

# **District Council** Business Manager's Report: John Schmitt



Brothers & Sisters,

As I look back at my last newsletter article to you, the world looks a lot different than it did just a few months ago. I stated in my winter 2020 newsletter that, "2020 will be a huge year for the Wisconsin Laborers," and while the world that we live in and our focus as individuals and as a union has changed, this year continues to be very consequential for our union.

First, I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family to be healthy and safe during this pandemic. The health and safety of you, your families, and the broader community are paramount for us as a union, and the Wisconsin Laborers have helped answer the call and have played a vital role in building and maintaining infrastructure to ensure that Wisconsin's residents are safe and our economy moves forward.

I would like to thank Governor Tony Evers and his Administration for including construction work as essential work in their stay-at-home orders at the onset of the pandemic to ensure that projects and work continued. Our union has been in steady communication with the Administration throughout the course of the pandemic to have our collective voice heard on the interests and needs for you and your fellow brothers and sisters.

In addition, I would like to thank our signatory contractor partners for collaboratively working with us and other building and construction trade unions to help promote health and safety protocols at the jobsite. And please remember, if you ever are uncomfortable or see something that it isn't right, please contact your local union.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way that we do business as a union, though the District Council and our affiliated local unions have continued to work just as hard for you and your fellow members while adapting to not being able to meet in-person. Much of our regular business that has occurred in-person is now being done virtually.

Contract negotiations for the 62-County Building Agreement and 66-County Sewer/Water Agreement, was done virtually through videoconference with our bargaining team and our contractor associations. Although this was different than what we have done traditionally on both sides of the negotiating table, it worked well, and we are pleased with the gains that we made for these and other agreements.

Our Training Center has instituted new protocols to maintain health and safety, which has resulted in significantly smaller class sizes, temperature checks, and the requirement of masks and gloves, as well as sanitizing the Training Center daily following classes. We will be having a longer upcoming training season to ensure that you and your brothers and sisters are able to receive the proper skills and safety training, and updates to required certifications. Another significant issue that our country is facing is that of our country's history of systemic racism. Our union was saddened and outraged over the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers. It is incumbent upon all of us to work together as a union to fight back against and end racism, police brutality, discrimination, as well as other social and economic injustices.

The Wisconsin Laborers' District Council stands with the peaceful protestors who have taken to the streets calling for a change in our country for racial equity and ending police brutality, and we strongly support our members to stand up and have their voices heard calling for these changes.

We must also use our power at the ballot box this year, and vote for federal, state, and local candidates who share our union's values of justice, equality and fairness for all.

As LiUNA General President Terry O'Sullivan recently said, "LiUNA will never back up, and never back down in the fight for racial, social, and economic justice."

Our political landscape has changed significantly. We were excited about the 2020 Democratic National Convention being hosted in Milwaukee. This would have resulted in significant work and volunteer opportunities, but because of the pandemic, its footprint shrunk drastically and eliminated those opportunities.

The April 7, 2020 election, saw a positive electoral outcome where our endorsed candidate for Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice, Jill Karofsky won her election during the midst of the pandemic.

This election resulted in many of us likely casting ballots from home for the first time, and for this November's election, I encourage you to please visit <u>myvote.wi.gov</u>, and request an absentee ballot.

Not only does voting absentee provide us with the opportunity to vote from the comfort of our homes where you don't need to stand in long lines on Election Day, but also our work often takes us away from our homes, and this provides us as union construction craft laborers to have our voices be heard on Election Day if we happen to be working far away from home.

We have been busy interviewing candidates for State Legislature who share our values and will vote for our issues in Madison. In the coming weeks and months, we will be communicating with you about supporting candidates who support our issues.

In conclusion, we are currently seeing cases of COVID-19 increase throughout Wisconsin. We all need to do our part as a union and members of our respective communities to protect our families, coworkers, and the public. Doing simple things like regularly washing your hands, wearing a mask, and maintaining social distancing all will collectively contribute to maintain the public's health and not put added strain on our health care system until a vaccine is developed and distributed widely.

This is like any other organizing campaign, where we can collectively work together to prevail. As a union, we are here for you and your families, and if you have any questions or concerns, we are only a phone call or email away.

Please stay safe and healthy.



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you all are doing well, and first I would like to remind you to remember to follow safety guidelines and proper hygiene. This includes wearing a mask, regularly washing or sanitizing your hands, and maintaining physical distancing as best as you can.

It looks like it has been a busy work season, so remember with the heat to properly hydrate while at work, but also after work too. On a normal day, it is recommended that you consume 64 ounces of water, so make sure when it's hot that you consume more to stay healthy.

If you need training, the Wisconsin Laborers' Training Center is still open and is holding classes depending upon what the needs of our members are. All courses will be held at the Wisconsin Laborers' Training Center in DeForest. We are not conducting classes at local union halls at this time.

The only way we will know what classes you need is by calling or emailing us and letting us know, and we will work with you to fulfill these requirements.

All hands-on and classroom training will adhere to CDC Guidelines. Current guidelines will provide a limit to six (6) students and one (1) instructor in each classroom.

When students arrive, they will have their temperature taken with a non-contact thermometer, apply hand sanitizer, have a mask and gloves provided if they do not have them, and then fill out their forms.

Our Training Center campus is closed, which means that once a student is in the building to attend a training class, they may not leave the Training Center until the class is over for the day. You will be allowed to go outside, but you cannot leave the Training Center property during the times of your course.

We will stagger lunch times to limit people in the kitchen and cafeteria, and restroom breaks will be limited to one student at a time.

Following the conclusion of class each day, Training Center staff will be going through all areas of contact from that day's training class, and sanitizing all surfaces, walls, tools, and other materials with disinfectant.

