Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Last summer the membership of Local 292 IBEW voted to amend our by-laws and allow for the Business Manager to appoint an Assistant Business Manager. Shortly after this, by-laws change, I appointed one of the then current Business Representatives to this position. It is with great pleasure that I introduce Jennifer Mudge as the new Assistant Business Manager of Local 292. I look forward to working with Jennifer to make our local union stronger as we move into the future.

Jennifer began her electrical career by attending Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis where she graduated from, in 1997. Jennifer brings twenty-two plus years of experience to our Local. She has been employed in several facets of the electrical industry including; apprentice inside electrician, journeyman inside electrician, foreman, general foreman, business representative, and now assistant business manager. Jennifer has run several projects, has volunteered for several events and committees and she is also Local 292’s currently elected financial secretary.

In addition to Jennifer’s years of experience and the variety of work she has performed within the trade and local union, she brings a tireless effort to the job every day. She is a champion for all union workers and is fighting each and every day to secure fair wages and working conditions for those in the unionized electrical construction industry. Again, it is with great pleasure that I introduce Jennifer Mudge as Local 292’s newly appointed Assistant Manager. If you have not had the opportunity to meet sister Mudge, please stop in at the Hall or attend a union meeting and say hello.

Remember to work safely, turn the power off when working, and wear your proper protecting equipment.

In Brotherhood,

Jeff Heimerl
IBEW VETERANS Committee - LOCAL 292

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

The Veterans Committee held its first holiday get-together at the Crystal VFW on December 30, 2019. We had a great time playing pool while enjoying the food and drinks! I would also like to thank Retired General Harry Sieben for attending our January meeting and providing us some insight with the local military units.

The Veterans Committee will be planning a fishing weekend on Big Marine Lake this summer. Stay tuned for the exact date, which will be announced via Facebook, at meetings and here in the next Keeping Current issue.

*Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21, at 5pm at the PALMER LAKE VFW ALL-AMERICAN POST #3915
2817 Brookdale Drive, Brooklyn Park MN 55444

www.ibew292.org/committees-groups/veterans

Facebook @ IBEW Veterans Committee – Local 292

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Scholarship Reminders

**Alexander & Krech Scholarship**
IBEW Local #292
For Local #292 members and dependents
www.ibew292.org
Click-on “Scholarships”

**Charles R. Brett Scholarship**
IBEW Minnesota State Council For children of IBEW members
www.ibew292.org
Click-on “Scholarships”

**IBEW Founders’ Scholarship**
IBEW International
For IBEW members only
www.ibew.org
Click-on “Scholarship” icon

**David K. Roe Scholarship**

**Hubert H. Humphrey Memorial Award**

**Donald Pilla Memorial Award**
MN AFL-CIO
For affiliated union members or dependents
www.mnafcio.org

**Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship**
Referred by MN AFL-CIO
For racial/minority union members/dependents
www.nelliestone.org
Click-on “Scholarship Program”

**Martin Duffy Adult Learner Scholarship**
Referred by MN AFL-CIO
For affiliated union members in good standing, on lay-off status, or retired/disabled
www.mnafcio.org
Top of home page, or Enter key-word “Scholarship”

**Union Plus Scholarship**
Sponsored through AFL-CIO affiliated unions for current & retired members and dependents
www.unionplus.org
Click-on “Education” then “Scholarships” then “Union Plus Scholarship”

**Note:**
Links to all of the above scholarships, as well as to other conference and grant opportunities, may be found on Local 292’s website: www.ibew292.org. Please refer to the scholarship application for application deadline.
Safety Corner

EXERCISE PROPER PRACTICES

By Brian Cole

Before the IBEW was instituted, the industry was overrun with untrained individuals with inadequate skills and insufficient knowledge to practice the trade with proper regard to safety, making an already dangerous job riskier. This includes our own Local – the Electrical Workers’ Journal from 1929 stated that the Rand Tower in Minneapolis was known as “the tower of death” due to an open shop contractor, C.F. Haglin, neglecting all safety devices and safety measures. One thing is for sure: they were killing and injuring men in easily avoidable accidents. One of the founding principles of the IBEW was to promote reasonable work methods. With all the training instilled upon us as wiremen, safety becomes second nature and of the utmost importance with whatever methods we choose.

The plight is as evident today as it was back then with current trends in our own Local. There have been some serious accidents, led to mainly by complacency, lack of knowledge for current NFPA 70E standards, or blatant laziness regarding safety protocols.

