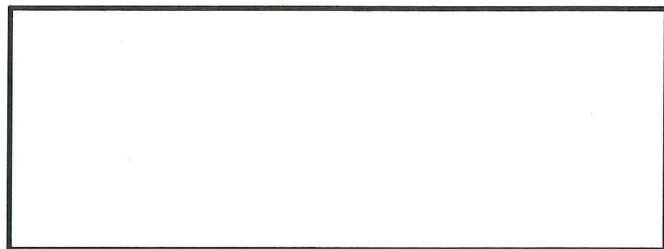




IBEW Local 343  
9 80<sup>th</sup> Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904



OPEIU#12  
AFL-CIO-CLC

Contact us at **507-282-7081**

[www.ibewlocal343.org](http://www.ibewlocal343.org)

### NEBF Information

You can now find out information on your NEBF Years of Service online. Go to [nebf.com/nebf](http://nebf.com/nebf) and click on "Online Benefits" to register. If any questions, contact Bonnie at the Union Hall.

**RSVP Deadline  
for the 30<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Awards  
Banquet is  
Monday, April  
17th**



1<sup>st</sup> Qtr Newsletter helpers...L to R:  
Rob Kochie, Maurice Meyers, Tom  
Huizing, Jim O'Neil  
THANK YOU!

### Our Condolences:

Retired Bro. **Paul E. Ravn** –  
Cottage Grove, MN – Passed  
away 9/27/16. Paul had been a  
member since September 1972.

Brother **Jeffrey E. Coy** –  
Pemberton, MN – Passed away  
2/21/17. Jeff had been a member  
since October 1991.

Retired Bro. **John R. Winkels** –  
Rochester, MN – Passed away  
3/10/17. John had been a member  
since March 1961.

Retired Bro. **Thomas E. Higgins**  
– Austin, MN – Passed away  
3/18/17. John had been a member  
since July 1966.

### Retirements/Disability:

Steven R. Shane – 7/28/16  
Steve D. Hamilton – 11/8/16  
John W. Marier – 1/29/17

### In this issue >>>

*Business Manager's, Rep's, Organizer & Compliance Officer Reports*  
*Condolences/Retirements/Disability (back page)*  
*Upcoming Work (white insert)*  
*SCMNJATC March 2017 Newsletter (grey insert)*  
*Sparky Fishing Opener Info (orange insert)*  
*Upcoming Dates to Remember (back page)*  
*30<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Banquet RSVP reminder*



IBEW LOCAL 343 UNION

Second Quarter Newsletter 2017  
April, May, June

# Groundwire

## Business Manager...Chad Katzung

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

I would like to thank all of our members that joined us for the IBEW day on the hill. Your involvement in the process may feel small, but you can be certain that your actions are going to have an influence on your politician in some way. Thank you.

I'm also looking forward to our upcoming awards banquet in April. I hope everyone is able to make it. It's always a good time to get together with old friends and share some laughs and stories with each other. I know there are some good ones out there. Colleen, Bonnie and Brooke have put a lot of time and effort into planning a night for us to enjoy, so make sure you take the time to thank them for all their hard work.

On the business front, I'm glad to report the work picture going forward is going to be very busy. The solar industry is booming and our contractors are securing more and more of the solar projects in the area. The commercial and industrial markets are also on the rise. You'll be able to find additional details on the work picture from your area reps, and also at our regular union meetings. It's important to attend as often as possible.

As always, stay safe, and like myself, be proud that you are part of this great organization, IBEW Local 343.

In solidarity

Chad Katzung



### \*2017 UNION DUES\*

"A" Members  
\$114.00/Qtr  
"BA" Members  
\$60.00/Qtr

#### REMINDER:

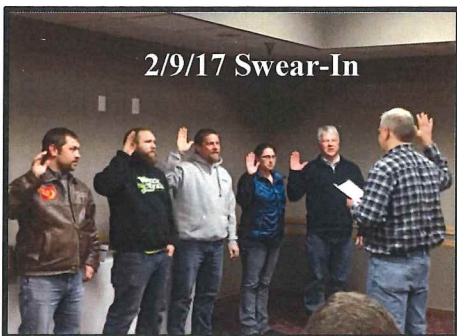
We are no longer  
taking dues payments  
over the phone for  
security reasons. Please  
plan accordingly!