We intend to start the 2020-21 training season earlier than in previous years in order to provide as many training opportunities as possible for Wisconsin Laborers while also limiting the size of the classes.

Stay safe.

**Craig Ziegler** 



Brothers & Sisters,

I hope that you & your families are all doing well and continue to stay safe and healthy through these trying times. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have suspended in-person Accuplacer testing for all locations. However, we do have some alternate options to meet the State requirements for Apprenticeship eligibility. Please continue to check <u>training.wislaborers.org</u> to get updates whenever in person testing resumes.

If you do know of a potential apprentice candidate, please have them contact the Training Center at (608) 846-5768. For those with current and qualifying test scores, have them contact me at <a href="mailto:rwiatt@wislaborers.org">rwiatt@wislaborers.org</a> or call (608) 212-0802. Requirements are listed below.

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE APPRENTICESHIP

Not less than 18 years of age. Proof of age may be required.

• Must have the physical ability to perform the work of the trade with or without reasonable accommodations.

• A reading understanding, writing and communicating ability as would enable the applicant to perform the tasks of the Construction Craft Laborer in a safe manner and comprehend the subject matter taught in related instruction.

• Applicants must take the accuplacer reading and numerical test components and achieve the "ability to benefit" test score level on each (reading 55 or higher and numerical 35 or higher).

• Next Gen scores are accepted upon approval (reading 236 or higher and numerical 220 or higher).

• ACT scores are accepted upon approval (reading 15 or higher and numerical 14 or higher).

• TABE scores are also accepted upon approval (reading 8.3 or higher and numerical 8.8 or higher).

Must have reliable transportation to job site and training.

### **Congratulations to our 2020 Apprentice Graduates**

Miguel Andino - Local 113 Austin Barnhart - Local 113 Nickolas Cardin - Local 113 Nicholas Iseli - Local 113 Terry Jackson, Jr. - Local 113 Dylan Neale - Local 113 Shunzel Perez - Local 113 Brandon Stoen - Local 113 Mark Szalacinski II - Local 113 Aeron Varnell - Local 113 Austin Vollbrecht - Local 113 Jacob Zuehlsdorf - Local 113 Thomas Wermager - Local 140 David Gebhardt - Local 268 Michael Morajda - Local 268 Samuel Nordling - Local 268 Jacob Pitt - Local 268 Tyler Raab - Local 268 John Meyer - Local 330 William Pingel, Jr. - Local 330 Brock Verstegen - Local 330 Steven Dahl - Local 464 William Hanger - Local 464 Dominic Johnson - Local 464 Tylor Mau - Local 464 Kurt McPhail - Local 464 Nicholas Nachreiner - Local 464 Andre Saunders - Local 464



#### Brothers and Sisters,

First and foremost, I hope you and your family are well and healthy. The past several months have been very challenging for us all. The pandemic has required us to alter our way of living. We hoped that this pandemic would have been brought under control by now, but that is not the case here in Southeastern Wisconsin. In fact, we are going in the opposite direction. We extend condolences to those of you who have lost friends or family members to COVID-19.

Even during these difficult times, work continues to develop on St. Camillus, Komatsu, Froedtert, UHS, Amazon, Foxconn, We Energies, and several schools in our area are getting new additions, remodeled, and field work done. NPL has been installing a new Pipeline on Capitol Dr. Although, the DNC Convention has reduced many venues and events, our contractors have acquired some work. Work looks to be steady going into 2021. I would like to thank all our brothers and sisters who continue to work through these difficult times. Your efforts and hard work have not gone unnoticed. Thanks to Governor Tony Evers, who deemed construction workers as essential. Because of your commitment we were able to continue to build and maintain our critical infrastructure throughout Wisconsin.

On August 19, 2020, The Daily Reporter honored outstanding achievements by the top women in the construction industry. This year's Honorees include Sister Pamela Fendt, Research Director for LIUNA GROC. Our members and staff would like to extend our congratulations and appreciation to Sister Fendt. Her commitment to Labor continues to pave the way for not only the women in construction, but strengthens our community.

Please be aware that Dues Incentive items have been delayed due to COVID-19; our vendor had to stop production and was only producing PPE equipment to help in the fight against COVID-19. They have recently reopened, and we will notify you when your item(s) become available. We are sorry for the delay in delivery, and we thank you for your patience.

Local 113 has partnered with the Milwaukee County Zoo to provide discounted admission and attraction tickets to the Milwaukee County Zoo. Please visit the Milwaukee County Zoos website for updates on COVID-19 procedures and zoo hours. To purchase tickets, please visit:

https://shop.milwaukeezoo.org/#/Organization/ L20CGCF8Z

If you are working outside of the Local 113 region or out of Wisconsin, please call the hall to request reciprocity forms for your health and pension. Retirees who have received pension benefits from the Building Trades Pension and Trust Fund for more than 60 days can apply to work 710 hours inside Local 113's jurisdiction without interruption of pension benefits. Please contact Local 113 if you would like any additional information regarding the Full Employment Program.

Finally, please register to be on the out-of-work list as you are laid off. Failure to register could affect your unemployment. In order to maintain your position on the out-of-work list you must register with the Dispatcher for the following rollover dates: March 15-31st; June 15th-30th; September 15th -30th; and December 15th-31st.

Please continue to be safe and well.

