

LOCAL UNION 160, IBEW
2909 Anthony Lane
St. Anthony, MN 55418

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NEWSLETTER - 192ND EDITION

JULY/AUGUST 2018

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Robert J. Boogren- Business Mgr/Financial Secretary
Alan P. Rademacher- President
Darrin L. Helget- Vice President
Mark A. Ring - Recording Secretary
Dan A. McConnell - Treasurer

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Clayton E. Kaeter
Kevin J. Kaeter
Scott E. Knight
Randal L. Nass
James M. Tobin

OFFICE STAFF

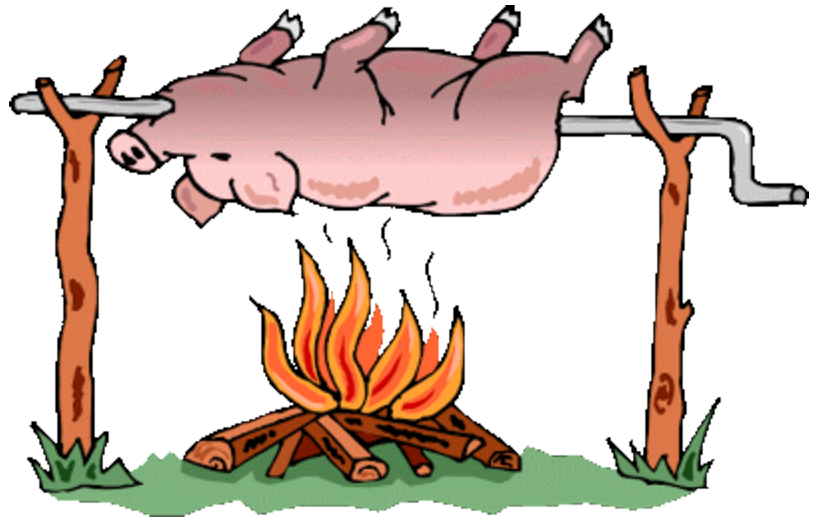
Daniel J. Kieffer - Assistant Business Manager
Jon D. Michels - Business Representative
Kurt W. Zimmerman - Business Representative
Thomas D. Cassidy - Business Representative
Martin A. Carey - Business Representative
Eric W. Spielmann - Business Representative
Michael J. Ringstad - Business Representative
Andrew D. Kieffer - Membership Development
Rose M. Eiden - Bookkeeper
Shari L. Johnson - Office Manager
Stacy L. Helget - Secretary
Ami L. Wilson - Receptionist/Referral Clerk

General Membership Meetings

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!!!!

Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

- Minneapolis:** August 2 & September 6, 2018
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall
2909 Anthony Lane
- Becker:** August 16 & September 20, 2018
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall
- Mo Valley:** August 28, 2018 - 7:30 p.m.
St. Anthony - Union Hall
September 21, 2018- 7:30 p.m.
Grand Rapids Union Hall
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids
- Great River :** August 9 & September 13, 2018
6:00 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall



IBEW Local 160 35th Annual Pig Roast

- When:** September 27, 2018
- Time:** 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Where:** IBEW Local 160's Hall
2909 Anthony Lane
St. Anthony, MN 55418



Reps Cell Phone #'s

Bob Boogren - (612) 308-5520
Dan Kieffer - (612) 309-8640
Jon Michels - (612) 750-3755
Kurt Zimmerman - (612) 991-0022
Tom Cassidy - (763) 213-3536
Marty Carey - (612) 723-2001
Eric Spielmann - (612) 799-3997
Mike Ringstad - (763) 355-7283
Andy Kieffer - (612) 258-5833

Minneapolis Tel # (612) 781-3126

Minneapolis' Fax # (612) 781-4225

Grand Rapids Phone Number

Tel. # (218) 326-0533

Fax # (218) 326-0534

Becker Office Numbers

Marty C.- (763) 262-1197

Eric S.- (763) 262-1198

Kurt Z. - (763) 262-1189

Fax # (763) 262-1168

Local Union 160 web site - www.ibew160.org

L.U. 160 general email address - 160@ibew160.org

From the Editor, Rose M Eiden

The information contained in this newsletter has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, & the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy. However, the Local Union does not guarantee that contents of the publication are correct, & statements attributed to other sources do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Local Union #160.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL RETIREES

We are looking to clean up our meeting notice mailing list, so we as a committee decided that any retiree who has not attended a Retiree Meeting in the last three (3) years will be dropped from the list.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE THE NEWSLETTER. All retirees will still receive the newsletter. They are separate lists.

