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IBEW LOCAL 343 UNION

Third Quarter Newsletter 2014
July, August, September

Groundwire

Moving Into Summer

From the Business Manager...Derek Mensink

Things are looking bright for Local 343. We have been able to "weather the storm" so to speak. The downturn of the economy has seemed to subside for the time being. New buildings are popping up around. Mayo Clinic (Destination Medical Center) is starting to move forward. The excitement of DMC has spurred new developments and growth in downtown Rochester. Our jurisdiction also came out well with this year's bonding bill. That bill included millions of dollars of work throughout our jurisdiction. The Mankato area is starting to flourish. It is an exciting time for Local 343 and the growth that is in the future!

I would also like to announce that Local 343 has accomplished a great milestone. It was voted on at the June membership meeting to transfer funds from our "General Fund" to pay off IBEW Local 343's building. This comes with hard work for the Building Committee, Executive Board and others. I would like to thank all of the members who took part in the cause. And, I would also like to thank those who had the foresight to build our own facility to call this our home.

Having our own facility has also progressed into a great training center. During our allocations this year (June),

the membership took a very positive step into the future. During Labor Management, the contractors offered to match \$0.10/hour toward apprenticeship training. The membership voted to allocate \$0.10 of our raise towards that cause. This was an aggressive move from both parties. As our training has been superb, to say the least, this gives us a great opportunity to grow and excel in training. Trained, qualified electricians have always, and will always, give us the advantage in the highly competitive markets we do work in. Again, I would like to thank the contractors and the membership for securing the future.

Lastly, I would like to thank your staff. They work on your behalf to move us in a forward direction. Chad Katzung and Shane Meier work tirelessly to uphold the contract and make sure the membership is well represented. They also do an amazing job organizing the work that is in our jurisdiction. It is amazing how well they work securing our work away from the nonunion. I have always believed that we need to organize the work, first and foremost. Andy Kuisle and Jim Backus are working hard, educating and enforcing the non-signatory employers and their employees. This, too, is a very vital piece of our future. We need to make sure that our trade and your livelihood is secure in



the future. Of course, not to forget the ones who make the office move smoothly and efficiently – Bonnie Hinkle, Colleen Marks and Zhade Carlin. This is one awesome team! And YOU, the membership, standing strong. We would not be what we are without all of you! Have a great summer and hope to see you at the picnic!

In Solidarity,
Derek Mensink – Business Manager

REMINDER: Keep Us Informed

Please remember to notify us if any of your contact information changes. (i.e., mailing address, home phone number, cell phone number, email address)
If you keep us updated, we can keep YOU updated!

Rochester Rep Report >>> Chad Katzung

Half the year has gone by, and it has been a very busy year so far. As most of you know, we now have over 30 Book 2 people working in our jurisdiction and bidding is still on the rise. We have quite a few school districts that will be bidding this summer due to referendums that passed this Spring. I ask all of our Brothers and Sisters to help man our work at home. I know it's hard to walk away from a higher paying job, but if the non-union start to take control of more and more work, you may not have the option to come home later. Some of our contractors will stop bidding work if we're unable to man it. The work will get done with or without us.

I would also like to encourage all of our members to attend your Union meetings so



within your Union. Those who have attended know they can freely ask any questions or voice their concerns and get answers. Don't let others tell you what they heard. Please come, and hear for yourself!

See you at our Summer Picnic!

In solidarity,
Chad Katzung

Political Director Report... Greg Graif

What a difference a couple of years can make. A little over 2 years ago, we were fighting for our very existence as a Labor Union. The Republicans in the State Legislature were talking about "Right to Work" legislation. When that didn't work because Democrat Governor Dayton said he would veto it, the Republicans started talking about a "Right to Work" constitutional amendment. The Unions had rallies, which brought attention to the issue, and it eventually lost momentum. Then came the 2012 election and Democrats won majorities in both chambers.

Now look at what happened in this past legislative session:

*The Unions pushed for a "Responsible Contracting Bill", and it passed.

*The Unions pushed for a "Minimum Wage Bill", and it passed.

*The Unions pushed for a large "Bonding Bill", and it passed.