Laborers' Local 113 6130 W. Appleton Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53210 (414) 873-4520 www.liuna113.org

### Local 113 Officers

Anthony Neira-Business Manager John Swan III-Secretary/Treasurer David Goodwin-President Rico Edmonson-Vice President John Hawley- Recording Secretary Daniel Guetzow-Sgt-at-Arms Barbara Yepez-Auditor Eric Iseli-Auditor Javier Martinez-Auditor

Executive Board: Anthony Neira, John Swan III, David Goodwin, Rico Edmonson, John Hawley, Chris Olig, and Eduardo Marquez

Dispatcher: Luis Guevera

Administrative Staff: Mabel Planter Denise Meyer

### Upcoming Meetings/Events

All meetings are currently postponed in order to protect the health and safety of our active and retired members.

We will notify members when we are able to host our next membership meeting.

Meeting Location:

Local 113 Union Hall 6310 W. Appleton Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53210

### Laborers Int'l Union of N.A., Local No. 113

6310 W. Appleton Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53210 (414) 873-4520

### Local Scholarship Form

Local #113 will again be offering ten **\$500 scholarships** to Local #113 members and dependents to help defray costs of college or technical school tuition.

Scholarship Winners will need to complete an Enrollment Verification form. All checks will be made payable <u>directly</u> to the institution. Award recipient must be <u>actively enrolled</u> at the institution listed below and all award money should be used to help defray costs of tuition or books.

If you or your dependent are currently registered for college or technical school this fall and would like to be considered, you may apply online at liuna113.org or fill out the form and return to the Local #113 office.

Forms are accepted until October 31, 2020.

Member Name:
Last Adiaita af SC#
Last 4 digits of SS#:
Member Address:
City State Zin
City, State, Zip:
Phone Number:
Student Applicant Name:
Last 4 digits of SS#
Age:
College or School:
College or School:



#### Hello to all Local 140 members.

As you all know the work picture has been very busy and looks to stay that way until the end of fall. We will have very large building projects beginning this fall in La Crosse and Platteville that will hopefully keep many of you busy throughout winter.

Our office has remained open during this time but our door is LOCKED. We have a drop box conveniently located outside our front door if you need to drop off a payment or any paperwork. We ask that if you want to meet with us you call ahead of time and schedule an appointment.

We finally held a union meeting in July and we are planning to hold future meetings at this time. Masks are mandatory and your temperature will be taken upon arrival before entering the meeting area. Everything went great at the July meeting and we thank all of our members for their understanding and cooperation during this time.

Please remember that if you get laid off (even if it is for a few days) to please call and let us know. We have been getting a lot of calls from contractors requesting laborers for 1,2, and 3 day jobs as well as long term jobs.

If you're working out of Wisconsin or in the Milwaukeearea please call the office and ensure that you have reciprocity forms on file. We need to make sure that your health and pension hours are NOT sitting in a different state or area.

We highly encourage members to take advantage of our Training Center. The 2020-2021 class schedule has just been released. We would also like to thank the Training Center for all of the precautions and safety measures they have been taking to keep our members safe. To register for a class please go to: https://training.wislaborers.org or call the Training Center at 608-846-5764.

We have masks available at our office for anyone that is in need. They are outside our front office door in a basket. Help yourself!

**NEW MONTHLY UNION MEETING LOCATION! As** you may already know our union meetings will now take place at The Log Cabin in Bangor, WI. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month. (7:00 pm E-Board and 7:30 pm Regular Meeting) Please watch social media and your e-mail for meeting updates and cancellations.

The Annual La Crosse Labor Day Parade has been cancelled for 2020 due to COVID-19.

We will be holding an upcoming Biometric Screening event on Thursday, October 15, 2020 from 3:00 PM- 7:00 PM at the Log Cabin Banquet Hall. We have limited spots available. If you would like to schedule an appointment for the screening in Bangor please call Samantha at 608-788-1095.

We are working on scheduling a tentative Pins Banquet for April 2021. More information to come in the future.

We have sweatshirts and long sleeves for sale for the fall/winter season! Call us for more information.

In closing, on behalf of the Local 140 office staff and the executive board, we ask you to please work smart, work safe, and practice social distancing as much as possible.

### Laborers' Local 140 2771 George St LaCrosse, WI 54603 (608) 788-1095 www.liunalocal140.org

### Local 140 Officers

**Clark Jensen-Business Manager** 

Pete Arentz-President

Justin Woodard-Vice President

Mark Clements-Recording Secretary

Clark Jensen-Secretary/Treasurer

Don Hansen-Sgt-at-Arms

Katie Baumbach-Auditor

Matt Johnson-Auditor

**Michael Steele-Auditor** 

Executive Board: Clark Jensen, Pete Arentz, Justin Woodard, Mark Clements, Corey Starr, Kai Rodgers, and Randy Larson

Administrative Staff: Samantha Jensen

September 1, 2020	7:30 pm
October 6, 2020	7:30 pm
November 3, 2020	7:30 pm
December 1, 2020	7:30 pm

Meeting Location: The Log Cabin Jones Road Bangor, WI 54614



### Brothers & Sisters,

I hope this newsletter finds you doing well, and that you and your families are safe and healthy.

It has been months since we have had membership meetings because of the coronavirus situation, but we are planning on conducting general union, informational, and retiree meetings as permitted beginning in September. Please see the sidebar for details on locations and times for our upcoming meetings.

We will be giving away \$20 gift cards for the November 2020 general union, informational, and retiree council meetings.

Please note that all attendees must have a mask on to attend upcoming meetings.

We have been able to grow our local union since January, with 65 new members joining our ranks, and I welcome these new brothers and sisters to our union.

Please remember that anyone working in the Local 113-area or out-of-state, to please make sure you are getting the necessary reciprocity papers needed to have your health and pension hours sent back to your home fund for eligibility and vesting credits.

Membership dues payments can be made inperson at the Eau Claire Labor Hall with cash, check, or money order, or mailed into the office. Dues can also be paid online with a debit or credit card at https://268members.org.