If you have any questions, please call me at (612) 239-5849.

Pete Sandberg
President of the Retiree Club

6th District Progress Meeting and Women's Conference will be held on September 25th, 26th and 27th in Bloomington, Minnesota.

Right now Local 160 is sending four (4) members to the women's conference. If you are interested in going, please contact Shari Johnson at the hall - (612) 781-3126 by July 31, 2018

A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

As some of you are probably aware the Supreme Court ruling on Janus v. AFSCME Council 31 was handed down recently. With it comes a major blow to organized labor in the public sector. Non-members no longer have to pay ANY fees to the Local Union, yet we must still represent them! This ruling reverses 40 years' worth of precedent. It is another clear case of Union busting by taking away our ability to have the fiduciary means to repel some of these attacks.

For those of you who are not registered to vote, don't think your vote counts, or vote because of a single issue, its time to take a hard look at the people we elect. There are many good reasons and causes that affect the way we vote, and I am not saying they should be overlooked. What I am saying is we need to give that same consideration to our jobs!

As a Union we are fighting for our very existence. What is happening to unions around this great nation is a direct result of people NOT voting for labor friendly candidates. This has got to change! To get that change we must vote. In Local 160's jurisdiction over 22% of our members are not registered to vote. To preserve our livelihood, and way of life we need 100% of our members voting.

Just a quick note about membership meetings. The general membership meetings that are held on the 1st Thursday (St. Anthony hall) and 3rd Thursday (Becker hall) of every month is for ALL Local 160 members. It has been brought to my attention that some members believe it is just for the Xcel benefit members, and that is not the case. We would love to see members from the Outside Construction group to the Tree Trimmers and any one of our 40+ other companies that 160 members work at.

In Solidarity,

Robert J. Boogren
Cell: (612) 308-5520

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As the legislative session adjourns, I write to you by expressing my gratitude towards our elected officials for voting on a recent amendment to a law that will help the safety of ALL roadside workers throughout the great State of Minnesota. In the year of 2000 State Trooper Ted Foss was struck by a passing motorist on Interstate I-90 in Winona, MN. The legislature created the "Ted Foss Move Over Law." The law states that when traveling on a roadway with two or more lanes going in one direction, the motorist must move over one lane when passing by stopped emergency vehicles with their emergency lights activated. Examples would be ambulance, fire, law enforcement, maintenance, construction and tow trucks. This law has been very effective in keeping roadside workers safe on four lane roadways with two lanes of traffic going in one direction over the years, but isn't effective for many linemen throughout the state who usually work along two lane roadways with a single lane of traffic going in each direction.

My co-worker and I have had many close calls over the past number of years nearly getting hit by traffic alongside the roadways. We were committed to find ways to make our jobs safer for ourselves and our work groups by getting better traffic control while we worked. As many of our ideas did not work or would not be allowed by county and state agencies, we reached out to law enforcement on ideas. We had a safety meeting at Xcel Energy and a State Trooper told us about the "Ted Foss Move Over Law". The trooper regretted to tell us that the law wasn't written to protect us on the roadways we work on most often, two lane roadways. We decided that we needed to get the law changed. Scott contacted House Representative Greg Davids, Republican-Preston, who was the author of the bill in the House. He helped us get a bill drafted that would include utility workers alongside two lane roadways. I presented the idea of the change of law to the Xcel Energy Board of Directors at a meeting and they unanimously approved that we move ahead with the law change. With backing of the company's lobbyists to help campaign for the change. Andy Snope, IBEW State Council Legislative and Political Director also campaigned for the change of the law. I had to testify in public safety committees with both the House and the Senate for it to be heard. I'm proud to say that it passed the House unanimously with 124 yea's and 0 nay's. Senator Mike Goggin, Republican-Red Wing, was the author of the bill in the Senate. Senator Goggin is an IBEW Member at Xcel's Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant in Red Wing. The Senate also passed the bill sending it to Governor Dayton's desk. He signed it on May 20, 2018.

I would like to thank the IBEW Local 160 Hall for supporting Scott and I through this journey, Local Union 292 Business Manager Peter Lindhall for testifying along side me at a hearing, Xcel Energy Board of Directors, Xcel Energy Lobbyists, Andy Snope, House Rep. Greg Davids, Senator Mike Goggin, and Scott E. Knight, along with all of Xcel Energy's upper management and local management. This couldn't of happened without everyone's support and belief. The law will become effective on August 1, 2018.

