

Let's Level

The Wausau Area Builders Association chartered in 1967 and affiliated with the Wisconsin Builders Association and National Association of Home Builders, is a professional non-profit trade association. Serving the community, we represent the interests and concerns of the customer, building trades, industry suppliers, and all facets of the building industry.

Upcoming WABA Events

**May 20th Networking
at Kafka Granite with
Golden Sands Builders
Association**

**June 8-13th
Parade of Homes**

**June 25th
WABA Golf Outing**

**October 22-24
Home Show**



Welcome!

Renewing Members

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Deer Run Stone, LLC
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REI Engineering, Inc
Cordova Agency, Inc.
Timber River Custom Homes
Merrill Sheet Metal Works, Inc.

Wausau Supply Company
Dawczyk & Varline LLC
Elite Custom Cabinetry Inc.
Thorcraft Custom Kitchens LLC
Macco's Floor Covering Center, Inc.
Krueger Water Systems LLC



New Members

Elco Construction
Seifert Electric, Inc.

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Hurts Housing Affordability
and Supply**

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Letter from the President

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to Spring... I think. Hopefully the recent cold and grey days of April will turn into warm sunny days of May.

I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize a few members who went above and beyond, on behalf of our Association, and our goal of getting young folks involved in our industry.

As you have probably heard we now have a grant fund and application process for educators to apply for assistance in acquiring materials and funding for programs that benefit the building trades. Roger Lang, Chair of the BYiB Committee, has spearheaded this effort and done an outstanding job. To date we have received one application, from Marathon High School, which was in turn approved by the Board of Directors.

Upon this grant's approval, our members: Kevin Schemenauer, Sam McLellan and Nate Brown took it upon themselves to solicit material donations, gathered the supplies, then hand delivered them to Marathon High School. I personally want to say thank you to these gentlemen for your efforts.

As many of us have seen in recent years the number of individuals entering our industry has nowhere near kept up with the individuals exiting. You all have given great effort to help us in changing this trend.

If anyone has questions about how you can help us interact with schools or promote the building trades as a successful career path, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or Cara in the WABA office.

As always thank you all for what you do.
Take care and God bless!

Alex Forer
2020 WABA President

2021 Wausau Area Builders Association Board of Directors

President - Alex Forer, Larry Meyer Construction

Vice President - Keith Koenig, Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork

Secretary - Deann Zobrak, Runkel Abstract & Title

Treasurer - Kyle VanOrder, Woodstock Flooring & Design Center

Past President - Russ Utech, Russ Utech Insurance

Directors Thru 2021 - Sam McLellan, Rachelle Cota, Ashley Dupuis-Bohman

Directors Thru 2022 - Kevin Porter, Jeremy Voigt, Aaron Beyer

Directors Thru 2023 - Scott Dombeck, Seth Jozwiak, Tara Parks

State Representative(WBA)- Seth Jozwiak, Jeremy Voigt, Kevin Porter

National Representative (NAHB) - Alex Forer

Committee Chairmans:

By-Laws - Sid Sorensen

Events -

Finance - Kyle VanOrder

Home Show - Kyle VanOrder / Rachelle Cota

Building Youth into Builders - Roger Lang

Legislative - Cory Sillars

Marketing - Tara Parks

Membership - Kevin Schemenaur

Nominations - Russ Utech

Parade of Homes - Travis Hoerman / Sam McLellen

Personnel - Kyle VanOrder

Scholarship - Cory Sillars

Silent Auction - Amber Gober

Golf - Phil Pesanka

Social - Ashley Dupuis-Bohman

Thank You!

*Woodbury Custom Homes
Blenker Signature Homes
Hallmark Building Supplies
for helping the BYiB statisfy
their first grant request to
Marathon High School!*



2021 Scholarship Recipients Chosen

Congratulations to this years recipients of the annual Wausau Area Builders Association Scholarship given in honor of Shirley Kruesel!