We were given the knowledge and tools to be the wiremen that our founders aspired us to be. The “E” in Code of Excellence is for “Exercise proper safety, health and sanitation practices.” It is up to us as brothers and sisters to fulfill our obligation to all the members that fought before us to be the best at our craft as we can be.

When considering the future of the IBEW, I am surprised and disappointed at the percentage of members that, when asked, are opposed to their kin following them into the trade. I believe it is up to us to make this great institution better, not for our own behalf but for the betterment of all those who will come after us – just as our founders have done for us. Looking towards the future, International Safety Director Dave Mullen has said President Stephenson continues to affirm the commitment from his office on safety matters affecting members.

Please report any accident or serious injuries immediately to your business representatives or directly to the Safety Committee via email at safety@ibew292.org.

“Exercise proper safety, health and sanitation practices.”
## Retirees Service Pins

### Service Year 50

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**Deceased**
Retirees Luncheon
Service Pins

10-YEARS OF SERVICE

Ahner Matthew J  
Anderson Kenneth R  
Annen Robert P  
Becker Scott J  
Bozovsky Dale R  
Chapman Gregory  
Conkey Nina K  
Cook Joseph A  
Edlund Craig R  
Fish John R  
Hillestad Dave J  
Holm Jerald K  
Hurt Dion  
Lechner Jeremy J  
Mccarter Jacob M  
Mcgregor Timothy W  
Meier Reuben P  
Mensenbrin Wade W  
Nelson Jeremy J  
Rivers Ryan J  
Rose Jared M  
Scharber James D  
Smith David J  
Thiel Jason  
Thomson Jared H  
Volk Travis S  
Westermeyer Ron J  
Workman Patrick J  
Wuebkers Scott  
Zastrow Thomas  

Bluhm Mark A  
Bogatzki Jesse K  
Borg Eric J  
Born David T  
Bosacker Shane A  
Bridenstine Shane D  
Briggs Christopher N  
Brooks John W  
Brueggemeier Troy J  
Burgess Bradley A  
Byzewski Roger L  
Cahill Teige M  
Carlson Jason L  
Carter Phyllis C  
Caton Richard A  
Chapman Eric D  
Chmura Stefan  
Christopherson Eric O  
Cook Byron C  
Corrigan Lawrence P  
Cruitt Richard A  
Czech William W  
Dame Joseph K  
Davis Erich J  
Deyo Donald J  
Draheim Cody L  
Dunnderi Keith I  
Dupont Greg A  
Eastridge Brian P  
Elmquist Ron C  
Engelson Bryan J  
Fischer Donald P  
Fleischhacker Gerald B  
Folta Todd G  
Forbes Ryan G  
Fox Michael T  
Frank Derrick C  
Freitag Matt A  
Ganske Kim T  
Gerth Charles W  
Gill Jason M  
Gillespie Bruce R  
Gingerich Matthew A  
Glas Charles M  
Glunz Robert T  
Goenner Christopher D  
Greb Richard A  
Green Cameron H  
Gregory Bernard J  
Halverson Arlan G  
Halverson Michael G  
Hammer Russell P  
Hansen Patrick A  
Harris Julie M  
Harwell Daniel R  
Haukos Kevin S  
Hegstad Todd J  
Heikkila Angela M  
Heikkila Christopher L  
Heimerl Jeffrey J  
Heinen Daniel J  
Helgeson Lane R  
Hemphill Michael J  
Higgins Casey L  
Hinnenkamp Dale G  
Hoff Jonathan L  
Holm Darin J  
Holmes Kevin J  
Holton Larry B  
Howard Charles C  
Huttner Todd J  
Hyser Nicholas R  
Jacobson Kevin M  
Jacques Donald J  
Janssen Gerald M  
Johnson Damian M  
Johnson John A  
Johnson Peter D  
Jurek Ryan J  
Kapinos Brian K  
Kastanek Jeffrey J  
Kilinger Troy A  
Kimball Keith A  
Knapp Jacob C  
Koblish Josh R  
Koestner Richard J  
Kopischke Jamie M  
Korthof Randy S  
Kowalke Daniel J  
Kramer Dennis R  
Krueger Patrick J  
Kruzle Allen E  
Kubat Brian S  
Kulp John M  
Kummet Steven M  
Laidlaw Thomas J  

