CARPENTERS REPAIR
SEVERELY DAMAGED BRIDGES

If you drive across the Mississippi River on the 35W bridge in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and look slightly to the south, you will see the repairs taking place that closed the historic Tenth Avenue/Cedar Avenue bridge on March 30, 2020. The refurbishing of this landmark bridge is expected to be finished in the summer of 2021. The prestigious bridge is 2,153 feet long and encompasses seven main river spans and 14 approach spans. Seven of the spans consist of magnificent concrete arches. Take a closer look, and you would see a large group of carpenters working to rehabilitate the concrete arch bridge, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

(continued on page 18)
FROM JOHN RAINES
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY–TREASURER

As Executive Secretary-Treasurer, I am extremely proud of the work we do throughout the Regional Council. Safety is at the core of this work and remains a top priority. Our safety culture is deeply rooted in the training we provide to all our members and carries over to every worksite. We all have a responsibility to ensure everyone returns home safely to their family at the end of each day.

What started as a busy, yet successful year of contract negotiations evolved into a pandemic that continues to threaten our economy, our crafts and our livelihoods. The COVID-19 pandemic has created times of uncertainty that continue to have a global impact.

Every aspect of our daily lives has been affected, including the amount of human interaction we have each day. People are relying on the vital services we provide. The work we are doing in support is recognized as critical.

Throughout our Regional Council, we are moving forward by establishing and enhancing safety protocols. As a result, locals have started holding regular meetings, and not only was the 42nd General Convention conducted safely, we were the first large group gathering at the St. Paul RiverCentre since the start of the pandemic. While smaller in size than previous years, our annual events were also able to take place.

I am grateful for all that you are doing. I have heard from many contractors thanking you for your work and the extra effort it takes to do it safely. Your commitment is noticed by contractors, developers, and the general public throughout our six states.

In solidarity,

As Secretario-Tesorero Ejecutivo, estoy muy orgulloso del trabajo que hacemos en todo el Concilio Regional. La seguridad es el núcleo de este trabajo y sigue siendo una prioridad absoluta. Nuestra cultura de seguridad está profundamente arraigada en la capacitación que brindamos a todos nuestros miembros y se traslada a todos los lugares de trabajo. Todos tenemos la responsabilidad de garantizar que todos regresen a casa de manera segura con su familia al final de cada día.

Lo que comenzó como un año atareado pero exitoso de negociaciones contractuales se convirtió en una pandemia que continúa amenazando nuestra economía, nuestros oficios y nuestros medios de vida. La pandemia de COVID-19 ha creado tiempos de incertidumbre que continúan teniendo un impacto global.

Todos los aspectos de nuestra vida diaria se han visto afectados, incluida la cantidad de interacción humana que tenemos cada día. La gente confía en los servicios vitales que brindamos. El trabajo que estamos haciendo es reconocido como crítico.

A lo largo de nuestro Concilio Regional, avanzamos estableciendo y mejorando protocolos de seguridad. Como resultado, los sindicatos locales han comenzado a realizar reuniones regulares, y no solo la 42ª Convención General se llevó a cabo de manera segura, sino que fuimos la primera reunión de un grupo grande en el St. Paul RiverCentre desde que comenzó la pandemia. Aunque son más pequeños que años anteriores, nuestros eventos anuales también pudieron realizarse.

Estoy agradecido por todo lo que están haciendo. Muchos contratistas me han dado las gracias por su trabajo y el esfuerzo adicional que toman para hacerlo de forma segura. Su desempeño es notado por contratistas, desarrolladores y el público general en nuestros seis estados.

En solidaridad,
Due to new safety requirements in response to the coronavirus pandemic, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners’ 42nd General Convention was unlike any other. Typically a multi-day event held every five years in Las Vegas, Nevada, the General Convention hosts approximately 2,000 delegates, alternates and guests. During this event, they are tasked with electing the general executive officers, and debating and voting on constitutional matters.

This year, 24 satellite locations in the US and Canada hosted 1,335 delegates elected by their local unions to attend the virtual convention; a safer alternative to converging at a Las Vegas hotel. Members heard from General President Douglas McCarron, general executive officers, and executive secretaries-treasurers across the UBC about the state of the union, members’ efforts in organizing, apprenticeships, training, leadership, professional development, political action and more.

In his opening remarks, General President McCarron said, “We build strong. These three words have always defined our union. Today, we meet to make sure they always will.”

North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters hosted 120 members at the Saint Paul RiverCentre in the facility’s first event since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Equipped with hand sanitizing stations, social distance markers, a strict rule requiring face masks, and a complex audio and visual set-up that allowed for real-time interaction with other event attendees across North America, delegates were able to safely participate in this year’s General Convention despite COVID-19.

“The set-up and precautionary work made this a flawless convention,” said NCSRCC’s Executive Secretary-Treasurer John Raines.

When asked how they felt about the General Convention happening amidst a pandemic, members responded positively to the precautions taken to keep them safe from any potential coronavirus spread.

Melody Martin from Local 344 in Madison, WI, has been a member for 18 years. She stated, “I was super disappointed that we weren’t all going to be together in Vegas, but I was very glad that we were still going to be holding the convention. We aren’t as we normally are, but we are still together, we are still voting, we still have the comradery, and we are representing our locals.”

“I am glad,” said Eric Leanos from Local 106 in Altoona, IA, and 15-year member. “I know things like this still need to happen even in the tough times that we are facing. Business still needs to happen, and we are doing it in such a safe manner.”

Being a delegate elected to attend a General Convention is a prestigious honor that comes with a lot of responsibility to each delegate’s local and to the union as a whole.

“Being a delegate is a great responsibility,” said Frank Dolincheck, a 26-year member of Local 427 in Papillion, NE. “It’s an honor because my local chose me to come up here and represent them. Even through the pandemic, they trust me with their best interests. I am going to share with them this experience and what it means to our international, to our council, to our local. This is a really good experience, and I’m honored to be here.”

James Kroening from Local 264 in Pewaukee, WI, has been a member for 21 years. “To me, it’s about witnessing the election, the process, and the amendments to the constitution,” Kroening said. “It’s also about being able to bring back to the local the changes to the documents that govern our entire membership across the UBC.”

At the 42nd General Convention, the McCarron Team was re-elected for another five-year term. “Over these past five years, we’ve gone from strong to stronger,” General President McCarron said in his keynote address to convention attendees. “Our members have placed their trust in us. And over the next five years, in spite of every challenge our industry is confronting right now, we will continue to honor that trust. We built a strong foundation. We built a strong union on top of it. And together, in the years to come, we’re going to build even stronger.”

For more General Convention highlights, visit: https://www.carpenters.org/2020-convention/.
With 14 offices throughout the United States and a home base in Appleton, Wisconsin, Boldt Construction has a strong reputation for hiring union contractors to build healthcare facilities. They have specialized in hospitals, clinics and wellness centers for more than five decades. Now, carpenters working for Boldt have stepped into the future by using their knowledge and experience to build prefabricated and self-sufficient critical care units. These units are unique and comply with CDC recommendations for infectious patients and airborne infection isolation rooms.

“As the baseline knowledge and experience level of the carpenters is as high as I’ve seen anywhere in the country,” said Zach Lauria, Director of Self-Perform at Boldt Construction. “I’ve been impressed with the work ethic and technical competencies. They are as good as any trade I have worked with even after COVID-19 goes away. With an ability to order larger numbers of materials, Lauria believes the process will become more cost efficient as needs expand.

The distinctive design provides ample space to provide care along with areas for patient recovery and equipment such as portable x-ray machines. Each pod is equipped to handle two patients. Pods are 15 feet wide with enough space for medical personnel to do a bed transfer while preventing patient and staff injuries during the process. Rooms also have a viewing window and a small pass through area to reduce patient contact and provide extra safety for staff. All patients are also provided a recliner to assist in moving to an upright position, moving and shortening their length of stay.

