

Let's Level

the official publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association



Upcoming Events

January

17th - Monthly

Membership Meeting
/ Installation Night at
Jefferson Street Inn

Cocktail Hour - 5:30

Dinner - 6:30

February

22nd-24th - WABA Home
Show at Central WI
Convention Center &
Expo

28th - Monthly

Membership Meeting at
Elite Custom Cabinetry

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Our Mission

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.



801 S. 24th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401
715.842.9510
www.wausauareabuilders.com

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Treasurer _____ Becky Hoerman
Past President _____ Cory Sillars
Association Manager _____ Cara Spatz

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Through 2019 Alex Forer, Travis Hoerman, Sid Sorensen

Through 2020 Gloria Fenhaus, Mike Block, Amber Gober

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Alex Forer

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Marketing _____
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Nominations _____ Russ Utech
Parade of Homes _____ Travis Hoerman/
_____ Sam McLellan
Personnel _____ Kyle VanOrder
Scholarship _____ Cory Sillars
Silent Auction _____ Amber Gober
Golf Outing _____ Phil Pesanka

*Wausau Area Builders
Association would like to
wish all of our members a very
happy and safe New Year!*

Happy
New Year
2019



President's Message



Happy New Year to all of you!

I would like to welcome the new officers and directors to our board this month! That presents an exciting opportunity to bring some fresh ideas to our association. For the retiring board and committee members, we thank you for your service and look forward to seeing you at our events in the coming year. Your commitment is appreciated.

2019 will be an exciting year, we have made a strong commitment as an organization to reach out into our local school systems and share the career opportunities that exist in our industries with students. The Building Youth Into Builders Committee is already planning for our 2019 Parade of Trades Day.

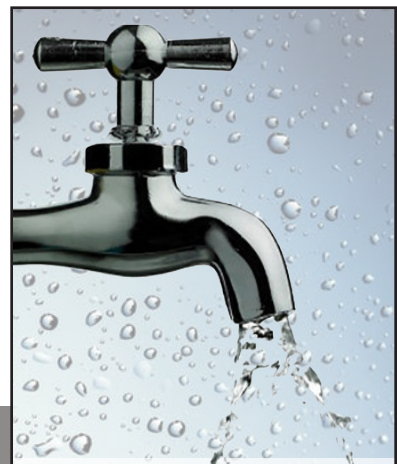
Our website has recently gotten an overhaul and we are doing more than ever to reach out to the public and provide opportunities to join us at our events and get to know our members.

Remember, WABA is YOUR organization, share your enthusiasm with the next Builder you do business with and bring them to our next meeting as a guest. Join us for the annual Holiday and Awards Party on January 17th.

Thank you!
Russ

Russ Utech
President 2019

Are you intersted in getting more out of your Wausau Area Builders Association Membership? Get invloved! We are always looking for more committee members Contact Cara in the office to get started!



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Manager's Message



Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a very happy and enjoyable Holiday Season.

I would like to again welcome our members that will be serving as our Board of Directors for this year; Russ Utech, Kyle VanOrder, Shelly Talley-Nelsen, Deann Zobrak, Cory Sillars, Alex Forer, Travis Hoerman, Sid Sorensen, Gloria Fenhaus, Mike Block, Amber Gober, Keith Koenig, Rachelle Cota, and

Gary Zarda. We appreciate you sharing your time and talents with Wausau Area Builders Association! I would also like to thank Roger Lang and Travis Hoffman for the last three years that they served on the Board of Directors, you have both made great impacts on our association while on the Board, thank you for all you've done and that you continue to do to better our group.

I look forward to 2019 being a great year for Wausau Area Builders Association. Our first public event, the Home Show is gearing up and it should be a great event for us, if you haven't booked your booth please do so!

I encourage anyone who is interested in joining a committee to please contact me. Being involved is the best way to help our association remain strong and to give back to your industry.

With Gratitude,

Cara

Welcome!

