service and sacrifice. Congratulations, Robert on your 75 years with BAC!

To read more, log onto <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2020/05/07/portraits-of-valor-bob-holstrom-94-army>.

Honor Flight is available to military veterans. To learn more, log onto <https://www.veteranshonorflightofndmn.org>.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Doug Schroeder,
President/
Secretary-Treasurer

Local Officers Election Coming Up

As the summer moves into fall we will be preparing for **Local elections**. They will take place on **Saturday Oct. 7, 2023**, immediately following the semi-annual meeting that starts at 9 am. If an election is necessary, it shall be conducted by mail referendum. Ballots will be mailed out to your current address on file at the hall depending on the outcome of the nominations. If your mailing address has changed, please

contact the hall to get your current address on file.

Around the Local elections at the scheduled meetings in September, elections will be held for Chapter Chairperson, Sergeant at Arms and Recording Secretary.

Qualifications for office for both Local Officers and Chapter Officers will be posted at <https://www.bac1mn-nd.org/news/2023-nominations-elections-information>, on social media, and on display on the days of the election meetings. You may also request a copy of this information by contacting the hall and requesting a copy be mailed to your home address or emailed.

Unemployment Rate is Low

Even with the threat of a recession being reported in the news and social media, the country's unemployment rate is still at a historic low. If you know of someone looking to make a career change and the BAC trades are of interest to them, have them give us a call to discuss their options. Do not forget to mention our referral program.

Save the Dates

Metro Retirees Breakfast will be September 28 and December 7 at Jax Cafe, 1928 University Ave. NE Minneapolis at 9 a.m.

Metro Golf

We had another magnificent event at Pheasant Acres Golf Club on July 29, 2023, for our annual metro tournament. The weather was seasonal and all who participated enjoyed the day. *(See page 5 for details)*

Don't miss out on the annual Duluth Golf Tournament Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023, at Grand View Golf Links.

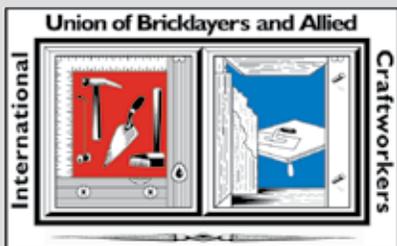
BAC Annual Picnic

The 2nd annual BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD was held on June 17 at Lake Rebecca Park in Rockford, MN. Members and their families enjoyed relaxing conversations, music, games including Cornhole, frisbee and ladder golf along with the numerous park amenities. G. I. Joes Food truck custom



prepared burgers, brats, hot dogs with sides to ensure food was fresh and hot for all; seeing people up for seconds was a great indicator of happy customers. We had door prizes for all age groups. Prizes ranged from bubble machines for the little ones, alarm clocks and coffee gift cards for the teens, and gas cards and home depot gift cards for the adults, just to name a few. This was another step in the right

direction toward building a tradition of unity and camaraderie with the membership.



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

What's Happening at the Training Center?

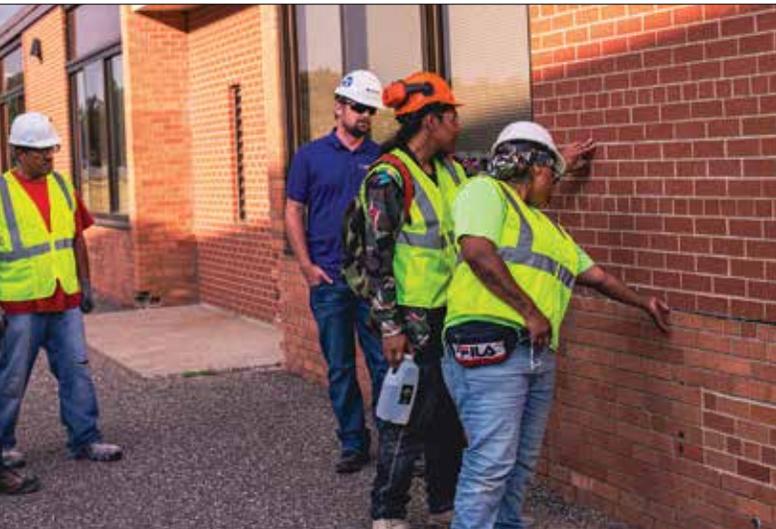
This summer, the Training Center rolled out some exciting new features within the pre-apprenticeship program. Our pre-apprentices had the opportunity to work 1-2 days each week with a contractor, which gave them a little taste of the real-world pace and some income to help ease the burden of a six-week without-pay program. The group also went on two job site visits to see firsthand different aspects of our crafts and how we work with other trades, climb a scaffold, and hear from journey-workers in the field.