Pods can be built and shipped anywhere in the country. According to Lauria, Boldt is building a hospital with full staff and patient amenities in two and a half to three months through the prefabrication process. This process is a stark contrast to a typical construction build, which would take two and a half to three years to complete. Before a pod is shipped, the rooms are fully equipped with alarms, sprinkler systems and negative air flow. All openings are gasketed and sealed to keep contaminants out. Heat weld seams are also placed on the flooring to make them seamless.

Each pod takes only five working days to complete using an assembly line process. Fourteen pods are worked on at any given time by 40 employees working two shifts. Then, they are sided and shrink wrapped for shipment. The pods are picked up by a gantry crane, a crane structure used to straddle and lift the 20-ton pod, before being placed on a truck for shipping.

Once the pods arrive at their destination in Georgia, Boldt employees will assemble the pods and connect them leaving a two-inch expansion joint between each unit. As a result of the consistent design between pods for patient rooms, common areas and utility space, units can be stacked and assembled to create a multi-level, self-sufficient facility.

The setting of the final piece of the mill was done almost exactly two-years from the project’s start date. The new mill is expected to double the production of 1/4 inch brown paper the previous 71-year old mill produced. With a grand opening for the mill anticipated in early 2021, this will be the first paper mill to be built in Wisconsin in 30 years. It will employ as many as 958 workers on the site at its peak construction time.

Despite the economic downturn and unpredictable consequences to the paper mill industry as a result of the coronavirus, Green Bay Packaging and Miron Construction have shown their commitment to their employees, customers and the community by investing in a new paper mill in Green Bay. Their investment and trust in union-trained millwrights to set this equipment throughout the mill has resulted in another safe and successful project collaboration.

Green Bay Packaging, Miron Construction and North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters’ (NCSRCC) millwrights celebrated a significant milestone in the building of Green Bay Packaging Inc.’s new $500 million dollar paper mill on September 10, 2020. On that date, a stack-out celebration was held and the last piece of machinery for the new paper mill was set in place.

Paper mills have long been a cornerstone of economic success in Wisconsin. They have more paper mills and employ more people in this capacity than any other state. However, many of these mills have either closed or relocated in the recent past. For instance, the reduced demand for magazine paper during the coronavirus pandemic helped expedite the recent closure of the mill in Wisconsin Rapids resulting in 900 people being out of work. Fortunately, the market for packaging paper produced at Green Bay Packaging continues to grow.

Green Bay Packaging anticipates that its newly built, recorded paper mill in Green Bay will last approximately 50 years and add an additional 200 jobs throughout Wisconsin while preserving the 1,100 in Green Bay. The placement of the mill, running approximately 400 feet in length and producing rolls of paper nearly 14 feet wide, was completed by millwrights from NCSRCC.

At the stack-out ceremony, William Kress, CEO and President of Green Bay Packaging said, “Stacking out machinery is the last step. The millwrights have been most focused on their game. There have been no injuries. They went the day and were on budget.”

The last piece of mill equipment, the rewinder section of the new mill, is set into place during the stack-out at Green Bay Packaging.
In 1997, a rapid melting of 98.6 inches of snow resulted in a devastating flood for communities along the Red River in Minnesota, North Dakota and Southern Manitoba. In response, leaders in Cass County, North Dakota initiated a study to permanently resolve the ongoing flood threat to residents along the Red River. Following a 10-year planning and permitting process the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project was created in 2017. Currently, union carpenters, piledrivers and millwrights with Ames Construction are working on the flood diversion construction with hopes of completing two major portions of the $2.75 billion project in the summer of 2023. This work will protect more than 235,000 people from potentially catastrophic flooding.

Many elements factor into whether the Red River Valley will flood in any particular year. The soil moisture, spring rain, frost depth and a northern-flowing river contribute to the threat of flooding to surrounding communities. However, substantial progress has been made to protect the residents in the Fargo-Moorhead area, but there remain gaps in the line of protection. The Fargo-Moorhead Metro area cannot afford a 100-year flood protection with current embankment and floodwalls alone.

This project will now include a 30-mile-long diversion channel, 20 miles of earthen embankment, 19 highway bridges, four railroad bridges, three river control structures and two culvert structures. This plan focuses on mitigation efforts for a 26,600-acre area where water can temporarily be stored and controlled during extreme flooding.

Ames Construction has been awarded two contracts relative to the project. They are building the $46 million diversion project. Ben Herden, Area Project Manager with Ames Construction, said, “It has been a good experience. I enjoy working with people who are here for a career and not just a job. I prefer to have highly-skilled, highly-trained workers.”

As a teen, Lillian Nauman knew that she loved working with her hands and learning to operate construction tools. When Nauman entered high school, she gravitated toward woodworking, welding and construction classes that were made available. Now a Dubuque Senior High School graduate, Nauman will work as a carpenter apprentice with Portzen Construction, Inc. She is also a new member of Local 678 in Dubuque, Iowa.

“I am very excited because I am someone girls, like my sisters, can look up to, and I am also excited because college was never something I was interested in,” Nauman said. “I will be nice to just get into the workforce and not ever have any debt to pay off.”

Jayme Kluesner, a controller at Portzen, said he is excited to see someone as young as Nauman pursue a career path that can open so many doors for her. “I think it’s just important to show [kids] what’s out there, and then they can make an educated decision,” he said. “A lot of kids go to college just to go to college.”

For more on 2020 Career Signing Day Graduates, visit northcountrycarpenter.org/careersigningday.
CARPENTRY CAREER PROSPECTS
HELP REBUILD COMMUNITY

Target Corporation recently partnered with North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters (NCSRCC) and union contractors to provide four local community members an opportunity to experience working in the construction trades. This program also focused on rebuilding the ransacked Target store that resulted in a loss of jobs for the employees and left families living around the area without access to groceries. Beyond rebuilding the community, the program has provided an opportunity for participants to learn about a career which offers a better future.

Lake Street spans across Minneapolis and encompasses many of the city's most diverse neighborhoods. Multiple minority-owned businesses have been established along its corridor for years. The East Lake Street Target, which has been there since 1972, was vandalized and nearly destroyed during last summer’s protests over the death of George Floyd. The business was across the street from the third police precinct building.

North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters, Carpenters Training Institute (CTI), Noor Construction, Engelmus Construction, The Salvation Army, ConstructReach and Target partnered up for their ‘I Built This’ program. The coalition invited community members interested in working in carpentry with the prospect of learning more about the trade.

“Fifty-three percent of skilled trade workers are over 46 and will be retiring. Plus, only 9.1 percent of construction workers are women, only 5.8 percent are African American, and only 1.9 percent are Asian. ‘I Built This’ introduces diverse students to construction opportunities to work towards changing those statistics,” said Paul Robinson, Founder and CEO of Construct Reach.

Four applicants were selected to participate in the two-week training program in August. The primary purpose of the program was to expose participants to construction careers through education and networking. The secondary objective was to encourage these residents to help rebuild their own community.

“We are proud to be involved with programs that reinforce our commitment to support and assist communities in need, as well as expand diversity within our membership by providing equitable training opportunities,” stated North Central State’s EST John Raines.

The program was planned and implemented within a two-week time frame. Work gear, tools and personal protective equipment were provided for the chosen candidates at no cost. Various organizations coordinated recruitment, the application process, participant selection and needed resources.

Between August 3-14, the trainers taught essential carpentry skills. Instructors and apprentices from the Carpenters Training Institute worked alongside them and provided guidance on framing walls, and cutting and installing wooden fixtures. They also taught the participants how to properly use hand and power tools.

Training for the program was spearheaded by NCSRCC Business Representatives Barb Pecks and Aaron Hill, and CTI Instructor Matt Price, all members of Carpenters Local 322 (Saint Paul, MN). Collaboration was key in making the program a success. Diego Morales, Local 68 member and Regional Council business representative, also assisted with the training.

