

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

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Shopworkers • Cement Masons • Pointers/Cleaners/Caulkers • Concrete Products Specialists

SEPTEMBER 2019

1<sup>st</sup>

## Golf Tournament Winners

The metro golf tournament took place on July 27, 2019, at Pheasant Acres Golf Club. We were blessed again with great weather and had 121 golfers signed up for the event. We would like to thank the law firm of SiebenCarey for the donation of golf shirts this year. Thank you to Zenith American Solutions for the golf balls and cigars that were handed out to all the players. We would like to thank all the sponsors and prize donors for their generosity toward this yearly event. Without them the event would not be such a success. Mark your calendar. Next year's event will take place on July 25, 2020.

First place winning team was Jim Carey, Ian Carey, Madeline Carey and Mark Olive.

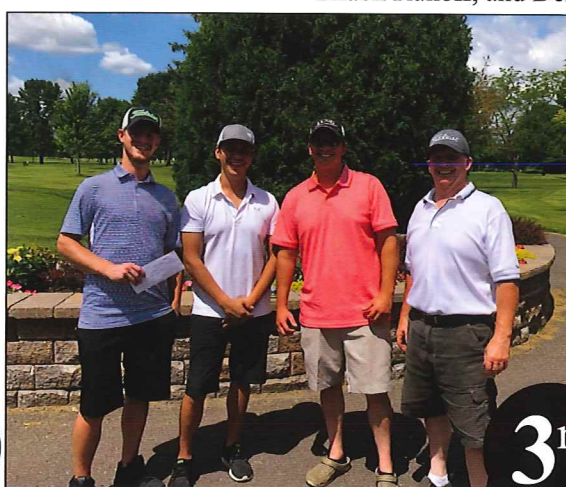
Second Place winning team was Tab Meyer, Kurt Lommel, Chuck Ruhoff, and Dennis Ebensteiner.

Third Place winning team was Brad Schroeder, James Baldwin, Alan Snoweart, and Paul Snoweart.

Proceeds from the tournament will go towards the Injured Apprentice Fund and the BAC Disaster Relief Fund.



2<sup>nd</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>



## The Organizing Committee has Brought Forth a New Incentive Program for Organizing New Members

When a member refers an experienced trades person to the local and that trades person becomes a member and stays employed with a signatory contractor for 30 days the referring member and the new member will receive a \$100 stipend. Both members must be in good standing with the union.

For every member who refers an experienced trades person to the local and the referred new member continues to stay employed for at least one year and both are and have continued to stay a member in good standing with the union the referring member will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a \$500 gift card.

The more referrals that a member brings forward the more chances the member has to win the \$500 gift card.

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# Supporting Pain Management through Research and Education



More than 80 percent of heroin users abused prescription painkillers before they started the illicit street drug. It's an alarming statistic in a country where more than 70,000 people die each year from drug overdose. But there's reason for hope. Through education and research, HealthPartners Institute has helped reduce the number of opioids prescribed to patients, refine alternative approaches to pain management, and improve treatment for opioid use disorder.

## What we've learned

### Decreasing narcotics, but not patient satisfaction

A new standardized protocol can reduce narcotics prescribed after hand surgery by 50 percent, according to a study by researchers at TRIA, Park Nicollet and the University of Minnesota. The protocol was used along with a patient handout on drug risks and disposal of leftover pills. Data showed that the protocol, in addition to reducing narcotics prescriptions, had no negative effect on patient satisfaction.

### Intervention improves pain management goals, reduces costly opioid use for patients with cancer

A team tested a pain intervention at Fraushuh Cancer Center with a goal to improve documentation of patients' goals for managing pain and reduce use of high-cost, long-acting opioids. The initiative achieved improvements in quality of care and clinic staff satisfaction, and lowered drug costs. The documentation of goals increased significantly, which helped assess and address patients' management of pain, and rates of high-cost, long-acting opioid prescriptions as a total of all long-acting opioids declined by 11 percent.

### Planning ahead to deal with pain after neurosurgery

Patients with difficulty managing postsurgical pain often have a longer hospital stay and are at risk for re-admission. A team at Regions Hospital is studying whether screening patients for risk and conducting a pre-operative pain consultation can better identify and improve outcomes for patients likely to have uncontrolled pain after neurosurgery. Having a better

understanding of which patients may struggle allows for strategies to help them cope. Resources include referrals to the pain management clinic for individualized treatment plans and pain management education.