Projects in our jurisdiction included in the Bonding Bill:

- Rochester Civic Center expansion and renovation \$35 million
- Mankato Civic Center expansion and renovation \$14.5 million
- Minnesota Security Hospital \$56.4 million



- Minnesota State University \$25.8 million

These will be prevailing wage jobs, which should give Local 343 contractors an advantage when bidding these projects.

Let's not go backwards this election year. Remember to vote for those candidates who support our Union and helped or will help to continue to make this happen.

I will be asking members to help those candidates who support our Union. It might be walking with a candidate in a parade, or putting up a yard sign. Please help when asked.

Thanks,
Greg Graif
507-995-2800
greg@ibewlocal343.org

Retirements:

Kevin K. Cain, Retired 6/1/10
Donald S. Denekamp, Retired 3/6/14
Stephen E. Volk, Retired 4/20/14
Kenneth H. Wetzel, Retired 6/13/14

Our Condolences:

Retired Bro. Alvin E. Danielson of Anoka, MN passed away on March 15th. Alvin had been a member since November 1960.

Retired Bro. Richard A. Stoos of Rochester, MN passed away April 11th. Richard had been a member since April 1947.

Retired Bro. John C. Conerton of Rochester, MN passed away May 9th. John had been a member since July 1985.

If you are thinking of retiring:

NEBF Application should be completed and mailed approximately four (4) months prior to your retirement date.

IBEW Application should be completed approximately two (2) months prior to your retirement date.

Call Bonnie with any questions.

Contact Us:

Derek Mensink, Business Manager:
507-282-7081 x114
Chad Katzung, Business Rep (Eastern):
507-282-7081 x115
Andy Kuisle, Membership/Marketing:
507-282-7081 x113
Shane Meier, Business Rep (Western):
507-345-2133
Jim Backus, Membership/Compliance:
507-951-8267
Andy Tolt, JATC / Apprentice Office:
507-282-7081 x118
Bonnie Hinkle, Pensions/Financials:
507-2827081 x112
Colleen Marks, Membership/Referral:
507-282-7081 x 222



L-R Jim O'Neil, Dale Meyer (Meyer Electric), Cory Berg, Joel Walbridge, Tom Huiting, John Guyse



6/12/14 New Member Swear-In

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

July 1st: Third Quarter (Union Dues DUE)
 July 4th: Local 343 Offices Closed
 July 10th: Union Meeting, Owatonna Eagles Club
 Aug 9th: Summer Picnic, Spring Lake Park, North Mankato
 Aug 14th: Union Meeting, Owatonna Eagles Club
 Sept 1st: Fourth Quarter (Union Dues DUE)
 Sept 1st: Local 343 Offices Closed (Labor Day)
 Sept 11th: Union Meeting, Owatonna Eagles Club (New Member Swear In)

Sparky Opener Winners:

Biggest Walleye: Alaina Saterdalen **Biggest Bass:** Norman Fitch **Biggest Northern:** Mark Kauto

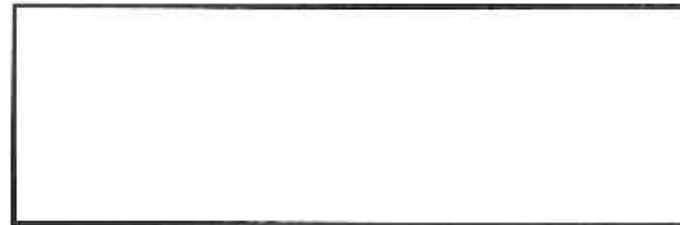
Special thanks to our sponsors: IBEW, Foster Electric, Werner Electric, Gray Bar and Viking Electric

Special thanks:

John and Alaina Saterdalen for having the picnic at their home due to weather.



IBEW Local 343
9 80th Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904



Jim Backus, Compliance Officer

As we are compiling the 3rd Quarter Newsletter, it is with great pleasure to say there is no snow on the ground! Yay! The spring was busy and a huge learning curve for me, which I've truly enjoyed. I've attended various trainings, conferences and meetings that have helped me immensely. Derek, Chad, Andy and Shane are a great asset and have been a tremendous help to me. It is great to be part of this team!!