The other two candidates, Juan Aguilar and Jorge Rivero, are also eager to start a career in this essential field. For Jorge, this is a promising change. He lost his main source of income when the pandemic caused the closing of his long-term service industry position at a local restaurant.

This program was one of the first efforts to start rebuilding Lake Street. Due to its success, there is already potential for holding more community build events in the future. This program has benefited the entire community, promoted diversity and inclusion within the construction workforce and assisted participants with a pathway to a new career.

“One of my favorite parts about the last two weeks was meeting my crew, and connecting with our trainers. Matt was great! Him and Barb were very helpful throughout the whole thing,” said Kennoshia Fullilove, one of the candidates. “Every day was exciting. Everyone showed up with a great attitude and encouraged each other.”

Jorge Rivero who grew up in South Minneapolis for the past 20 years, was saddened by everything that was happening in the community. “It’s so nice to see the final outcome, knowing I built that is so rewarding. I drive by Target with my daughter and it makes me proud to point out and tell her that I am helping rebuild it,” said Rivero.

The program brought an entire community together. From arranging the trainers’ work boot purchases at Nokomis Shoe Store to providing valuable tools, many local organizations were involved. As for the trainees, Target surprised them by paying them a two week salary. It was an unexpected benefit.

“We were excited about the opportunity to help make this event possible. This all came together in weeks thanks to teamwork, which comes to show how positive change can happen once people step-up and get involved,” said Pecks.

Program participants Jason Maney and Kennoshia Fullilove have officially accepted job offers from Riesgraf’s Installation. They will continue to do fixture work at the same Target store and are in the process of enrolling in the apprentice program at the Carpenters Training Institute.

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From Left to Right: Jorge Rivero, Jason Maney, Bernard Vinson, Kennoshia Fullilove, Juan Aguilar, and CTI Instructor Matt Price

CTI apprentices doing a demonstration at the We Built This event held in Minneapolis on August 18, 2020.
WHEN CARPENTERS VOTE
POLITICIANS LISTEN

With another monumental election right around the corner, you and your family have probably been flooded with campaign advertising, phone calls, texts, and social media messaging on who to vote for and why. The political department at the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters (NCSCRC) encourages you to learn about the issues and the candidates, make sure they know who you are, and make your voting decisions based on carpenter economics.

How do carpenter economics pertain to our members? We stand up and speak out about jobs for our members, pathways into a career in the construction industry, strong support for apprentice standards, trade policies that are fair for working families, wage and hour rules that deter the underground economy, wage theft and tax fraud, as well as labor trafficking happening daily in the construction industry.

When carpenter economics are at stake, we will always educate the membership on the governance that is placing their livelihoods at risk. In return, we understand our role of contacting our elected officials, attending community events, playing a role in activities that provide a presence and contributing to the causes that support our objectives. The pride carpenters have in their work surpasses conformity. They certainly do not conform to partisan politics, and they will not settle for elected officials who have lost touch with constituents. There may be an unclear message within partisan politics, but there is clarity in carpenter economics. Get out and vote, and make your voices heard!

“I encourage all members to vote and fully understand carpenter economics and how it effects their families when casting their ballot,” commented EST John Raines.

This year, we have launched a new feature called LiveBallot available on the Regional Council’s website: www.northcountrycarpenter.org. LiveBallot allows NCSCRC to autopopulate a full ballot or a digital slate card showing our organization’s endorsements based on any voter’s home address.

To view all of NCSCRC’s ballot endorsements, visit https://northcountrycarpenter.org/activism/nccrc-endorsements and enter your home address, including zip code. LiveBallot comes with features that allow you to share with friends, enhance candidate profiles, and input information about candidates that may be helpful to undecided voters. This new tool will be something that continues to be developed and populated with additional information every year.

Voting will look different this election than any past election due to the COVID-19 impact. In the August primary, the MN Secretary of State estimates that 60 percent of votes were absentee ballots, either in person or mailed. Whether you choose to vote on November 3rd or in the pre-election weeks, make sure you are registered and prepared to vote. If you have questions, contact Adam Duininck or your area’s political director.

UNION CARPENTER HELPS CREATE BENEFIT ALBUM FOR MINNEAPOLIS

During times of hardship, people sometimes struggle with how to make a positive contribution beyond voicing their sentiments on social media. After the death of George Floyd and the ensuing protests and riots against police brutality, Local 322 union carpenter and Minneapolis resident, Matt Sowell, used his musical talents for the greater good. Sowell, along with Tomkins Square label’s CEO Josh Rosenhal, quickly created a benefit album to raise funds in support of racial justice in Minneapolis.

Tomkins Square, a San Francisco-based indie music label with multiple Grammy nominations, produced the benefit album with Sowell’s help. All album revenues are currently being donated to four Minneapolis-based organizations that support minority groups. Conceptualized by Josh Rosenhal, whom Sowell had met 10 years ago in his home city of Philadelphia, “Out of the Ashes” was created in a record five days.

“It’s amazing what one tweet can do,” said Sowell in response to how it all began. When Rosenhal tweeted his reaction on the death of George Floyd, Sowell replied to him about the current state of Minneapolis, which was being looted and set on fire. Rosenhal quickly reached out to him, setting a plan to help communities most affected in motion.

Sowell knew he had to act fast, contacting many local artists, specifically those he knew would agree to participate. “I wanted to reach out to musicians who were like-minded and wanting to support the community,” he said.

The response was overwhelming. More than sixteen musicians agreed to provide music for the album. Many used songs previously released, while others created singles influenced by the city’s recent events. Sowell did not specify an album theme or message at that time. He wanted the music to speak for itself. The artists were only told that their music would help support minority organizations.

“Diversity is incredibly important to me as a musician, as an organizer and as a person. I wanted to put together an album that is reflective of the area we are doing the work for,” said Sowell.

The album succeeds in reflecting his vision. Consisting of sixteen tracks, it offers a varied mix of acoustic guitar styles that symbolizes the diversity of Minneapolis.

The album was released June 5th and as of August 28th, it has raised over $8,000 with support from listeners nationwide. All of the proceeds have been donated to the following organizations:

• MIGIZI, a nonprofit organization helping support Native American youth.
• Lake Street Council which is helping rebuild minority-owned businesses on Lake Street in Minneapolis that were destroyed during the riots.
• West Broadway Coalition, an organization aiding in the economic development for the North Minneapolis neighborhoods.
• Metro Behavioral Health clinic serving the community with mental health initiatives.

“Out of the Ashes: A Benefit Album for Minneapolis” is available exclusively on Bandcamp. All proceeds will continue to go to the aforementioned organizations. Sowell has demonstrated how a carpenter can utilize his talents and positively contribute to his community through organizing and partnerships.

Matt Sowell moved to Minneapolis, a city he now considers home, with his wife and children in 2014. Working full-time as a foreman carpenter, he still finds time for his true passion, music. Being a union organizer recently inspired his new solo album titled “Organize or Die.” Influenced by the guitar finger stylings of Jack Rose and John Fahey, he specializes in instrumental acoustic guitar. Listen to his latest album at www.mattswell.bandcamp.com.
Since its inception in 1959, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (MSO) has provided diverse audiences with concert performances and nationally recognized education and community outreach programs. In 2020, MSO will have a new home in the renovated and historic 1931 Warner Grand Theater, now named the Bradley Symphony Center.

The historic movie palace became MSO’s new home in 2017, but full-time residency waits until restoration and construction are completed this year. With help from the hired architectural firm Kahler Slater, and union contractors CD Smith, Common Links Construction, and PCI Austadt, the Symphony Center will boast three new additions while keeping historical integrity, a requirement of its awarded historical tax credits.

Nate Peterson, CD Smith Superintendent, and member of Carpenters Local 314, has worked on this project from the beginning. “This has definitely been the most challenging project of my career so far,” stated Peterson. “The restoration of all the unique finishes and the addition of modern elements have been a challenge this workforce has not only overcome but can be proud of.”