### Yoga as a treatment for chronic pain

An institute study found that yoga can be effective at relieving chronic pain. Participants in the 10-week study saw improvement in pain interference and physical function. The yoga classes are designed for patients with chronic pain, with poses altered so everyone can take part. The study showed a trend toward improvement in pain intensity, pain behavior, mood, sleep and pain medication usage with a high likelihood of continuing yoga after classes ended.



A new protocol for hand surgery reduced narcotics prescribed by 50 percent, with no negative effect on patient satisfaction.



Nearly 90 percent of patients with cancer achieved their pain management goals, while reducing high-cost, long-acting opioid use during a study at Fraushuh Cancer Center.

## How we apply it

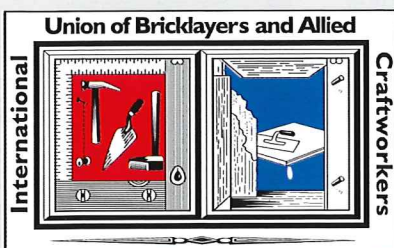
### Clinicians learn current pain management options

In 2017, we offered our first continuing medical education Pain Management Summit to address the challenges of opioids and changing standards of practice in pain management. We shared practical, evidence-based approaches to managing chronic pain with clinicians. Experts discussed common pain-related conditions, non-opioid options, current guidelines, addiction and pain, and how to safely prescribe opioids when needed.

### Improving doctor-patient conversations about pain

Patients who are in pain want relief, and they want their doctor to help them. Since the risks of opioid use are understood better now than even a few years ago, that conversation between doctor and patient has become critical.

*Continued on page 5*



**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](http://zenith-american.com)  
Call 651-256-1801 or 1-800-879-4412

## The importance of Lunch Breaks



Doug Schroeder,  
President/  
Secretary-Treasurer

During the past two years we have informed the membership of the lunch break contract language and its misuse.

Starting August 2019 the local has moved forward with its enforcement of this language.

The language in the contract is stated as such;

• Breaks and Lunch. Employees will be allowed to apply their 10-minute afternoon break at the end of the shift at the discretion of the

employer. Thirty (30) minutes is allotted for an unpaid lunch break and all employees are required to take that full break during the workday. The 10-minute morning break remains the same.

Foremen members will have charges filed on them as they are in control of the jobsite. Fines will be assessed, and their membership may be revoked until after the trial has been completed.

The members have left us no choice but to address this in the manner described. The constitutions Code of Offenses states, charges may be proffered against any member for commission of any offense enumerated in Code 5 of the International Union Constitution for one or more of the following offences:

- A. A member who has assisted any person to obtain membership in this Local Union through false statements, misrepresentation, or concealment of facts shall be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$100.00.
- B. A member who knowingly accepts as a part of his/her take-home wages any amounts the employer is required to contribute or pay to a fund established under an applicable collective bargaining agreement of the Local shall be fined not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$250.00.
- C. A member who violates, or conspires in the violation of, any provision of a current applicable collective bargaining agreement of the Local shall be fined not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$250.00, except as otherwise provided in this Article and may, in appropriate circumstances, be removed from office, barred from office or expelled from membership. Fines for a first offense under this Section shall not exceed \$100.00.
- D. A member who violates any provision of this Constitution shall be fined not less than \$10.00 nor more than \$250.00,

except as otherwise provided, and may, in appropriate circumstances, be removed from office, barred from office, or expelled from membership.

- E. A member who knowingly violates any authorized order of any officer, representative, committee or body of this Local, or who advocates, counsels, or conspires at such violation shall be fined not less than \$10.00 and not more than \$250.00.
- F. A member who engages in conduct which interferes with the performance by the Local Union or any member thereof of its, or his/her legal or contractual obligations shall be fined not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$250.00, and may, in appropriate circumstances, be removed from office, barred from office or expelled from membership.
- G. A member who fails to appear before a legally appointed committee or before the Local Union when properly notified and without just cause, such as illness or unavoidable absence from the area, shall be fined \$25.00 for the first offense, \$75.00 for the second offense, and \$200.00 for the third offense.
- H. Any member who refuses at any meeting of this Local Union to abide by established and reasonable rules pertaining to the member's conduct shall be fined not more than \$100.00.
- I. Any member who interferes with any officer or other official or employee of this Local Union in the performance of his/her duties shall be fined not more than \$250.00, and may, in appropriate circumstances, be removed from office, barred from office, or expelled from membership.
- J. A member who attempts to bring about the secession or disaffiliation from the Local of any member or group of members shall be fined at least \$100.00 and not more than \$250.00 and, if an officer, may in appropriate circumstances be removed from office, barred from office, or expelled from membership.
- K. Any member who commits any act which is seriously detrimental to the interests of the Local Union, shall be fined at least \$10.00 and not more than \$250.00 and, in appropriate circumstances, may be removed from office, barred from office, or expelled from membership.