New Members

Floorology _____ Kelly Kripper
Inspired By Design _____ Sara Haumschild
Kitchen Tune Up _____ Robert Kuhns
Dan's Service Plus _____ Dan Brandenburg
Company 23 _____ Ruan Mattson

Renewing Members

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Monthly Meeting - January 17th



Wausau Area Builders Association invites Members and their Guests to join them at the beautiful "City Grill at Jefferson Street Inn located at 203 Jefferson Street Wausau 5:30 PM-Cocktails

(2 Complimentary Drink Tickets Per Person) Cash bar

1/2 Barrel - Complimentary of Director Roger Lang of Lang Drilling (Thank you Roger!)

Members and guests will have 2 dinner choices to choose from, of a duet-plated dinner!!

6:30 PM-Dinners:

1st Choice: Chicken Forestiere / Seared Norwegian Salmon

2nd Choice: Herb Encrusted Cod / 4 ounce Filet of Beef Tenderloin (prepared at Medium)

All dinners will start out with a tasty "City Grill Chop Salad" of chopped romaine, fresh baby greens, diced tomato, pasta, diced onion, diced Nueske's bacon tossed with a maple mustard vinaigrette and topped with crumbled Bleu Cheese.

All Entrées will be served with Rolls, Butter, Chef's Fresh Seasonal Starch du Jour and Vegetable du Jour that best accommodates the Entrée, Fresh Brewed Coffee, Iced Tea or Milk. Doesn't this sound yummy?? I can't wait!!

Door Prizes • Scholarships will be presented • Appreciation Awards • 2018 Builder of the Year

2018 Associate of the Year • 2019 Officers / Directors Sworn In

Dinners by reservation ONLY-\$30 Per Person (PLEASE NOTE: ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY JANUARY 12TH)

Watch for your reservation by email, you don't wanna miss this wonderful night!!

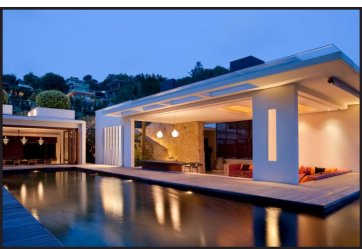
(Once reserved...no shows will be billed) *****Please bring a Door Prize...You know you love WINNING!!!

See you all there!!

Mrs. Gloria J Fenhaus

Director and Chairman of Events of the WABA

Smart_Home Tech That Goes Beyond Interior Walls



Smart-home technology isn't just for interior spaces. The growing list of smart-technology solutions for home entertainment, lighting, and even heating and cooling now have outdoor applications as well.

Many of the latest tech innovations have essentially enabled backyard spaces to become bonus rooms. For example:

Outdoor TVs A number of manufacturers are designing televisions specifically for outdoor use. In addition to their ability to withstand the elements — from driving rain to extreme temperature swings — various models are engineered for optimal color and contrast in direct sun or full shade.

Invisible surround sound From speakers that resemble boulders or other natural elements, to partially-buried, in-ground subwoofers, the technology exists to bring movies, music and other entertainment to life with audio that thrives in the outdoors.

Lighting Advancements in LED technology allow lighting to be incorporated as part of a landscape design: illuminating pathways for safety, or highlighting landscape features for dramatic effect.

Heating and cooling Automated fans and heaters designed to tuck into porch and patio ceilings can extend the use of these "extra rooms" beyond just the mild seasons.

Spa and pool controls Automated heating and lighting are a plus when using these features. And some are taking it to the next level: A Florida home owner recently contracted with a firm that specializes in smart-home technology integration in an effort to create "a light and sound show that can be seen and heard from space."

Fifteen LED fountain lights — controlled by the same system used at Disney World — are programmed to interact with the client's preferred playlist. Outdoor speakers and subs are powered by four amps boasting a total of 3,400 watts. Each song has its own custom light show that's called up individually on a Lutron keypad.

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January Calendar

- 7 _ Membership Committee Meeting, 4pm
- 8 _ Parade of Homes Committee Meeting, noon
- 8 _ Building Youth into Builders Committee Meeting, 4:30pm
- 15 _ Board Of Directors Meeting, 4pm
- 17 _ Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting / Installation, 5:30pm

Efficiency Begins Underground for 2019 Show Home



Home builders who want next-level energy efficiency recognize insulation as one of the keys to a high-performance home. That's precisely why builders of The New American Home 2019 went the extra mile with insulation.

