

**Local 292 Phone Directory****Local Offices****Minneapolis**

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

**Hiring Hall / Jobline**

612-378-2860

**St. Cloud**

320-253-1292

**Local 292 JATC**

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

**Statewide LEA JATC**

763-571-5922

**Benefit Office**

763-493-8830 or 1-800-368-9045

**T.E.A.M.**

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

**Minnesota Building Trades****Credit Union**

763-315-3888

**Electrus Federal Credit Union**

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

**Direct Dial & Voice Mail**

612-617-4 \_ \_ \_

**Business Manager**

Tom Olson 231

**Metro Business Reps/Organizers**

Jeffrey Carlson 244

Ric Chantry 240

Jim Felicetta 225

Dan Ferguson 239

Devin Hall 235

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Randy Pullis 257

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Noreen (Office Admin.) 227

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Lisa (Accounting) 236

Pat (Accounting) 223

**Voice Mail Only**

612-617-4 \_ \_ \_

**President**

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Mike Heimerl xxx

John Kripotos xxx

Jeff Lange xxx

Rick Ramberg xxx

Steve Shannon xxx

Van Welke xxx

**Brotherhood**

Committee 247

**SAFETY  
CORNER****Dude, Don't lose your cool!**

It was so hot that:

- Birds had to use potholders to pull worms out of the ground!
- I saw a funeral procession pull through a Dairy Queen!
- Farmers are feeding their chickens crushed ice to keep them from laying boiled eggs!

**These are dumb jokes, but there is nothing funny about heat related illness. Read on.**

Consider Korey Stringer, the Minnesota Viking who, at 27, tragically died of heat stroke during a 91 degree team practice. His body temperature was over 108 degrees.

Think of an egg that you drop into a boiling pot. After a short period of time the egg becomes hard boiled, and you cannot reverse this. It is much the same with your body's organs in extreme heat.

The Centers for Disease Control found the highest rate of heat related deaths were in construction. O.S.H.A. does not have a special rule for heat. But because heat stress is known as a serious hazard, workers are protected by the GENERAL DUTY CLAUSE, which states: Employers must provide "employment free from recognized hazards...causing or likely to cause physical harm."

**Heat related illness include:**

- » Skin rash.
- » Dehydration – The body loses water, cannot cool down fast enough, you feel thirsty and weak.
- » Cramps – Muscle cramps from heat, even after you leave work.
- » Heat exhaustion – You feel tired, nauseous, headaches, skin is damp and looks muddy or flush, you may faint. Call 911.
- » Heat stroke – Hot dry skin, high temperature, confusion, convulsions, vomiting, forced breathing. Call 911.

**Prevent heat related illness:**

- » Drink plenty of fluids and don't wait until you are thirsty.
- » Do not drink liquids with alcohol, that are heavy with sugar, or that are very cold – this can cause cramps.
- » Provide shade and wear lightweight, light colored, loose fitting clothing.
- » Wear a hat and sunglasses.
- » Try to schedule the outside work to be done in the morning or evening, if you can.

Hot weather is coming soon.

**“WORK SAFE. NOBODY GETS HURT. EVERYBODY GOES HOME.”**

Faternally,  
Charlie Ryan, Safety Committee

**We take Credit!**

The Local 292 Business Office now accepts "charge card" transactions.

You may choose to use your Discover, MasterCard, or Visa charge card for your telephone, on-line, and over-the-counter transactions.

Discover, Master Card, and Visa are registered names for their respective corporations.



# Calendar

## May 2011

- 5 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 p.m.  
St. Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Road.
- 10 **Retirees Club** meeting. 12:30 p.m.  
**Stewards** meeting. 5 p.m.  
**General Membership** meeting. 6 p.m.
- 17 **Limited Energy** meeting. 5 p.m.
- 24 **Executive Board** meeting. 5 p.m.
- 30 **Memorial Day.** Office closed Monday.

## June 2011

- 2 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 p.m.  
St. Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Road.
- 8 **Retirees Club Picnic.** 11 a.m.
- 14 **Stewards** meeting. 5 p.m.  
**General Membership** meeting. 6 p.m.
- 21 **Limited Energy** meeting. 5 p.m.
- 28 **Executive Board** meeting. 5 p.m.

