LET'S LEVEL

the official publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association

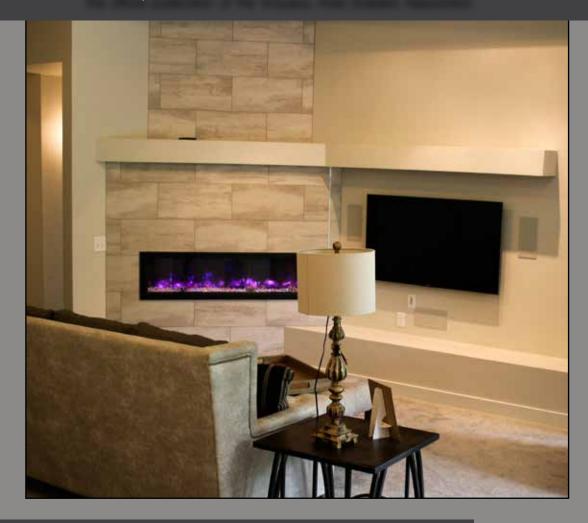


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801 S. 24th Avenue Wausau, W. 54401 715_842_9510

www.wausauareabuilders.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

No Membership Meeting Happy Holidays!

JANUARY

16 _ Membership Dinner

Meeting @ The Elk's Club

OUR MISSION

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

OFFICERS

President Russ Utech
Vice President Kyle VanOrder
Secretary Shelly Talley Nelsen
Treasurer Deann Zobrak
Past President Cory Sillars
Association Manager Cara Spatz

DIRECTORS

Through 2019 Alex Forer, Travis Hoerman, Sid Sorensen

Through 2020 Gloria Fenhaus, Norman Larson, Amber Gober

Through 2021 Keith Koenig, Rachelle Cota, Ashley Dupuis.Bohman

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Travis Hoerman Alex Forer, Norman Larson

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Travis Hoerman

WBA PAST PRESIDENT

Arden Emmerich

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Advertising	Cory Sillars
Bylaws	Sid Sorensen
Events	Gloria Fenhaus
Finance	Deann Zobrak
Home Show	.Shelly Talley_Nelsen
BYIB	Roger Lang
Legislative	Cory Sillars
Marketing	
Membership	Cory Sillars
Nominations	Russ Utech
Parade of Homes	Travis Hoerman/
	Sam McLellan
Personnel	Kyle VanOrder
Scholarship	Cory Sillars
Silent Auction	Amber Gober
Golf Outing	Phil Pesanka
Social	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello WABA members.

In November we had our Annual meeting at Fergusons again this year, and were rewarded with some fantastic food and treats by Ted Peotter and Thrive Foodery. Thanks to them, as well as Intercity State Bank and Woodland Trail Winery for additional beverage donations.

Elections were held and I would like to thank those who ran, and congratulate the people elected to serve for the coming year.

We are taking booth reservations for the 2019 Home Show, so if you have yet to confirm your booth for next year, please call Cara for more information and to reserve your booth.

If you are interested in promoting your business to our membership, consider placing an AD in this newsletter for the coming year. Call Cara for pricing.

Our next meeting will be in January so mark your calendars now for our Annual Awards event to be held at the Elks.

This will probably be my last newsletter as President. Wow, how time flies. It has been my privilege to serve multiple terms on the board and I would like to thank all of you for your cooperation, patience and understanding of the last few years. Our organization has worked through some years of adversity, starting with the recession, and that other financial challenge, but is doing many good things today. Our financial situation is very good. Please take time to attend a meeting in the new year, welcome your new directors and officers, and volunteer a few minutes of your time to realize more value from your membership dollars.

Have a great December and Merry Christmas!

Russ Utech

WABA President Central Wisconsin Insurance Associates

Building Youth into Builders Committee

IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS, MATERIAL DONATIONS, AND

TRADES PROFESSIONALS TO HELP GUIDE CURRICULUM IN

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS! CAN YOU HELP??

CONTACT CARA

CARA@WAUSAUAREABUILDERS.COM / 715-842-9510

MANAGER'S MESSAGE



It was great to see so many members attend the November Dinner Meeting / Election night at Ferguson Kitchen, Bath and Lighting Gallery. Each and everyone of you are part of an organization that values your voice and I am glad so many were able to use that voice with a vote for our 2020 Board of Directors.

Thank you to Russ Utech for his devotion in leading our association as President for that last two years and his continuation with the role of Past President. In his term our

budget has been improved, we began an office expansion, our office staff has turned over, our office computers were updated, and all this while our membership stayed

steady. Russ never missed a Board Meeting and is a valued member of many of the committees.

