History Museum at the Castle

Five members of Local 955 volunteered at History Museum at the Castle in Appleton to build displays for a popular exhibit on vintage neon advertising. The exhibit will be on display through October. Members included George Schroeder, Jerome Gerrits, Dan Kohl, Kevin Coleman and Hank DeWild.

Twin Cities apprentices built wooden structures for the City of Minneapolis’ newly envisioned Holidazzle Village and Holiday Market this past winter. The structures were built at the Twin Cities Training Center, disassembled, then hauled to Minneapolis and reassembled on Nicollet Mall. The structures included Santa’s Workshop and a reindeer barn, among other projects.

Minnesota State Fair

Apprentices help assemble hundreds of wooden benches to give away at this year’s Minnesota State Fair. Pictured are Max Wessel, Local 68, and Nick Murtaugh, Local 322.

Humboldt High School

In February, students at Humboldt High School designed bird houses that were then cut out by apprentices at the Twin Cities Training Center. Apprentices helped students assemble the houses and students were able to take their unique projects home to show to family and friends.
Local 361 gives back to veterans and families in need

Second-year apprentices from Locals 361 and 606, along with Instructor Tim White, volunteered in Danbury, Wis., July 6-10 to help build the Dairyland Outdoor Veteran Retreat center. The center was created by a group of Wisconsin citizens who realized there was a need for a place for our country’s military heroes to relax and enjoy the great outdoors.

Dairyland Outdoor Veterans Retreat will build and maintain a 14-acre campground with tent campsites, RV pads, cabins and a lodge for respite care to provide veterans with a rural retreat to rest and restore themselves.

Members from Local 361 in Duluth recently participated in a Habitat for Humanity project in Hinckley, Minn. They worked on a four bedroom, two bath home for a family in need. With Habitat, the family pays for the home with a zero interest loan and most — if not all — labor is donated so the family’s portion is largely material costs. Habitat families are also required to put 200 hours of their own sweat equity labor into the project.
The Council donated a set of engraved shotguns, valued at $5,000, to the Youth Hunting Club of MN. The guns were presented at Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club in Prior Lake, Minn., after a fire destroyed the gear the Club’s youth hunt summer camps use to promote the sport of shooting to 12-16 year olds.

Apprentices from Locals 68 and 322 helped complete the decking of a new water fowl shooting station at the Horse and Hunt Club in Prior Lake, Minn. Chippewa Wood Products donated materials for the project. This wheelchair-accessible station will be dedicated at the Carpenters Shotgun Tune-Up Sunday, September 13, in honor of disabled veterans.

Sixteen apprentices from Local 314 helped two families finish construction on houses they had undertaken through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Mutual Self Help Housing Program. Though the families had begun construction last July, they were behind schedule in early December and winter weather threatened.

In conjunction with Habitat for Humanity, the apprentices spent two days helping the families get back on track.

“Coming out here and working on the houses was a great learning experience for the apprentices,” said Local 314 member Tim Deininger. “It gives them a chance to encounter and learn from situations you just can't replicate in the classroom.”