There will be Biometric Screenings on October 21, 2020 in Eau Claire and October 22, 2020 in Wausau. Please look at the Health & Pension section in this newsletter for additional details.

We have an important election taking place this November. I encourage you to apply for an absentee ballot that you can mail back to your clerk. I know many of us can be traveling for work on Election Day, and by voting absentee, you can ensure to have your voice heard. We need to make sure that we vote with our wages and benefits in mind, and support candidates that support working people.

I would like to congratulate the 2020 Local 268 Gold Card Recipients: Robert Boquist (March 2020); Harry Barnes (May 2020); Charles Hakseth (June 2020); LaVerne Ford (September 2020); and Dennis Erickson (September 2020). Congratulations on your 50 years of service to your union.

If you get laid off, please make sure to contact the office to be placed on the local union out-of-work list.

In closing, I again wish you and your family good health, and stay safe and healthy on the job and in your communities. Laborers' Local 268 2233 Birch Street Eau Claire, WI 54703 (715) 835-5001 www.liunalocal268.org

### Local 268 Officers

Brian Dehnhoff-Business Manager

Scott Johnson-President

Josh Garr-Vice President

Brian Dehnhoff-Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Shafer-Recording Secretary

Eric Deprey-Sgt-at-Arms

**Trina Pierce-Auditor** 

Roger Lewallen-Auditor

**Daniel Patz-Auditor** 

Executive Board: Brian Dehnhoff, Scott Johnson, Josh Garr, Mike Shafer Scott Geissler, Allen Bradford, and Dave Prueher

Administrative Staff: Deb Heath

#### Upcoming General Union Meetings

September 2, 2020	7:00 pm
October 7, 2020	7:00 pm
November 4, 2020	7:00 pm
December 2, 2020	7:00 pm

<u>Meeting Location:</u> Eau Claire Labor Temple 2233 Birch Street Eau Claire, WI 54703

WI Rapids Informational Meeting November 9, 2020 - 6pm - 220 Johnson Street, WI Rapids, WI 54495

Retiree Council Meetings - Eau Claire, Wausau, & WI Rapids - 11am September 16 & November 18, 2020



### Brothers and Sisters,

Autumn is just around the corner and is the season for many things. It's another big election year. If you are not already registered to vote, please call our office and we can help you get that accomplished so you can participate.

You will also have three opportunities for a Biometric Screening in our area. There are some social distancing restrictions due to COVID-19. See the Health & Pension portion of this newsletter for dates and times. Please contact Local 330 for more information.

Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant will have a Fall outage from October 3rd through October 29th. In addition to the refueling in October, there are many upgrades taking place at the facility this year. These upgrades will require more Laborers starting in August and September in addition to the October refueling work.

DOT work in Local 330's area has been predominantly awarded to our Signatory Contractors. One large project is the Highway 23 expansion from Plymouth to Fond du Lac. Hopefully we can see more money from the federal government dedicated to infrastructure improvements statewide.

Building construction is the highlight in the Green Bay area. Green Bay Packaging is building a completely new facility split into eight projects executed simultaneously on the existing site on Quincy Street. Included in this project are a waste water treatment plant, two new boilers, the second-largest paper machine in the world and the necessary facilities to support it. As of this writing, there are more than 800 tradespeople working on this project.

As of this writing, we are planning on holding in-person meetings in Appleton, Green Bay, Fond du Lac, Stevens Point, and Cleveland. Please see the meeting times/locations on this page. If we do need to cancel, we will send communications out to the membership.

Stay safe and healthy.

Laborers' Local 330 886 W. Airport Road Menasha, WI 54952 (866) 340-0330 www.laborerslocal330.org

### Local 330 Officers

Gerald Schomaker-Business Manager Paul Daugherty-President James Lenz-Vice President Greg Kohl-Recording Secretary Kelly Buss-Secretary/Treasurer Tim Miller-Sgt-at-Arms Brian Hubers-Auditor Brian Lee-Auditor Milana Robinson-Auditor

Executive Board: Gerald Schomaker, Kelly Buss, Paul Daugherty, Greg Kohl, James Lenz, Ryan Young, and Mark Linsmeier

> Adminitrative Staff: Kerri Guseck Lisa Peterson

### Upcoming Meetings/Events

Appleton - 2828 North Ballard RoadSeptember 8, 20207:00 pmOctober 13, 20207:00 pmNovember 10, 20207:00 pm

Fond du Lac - 50 E. Bank StreetSeptember 2, 20206:00 pmNovember 4, 20206:00 pm

<u>Green Bay - 1570 Elizabeth Street</u> October 21, 2020 6:00 pm

Stevens Point - The Backyard Grill -<br/>6805 Hwy 66, Custer, WI 54423October 1, 20206:00 pm

<u>Cleveland - 1221 Park Lane</u> October 28, 2020 6:00 pm

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#### Brothers & Sisters,

I truly hope you and your families are doing well during these crazy times that we are enduring. It would be great if we could just roll back 2020 and start over again. Although some projects have been postponed, a lot of work has continued for our members.

There is currently over \$500 million in school projects and close to \$100 million in road work projects going on in Local 464's 10 counties this summer/fall. On the horizon, there is over \$1 billion in upcoming work.

Our union continues to grow, and we have signed up 175 new members in 2020. In addition, we have partnered with these new signatory contractors: JAC, Rasch, Northway Fence, RLP, and Fischer Excavating.

Our contractors are constantly reaching out to us asking for experienced laborers, so please update your skill sheets on a regular basis, and contact the Training Center if you need training.