### Dates to Remember:

04/01/17: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Union Dues DUE  
04/13/17: Union Meeting/New Member Swear-In, American Legion, Owatonna, MN  
04/14/17: LU 343 Offices CLOSED (Good Friday)  
04/17/17: Deadline to RSVP for Banquet  
04/22/17: 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Banquet, Signatures Golf Course, Winona, MN  
05/11/17: Union Meeting/New Member Swear-In, Eagle's Club, Owatonna, MN  
05/29/17: LU 343 Offices CLOSED (Memorial Day)  
06/08/17: Union Meeting/New Member Swear-In, Eagle's Club, Owatonna, MN  
07/01/17: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Union Dues DUE  
07/04/17: LU 343 Offices CLOSED (Independence Day)  
07/13/17: Union Meeting/New Member Swear-In, Eagle's Club, Owatonna, MN



We are now doing swear-ins every month. Here are a few pictures of the recent new members. Be sure to welcome our new members to the Local 343!



## Rochester Rep Report >>> Steve Cardell

Hello to all,  
Same as last newsletter this quarter has been wild again. We have been able to man our work fairly well with the amount of calls coming at us. Thanks again to our traveling brothers and sisters for helping when help is needed. I want to remind all of you as your project winds down not to be concerned with layoffs because there is plenty of work coming out of the ground and being bid as I write this. I am going to continually remind all of you to work hard and professionally every day. That will always be the best way for Local 343 and the IBEW to compete with the unorganized. Working isn't wormy! Remember to know and follow your contract. Everything in there was fought for, for a reason. Most of you check our upcoming work on the website, but just to update you on a few of our larger projects: the RPU co gen is under way with Nietz doing the duct banks and grounding. A lot of cement is being poured now. The 19 story Hilton downtown is also underway - demolition is complete and digging for footings is happening. I am still sending out E-mails and leaving messages to potential customers with little response. If any of you know of work coming and have the scoop on who got it, let us know so we can post it on the website.. Treasure Island has had a few calls and should be ramping up. We are still hearing lots of buzz about more solar coming to our jurisdiction and more possible wind farms moving into the Albert Lea area. I say it in every newsletter and will say it again, any questions or concerns, please give your staff a call. We will get you an answer or get you to the right people that can answer. Keep up the good work all of you and enjoy the warming weather.  
Steve Cardell  
Local 343 Assistant Business Manager



## Organizing Department Report... by Andy Kuisle

Since the last newsletter, making sure our contractor needs for manpower have been properly met has been one of our top priorities. This winter has been unexpectedly busy, and even with the help of Brothers and Sisters from around the country, we still needed to bring in a few new members to make sure that our work was properly manned; these workers skill levels range anywhere from young 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year non-union apprentices to journey-level electricians who were an integral part of a non-union company. If you get the opportunity to work alongside one of these newly organized members, please take the time to welcome them into our organization.

Recently we have entered discussions with 2 shops in our jurisdiction, who are taking a very strong look at how the IBEW can work together with them to help them improve their bottom line. Both contractors specialize in smaller commercial work and/or residential, which we need to be doing more of in our towns and cities around the jurisdiction.

Lastly, most all of us know someone who is a non-union electrician. Maybe your kids play sports with their kids, maybe you both go to the same church or you both went to the same trade school. Whatever the scenario, when you run into them on the street and the conversation turns to work and the question arises, "What can Local 343 do for Me?" make sure you don't hold back. Tell them what they've been missing by not being a part of this great organization. The strength of the IBEW rests on its members, and it takes all of the membership working together to make our organization stronger. A few members cannot do it alone so let's all get involved today and make Local 343 stronger and more unified than it has ever been.

