

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

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NEWSLETTER - 190TH EDITION

MARCH/APRIL 2018

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Andrew D. Kieffer - Membership Development

Rose M. Eiden - Bookkeeper

Shari L. Johnson - Office Manager

Stacy L. Helget - Secretary

Ami L. Johnson - Receptionist/Referral Clerk

General Membership Meetings

Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

Minneapolis: April 5 & May 3, 2018
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall
2909 Anthony Lane

Becker: April 19 & May 17, 2018
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall

Mo Valley: April 24, 2018 - 7:30 p.m.
St. Anthony - Union Hall
May 18, 2018- 7:30 p.m.
Grand Rapids Union Hall
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids

Great River : April 12 & May 10, 2018
6:00 p.m. - 12423 Pine St
Becker Union Hall

Attention Retirees: Next meeting dates are March 28th and April 25th. So mark your calendars. Postcards will be mailed out at a later date.

The Retirees would like to welcome new members Gary Caviness, Joel Hargreaves, Merlin Knuth and Dave Silver.

Anybody that is retired from Local Union 160 may join this club for **\$20.00** a year.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

All scholarship applications are now available for 2018. If you are interested in receiving the forms please call the hall at (612) 781-3126 and they will be mailed out to you.

If you have any questions please feel free to call Ami at the same number.

Please Note: All applications must be returned to the Union Hall by April 27, 2018



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.

Rules For The Hiring Hall

There have been some confusion as of late about the rules for the hiring hall and re-registering to keep your name on the books. So listed below are some of the forgotten rules:

- ◆ No applicant presently employed in the electrical industry will be allowed to sign the Out-of-Work List.
- ◆ You must have an IBEW Official paid up dues receipt or a letter on the applicable Local Union letterhead, signed by their Business Manager or Representative, stating their full name, card number and current standing with their Local Union (if applicable).
- ◆ The referral procedure of Local Union 160 will be to dispatch between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. on regular work days. Persons will be contacted in the order of their position on the Out-of-Work List, within their classification.
- ◆ Registrants will be allowed two (2) turndowns without penalty. They will be removed from the Out-of-Work List completely for a third turndown. They must re-register in person after being removed.
- ◆ Being unavailable (ex: Member not answering the phone...etc.) when work would have been offered to the registrant shall be considered a turndown. Rejection of the applicant by an employer is not a turndown.
- ◆ Registrants must be available to report for work within twenty-four (24) hours after receiving and accepting a call from the Local Union, and if the Registrant will not be able to report within 24 hours, the call will be considered a turndown.

Please note and pass along to members of other Locals, the rules are followed by the staff who answers the phone, but they are not the ones who make the rules. If you feel there is a problem, ask to talk to the Business Manager (Robert Boogren) instead of taking it out on the person who happened to answer the phone.

Each person who comes in and signs up to be on the Out-of-Work List is given a complete copy of the rules at that time along with the re-date sheet. Please take the time to read them.

A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

It is with deep sadness that I report to you that retired Business Representative Lynn L. Martin, Jr passed away on January 11, 2018. Lynn had been living down in Mesa, Arizona with his wife Doris since his retirement in December 2012. Lynn was a Journeyman Lineman for 18 years before becoming a business rep at Local Union 160 for 34+ years. He worked with the Missouri Valley Unit and the Tree Trimmer Units. His wife, along with his children Bradley (Local Union 160 member), Nancy Kelly, Scott Kling and Kim Rich have set up a memorial with the National Sisterhood United for Journeyman Linemen. If you wish to donate, please go to <https://nsujl.org/donation/memory-brother-lynnie-martin/>. Rest In Peace Lynn L. You will be missed.

As this letter goes to print, it finally looks like the long cold winter may be coming to an end. I know March is snowy but it also melts pretty quickly too.

Just to update everyone on some things that are going on at Local 160. I am very happy to announce that Kurt Zimmerman, Mike Ringstad and myself have reached a temporary/transition agreement with Xcel Energy for the Sherco Plant. With the closures of Units 1 & 2 looming in the future, we entered into negotiations with the Company to keep the work within Local 160. With the reduction of employee's at the site due to retirements etc. we were able to come to an agreement that would keep the units running using our Mo-Valley Groundmen and using temporary helpers vs. the Laborer's. This is work for our groundmen for years to come. This is a great opportunity for Local 160 and the Mo-Valley unit. Thank you for all your support on this.