Local 464 is looking at saving money while protecting the environment, and where possible, we are looking to do paperless communications – especially in regard to monthly dues receipts. Please make sure your email address is up-to-date by either contacting the local union, or you can fill out the form at the end of the newsletter and mail it back to the local with your updated information.

Retirees are able to work 710 hours between August 1, 2020 and July 31, 2021. Please remember you cannot begin working until 60 days after your retired, and also that you must pay your active monthly dues while you are working.

We need certified flaggers. If you have not taken a certified flagging class, please call and sign up with the Training Center.

Active members who pay a full year's worth of dues will receive a one-time gift payment of \$38, and retired members will receive a one-time gift payment of \$8.

We have many important elections coming up this fall, and the District Council is interviewing and making endorsements in key legislative races. One endorsement is for Kriss Marion in the 51st Assembly District in portions of Sauk, Iowa, Lafayette, and Green Counties. Ms. Marion recently stopped by a Maddrell Excavating jobsite in her hometown of Blanchardville to thank our members working on the project. It's great to support candidates who support us and the work that we do.

During the November 3, 2020 election, there will be a referendum for the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) that we are supporting. If passed, this referendum will make significant investments for the kids in our community, while providing thousands of working hours on the renovation of the four Madison High Schools and the construction of a brand new elementary school.

Congratulations to the following members who have reached Gold Card Status: David Pape (January 23, 2020); James Cruice (April 27, 2020); Karl Rentschler (July 23, 2020); and Leo Jesberger (August 24, 2020).

We again would like to thank all of our members for their understanding during these trying times. We miss the comradery with our members, and we look forward to a time when we can get together again. Laborers' Local 464 1438 N. Stoughton Road Madison, WI 53714 (608) 244-6400 www.union464.com

### Local 464 Officers

Jim Foye-Business Manager Charlie Schuett-President Josh Jochem-Vice President Dean Hackl-Secretary/Treasurer Ben Mau-Recording Secretary Nic Henn-Sgt-at-Arms Jim Staskal-Auditor Jeff Semmens-Auditor

Ron Niebuhr-Auditor

Executive Board: Jim Foye, Dean Hackl, Charlie Schuett, Ben Mau, Neil Grman, Mike Meyer, and Josh Jochem

> Office Staff: Kati Koss & Jana Herron

Upcoming Meetings/Events All meetings are currently postponed in order to protect the health and safety of our active and retired members.

We will notify members when we are able to host our next membership meeting.

<u>Meeting Location:</u> Local 464 Union Hall 1438 Stoughton Road Madison, WI 53714



With summer here, and fall fast approaching, I hope this newsletter finds you and your families all safe and sound, well and healthy.

The COVID-19 pandemic obviously has put a hold on some of our 2020 construction projects, and may have an effect on our 2021 construction season. We are taking precautions here at Local 1091, and are working with our contractors to ensure that jobsites are following State and CDC guidelines. Contractors have also been good to offer the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

As we move into the latter part of 2020, we will have work at a large housing project in Superior, which is being done with all union labor. Work at the Ashland Memorial Hospital, Husky Refinery, and various road jobs will continue into late Fall. The City of Superior is still looking at a new Cobblestone Hotel to be built downtown, and the Carnegie Library also in Superior is going to be converted to a small Business Center.

LOCAL 1091 Business Manager: Dan Olson

Moving on to politics, we are seeing contested races in the 73rd and 74th Assembly seats. The Wisconsin Laborers have endorsed Rep. Nick Milroy (73rd Assembly District) and Rep. Beth Meyers (74th Assembly District). Both Representatives have given their support for many of our building trades initiatives. On a national level, my advice is to merely look at who supports our issues when you go to the polls. Our health & welfare and our pension benefits are very important to our members and our families. Please get involved and get out to vote on November 3, 2020.

Recently, I attended a hearing on the proposed Line 5 re-route to encompass the town of Mellen. This will relocate Line 5 owned by Enbridge Energy, and would move the line off of the Bad River Reservation in Ashland County. Stay tuned for upcoming meetings where we may need to show support for this all-union project.

Local 1091 is back to having in person union meetings. We will also have our bi-annual membership picnic on Saturday, August 30 at Billings Park in Superior, WI from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please note that the Local 1050 Reunion Picnic has been canceled.

At our May 2020 nomination meeting, we had an uncontested election. Thank you for your confidence in me and your Executive Board. You have my pledge to represent you to the best of my ability, and I will lead us in the direction of prosperity and dignity now and into the future. Your officers are listed on the side of this page.

As we move forward into the Fall and Winter of 2020-21, I urge you don't back down, don't back up, don't give in, and Feel the Power, Use the Power, and Be the Power of LiUNA.

In Solidarity!

Laborers' Local 1091 2002 London Road Duluth, MN 55812 (218) 728-5151 www.liunalocal1091.org

### Local 1091 Officers

Dan Olson-Business Manager & Secretary/Treasurer

Curt Davey-President

Zac Hanson-Vice President

Derek Pederson-Recording Secretary

Tony Moselle-Sgt-at-Arms

Herb Meyer-Auditor

**Eric Miller-Auditor** 

Mike Lundberg-Auditor

Executive Board: Dan Olson, Curt Davey, Zac Hanson, Derek Pederson, Chris Thacker, John Schneider, and Jeremy Wehr

Wendi Mattinen-Office Manager

Upcoming Meetings/Events Summer Picnic - August 30, 2020 -Billings Park, Superior, WI - 11am to 4pm

Membership Meetings

August 20, 20207:00 pmSeptember 17, 20207:00 pmOctober 15, 20207:00 pmNovember 19, 20207:00 pm

Meeting Location: Local 1091 Union Hall 2002 London Road Duluth, MN 55812



This Spring and Summer was, and continues to be, very challenging for our children, parents and educators in our state. As parents, grandparents, guardians, or family members, we all have had to make serious adjustments to schedules and a normal way of life.