In Solidarity,  
Andy Kuisle



**We are no longer taking dues payments over the phone for security reasons. Please plan accordingly!**

## Compliance Officer Report... Jim Backus

Brothers and Sisters,  
Hoping the first quarter of 2017 has been great to everyone. It has been quite busy in the compliance department. With Destination Medical Center (DMC) taking off in Rochester, and projects beginning in other areas, it will become even busier. With DMC funding, there was a threshold of \$200 million in private investments that was required to be spent on projects prior to contributions of funding by the state or local governments. That threshold has now been exceeded. From 2013 to the end of 2016, \$297 million has been spent through a variety of projects. Any of the future projects, in the DMC zone, that utilize money from the state, or that uses public matching dollars from the city or county, will trigger prevailing wage. These projects do need to be classified as "public infrastructure." I am working closely with the Fair Contracting Foundation (FCF) on the projects that fit these classifications.

There are numerous other prevailing wage jobs that will be starting or continuing in the LU 343 area. These jobs will continue to be monitored and reviewed to ensure state and/or federal laws are being met. This includes job site monitoring and paperwork review.

We were also involved in two investigations that resulted in enforcement against contractors who were not abiding by state statute. These enforcement actions help in assuring a safe, hazard free project area, protecting persons and property. One of these investigations took a fair amount of time to conduct follow ups and documentation. The other was a direct result of information forwarded to us by a LU 343 member.

Hope to see many of you at the awards banquet on April 22. If any of you see possible violations or have any questions, please contact me at [jimb@ibewlocal343.org](mailto:jimb@ibewlocal343.org) or 507-951-8267.

In Solidarity, Jim Backus



## Mankato Rep Report >>> by Shane Meier

**Owatonna/Mankato & Western Areas:** The work picture is still going strong in our jurisdiction. The solar projects have started, and the owners of these projects are very happy with the work being performed. Owatonna has had 2 school projects bid lately, and IBEW got one and R&K got the other one. We used the Power Partner Trailer for the first time over in Mankato for a career fair and it went pretty good. There were about 1,400 students that participated in this event. We have been working with The Southern Company (aka Calpine), as they do not have a general contractor picked out yet, but should be finding out by the end of March. They will be having a shutdown around April 15th with some IBEW contractors coming in to perform maintenance work and will be having some calls coming in. There are a lot of projects still coming up like Waseca School as I have not heard anything yet about a signed contract but it was bid by only 3 IBEW Contractors & Kraft Foods is still ongoing. There is a good chance that there will be some work coming up at the Mankato Hospital also. If you ever have any questions about the Collective Bargaining Agreement don't hesitate to call us at the hall so we can answer any of your questions pertaining to your job, and not JEOPARDIZE what we already have in there because when negotiations come up they will use it to their advantage!!! Again, if you know of anybody wanting to learn more about the IBEW please have them get in contact with us so we can explain the benefits of being a Union Member. I'm looking forward to seeing everybody at the Awards Banquet.

\*RETIREE LUNCHEON IN MANKATO IS THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE HAPPY CHEF OFF OF HIGHWAY 169 AT 10 a.m.

In Solidarity,  
Shane Meier



## Contact Us:

Chad Katzung, Business Manager  
507-282-7081 x114  
Andy Kuisle, Membership/Marketing  
507-282-7081 x113  
Jim Backus, Membership/Compliance  
507-951-8267  
Bonnie Hinkle, Pensions/Financials  
507-282-7081 x112

Steve Cardell, Business Rep (Eastern)  
507-282-7081 x115  
Shane Meier, Business Rep (Western)  
507-345-2133  
Andy Toft, JATC / Apprentice Office  
507-282-7081 x118  
Colleen Marks, Membership/Referral  
507-282-7081 x 222

## 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!**



# MARCH 2017 SCMJATC NEWSLETTER

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**CONGRATULATIONS** to our newest graduates that have completed their Electrical Apprenticeship:  
**BRENT GABRICK, ADAM LUND, NICHOLAS KALLBERG, TIMOTHY WORLEY,**  
**ANDREW KOTVAL & NATHAN COLE.**

