

**November 2019**

Volume 27 Number 4

# KEEPING CURRENT

*With Local 292, International  
Brotherhood of Electrical Workers*



## UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

**See Page 3  
for all  
December's  
Holiday Events**

### KEEPING IN TOUCH

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

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

**Web: [www.ibew292.org](http://www.ibew292.org)  
Email: [office@ibew292.org](mailto:office@ibew292.org)**

## FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER'S PERSPECTIVE

BY JEFF HEIMERL



## MY OBSERVATIONS AND VISIONS

**Dear Members,**

In the last issue of *Keeping Current*, I introduced myself to those who don't know me and reintroduced myself to those who may have forgotten me while I was less involved with this great local union. This issue, I would like to talk about something I have observed after returning as an employee of the 292 office, and I would like to discuss the visions I have for our union and the things we can do to improve the quality of our Brotherhood.

It seems we have, in several instances, become complacent in many of the tasks we perform on a daily basis. I do not say this to harp on anybody in particular; I say it as a general observation. As I write this, I am thinking of the Minnesota IBEW member who nearly lost his life on the job yesterday, the Minnesota IBEW apprentice who was recently injured by electric shock, and the far too many members who have lost their lives while at work.

We must change the culture on the job to one of a "safety first" mentality. This great brotherhood was formed on the basis of safety because too many of our early electrical workers were dying on the job. Brothers and Sisters, please work safely! Turn circuits off and lock them out while working on them, de-energize equipment and fixtures, and always wear the proper personal protective equipment while working on a job site. I do not want to hear any more stories of IBEW members being injured on the job. If we all focus on safety, no one will get hurt.

Now, my visions for this Local are simple. First, I want to ensure that every member who leaves their house for work safely returns to their family after "a fair day's work for a fair day's pay." Taking safety seriously will accomplish this vision. Next, I would like to see each and every member taking great pride in what they do every day. Giving "eight for eight" in a journeyman-like manner will help accomplish this. Finally, I want to see every member participating in their union. This union is not possible without you!

Remember: Work safely and turn it off. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

In Brotherhood,  
Jeff Heimerl



## Political

# Hello Brothers and Sisters of IBEW Local 292

By Andy Snope, IBEW 292 Legislative and Political Coordinator

Hello Brothers and Sisters of IBEW Local 292. I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. With great pride and humility, I accepted an offer to fill the position of Legislative and Political Director for IBEW Local 292.

I am a 30-year member of IBEW Local 292 and have spent the last seven years working at the legislature and in politics on behalf of IBEW members, first with IBEW 292 starting in 2012 and then with the IBEW MN State Council until June 2019. I took July off and then started back in the field as an electrician until October 14, when I came back into the office. I am excited to be back to representing the members of IBEW Local 292.

I want to thank Ray Zeran, the previous Political Director, for his hard work and dedication. He truly left this position in a better spot than when he began. I intend to build on what Ray has started for this Local and to add my own experiences and knowledge to the cause. Thank you, Ray!

As 2019 closes, we need to take a deep breath and brace ourselves for the upcoming election year. It's a big year; all Minnesota legislators are up for election, as well as all our US Congressional Representatives and one US Senator – and, of course, the office of President of the United States. We will need to start early and work hard to make sure our collective labor voices are heard. **I will need your help to let the candidates know the labor values that are important to us and to help our labor friends get elected to represent us. This year more than any other, please consider getting involved to help our labor family gain the recognition and support we need to improve and maintain a great standard of living and to gain respect in the workplace,**

**on the job site, at home and in our communities.**

First step: consider participating in your party's Precinct Caucus. This is a meeting of your community members who get together to begin shaping the direction and candidates for the 2020 elections. This

is how politics start at the ground level, and your participation is extremely important. Mark your calendars now: **Precinct Caucuses are February 25, 2020.**

Also, NEW this year, the State of Minnesota will be conducting a **Presidential Primary on March 3, 2020.** On this date, Minnesotans will choose candidates to represent their party's nominations for the 2020 general election.

Mark your calendars: We will hold our **IBEW Day on the Hill event on March 24, 2020.** I will send out more details as we put them together, but it's not too early to call the office and register. **The more IBEW members that attend Day on the Hill, the stronger our influence and voice will be at the Minnesota Capitol.**

Once again, I am excited to serve the men, women and families of IBEW Local 292; I am grateful to be part of the team. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the legislative or political process.

Andy Snope; 612-617-4238, [asnopes@ibew292.org](mailto:asnopes@ibew292.org).