Every morning starts with a jobsite safety check. “When this project first started, there was a large amount of demolition that needed to be completed before the work could begin. It made things extremely dangerous in the beginning, so we have consistently stressed safety,” said Superintendent Peterson.

With historical tax credits at stake, both the architect and contractors were vigilant about the standards and restrictions for the build. Everything in the original Warner Grand Theater, including a 12-story tower, needed to be preserved. From plaster walls to light fixtures, old railings to trim and woodworking, all elements had to be either restored or replicated if restoration was not possible.

“These historic requirements extended the length of the project, it made it much more complicated,” stated Peterson. “Not only did we have to worry about the historic aspects, but we also had new additions which were modern with completely different finishes.”

The south addition, called the Pavilion, hosts new amenities while highlighting the movie palace’s original features. This pre-function space allows for larger gatherings with access to bars, skylights, and reception rooms. The addition, located on the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Second Street, will provide a timeless and flexible presence that will be able to host a variety of events.

The east addition extended the depth of the original stage to accommodate the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra’s performing needs. “Back in the day, it was a performing arts stage. To increase the depth for the Orchestra, we took the east wall, which was a part of the historical tax credits, and moved it out onto new foundation. We had a company come in from Washington to help with bracing it and cutting it free so we could move it about 30-feet,” recalled Peterson. In total, the east wall extension took four months to achieve.

The north addition houses mechanical equipment that is necessary for a more modern building, including spring-mounted brackets to keep heating ducts from rattling. This area is now fully enclosed. Other building changes include more restrooms, additional aisles that allow for less disruptive audience movement and seating, along with expanded parking.

As an important part of Milwaukee’s community and Wisconsin at large, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra’s new, historic home is a passion project for all those involved and for all those who will benefit. More than fifty North Central States carpenters worked on site towards this improvement to the city’s landscape.

CD Smith Carpenter Tim Johnson, 15-year member of Local 731, proudly stated, “This is one of the coolest projects I’ve ever been on in my life. I’ve been here since the beginning of the project, preserving the historic woodwork and reinstalling now that finishes are complete. I can’t wait to bring my family and show them all that’s been done.”

Juan Villanueva of Local 344 and 14-year member is a foreman for Common Links Construction based in Brookfield, WI and has worked hard with an eye on the finished product. “This has been a once in a lifetime project with totally unique architecture. Seeing the historic artwork and old-world craftsmanship inspires me to live up to the craftsmen before me. It’s a must see and I look forward to showing my family and friends.”

Due to be completed in January, the new $90,000,000 Bradley Symphony Center will showcase the old and the new, providing the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra with the space and features to continue with its threefold purpose: to comfort, educate, entertain and exhilarate the human soul with cultural significance, relevance and artistic challenge; to embrace, preserve, and foster its musical heritage; and to enhance the vibrancy of Wisconsin communities and beyond.
In August 2020, a derecho storm raged through Iowa City impacting the Forest View Mobile Home community damaging already deteriorating homes. These houses now have serious external and internal foundation issues leaving residents at risk of fire hazards, flooding and exposure to freezing temperatures during the winter months. In preparation of the impending cold, Carpenters Local 1260 in Iowa City, IA organized a community event to assist residents with much needed home repairs.

According to the National Weather Service, a derecho storm is a rare, lengthy windstorm associated with fast-moving thunderstorms. It can produce similar damage to a tornado, although the winds typically blow in one direction. A storm is classified as a derecho if the wind gusts are at least 58 mph and the swath of wind extends more than 240 miles. In Jackson County, which includes Iowa City, the storm produced 100 mile per hour winds causing tens of thousands of people to be without power and an estimated $6.1 million dollars in damage and clean-up costs.

The Forest View Mobile Home Park is one of Iowa City’s oldest neighborhoods. It is also one of the few remaining affordable housing options in town and is home to many workers, families with young children and senior citizens. Some residents have lived there for over 40 years. The homes suffered serious property damage because of the derecho storm, including punctured roofs, damaged drywall, broken windows, leaks, and mold. The structural integrity of several homes was compromised by fallen tree branches caused by blowing winds and heavy rain.

In 2016, developers announced plans to demolish the Forest View homes as part of a large-scale $200 million-dollar project. Residents organized and negotiated an agreement to create a new affordable housing for existing families in the new development. Homeowners also partnered with the Building and Construction Trades Unions to negotiate an agreement with North Dubuque LLC and Blackbird Investments, based in Des Moines, pledging to use union labor and quality working standards.

To make room for the new build, the mobile home park residents will relocate to manufactured housing scheduled to be built west of the current neighborhood. It has been over a year since the letter of intent was signed, and the project remains on hold while the homes continue to fall into disrepair.

The community repair event was led by Royce Peterson, Business Representative from the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters and member of Local 1260. Royce has been helping with small fixture repairs for the past four years. His efforts have grown into a large-scale effort that brings dozens of volunteers to Forest View.

Carpenters, laborers, electricians, community residents, and university students volunteered the weekend of September 12 to help repair the homes. The event was a success, made possible with additional support from the Teamsters Local 238, Teamcan Labor Union, Iowa City Federation of Labor, University of Iowa Labor Center, the City of Iowa City, and many others.

Robin Clark-Bennett, Labor Educator at the University of Iowa, was instrumental in the organizing of the community event. She helped with important logistics like surveying, calculating cost of materials, volunteer outreach, and ensuring proper COVID-19 safety protocols were followed. “This shows that when people come together, they can achieve great things. This is setting a great example for our kids about the importance of unity and helping each other out” said Margarita Baltazar, VP of the Forest View Tenants Association.

Together, they were able to fix ten out of the 20 homes, with a second weekend volunteer event scheduled on October 17-18 to complete the remaining homes. The residents’ dream to move to their new homes still stands, and they are looking forward to working with the carpenters union in the future development.

In a year when things have been anything but normal, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters (NCSRCC) experienced major changes in how they conducted our fundraising events. Due to Covid-19 safety regulations, personal protective gear was provided and worn, events were held outside, and attendance was smaller. Many individuals and companies deserve extra gratitude for stepping up in these difficult times. Their efforts ensured that each event was successful in supporting local charities and scholarship funds for NCSRCC.

This year crowned a new championship team at the Carpenter’s Annual Shotgun Tune-Up held at the Minnesota Hunt and Fish Club in Prior Lake, MN. The group of six winners was from Doherty’s Tavern in Prior Lake. The top shooter, with a score of 99/100, was Will Doble from Doherty’s Tavern.

The 16th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing in Harshaw, Wisconsin was canceled due to inclement weather for the first time in its history. Despite the weather, many participants spent time sharing stories and camaraderie inside a storage shed at the course.

This year’s Walleye Classic was held at the picturesque Trapper’s Landing Lodge on Leech Lake. Despite the wind and rain making conditions difficult, many boats brought back respectable catches. Winners, Chad Swenson and Nathaniel Lepala, weighed in three walleyes totaling over 13 pounds.
CARPENTERS REPAIR SEVERELY DAMAGED BRIDGES

If you drive across the Mississippi River on the 35W bridge in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and look slightly to the south, you will see the repairs taking place that closed the historic Tenth Avenue/Cedar Avenue bridge on March 30, 2020. The refurbishing of this landmark bridge is expected to be finished in the summer of 2021. The prestigious bridge is 2,153 feet long and encompasses seven main river spans and 14 approach spans. Seven of the spans consist of magnificent concrete arches. Take a closer look, and you would see a large group of carpenters working to rehabilitate the concrete arch bridge, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These carpenters are using a unique system of scaffolding suspended from the bridge deck by chains unlike anything you have ever seen on other bridges in the area.

