

May 2007

Volume 14, Number 2

KEEPING CURRENT

With Local 292, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



**Fishing
June 27**



**Golf
July 23**



**Picnic
August 11**

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Local 292, International
Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
United Labor Centre
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Minneapolis, MN 55414

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Charles "Chuck" W. Lindberg JATC

292 training center named for WWII Iwo Jima veteran



THE STORY, 1945

One of the most infamous and deadly battles of World War II broke out on February 19, 1945, when two U.S. Marine divisions sought to capture the Japanese island of Iwo Jima.

After four horrific days of battle, Charles W. Lindberg, then a U.S. Marine and now a Local 292 retired member, reached the summit of the island's Mount Suribachi with five other soldiers, signifying the conquering of the island for the American forces.

Near 10:30 on that morning the American flag was raised atop the mount. Lindberg was one of the original flag raisers. Shortly after the battle, he was shot in the arm and was awarded the Silver Star.

Charles W. Lindberg is the last survivor of the original group of men who raised the flag at Iwo Jima.

THE DEDICATION, 2007

62 years later, Local 292's Joint Apprentice Training Center (JATC) in St. Michael MN is being named in Chuck Lindberg's honor. The *Charles "Chuck" W. Lindberg JATC* will be dedicated on Wednesday, June 6, 2007, at 5 p.m. All Local 292 members, their friends, and their families are invited to attend.

The JATC is located at 13100 Frankfort Parkway in St. Michael MN.



Our drive to be the best

I want to take this opportunity to talk about excellence and leadership.

- Recently Local 292 member and KMSP Fox 9 Television photographer **Andy Shilts** was named the National Press Photographers Association (NPPA) “Photographer of the Year”. Additionally the **entire photography team** from Fox 9 was the runner-up for the NPPA’s “Station of the Year” award. Congratulations to our members who excel at their jobs for Twin Cities Channel 9.
- Local 292 member **Chuck Lindberg** is a World War II war veteran and is well-known for raising the first flag on Mount Suribachi on the Island of Iwo Jima. On June 6th at 5 p.m., the IBEW Local Union 292 JATC will be honoring Brother Lindberg by renaming our training center in his honor. Everyone is invited to attend this event at the training center site.

These members have memorable successes in their lives. Other members in this union excel in their professional and private lives. They are the people we look up to and respect for the way they conduct themselves on the job or on their own time. Something draws us to admire these men and women. There is a common thread among successful individuals I would like to address.

I believe the characteristic that great leaders or successful people share is **conviction**. It is a drive to be the best they can possibly be. It is a desire to excel in an achievement or goal they have set. A willingness to personally sacrifice selfish interests in exchange for bettering someone else or something else besides themselves.

I think as people give of themselves in an unselfish manner, there is a return of accomplishment or pride which betters them and others who touch their lives.

So as we recognize the achievements of the members above, let us reflect on how we can feel the same pride in our lives. Let us all set goals to be the proudest union member, the best employee in the company, the finest citizen in our community, the best parents or children. If we reflect on when this has happened in our lives, I know we all have a feeling of satisfaction and pleasure. When we do this on a regular basis, our lives, futures, and relationships will all benefit.

**“Great thoughts speak only to the thoughtful mind,
but great actions speak to all mankind ”**

—Theodore Roosevelt.

Pride, conviction, and leadership. We excel, and everyone we touch benefits with us.

Steve



For the Record

Deaths

Retired Members

Wolf Hampel 1-15-2007
Wallace Herron 2-8-2007

Retirements

Congratulations

Frederick Bipes 3/2007
Robert Forsyth 2/2007
Robert Hayes 7/2006
Donald Herman 3/2007
James Hildreth 1/2007
Gary Klingberg 4/2007
Thomas Nistler 3/2007
Edward Pearce 1/2007
Keith Perlich 7/2006
James Renstrom 2/2007
Cameron Strand 1/2007
Timothy Voht 3/2007

Metro Area Rate Increase

At the April 2007 Local 292 General Membership meeting, members working under the Inside Construction and Maintenance Agreement voted to accept the following wage/fringe package which becomes effective May 1, 2007.