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## 2017 NEC CLASSES

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**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, 2017 Code Books are available for \$75 (softcover) \$80 (spiralbound).**

**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 CODE CLASSES ARE GOOD FOR 16 HOURS IN MN, WI & IA(18)**

**ALL WEEKEND CLASSES RUN 8AM TO 5PM, CALL 507-529-7721 TO REGISTER**

### THESE CLASSES START AT 8AM

ROCHESTER	WHEN:	MARCH 11 & 12, 2017,	Instructor MARK SPARKS/DAVE HYRKAS
	WHERE:	IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9-80 <sup>TH</sup> ST SE	
ALBERT LEA	WHEN:	APRIL 8 & 9, 2017,	-Instructor—SCOTT HIGGINS
	WHERE:	ALBERT LEA UNION CENTER, 1407 Hwy 13 North	
ROCHESTER	WHEN:	MAY 13 & 14, 2017,	-Instructor—CARI HELBERG
	WHERE:	IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9-80 <sup>TH</sup> ST SE	
MANKATO	WHEN:	JUNE 10 & 11, 2017,	-Instructor-- CARI HELBERG
	WHERE:	OPERATING ENGINEERS HALL, 308 Lundin Blvd	
WINONA	WHEN:	JULY 22 & 23, 2017,	-Instructor-- CARI HELBERG
	WHERE:	THE PLAZA HOTEL, 1025 Hwy 61 E, Winona	
OWATONNA	WHEN:	AUGUST 5 & 6, 2017,	-Instructor—CARI HELBERG
	WHERE:	HY VEE, Owatonna	
ROCHESTER	WHEN:	SEPTEMBER 23 & 24, 2017,	Inst, MARK SPARK/DAVE HYRKAS
	WHERE:	IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9-80 <sup>TH</sup> ST SE	
ALBERT LEA	WHEN:	OCTOBER 21 & 22, 2017,	-Instructor SCOTT HIGGINS
	WHERE:	ALBERT LEA UNION CENTER, 1407 Hwy 13 North	
RED WING	WHEN:	NOVEMBER 11 & 12, 2017,	-Instructor-- CARI HELBERG
MANKATO	WHEN:	DECEMBER TBD, 2017,	-Instructor-- CARI HELBERG

### 2 HOUR CODE CLASS—unlicensed registration renewal class 2 CODE CEU

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#### CODE BASIC CONDUCTOR FILL & AMPACITIES CLASS 2 HOUR CLASS

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

ROCHESTER	WHEN:	APRIL 17, 2017, TUESDAY, 5-7PM-	Instructor—Dan Goodew
	WHEN:	SEPT 20, 2017, WEDNESDAY, 5-7PM	
	WHERE:	IBEW Local 343 Hall 9-80 <sup>th</sup> st SE	

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## **MEDIUM VOLTAGE CLASS                      1 DAY CLASS**

The class will focus on cable prepping for ribbon shielded cable and jacketed concentric neutral cables. There is a demand for cable splicing with the J.C.N cable on our current solar field work. The class will explain how to use the termination kits for the switches and the load break elbows for the transformers, using the Burndy book for correct crimping tool use, and 3-m book for parts and materials needed. Tools needed: utility Knife, channellock pliers, tape measure or stick rule, working gloves, safety glasses.

**ROCHESTER                      WHEN:                      MARCH 25, 2017                      SATURDAY 8:00AM to 4:00 PM Limit 8**

**WHERE:                      IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9 – 80<sup>TH</sup> ST SE, ROCHESTER**

**Instructor—Mark Kautto**

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## **CONDUIT BENDING CLASS                      1 DAY CLASS**

This course is designed for someone that wants to review the basics of hand conduit bending and the basics of electric and hydraulic bending. This is a hands on class so bring your tools.

