NEWSLETTER - 188TH EDITION
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

OFFICERS
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. Johnson - Receptionist/Referral Clerk
Our Next Union Meetings Will Be Held:

Minneapolis: Dec 7, 2017 & January 4, 2018  
6:30 p.m. - St. Anthony Union Hall  
2909 Anthony Lane

Becker: Dec 21, 2017 & January 18, 2018  
6:30 p.m. - 12423 Pine St  
Becker Union Hall

Mo Valley: December 19, 2017 - 7:30 p.m.  
St. Anthony - Union Hall  
Grand Rapids Union Hall  
300 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids

Great River: Dec 14, 2017 & January 11, 2018  
6:00 p.m. - 12423 Pine St  
Becker Union Hall

LOCAL 160’s HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Thanksgiving - November 23 & 24, 2017  
Christmas - December 25 & 26, 2017  
New Year’s - January 1, 2018

Attention Retirees: Holiday Party will be held on December 20, 2017. Come join in the festivities (cake, door prizes, etc.) Yearly dues are $15.00. So mark your calendars and come and enjoy.

LOCAL 160 Phone Ext.

Ami - Ext. 101  
Rose - Ext. 103

Stacy - Ext. 102  
Shari - Ext. 104

Kurt - Ext. 105  
Tom C. - Ext. 106

Mike - Ext. 108  
Dan - Ext. 205

Bob - Ext. 109  
Jon - Ext. 125

Andy - Ext. 126

Minneapolis Tel # (612) 781-3126  
Minneapolis’ Fax # (612) 781-4225

Jon Michels, Grand Rapids  
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

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.

REMINDER

The Delegates of the 39th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in St. Louis, Missouri, during the week of September 19 through 23, 2016, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution. Accordingly, effective January 1, 2018, there will be an increase of one dollar ($1.00) for the per capita that is paid to the General Fund, and therefore, the rate for all members shall increase.

For the members who have payroll deduct for their dues, your employer will be notified of this change. The members who automatically have their dues deducted out of their checking or savings account once a month, will see the increase whenever your January dues are paid.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to call the Union Hall.

With the Holiday Season upon us, this is just a reminder to drive safely to and from your parties, always keep your tree watered, eat lots of goodies and have a very joyful season with your families and friends.
A Word or Two From Your Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Once again we are approaching the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. The busy time of year where our minds might not be totally on the job but on the thought of everything we need to do to get ready for the holidays. We need to be focused on our jobs to prevent ourselves and others working with us from being injured. I want to see everyone go home to their families and celebrate the holiday season.

Speaking of focusing on the job and not being injured there seems to be more injuries this year but so far it appears the total number of injuries are lower, however, the ones we have had are more severe. So again, please be safe out there.

As you know Minnesota is the host for this years Super Bowl. That festive party in February that brings in millions of dollars and thousands of visitors to the metro area. Along with that comes a logistical nightmare. We will have members from our Overhead, Underground, Trouble, Breaker, and Relay departments working around the clock during that time so everything will go without a hitch.

Another item I wish to stress to our membership, every member is important no matter what classification you are working under. If at any time you have an issue or questions please feel free to call. If you can’t get a hold of your rep due to them being out of the office ask to speak to another rep or myself. Everyone one at the hall is here to help the membership.

Have a safe holiday season, and remember to say thanks to all who are serving or have served our country because without them we would have nothing!

In Solidarity,

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

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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On September 21, 2017 I attended the fall I.B.E.W. Safety Caucus in Indianapolis, Indiana. There were many speakers and so much valuable information shared throughout the meeting I thought I would share a little of it with you.

The one topic that caught my ear was the Cyanide Gas being released due to underground fires in vaults. There is a Local Union out of New York who has raised the issue with O.S.H.A. (Occupational Safety and Health Administration). What they are finding is that the insulation that the wires are wrapped in are catching fire and is producing the gas, putting their members in harms way. Their equipment does not detect the gas, therefore, the local fire department is also dispatched when they are because they do have the proper monitors for the crews. The Company is in the process of purchasing the correct monitors for the crews.

From what they know, the insulation is a 3M product that was used in the late 60’s.

I have brought this up to the Company at the Joint Safety Meeting. Also if anyone in the Xcel’s Underground Section have any information, I would love to hear from you.

The Caucus ended on a very sad note. As of that date, the I.B.E.W. has lost four (4) members in Florida restoring power caused by Hurricane Irma and one (1) Lineman is in very critical condition. Please, please work safe and continue to take care of each other.