The International Women's Conference will be held at the Intercontinental Saint Paul Riverfront on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, through Saturday, June 9, 2018. Local Union 160 will be sending five (5) delegates. If you are interested in going, please contact Shari Johnson at (612) 781-3126 by Monday, April 23, 2018 so she can make the reservations and hotel reservations if needed.

There have been some recent changes to the Mo-Valley apprenticeship program. All future apprentice candidates will be required to report to the school in Indianola, Iowa for an interview and aptitude test. Then the apprentices will immediately begin a one week boot camp. Other changes include a combined ranking list from all Mo-Valley IBEW locals, and they will attend school for a week at a time every six months. Current apprentices will continue their schooling under the old program. Each local will still have their sub-committees to review the progress of their local's apprentices.,

As all of you know, Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico. Xcel Energy has been sending crews down there to help restore the electrical system. Nine (9) crews from Local 160 are part of this restoration project. They are working three (3) week intervals and are currently on the third shift. Below are some pictures of the crews working.

I would like to take this time to not only thank our Union Stewards who attended our annual training on March 3, 2018 but I would like to thank all the Union Stewards for all your hard work that you do for Local 160 and our members. Your dedication to our local does not go unnoticed and you all are truly appreciated. I do have a question for all of you. What would you like to see happen at next years Steward Training? Is there anything in particular that you would like to see discussed at the training?

Please remember, my door is always open for you.

In Solidarity,

Robert J. Boogren
Office: (612) 781-3126
Cell: (612) 308-5520
Fax: (612) 781-4225



NEAP/NEBF

Roughly sixteen hundred (1,600) members of Local Union 160 are vested with the National Electrical Annuity Plan (NEAP) and the National Electrical Benefit Fund (NEBF).

I have received numerous calls lately about missing contributions and reporting hours for the NEAP and NEBF. So I am going to explain a couple of things about their statements and hours in hopes that this will help everyone.

1. NEAP - You are vested with NEAP after 168 hours. So if you were to leave the industry, that money is yours and may be taken out only if you have under \$10,000.00 and you have been out of the industry (no contributions have been made) for thirty-six (36) months. If you have over \$10,000.00 the money will remain there, collecting interest, until you reach retirement age. Retirement age is at 55, but please note that if you do take it out at age 55 any money paid directly to you will be penalized an extra 10% in federal taxes because you received it before 59 1/2 years old. If you roll it over into an IRA then the money won't be taxed until you receive it.
2. NEBF - You are considered vested with NEBF after accumulating five (5) years vesting service credits or you turn the age of 65. There is a 1,000 hour requirement for each Vesting Service Credit (calendar year). If you work more than 1,000 hours in a calendar year, you may use the excess hours to meet the 1,000 hour requirement for other Good Years in which you worked less than 1,000 hours. A Good Year is generally a year in which you worked 300 or more hours but less than 1,000 hours in Covered Employment. This pension is based on \$32.00 for every vested year. For example, you have 30 vested years and multiply that by \$32.00, you would receive approximately \$960.00 per month. If you are married it gets more complicated.
3. NEAP - Sends out statements in February (4th quarter from previous year), May (1st quarter of current year), August (2nd quarter of current year) and November (3rd quarter of current year). Please note; The quarters are always a month off. For example the statement you just received in February was not for October, November, December but for September, October, and November 2017. This is because of the process, it usually takes the end of January before NEAP even see December's money and reports.
4. NEBF - Usually only sends out a statement once every three (3) years. I do not have access to individual records, which is the way it should be. I am at this time going to walk you through on how to get your current NEBF statement. Go to www.nebf.com. Click on NEAP if you want that statement or NEBF for the current benefits. If you click on NEBF a screen will come up and to the right of the screen it shows I want to...and you will click on estimate my benefits. This will bring you to the Login screen. If you have not registered you will have to register first. Login and it will bring you to a screen where up at the top it has an NEBF tab and NEAP tab. Click on NEBF. Go down and click on Benefit Estimate. Once the screen pops up you will want to click on submit. Below that will be NEBF Document and it will upload your benefits. This give you up to that date records. You will have to click on the red pdf symbol and it will bring up your records.
5. The NEBF/NEAP website is wonderful. One of the best tools on their website is to change your address. If you have not received a NEAP statement on a quarterly basis, it could mean they don't have a correct address for you. It also allows you to print out reports that have been mailed or for you to change your profile.
6. Many members under the Mo Valley contract do get hired on as permanent benefit employees under a different contract. If that is the case, and you don't know if you were vested under NEBF, you would be able to find out by following #4 or calling me. I would hate to see anybody lose any pension amount you have coming to you.
7. By all means, I want this to help you but it does not mean that you can't call me. My phone and door are always open for you to ask questions and/or get help with pension applications, death benefits, etc.