I've had the opportunity to work some cases. They have mainly been non-signatory's working without licenses. We have also been collecting information throughout our jurisdiction in an attempt to identify various non-union electricians to enforce the licensing statute. Much of

this information is being collected and kept for future reference. Thanks to information from a Local 343 member, we were able to identify an out-of-state contractor who was unlicensed and was working without a permit in the Winona area. The State Inspector did remove them from the job and one of our local signatories was able to then take the job! THANK YOU FOR THE INFORMATION!! We are also working on strategic planning to keep Local 343 progressive and professional.

I hope to see everyone at the picnic in August. I will have my karaoke machine there with games and prizes for kids and adults. I can guarantee it will be a blast!!!



As each of you are eyes and ears of our local, as indicated above with the success story, please contact me with ANY information you think may be valuable for investigative purposes. My email is JimB@ibewlocal343.org or you can call me at 507-951-8267. Have a safe and fun summer!
In Solidarity,
Jim Backus

Mankato Rep Report...

Shane Meier

Owatonna/Mankato Area:
It has been a very busy last couple of weeks with jobs bidding all over in our jurisdiction. As of today, we are still waiting to hear on some of these projects, but we do have a contract signed for Phase 1 of the WalMart Distribution Center. Muska will be doing the electrical work.

Other projects we are waiting to hear on are Daikin/McQuay (Owatonna) and Fleet Farm (Mankato). There are still a lot of projects coming up for bid, which is a great sign for the construction industry. If you have any questions about the work picture, please let us know. The Jordan Sands project is going very slow as of now, but look for calls coming in after the 4th of July.

Picnic Committee Report: It will be held in Mankato this year at the Spring Lake Park on August 9th. There will be lots of activities planned for everyone, and we look forward to seeing you there!!
Retiree Meeting, Mankato: There has been a group of retirees meeting the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. at the Happy Chef located on Highway 169 N.



If you want to hear some good stories, or share some, please join them.

Organizing: We have been attending job fairs around various counties in our jurisdiction and talking with a lot of people about our Apprenticeship Program. If you know of any Apprentices or Inside Journeymen/women, let us know about them please. Have a Happy & Safe 4th of July!

In Solidarity,
Shane Meier, Mankato Rep.

DUES REMINDERS:

"A" members
\$102.00/Qtr
"BA" members
\$57.00/Qtr

Due 1st of Every
Quarter
\$20.00 late fee

Organizing Department Report... by Andy Kuisle

Since the last newsletter, the organizing efforts of Local 343 have included visits with many contractors, as well as their workers. Recently, State Line Electric, a small shop in the Albert Lea area has chosen to join our ranks and become a signatory contractor. If you have the opportunity to talk with the owner or go to work at his shop, please welcome him into our Local.

As the workload increases exponentially in our area due to the recent economic upswing, please be mindful that we must all do what we can to make sure we man our work. The last thing we want is to push work to the nonunion due to the inability to successfully supply labor to the projects.

We ask that you, the membership, take the time to talk to anyone you know who wants to get into the electrical trade and have them apply for the JATC program. If you know of anyone who is currently working for a nonunion contractor that you feel would be a valuable asset to our Local,



please call me with their contact info so that I may get in touch with them and learn a little bit about the contractor they are working for, or start an organizing drive at their company. Lastly, if there are brothers and sisters that you know, outside of our jurisdiction, that are currently out of work, please invite them to come and sign Local 343's Book 2.

If we can maintain a constant supply of skilled labor to our contractors, they will continue to actively seek more jobs and ultimately hire more workers. If we are complacent, we will give the opportunity to the nonunion to take foothold in the work we are not doing and allow them to flourish.
In Solidarity,
Andy Kuisle

Upcoming Work (page 2 of 2)

Mankato (continued)

Calpine – Waiting to hear on from Public Utility Commission.
Possibility of Projects: Costco, A retail store 40,000 square foot addition.
340 Stadium Apartments – Muska
Children's Museum – BLK Electric
JWP School Remodel – Javens Electric
Children's Hospital – BLK Electric
Mapleton County Building – Went Bad waiting to hear on
MSU (smaller projects bidding) -- Waiting to hear on
Gray Bar – Guaranteed Electric
Church by MSU – Guaranteed Electric
Mankato West Cafeteria Remodel -- Javen's Electric

St. Peter/Le Sueur

State Hospital Projects – Bidding This Fall
Nicollet County Building – Paul's Electric
Cambria - Third Phase Starting up (Russ Nelson)