20-YEARS OF SERVICE

Abel David P  
Adams David J  
Ahlich Reese R  
Anderson Jason D  
Anderson Wayne A  
Anderson William C  
Andrlyski John F  
Baker JARED A  
Baker Keith J  
Belland Edmund J  
Best Kevin W  
Birr Donald  
Blackowiak David A  
Blake Joe D  
BloomNeal E  

Gregory Bernard J  
Halverson Arlan G  
Halverson Michael G  
Hammer Russell P  
Hansen Patrick A  
Harris Julie M  
Harwell Daniel R  
Haukos Kevin S  
Hegstad Todd J  
Heikkila Angela M  
Heikkila Christopher L  
Heimerl Jeffrey J  
Heinen Daniel J  
Helgeson Lane R  
Hemphill Michael J  
Higgins Casey L  
Hinnenkamp Dale G  
Hoff Jonathan L  
Holm Darin J  
Holmes Kevin J  
Holton Larry B  
Howard Charles C  
Huttner Todd J  
Hyser Nicholas R  
Jacobson Kevin M  
Jacques Donald J  
Janssen Gerald M  
Johnson Damian M  
Johnson John A  
Johnson Peter D  
Jurek Ryan J  
Kapinos Brian K  
Kastanek Jeffrey J  
Kilinger Troy A  
Kimball Keith A  
Knapp Jacob C  
Koblish Josh R  
Koestner Richard J  
Kopischke Jamie M  
Korthof Randy S  
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Kramer Dennis R  
Krueger Patrick J  
Kruzle Allen E  
Kubat Brian S  
Kulp John M  
Kummet Steven M  
Laidlaw Thomas J  
cont. on next page
Service Pins cont.

20-YEARS OF SERVICE cont.

Balut Joseph L
Benson Scott T
Bergstrom Chaucer B
Bertrand Joseph R
Burdorf John D
Butler Bruce E
Christenson Chad R
Cisewski Jeff S
Clark Kenneth M
Cook Chris G
Dincau Mitch L
Drew Jesse W
Duehn Michael T
Duerr Brandon J
Entinger John M
Essendrup Mark R
Fiedler Keith B
Forsberg John W
Foss Robert J
Gerlach Thomas A
Gibson Marty T
Gilmore Debra K
Gossman Robert J
Gouette Robert J
Gross Douglas M
Hansen Mark T
Hartman Paul R
Hemann Ryan T
Hendricks William J

25-YEARS OF SERVICE

Balut Joseph L
Benson Scott T
Bergstrom Chaucer B
Bertrand Joseph R
Burdorf John D
Butler Bruce E
Christenson Chad R
Cisewski Jeff S
Clark Kenneth M
Cook Chris G
Dincau Mitch L
Drew Jesse W
Duehn Michael T
Duerr Brandon J
Entinger John M
Essendrup Mark R
Fiedler Keith B
Forsberg John W
Foss Robert J
Gerlach Thomas A
Gibson Marty T
Gilmore Debra K
Gossman Robert J
Gouette Robert J
Gross Douglas M
Hansen Mark T
Hartman Paul R
Hemann Ryan T
Hendricks William J

cont. on next page
## Service Pins cont.

### 25-YEARS OF SERVICE cont.

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## Service Pins cont.

### 40-YEARS OF SERVICE cont.
- Przedziecki Stanley L
- Rief David F
- Ryan Charles P
- Sampson Marcus R
- Schauer Larry M
- Schmitz Dirk J
- Shannon Steven R
- Sida Robert A
- Simon Warren J
- Simonet William J
- Sorensen Harold J
- Sorensen Lawrence C
- Spernick Daniel H
- Spletstoeszer David L
- Stanley Michael G
- Thibadeau Daniel G
- Thomas Bradley G
- Thompson Dennis L
- Thorson Jeff K
- Thusholt Kristian
- Utterberg Thomas D
- Van Alstine Wayne E
- Vaughn Robert L
- Vrieze Roger W
- Waletzko Mark D
- Weida Michael J
- Weir Brian K
- Westerholm Jerry R
- Whaylen Michael C
- Wheaton Joseph F
- Winch Billy D
- Wood Donald A
- Worcester William D
- Wright Blaine P
- Zaun Douglas D
- Zeta Duane J
- Ziesmer Mark E