**ROCHESTER                      WHEN:                      APRIL 1, 2017, SATURDAY 8AM TO 5PM, Instructor Mike Gillard**

**WHERE:                      IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL, 9-80<sup>TH</sup> ST SE**

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## **ICRA-----INFECTION CONTROL RISK ASSESSMENT**

Health Care Facilities are starting to require that all personal working on their projects have awareness training. This is a 2 night 8 hour awareness class. This course covers Infection control, Chain of infection, ICRA responsibilities, ICRA levels, procedures and practices, Communication and Documentation and Consequences. Once training is complete you will be issued a hard hat sticker and receive a photo ID badge identifying that you have been trained.

**ROCHESTER                      WHEN:                      JUNE 5 & 6, 2017, 5 TO 9PM,**

**WHEN:                      OCTOBER 2 & 3, 2017, 5 TO 9PM**

**Instructors, Mike Gillard & Mike Bambrick**

**WHERE:                      IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9-80<sup>TH</sup> ST SE**

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## **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:                      APRIL 26, 2017, WEDNESDAY, 5:00 TO 9:00PM, Inst. Dan Goodew**

**WHEN:                      OCTOBER 11, 2017, WEDNESDAY, 5:00 TO 9:00PM**

**WHERE:                      IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL, 9-80<sup>TH</sup> ST SE, Rochester**

**FREE 2017 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE BOOKS FOR CLASS ATTENDANCE**

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## **OSHA 10/30 HOUR CERTIFICATION                      (OSHA 10 is a 3 NIGHT CLASSE)**

More customers and jobs are requiring that the employees have the OSHA 10 hour Safety Training card to work on the job. Here is your chance to get yours. At present the OSHA 10 cards are good for life, however there are some customers that will require the OSHA class be taken with in the last 3 years. The first 3 nights will qualify for the OSHA 10 card and an additional 6 nights for the OSHA 30 card.

**ROCHESTER                      WHEN:                      MAY 22-23-24, 2017, MON, TUES WED, 5PM-9PM**

**WHEN:                      SEPTEMBER 18-19-20, 2017, MON, TUE, WED, 5PM-9PM**

**OSHA 30 TBD with interest**

**Instructors, Mike Gillard & Mike Bambrick**

**WHERE:                      IBEW LOCAL 343 HALL 9-80<sup>TH</sup> ST SE, Rochester**

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**APPRENTICE APPLICATIONS:** Applications can be completed at the JATC office in Rochester.(1-507-529-7721) or printed off from; [www.IBEWLOCAL343.ORG](http://www.IBEWLOCAL343.ORG) PLEASE CALL TO SIGN UP FOR CLASSES-507-529-7721, Andy

# IBEW Local 343 Upcoming Work –

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Newsletter (April – June 2017) page 1 of 2

## Rochester area

Civic Center addition – Premier  
Broadway at Center – Hunt, Demo phase  
New Horizon Day Care – Hunt  
Heintz Center HVAC upgrade – Planning  
Valleyhigh Senior Apartments – Planning  
Byron Community Rec Complex- JB Holland Construction Inc. General. Not started yet.  
Veteran's Memorial Museum – Planning  
Heart of the City/Peace Plaza Redevelopment – Planning  
Historic Chateau Theater Renovation – Planning  
RPU co-gen Excavation underway, ductbanks and grounding starting soon./ Nietz  
Rochester International Airport Hunt, starting March  
Rochester National Guard Armory on going / Hunt  
First Avenue Flats, Berd (non-ibew) Resi Portion / Accord doing the commercial portion  
Walmart remodel Electrical /Accord underway  
Kasson waste water improvements DN Tanks General no word on Electrical  
Zumbrota WWTF / Shammel  
Elton Hills school / Ryan Jacobson Building /Mayo Hunt

## Austin

Hy-Vee Grocery Store (Oak Park Mall) Hunt / Building is going up. Also working on retail space in old Hy-Vee  
Austin Community center – Planning  
Well House improvements  
Wal-Mart Remodel – No word  
Austin Utilities City Hall-Remodel – Planning