One last note; Local 160 currently has 1392 'A' members. If you are an 'A' member, a portion of your dues goes towards funding a small pension and death benefit through the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. This pension and death benefit is separate from the NEBF.

Any IBEW member may elect to be an 'A' member vs. a 'BA' member. At this time, the dues for the 'A' membership are \$18.00 more a month than a 'BA' member's dues. If anyone is interested in switching to an 'A' member, please feel free to call me with any questions or to have me send you a Pension Summary Plan via mail or email. Whichever is more convenient for you.

Fraternally,

Rose M. Eiden
Bookkeeper
(612) 781-3126

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On March 3, 2018, Local Union 160 held the annual stewards training. Approximately 50 of 160's union stewards (see below) attended this class, whether it be for a refresher course on the roles of a union steward or because they became a new union steward for Local 160.

Todd Gadtke and Dan Brennan from Gadtke, P.A. discussed the 3rd Party Compensation Issues and MN Workers' Compensation laws and rules. There was also an excellent Safety video shown to our stewards.

Giveaways and drawings were also held, and then lunch was served by Angeno's Pizza and Pasta.



I have been pushing our member orientation classes pretty hard these last couple of months and wanted to report that we are having one final class for this spring. This meeting will be held on March 22nd at 6:30 at the St. Anthony building. All members are welcome, but I really encourage new members to attend this informational meeting. If you plan on attending, we will be doing some grilling outside at 5:45 and watching the video "Labor's Turning Point" which pertains to the 1934 Minneapolis Trucker's Strike. This video serves as a good reminder of where we came from and the sacrifices that were made for the rights we all now enjoy.

In Solidarity,

Andrew D. Kieffer
Membership Development Coordinator
IBEW Local 160

Visit the Henry Miller IBEW Museum

[A History of Hope, Determination](#)

In 1891, ten electrical workers met in St. Louis, Missouri, to form the first national union for the advancement and safety of those practicing a challenging and dangerous craft. From their efforts came a legacy of pride, skill and dedication: the foundation of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. With hope and determination, they created an effective and respected union that has contributed to the well-being of men and women in all aspects of the industry for more than a century.

The IBEW is proud to celebrate its history through its unique museum at the union's **headquarters in Washington, D.C.** Through text, graphics, artifacts, interactive displays and video, the museum tells the story of the workers in the electrical trade.

[Explore the IBEW Museum](#)

Visit the IBEW Museum and learn how the union survived struggles, fierce opposition and internal divisions in the early years to take its place among the leaders in the labor movement.

Touch the tools of the trade past and present and get a sense of the skills needed to work in the various branches of the IBEW. Find out how the structure and culture of IBEW local unions have enriched the lives of members and their families.

Put yourself in the middle of the IBEW Convention, the union's highest governing body. See the faces and read the stories of the leaders who stepped forward to guide the union through good times and bad.

Tour Times: Monday - Friday, 9am, 11am, 1:30pm, 3:30 pm



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Interest Rates are Rising

What Impact will this have on your Pension Benefits?

As of 2014, the GATT rate calculations changed from November rates to August rates. This may bring up the following questions to address regarding pension and retirement planning:

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: Info@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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LOVE OR FOOTBALL?

What do you think—are these quotes about the game of love, or the love of the game? Fill in each blank with either the word “love” or “football.” Answers will be on the next page.