### 45-YEARS OF SERVICE
- Atkinson Michael E
- Banko Harry G
- Beach David L
- Bomsta Ronald H
- Borgman Stephen J
- Briggs William G
- Brouillet Thomas L
- Bruhn James D
- Caron Richard D
- Chesley Richard H
- Corgard Gerald E
- Crane Warren M
- Deering Douglas C
- Dejesus Hector H
- Eckstrom Gerald M
- Erickson Scott L
- Evenson Robert J
- Fillmore Joanne A
- Frischmon Patrick M
- Gaulke David A
- Guimont Ralph T
- Hackenmueller Robert P
- Hall John P
- Hallman John A
- Hasse John M
- Hensel Duane V
- Holiday Joseph S
- Hollick Robert T
- Hopping John A
- Houle Gary T
- Jahnke Randy H
- Jarosz Jeffrey E
- Jasicki Timothy J
- Jensen Richard A
- Johnson Vincent R
- Knapp Paul J
- Koskinemi Lester M
- Krumm David C
- Leclair Keith R
- Lindquist Lloyd J
- Lonsky Richard J
- Madonna Keith D
- Mahoney Robert D
- Marshall Steven J
- Maslowski William S
- Mcdonald Jerry D
- Meyers Ronald L
- Mohr Daniel F
- Nelson Duane J
- Nestrud Lloyd W
- O’Keefe James P
- Olson Darwin B
- Panos Theodore H
- Pepin Garry M
- Peterson Duane V
- Raiche Thomas J
- Taylor Paul A
- Thomason Chester P
- Tkach David
- Trende David C
- Vanbeusekom Robert A
- Waldemar Ricky D
- Wolters John S

**Congratulations to all that received their service pins!**
“SENIOR SPARKIES NOTES”

Happy 2020 Retirees

By Paul Klesmit, Retiree President

HAPPY 2020 TO ALL LOCAL 292 RETIREES! As we enter the new year, we look forward to our new building being complete in April. The retirees have always been in favor of a new building and were the first to contribute to the building fund. The retirees at our annual Christmas luncheon, with 289 signed up, were given the option to keep their deposit checks or donate them. The majority donated them to the building fund and, along with the monthly contributions at our retiree meetings, we were able to present a check for $5,000 to the building fund at the January membership meeting. Thank you, Local 292 retirees.

The Local also donated $20,000 for our annual Christmas luncheon. Thank you, Local 292. It was held again at St. Patrick’s Mahon Center in Edina. From here on out, our Christmas luncheon will be held at the Local’s new building in Brooklyn Park.

Plans are in place for casino trips to Treasure Island in April and October. We are also making plans for a river cruise this summer and possibly a tour of the Vikings training facility. Our summer picnic will again be at Three Rivers Park in Plymouth for at least one more year.

2020 is going to be a very busy year with our Local elections as well as our government elections. Please make sure you get involved to help labor-friendly politicians get elected. Your pensions and social security are under attack. Make sure you vote. We wish all our snowbirds happy travels and all our retirees warm wishes.

Stay safe and healthy.

Fraternally,
Paul Klesmit, Retiree President

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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 ___________________________
Hello Brothers and Sisters of IBEW Local 292

By Andy Snope, IBEW 292 Legislative and Political Director

2020 is an important year. All Minnesota legislators are up for election this year, as are all our US Congressional Representatives and one US Senator – and, you may have heard, there is an election for 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. This year is extremely important because the legislators we elect will be drawing political district lines throughout the state and country after the US census population numbers are collected. We need to elect legislators who are committed to assuring that legislative district lines are drawn fairly and not open to gerrymandering.

2020 is also a census year, and collecting accurate information on the country’s population will assure representation in Washington, D.C. Minnesota is very close to losing a Congressional seat; we could go from 8 US representatives down to 7. Please participate in this year’s census, stand up and be counted.

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. I want to let you know of some important events and opportunities coming up that you can participate in to help our collective IBEW Local 292 labor voice be heard.

February 11:
Start of MN Legislative Session

February 12, 5pm:
Precinct Caucus Political Convention Training
IBEW 292
312 Central Avenue SE, Minneapolis
2nd floor, room 218

February 25:
MN Precinct Caucuses
Statewide locations:
https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/precinct-caucuses/

March 3:
MN Presidential Primary Statewide Election Day
https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/presidential-primary/

Late February – April:
Senate District, Organizing Unit and Congressional District Conventions.