These charges can be brought against any member who is willingly taking a lunch that is less than 30 minutes.

Again, I invite you to come to your chapter meeting to discuss or you can choose to speak to me directly.

## Training Center News, August 2019

By Barry Blazevic, Manager of Operations

Summer 2019 at the BAC training center in New Hope, MN., has been very busy. We conducted a pre-job program with help from an Apex grant through the State of Minnesota. We combined the brick and tile programs starting with approximately 38 individuals. We finished with 21 brick and six tile people that we sent to the field as pre-apprentices. Numerous contractors sent representatives to the center during the 6-week program to look at the candidates as future employees. Nineteen of the 21 brick pre-apprentices went to work the Monday following completion of the pre-apprentice training. We hope to see all of them back in the fall.

The training center staff is working on changes to our programs starting in September. Apprentices will come to school from 1-7 pm on their scheduled day, every-other week. In the metro, larger apprentice groups will be split and alternate every other week.

We are also in the process of hiring a full-time masonry instructor for the brick program. The interview process has gone well. It is our belief these changes will have a positive impact on the apprentice experience and help to achieve the desired outcomes; high functioning quality apprentices that are ready for a productive career in their respective trade while meeting the needs of the signatory contractors within the local.

There has been much effort put forth in the area of technology. We have been working to improve our website and social media outlets, thus giving a more vibrant look to our activities and improve access for our members and those interested in what we have to offer in the masonry, PCC, tile and terrazzo trade areas. Please take time to visit our webpage, and watch for journey-worker upgrades



scheduled in your geographical location as well as scheduled activities at the training center for the upcoming training year.

### Mac's Industrial Sports Bar Moves

In July 2019 Mac's Industrial Sports Bar moved its location to East Hennepin into the old Butcher Block location. The business has been a staple of the Minneapolis Labor Temple for many years. We wish them the best in their new location.



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# Pain Management *Continued from page 2*

Consistent and clear information is key in developing shared pain management goals and treatment plans. Our Patient Education team worked closely with HealthPartners Chronic Pain Steering Committee to develop guiding messages about pain management to help patients create realistic expectations about managing pain.

## What's Next?

### Improving treatment of opioid use disorder

We are piloting a clinical decision support tool we developed to help primary care clinicians better identify, assess and treat opioid use disorder. Opioid Wizard identifies patients at risk for the disorder, gives clinicians diagnosis and treatment options, offers patient education materials, recommends

preventive services and suggests referrals or prescriptions.

### Reducing opioid use in dentistry

We are studying the most effective way to reduce opioid pain medication for dental extractions. The goal of this study is to reduce reliance on opioids in favor of non-opioid pain medications. Researchers will compare different strategies to increase alternative pain management approaches using clinical decision support tools for dentists and patients.

### Studying medical cannabis for patients with advanced cancer

We are enrolling patients into a study of the effectiveness of medical cannabis to treat cancer-related symptoms. Scientific evidence for its use is currently limited. This study could help determine whether it relieves pain, nausea, insomnia and other symptoms and if it can decrease the reliance on opioids.

## Treating Pain Without Pills



Nearly one-third of Americans experience pain. Pain medication is the most commonly prescribed class of drugs in the United States. Opioids are sometimes needed for patients who've had major surgery, a serious injury, advanced cancer or are at the end of their lives. However, these medications don't always work as well as other approaches, should not be used for chronic pain and can lead to addiction and result in complications or even death.

Because of these risks, HealthPartners health plans, clinics and hospitals, and research institute have a variety of programs to provide more effective treatment for chronic pain while reducing the use of opioids.

## Specialized Pain Clinics Provide Care That is More Effective than Opioids

HealthPartners has four clinics that offer a multidisciplinary, holistic approach to treating chronic pain. These clinics offer services in one location that address the multiple causes of pain: physical, emotional, lack of sleep, physical activity and social factors. The clinics also provide addiction services and psychiatry. This comprehensive approach addresses the fact that pain, mood and addiction are linked.