Please share with your family and friends of the revision of the Ted Foss Law. The challenge now starts with the education piece. We need to get the word out to everyone to move over and slow down to keep all roadside workers safe.

Your brother,

Kellen A. Schmidt - Journeyman Lineman - Xcel Energy, Waconia, MN

IBEW International President Lonnie R. Stephenson on Janus Decision

“The Supreme Court’s decision in the Janus v. AFSCME case is nothing but an all-out assault on the basic freedom of working people to come together to better their lives and their communities.

‘This is not just an attack on public-sector workers. It is an attack on every single American who works for a living, and it is only the first step in an effort to repeal every right won by working people in this country.

‘But while the Supreme Court may attack our rights, it can never stop a movement whose time has come. Across this country, workers are standing up and joining unions in higher numbers than we have seen in many years and the IBEW, along with the entire labor movement, will never stop fighting for the basic dignity and welfare of working America.’”

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY NEWS

Positive drug test among U.S. workers remain at 13-year high: annual index

Ft. Lauderdale, FL — In 2017, positive tests for illicit drugs in the American workforce remained at their highest level in more than a decade, according to the annual Drug Testing Index from lab services provider Quest Diagnostics.

Researchers analyzed more than 10 million drug test results and found that 4.2 percent of the combined U.S. workforce (both the general workforce and those who undergo federally mandated drug testing) tested positive for the second straight year. That is the highest percentage of positive tests since 2004 (4.5 percent). It was at a 30-year low of 3.5 percent as recently as 2012.

Increases in cocaine, marijuana and methamphetamine use helped keep the percentage of positive tests at a relatively elevated level, the researchers said.

Other findings:

- Positive results for meth increased between 9 percent and 25 percent this past year in portions of the Midwest, East and South.
- The percentage of positive cocaine tests increased for the fifth consecutive year for each type of testing method (urine, oral fluid and hair testing). Positive results also increased for the third straight year for safety-sensitive workers – including pilots, nuclear power plant workers and commercial motor vehicle/railroad operators – who are subject to federally required drug testing.
- Two states that have legalized recreational marijuana use since 2016, Nevada and Massachusetts, had the largest increases in positive tests for the drug: 43 percent and 14 percent, respectively. Nevada also had an increase of 39 percent in positive tests among safety-sensitive workers. Nine states and the District of Columbia have legalized recreational marijuana use.

Also of note, positive urine tests for opiates decreased 17 percent. The number of opioid prescriptions has declined each year from 2013 to 2016, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“It’s unfortunate that we mark [30 years of the Drug-Free Workplace Act](#) with clear evidence that drugs continue to invade the country’s workplaces,” Barry Sample, senior director of science and technology at Quest Diagnostics, said in the release. “Not only have declines appeared to have bottomed out, but also in some drug classes and areas of the country drug positivity rates are increasing. These changing patterns and geographical variations may challenge the ability of employers to anticipate the ‘drug of choice’ for their workforce or where to best focus their drug prevention efforts to ensure a safe and healthy work environment.”

The results of the study were presented at the Federal Transit Administration’s Drug and Alcohol Program National Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2018 David C. Ring Scholarships

College/University \$1,000

Winners:	Shelby Swenson	Parent:	Don Swenson - Connexus Energy
	Grace Schillewaert	Parent:	Bradley Schillewaert - Great River Energy
Alternates:	Molly Schoephoerster	Parent:	Michael Schoephoerster - Xcel Energy
	Haley Tausell	Parent:	Richard Tausell - Mo Valley

Vocational/Technical/Trade \$1,000

Winners:	Abigail Drevlow	Parent:	Russell Drevlow - Xcel Energy
	Jacob Fischer	Parent:	Alan Fischer - Lyon Lincoln Electric

2018 Amy O’Sullivan (On-Going) Scholarships

College/University \$500

Winners:	Cassidy Resmen	Parent:	Allen Resmen - Meeker Cooperative
	Bridget Leukuma	Parent:	Jeff Leukuma - Xcel Energy
Alternates:	Anastasia Klecker	Parent:	Patrick Klecker - Xcel Energy
	Connor Bryan	Parent:	Douglas Bryan - Great River Energy