The schools in our state had to scramble to try and provide some type of education platform to help our kids finish the school year. I have been in contact with school districts throughout the state with regard to career choices for those seniors that were graduating this year. As you have read in past newsletters, LECET and the various LiUNA Locals were very involved with career and job fairs sponsored by the schools and this year provided a huge challenge.

We were able to work with most of the school districts to get our information to them for placement on their websites. Some schools had virtual job fairs which gave us the ability to be more engaged with those kids that were interested in a career with LiUNA. Although we do not know how long it will be before our kids will get back to their actual classrooms, we will continue to work with the schools to make sure our message and information is available about a career as a Union Construction Craft Laborer.

We have also been very involved with the Department of Workforce Development. They have placed a strong emphasis on virtual career/job fairs throughout the state.

Our office has continued to contact architectural and engineering firms who do business in our state to introduce LECET and the WI Laborers. The goal is to make sure they understand the importance of using our signatory contractors who employ our hardworking men and women.

I was recently appointed to the Dane County United Way as a Labor Liaison for 2020. I will be working with the different union organizations in Dane County to promote and raise donations for this awesome charity. Please visit their website to see how this organization benefits Dane County and the state at https://www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/.

I have also been asked to be a part of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's OJT/ RFP committee. This gives the Wisconsin Laborers the opportunity to continue to be a leading construction trade union with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT).

I continue to work with our many partner organizations throughout the state including Downtown Madison Inc., and I sit on their Transportation Committee and Economic Development Committees; Wisconsin Veteran's Chamber of Commerce and their Veterans in Construction Committee; and the Waukesha Business Alliance and their Construction Committee.

Please stay safe and let's all try and do our best to follow the recommended guidelines for dealing with this pandemic. For more information and recommendations from our National Health and Safety office, please visit them at <a href="https://www.lhsfna.org/">https://www.lhsfna.org/</a>.





I hope everyone is enjoying the summer and getting to spend time outdoors during this challenging time we live in. The Health Fund has several updates and reminders so please take the time to read through and we welcome anyone to call the Fund office (number below) with questions. You can also find all updates at <u>www.wilbenefits.com</u> and also access your hours, eligibility status, and claims information. Our office is open and masks are required.

HRA Card Re-Issue - Many of you should have received a new HRA (blue Visa) card. The HRA cards expire the same as a credit card and will re-issue every 3 years. Please be sure to check your expiration date and if you did not get a new card, call the Fund office.

What type of expenses are covered with my HRA (blue visa) card?

- Co-Pays at your physician's office
- Paying your deductible at Providers office
- Dental co-pays, out of pocket, or deductible expenses •
- Prescription co-pays •
- Did you know you can also purchase:
  - o Band-Aids, Ace Bandages, guards for wrist, knee, etc. o Allergy tablets, Tylenol, Advil, etc.

  - o Sunscreen
  - o Feminine Products
  - o TENS unit
  - o Blood Pressure monitors
  - o Tums/Antacids
  - o Self-Payments
  - o Check out the Amazon FSA store as well! You can add your HRA card under your Amazon account! Look for FSA or HSA cards under "add a new payment method"
- Most pharmacies will have an "approved OTC" on their pricing if your HRA card is eligible. Please be sure to check with the store before you try to use your HRA card. Places like Walgreens, CVS, and Target are programmed for HRA expenses. Places like Fleet Farm that sell Band-Aids are not programmed. The expense will be covered if you turn in your receipt, but you will not be able to use your card at non approved stores.
- Substantiation can be mailed to the Fund office or emailed to <u>whra@bpawi.com</u>. Please be sure that items emailed are legible.
- Always use your health fund \$250 vision benefit before using your HRA card (more on vision later).

Biometric Screening Events (Wellness) – If you have not signed up for a wellness event in 2020, please check the listing below to see if one is available in your area. It only takes 15 minutes for the screening. You will receive either a \$150 gift card or you can opt to waive your 2021 deductible!

The Wellness year has been extended to November 30, 2020 due to COVID restrictions on getting into your physician. The local union offices are planning to hold events as space and regulations allow.

Remember to watch for the Orange Post Cards for additional dates this year.

Local 330 - Holiday Inn Hotel, 4601 Calumet Ave, Manitowoc Tuesday, August 25, 2020, Ballroom East, from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Local 330 - Green Bay Labor Temple Association, 1570 Elizabeth St, Green Bay Wednesday, August 26, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Local 464 - Labor Temple, 1605 Center Ave, Janesville Tuesday, September 22, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Local 113 - Marriott West, W231 N1600 Corporate Court, Waukesha Wednesday, September 23, 2020, Portage/Chippewa Room, from 2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Local 464, Union Hall, 1438 N Stoughton Rd, Madison Thursday, September 24, 2020 from 2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Local 140 - Log Cabin Banquet Hall, Jones Rd, Bangor Thursday, October 15, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Local 268 - Labor Temple, 2233 Birch Street, Eau Claire Wednesday, October 21, 2020 from 2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Local 268 - Labor Temple, 318 S 3rd Ave, Wausau Thursday, October 22, 2020 from 2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Please note, the Wellness year will be changing effective January 1, 2021. A notice was sent out explaining the changes. If you did not receive the notice, please either call the Fund office or visit the website at <u>www.wilbenefits.com</u> and click on Health Fund/Notices. Please watch for new regulations due to COVID on how the event will be organized. You may be asked to wait in your car and will be called. This will depend on the space available for the event. To be eligible for the 2021 deductible waiver, please note that if married, both the member and spouse must agree and sign to have their deductible waived rather than accept the gift card. Non-Medicare Early Retirees are not eligible for deductible waiver but are eligible for the \$150 gift card.