HealthPartners RiverWay Pain Clinic opened in July 2015 and has treated more than 1,100 patients. Patients have been able to taper off opioids while their pain levels decreased 50 percent (from 8 out of 10 to 4 out of 10).

## Reducing Opioid Use through Our Health Plan

HealthPartners health plan has had checks in place since 2012 to prevent the overuse and misuse of opioids. These include:

### PROGRAM TO PREVENT MULTIPLE PRESCRIPTIONS

Patients who receive multiple prescriptions from multiple

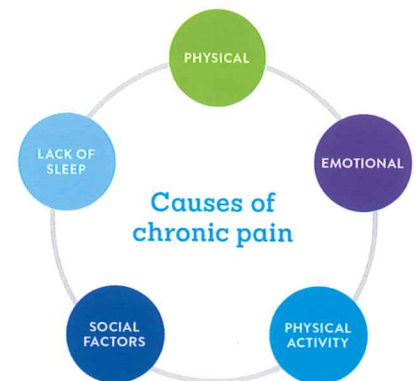
providers may be limited to one doctor, one pharmacy and one emergency department for two or more years. This prevents the ability to get multiple prescriptions at the same time.

### REVIEW HIGH-PRESCRIBING CLINICIANS

Clinicians who prescribe higher-than-normal levels of opioids are regularly reviewed to ensure medications are being prescribed appropriately.

### LIMITS ON THE STRENGTH

Based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HealthPartners limits coverage to opioids that have a morphine equivalent dose (MED) of 90 mg per day. MED is a tool to measure the potency of opioid medications. Higher doses require prior authorization and documentation of monitoring.





## Linda Podgorski Retires

We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Linda Podgorski on her retirement. Linda has worked for the local as an administrative assistant for 27 years. She has seen the leadership come and go during the years and she has been the one constant throughout. We appreciate all that she has done for the local and wish her the very best in her retirement. I would personally like to thank Linda for all her knowledge and input during the transition in leadership. She leaves us with a wealth of knowledge that I greatly appreciate.

Congratulations, Linda!

—President/Secretary-Treasurer  
Doug Schroeder

### St. Cloud, MN: 40-Year Member

Left to right: 40-year member Mike Bergman and Vice President Mike Ganz

## Women of the BAC Trades Women Build Nations Conference



We are excited to announce that the Trades Women Build Nations 9th National Conference will be held at Hilton, Minneapolis Oct. 6, 2019.

Trades Women Build Nations is the largest conference of its type in North America and continues to grow each year. This conference is for women of all ages and skill levels who work, or aspire to work in the construction trades, and offers opportunities for networking, learning and development for all attendees.

Please contact the hall at 612-379-2966 to sign up for the conference. We will take care of the registration for you!

Please follow TWBN's official social media accounts on Twitter and Instagram @twbn2019. Share your photos and videos for this year's conference using #twbn2019.

For more information on the convention please go to <https://nabtu.org/twbn>.

## BAC ATV Ride and Cook Out

Akeley, MN July 13, 2019

About 13 fun-loving, outdoorsy ATV riders with 11 machines hit the trail on July 13 for the annual BAC ATV ride and cookout in Akeley, MN. Organizer and business rep Mike Ganz described the day as decent and warm as the group rode nearly 40 dusty miles. At the end of the day, all enjoyed a fish fry around laughter and fellowship.