## Albert Lea

Freeborn Wind Energy Project – Planing 200 Megawatt farm. On Hold  
Riverland Collage HVAC Upgrade – Planning  
St. John's on Fountain Lake Town Center East Building A  
Municipal airport Bids 7/11/16 All IBEW bidders  
Fire Station – Planning

## Claremont

Al-Corn Ethanol Plant Expansion- Non Union Cole's Electric & Interstates  
Claremont solar- Hunt

## Grand Meadow

Gymnasium and classroom addition – Ryan

## Red Wing

Prairie Island Nuke / small projects on going  
Gymnastic Center – Planning  
Fire/Police/EMS Station – Planning  
Northstar Lofts Demolition of existing building almost complete  
Treasure Island 8 story hotel, remodel Buffalo Tower, expand water park. Underway, 2018 completion  
Possible hiring February  
Trashburner general on site demoing /Parker may hire  
National Eagle center expansion Wabasha short funding at this time

## Winona Area

Rushford-Peterson School – McMartin  
YMCA summer 2017  
St Mary's University – Accord  
White Water State Park-Premier  
Winona state gymnasium upgrade  
Delta dental Hicks  
Rushford airport fueling system Replacement/bidding

# **IBEW Local 343 Upcoming Work**

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Newsletter (April – June 2017) page 2 of 2

## **Owatonna**

County Garages- Waiting on County for decision  
New Power Plant - Premier Electric  
Willow Creek School Addition/Reno- McMartin Electric  
Lincoln School- McMartin Electric  
Mckinley School- Non Union R&K Electric  
Solar West Of Town- Non Union Cole's Setting Panels  
Harbor Freight- Cole's Electric  
Jr. High School- R&K Electri

## **Waseca**

School Remodel- Schammel Electric  
School Entry/Security- Muska Electric

## **Mankato**

Street/Highway Projects – River City Electric/MN Signal  
Woodside Apartments Phase 5- Being Discussed  
Southern Company- Shutdown Turbine Work FPD Power Development  
Mankato East School Renovation – BLK Electric  
Still Working On Solar Projects in Southern Minnesota  
Hospital Projects – Master & BLK Electric  
Hyundai Dealership- BLK Electric  
MSU Retrofit Project-Non Union RetroTech  
Mid Evil Metal Works – Waiting to hear on  
Mankato Packaging- Master Electric  
Co-op North Mankato – Non Union Javens Electric  
Harbor Freight- BLK Electric  
Mankato West School-Non Union Guaranteed Electric  
Jefferson Elevator Replacement- Non Union Javens Electric  
Southern Company Temporary Trailers- BLK Electric  
Hospital Projects Being Discussed

## **St. Peter/Le Sueur**

State Hospital New Building Project – Waiting on Funding  
Cambria -Waiting on  
School Project- Javens Electric (Non IBEW)  
Gustavous College Clinical Science Building – ??

## **New Ulm**

Kraft Foods – Parsons Electric  
3m – Hunt Electric  
School Remodel- Master Electric  
Menard's Project- Master Electric

## **Fairmont**

Ethanol Plant Work – Dewar Electric  
Student Housing – Dewar Electric

## **Marshall**

ADM -Various Projects-BLK Electric  
Red Pine Wind Farm- Waiting To Hear on

## **Renville/Olivia**

No New Projects as of Now

## **Windom**

Prime Pork – Master Electric

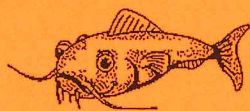
# SPARKY FISHING OPENER

Brothers and sisters are invited to a fun-filled day of fishing  
on the Mississippi River!

WHEN: June 10th, 2017

TIME: 8 am to 3 pm

WHERE: Meet 1-mile south of the West  
Newton landing. The beach is  
located on the MN side.



Fishing for the Biggest:  
Walleye, Pan Fish, Bass,  
Northern, & Rough Fish

You must have one IBEW member in boat. We will  
weigh in at 3pm with food and prizes afterwards.

Questions, call Chris Hallett (251-3569) or John Powrie (259-5413).