RENEWING MEMBERS Ruffi Law Offices, SC Etco Electric Supply Inc.

WELCOME!

Sorensen Construction LLC Northcenttral Technical College Stratford Building Supply, Inc. Time Federal Savings Bank Stone Innovations

Congratulations to our 2020 President Elect, Alex Forer! Alex has been very committed not only to Wausau Area Builders Association but also to the Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). He received the Rising Star award from WBA this past spring and he has plans of joining their Board of Directors. He has also served as a WABA Director and as a WABA NAHB Representative.

As we set our sights onto next year please consider taking out newsletter ad, participating the Home Show, and taking part of the Parade of Homes. Another great way to support our association is to help it grow, please do business with a fellow member and encourage businesses to become members.

With Gratitude,

Cara Spatz





MONTHLY MEETING -JANUARY 16TH @ WAUSAU ELK'S LODGE



We will all sit down to start a "VERY TASTY" plated sit-down salad, dinner, along with dessert..."Just for You!!" Here's what "The Elk's" are preparing for us!! Stuffed Pork Chops & Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Scandinavian Blend Veggies, Tossed Salad w / French & Ranch Dressing,

Rolls w / Butter, Coffee, Milk, Ice Water, and Dessert "Ice Cream w / Chocolate Sauce!" Yummy!! The Elk's just love having us, and we can't wait to be there again! So watch for your email invite & get your reservation in! You don't want to miss this because this party is for you the member, of the BEST association...The Wausau Area Builder's Association!!

Door Prizes- WABA Gifts
Appreciation Awards
2019 Builder of the Year
2019 Associate of the Year
\$30 Per Person (PLEASE NOTE: ALL RESERVATIONS
MUST BE IN BY JANUARY 10TH!!)
(Once reserved...no shows will be billed)
*****Please bring a Door Prize...You know you love
WINNING!!

Mrs. Gloria Fenhaus Director & Chairman of Events



Bay Therm INSULATION, INC.

Residential · Commercial · Industrial

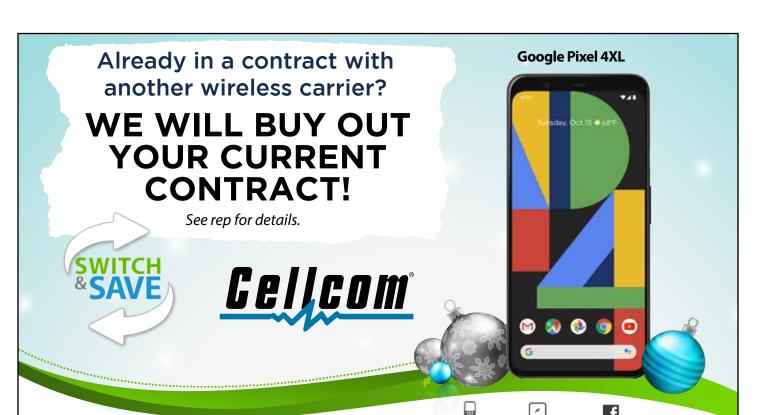
Certified Optima Blown In Blanket System Spray Applied Urethane Foam Application Fiberglass Batts & Blown • Sound Control Batts

Contact Nap Wilz

Mobile: 920-419-3881

Toll Free: 800-804-7492 Serving the Wausau Area nap.wilz@installed.net





Offer valid 12/2/19 through 1/1/20 or while supplies last. No rain checks. Activation at time of service, service agreement and credit approval required. New line activation required. A line set up fee and early termination fee may apply, if applicable, the early termination fees may be reduced proportionately to the remaining months of the term of the agreement. Universal Service Fund (USF) and regulatory and other recovery fees charged on all service lines. Takes, fees and surcharges vary and are subject to change without notice. See retail location or www.cellcom.com/fees for details. Promotion offer subject to change. Visit Cellcom.com/special-offers-business for details. Switch and Save Unlimited: New line activation, device purchase with Flex or 2-Year Agreement and data subscription required. Must port in a new line of service and trade in equipment. Select Business accounts eligible for unlimited buyout; Business employees up to \$650 per line. To apply for credits, within 60 days of activation, a reimbursement form along with the entire copy of your last wireless bill from your previous wireless carrier that includes the charge for the early termination fee and device installments must be submitted. Restrictions apply. 15 Day Guarantee: If within 15 days you are not completely satisfied with Cellcom's wireless service, pay for the services you have used and return the equipment in acceptable condition. Other restrictions apply. See store for details.

My Vision... is to build quality into every window and door I handcraft.