In the United States, it is estimated that there are thousands of concrete arch bridges. Many of those bridges are aging and in need of serious repair. It is not uncommon for them to be 80-100 years old like the Tenth Avenue Bridge which was built in 1929. Some have been subject to repairs using a hand-aid approach by hoisting workers from a snooper truck or using a man-lift from a barge below. However, using a barge can be very costly and time consuming due to factors associated with water currents and levels. Now, with carpenters installing a BrandSafway product called Quikdeck, the Tenth Avenue Bridge will receive a complete overhaul using this safe and secure scaffolding system. This system also has the advantage of saving time and money for those utilizing this innovative method.

Quikdeck is a product of BrandSafway and was developed by their Engineering and Infrastructure Divisions in conjunction with long-time Local 322 member Jason Lowe. BrandSafway provides engineering services from one of the largest in-house engineering staff in the industry. Since the product’s development, Lowe has worked with the company’s engineering team to plan for construction projects like the Tenth Avenue Bridge rehabilitation. He has become the interface between the Engineering Division and the client. On the job site, Lowe ensures the application adheres to the company’s specifications and develops a procedure for replacing damaged equipment or working through problems encountered at the bridge site. Lowe works directly with the city engineer assigned to the job site and the company’s engineer. He is recognized by the company as an application expert on how the scaffolding is to be built. Lowe is also qualified under Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards and even draws the project plans for company engineers to approve.

BrandSafway’s Quikdeck system allows carpenters the ability to safely work on an open air, modular platform. It can be configured into different shapes and sizes to accommodate the work that needs to be done on difficult to reach places like concrete arch bridges. On the Tenth Avenue Bridge, Jason Lowe and his crew use a system of 16 deep joints, deck supports, pins and plywood to assemble modular self-cantilevering 16’ pieces of scaffolding with load capacities of 25-75 pounds per square foot depending upon the installation. These pieces, along with any additional extension hardware and materials needed, are hoisted from the bridge deck by a crane and lowered beneath the bridge where they are leveled using a crane, a four-way bridaled and off set counterweight. They are then connected to the nodes, which are the hardware used to connect the scaffolding to the chain suspension. Expertly placed holes drilled through the bridge deck allow for chains to be lowered through the deck and used to secure the Quikdeck in place. The 150 pound sections of chain are attached to a steel cap that sits flush to the new concrete deck while the chain hangs below. Once the Tenth Avenue Bridge is finished, it will be equipped with embeds inside of the concrete deck approximately 10” into the concrete. Chains will also be attached to the embeds making future repairs on the bridge more efficient. Skim coating of the concrete is common on these types of bridges every 15-20 year. With this system, the bridge can be resurfaced without impacting the embeds used for working beneath the decking.

During this process, the chain is placed through the center of the node until it reaches the desired height of the platform. Then it is set in the cross-like center of the node, and three additional chain retainers are placed in the other remaining slots to ensure the chain stays in place. Once a piece of scaffolding is secured by all the chains, any additional material lowered with the deck piece can be moved. Safety remains a top priority, and BrandSafway delivers a product that sets the standard for the others on the market. While it might not be the only system out there that can cantilever 16’ without further components, it has proven itself to be much safer. Quikdeck components are easily handled by one worker, and there are no special tools required. This system can be assembled by cantilevering off itself unsupported from above to reach its next suspension point with guardrails and toe boards easily installed along the way.

Other products simply do not have all the safety features of Quikdeck. The General Contractor on the Tenth Avenue Bridge previously utilized a different product that could catch rocks and debris but not people. Quikdeck can be built on a platform, not just a debris shield. OSHA carries a different designation between the two products. Debris shield is not intended for employees to work from, while a work platform has the necessary four to one safety factor (ability to support its own weight and four times the maximum intended load transmitted to that scaffold component) for worker safety. Now, the contractor strongly prefers the Quikdeck system that provides the additional safety for the workers. Workers can be tied off to Quikdeck unlike traditional bridge scaffolding. The reduction in time needed to install scaffolding also minimizes the opportunity for employee injuries. It has proven itself to be a safer system.

Not only is Quikdeck safer, it is also less costly. According to Lowe, Quikdeck is installed four to five times faster than traditional scaffolding. Since it requires fewer pieces of scaffolding, the rental of the equipment is 200 percent to 300 percent less expensive. These savings are passed onto the customers. With a shorter completion timeline, further savings are generated as contractors can employ more workers than on a traditional system. The end result is a faster and more profitable project for both the general contractor and the developer. The general public also realizes savings with less disruption to its roadways. Most importantly, Jason Lowe trusts and employs only carpenters to do the scaffolding work. He believes their training and skills make them the best equipped to do the work needed to save these badly damaged and historic bridges. His company and general contractor have currently been awarded contracts to work on seven of the arch spans. However, when other general contractors realize the savings and incentives available to them through using this relatively new system, they will also be sold on the product. After recognizing its selling points that include being cheaper, stronger, and safer, they too will look to the carpenters to install BrandSafway’s Quikdeck system.

The BrandSafway’s Quikdeck system allows carpenters the ability to safely work on an open air, modular platform. It can be configured into different shapes and sizes to accommodate the work that needs to be done on difficult to reach places like concrete arch bridges.
READY TO CLAIM YOUR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH?

START WITH TEAM!

In a world full of uncertainty, where many of us are stuck at home and finding solace in extra snacks, Local 2337 (Pewaukee, WI) member Shaun Coates is the feel-good weight-loss success story that we all need to be inspired.

Coates weighed in at over 220 pounds and felt out of shape. Looking down the road at retirement plans with his wife, he knew that he needed to make a serious life change. However, doing so on his own felt daunting and past attempts had failed. Coates reached out to TEAM and was connected to their resident Registered Dietitian Elise Verdegan.

“Shaun is a great example of someone who has had success not only because of TEAM’s support but also because of his commitment to change,” Verdegan said of Coates. “Shaun had a goal to lose some weight, but together we were able to come up with a diet and fitness plan that has blown that goal out of the water.”

Verdegan joined TEAM as a Registered Dietitian in February 2020 and immediately got to work reshaping the physical fitness of tradesmen and their families through individualized nutrition plans and workplace fitness challenges. “I am passionate about helping those I work with through nutrition,” said Verdegan. “Believe it or not, nutrition not only impacts physical health but our mental health as well. The mental health connection to diet and exercise is what motivated me to pursue a career in nutrition.”

As an added bonus, TEAM was able to work with Coates’ family too. From Coates: “Each person in my family has different nutritional and activity needs, and sometimes we need a little extra help to reach our health goals. Elise has been there for all of us. It has been beneficial that we are all able to have the same contact for our dietary needs.” Coates’ wife and daughter are reaching their own wellness goals and enjoying Coates’ new, health-first lifestyle.

What’s next for Coates? “I want to be in better shape at age 50 than I have ever been. I’m 42 now. I’m hoping to enjoy a long, active retirement with my wife.”

Individualized nutrition coaching with TEAM is included as part of your union benefit. If you’re ready to prioritize your physical health and enjoy the benefits to your mental health, start with TEAM. For more information, contact TEAM at 1-800-634-7710 or StartWithTEAM.com

DULUTH APPRENTICES REBUILD HOCKEY RINK

The Duluth Heights Youth Hockey Association enlisted the help of carpenter apprentices from the Carpenters Training Institute to renovate one of their public ice hockey rinks. More than $3,000 dollars was raised over the past year to restore the rink. Despite a pause on construction due to the pandemic, the refurbished rink will be finalized just in time for the start of the 2020 youth hockey season.

Duluth Heights Park hockey rink during the two-week reconstruction by Duluth apprentices.

It has been a decade since the rink was last renovated. The wooden boards had begun to rot causing the rink to become shaky and uneven. Families, college students and young kids will soon be able to enjoy the renovated outdoor door rink at Duluth Heights Park.

