

August 2011

Volume 18 Number 3

KEEPING CURRENT

With Local 292, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



**Haley Adasiewicz
and
Lance Boedigheimer
Scholarship Winners**

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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

Local 292 Members Support MS-150



The early June event raised \$2.7 million.

Five hearty riders are looking for more IBEW members to join them next year.



AT THE
BUSINESS
MANAGER'S
DESK

BY RODGER
KRETMAN



Many Thanks!

I hope everyone is having a safe and joyful summer. During these warm days it is more important than ever to watch out for signs of heatstroke or dehydration. Working safely is the only way to make sure we are able to enjoy time with our families.

I want to thank the membership for electing me as your Business Manager. It is a great honor to be able to serve my Brothers and Sisters of our great Local.

I want to thank Tom Olson for his dedicated service to Local 292 during his many years as Brother, inside council, and Business Manager.

I also want to thank Dan McConnell for his dedicated service and wish him luck in his new role as Business Manager for the Minneapolis Building Trades; I am looking forward to working with him on promoting Union Labor. His work as Political Director put Local 292 in a strong position, and we ask the members to continue outreaching to their representatives at the city, county, state, and federal levels.

I also want to thank Governor Mark Dayton for his strong stand in support of organized labor during the historic government shutdown; obviously many things did not go our way, and the compromises were disappointing, to say the least. Thank you to all our members that contacted their state legislators to make sure our voice is heard, and we ask you to continue promoting Unionism and Brotherhood. While the recent Bonding Bill had many setbacks, some of the bright spots

include the allocation of \$51.3 million for the University of Minnesota Physics and Nanotechnology Building and other projects.

The hiring hall is reporting more calls this year, to date, than in the last two years. It is important that you understand the new online bidding process and become familiar with our website: www.ibew292.org. If you have problems logging-in or questions about the procedure, call the Local 292 Office at 612-379-1292 or send an email to hiringhall@ibew292.org

Join with me in welcoming Carl Madsen into the Local 292 Office. Carl brings many years of leadership and office experience to Local 292 and will be working initially on implementing our electronic filing system, streamlining our office technologies, and keeping Local 292 up-to-date in traditional publications, social media, and the website.

A reminder: Bring your Family to the IBEW Local 292 picnic on Saturday, August 20 at Bunker Hills Regional Park, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Look for more details in this edition of Keeping Current. I hope to see you there!

In Solidarity,

Rodger

LOCAL 292 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**Lance Boedigheimer: "I've always been ahead of my class."****Haley Adasiewicz: "I have done extremely well academically."**

Lance Boedigheimer and Haley Adasiewicz are winners of this year's Guy Alexander & Joseph Krech Scholarships, awarded by IBEW Local 292 to graduating high school seniors or currently-attending college students. Both students have a strong, college-ready educational background.

Lance's father is Dennis Boedigheimer, a foreman with Medina Electric, Inc. and a 24-year-member of IBEW Local 292. Haley's father, Matt Adasiewicz, is a self-employed contractor, currently unemployed.

Lance plans to attend the University of Minnesota at Duluth and has not yet declared a study emphasis. His grade point average at Columbia Heights High School was 3.53 entering his final months as a senior. He took seven advance placement courses for a total of eight AP credits. His accelerated learning opportunities began as early as the 3rd grade.

Haley will attend Drake University, a private college in Des Moines, Iowa, where she will receive a little help with a disability. At Lakeville South High School, Haley entered the second half of her final year with a 3.6 grade point average. "I took advance placement and honors classes which should help me achieve my goal of becoming a physician."

Lance's activity resume at high school is lengthy. His sports include Football (captain as a junior, three varsity letters), Wrestling (captain as a junior and senior, four varsity letters), and Baseball (four varsity letters). As a junior and senior, Lance worked with incoming freshmen through the Link Crew, a transition-to-high school program. He was also a school newspaper staff writer.

Away from school, Lance attended religion classes for ten years at his church and volunteered to clean highway ditches in Northern Minnesota.