	Wage/Fringe Increase	
Journeyman	\$ 33.00	\$ 0.70
Vacation/Holiday	\$ 4.34	\$ 0.13
Health & Welfare	\$ 9.00	\$ 0.46
Local Pension	\$ 2.45	\$ 0.33
NEBF	\$ 0.99	\$ 0.02
Annuity/Sub-Plan	\$ 3.89	\$ 0.33
LMCC	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.00
JATC	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.03
Total Benefits	\$ 21.20	
Total Package	\$ 54.20	\$ 2.00

2006 Awards and Parties



**WATT'S
UP**

AT THE FRINGE
BENEFIT OFFICE



BY JODY ROE-HARDIE
PHONE: 952-591-7733

Important Critical Reminders

It is important that members are once again reminded about two critical health-related issues: federal guidelines for both childbirth hospital stays and mastectomy coverage explanations.

Childbirth

Under federal law, group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group health insurance coverage **generally may not restrict** benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother of the newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section delivery. However, the plan or issuer may pay for a shorter stay if the attending provider (eg, physician, nurse midwife, or physician assistant), after consultation with the mother, discharges the mother and newborn earlier.

Also, under federal law, plans and issuers **may not** set the level of benefits or out-of-pocket costs so that any later portion of the 48-hour (or 96-hour) stay is treated in a manner less favorable to the mother of a newborn than any earlier portion of the stay.

In addition, a plan or issuer **may not**, under federal law, **require** that a physician or other health care provider obtain authorization for prescribing a length of stay of up to 48 hours (or 96 hours). However, to use certain providers or facilities, or to reduce your out-of-pocket costs, you may be required to obtain pre-certification. For information on pre-certification, contact the plan administrator.

Mastectomies

Several years ago, Congress adopted a new Section 713 to ERISA which requires group health care plans that provide medical and surgical benefits with respect to mastectomies to **include**, in the case of a participant or beneficiary who is receiving benefits in connection with a mastectomy and who elects breast reconstruction surgery, **coverage for (1) reconstruction** of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed; **(2) surgery and reconstruction** of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance; and **(3) prostheses and physical complications** for all stages of the mastectomy procedure, including lymphedemas. This coverage may be subject to any annual deductibles and co-insurance provisions which may be deemed appropriate and are consistent with those established for other benefits under the Plan.

This new section provides that a group health care plan **may not** (1) **deny** to a patient eligibility, or continued eligibility, to enroll in or to renew coverage under the terms of the Plan, solely for the purpose of avoiding requirements of this section; and (2) **penalize** or otherwise reduce or limit the reimbursement of an attending provider, or provide any incentives (monetary or otherwise) to an attending provider, to induce such provider to provide care to an individual participant or beneficiary in a manner inconsistent with this new coverage requirement.

Jody

Local 292 Phone Directory

Local Offices

Minneapolis

612-379-1292 or 1-800-337-8310

St. Cloud

320-253-1292

Local 292 JATC

763-497-0072 or 1-888-244-3146

Statewide LEA JATC

763-571-5922

Benefit Office

952-591-7733 or 1-800-368-9045

T.E.A.M.

651-642-0182 or 1-800-634-7710

Minneapolis Building Trades

Credit Union

612-379-9406

Electrus Federal Credit Union

763-569-4000 or 1-800-252-4239

Direct Dial & Voice Mail

612-617-4 _ _ _

Business Manager

Steve Claypatch 226

Metro Business Reps/Organizers

Stephen Everheart 230

Devin Hall 235

Dan McConnell 234

John Noonan 233

Brian Peterson 229

Everett Pettiford 225

Mike Priem 231

Ken Sibben 249

Van Welke 228

Ruben Ybarra 239

Office Staff

Noreen (Office Admin.) 227

Barb (Business Off.) 232

Joan (Business Off.) 221

Lyla (Business Off.) 224

Pat (Accounting) 223

Anita (Hiring Hall) 222

Voice Mail Only

612-617-4 _ _ _

St. Cloud Business Reps/Organizers

Robbie Crofoot 243

Randy Pullis 257

President

Rodger Kretman 237

Executive Board

Keith Anderson 242

Jim Gessner 244

John Hall 241

Eldon Holmes

Jeff Lange

Steve Shannon

Andy Snope 238

Brotherhood

Committee 247

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUMMER EVENTS

Fishing June 27



- Fischer's Resort Mille Lacs Lake
- Limited to 55 members
- Register by June 22
- Contact John Noonan for more info: 612-617-4233



Golfing July 23

- Fox Hollow Golf Club Rogers MN
- Limited to 200 members
- Register by July 16
- Contact Everett Pettiford for more info: 612-617-4225