Tim proud to build Kolbe windows and doors, which helped create this amazing home. No matter the size of the project, excellence is something Kolbe won't compromise on. My custom craftsmanship helps create impressive homes with spectacular living spaces.

We're for the visionaries' | For over 70 years, we've created professional-grade windows and doors that are built to higher standards. Each product we make is uniquely handcrafted to the most exact specifications. Our team of craftspeople focuses on building one window or door at a time, allowing us to concentrate on the details that make each project unique. This level of quality comes with a seemingly endiess variety of options to customize each made-to-order product. Kolbewindows.com



DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 3. Membership Committee Meeting, 4pm
- 4_ Building Youth into Builders, 4:30pm
- 10_ Finance Committee Meeting, 3pm
- 10_ Board of Directors Meeting, 4pm



Highlights

November 21ST MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING / ELECTIONS

Thanks again to Ferguson Kitchen, Bath and Lighting Gallery for hosting us at such a beautiful location for our 2020 Elections!







November 13th NTC High School Career Fair

The NTC welcomed many area high school students to their annual career fair. WABA was represented by Roger Lang from the Building Youth into Builders Committee, Jerry Jarosz from the Scholarship Committee, Cara, and Roger's son Jake.



WABA set up an interactive booth that many students got involved with. During their time at the booth the students were asked if they were interested in the building industry, told about our scholarship, and encouraged to look in the YA program for work experience in our industry.



Would you like to advertise in the 2020 WABA Newsletter?

Ads are sold on an annual basis and available in four sizes;

> 1/8 page 1/4 Page 1/2 page Full page

The newsletter is emailed to over 500 individuals and available to view on our website.



SEE IT. LIVE IT.

Our experienced staff can help with all the details to make your house a home-from the ground up. Upgraded trim work, beautiful doors and energy-efficient windows are only the beginning of a huge selection of quality products available at Builders FirstSource.

801 S 24th Ave. Wausau, WI 54401 715.842.2001



HOW TO FIND CONSTRUCTION JOBS IN THE OFF-SEASON

ARTICLE FROM WISBUILD.COM

Keep your team busy during the slow season with these job-finding tips.

Wisconsin winters are known for being brutally cold and snow-packed. And as the temperatures drop, construction projects tend to do the same. If your business is struggling to find new construction jobs in the off-season, here are a few tips to jump-start the opportunities:



- REACH OUT TO FORMER CUSTOMERS OR OLD LEADS
- MARKET INTERIOR REMODELING SERVICES
- CREATE SEASONAL PROMOTIONS
- START A REFERRAL PROGRAM
- GET THE WORD OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA
- ATTEND TRADESHOWS, EVENTS, AND CONFERENCES
- DIVERSIFY YOUR SERVICES

Find out how to implement each of these strategies to find construction jobs in the off-season below.

REACH OUT TO FORMER CUSTOMERS OR OLD LEADS

When new opportunities are slow going, you may want to re-focus your efforts on former clients and old leads. If you've been keeping track of contacts who may be interested in your services, now is the time to reach out. Start with a phone call or an email to see if they have a need for work – you may be surprised by what a single follow-up can do!

MARKET INTERIOR REMODELING SERVICES

Just because it's challenging to work outside this winter, it doesn't mean there isn't any work available. You and your crew may be able to take your services indoors with remodeling jobs, repairs, and other tasks. This shift to interiors can help keep your business busy and profitable. It can also tie in with seasonal promotions and festivities, which we cover in the next tip on how to find construction jobs in the off-season.

CREATE SEASONAL PROMOTIONS

Seasonal promotions may be just what your customers need to take action even though it's cold. With the holiday season, many customers are on the lookout for – and expect – money-saving seasonal deals on products and services. To give this idea a try, come up with a promotion that sparks a sense of urgency. Perhaps you offer a discount, a complimentary seasonal add-on service with a project (i.e., weatherstripping or spray-foam insulation), or donate to a charity with every new contract signed by a certain date. This strategy will let your customers know that it's time to act if they want to take advantage of the deal while also allowing your team to earn income for the holidays.

START A REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you don't already have a referral program in place, you may be missing out on potential work in the off-season. By creating an incentive for current clients to recommend you to friends, neighbors, and other businesses, you can widen your exposure and earn a few more leads in the off-season. Consider offering a reward to customers who participate in your referral program, like cashback, gift cards, or discounts on future work. You can even promote the program on your website and email newsletters for further traction.

GET THE WORD OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is a free and easy-to-use marketing tool that shouldn't be overlooked – especially when you're looking for construction jobs in the winter months. If you've been neglecting your online presence for a while, the off-season is the perfect time to amp it up. With social media, you can stay in touch with current and former clients and potential leads, alert followers about your services and promotions, and assert yourself as an industry leader in the trades.