Haley says she has been careful to balance her academics "with a nice mix of community service work, sports, and volunteerism." She participated in Girls' Golf for all four of her years at high school, with two years each on junior varsity and varsity teams, the last year as captain.



Haley Adasiewicz with her father Matt Adasiewicz and Lance Boedigheimer with his father Dennis Boedigheimer, pictured with former Local 292 Business Manager Tom Olson (far left) and new Local 292 Business Manager Rodger Kretman (far right).

Outside school, Haley has been a volunteer at both Fairview Ridges Hospital and Children's Hospital. "Volunteering at Children's Hospital allowed me to make a difference in the community, by helping young children get through a difficult time in their life."

"Hard work pays off," says Lance, referring to the often-used adage. But he knows that the Industrial Revolution led to many workers, especially factory workers, working long strenuous hours for very low wages in unsafe and unsanitary conditions. Maybe hard work had started to not pay off. "The creation of the American Federation of Labor was a breakthrough point," he says. "Organized labor began to do great things for the American workforce and America overall."

Lance says that, thanks to organized labor, the American worker is better protected from exploitation as business owners try to maximize profits. And Lance knows that "labor helps workers to be highly educated about their work, ensuring high customer satisfaction for their employers." He recognizes the many hours of classes taken by his father every other year in order to renew his license as well as the many other union opportunities to take further occupational education courses.

"The IBEW Local has done good things for the country. The benefits my father gets through the union have a trickle-down effect for me and my family," says Lance.

"Unions have been a big part of my family's life," says Haley. "My dad, my mom, and my grandfather have all been part of a union. Around the supper table I heard

much talk about unions, jobs, and opportunity."

Haley says that one of her grandfathers did not work through a union and was never given a fair wage. He could be laid off at a moment's notice without a reason. Her other grandfather supported unions as a sheet metal contractor which gave him job security and her mother a stable home-life. Haley's mother is currently a nurse and a union member, herself.

"Today, unions need to be more competitive in the market," says

Haley, "figuring out ways to keep successfully bidding on jobs." She believes that unions need to make sure that the "old ways of thinking" are updated with the times. "I would suggest that each union create a youth board where young teens and college-age adults could discuss issues and develop recommendations to take back to a union local for consideration."

Both Lance and Haley have personal goals. "I want an education of good quality that prepares me for a successful career and lifestyle," says Lance. "I want to do well in life, and I want to learn more about human life and society," says Haley. And both worked hard in school and in applying for this scholarship.

"I feel that I have qualified for this scholarship through my schoolwork and leadership," Lance said on his application. *"I am outgoing, and I love meeting new people. I have treated all people in my life with friendship and respect, and I reach out a helping hand to those who I feel need it."*

Haley wrote, *"I think if I met Guy Alexander and Joseph Krech, I would shake their hands and tell them 'thank you' for their efforts to keep unions strong, especially by supporting unemployed workers. I hope they would recognize my dad for his hard work and that they would be proud to have me represent them as a recipient of an IBEW union scholarship."*

The members, president, officers, business manager, business representatives, and office staff of Local 292 all congratulate Lance and Haley as Local 292's 2011 scholarship winners.

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

Rodger Kretman 237

Metro Business Reps/Organizers

Keith Anderson 225

Jeffrey Carlson 244

Dan Ferguson 239

Devin Hall 235

Jeff Heimerl 249

Pete Lindahl 233

Carl Madsen 224

St. Cloud Business Reps/Organizers

Dennis Kalthoff 243

Randy Pullis 257

Office Staff

Noreen (Office Admin.) 227

Joan (Business Office) 221

Lisa (Accounting) 236

Pat (Accounting) 223

Voice Mail Only

612-617-4 _ _ _

President

Jeffrey Heimerl 249

Financial Secretary

Peter R. Lindahl 233

Executive Board

Keith Anderson xxx

John Hall 241

Mike Heimerl xxx

Jeff Lange xxx

Aaron Olson xxx

Jeff Orth xxx

Rick Ramberg xxx

Brotherhood

Committee 247

**SAFETY
CORNER**

If God wanted me to touch my toes,
He would have put them on my knees.