In Solidarity,

Kurt W. Zimmerman
Business Representative
Office: (612) 781-3126
or
(763) 262-1189
Cell: (612) 991-0022
Local 160 apprentices compete in the 34th annual International Lineman’s Rodeo

Left to right: Jon Michels (Business Rep), Mike Ringstad (Business Rep), Tyler Carlson, Garret Ernhart, Ben Kelly, Josh John, Bob Boogren (Business Manager) and David Borner (Mo Valley Instructor).

More than 1,000 competitors and their families traveled to Kansas City for the 2017 International Lineman’s Rodeo and safety conference. The competition was the largest in the event’s 34-year history. During the multi-day event, apprentice lineman competed in splicing, knot tying, hurt man rescue, speed climbing, a distribution mystery event, and a written knowledge test.

IBEW Local 160 sponsored four Missouri Valley apprentices to compete in the 2017 Contractor Division. Minnesota instructor, David Borner, had been working with the participants throughout the year to prepare them for the competition. It was an exciting weekend with all four apprentices placing in the top 15, including two podium appearances. Garret Ernhart placed 3rd and Ben Kelly placed 5th to lead the Local 160 team. Finishing close behind was Tyler Carlson in 8th and Josh John wrapping up the team with a 15th place finish. Local 160 is very proud of all four of you and congratulations on your fantastic performances.
2017 34th Annual Pig Roast

It was another beautiful day in the neighborhood. Over 500 Local 160 members, retirees and business associates stood in line to sign up for door prizes, cope prizes, food and oh yes, the Plinko Board. The food was again excellent, thanks to Bill Cort and our chefs Dan Gardas, John Harris, Troy Gutzwiller and Skip Rosnow. Thank you guys.

Below are three behind the scenes pictures. Ami is ready along with Al Rademacher and Dan McConnell for the event to start. Our kitchen crew did a perfect job. Thanks guys, it is not easy to be the kitchen crew.

Winners of a fishing rod & reel from Grey Fox Financial are Jim Benolkin, Dan Boe Michael Kocak, Joe Morgan and Jamie Swartzer.

Winner of the Dewalt Tool Set from Union Advisors was Gerard Thomas.

Cope Prize Winners:

Bob Kaczmarek - Cordless Tool Combo Kit
Trevor Huerstel - $100 Best Buy Gift Card
Jim Jechorek - $100 Home Depot Gift Card
Jamie Swartzer - $100 Scheels Gift Card
Wade Crittenden - $100 Home Depot Gift Card
Brian Hopp - $100 Cabela’s Gift Card
Ben Carey (yes again :) - Dewalt Compact Drill/Driver Kit
Stacy Helget - $100 Best Buy Gift Card
Kevin Kaeter - $100 Cabela’s Gift Card
Jeff Bosell - $150 Cabela’s Gift Card
Harry Sanich - Dewalt Cordless Circular Saw

Al Rademacher - $100 Home Depot Gift Card
Terry Haley - Dewalt Brushless Impact Driver Set
Sue Boogren - $100 Cabela’s Gift Card
Jim Tobin - Dewalt Brushless Impact Driver Set
Dan Seawell - $100 Gilleland Gift Card
Ben Carey - $100 Best Buy Gift Card
Barry Alpern - Wild Tickets
Terry Stade - $100 Cabela’s Gift Card
Eric Spielmann - $100 Gilleland Gift Card
Jerald (Sally) Sandberg - Wild Tickets
CHRISTMAS TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Which American state was the first to make Christmas an official holiday?
   a. Connecticut
   b. Alabama
   c. Alaska
   d. North Carolina

2. Which state was the last to make Christmas an official holiday?
   a. Oklahoma
   b. Wyoming
   c. Arizona
   d. Michigan

3. What was the name of the dog that belonged to the Grinch in Dr. Seuss’ book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*?
   a. Rudolph
   b. Toto
   c. Max
   d. Cerberus

4. Which star led the magi to Jesus?
   a. Star of David
   b. North Star
   c. Star of Bethlehem
   d. Angel Star

5. Santa’s only female sleigh-pulling reindeer, Vixen, has antlers. True or false?
   a. False. Only the male reindeer have antlers
   b. True. Both male and female reindeer have antlers.
   c. True. But they are really no bigger than slight bumps on their heads.
   d. False. Some females have been known to have antlers, but that is extremely rare.