<u>Care-Plus Dental Option</u> - Everyone should have received a Summary of Material Modification ("SMM") a couple weeks ago regarding Dental Coverage Changes/Options. For those members that live by a Dental Associates or Midwest Dental location, you will have the option to choose the Care-Plus network. The network does offer a slightly richer benefit. Delta Dental will still be an option and if you do not choose, you will remain in the Delta Dental Plan. Please be sure to review the SMM and watch for benefit packets to be mailed in early October. Once you review, please don't hesitate to call the office with any questions you may have. It is very important to remember you must go to a CarePlus provider or there are no benefits.



<u>Vision</u>- Below I will summarize the steps you should take when utilizing your Vision benefits. You do not need your EyeMed Vision card to visit the doctor. You only need your Name, Date of Birth, and Social Security Number. If you had a vision claim and did not utilize the \$250.00 yearly Fund benefit, please submit your receipts to the Fund office. Please note the date of service must be within one year from today's date. A notice was sent in December 2019 outlining the process below. The notice is on our website.

• Check the EyeMed website for a preferred provider, <u>www.eyemed.com</u>, then click on Find an Eye Doctor in the upper right corner. You can also call 866-804-0982 or download the EyeMed app on your smartphone.

- Once you schedule an appointment, be sure to give the provider both your EyeMed information and your Wisconsin Laborers Benefit card to utilize \$250.00 yearly vision benefit.
  - o If your provider will not directly bill the Fund for the balance up to \$250.00, then you will be responsible for sending the receipt to the Fund office for reimbursement. The \$250.00 benefit is per eligible person (member, spouse, and dependents)
  - o You may use your HRA card only if the balance due is above the \$250.00, after EyeMed paid, or if your \$250.00 max has been exhausted. If you are not sure, please contact the Fund office before using your HRA card.

• Target Optical is a preferred provider and you can choose any frame they have available, no matter the cost! To use the benefit, you need the Freedom code of 755288. The Freedom flyer is also located on the Fund website at <a href="http://www.wilbenefits.com">www.wilbenefits.com</a> under Health/Documents

- If you choose to go to an out of network provider, please follow the steps below:
  - o Check with your Provider to see if they will bill you prior to EyeMed's reimbursement
    - If Provider will not wait for payment, you need to pay out of pocket and then follow steps below.
  - o You must submit a form and receipts to EyeMed for reimbursement. Forms can be found on the Fund website under Health\Forms\Out-of-Network Vision Services Claim Form
  - o EyeMed will reimburse you directly, you will pay the provider if any amount due.
  - o Submit any additional charges, along with your receipt and EyeMed Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") to the Fund office for reimbursement up to the \$250.00. The Fund office will not pay the \$250.00 benefit without the EyeMed EOB.

• Please do not hesitate to call the Fund office for any guidance along the way or if you need help filling out the form for out-of-network reimbursement. The staff is here to help and to make the process as easy and painless as possible!

As always, if you have any questions, please call the Fund office at: 608-842-9101 (claims) or wiclaims@bpawi.com 608-842-9102 (eligibility) eligibilitywl@bpawi.com 608-842-9103 (pension) pensionwl@bpawi.com



Congratulations to Local 113 Member Karl Winkleman on winning the Winter 2020 Newsletter Raffle Prize of an 8-inch Ice Fishing Auger and Milwaukee Tool Drill!

# Summer 2020 Newsletter Raffle Prize

# Five \$100 Kwik-Trip Gift Cards

# Five members who enter the raffle will receive a \$100 gift card!

<u>To Enter via Email:</u> Send your Name, Local Union Number, Address, and Cell Phone Number to <u>info@wilaborers.org</u>

<u>Or To Enter via Facebook:</u> Like the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council Facebook page, and send us a private message with your Name, Local Union Number, Address, Email Address, and Cell Phone Number. You must enter on the District Council Facebook page - NOT ON YOUR LOCAL'S FACEBOOK PAGE.

One entry per member.

Winner will be notified on September 16, 2020, and winners will have the gift cards mailed directly to the address provided.

Winner must be a Laborer in good standing.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE WISCONSIN LABORERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL



# **VOTE ABSENTEE OR EARLY IN PERSON** For the November Election

Wisconsin voters can cast a vote with an absentee ballot or through in-person early voting before Election Day, and of course at their polling place on Election Day. Wisconsin voters do not need a reason or excuse to vote early.

### **VOTING WITH AN ABSENTEE BALLOT**

Voters have until Thursday, Oct. 29, to request their absentee ballot. First-time absentee ballot requests must include a copy of a photo ID. To request a ballot online, go to myvote.wi.gov and click "Vote Absentee" at the top.

To request an absentee ballot by other means, send a request to your municipal clerk by mail, fax or email and include a copy of your photo ID with the request. You can find your local clerk by going to myvote. wi.gov and using the address search feature.

Your absentee ballot vote must be cast in front of an adult witness who is not a candidate for office. If you make a mistake, contact your municipal clerk immediately for a replacement ballot. Absentee ballots must be received before or on Election Day so the municipal clerk can deliver your ballot to your polling place before 8 p.m. on Election Day.

### EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING

Voters also can vote in person at their local municipal clerk's office two weeks before Election Day. If you choose to vote early in person, you will cast your ballot immediately in the clerk's office, seal your ballot in the proper envelope and return it to a member of the clerk's staff. You will need to show an acceptable photo ID when voting early in person. Information on acceptable photo ID when voting early in person. Information on acceptable photo ID when voting early in person. Information on acceptable photo ID when voting early in person.