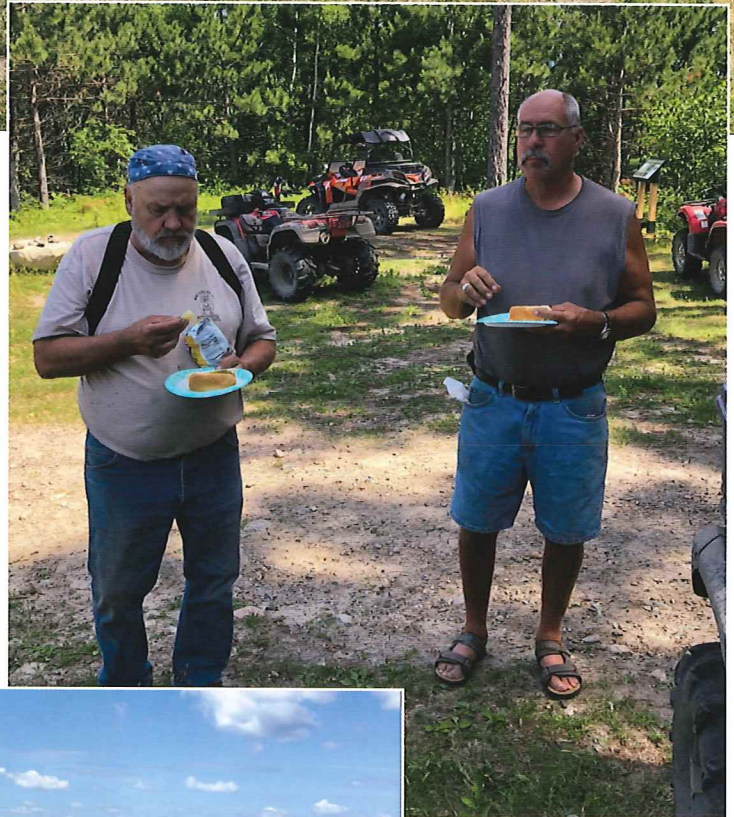


Photo credits: Mike Ganz



### IMI Masonry Minute

#### Key IMI Activity Highlights

Minnesota IMI Director Mark Swanson promotes the use of masonry and skilled union craftworkers by providing masonry education and consulting to the design and construction community. The main goal of his activity is to create more job opportunities for signatory contractors and members of BAC Local 1 MN/ND/SD.

#### Recent IMI Seminars

Swanson and Sam Rubenzer, PE, IMI's consulting engineer, presented to more than 40 architects, project managers, and estimators at Ryan Companies US, Inc., in June. They delivered a seminar geared toward contractors showing the value of designing efficient masonry walls and buildings with skilled union craftworkers. Cost and schedule were the focus for this group. Several case study examples were shown of structural coalition efforts where masonry proved to be a better delivery system than other materials. They also presented What Non Engineers Need to Know about Structural Masonry to BWBR in St. Paul, MN. Other recent IMI seminars include HTG Architects, BTR Architects, Target Corporation, and LSE architects.

#### Masonry Wednesday Seminar Series at the BAC Training Center

Masonry Wednesdays are held the third Wednesday of the month. BAC contractors and members are welcome to attend Masonry Wednesday seminars. We bring in product manufacturers and industry professionals to educate and demonstrate the value of masonry to architects, engineers, signatory contractors and owners. In June, Lori Gunderson from Hallmark Building Supply presented Fluid Applied Air Barrier Membranes: Advances and Applications. More than 70 architects, engineers, and signatory contractors registered for the event. In July, John Finnochio from Rockwool presented

on Understanding Stone Wool insulation. In August, Peter Gotler PE, of 3M presented Air Barrier Systems – Understanding the Technologies and their Importance. Check the Masonry Wednesday schedule for upcoming seminar topics.

#### Facades + Conference

In July, Facades +, a conference on high-performance building enclosures was in Minneapolis. This conference occurs in multiple cities around the US during the year. BAC Local 1

Administrative Assistant Meghan Bittner and Swanson staffed the IMI booth. Tim Miller and Gary Tuttle attended from Advanced Masonry Restoration. There were many networking opportunities that evolved out of the conference, from project involvement-technical assistance to Masonry Wednesday speakers. There were panel presentations and discussions on Allianz Field in St. Paul, Unitized Panelized Systems, and Climate Driven Strategies

IMI MASONRY WEDNESDAYS	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month BAC Training Center	
January 16 <sup>th</sup> .....	BASF
February 20 <sup>th</sup> .....	Prosoco
March 20 <sup>th</sup> .....	IMI-Tornados & IBC 2015
April 17 <sup>th</sup> .....	Restoration Day
May 15 <sup>th</sup> .....	Hohman & Barnard - anchors
June 19 <sup>th</sup> .....	Tyvek - Air Barriers
July 17 <sup>th</sup> .....	Rock Wool
August 21 <sup>st</sup> .....	3M- Air Barrier Technologies
September 18 <sup>th</sup> .....	Masonry Day with Scott Walkowicz & Sam Rubenzer
October 16 <sup>th</sup> .....	IMI- Pat Conway – CDs & Specs
November 20 <sup>th</sup> .....	York Flashing
December 18 <sup>th</sup> .....	Henry: Building Envelope systems

2019 Masonry Wednesday Schedule



2019 Facades + Minneapolis Panel Session





2019 Facades + Minneapolis IMI Director Mark Swanson and Gary Tuttle from Advanced Masonry Restoration



2019 Facades + Minneapolis IMI Admin Assist Meghan Bittner

for High Performing Facades. Swanson delivered “Designing and Detailing Rainscreen Walls” to a large group of inquisitive architects and contractors in the afternoon session.