Jenna Zobrak
Wyatt Judd
Mason Sorensen
Kyle Semling

2 Additional NTC Students, TBD

We are honored to keep the legacy of WABA's longtime Association Manager, Shirley Krusel, going by giving out our annual scholarships in her name. The criteria for this scholarship is:

- Graduating senior from a high school located in a community currently served by the WABA including but not necessarily limited to Antigo, D.C. Everest, Marathon, Medford, Merrill, Mosinee, Newman, Northland Lutheran, Stratford, Spencer, Wausau East, Wausau West, and Wittenberg-Birnamwood;
- Who has demonstrated community service and involvement;
- With a GPA of 2.5 or greater.
- Students planning a career in the shelter industry are especially encouraged to apply.
- Students whose parents and/or grandparents have an association with the WABA are especially encouraged to apply.

The 2022 Scholarship Applications will be available on Sept 1, 2021 with a deadline of March 31, 2022

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Business Mixer!

WABA's Social Committee is helping to bring you another great event!

Check your email for your invitation to register or let Cara know you are attending for food planning.

Cara@WausauAreaBuilders.com



BUSINESS MIXER

A Social/Networking Event

Thursday
MAY 20th
5:30pm – 8:00pm

Kafka Granite Main Office
550 East Highway 153
Mosinee, WI 54455

Kafka Granite welcomes members of **Wausau Area Builders Association** and **Golden Sands Home Builders Association** for a night of cocktails, appetizers, and socializing/networking!

- Door Prizes
- Open Bar
- Heavy Appetizers
- Product Displays

We look forward to seeing you!



Our Committees Need YOU!

We have some committees looking for members, could you help them out?

Golf, Silent Auction, Events, and Marketing are all hoping to grow their committees.

If you are interested, contact Cara to learn more!
Cara@WausauAreaBuilders.com





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Thank You!

Social Committee for organizing our first IN PERSON get together this year! Thank you to our sponsors; The Reserve at Greenwood Hills, Woodland Trails Winery (Russ Utech), Gruett Construction, & Merrill Sheet Metal. Lastly, thank you to all who attended!



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WABA Will Be at Chamber Business Expo!

Can you help man the booth??

Cara will be at the Chamber Business Expo on May 6th and she could use help promoting our 2021 events and membership of our associatiton.



*If you could help for a portion of the day, please contact her at
715-842-9510 or Cara@
WausauAreaBuilders.com*

Thirty Five Percent Increase in New Home Construction

Permit numbers not showing signs of building slowdown

Article from WBA

April 22, 2021 – The latest single-housing permit numbers show that new home construction is up thirty five percent in the first quarter of 2021 compared to the first quarter of 2020. Compiled by the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS), the data is required to be submitted to DPS by all municipalities in the state.

Between January 1, 2021 and March 31, 2021, 2,626 new home permits were pulled in Wisconsin compared to 1,941 permits during the same time period in 2020, an increase of 35 percent. This news comes after a 10 percent increase in new home construction in all of 2020 compared to 2019.

“While we have heard from our members that business has been strong, these numbers are greater than even we anticipated given the rising cost of building materials and quarter one occurring during winter months,” said Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) Executive Director Brad Boycks.

Other encouraging data has been released by the Department of Administration. In the first quarter of 2021, 67 plats and 1,404 lots were approved. These numbers are on track to surpass last year’s, as there were 201 plats and 5,340 lots approved in all of 2020.

“Historically low interest rates and a low inventory of existing homes have been huge factors in the number of new home building and remodeling projects,” said WBA President Abe Degnan. “While we need to see the cost of building materials come down as they are not sustainable for the industry, we are pleased they haven’t hindered the volume of overall homebuilding thus far.”



Advertise in our Newsletter!

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Contact Cara for more information

**715-842-9510 / Cara@
WausauAreaBuilders.com**

Advocacy Digest

A monthly digest of top stories from *The Blueprint*, a Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) publication.

- WBA advocates the interests of 4,000 home building industry members at the state legislative level, resulting in improved laws and regulations that keep housing affordable for Wisconsin families.

Brad Boyks, Executive Director
(608) 242-5151 ext. 16
bboycks@wisbuild.org

WBA News

- Wednesday, July 14- 8:30am-3:30pm
Membership Meeting Day @ The Ridge Hotel in Lake Geneva **NEW LOCATION**
- Thursday, July 15th- Wisconsin Builders Foundation Golf Outing @ Trevino Golf Course in Lake Geneva **LEW LOCATION** REGISTRATION OPEN
- Thursday, October 7- 8:30am-3:30pm Membership Meeting Day @ Virtual

Thirty on Thursdays

Now - Thu, Dec 16, 2021 10:30 AM

Please join us for our web series, Thirty On Thursdays where our guests will range from affinity partners to business executives to government leaders.