- **New Location**
Boom Island Park on Nicollet Island
- **Family event**
- **No registration required**
- **Contact Ken Sibben for more info: 612-617-4249**



Picnicking August 11

The Local 292 Mille Lacs Lake Fishing Trip will be held on Wednesday, June 27. The \$25 registration fee covers the entire day, including bus ride, boat ride, and all food. The bus will leave the United Labor Centre at 8 a.m. sharp and will make stops at the Anoka Park & Ride at 8:30 a.m. sharp and at the Elk River Park & Ride at 8:45 a.m. sharp. The bus will return to the same locations at about 9 p.m. Members attending this event must fill-out and mail-in a registration form with a \$25 check by June 22. Members are asked to indicate their "bus pick up" location on the registration form.

The Local 292 Fox Hollow Golfing Event will take place on Monday, July 23, at 11 a.m. The usual "scramble tournament" rules will be used, with two IBEW members and two NECA members playing in each foursome. The \$25 registration fee covers the entire day, including parking, all greens fees, golf cart, dinner, and prizes. Members attending this event must fill-out and mail-in a registration form with a \$25 check by July 16.

This year's Local 292 Family Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 11, starting at 11 a.m. at Boom Island Park on Nicollet Island near Downtown Minneapolis. No registration form or fee is necessary for this family event. Parking, food, prizes, and games are all provided. Members are asked to bring either a non-perishable food item or \$1.00 for the Local 292 Food Shelf.

Local 292 Fishing Trip Registration	Name _____ Address _____ City/State/Zip _____ Telephone _____ Bus to pick me up at: _____		
Must enclose: Your check for \$25	Send to: Local 292 Fishing Trip. 312 Central Ave SE, Room 292 Minneapolis MN 55414	Indicate: T-shirt size (circle) S M L XL 2XL 3XL	Remember: Register by June 22 for Fishing. Limited to 55 members. Lottery if more than 55 sign up.

Local 292 Golf Tournament Registration	Name _____ Address _____ City/State/Zip _____ Telephone _____ Handicap _____		
Must enclose: Your check for \$25	Send to: Local 292 Golf Tournament. 312 Central Ave SE, Room 292 Minneapolis MN 55414	Indicate: T-shirt size (circle) S M L XL 2XL 3XL	Remember: Register by July 16 for Golfing. Limited to 200 members. Lottery if more than 200 sign up.



Calendar

May 2007

- 3 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 p.m.
St. Cloud Union Hall, 103 Doctors Park.
- 8 **Retirees Club** meeting. 12:30 p.m.
Stewards meeting. 5 p.m.
General Membership meeting. 6 p.m.
- 17 **Limited Energy** meeting. 6 p.m.
- 22 **Executive Board** meeting. 3 p.m.
- 23 **Retirees Banquet.** Jax Restaurant.
5:30 p.m. reception & 6:30 p.m. dinner.
- 28 **Memorial Day. Office closed.**

June 2007

- 5 **Stewards Dinner.** Jax Restaurant.
6:30 reception & 7:30 p.m. dinner.
- 6 **Lindberg JATC Dedication.** 5 p.m.
JATC Training Center,
13100 Frankfort Pkwy, St. Michael MN.
- 7 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 p.m.
St. Cloud Union Hall, 103 Doctors Park.
- 12 **Retirees Picnic.** Minnehaha Park,
Minneapolis. 11 a.m.
Stewards meeting. 5 p.m.
General Membership meeting. 6 p.m.
- 20 **Limited Energy** meeting. 6 p.m.
- 26 **Executive Board** meeting. 3 p.m.
- 27 **Local 292 Fishing Trip.**
Fischer's Resort, Mille Lacs Lake.

July 2007

- 23 **Local 292 Golfing Event.**
Fox Hollow Golf Club, Rogers MN.

August 2007

- 11 **Local 292 Family Picnic.**
Boom Island Park, Minneapolis.

Congratulations, Dave!

Brother Dave Olson won the IBEW & NECA Joint Safety Committee's Safety Slogan contest with "Work it OFF." His prize: four Minnesota Twins tickets!

Local 292, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, publishes KEEPING CURRENT six times a year to open a communications channel between the local's leadership and its members.
 Postmaster: send address corrections to Local 292, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, United Labor Centre, 312 Central Ave., Suite 292, Minneapolis, MN 55414.
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