### Technical Assistance and Project Involvement

Swanson has been providing project consulting to architects, engineers, and signatory contractors with best practice masonry detail information. Recently, he along with Tom Miller of AMR, have been in conversation with Wilkus Architects working a multi-wythe renovation project in Minneapolis. Using lessons learned and best practices from the Mill City Museum project, Swanson and Miller provided valuable assistance to the architects on this project.



Mill City Top of Wall by AMR.

### JBC Award

Joan B. Calambokidis served as President of the International Masonry Institute from 1995-2017.

The JBC Masonry Innovation Competition was founded in 2018 to honor Calambokidis’s legacy of masonry innovation, including groundbreaking advancements in training, education, research, and technical development.

Her leadership was instrumental in creating IMI’s renowned training programs for craftworkers, contractors, and

design professionals. Her vision for training has helped to bring an unprecedented level of skill, quality, and craftsmanship to masonry construction projects across the U.S. and Canada.

The JBC Masonry Innovation Competition challenges designers

to put their creativity to work. We want to see your new ideas and groundbreaking proposals for masonry design and construction. We’re looking for any solutions that add value, usefulness, appreciation, or relevance to masonry. Proposed solutions and completed structures will be accepted as submissions. Help us spread the word about the competition!

IMI is giving away a total of \$30,000 in prizes across three categories!

- Students (undergrad and grad enrolled in a design, architecture, or engineering program) -\$5,000 awarded to a student and \$5,000 to the school’s program.

- Young Architects and Engineers (under the age of 40) - \$10,000.

- A/E Firms, Individual Architects and Engineers, or Cross-Category Teams - \$10,000.

Photo credit: Gingersnapsback Photography



### Training Programs for You

Training, quality, and safety are what set BAC apart from our competition. To learn more about training programs available to BAC members, visit [www.IMTEF.org](http://www.IMTEF.org) and [www.bactraining.org](http://www.bactraining.org).

Mark Swanson can be reached at [mswanson@imiweb.org](mailto: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](http://www.imiweb.org).



## Welcome

### OUR NEW MEMBERS

Keith Bell	Michael Maxwell
Korbin Bigelow	Andrew Meyers
Robert Bina	Rafael Rosado
Robert Clay	Daniel Sailor
Benjamin Crary	Xavier Samos
Michael Durant	Jerome Schmidt
Bryan Fetsch	Nathaniel Schroder
Thomas Gibbons	Jeffrey Stadtler
James Hinrichs	Tyler Swanson



## Deceased Members

### #1 MN-St. Paul

Robert Johnson  
Bernard Kane  
Bernard Motl

### #2 MN-Mpls

John Anderson  
Richard Benson  
Roderick Borg  
Wilfried Groeger  
Duane Johnson  
Junior Krippner  
Ronald Lund

### #4 MN - St. Cloud

Lloyd Davenport  
Jimmy Eggen

### #11 MN - Mankato

Donald Theissen

### #15 MN - Brainerd

Gordon Wegner

### #16 MN - Hibbing/ Virginia

David Lind

### #18 MN-Tile

Cory Buerke

### #1 SD-Sioux Falls

Dennis Mriden

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# 2019 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

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:  
4:30 p.m. Sept. 9, Nov. 11  
Delta Hotels-Mpls. NE, 1330 Industrial  
Blvd NE, Minneapolis: All Metro  
members 7 p.m. Dec. 19

## Chapter 1-Sioux Falls, SD

101 S. Fairfax Ave., Sioux Falls Labor  
Temple: 6 p.m. Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov.  
12, Dec. 10

## Chapter 2-Yankton, SD

209 Cedar Terrace, Yankton VFW:  
5 p.m. Sept. 13, Nov. 8

## Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range

Duluth, Duluth Labor Center: 7 p.m.  
Sept. 11, Dec. 11  
Hibbing, Crown Ballroom: 6 p.m.  
Nov. 13