ATTEND TRADESHOWS, EVENTS, AND CONFERENCES

Another way to get the word out about your services in the winter is at a tradeshow or conference. Attending these events can help you meet new contacts and gain insights into improving your business. If you don't have the budget or time to travel to conferences in-person, look for virtual ones. These online events can prove just as valuable, and some even have online chats so that you can connect with fellow attendees and potential clients.

DIVERSIFY YOUR SERVICES

Our final tip to kick-start business in the winter is to diversify your portfolio of services. Some common winter services that other construction businesses have offered include holiday light installation and decorating or snow removal. Assess your equipment availability, skills, and resources to come up with the best winter offering for you. Getting creative with your operations can help keep your team busy and business profitable all season long.

If you're looking to find construction jobs in the off-season, the business strategies outlined in this post may help you get a leg up during the cold Wisconsin winter.



ADVOCACY DIGEST



Wisconsin Builders Association Commends Signing of AB 117

PRESS RELEASE from Wisconsin Builders Association, November 21, 2019

WBA Members Helped Advocate for Passing of Bipartisan Housing Legislation

Madison, WI – Today, the Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) applauded Governor Evers' signing of Assembly Bill (AB) 117, a piece of pro-housing legislation.

In 2015, Act 211 was implemented with the goal of improving the building permit

process, however many municipalities across the state began a duplicitous act of requiring home builders

and contractors to submit a building permit both electronically and on paper, a process that greatly slowed down the process of starting work on homes. The purpose of AB 117 is to fix and clarify the duplication that is occurring in many municipalities.

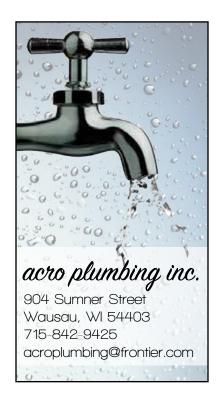
"First and foremost, thank you to Representatives John Jagler and Amanda Stuck, and Senators Devin LeMahieu and Janet Bewley for taking the lead on this legislation," said Brad Boycks, Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) Executive Director. "We are grateful to the many members of the legislature and Governor Evers for seeing the need of this legislation and joining together to pass and sign this bipartisan bill."



While a municipality can still mandate that a building permit be submitted on paper, AB 117 effectively clarifies that a municipality must not require both online and paper forms. If a municipality does mandate paper applications, they must accept any of the following:

- A printed copy of the municipality's own permit application form
- A printed copy of the Department of Safety and Professional Service's standard electronic permit application
- The standard paper application form that DSPS makes available to the public

"This bill makes a very important change to the way the home building industry has been required by municipalities to do business," said WBA President Harvey Kessel. "Enacting this bill makes an important improvement to ensure the building process continues moving forward. This legislation clarifies what our industry needs in order to effectively execute for homeowners across Wisconsin."



What's in a name?



In our case, quite a bit.

A name like "Pella Windows & Doors of Wisconsin" comes with expectations. Not only do building professionals expect Pella's high-quality materials, colors, and styles, they want local insight and a work ethic worthy of Wisconsinites. Our strong values and integrity complement a true consultative approach, so your next project is worry-free, rewarding, and a good value.



Andy Bauer

ABauer@pellawi.com Office: 800.242,1008



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2020 WABA OFFICER ELECTS!

PRESIDENT



ALEX FORER
LARRY MEYER CONSTRUCTION

SECRETARY



SHELLY TALLEY-NELSEN ASSOCIATED BANK

VICE PRESIDENT



KEITH KOENIG KOLBE & KOLBE MILLWORK

TREASURER



DEANN ZOBRAK
RUNKEL ABSTRACT & TITLE

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2020 DIRECTOR ELECTS!



KEVIN PORTER INTERCITY STATE BANK



JEREMY VOIGT
JEREMY VOIGT
CONSTRUCTION



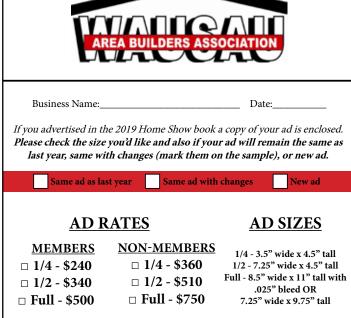
KYLE VANORDER WOODSTOCK FLOORING & DESIGN CENTER

THE 2020 WAUSAU AREA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WERE ELECTED AT THE NOVEMBER 21ST MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING HELD AT FERGUSON KITCHEN, BATH AND LIGHTING GALLERY. THEY WILL BE JOINING THE CURRENT DIRECTORS OF THE BOARD; GLORIA FENHAUS, AMBER GOBER, NORMAN LARSON, RACHELLE COTA, KEITH KOENIG AND ASHLEY DUPUIS-BOHMAN AFTER THEIR INSTALLATION, WHICH WILL BE PERFORMED BY CORY SILLARS AT THE JANUARY MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING.