*The more  
IBEW members  
that attend Day  
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voice will be . . .*

# IBEW VETERANS ALLIANCE - LOCAL 292

By Travis Rust, Instructor Minneapolis JATC,  
President IBEW Veterans Alliance - Local 292

It is with great pleasure that I announce that the IBEW Veterans Alliance Local 292 was recognized at the 2019 6th District Progress Meeting this past September. The International Office has created a Veterans Committee as a result of our efforts to introduce a nationwide group within the IBEW for veterans. Brother Kirk Marthaler and I were invited to Chicago and led the Pledge of Allegiance to start the meeting. The International will manage the veteran's groups, and we will eventually be renamed the IBEW Veterans Committee Local 292. On a side note, it appears that Local 292 will receive the first charter for this group as well!



Our meetings are held quarterly (January, April, July, October) on the third Tuesday of the month in the Guy Alexander room located at the 292 Union Hall (312 Central) from 5pm to 6pm.

All 292 veterans are welcome!

[www.ibew292.org/committees-groups/veterans](http://www.ibew292.org/committees-groups/veterans)

Facebook @ IBEW Veterans Alliance – Local 292

## Local 292 Phone Directory

### Minneapolis

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

### Hiring Hall / Jobline

612-378-2860

### St. Cloud

320-253-1292

### Inside Agreement JATC-St. Michael

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

### Statewide LEA JATC

763-571-5922

### Benefit Office

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

### TEAM Employee Assistance

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

### Building Trades Credit Union

763-315-3888 or 1-800-496-2460

### Electrus Federal Credit Union

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

### Direct Dial & Voice Mail

612-617-4 ---

### Business Manager

Jeff Heimerl 237

### Metro Business Representatives

Kent Blachowiak 242

Dan Ferguson 239

Dave Frary 233

Derrick Givens 234

Jennifer Mudge 225

Chris Kohn 240

John Kripotos 244

Aaron Olson, Organizer 249

Bill Krause, Hiring Hall 224

Andrew Snope, Political Coordinator 238

### St. Cloud Business Representatives

Tim Fischer 254

Jason Carlson 243

### Office Staff

Joan (Office Manager) 221

Gayle (Bookkeeping) 227

Julie (Admin) 236

Yolanna (Admin) 222

Angel (Admin) 223

### President

Dan Ferguson 239

### Assistant Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Jennifer Mudge 225

### Executive Board

John Hall, Chairman 241

Anthony Carter xxx

Myles Lembke xxx

Dan McConnell xxx

Jeff Orth xxx

Mike Subject xxx

Kurt Tulp xxx

### Brotherhood Committee

Message Line 247

## UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

**Friday, December 6th (4:30 pm) Children's Christmas**

**Party Candy Bagging/Set Up**

**Guy Alexander Conference Room**

**Saturday, December 7th (9:00 am to 12:30 pm)**

**Children's Christmas Party**

**Minneapolis Convention Center**

**Friday, December 13th (6:00 pm to 11:30 pm)**

**Members Christmas Party**

**Labor Temple 2nd floor**

**Wednesday, December 11th (11:00 am)**

**Retirees Christmas Party**

**St. Patrick's Mahon Center**

**Church of St. Patrick's, 6820 St. Patrick's Lane, Edina, MN 55439**



## Transitions

### Retirements

*Congratulations!*

Last Name	First Name	Mi	Pension Effective Date
ANDRUS	Daniel	V	9/1/2019
BRAUN	CURTIS	J	7/1/2019
CARLSON	KIRK	P	9/1/2019
CHANTRY	RICHARD	I	9/1/2019
DEMESY	GUY	E	10/1/2019
HALVERSON	MICHAEL	P	8/1/2019
KULP	JOHN	M	8/1/2019
LANEY	DAN	R	8/1/2019
LAURSEN	JAY	C	9/1/2019
LITKE	CHARLES	R	7/1/2019
PREMO	DAVID	L	10/1/2019
RITSCHKE	JEFF	M	5/1/2019
ROETHLER	STEVEN	M	8/1/2019
SCHNEIDER	SCOTT	M	9/1/2019
SCHWING	GORDON	G	6/1/2019
TILSETH	JEFFREY	S	8/1/2019



### Deaths

#### Active Members

Last Name	First Name	Mi	Date of Death
BENYO	KELLEY	E	7/31/2019
HESS	RICHARD	L	7/25/2019
MCGINNIS	STEPHEN	J	9/20/2019
TENNISON	MATTHEW	J	8/24/2019