Both of our brick/PCC pre-apprenticeships were very successful. We look forward to welcoming 20 first-year apprentices from these trainings!

We're also set to begin the 2023-24 apprentice training year. We're anticipating a total of 59 metro brick and tile apprentices in attendance this first semester. Orientation is taking place in August this year, with the first training days in the beginning of September.



Completed Pre-apprentices from left to right. Back row: Martin Almendarez, John Lopez, Samuel Christenson, Carter Reins, Cody Hendrickson. Front row: Sho Vue, Sno Romez, Ninesuns Vue, Ethan Krekelberg.



Pre-apprentices with Steve Kreger of Western Specialty Contractors learning about restoration.



Pre-apprentices with instructors visiting a Northland Concrete & Masonry job site learning about flashing, block, brick, and stone installation.

Sarah Arkeh: Restoration Royalty

Some of us have been lucky enough to work with Sarah Arkeh. Others may recognize the name or have heard of the Patch Queen. More of us, though, probably don't know her at all. Arkeh is an 18-year member of Local 1 and a journey-level PCC worker. Her specialty is repairing stone. Her craftsmanship is beautiful. Arkeh is passionate about her work and eager to tell the younger generations about the opportunity for success in the industry. She recognizes that sharing her techniques and know-how is crucial and has volunteered her time at the Training Center.

Arkeh has done so much more than just show up for the last 18 years. She's honed her abilities, mentored apprentices, and paved a path for women to follow behind her. Twice this year, she's been a finalist for awards recognizing her outstanding abilities in her craft. Arkeh received the Journey-worker of the Year award from Women Building Success in June. We are so proud to call Arkeh one of our own!

Congratulations on Journey-worker of the Year, Sarah!



Congratulations to Metro Golf Tournament Winners

We had a perfect day for the annual metro golf tournament this year. We want to thank all sponsors for making this a great outing. Thank you to Karen McKernan, Michele Schanke, and Diana Ruda for their help at the raffle table. Thank you to the BAC local 1 staff for working at the event and Rachel Robinson for helping at the putting contest. The winners were as follows:



1st Place Team

(From L-R) Mark Severson, Arlow Severson, Tim Dougherty and Mike Dougherty



2nd Place Team

Mark Olive (above) Ian Carey and Mark Naylor (not pictured)



3rd Place Team

(From L-R) Brian Roeger, Mike Dubeck, Mike Schall and Trace Benson



Golfers took a moment to relax in the beautiful weather while enjoying comraderie and golf.



MEMBER RECOGNITION

Annual Gold Card Luncheon

We had a great time at our Annual Gold Card Luncheon held on July 6, 2023, at the Delta Marriott in NE Minneapolis! Several members came out to celebrate and the following members received awards this year.



Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN: 50-Year Members

(L-R) IUBAC North Central Regional Director Jeremy Rivas, President/Secretary-Treasurer Doug Schroeder, 50-year members David Benkowski, Michael Renslow and John Skradski and IUBAC President Tim Driscoll



Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN: 25-Year Members

(L-R) IUBAC North Central Regional Director Jeremy Rivas, 25-year members Kevin Rutherford, Terrance Nemerov, Brian Hanson, Kelly Feyler, President/Secretary-Treasurer Doug Schroeder, 25-year member Nicholas Dekart and IUBAC President Tim Driscoll

MEMBER RECOGNITION



Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN: 40-Year Members

(L-R) IUBAC North Central Regional Director Jeremy Rivas, President/Secretary-Treasurer Doug Schroeder, 50-year member David Benkowski, 40-year members Kevin Sturman and Howard Dehaan and IUBAC President Tim Driscoll



Save the Date: Saturday Sept. 16 for the 1st Annual Rib Fest

The first Annual Rib Feast will be taking place at the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division Headquarters in Arden Hills, MN. This is a Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Event that helps support our men and women of the armed forces. BAC Local 1 is sponsoring a team for the Rib Feast contest. Save the date on Saturday, Sept. 16, starting at 1 p.m., and head to the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division Headquarters at 4800 Hamline Avenue North in Arden Hills. There will be plenty to do and see, including live music, a military flyover ceremony, raffles, auctions, drinks, and delicious grilled ribs, all while supporting a meaningful cause. All proceeds go to Minnesota Building Trades Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, a non-profit organization that supports Minnesota military service members, veterans, and their families. Ribfest is free to attend, but tickets must be purchased to participate in the rib tasting. An individual kit is \$15, which includes six rib samples and one “people’s choice” ticket. Additional tickets can be purchased for \$3 per ticket. The tasting will begin at 2 p.m.

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IMI Masonry Minute

KEY IMI ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Mark Swanson provides masonry education and consulting to the design and construction community while assisting our Local. He promotes the use of masonry and skilled union craftworkers to install it. The main goal of his activity is to create more work opportunities for signatory contractors and members of BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD.

PROJECT SUPPORT

- **SiteLogIQ** – An IMI inquiry led Swanson to SiteLogIQ, a facility solutions company that does design, construction and energy audits. An architect in their Minneapolis office reached out regarding an exterior wall re-build where Swanson is guided them through CMU backup and veneer detailing. The structural coalition was brought on board to provide design assistance to the architect and engineer.
- **IMEG** – Structural Engineer contacted Swanson to discuss a loose lintel detail at a window head. An example of a complicated detail solution that could easily be simplified and improved for building performance and simplified installation.
- **Cushing Terrell** – Mainly based in Montana, an architect from its Minneapolis office reached out to Swanson to discuss possible solutions on a renovation project in St. Paul.
- **MN Historic Society (MNHS)** – Swanson is coordinating with the MNHS and the national IMI restoration team to discuss collaborations and historic mortar workshops for the design and construction community.

IMI EDUCATION AND PROGRAMS

- **IMI National Structural Masonry Webinar Series, June 7** –
 - Swanson hosted Brady Golinski, Structural Engineer from FORSE Consulting, who presented “Masonry Notes, Details, & Prototypes.” More than 840 registered for this webinar program. This webinar series program continues to grow since it began a couple of years ago.
- **IMI MN/ND/SD Masonry Wednesday Webinar Series, June 21** – Swanson hosted Bill Dawson of Concrete Products Group to present “Strategies for Reducing CO2 Emissions Using Concrete Masonry.” We are seeing more inquiries for low carbon block. This a relevant topic because of the GSA and other government requirements to reduce embodied carbon in our buildings.

- **IMI National Structural Masonry Webinar Series, July 5** – Swanson hosted Cathleen Jacinto, structural engineer from FORSE Consulting, who presented “Masonry Wall Connections.” More than 450 architects, engineers, attended the webinar.
- **IMI National Webinar Series, July 25** – Swanson has been working with CTC on the latest upgrades to our masonry content on HIVE. The IMI Masonry Library on HIVE is the latest evolution to come out of the BIM-M efforts from previous years. Swanson and Shawn Zirbes from CTC unveiled the IMI Masonry library on the HIVE content management system to hundreds from around the country. This content is parametric and built for Revit. Much of it directs users to IMI and IMTEF websites making us a resource center. It’s awesome, free, and adds a ton of opportunities for us when we, as contractors, along with the design and construction community build and model with masonry.