WAUSAU AREA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE MEMBERS IN ADVANCE FOR DONATING THEIR TIME AND TALENT TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF OUR ASSOCIATION. WE ENCOURAGE EVERY MEMBER TO GET INVOLVED AT SOME LEVEL. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE HOW YOU COULD GET INVOLVED FURTHER, PLEASE CONTACT CARA OR A BOARD MEMBER.

2020 Home Show

Get involved today!



Would you like to place an ad in the Home Show event book?

Here are the options to choose from!

We are still looking for sponsors for the show.



11 - \$500 | Full - \$750 | 7.25" wide x 9.75" tall | SPONSORS for the St

Please fill out this form and return it along with payment to Wausau Area Builders Association - 801 S 24th Ave. Wausau, WI 54401

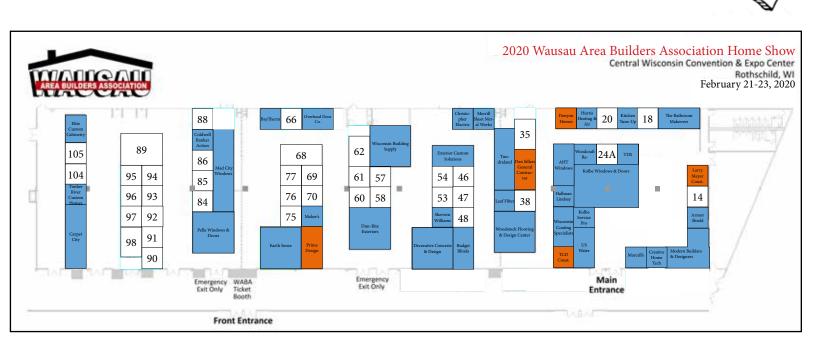
New ads can be emailed in a pdf or jpeg file to cara@wausauareabuilders.com

Signature:_

AD AND PAYMENT DUE BY DEC. 31, 2019

Thank You for Support of the WABA Home Show!

There are booths available! Call now to get yours reserved!



WAUSAU AREA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

2020 HOME SHOW

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2020

There is no better way to utilize your sponsorship dollars than by reaching a targeted group of consumers! All sponsorship and advertising packages can be customized to fit your needs. Additional sponsorship opportunities may also be added throughout the year. Please contact Cara at the WABA office at 715-842-9510 or cara@wausauareabuilders.com today to begin reaping the benefits of your sponsorship! We look forward to working with you – simply choose a sponsorship option, then sign and return the form to 801 S. 24th Ave. Wausau WI 54401. Deadline for sponsorship options is December 31, 2019. *Must be current WABA member*

PLATINUM - \$3,000

- Up To Four 10x10 Booths in The Show
- Full Page Color Ad in Home Show Book
- Sponsor in all Media Advertising
- Ad Banner On Home Show Website
- A Live Radio Remote at the Home Show
- 14 Home Show Tickets
- Option to provide Bag Item

SILVER - \$1,000

- A 10x10 Booth in The Show
- Half Page Color Ad in Home Show Book
- Ad Banner On Home Show Website
- 6 Home Show Tickets

GOLD - \$2,000

- Up To Two 10x10 Booths in The Show
- Full Page Color Ad in Home Show Book
- Sponsor in all Media Advertising
- Ad Banner On Home Show Website
- 10 Home Show Tickets

BRONZE - \$500

- Quarter Page Color Ad in Home Show Book
- Ad Banner on Home Show Website
- 4 Home Show Tickets

2020 COMMITMENT FORM – HOME SHOW						
[] Ice Breaker Event Recognition at Home Show Event Recognition in Home Show Book 3 available	\$300	[]	Wristband Sponsor Logo printed on attendee wristband Recognition at Home Show Event 1 available	ds		
[] Exhibitor Lounge Recognition at Home Show Event Recognition in Home Show Book 4 available	\$250	[]	Bag Item Provide Item for 1500 guest Bags Recognition at Home Show Event 5 available	\$250		
Platinum\$3,000 Gold\$2,000 CONTACT INFORMATION:	APA BUILDEN	SOCIATION SECURITION	Silver\$1,000 Bronze\$500			
Name		Company	у			
Email	I	Phone				
Signature		Date				
41.						

801 S. 24th Avenue (54401)