New Ulm

Kraft Foods -- Parsons Electric
Hotel Project & Restaurant -- Full Service Electric

Fairmont

Ethanol Plant Work – Dewar
Bank Project – Dewar
Water Treatment Plant - Egan Companies
Power Plant – Dewar Electric

Marshall

Avera Cancer Institute – Thompson Electric (IBEW out of local 426)
Regional Sport Center Complex – Bid Waiting to hear on

Upcoming Work (page 1 of 2)

Rochester area

Associated Bank – Bids 7/1/14
MNDOT 6th District Headquarters – 16 million. Premier Electric.
Broadway at Center – Mixed-use development 25-story tower. Construction is scheduled to begin summer 2014
Rochester Airport, Deicing Containment Facility – project was canceled
Rochester Airport, above ground Storage Tank Facility – 7/8/14
Walmart Remodel -- Bids 6/26/14
Mayo Civic Center – Possible PLA
Mayo Support Services Expansion – Summer 2014
Scheels Store -- Hunt
Sams Club – Planning second store.
Kasson-Mantorville School District \$39.8 million bond for additions at the high school and elementary school.
Dover-Eyota School District \$7.4 million to remodel the elementary school, and \$1.25 million to upgrade the district's athletic facilities.
Pine Island school district \$22 million for a new kindergarten through fourth-grade school and \$11.25 million for modernizing the existing facility.
Byron School District \$25 million for a new preschool through second-grade building.
Stewartville School District \$25 million school for grades three through five.

Austin

Hormel Institute – No word
Kwik Trip -- No word

Albert Lea

Minnesota Corrugated Box Renovation - Possible re bid
St. Johns Luthern Home – Construction possible this summer.

Red Wing

Treasurer Island Casino – Hunt
Prairie Island Nuclear Refueling outage -- Fall 2014
Prairie Island Nuclear Transformer Replacement – Fall 2014

Winona

WSU – Education Village \$24.6 Million over 3 phases. Planning

Owatonna

City/County Garage- No word on it yet.
Daikin/Mc Quay- Cole's Electric
Vision Processing- R&K Electric (Master Electric was low but used local contractor)
Pillsbury Project – Randall Electric

Mankato

Wal-Mart – Muska Electric Phase 1
Street/Highway Projects – Mankato Electric
Fleet Farm – Killmer Electric
Woodside Apartments Phase 2 -- Muska
Civic Center- Bidding this fall
Wells School – Javens Electric
City Center Building Shell – BLK Electric
Fed EX Warehouse – Bidding Again (Heard it went bad)
Parking Ramp Downtown – Phase 3 (Master Electric)
Assisted Living Alm Builders -- Russ Nelson
Jordan Sands Project – B&B Electric (IBEW Wisconsin Contractor)
School Bond Referendum – 70 million in new school and renovations, bidding this spring 2014.
Kia Dealership – Rebid waiting to hear on

IBEW Local 343 Annual Summer Picnic

Saturday August 9, 2014

Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Spring Lake Park, 641 Webster Ave, N. Mankato, MN

(See map on reverse side)

Activities include: Fishing Contest, Swimming, Inflatables, Basketball and Sand Volleyball.



2nd Annual Kids Fishing Contest (fishing poles provided).

Lunch served from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Kids fishing contest 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Drawings at 3:00 p.m.

Members and Retirees must be present to win door prize.

Please submit RSVP by Thursday July 31, 2014.

Summer Picnic RSVP – Due by Thursday July 31, 2014

RSVP Options: *Online: www.ibewlocal343.org *Mail: 9 80th St. SE Rochester, MN 55904

*Drop off at Rochester Union Hall *Fax: (507) 282-1562 (No Phone RSVP's please)

Member or Retirees Name (only): _____

This event is open to Members and Retirees and their immediate families only please.

Number of Adults: _____ Number of Children: _____

Ages of children for fishing contest: _____

JUNE 2014 SCMJATC NEWSLETTER

CONGRATULATIONS to our newest Journeyman Wiremen for completing their Electrical Apprenticeship: JUSTIN PRUETT & GREG HANSEN

2014 NEC CLASSES

IBEW LOCAL 343 MEMBERS—NO COST, other IBEW UNION MEMBERS--\$25
UNION MEMBERS OTHER THAN WITH THE IBEW--\$50, NON-UNION MEMBERS--\$200.00 FOR A 16 HOUR CLASS, 2014 Code Books are available for \$70.