Thanks in large part to one of the project's partners, Owens Corning, the show home boasts a top-of-the-line insulation package — not only behind the walls

and within the ceilings, but also around the slab. The combined effect will optimize climate and comfort throughout the home.

“The manufacturers have really stepped up and helped us with some of their best products,” said Dan Colletti, builder of the 2019 home and president of Sun West Custom Homes. “They’re putting their best foot forward and that’s enabling us to build a truly impressive home.”

With the home’s abundance of windows, the build team increased the R-value in the walls. And the foam insulation applied around the slab’s perimeter will prevent radiant heat penetration and enhance moisture control.

The efficiency goal for the project is to achieve a HERS rating below 50 — a tall order, given the home’s large size of more than 9,000 square feet.

“To build a high-performance home with such a large footprint, you have to first understand each and every component — from windows to air sealing, to the roof and [to the home’s] orientation,” said Neil Freidberg, Owens Corning building science leader. “In doing so, we can identify and use the optimal materials in the right locations.”

Two Trails Inc. is once again partnering with The New American Home project to track and evaluate the home’s performance. The company’s CEO, Drew Smith, says the 2019 home is “extremely air tight” and on track to be among the most energy efficient in the program’s history.

Free tours of the home and complimentary shuttle services will be available to all attendees of the NAHB International Builders’ Show® 2019 Feb. 19-21. Early-bird registration discounts for the Show end Dec. 14.



Do you have a topic you would like to learn more about at a future Membership Meeting? Contact Cara at the WABA Office and let her know!

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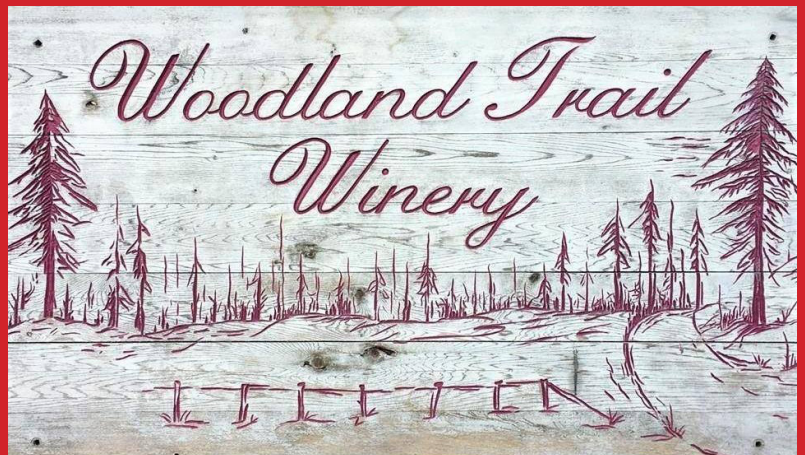
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Thank You!

A very big thank you to Russ Utech and Woodland Trail Winery of Lakewood, WI for generously providing Wausau Area Builders Association with wine for our November Monthly Membership Meeting! The wine was very much enjoyed and appreciated



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Main Goal of 2019-2020: No Backsliding on 2011-2018 Reforms

One thing that we will be focusing on once the legislature begins their work in January 2019 is to make sure we protect all of the advocacy wins we have achieved since 2011. With the same majorities in power in both the state senate and the state assembly, we will have strong allies in both houses who helped pass these reforms and will be partners to help us keep those public policy items in place.

There were two significant policy changes that took place over the past two sessions that will help guard against changes to the building code and the passage of a single-family sprinkler

mandate.

First, during the 2015-2016 session of the legislature, a provision was added to the state budget and signed by Governor Walker into law that prohibits any department mandating single-family sprinklers in an administrative rule package. This was signed into law as 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, and means that any effort to pass a single family sprinkler mandate must be passed as bill and signed into law by the governor.