## July 2011

- 4 **Independence Day.** Office closed Monday.
- 7 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 p.m.  
St. Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Road.
- 12 **Stewards** meeting. 5 p.m.  
**General Membership** meeting. 6 p.m.
- 19 **Limited Energy** meeting. 5 p.m.
- 26 **Executive Board** meeting. 5 p.m.

## August 2011

- 20 **Family Picnic.**  
Bunker Hills Regional Park. 11:00 a.m.

## Every Month

Local 292 & 343 Retirees meet the 3rd Thursday of each month.  
Brigitte's Café, 42-32nd Avenue South, St. Cloud MN



# For the Record

## Deaths

### Active & Retired Members

Gerald Coash	2-27-2011
Donald Elstad	1-1-2011
Harland Gabrielson	1-11-2011
James Hermanson	2-26-2011
Arthur Hogan	1-14-2011
Benjamin Morse	2-2-2011
Richard Mulnix	1-22-2011
John Piwoschuk	3-13-2011
Ronald Price	3-31-2011

Erwin Seefeldt	1-29-2011
Donald Von Bargaen	3-28-2011

## Retirements Congratulations

David L. Beach	3/2011
Larry W. Dumdei	2/2011
Leighton D. Grani	2/2011
James A. Harvey	3/2011
Louis G. Hokanson	3/2011

Robert T. Hollick	5/2011
Andrew Hornsten	2/2011
Harold A. Huver	4/2011
Paul A. Mork	5/2011
Robert F. Murphy	1/2011
Brian R. Peterson	4/2011
Charles L. Schultz	2/2011
Arthur D. Steinberg	3/2011
Dennis G. Tennison	5/2011
Sown T. Tong	2/2011
Kenneth M. Viken	2/2011
Glen R. Wiborg	3/2011

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.

**Business Manager/Tom Olson**  
**President/Rodger Kreiman**  
**Editor/Michael Paul Weber**



**KEEPING CURRENT**  
Local 292  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
United Labor Centre  
312 Central Ave., Suite 292  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

# KEEPING CURRENT

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# KEEPING CURRENT

*With Local 292, International  
Brotherhood of Electrical Workers*



**WORK SAFE.**

**NOBODY  
GETS HURT.**

**EVERYBODY  
GOES HOME.**

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

Local 292, International  
Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
United Labor Centre  
312 Central Ave., Suite 292  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Phone: (612) 379-1292  
Fax: (612) 379-9326

## Wisconsin-style attacks, right here in Minnesota.

*"At last count, there are more than 70  
anti-Labor bills that have been put forth  
in the Minnesota Legislature this season."*

*Tom Olson*

See At the Business Manager's Desk, page 2.

## 2011 Legislature in full swing.

*"Our message...is clear: interest rates are at historic lows,  
construction bids are coming in well below estimates,  
and the jobs are critically needed."*

*Dan McConnell*

See Political Director's Column, page 4.

## Don't lose your cool!

*"The Centers for Disease Control found the highest rate of heat  
related deaths were in construction."*

*Charlie Ryan*

See Safety Corner, page 5

August 20

# Family Picnic

Bunker Hills Regional Park

CSAH 14 / Main Street (Formerly Highway 242) & Foley Blvd.  
Coon Rapids MN

Picnic Areas 1, 2, & 3 ● 11am – 5 pm  
\$5 per car permit fee

**Family event. No registration required.**

For further information:

Contact Jeff Heimerl, 612-617-4249

*Please note: Fishing and Golfing events will not be held this year.*

AT THE BUSINESS MANAGER'S DESK

BY TOM OLSON

## Wisconsin-style attacks, right here in Minnesota.

Union members across the Midwest are getting a real wake-up call. Our brothers and sisters to the east have been on the front line of a nationwide attack on unionism that shows no signs of relenting. While other states like Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio have been getting most of the press, it is crucial that we recognize the all out attack on Labor that is taking place in our very own back yard.