Vocational/Technical/Trade \$500

Winners:	Marshall Schoephoerster	Parent:	Michael Schoephoerster - Xcel Energy
	Jayde Kaeter	Parent:	Kevin Kaeter - Xcel Energy

IBEW 160 Nathan S. Bloomquist Memorial Scholarship

Vocational/Technical/Trade \$500

Winner:	Dylan Rohlin	Parent:	James Rohlin - Wright Hennepin
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Brothers and Sisters,

Undoubtedly you have heard of the recent Supreme Court Decision in the case of Janus vs. AFSCME. This was a blow to labor unions but that is not what this message is about. We need to look at how the Court ruled and see what the long term effects will be on our Union.

In the Janus case the Supreme Court decided to rule against the principle of *stare decisis*, that previous cases or laws should have importance over new ones. In essence, their decision was that of a previous court made a bad ruling & they were removing it from law. The previous ruling had stood for 40 years unchanged, yet legal precedence was thrown out with the slash of a pen.

Where will this lead? With Justice Kennedy stepping down we will see the most conservative court since at least the 1920’s and while this will more than likely be a win if you are a social conservative, this will be a loss for workers. Our union is built upon the National Labor Relations Act (1935) which essentially gave unions a legal outlet to handle workplace issues. We no longer had to strike whenever something needed to change and instead people could continue to work, the business could keep making money, and both sides could peacefully negotiate.

For a long time big business has dreamed of gutting the NLRA and when the new justice is seated at the Supreme Court, they will finally have all the tools that are needrf to do so. The only solution to the situation which is unfolding around us is Solidarity. When we all stand united, we can achieve greater things than we can on our own. We will have setbacks but if we continue to work together we can make through the long winter we have ahead of us.

In Solidarity,
Andy Kieffer
Membership Development Coordinator



UADVISORS

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Interest Rates are Rising

What Impact will this have on your Pension Benefits?

What is the new GATT rate?

How does this interest rate affect my Pension Benefits?

Is this the right year for me to retire?

How do I plan for my retirement?

Reach out to our office to discuss how this could effect you individually.



Your Retirement Team!

Office: (651) 447-2235

Email: jeff.kolodjski@uadvisors.com
mike.dolezal@uadvisors.com

Website: www.uadvisors.com

Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advice offered through Great Valley Advisor Group, a registered investment advisor. IBEW 160, Great Valley Advisor Group, U Advisors and LPL Financial are separate entities.

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THIS WEEK IN LABOR HISTORY: 6/25 - 7/1

June 25

More than 8,000 people attend the dedication ceremony for The Haymarket Martyrs Monument in Chicago, honoring those framed and executed for the bombing at Haymarket Square on May 4, 1886 - 1893

Fair Labor Standards Act passes Congress, banning child labor and setting the 40-hour work week - 1938

At the urging of Black labor and civil rights leader A. Philip Randolph, Franklin Roosevelt issues an executive order barring discrimination in defense industries - 1941

June 26

Members of the American Railway Union, led by Eugene V. Debs, refuse to handle Pullman cars, in solidarity with Pullman strikers. Two dozen strikers were killed over the course of the strike - 1894

The 189-mile long St. Lawrence Seaway opens, making the Great Lakes accessible to Atlantic shipping. Thousands of laborers toiled for decades to make it happen; indirectly and directly, the Seaway today supports 75,000 jobs in Canada and 150,000 in the U.S. - 1959

June 27

Congress passes the National Labor Relations Act, creating the structure for collective bargaining in the United States - 1935

A 26-day strike of New York City hotels by 26,000 workers—the first such walkout in 50 years—ends with a 5-year contract calling for big wage and benefit gains - 1985

A.E. Staley locks out 763 workers in Decatur, Ill. The lockout was to last two and one-half years - 1993

June 28

Birthday of machinist Matthew Maguire, who many believe first suggested Labor Day. Others believe it was Peter McGuire, a carpenter - 1850

President Grover Cleveland signs legislation declaring Labor Day an official U.S. holiday - 1894

June 29

What is to be a 7-day streetcar strike begins in Chicago after several workers are unfairly fired. Wrote the police chief at the time, describing the strikers' response to scabs: "One of my men said he was at the corner of Halsted and Madison Streets, and although he could see fifty stones in the air, he couldn't tell where they were coming from." The strike was settled to the workers' satisfaction - 1885