#### Retired Members

ALDERINK	JAKE	A	9/21/2019
BOSQUEZ	ANTONIO		4/7/2019
BRESLAIN	THOMAS	J	7/28/2019
BROSSARD	DENZIL	R	6/12/2019
CARLSON	VICTOR	G	7/30/2019
CARLSON	WESLEY	A	8/3/2019
CROWELL	RICHARD	C	9/23/2019
DIBBLE	STEPHEN	S	4/5/2019
DILLON	ROBERT	J	3/23/2019
DYNKAVITCH	ROBERT	P	10/22/2019
EMANUELSON	JAMES	R	3/31/2019
FRANK	EUGENE	A	5/18/2019
FROYSA	LESTER	I	4/16/2019
HAGEN	GERALD	A	5/8/2019
HANSEN	MALCOLM	H	8/31/2019
HAYES	ROBERT	J	6/18/2019
HERSCHBERGER	EUGENE	F	9/30/2019
JOHNSON	REUBEN	M	4/26/2019
KILIAN	ROBERT	M	4/30/2019
KLUNGSETH	THEODORE	S	8/3/2019
KOSSILA	RODNEY	W	6/20/2019
KOVACH	JOHN	A	6/11/2019
KRAEMER	ERVIN	M	10/28/2019
NORWOOD	VERNON	E	8/7/2019
NOVOTNY	GILLARD	E	9/25/2019
OBLINDER	LEO	H	7/4/2019
RITSCHKE	JEFF	M	10/2/2019
ROY	HERBERT	E	8/11/2019
SCHREINER	LLOYD	L	6/23/2019
SWANSON	DAVE	H	5/2/2019
TENNISON	DENNIS	G	6/30/2019
VONBANK	RONALD	R	5/21/2019
WARD	CHARLES	D	5/13/2019
WOODS JR	CARL	E	7/27/2019

*Give blood.*

Every 2 seconds someone  
in the U.S. needs blood.

**American Red Cross**



**Blood Drive  
IBEW Local Union 292**

Room 219  
312 Central Ave SE - Minneapolis

**Tuesday, December 10, 2019  
2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter:  
IBEW 292 to schedule an appointment.

**Come to give blood Nov. 25-Dec. 18 and get a \$5  
Amazon.com Gift Card\* by email, courtesy of Suburban  
Propane. \*Restrictions apply, see [amazon.com/gc-legal](http://amazon.com/gc-legal).  
\*\*Terms at [rcblood.org/thanks](http://rcblood.org/thanks)**



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.



# "SENIOR SPARKIES NOTES"

## Hello Retirees

By Paul Klesmit, Senior Sparkies President

Happy autumn! They predicted a wetter-than-normal summer, and they were dead on. Now with fall here, enough already! It could be worse if this was snow. Enjoy the cooler weather and the beautiful fall colors.

We had our fall casino trip to Treasure Island and I heard there were several who came out ahead. We had to get a bigger bus due to the great attendance. This year there were 48 attendees. They enjoyed a great meal, which was free if you were a veteran. We will have another casino trip in the spring.

We are in the process of planning our annual Christmas luncheon at St. Patrick's in Edina. Invitations for the Christmas luncheon will come out this fall. With our new building in Brooklyn Park, we will not have to rent space any longer. There are updated photos of the building progress on the Local 292 website.

Nominations for Retiree officers took place at the retiree meetings in October and November, and the election will be in December. If you want to get involved, come join us at 12:30 on the second Tuesday of the month.

*Here's hoping for a long, pleasant fall.  
Stay safe and stay healthy.*

Fraternally,  
Paul Klesmit  
Senior Sparkies President



### LOCAL 292 "SENIOR SPARKIES" VOLUNTARY DIRECTORY

I would like to be part of the Local 292 "Senior Sparkies" Voluntary Directory. I understand this is only to be used to keep retirees in contact with one another. I am only willing to share the information I have shared below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Retiree Casino Trip



# KEEPING CURRENT

Local 292, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, publishes Keeping Current four 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. SE, Suite 292, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

*IBEW Local 292 is committed to Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action for our members and employees.*

**Business Manager/Jeff Heimerl**  
**President/Dan Ferguson**  
**Editor/Traci Nigon**

## KEEPING CURRENT

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



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NOVEMBER 2019



## Calendar

### December

- 5 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 pm  
St Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Rd
- 7 **Children's Christmas Party.** 9 am - 1 pm
- 10 **Retirees Club** meeting. 12:30 pm  
**Stewards** meeting. 6 pm  
**General Membership** meeting. 7 pm  
**Blood Drive.** 2 pm- 8 pm
- 11 **Retirees Christmas Lunch.** 11 am
- 12 **Safety Committee** meeting. 4 pm
- 13 **Members only Christmas Party** 6 pm - 11:30 pm  
**Electrical Workers Minority Caucus** meeting. 5 pm
- 17 **Executive Board** meeting. 4 pm
- 24 **Christmas Eve Day.** (office closed)
- 25 **Christmas Day.** (office closed)
- 31 **New Years Eve.**

### January

- 1 **New Years Day.** (office closed)
- 2 **St. Cloud Informational** meeting. 6 pm  
St Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Rd
- 9 **Safety Committee** meeting. 4 pm
- 14 **Retirees Club** meeting. 12:30 pm  
**Stewards** meeting. 6 pm  
**General Membership** meeting. 7 pm
- 20 **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** (office closed)
- 27 **Electrical Workers Minority Caucus** meeting. 5 pm
- 28 **Executive Board** meeting. 4 pm