I've just spent one hour in a stationary car,
and now I'm working up to a stationary bike.

If you're going to try cross-country skiing,
start with a small country.

These are just dumb jokes, but it might not be a dumb idea to be
in a "Stretch and Flex" program. Read on!

'Stretch and Flex' to reduce injuries and build camaraderie

Some general contractors and electrical contractors are involved in "Stretch and Flex" programs on the job. Basically what happens is that, for the first ten to fifteen minutes of the work day, crews get in groups and do some very easy basic stretches to loosen-up the joints and muscles. Sometimes it involves just your own trade group, and sometimes it could be the entire job site stretching together.

The purpose and goals of the "Stretch and Flex" programs are to reduce injuries of joints, muscles, and soft tissue. Consequently, this will also increase productivity due to fewer lost-time injuries. Everybody wins. Nobody gets hurt. Everybody goes home. Everybody makes money.

A side benefit of these programs is that it builds camaraderie, and it usually adds a little humor to the day—always good in these stressful times. You don't need a title, such as General Foreman or Safety Director, to pass-on a good idea. There is a lot more information on these programs on the internet. Check it out, and work safe.

Fraternally,

Charlie Ryan

Local 292 Safety Committee

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

Local 292 Softball Picnic





Calendar

August 2011

- 4 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 p.m.
St. Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Road.
- 9 **Stewards** meeting. 5 p.m.
General Membership meeting. 6 p.m.
- 16 **Limited Energy** meeting. 5 p.m.
- 20 **Family Picnic.** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Bunker Hills Regional Park.
- 23 **Executive Board** meeting. 5 p.m.

September 2011

- 1 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 p.m.
St. Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Road.
- 5 **Labor Day.** Office closed Monday.
- 13 **Retirees Club** meeting. 12:30 p.m.
Stewards meeting. 5 p.m.
General Membership meeting. 6 p.m.
- 20 **Limited Energy** meeting. 5 p.m.
- 27 **Executive Board** meeting. 5 p.m.

December 2011

- 3 **Children's Christmas Party.** 8 a.m.
Minneapolis Convention Center.
- 9 **Members' Christmas Party.** 7 p.m.
Minneapolis Convention Center.

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

Robert Bergman	5-8-2011
Francis Buckmiller	7-6-2011
Richard Busse	2-22-2011
Brett Drulenski	5-12-2011
Arthur Gibbs	6-25-2011
Gerald Gish	7-24-2011
Marshall Gorney	6-3-2011
Gary Hoagland	6-19-2011
James Iverson	7-10-2011
Lucas Jordan	5-21-2011
Richard Johnson	5-6-2011
Scott Melberg	7-7-2011
Martin O'Connor	3-29-2011

Sidney Richardson	7-3-2011
Harvey Rolfes	6-28-2011
Ronald Stalberger	5-9-2011
Duane Stay	7-31-2011
David Swanson	7-18-2011
Robert Tatley	6-2-2011
Paul Thielen	6-21-2011
Robert Veness	6-20-2011

Retirements Congratulations

Rance P. Baker	6/2011
Gary D. Ball	10/2011
Paul W. Banken, Jr.	6/2011
Roger W. Caputo	9/2011
Gene R. Cooper	8/2011

Gilbert C. Dumas	1/2009
Terry A. Engman	10/2011
Donald J. Espe	6/2011
Joseph R. Galindo	7/2011
John L. Gordhamer	11/2011
Barry A. Hample	6/2011
Mark W. Hampel	5/2010
Geoffrey Hanson	3/2011
Randy L. Kandt	10/2011
Marvin R. McNuss	7/2011
Steven J. Marshall	8/2011
David W. Martinson	9/2011
Eugene H. Neyens	6/2011
Steven D. Oxley	9/2011
Charles D. Ward	7/2011



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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/Rodger Kreiman
President/Jeffrey Heimerl
Editor/Michael Paul Weber

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U. S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 92590
Twin Cities, MN