STRUCTURAL MASONRY SEES ADVANCEMENTS NATIONALLY AND REGIONALLY

Throughout the country there have been some significant advancements to support the use of structural masonry in both the design and construction phases. A few of these are listed below:

• CMU Checkoff Program Moves Ahead

Many of you have heard about the CMU Checkoff program and how it will impact the masonry industry. This is a national program created through the Department of Commerce and voted on by all concrete masonry producers. The CMU Checkoff is similar to the well-known beef and dairy checkoffs and is intended to help grow the market share of CMU. The program, which has been on our radar for almost 10 years, is officially underway, with block manufacturers now paying 1 cent per block into the program for any type of concrete masonry unit except segmental retaining wall units or pavers. The checkoff funds are placed into an account managed by a national board with regional boards providing recommendations about what programs to fund. The checkoff is anticipated to collect upwards of \$7-10 million per year, though the total amount is not certain until all the funds have been collected. The collection of assessments began on April 1 with programs expected to see funding this fall. The checkoff legislation has specific requirements for collecting and disbursing funds.

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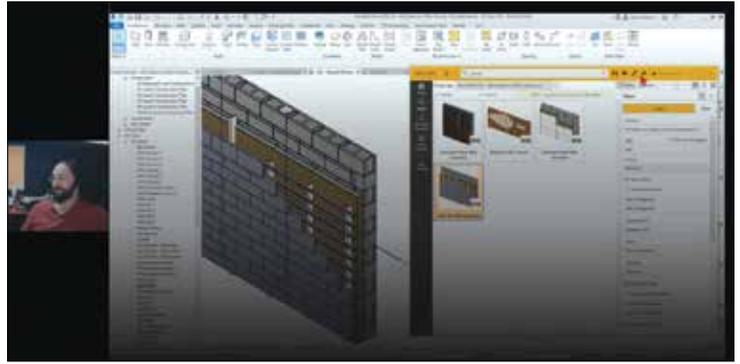
The CMU Checkoff program is broken up into 5 geographical regions. Each region has a Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) set up to identify and fund local programs. At least half of all program dollars will be invested at the regional level, ensuring checkoff programs bring value to producers and contractors in each region. The Checkoff Board has indicated six priority areas for programs: marketing, education and research, codes and standards, design assistance, designer education, and workforce development. Since this checkoff is funded by concrete block producers, programs promoting clay masonry or other non-cementitious units will not be considered. While concrete block producers will have the final say on how the funds are used, input from masonry-related associations and mason contractors are welcomed and needed. This input will be open at the national and regional levels. IMI has already developed a list of potential programs to submit and staff will be interacting with the RAC and national board as the program moves forward. We have also provided insight on any workforce development initiatives that may be considered. If you have any questions regarding the CMU Checkoff, please contact IMI.

• IMI Develops Structural Details for HIVE; Making Designing with CMU Easier

HIVE is a content management system developed specifically for the AEC industry. IMI has continued its mission to keep pace within Building Information Modeling (BIM) with the IMI Masonry Content Pack – a library of searchable masonry information and details that are easily transferred into Revit for ease of design. In development, is a series of structural details that address a serious need for readily available, high-quality, and current structural content specifically for masonry. This will make it much easier to create structural sheets by simply clicking on the appropriate detail within the Masonry Content Pack.

• New Product “Quick Headers” Aids in More Efficient Masonry Lintel Construction

More signatory contractors and structural engineers are realizing performance benefit and efficiency in using masonry lintels. Continuous lintels are a great option to simplify construction



and help to reduce the need for movement joints when spanning over multiple openings. One of the driving factors in this trend is improved shoring options that help masons set up faster and more reliably. Quick Headers are one of the products that are seeing an increased use and raising awareness to the benefits of reinforced masonry openings.