WisBuild.Org

April 22, 2021



Rep. Jagler Elected to State Senate

On Tuesday, April 6, State Representative and Assembly Housing and Real Estate Committee Chair John Jagler won a special election to serve out the remaining two years on now Congressman Scott Fitzgerald's term. Jagler received 51.2% of votes to Democrat Melissa Winkler's 43.8%- and third-party candidate Spencer Zimmerman's 4.6%.

Jagler is expected to be seated in his new position the week of April 19 and is likely to be named the chair of the Senate Committee on Housing, Commerce, and Trade.

WBA was instrumental in supporting Jagler's campaign in the primary and general election, working to send him over \$6,000 in contributions and holding a member only event for his election via Zoom earlier in the year.

We look forward to working with Senator Jagler in the State Senate.

Hearing Held on Occupancy Permit Bill

Recently, the Senate Committee on Economic and Workforce Development held a public hearing on Senate Bill 254 (SB 254) to make sure homes that proceeded through the construction process where some inspections were waved did not receive negative black marks on the occupancy permit were vetoed earlier this session when included in a larger pandemic bill. WBA testified in favor of SB 254.

SB 254 also contains a provision that would allow permittees to extend certain permits issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services, Department of Natural Resources, and the Department of Transportation by 36 months.

WBA is working with Senator Dan Feyen, the bill author, on an amendment to clarify the language in SB 254 regarding inspections to make it more consistent with the process and procedures spelled out in administrative rules.

Finally, WBA will be working with the soon to be new chair of the Assembly Housing and Real Estate committee to also schedule a public hearing on the companion bill in the lower house, Assembly Bill 247.

WBA to Support Additional Broadband Funding in State Budget

After recently surveying members, WBA found that most support additional funding in the upcoming state budget to expand broadband to rural areas of the state. Additional broadband funding and support for additional funding for K-12 public education are two areas that GOP leaders in the legislature and Governor

Tony Evers have both publicly stated they support.

Building Multifamily Housing Using the Uniform Dwelling Code (w/ no sprinkler requirement)

WBA was recently made aware of guidance documents provided by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services that serve as a "how to" guide to build multifamily units and follow the Uniform Dwelling Code (UDC). Generally, multifamily units with three or more units are built under the commercial building and now, again, require sprinkler systems.

continued on the next page

- No state taxation of PPP loans; 2021 WI Act 1
- Immunity from COVID-19 related lawsuits except in case of reckless or wanton conduit, intentional misconduct; 2021 WI Act 4

- Permit extension and guidance for occupancy permits allowed w/o some inspections
- Additional POWTS plan review positions at DSPS
- Easier approval of small commercial plan reviews
- State budget that does not increase cost of housing & encourages workforce

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Thirty Five Percent Increase in New Home Construction

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From NAHB: Bringing Housing Home: Rising Lumber Prices Tops the Agenda

In less than two weeks NAHB members across the land will have an opportunity to meet face-to-face with federal lawmakers or in a virtual format to discuss critical issues confronting our industry, including soaring lumber prices and supply shortages that are driving up housing costs.

Bringing Housing Home®, the premier grassroots event of the year, will take place during the week of May 3. Every NAHB member is encouraged to meet with U.S. representatives and senators in their home districts. These meetings are key to strengthening relationships with lawmakers and keeping the housing industry as a priority in Congress. State and local home builder association executive leaders are encouraged to choose the meeting style that suits their local association and follow COVID-19 guidelines and protocols.

Access the NAHB Legislative Priorities brochure to learn about the key issues, other than the top priority of rising lumber prices, to discuss at these meetings. Lawmakers are also being urged to take action to:

- Reform the nation’s housing finance system
- Strengthen the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit
- Prevent federal intrusion into the energy codes development process
- Create a national flood insurance program that is predictable and affordable
- Craft an infrastructure package that takes housing affordability concerns into account
- Invest in federal vocational job training programs



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New Report: Construction Industry's Worker Shortage Hurts Housing Affordability and Supply

Article from Fortune.com

WASHINGTON, April 20, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- The construction industry faces a shortfall of 200,000 workers, according to a new report released today by the Home Builders Institute (HBI).