SATURDAY is an 8 HOUR CLASS good for ceu's in, MN-(8 Code), WI-(8 Code),(IOWA-(9 Code) 9 hr class)

SUNDAY is an 8 HOUR CLASS good for ceu's in, MN-(8 Code), WI-(8 Code), (IOWA-(9 Code) 9 hr class)

No partial credit of classes is granted, you must attend the entire approved class to receive credit.

THESE 16 HOUR CODE CLASSES ARE GOOD FOR 16 HOURS IN MN, WI & IA

ALL WEEKEND CLASSES RUN 8AM TO 5PM

PLEASE CALL 507-529-7721 TO REGISTER FOR THESE CLASSES

MANKATO	WHEN:	JUNE 28 & 29, 2014-Instructor-- CARI WILLIAMETTE
	WHERE:	OPERATING ENGINEERS HALL, 308 Lundin Blvd
OWATONNA	WHEN:	JULY 12 & 13, 2014,-Instructor-- CARI WILLIAMETTE
	WHERE:	CABELAS
ROCHESTER	WHEN:	AUGUST 9 & 10, 2014,-Instructor-- CARI WILLIAMETTE
	WHERE:	IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9-80 TH ST SE
RED WING	WHEN:	SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2014,-Instructor-- CARI WILLIAMETTE
	WHERE:	SUPER 8, 232 Withers Harbor Drive, Red Wing
WINONA	WHEN:	OCTOBER 4-5, 2014,-Instructor-- CARI WILLIAMETTE
	WHERE:	RIVERPORT INN, 900 Bruski Drive, Winona
ALBERT LEA	WHEN:	NOVEMBER 15-16, 2014,-Instructor-- CARI WILLIAMETTE
	WHERE:	ALBERT LEA LABOR TEMPLE , 1407 Hwy 13 North
MANKATO	WHEN:	DECEMBER 6-7, 2014-Instructor-- CARI WILLIAMETTE
	WHERE:	OPERATING ENGINEERS HALL, 308 Lundin Blvd

MEDIUM VOLTAGE CLASS

A good all round class with HANDS-ON training. This class will cover NEC 250 part X on grounding, proper fire taping in manholes, different types of medium voltage systems. Bring your hand tools.

ROCHESTER WHEN: TBD, FALL 2014 SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8:00AM to 4:00 PM Limit 8
WHERE: IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9 - 80TH ST SE, ROCHESTER Instructor—MARK KAUTTO

2 HOUR CODE CLASS—unlicensed registration renewal class

CODE BASIC CONDUCTOR FILL & AMPACITIES CLASS

Bring a calculator-code book & pencil to class Good for unlicensed registration renewal

ROCHESTER: WHEN: FALL, 2014, 5:00 TO 7:00PM
WHERE: IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL, 9-80TH ST SE ROCHESTER 55904

OSHA 70-E ELECTRICAL SAFE WORK PRACTICES CLASS 4 HOURS

The First rule in working safely with electrical equipment is to DEENERGIZE. If you have to work on energized circuits, you need to work safely. This class will cover the OSHA requirements for Personal Protection Equipment and tools when it comes to working on energized circuits. You will receive a 70E card after this 4 hour class

ROCHESTER: WHEN: FALL, 2014, 5:00 TO 9:00PM
WHERE: IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL, 9-80TH ST SE, Rochester

MANKATO WHEN: FALL, 2014, 5:00 to 9:00PM
WHERE: OPERATING ENGINEERS HALL 308 Lundin Blvd.

**WE TAKE APPRENTICE APPLICATIONS ANY TIME
WE WILL BE TESTING AND INTERVIEWING EVERY OTHER MONTH
THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO GET INTO THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
HAVE ANYONE INTERESTED GIVE ME A CALL AT 507529-7721**

EAPPRENTICE APPLICATIONS: Applications can be completed at the JATC office in Rochester.(1-507-529-7721) or download from: www.IBEWLOCAL343.ORG PLEASE CALL TO SIGN UP FOR CLASSES-507-529-7721, Andy Toft.