• Michigan Masonry Coalition Sponsoring Research to Simplify Structural Masonry Assemblies

The Michigan Masonry Coalition, led by IMI, has commissioned research to improve future publications of the TMS 402/602 Standard to the benefit of BAC contractors. Dr. Mark McGinley will be directing research efforts focusing on lap splices in masonry, grouting procedures, and grout testing to simplify construction and loosen requirements to allow for more efficient means and methods in the field.

TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR YOU

Training, quality, and safety is what sets the BAC apart from our competition. To learn more about training programs available to BAC members, visit www.IMTEF.org and www.bactraining.org.

Congratulations, Howard, on your 75 years with BAC!



BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD 75-Year Member

Read his story in the upcoming December newsletter

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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!

Gary Burns	Craig Lundberg
John Charnowski	Nikolay Popov
Mevludin Dedic	Petr Sazonov
John Fraser	Douglas Severson
Randy Gaskell	Jeffrey Summers
Matthew Gauder	Paul Walchuk
Dustin Hess	Michael Wood
Robin Jobes	



New Members

Jacob Bedminister	Travis Johnson
Brian Behrends	Duane Lahoe
Jesse Brandl	Kong Meng Lee
Jay Brandle	Austin Leflay
Robert Bumgarner	Matthew Lundin
Jaime Chanta	Patrick Madge
Michael Cohoe	Jason Mattson
Zackery Creilly	Bradley Mead
Dylan Davis	Brock Morine
Kaylynn Foley	Julius Neal
Joseph Gale	Daniel O'Neill
David Garcia	Tae Park
Nicholas Genzler	Kaden Pederson
Anna Gizzi	Anton Praska
Scott Gruber	Shane Robinson
Robert Hanson	Thomas Schmock
Douglas Hendrickson	Carroll Stewart
Jeremy Hince	Michael Vis
Garey Howze	Mantakor Wontaa
Minh Tuan Huynh	



Deceased Members

#1 MN - St. Paul	Dale Sader
James Arbuckle	Paul Sickmann
Robert Zaffke	Donald Tomlinson
#1 SD - Sioux Falls	#10 MN - Faribault
Walter Ree	Charles Tanner
#2 MN - Mpls	#11 MN - Mankato
Scott Hasse	David Miller
James Michael	

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2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Chapter 1-Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN

312 Central Avenue SE, Mpls - 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 11, Nov. 13

Chapter 1-Fargo, ND

Dilworth Hi Ho Tavern: 5:30 p.m. Sept. 27,
Dec. 5

Chapter 1-Sioux Falls, SD

101 S. Fairfax Ave., Sioux Falls Labor
Temple: 6 p.m. Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14,
Dec. 12

Chapter 2-Minot, ND

Minot VFW: 7 p.m. Nov. 8

Chapter 2-Yankton, SD

Yanktown VFW: 7 p.m. Sept. 8, Nov. 10
Alexandria RJ's Sports Bar: 7 p.m.
Oct. 13, Dec. 8

Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing- Iron Range, MN

Duluth Labor Center: 5 p.m. Sept. 13, Dec. 13
Valentini's Chisholm: 5 p.m. Nov. 8

Chapter 3-Grand Forks, ND

E. Grand Forks American Legion: 7 p.m.
Sept. 25, Dec. 4

Chapter 3-Aberdeen, SD

Aberdeen Central Labor Union: 7 p.m.
Sept. 18, Nov. 20

Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd, MN

St. Cloud Labor Home : 7 p.m. Oct. 4
Brainerd American Legion: 7 p.m.
Sept. 7, Dec. 7

Chapter 4-Bismarck, ND

Bismarck AmVets: 7 p.m. Nov. 14

Chapter 4-Rapid City, SD

Rapid City Labor Temple: 6 p.m. Nov. 3,
Dec. 1

Chapter 5-Watertown, SD

808 S. Broadway, Watertown VFW:
7 p.m. Nov. 15

Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault, MN

Rochester, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Sept. 11,
Dec. 4
Faribault Eagles: 7 p.m. Nov. 6