Each municipality in Wisconsin is responsible for setting the hours of in-person absentee voting. To find the hours for where you live, contact your municipal clerk you can find your clerk by using the address search feature at myvote.wi.gov.



### TO LEARN MORE, GO TO WISAFLCIO.ORG/VOTER-GUIDE.





For more information, contact the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council at (608) 846-8242 or please visit wilaborers.org.



Politicians make the laws that affect our lives.



.iUNA!

# **Yard & Window Signs Available**



We have both yard signs and window signs available to pick up at the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council office in DeForest. If you live outside of the Greater Madison area, please send an email to info@wilaborers.org or a private Facebook message to the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council Facebook page, with your name and local union number, as well as if you want a yard sign or window sign, and we can make arrangements to have them sent to your local union hall for pickup.

# **LiUNA Face Masks**



We have extra face masks available. If you or members of your family are in need of these LiUNA face masks, please contact your local union, and we will make arrangements for you to pick these up.



<u>Top Left:</u> Jimmy Baxter (Local 113) working for Brock Industrial Services at the Oak Creek Power Plant. <u>Top Right:</u> Members from Local 113 and 464 working for Lunda on South Towne Drive in Madison. <u>Bottom Right:</u> Omar Ramirez (Local 113) working for ZTI in Belgium. <u>Bottom Left:</u> Michels crew of Local 464 members working on the I-90 reconstruction in Rock County.





<u>Top:</u> Local 268 members with A-1 Excavating in Portage.

<u>Middle Left & Middle Right:</u> Kriss Marion, the Wisconsin Laborers' District Council-endorsed candidate for Wisconsin Assembly District 51, visited with Local 464 members with Maddrell Excavating, Inc. working in Blanchardville.

Bottom Left: Local 113 member Tereso Gallo working for Stark Paving in Sussex.



<u>Top Left:</u> Local 113 members cleaning the temporary coronavirus field hospital at the Wisconsin State Fair. <u>Top Right:</u> Local 113 overlay crew working on I-43. <u>Bottom Right:</u> Bryce Schuett (Local 113) working on a bank project for Findorff at 164th and Capitol Drive in Pewaukee. <u>Bottom Left:</u> Mariah Nachreiner (Local 464) doing landscaping work for Raymond Cattell.



<u>Top Left:</u> Local 113 members Adrian Esquivel, Jacob Irving, and Arthur Strong masked up at work at the Milwaukee Molson Coors Brewery. <u>Top Right:</u> Ryan Hackl (Local 464) working for Intercon in Columbia County.

<u>Bottom Right:</u> Tim Pritchett (Local 464) doing flagging work for James Peterson Sons, Inc. on Cottage Grove Road. <u>Bottom Left:</u> Local 113 Apprentice Anthony Arenas working on a I-43 bridge deck for ZTI in Belgium.

# **Member Contact Information Update Form**

### **Membership Contact Information Updates**

If you have a new or updated email address, have moved, or changed your phone number, please fill out the appropriate fields below and return this form to your local union (address on the back page of the newsletter) so they can update it. You can also take a picture of this form and email it to info@wilaborers.org.

As we strive to be more efficient in our communications, we in particular would appreciate an email address so we can do more paperless communications.

Member Name:
Local Union Number:
Updated Member Address:
Updated City, State, Zip:
Updated Home Phone:
Updated Cell Phone:
Updated Email:
Shirt Size:



Feel the Power

Wisconsin Laborers' District Council 4633 LIUNA Way, Suite 101 DeForest, WI 53532 www.wilaborers.org Facebook: @WILaborers Twitter: @WILaborers

### **District Council and Local Union Directory**

### Wisconsin Laborers' **District Council**

John Schmitt **President & Business Manager** 4633 LIUNA Way, Suite 101 DeForest, WI 53532 Phone: (608) 846-8242 Fax: (608) 846-5460 Web: www.wilaborers.org

### Laborers' Local 113

Tony Neira, Business Manager 6310 W. Appleton Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53210 Phone: (414) 873-4520 Fax: (414) 873-5155 Web: www.liuna113.org

### Laborers' Local 140

Clark Jensen, Business Manager 2771 George Street La Crosse, WI 54603 Phone: (608) 788-1095 Fax: (608) 788-6082 Web: www.liunalocal140.org

### Laborers' Local 268

Brian Dehnhoff, Business Manager **Funds** 2233 Birch Street Eau Claire, WI 54703 Phone: (715) 835-5001 (715) 835-4098 Fax: Web: www.liunalocal268.org

### Laborers' Local 330

886 W. Airport Road Menasha, WI 54952 Phone: (920) 722-2104 (920) 722-2105 Fax: www.laborerslocal330.org Pension Fund Web:

### Laborers' Local 464

Jim Fove, Business Manager 1438 N. Stoughton Road Madison, WI 53714 Phone: (608) 244-6400 (608) 244-6540 Fax: Web: www.union464.com

# Laborers' Health and Pension

Benefit Plan Admin. of WI 4633 LIUNA Wav Suite 201 DeForest, WI 53532 Phone: (608) 846-1742 Claims: (608) 842-9101 Eligibility: (608) 842-9102 Gerald Schomaker, Business Manager Pension: (608) 842-9103 Fax: (608) 846-3192 Web: www.bpalia.com

# **Building Trades United**

(Milwaukee Pension Fund) 500 Elm Grove Road Elm Grove, WI 53122 Phone: (800) 433-8570 Fax: (262) 784-8598 Web: www.thepensionfund.org