Zach Radzak, President of Teamsters Local Union 346 and member of the Duluth Heights Youth Hockey Association for more than eight years, is leading the project. He reached out to Carpenters Local Union 361 in Duluth, MN, to recruit ten carpenter apprentices to work on the project.

Shaun Coates, member of Local 2337 in Pewaukee, WI, doubles his weight-loss goal by working with TEAM.

The Duluth Heights Youth Hockey Association will be hosting an opening ceremony to celebrate the renovated rink later this fall.

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Special care was utilized during the restoration project to ensure the apprentices followed safety guidelines and used the appropriate materials to guarantee the rinks durability. “The project was a great chance for the trainees to obtain hands on experience while also renovating an important hallmark for the Duluth Heights community,” said Radzak.

The carpenter apprentices rebuilt the rink in a two-week timeframe. Donations for materials were raised by local families, the Duluth Building Trades, Arrowhead Concrete, Teamsters Local 346, Duluth Hockey Company, Fastenal, Seeley Plastic, Crooked Pint Ale House, OMC BBQ, IBEW, and Hunt Electric.

Duluth apprentices construct new hockey rink walls in the Hermantown Training Center.
Union membership is an asset of great value to working people. Union membership represents a peace of mind—members have a measure of control over their wages, hours, benefits, and working conditions. Under Section 8(a)(3) of the National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. 158(a)(3), employers and unions have the right (except in so-called right-to-work states) to enter into agreements that work as a condition of employment, join and maintain their membership in the union.

This law and policy is consistent with the democratic principle of majority rule, and it ensures that everyone who benefits from union representation shares in the cost of providing that benefit. Consistent with this principle and the law, many collective bargaining agreements between employers and UBC Local Unions and Councils ("affiliates") of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America ("UBC") require as a condition of employment that workers who enjoy the benefits of these agreements join the union and remain members in good standing.

Over the years, however, the National Labor Relations Board and the courts have, to some degree, undermined union security by holding that these clauses can be enforced against workers who refuse to join the union or resign from it only to the extent of requiring "financial core" membership, that is, to pay union initiation fees and periodic dues. Workers cannot lawfully be required to actually join a union as a condition of employment. But, again, they can be required to pay the union an amount equal to the dues and fees uniformly required of union members. These rulings clearly contradict the plain language of the statute, which specifically states that an employer can absolutely require union membership, that is, that those that are germane to collective bargaining and that those that are nongermane. The General Secretary-Treasurer shall allocate union expenditures into major categories and shall designate those expenses as either germane or nongermane. The objector’s UBC affiliate shall be responsible for reviewing its audited financial records to determine germane and nongermane expenditures in general accordance with the principles and procedures specified herein. These UBC affiliates are independent of the UBC and are solely responsible for complying with the procedures specified in this Notice as respects their own expenditures and implementing reductions communicated to them by the UBC and other affiliates. In this regard the UBC bears no responsibility or liability for the actions or inactions of its affiliates. The order and decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on all parties. In determining the correct amount of the dues reduction, the arbitrator shall give full consideration to the legal requirements and procedures for determining these nongermane purposes.

SECTION 1: Workers who are covered by a union security agreement, who meet their union security obligation by paying all dues and fees but who choose or who have been required by the union (hereafter "nonmember") to pay dues for purposes not germane to collective bargaining may file objections to expenditures of dues for activities that are not germane to collective bargaining. Such workers filing objections in accordance with procedures set forth herein shall be entitled to receive an appropriate reduction of their dues or fees.

SECTION 2: Nonmembers who wish to file an objection shall do so annually by notifying in writing the General Secretary-Treasurer of the UBC at 303 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, of their objections. If an objection is filed, the objection must be received at the above address between April 1 and April 30 of the current year. The objection must include the objector’s social security number, the objector’s name and address, the objector’s chapter number, and the officer of the UBC to whom the objection is directed.

SECTION 3: Nonmember objectors shall be charged for all activities germane to collective bargaining, including all union expenditures for activities or projects that are absolutely required by law. These include the payment of union initiation fees and periodic dues. Workers cannot lawfully be required to actually join a union as a condition of employment; they can only be required to pay the union an amount equal to the dues and fees uniformly required of union members. These rulings clearly contradict the plain language of the statute, which specifically states that an employer can absolutely require union membership, that is, that those that are germane to collective bargaining and that those that are nongermane. The General Secretary-Treasurer shall allocate union expenditures into major categories and shall designate those expenses as either germane or nongermane. The objector’s UBC affiliate shall be responsible for reviewing its audited financial records to determine germane and nongermane expenditures in general accordance with the principles and procedures specified herein. These UBC affiliates are independent of the UBC and are solely responsible for complying with the procedures specified in this Notice as respects their own expenditures and implementing reductions communicated to them by the UBC and other affiliates. In this regard the UBC bears no responsibility or liability for the actions or inactions of its affiliates.

SECTION 4: The General Secretary-Treasurer shall review the UBC’s audited records and determine the amounts of expenditures incurred in the prior fiscal year that are chargeable and nongurable to the objector, that is, those that are germane to collective bargaining and those that are nongermane. The General Secretary-Treasurer shall allocate union expenditures into major categories and shall designate those expenses as either germane or nongermane. The objector’s UBC affiliate shall be responsible for reviewing its audited financial records to determine germane and nongermane expenditures in general accordance with the principles and procedures specified herein. These UBC affiliates are independent of the UBC and are solely responsible for complying with the procedures specified in this Notice as respects their own expenditures and implementing reductions communicated to them by the UBC and other affiliates. In this regard the UBC bears no responsibility or liability for the actions or inactions of its affiliates.

SECTION 5: The UBC’s and the affiliate’s review described in Section 4 shall be completed no later than July 31 of the following year in which the expenditures were made. As soon thereafter as practicable, a description of chargeable and nongurable expenditures shall be mailed to each nonmember who has filed a proper and timely objection under this procedure. The most current available audit report shall be used by both the UBC and the UBC affiliate to calculate the reduction of the nonmember objector and the General Secretary-Treasurer its description of chargeable and nongurable expenditures.

SECTION 6: The amount to be paid by the nonmember objector shall be calculated based upon the percentage of chargeable and nongurable expenditures indicated in the review. For the review completed in 2019, the UBC’s chargeable expenses were 91.1% of its total expenditures. This percentage is the amount paid by the objector for nonmember dues to the objector’s chapter. The North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters chargeable expenses were 91.1% of its total expenditures. Thus, the objecting nonmember’s dues shall be reduced accordingly. The most current available audit report shall be used by both the UBC and the UBC affiliate to determine the amount to be paid by the nonmember objector. When more current audit reports and reviews become available, the amount to be paid by the objector shall be adjusted accordingly. Any subsequent adjustment in favor of the objector will be sent to the objector as soon as is practicable.

SECTION 7: Nonmembers filing a proper and timely notice of objection pursuant to Section 2 shall receive a dues reduction in the amount calculated under Section 6 above beginning within sixty (60) days of the receipt of their objection. They shall also receive a dues rebate in the percentage amount of their dues reduction back to the date of their objection.

SECTION 8: Nonmembers filing a proper and timely notice of objection pursuant to Section 2 herein may challenge the calculation of chargeable and nongurable expenditures by filing a challenge with the General Secretary-Treasurer of the UBC, at the address indicated above. Such challenge must be in writing and must be sent to the UBC within thirty (30) days from the date of mailing of the description of chargeable and nongurable expenditures as set forth in Section 5. Failure to comply with this procedure will render any purported challenge invalid.

SECTION 9: The arbitration procedure which follows is not mandatory. Nonmembers may pursue their rights under all other available legal procedures. Upon receipt of a proper and timely challenge, the General Secretary-Treasurer shall refer same to the American Arbitration Assoca- tion (AAA) for determination under the AAA’s Rules for Impartial Determination of Union Fees. Challenges may be consolidated by the General Secretary-Treasurer for arbitration when the UBC and the nonmember objector agree that the arbitration of multiple objections is a practicable means of resolving challenges in the best interests of the UBC. The arbitrator shall have jurisdiction over all procedural matters affecting the arbitration. A court reporter shall make a transcript of all proceedings before the arbitrator at the expense of the UBC. The transcript shall be the official record of the proceeding and may be purchased by the challenger or otherwise made available for inspection as required by the arbitrator. Fees and costs charged or associated with a party’s representative shall be borne by that party.