An executive order signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt establishes the National Labor Relations Board. A predecessor organization, the National Labor Board, established by the Depression-era National Industrial Recovery Act in 1933, had been struck down by the Supreme Court - 1934

The U.S. Supreme Court rules in *CWA v. Beck* that, in a union security agreement, a union can collect as dues from nonmembers only that money necessary to perform its duties as a collective bargaining representative - 1988

June 30

Alabama outlaws the leasing of convicts to mine coal, a practice that had been in place since 1848. In 1898, 73 percent of the state's total revenue came from this source. 25 percent of all Black leased convicts died - 1928

Nineteen (19) firefighters die when they are overtaken by a wildfire they are battling in a forest northwest of Phoenix, Ariz. It was the deadliest wildfire involving firefighters in the U.S. in at least 30 years - 2013

July 1

Homestead, Pa., steel strike. Seven (7) strikers and three (3) Pinkertons killed as Andrew Carnegie hires armed thugs to protect strikebreakers - 1892

One million railway shopmen strike - 1922

Some 1,100 streetcar workers strike in New Orleans, spurring the creation of the po' boy sandwich by a local sandwich shop owner and one-time streetcar man. "Whenever we saw one of the striking men coming," Bennie Martin later recalled, "one of us would say, 'Here comes another poor boy.'" Martin and his wife fed any striker who showed up - 1929

In what was to be a month-long strike, 650,000 steelworkers shut down the industry while demanding a number of wage and working condition improvements. They won all their demands including a union shop - 1956.

LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Cody Anderson	Ryan Bieganski
Alan Blue	Thomas Boes
Bradley Danelke	Preston Desrosier
David Doran	Adam Eye
Benjamin Fallon	Brandon Farmer
Chase Fegert	Timothy French
Linus Gould	Christopher Herold
Alexander Hilsgen	Jeffrey Hronoski
Matthew James	Charles Johnson
Samuel Johnson	Dustin Kaczmarek
Soren Kuehn	Nathan Kurowski
Douglas Mavencamp	Drew Meyer
Bradley Mielke	Cody Miller
Isaiah Nelson	Seth Norlander
Benjamin O'Berg	Kevin Olson
Jake Pavloff	Harrison Pierce
Rick Pomerence II	Daniel Ragen
Robert Ramsey	Jesus Riojas
Tanner Rivard	Dylan Scegura
Blaine Scheele	Cole Serfling
Brenden Sperl	Richard Topor
Kentrail Upson	Cory Vanderhoff
Alexander Vonch	Michael Witt
Marcus Wolff	Cole Zeise

Membership Count = 3200

Stop watering things that were never meant to grow in your life. Water what works, what's good, what's right. Stop playing around with those dead bones and stuff you can't fix, it's over...leave it alone. You're coming into a season of greatness. If you water what's alive and divine, you will see a harvest like you've never seen before. Stop wasting water on dead issues, dead relationships, a dead past. No matter how much you water concrete. You can't grow a garden.

T.D. Jakes

If you had to choose between eating tacos every day or being skinny for life, would you choose hard or soft taco's?



Author Unknown

GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:



Barbara Bourgeois - Connexus Energy
Ron Jude - Xcel Energy
Betty Otremba - Xcel Energy
Shad Smith - Asplundh Tree

IN MEMORIAN

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our brothers & sister. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families & friends.

Andrew Gerold - Active East Central - Died 5/10/18
Harold (Bud) Harbinson - Retired NSP - Died 6/11/18
Michael Hemze - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 6/20/18
Richard Newcomb - Retired Mo Valley - Died 5/31/18
Al Regel - Retired NSP - Died 5/5/18
Richard Trebtoske - Retired NSP - Died 5/16/18
Sandra Tschida - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 6/6/18

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.

Thomas Hakala - Connexus Energy
Robert Harrison - Xcel Energy
Roy Landowski - Xcel Energy
Marcus Lewis - Xcel Energy
Terrence Lien - Great River Energy
Patrick Robinette - Mo Valley
Douglas Trnka - Mo Valley
Michael Worrel - Xcel Energy



To all active and retired members. If you have any ideas for future newsletter articles, please feel free to call me with suggestions or email me at rme@ibew160.org.

You know the number (612) 781-3126.

Thank you.

Rose

P.S. I have to apologize to our 8 members who work for the City of North St. Paul. I didn't realize you weren't set up to receive the newsletter since you have joined until now. Please accept my deepest apology.