1. _____ combines the strategy of chess. It’s part ballet. It’s part battleground, part playground.
2. The greatest healing therapy is friendship and _____.
3. _____ is my sanctuary. It’s where I go to escape. It’s where I’m most happy.
4. The most important thing in the world is family and _____.
5. I don’t think anything helped me learn more about life than _____.
6. _____ taught me how hard you had to work to achieve something.
7. _____ means to commit yourself without guarantee.
8. I can live without money, but I cannot live without _____.
9. _____ is such a team sport.
10. There is always some madness in _____. But there is also always some reason in madness.

Things to Ponder

- ◆ If 7-11 is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, why are there locks on the doors?
- ◆ Why do they put Braille dots on the keypad of the drive-up ATM?
- ◆ Why is it that when you transport something by car, it’s called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it’s called cargo?
- ◆ If a black box in a plane is indestructible, why can’t they make the whole plane out of it?
- ◆ Why is it that when you’re driving and looking for an address, you turn down the volume on the radio?
- ◆ Why do kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
- ◆ How do they get a deer to cross at that yellow road sign?
- ◆ Isn’t it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do “practice”?
- ◆ It is hard to understand how a cemetery raised its burial cost and blamed it on the cost of living.
- ◆ Why don’t sheep shrink when it rains?
- ◆ Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?
- ◆ Why is it called a “near miss” when you don’t hit something?
- ◆ If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?
- ◆ Why is abbreviated such a long word?
- ◆ Is the color orange called that because it’s the color of the fruit of the same name, or was the fruit called orange because that’s its color? Which came first, the color or the fruit?

LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Jeffrey Anderson	Paul Brotzel
Michael Brown	Richard Crowson
Judi Davis	Brady Gades
Travis Hendrickson	Ross Homola
Kevin Knaeble	Sterling Knaeble
Patrick Lane	Brandon Little
Joshua Momany	Daniel Nalewaja
Jonathan O’Gara	Shane Orf
Zachary Smith	Michael Thomas
Vladimir Urusov	Clare Waldoch

Membership Count = 3134



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS AND SISTER ON THEIR RETIREMENT.

Steven R. Adams - Xcel Energy
Douglas Basara - Xcel Energy
Lawrence Dimatteo - Xcel Energy
Robert Eckerson - Covanta Energy
Bruce Ehlers - Xcel Energy
David Engblom - Covanta Energy
Einar Finnvik - Xcel Energy
Kenneth Kubes - Xcel Energy
Dale Nygaard - Xcel Energy
Charles Regnier - Xcel Energy
Thomas Schneider - Xcel Energy



Answers to Love or Football?

1. Football - Steve Sabol
2. Love - Hubert H. Humphrey
3. Football - Odell Beckham, Jr.
4. Love - John Wooden
5. Football - Josh McDaniels
6. Football - Kenny Chesney
7. Love - Anne Campbell
8. Love - Judy Garland
9. Football - Troy Molamalu
10. Love - Friedrich Nietzsche

GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE

FOLLOWING MEMBERS:



Doug Bryan - Great River Energy
William Gerlach - Xcel Energy
Darrel Gunion - Connexus Energy
Tor Kindem - East Central Energy
Jeff Leukuma - Xcel Energy
Jay Martell - Connexus Energy
Art McClellan - Mo-Valley
Mark Weis - Xcel Energy



IN MEMORIAN

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

William Beddie - Retired NSP - Died 2/20/18
Gerald Carlson - Retired NSP - Died 2/28/18
Terry Strehlow - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 2/2/18



Strange But True Facts

1. There is a McDonalds in every continent except Antarctica.
2. Mr. Potato Head was the first toy to be advertised on TV.
3. In South Korea there is an emergency number (113) to report spies.
4. There are no bridges over the Amazon River.
5. Snails have 14000 teeth and some can even kill you!
6. Admiral Ackbar from *Star Wars Episode VI: Return of the Jedi* was not a man in a suit, it was actually a giant puppet.
7. Even though Froot Loops are different colors, they all have exactly the same flavor.
8. George Clooney did the voice for ‘Sparky’ - a gay dog in *South Park*.
9. Most toilet paper sold for home use in France is pink.
10. A human nose can remember 50,000 different scents.
11. Cards against Humanity bought an island in Maine to preserve wildlife. It is called Hawaii 2.
12. The television was invented only two years after the invention of sliced bread.
13. Bullfrogs do not sleep.