6. What was pictured on the first stamp printed for the Christmas season?
   a. Santa Claus
   b. An angel
   c. A star
   d. A rose

7. Electric Christmas tree lights were first used in what year?
   a. 1925
   b. 1700
   c. 1895
   d. 1750

8. Which of these events did NOT occur on Christmas Day?
   a. Hong Kong fell to the Japanese in WWII.
   b. Ebenezer Scrooge was visited by four ghosts.
   c. King Arthur pulled Excalibur from the stone.
   d. Charlemagne was crowned Holy Roman Emperor.

9. How many sides does a snowflake have?
   a. 6
   b. 8
   c. 10
   d. 12

*Answers on next page*
Answers to Christmas Trivia Quiz

1. b. Alabama
2. a. Oklahoma
3. c. Max
4. c. Star of Bethlehem
5. b. True. Both male and female reindeer have antlers.
6. d. A rose
7. c. 1895
8. b. Ebenezer Scrooge was visited by four ghosts.
9. a. 6

7th Annual Union Sportsman’s Alliance Sporting Clay Shoot

This year's teams were:
1. Matt Donnelly - Grey Fox Financial with teammates Doug Bitzen, Ryan Signore, Mark Deters, Matt Oeffling
2. Keith Burandt - Local 160 Lineman with teammates Matt Bogart, Tony Ross, Reid Nelson, Noah Haaland
3. Jeff Kolodski - Union Advisors with teammates Will Henriksen, Jon Dunbar, Chad Bernu, Kyle Krueger
4. Andy Kieffer - Organizer with teammates Alex Mitchell, Troy Ecker, Mike Ringstad

Matt Donnelly’s team won Best of Class Three
Dan Kieffer’s team also won a prize

Congratulations guys.
**LOCAL 160 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**

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<th>Local 160 Welcomes New Members</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Bodine</td>
<td>Daniel Comstock</td>
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<td>Daniel Comstock</td>
<td>Matthew Croak</td>
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<td>Paul Dyson</td>
<td>Richard Flipowski</td>
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<td>Jason Gagnon</td>
<td>Reed Gleason</td>
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<td>Michael Gunderzik</td>
<td>Logan Heddan</td>
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<td>Will Henriksen</td>
<td>John Holcomb</td>
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<td>Damian Johnson</td>
<td>Leah Kampa</td>
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<td>Luke Granz</td>
<td>Terrance Kringstad</td>
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<td>Dontae Langley</td>
<td>Thomas Lano</td>
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<td>Christopher Linkletter</td>
<td>Jose Lopez</td>
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<td>Shane Mattheisen</td>
<td>Brenden Myhran</td>
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<td>Dan Nelson</td>
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<td>Tony Parsons</td>
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<td>Jacob Smothers</td>
<td>Robert Stock</td>
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<td>Brady Struna</td>
<td>TJ Swenson</td>
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<td>Mikael Torgerson</td>
<td>Noah Troumbly</td>
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<td>Joseph Tucker</td>
<td>Jesse Williams</td>
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Membership Count = 3156

**GET WELL WISHES WERE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

- Douglas Bryan - Great River Energy
- Wade Crittenden - Xcel Energy
- Kevin Kaeter - Xcel Energy
- Matt McGraw - Xcel Energy
- Kevin Pederson - Xcel Energy
- Roy Peterson - Great River Energy
- John Smaciarz - Xcel Energy
- Barry Williams - Great River Energy

**IN MEMORIAM**

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

- Wallace Jacobson - Retired NSP - Died 11/3/17
- Robert L. Johnson - Active Xcel Energy - Died 10/17/17
- Dale Maki - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 9/9/17
- Steve Thoresen - Retired Xcel Energy - Died 10/27/17

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING BROTHERS ON THEIR RETIREMENT.**

- Jayson Dreher - Xcel Energy
- Richard Effertz - Xcel Energy
- Douglas Frederickson - City of Madelia
- Thomas Ganzer - Xcel Energy
- Tim Gorman - Xcel Energy
- Steven Hill - Xcel Energy
- Merlin Knuth - Xcel Energy
- Charles Lumley - Xcel Energy
- Stephen Nappa - Xcel Energy
- Jim Rousselange - Xcel Energy
- James Savela - Xcel Energy
- David Steinbach - Mo Valley
- Tim Trisco - Xcel Energy
- William Vaughan - Xcel Energy
- Thomas Zimmerman - Xcel Energy

Membership Count = 3156

**FROM ALL OF US HERE AT LOCAL UNION 160 TO ALL OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON.**