## Chapter 3-Aberdeen, SD

617 S. 15th St., Aberdeen Central Labor  
Union: 7 p.m. Sept. 16, Nov. 18

## Chapter 4-Rapid City, SD

922 E. St. Patrick St., Rapid City Labor  
Temple: 7 p.m. Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6

## Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd

St. Cloud Labor Home: 7 p.m. Nov. 6  
Brainerd American Legion: 7 p.m.  
Sept. 5, Dec. 5

## Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester, Rochester Eagles Club:  
7 p.m. Sept. 9, Dec. 2  
Faribault, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Nov. 4



## Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm

Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club:  
7 p.m. Sept. 5, Dec. 5

## Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Bemidji, Elks Club: 5 p.m. Sept. 12,  
Nov. 14, Dec. 12  
Bismarck, AmVets: 7 p.m. Nov. 12  
Fargo, Dilworth Hi Ho Tavern: 5:30 p.m.  
Sept. 24, Dec. 10  
Grand Forks, E. Grand Forks American  
Legion: 7 p.m., Sept. 25, Dec. 11  
Minot VFW: 7 p.m. Nov. 13

## GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

## Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range

Duluth area: Holiday Inn, 6 p.m. Oct. 11  
Iron Range: Valentini's, 6 p.m. Oct. 12

## Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester, Rochester's Eagle Club:  
6 p.m. June 7

## OTHER EVENTS

### Retirees Club Breakfast meetings

Jax Cafe, Minneapolis, 9 a.m., Sept. 26,  
Dec. 5

### 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

Brigittes Café, 9:30 a.m.,  
Third Thursday of each month

### Executive Committee meeting

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis  
9 a.m. Oct. 4

### Semiannual Meeting-All of MN/ND/SD

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis  
9 a.m. Oct. 5

### Chapter 3 Golf Tournament

Grandview Golf Links, Duluth  
8 a.m. Sept. 7



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# QUARTERLY UPDATE

## QUARTERLY UPDATE

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312 Central Avenue, Suite 328  
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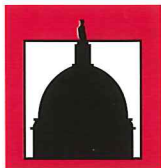
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## GOVERNMENT POLITICS: OUR ISSUES



### POLITICS – Our Issues

By Bill McCarthy,  
MN AFL-CIO President

#### Building a State that Stands with Working People

In the state of Minnesota, employers who commit wage theft, the practice of withholding wages that workers have earned, will now face the same criminal penalties as anyone else who steals, including fines and jail time.

The new wage theft law that Governor Tim Walz signed is the culmination of years of hard work by Minnesota's Labor Movement and our allies in communities across the state. Working people from across the state came to the Capitol to share their experiences with wage theft – workers whose employers went out of business without final paychecks, workers who were shorted overtime or paid less than the minimum wage, and workers who were never paid.

The new wage theft law is truly a win for working Minnesotans. However, the work of building a state that truly stands with working people is far from over. While

Minnesota's union workers come from different places and backgrounds, we are united by our shared values. We believe in dignity, justice, and freedom for working Minnesotans. These are the values our Labor Movement strives for – not just for union members, but for all working people.

When the Legislature reconvenes early next year, they will have the opportunity to chart a new course. They have the opportunity to act boldly. They have the opportunity to invest in priorities that reflect the best of Minnesota by putting working families first.

Putting working people first means protecting and improving the transportation system we depend on every day to get us to our jobs and home safely. We can't afford to let our roads and bridges fall apart and we must never let a tragedy like the 35W bridge collapse ever happen again. Governor Walz and House DFLers supported a comprehensive, long-term and sustainable transportation funding package to fix our roads and bridges, ease congestion, make Minnesotans safer, and create new construction jobs. We are disappointed Senate Republicans chose not to prioritize a safe and modern transportation system. This issue isn't going away and will need to be addressed next year.



Putting working people first means the freedom for Minnesotans to care for themselves and the people they love without sacrificing a paycheck. Creating a paid family and medical leave program, as Governor Walz and House Democrats proposed this year, will make Minnesota a happier and healthier place to live and work. Senate Republicans stood in the way of making this a reality during the 2019 legislative session, but we aren't giving up. As a co-chair of Minnesotans for Paid Family & Medical Leave, the Minnesota AFL-CIO remains committed to fighting for this freedom.

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MINNESOTA'S WORKING PEOPLE