The first-ever HBI Construction Labor Market Report notes that shortages of skilled trade workers directly employed by home builders and subcontractors remain widespread throughout all regions. Builders nationwide cite the difficulty in filling positions as among their top concerns, ranking third behind high lumber prices and regulatory burdens.

"The home building industry faces a major shortage of skilled workers," said Ed Brady, HBI's president and CEO.

"The home building industry faces a major shortage of skilled workers," said Ed Brady, HBI's president and CEO. "This persistent challenge endangers the affordability and availability of housing and hinders a robust economic recovery."

The report, based on research of the Economics Group of the National Association of Home Builders, will be issued semi-annually. The first one is compiled using year-end 2020 data. Citing more recent numbers, Brady said the total shortage of construction workers rose even higher to 309,000 in January 2021.

The share of builders reporting a worker shortage was 60 percent. The percentage is especially high relative to the acceleration for total housing starts, which increased from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of under 1 million single-family and multifamily units in April 2020 to a rate of roughly 1.5 million at the end of 2020.

The numbers reported pertain to labor directly employed by builders, though builders employ additional workers through subcontractors. "We estimate that builders subcontract more than 80 percent of the construction in the typical home they build," said Brady. "And worker shortages for subcontractors continue to be even more severe."

HBI's chief executive stressed that labor represents approximately 30 to 40 percent of the cost of a typical new home. "That share of the costs is rising, due to the shortage of available labor," he said. "When you consider that scarcity of labor causes construction delays, which then creates further costs, you can see how both housing supply and affordability are negatively affected."

HBI is the nation's largest provider of training for skilled workers for the residential construction industry. The nonprofit trains approximately 10,000 students each year through an industry-recognized curriculum in 220 sites around the U.S., including in high schools, military bases, community colleges, prisons, training facilities and Job Corps centers.

"As a nation, we need to build the next generation of skilled tradespeople," Brady said. "That means recruiting more women. It means training and placing minority, lower income, and at-risk youth for job opportunities as an important way to fight against social inequity. It means providing trade skills education to veterans and transitioning military. And it means reaching out to high school students, and those who influence their decisions, to change their perception of careers in the trades," said Brady.



Do you want to be an Exhibitor at the 2021 WABA Home Show?

Registration is OPEN!