SECTION 10: At the arbitration the union shall have the burden of establishing that the reduced dues amount being charged to objection- nonmembers is lawful. In determining the correct amount of the dues reduction, the arbitrator shall give full consideration to the legal requirements limiting what may be charged and shall determine that amount by an arithmetical basis of such determination in the written decision. The order and decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on all parties.

SECTION 11: The UBC shall establish an escrow account containing the portion of dues paid by nonmembers filing objections pursuant to Section 8 herein which reasonably may be in dispute in arbitration. Upon receipt of the arbitration award, the escrow fund shall be distributed in accordance with the arbitrator’s decision.
La membresía de la unión representa un gran valor para las personas que trabajan. La membresía puede ofrecer una serie de beneficios y servicios que no se obtienen de otra manera. Por lo tanto, los trabajadores que se unen a la unión son responsables de pagar las cuotas. Las cuotas varían según el convenio colectivo, pero generalmente incluyen beneficios y servicios que benefician a todos los trabajadores. Es importante que los trabajadores comprendan sus derechos y obligaciones como miembros de la unión.

PROCEDIMIENTOS PARA OBJETORES QUE NO SON MIEMBROS PARA PRESENTAR A LA UNIÓN SUS OBJECIONES SOBRE LOS GASTOS DE CUENTAS PARA PROPÓSITOS QUE NO SON PERTINENTES A LA NEGOCIACIÓN DE CONVENIOS COLECTIVOS

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New website offers easier to use tools & resources

This past June, the Regional Council launched its newly redesigned website (www.northcountrycarpenter.org) with additional features and a more user-friendly format. Members have access to the same important information, but with an improved user-experience, including an enhanced mobile and tablet format, job board, locations map, electronic forms and more. Some of the new features accompanying the fresh new look are highlighted below.

Job board

northcountrycarpenter.org/jobboard

The new job board is searchable, allowing members to find work based on location, start date, or keyword search. Organized by state, the job board offers employment listings for all crafts as soon as positions are posted. Web page maintenance has also been streamlined to provide timeliness and accuracy.

Locations map

northcountrycarpenter.org/locations

The new locations map offers both a full view of the Regional Council's six states and detailed information about each local, training center and council office. Details may include location, hours, websites, social media pages, contact information, events and more.

Local pages

northcountrycarpenter.org/locations

Local union pages offer current members a way to stay connected on the local's news and events. Updated regularly by local administrative assistants, members can be assured they are getting the most up-to-date information about their local's activities. Members can find their local through the locations map by clicking “View More”.

Online membership forms

northcountrycarpenter.org/enroll

New members are able to complete orientation forms online using features that will make the process easier and faster. New features will include the use of electronic signatures, auto-population to eliminate redundancy, and automatic imaging of completed forms into the Regional Council’s database. In partnership with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, these new online forms will make orientation for new employees on a job site more efficient.

Local information

Iowa

Cedar Rapids
Carpenters Local 308
President: Bob Doubek
240 Classic Car Court SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
Phone: 319-363-9779
Fax: 319-363-9379
Email: local308@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Monday | 1st Week | 5:00 p.m.

Industrial Local 1039
President: Craig Bonny
Cedar Rapids, IA
Phone: 651-209-3466
Email: kfritzenak@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Thursday | 3rd Week | 3:30 p.m.

Dyersville
Carpenters Local 2704
President: Amy Hageman
Dyersville, IA
Phone: 651-209-3466
Email: kfritzenak@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Wednesday | 3rd Week | 3:30, 4:30 p.m.
MedMenard Lunchroom

Iowa City
Carpenters Local 1260
President: Emmett Cox
1008 William Street
Iowa City, IA 52240
Phone: 319-388-1638
Fax: 319-388-3714
Email: local1260@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Monday | 1st Week | 4:30 p.m.

Sioux City
Carpenters Local 948
President: Raymond Jackson
2200 West 17th Street
Sioux City, IA 51103
Phone: 712-255-1567
Fax: 712-255-4199
Email: local948@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Thursday | 1st Week | 6:30 p.m.

Minnesota
Albert Lea
Industrial Local 746
President: Bruce Spilde
Albert Lea, MN
Phone: 651-209-3466
Email: kfritzenak@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Tuesday | 1st Week | 6:00 p.m.

Duluth
Carpenters Local 361
President: Chris Hill
5238 Miller Trunk Highway
Hermantown, MN 55811
Phone: 218-724-3297
Fax: 218-724-8536
Email: local361@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Tuesday | 2nd Week | 6:30 p.m.

Mankato
Carpenters Local 464
President: Jon Nowak
220 East Jackson Street
Mankato, MN 56001
Phone: 507-388-6031
Fax: 507-388-1226
Email: local464@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Thursday | 3rd Week | 5:30 p.m.

Rochester
Carpenters Local 1382
President: Dominic Andrist
6092 10th Avenue SW
Rochester, MN 55902
Phone: 507-282-3119
Fax: 507-282-3820
Email: local1382@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Thursday | 3rd Week | 5:30 p.m.

Saint Cloud
Carpenters Local 930
President: Dean Passe
24086 Highway 15 #102
Rochester, MN 55902
Phone: 520-232-1412
Fax: 520-235-3566
Email: local930@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Tuesday | 2nd Week | 4:30, 2:45, 1:45
Albert Lea Union Center

Saint Paul
Carpenters Local 322
President: Paul Troublou
730 Olive Street
Saint Paul, MN 55130
Phone: 651-379-0272
Fax: 651-379-0273
Email: local322@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Tuesday | 3rd Week | 6:00 p.m.

VIrla
Carpenters Local 606
President: Aaron Timb
726 Fourth Street North
Virginia, MN 55792
Phone: 218-741-6010
Fax: 218-741-6017
Email: local606@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Tuesday | 2nd Week | 7:00 p.m.

Sault Ste. Marie
Carpenters Local 1348
President: Ben Pratt
276 Fourth Street North
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Phone: 906-782-0077
Fax: 906-782-0078
Email: local1348@ncsrcc.org
Meeting
Wednesday | 3rd Week | 6:00 p.m.
CARPINTEROS LATINOS UNIDOS

Our members of Hispanic heritage are invited to meet on a monthly basis to network, share stories, and discuss concerns and success stories both on and off the job. Our Carpinteros meetings often feature speakers and resources specific to our Hispanic membership, or who can present important items in Spanish.

SISTERS IN THE BROTHERHOOD

Joining the Sisters in the Brotherhood (SIB) committee is an opportunity for women members to learn more about their union, build a support network, and find ways to participate at the Local and Regional level. It is a chance to talk with other women in the trades, and to network, support and mentor one another.

If you are interested in starting a Sisters in the Brotherhood committee in your area, contact Barb Peck at 651-344-4240 or bpeck@ncsrcc.org.