March 24: IBEW 292 Day on the Hill

We will start out at IBEW 292, 312 Central Ave SE. Registration opens at 7:30am. We will head to the Capitol about 11am and end no later than 4pm. Call the office and sign up now! Deadline to sign up is Friday, February 28.

I am proud and humbled 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.

In Solidarity,

Andy Snope, IBEW Local 292 Legislative and Political Director
612-617-4238
asnope@ibew292.org
Help For Legal and Financial Concerns

According to a poll taken by Work Place Options, at least 36% of workers believe that financial stress has affected their ability to do their jobs. Therefore, the worker’s issues become significant for businesses of all sizes when they experience a drop in productivity. The individuals that responded to the survey were concerned about a lack of retirement savings, monthly bills and expenses, taxes and growing debt. Working men and women may also be troubled by legal concerns such as divorce and custody proceedings, landlord/tenant lease disputes or complicated probate events. Often times, a person may be in need of accurate legal information and advice, but feels daunted by the perceived costs or feel they just do not know where to turn for help.

TEAM can be a good resource to help union members solve both financial and legal problems. When you call, TEAM staff will gather your personal information and connect you to our Work Place Options consultants for either legal assistance or financial counseling.

All financial counselors are certified experts and they may be able to provide you immediate assistance over the phone. For more complicated cases, the consultant may schedule a 1-hour appointment. At times, the counselor may send worksheets to complete prior to the appointment and will follow-up by sending a summary of goals and steps. There is no restriction on the use of this free service.

If the union member needs legal consultation, many questions can be answered over the phone with a legal assistant, at no cost. Should the need arise to hire a lawyer, the legal consultant will provide contact information for a qualified attorney that is able to take on your particular case. The first 30-minute consultation is free and the attorney working with our network will discount the hourly rate by 25%. All attorneys have multiple years of experience, carry liability insurance and have no public record for discipline.

Call TEAM today at 651-642-0182 and let us help you solve your financial or legal challenges. TEAM also provides short-term, face-to-face counseling for personal and workplace problems. All counseling is free and confidential. There is 24/7, year round phone assistance with a live person. Immediate dependents are also eligible for TEAM services.

From all of us at IBEW Local 292, Have a safe and Happy New Year!
Children’s Christmas Party
Retirements

Congratulations!

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Deaths

Active Members

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APPLICATION FOR THE
JOHN PETER SCHMITZ
IBEW LOCAL 292 (2020 ONLY) SCHOLARSHIP
TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS

ONLY LOCAL 292 MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING WHO HAVE GRADUATED FROM A CREDITED TRADE SCHOOL IN AN ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM WITHIN THE LAST FOUR (4) YEARS QUALIFY FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP.

Applications should be mailed to:
IBEW 292 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE, 312 CENTRAL AVE SE – SUITE 292, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55414
Entry Deadline: March 1, 2020 (ONE-TIME ONLY)

DATE _______________ FULL NAME OF APPLICANT _________________________________________________________________________________________
HOME ADDRESS _______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
PHONE NUMBER __________________ CURRENT EMPLOYER ______________________________________________________________
EMAIL ADDRESS _______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
DATE APPRENTICE WAS SWORN INTO LOCAL 292 _______________ DATE APPRENTICE ENTERED THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM _______________
CURRENT YEAR IN THE JATC ___________________________ COLLECTIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE IN THE JATC ___________________________
UNEXCUSED DAYS ABSENT FROM THE JATC ____________________________________________________________

On a separate sheet, please attach an essay of at least one hundred and fifty words, reflecting why you joined Local 292, if you volunteer for Local 292, and what your experiences have been since you joined Local 292, including specific changes (if any) that you feel would strengthen this organization, and why you are the best candidate to receive this scholarship.

(INCLUDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT YOU WANT THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER IN EVALUATING YOUR PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS.)

INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Please refer any questions about this scholarship or the application form to the IBEW Local 292 Office. Phone: 612-379-1292 or Email: office@ibew292.org
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

February
6 St. Cloud Informational meeting. 6 PM
St Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Rd
11 Retiree’s Club meeting. 12:30 PM
Stewards meeting. 6 PM
General Membership meeting. 7 PM
13 Safety Committee meeting. 4 PM
24 EWMC meeting. 5 PM
25 Executive Board meeting. 4 PM

March
5 St. Cloud Informational meeting. 6 PM
St Cloud union hall, 2803 Clearwater Rd
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