Chapter 11-Mankato, MN

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

Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Bemidji, Eagles Club: 5 p.m. Sept. 14, Nov.
2, Dec. 14

GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing- Iron Range, MN

Holiday Inn: 6 p.m. Oct. 13
Valentini's Chisholm: 5 p.m. Oct. 14

OTHER EVENTS

All Chapters Holiday Party

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

Metro Retirees' Breakfast

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

Executive Committee meeting

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:
9 a.m. Oct. 6

Semiannual Meeting-All of MN/ND/SD

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:
9 a.m. Oct. 7

1st Annual RibFest

Red Bull Infantry Division Headquarters,
Arden Hills, MN: 1 p.m., Sept. 16

BAC Golf Tournament

Grandview Golf Links: 8 a.m. Sept. 9
Registration information is mailed out
to the area members so no need to pre-
register. Call the hall for more information
and to sign up and pay.

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Local and Chapter Elections to Take Place in 2023

Elections will be held for Chapter Chairperson, Sergeant at Arms, a Recording Secretary and negotiating committees around the local at the scheduled meetings in September.

Local Officers election will be held by special meeting. A special call meeting will be held on Oct. 7, 2023, at the conclusion of the semiannual meeting that will start at 9 am.

QUARTERLY UPDATE

QUARTERLY UPDATE

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

7 Corners Printing
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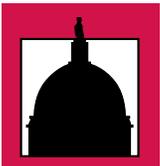
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Editor.....Patricia Johnson

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Did You Know?



POLITICS - Our Issues

A Pro-Labor State Government

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MN AFL-CIO President

With the Minnesota Legislature adjourned for the year Minnesotans are taking stock and celebrating some of the most sweeping pro-Labor legislation in state history that will improve the lives of workers in every corner of our state and across every sector.

This work didn't happen overnight. Our elected leaders listened to the thousands of union volunteers who knocked on doors last fall 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. Now, thanks to legislation passed this year, working Minnesotans will have the economic security and freedom to care for themselves and their loved ones, safer workplaces, more wage protections, tens of thousands of new construction jobs, fully funded schools and public services, and greater freedom to organize unions at their workplaces.

Governor Walz signed into law nearly

every one of Labor's shared Minnesota AFL-CIO's 2023 legislative priorities. We made historic progress. At the same time, there were hard fought compromises on healthcare worker safety and unfinished work regarding safe staffing. Working people will be back next year to make sure frontline healthcare workers and patients are protected.

Included in this year's historic session is expansive Paid Family and Medical Leave legislation that will allow nearly every worker to take up to 12 weeks of paid leave to bond with a new child, recover from a major illness, or care for a sick loved one. For nearly a decade, the Minnesota AFL-CIO co-chaired Minnesotans for Paid Family Medical Leave – the coalition of 70 labor, faith, and community groups that successfully advocated for the landmark legislation.

The Minnesota AFL-CIO also led the way in passing a ban on employers holding mandatory anti-union captive audience meetings. These meetings often create a chilling effect that in many cases dooms the organizing effort, even when a significant majority of workers have signed union authorization cards to trigger an election.

Minnesota's 2023 legislative work stands in stark contrast with many other state legislatures across the country that have weakened child labor laws,



made workplaces less safe, restricted reproductive freedom and other vital medical care, and inserted extreme ideology in school curriculum.

While other states are putting 14 and 15-year-olds to work on assembly lines, Minnesota is making sure parents have the time and resources to care for and sustain their families. While other states ban books in our schools and libraries, Minnesota is making sure no student goes hungry at school. While other states make it harder to vote, Minnesota is expanding our Democracy to make sure every eligible voter has the freedom to make their voice heard.

We are thankful to our lawmakers and Governor Walz for a transformative session that will make Minnesota the best state for working people in the nation.

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A STRONG, UNITED VOICE FOR
MINNESOTA'S WORKING PEOPLE