**At last count, there are more than 70 anti-Labor bills that have been put forth in the Minnesota Legislature this session.** These bills cover everything from right-to-work to prevailing wage to even the 40 hour work week as we now define it. The one common theme, however, is the attempt to undermine workers' rights to bargain and act collectively. In turn, our collective response to the specious arguments of our enemies needs to be that their position is simply not supported by the facts. Here is an article from a Florida television station website that is an example of what people find when they actually take the time to look at the data:

“Last summer, Jeffrey Keefe, an associate professor in labor and employment relations at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., looked at the compensation for public servants on a national basis, using data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. After accounting for factors such as education, gender, and hours of work, he concluded that civil servants are not overpaid and in many cases make below the wages earned by their counterparts in the private sector.”

“Where there is collective bargaining, they are close to the market in terms of wages,” he says. “But in areas where there is no collective bargaining, like in the South and Southwest, people are paid less than the market.”

This opinion, and numerous others like it regarding both public and private sector workers, supports the message Labor has been delivering since its inception. The rights of workers in this country to bargain and act collectively improve the lives and circumstances of not just individual workers but of our communities as a whole. Our wages support families, schools, businesses, churches, hospitals, and local governments throughout this nation. And according to the data, they do so within the constraints of the “free market” that is championed so strongly by the people most dedicated to the demise of collective bargaining.

**It is time to get active right here in Minnesota and tell the sponsors and supporters of the anti-Labor bills currently being considered that their facts don't add up.** Tell them that their message is inaccurate and disingenuous. Most importantly, remind them that we are the middle class that is so vital to Minnesota's economy. Remind them that we are watching, that we will stand up for our rights, and that we want to see the job creation legislation they promised, rather than a flurry of bills aimed at weakening the middle class. Watch the Local 292 website for information on upcoming rallies and opportunities to make our voice heard. Please join your brothers and sisters in making a difference in this fight and remember that our strength is always in our solidarity.

Tom



**Day on the Hill...**



**Marching in  
Madison, Wisconsin**



AT THE POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S DESK

BY DAN MCCONNELL

## 2011 Legislature in full swing

Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to say thank you to the members who attended our annual IBEW Minnesota State Council Day on the Hill. Once again Local 292 was well represented, and the reports back from members will provide a great resource that we can use to identify legislators who may be swing votes on our issues.

We are continuing to monitor several key bills and proposals at the legislature:

- **Right to Work.** At the time of this writing, it appears that the proposed “Right to Work” constitutional amendment will not move forward this session. I believe this is largely due to two things. First, we owe a great deal of thanks to the handful of labor friendly legislators in the Republican caucus. The second is the tremendous backlash that occurred in Wisconsin after the introduction of some radical anti-labor legislation. As you may know, Local 292 sent two busloads of members to show our solidarity with our fellow members. Thanks to everyone who helped out with the Wisconsin protests!
- **Prevailing Wage.** We are continuing to watch the multiple bills that would propose to do anything from completely eliminating prevailing wage in Minnesota to changing how it is calculated to allowing for 4-10's to be worked for straight time. As with “right to work” we are indebted to the same handful of Republicans who have stepped up on our behalf. While I don't expect that a full repeal is likely, we will most likely end up with some modification that will not be in our best interest. The degree of harm we suffer will be dependent on our ability to make our case. This is where you can help out. Please take a minute to call or email your legislators and ask them to oppose any changes to prevailing wage.
- **Stadium.** We have been working with the Vikings in support of a new multi-purpose stadium. As you know, the details on this will make all the difference. We are currently trying to identify an acceptable revenue source and a site. At this point I feel we have a 50/50 chance of seeing this pass, keeping the Vikings in Minnesota and creating jobs for our members.
- **Bonding Bill.** Governor Dayton has proposed a large bonding bill that would invest in our state's infrastructure and create jobs for our members. Unfortunately the legislature is using this as a bargaining chip, unnecessarily delaying these much needed jobs. Our message on this is clear: interest rates are at historic lows, construction bids are coming in well below estimates, and the jobs are critically needed.

Once again I ask you to take just a minute of your time to contact your legislators and ask them for their support of our issues.

In Solidarity,

Dan McConnell, Political Director



**St. Paul, Minnesota**