visit wausauareabuilders.com or

Contact Cara at 715-842-9510 or Cara@WausauAreaBuilders.com

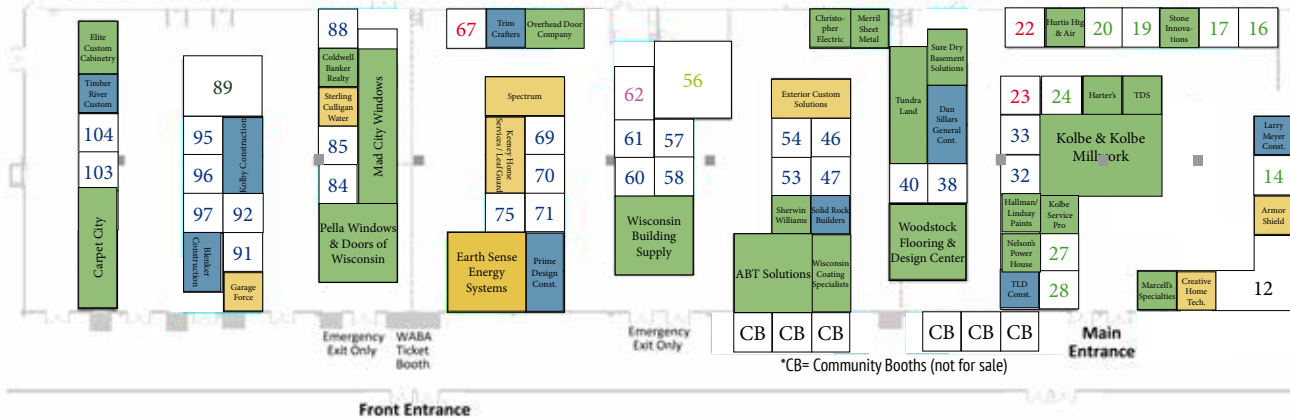


2021 Wausau Area Builders Association Home Show

Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center

Rothschild, WI

October 22-24, 2021



	EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION Pricing until April 1, 2021	REGULAR REGISTRATION Pricing valid April 2-Sept 1, 2021	LATE REGISTRATION Pricing after Sept 1st
Front Room 10' x 10' Booth (11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 24A, 26, 27)	\$425	\$550	\$600
Front Room 10' x 10' End Cap (10, 15, 24B)	\$500	\$600	\$650
10' x 10' Booth (29-33, 36-38, 40-44, 46-50, 52-54, 57, 58, 60, 61, 66, 69-73, 75-77, 80-82, 84-86, 88, 90-94, 95-97, 100-105)	\$375	\$500	\$550
10' x 10' End Cap = (22, 23, 44A, 45, 55, 67)	\$450	\$575	\$625
10' x 15' Booth = (35, 62, 65, 79, 98, 106)	\$565	\$775	\$825
10' x 20' End Cap = (68)	\$900	\$1150	\$1200
15' x 20' End Cap = (89)	\$1,275	\$1650	\$1700
20' x 20' Booth = (51, 56, 74)	\$1,425	\$1925	\$2025
20' x 20' End Cap = (39, 59, 83)	\$1,650	\$2150	\$2250

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Huntsman Building Solutions – Spray Foam Insulation. Now includes three brands: Icynene, Lapolla, and Demilec.



801 S. 24th Avenue, Wausau, WI 54401

Cara@wausauareabuilders.com

715-842-9510



WABA GOLF SCRAMBLE









FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021

9:45-10:15 Lunch/Registration

10:30 Shotgun Start



\$75 Per Golfer Includes:

-  Lunch **AND** Heavy appetizers after golf
-  18 Holes with Carts
-  Cash Prizes for Blind Bogey scoring
-  Door prizes and Raffle prizes
-  Awesome Birdie Hole Event
-  Free Early bird-driving range practice
-  Free Goody Bags
-  Flag Events

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E-Mail _____ Phone Number _____

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Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____

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Beer Hole - \$200 (includes ¼ barrel-) SOLD

Beverage Cart Sponsor - \$75 (2-available) SOLD

Birdie Sponsor - \$250 -negotiable (includes hole prize) SOLD

Putting game - \$100 (and \$100 valued prize) SOLD

Total Enclosed \$ _____

☐ Please contact me as I have a donation for the Goody Bags and/or a Raffle Prize item!

Deadline to register is **June 15, 2021** with **Wausau Area Builders** at above address or e-mail: cara@wausauareabuilders.com

No Late registrations. Payments preferred prior to event. Will accept payment at event.

To ensure a sign for your sponsorship, please have in **by June 15, 2021**

Philip J Pesanka - Committee Chairman - 715-298-4186 - ppesanka@abbybank.com

Proceeds benefit WABA Scholarships

We Welcome Raffle Prize Donations **OR** Goody Bag Items!!



May 15th, 2021

At Backcountry Brewing

3252 Mecca Dr. Plover, WI

Hosted by



AWARDS — FOOD — COLD BREWS — MUSIC — SWAG BAGS

Event Selection

- ☐ 5Kish Run
- ☐ 5 Kegger Walk
- ☐ Car to the Bar Hustle
(distance subject to parking)



Event Schedule

Registration/Check In Friday May 14th
4:30pm - 6:30pm & Saturday May 15th
8:30am - 9:45am

5kish Run 10:00am

5 Kegger Walk 10:10am

Car to the Bar Hustle 8:30am to Noon

Register online at www.gshba.org

Something for Everyone! Call a Running Buddy and **Run** about 5K. Don't feel like running, than **Walk** the Kegger. Don't feel like walking, than **Hustle from your Car to the Bar** and show your support by wearing your "I paid not to Run" Free Participant Shirt.

Everyone Pre Registered by April 24th receives a FREE Long Sleeve Dry Fit Shirt, Token for a Free Beer and a Swag Bag with goodies. Pre Registration is \$35. Race Day Registration is \$40 and shirts & bags only while supplies last.