VERELENTES COMMITTEE

The Regional Council’s Veterans Committee is focused on providing resources and support to our members who are military veterans. If you are a veteran and wish to be identified as such in our member database, contact your local’s administrative staff to update your records. As we create more veteran resources, this information will be used to contact our veteran members with these resources. If you are interested in getting involved in the Veteran Committee or learning more about how the Regional Council works with veteran members, contact Lee Polencheck at 920-427-2808 or join our Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/NCSRCCveterans/.
NORTH CENTRAL STATES
CONTACT INFORMATION

REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICES

Saint Paul, MN
750 Office Street
Saint Paul, MN 55103-2925
Phone: 651-379-0200
Toll-free: 877-HANDS97
Fax: 651-843-8518
Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Kaukauna, WI
N2216 Biddle Road
Kaukauna, WI 54130-9740
Phone: 920-996-2301
Weekdays 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Minneapolis, MN
10761 Virginia Plaza
Pewaukee, WI 53072-0790
Phone: 262-574-6995
Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Pewaukee, WI
N25 W23055 Paul Road
Pewaukee, WI 53072-0790
Phone: 262-971-3549
Weekdays 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Pensacola, WI
1638 County Road XX
Elk River, MN 55330
Phone: 763-582-8521
Advisor: Derek Duehr
1638 Central Avenue, Dubuque
Local 948
Thursday | 1st Week | 5:30 p.m.
Meeting
jodella@ncsrcc.org
218-290-4517

Duluth, MN
2200 West 19th Street
St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-221-1304
Weekday Hours: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Virginia, VA
2421 Larson Street
Madison, WI 53704
Phone: 608-241-0960
Wednesday | 2nd Week | 6:00 p.m.
Meeting
vIrgInIa/LoCaL 1348
ahill@ncsrcc.org
710 Olive Street, Saint Paul
Local 314
Monday | 3rd Week | 5:00 p.m.
Meeting
johannes@ncsrcc.org
6702 19th Avenue, SW. Rochester
Advisor: Dominic Andron
507-405-3234
dandrist@ncsrcc.org

To learn more about the benefits of the Apprenticeship, please contact the following:

Iowa
Deaconess Campus
1555 First Avenue North
Moline, IL 61265
Phone: 309-356-0299
Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Farooq Campus
513 36th Street North
Fargo, ND 58102
Phone: 701-286-0643
Weekdays 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

South Dakota
Sioux Falls Campus
4208 North Hainje Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Phone: 605-345-85-58
Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wisconsin
Kaukauna Training Center
N2216 Biddle Road
Kaukauna, WI 54130
Phone: 920-766-1515
Wednesday | 2nd Week | 7:00 a.m.
Meeting
La Crosse Training Center
2412 Laron Street
Madison, WI 53704
Phone: 608-241-0960
Wednesday | 2nd Week | 5:00 p.m.
Meeting
madison/LoCaL 106
michael@ncsrcc.org
5238 Mill Trunk Highway
Hersmanownt
Local 361
Advisor: Brian Pyle
701-235-4081
bpyle@ncsrcc.org

Minnesota
Delaware/Local 361
Meeting
duLuth/LoCaL 361
350 Waconia Court SW
Rochester Campus
Rochester, MN 55902
Phone: 507-405-3234
Thursday | 1st Week | 5:00 p.m.
Meeting
pbyle@ncsrcc.org
507-405-3234

Executive Director: Mike Harmon (Northern MN)
Jon Mahan (IANESD)
Woodrow Pine (Central & Southern MN)
Pat Rodriguez (WI)

Political Director: Andre Cinch (WI)
Director: Felicia Hilko (IA, NE, SD)
Assistant Director: Tim Nelson (NW, ND)

Director of Public Affairs
Richard Knolckey
Director of Administration
Tanya Smol

APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEES

NCSRCC has established Apprenticeship Committees across the Regional Council for new members to connect with each other. The purpose of the committees is to encourage effective communication, responsibility and leadership amongst apprentices as craftspersons, role models, mentors and volunteers, creating a positive impact on their communities and the UBC.

IOWA

Cedar Rapids/Local 308 &
Iowa City/Local 1260
Meeting
Wednesday | 1st Week | 5:00 p.m.
Location Rotates between
5 Rivers JATC
250 Site Avenue South
Iowa City Office
1000 W 2nd St 010A, Iowa City Office
Advisor: Bob Doubek
319-363-0279
bdoubek@ncsrcc.org
Rochester/Local 1382
Meeting
Wednesday | 2nd Week | 5:30 p.m.
Local 1382
Advisor: Royce Peterson
319-338-1630
repetersen@ncsrcc.org

Nebraska

Central/Local 930
Meeting
Thursday | 1st Week | 5:00 p.m.
Local 930
Advisor: Steve McInerney
402-241-3242
smcinerney@ncsrcc.org
WISCONSIN

Madison/Local 314
Meeting
Wednesday | 2nd Week | 5:00 p.m.
Local 314
Advisor: Kate Wilson
Brookfield
Local 264
402-401-7842
kcobabe@ncsrcc.org

MINNESOTA

Cincinnati/Local 877, 1360, 1463
Meeting
Thursday | 1st Week | 5:30 p.m.
Local 877
Advisor: Adam Duininck (Director of Government Affairs)
Executive Director of Education: John Raines
Executive Director of Training: Eastern IA
Executive Assistant to EST: Derek Duehr

NCSRCC LEADERSHIP

Executive Secretary-Treasurer: John Raines
Executive Director: Pat Milan
Director of Organizing: Chris Hill
General Council: Bart Johnson
Executive Assistant to EST: Denver Haugum
Senior Managers
Dominic Andron (IANESD)
Corey Galik (IA, NE, WI)
Adam Gundick (Director of Government Affairs)
Joe Laskey (Special Projects)
Wayne Nordin (Millwrights/Pipe Drives)

NCSRCC EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Raines, EST
Matt Campanaro, President
Cony Galik, Vice President
Brian Ewing, Treasurer
Pat Rodriguez, Trustee
Derek Duehr, Trustee
Jesse Gregerson, Conductor
Chuck Sporker, Warden

SIGN-UP FOR TEXT NOTICES

Text “NCSRCC” to 855-464-3996

You will receive a message asking to verify your membership using your UBC number. Click on the link, fill out the form, and hit submit.

You can also call the Regional Council office to sign up:
Regional Council Office: 651-379-0200

Message and data rates may apply. By signing up through the text messaging system, you agree to receive correspondence from NCSRCC via text messaging.

Contact Information

Phone: 515-265-3467
Weekdays 6:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

5 River Training Center
550 Wisconsin Court SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
Phone: 319-363-9528
Weekdays 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sioux City Campus
2200 West 19th Street
Sioux City, IA 51103
Phone: 402-265-3467
MWF Hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Rock Island Campus
605 East Main Street SW
Rock Island, IL 61201
Phone: 309-356-0299
Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

South Dakota
Sioux Falls Campus
4208 North Hainje Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Phone: 605-345-85-58
Weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wisconsin
Kaukauna Training Center
N2216 Biddle Road
Kaukauna, WI 54130
Phone: 920-766-1515
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La Crosse Training Center
2412 Laron Street
Madison, WI 53704
Phone: 608-241-0960
Wednesday | 2nd Week | 5:00 p.m.
Meeting
madison/LoCaL 106
michael@ncsrcc.org
5238 Mill Trunk Highway
Hersmanownt
Local 361
Advisor: Brian Pyle
701-235-4081
bpyle@ncsrcc.org

Rochester/Local 1382
Meeting
Wednesday | 2nd Week | 5:30 p.m.
Local 1382
6050 19th Avenue, SW. Rochester
Advisor: Dominic Andron
507-405-3234
dandrist@ncsrcc.org

St. Cloud/Local 930
Meeting
Thursday | 1st Week | 5:00 p.m.
Local 930
Advisor: Steve McInerney
402-241-3242
smcinerney@ncsrcc.org

Pewaukee/Local 161
2654, 344, 2293
Meeting
Wednesday | 3rd Week | 6:00 p.m.
Local 161
4001 Waukesha Blvd
Pewaukee
Advisor: Doug Volland
608-240-3514
dvolland@ncsrcc.org

Pewaukee/Milwaukee Local 23
Meeting
Wednesday | 3rd Week | 6:00 p.m.
Local 23
7670 West Bluemound Road G,
Brookfield
Advisor: Shaun Coates
608-240-3514
scowen@ncsrcc.org

Contact: Tracy Samz
Phone: 262-787-8586
scowen@ncsrcc.org