Just last session, the REINS Act was also signed into law as 2017 Wisconsin Act 57. REINS stands for “Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny”. Passage of the REINS Act last session means that any administrative rule package that is introduced by any state agency can be stopped by the Joint Committee for the Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR) and could only be passed if a bill authorizing the promulgation of the rule package is passed by both houses of the legislature and signed into law.

While things will certainly be different next session with split power between the governor and the state assembly and state senate, the above-mentioned state statutes are an additional check on the power of the executive branch on additional regulatory burdens that will increase the cost of housing in 2019-2020.

Check with DSPS on Smaller Multifamily Units for Sprinkler Requirements

Recently, it has come to our attention that some members have had issues getting plans approved by the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) for multifamily housing units of 20 or fewer units. The main issue in question deals with a commercial building code issue on means of egress when you are not required to have a sprinkler system. We continue to talk with DSPS about this issue, and await their formal guidance that addresses the state statute on this matter and how that interacts with the commercial building code provisions on means of egress from a multifamily unit.

Until formal guidance is issued by DSPS on this topic, it is strongly advised that you or the consultants you work with to design smaller multifamily units contact DSPS directly to discuss design issues before you submit plans to the department. The most direct way to get in contact with DSPS on this issue is via email at DSPSSBBuildingTech@wisconsin.gov.

WI Supreme Court Race Next Up

Voters across Wisconsin will go to the polls this spring to choose a candidate for Wisconsin Supreme Court to replace Justice Shirley Abrahamson who announced she is retiring from the seat on the court that she has held since 1976.

This open election for a coveted spot on the Wisconsin Supreme Court will take center stage this spring in what will likely be a very competitive and expensive race.

As of today, there are only two announced candidates for this seat and both a current sitting judges.

Judge Lisa Neubauer was the first candidate to announce a run for the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Neubauer has served for the past ten years as an Appeals Court Judge. Judge Neubauer's husband Jeff served as a member of the state assembly from the Racine area and was the former Chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin and a member of the Democratic National Committee. State Representative Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) is Judge Neubauer's daughter.

Another member of the Wisconsin Court of Appeals is the other announced candidate for the Wisconsin Supreme Court, Judge Brian Hagedorn. Hagedorn was appointed to the bench in 2015 by Governor Scott Walker, and was elected to an additional six-year term in April 2017. Prior to his appointment, Hagedorn served as the Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Walker for almost five years and also served as an Assistant Attorney General at the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

While races for Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice are nonpartisan, it is obvious by the above biographies that there are clear candidates on the right and left of the political spectrum. Election watchers expect a great deal money to be spent on this upcoming races starting sometime after January 1.

From NAHB Not a Lot of Lots, Builders Report

In a recent NAHB survey, 65% of builders reported that the overall supply of developed lots in their areas was low to very low. This is up only 1% from June 2017, but significantly higher than the 42% posted in September 2012.

The focus on lots was included in a special survey section in September's NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI). The 65% of respondents citing a shortage of lots represents the largest low-supply percentage recorded since NAHB began periodically asking the question in the HMI survey in 1997.

The 65% includes 43% who characterized the supply of lots simply as low and 22% who said the supply of lots was very low.

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Thank You!



Golf Fore Scholarships Committee Members

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Kretz Lumber Company

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October 10, 2018

Dear Golf Fore Scholarships Sponsor:

On behalf of Northcentral Technical College and the students of the Wood Science/Wood Technology Programs, we would like to sincerely thank you for your contribution as a sponsor of the Fifth Annual Golf Fore Scholarships event this past June. Your contribution not only demonstrates your support of the programs here at NTC, but more importantly, your support of our students and the industry as a whole.

The Golf Fore Scholarships initiative was a great success again this year. We had a total of 46 sponsors and 115 golfers. The funds raised were used to provide scholarship opportunities for every new enrollment into the Wood Technology programs at the NTC-Antigo Campus. Eight recipients who met the academic and attendance criteria will be receiving their scholarships this fall. The impact this has on these students cannot be overstated. This year, additional funds will be used to help recruit more students into our Wood Technology programs, helping to fill the high demand skills gap in our industry.

Thank you again for your strong support and continued partnership. We look forward to having you join us for the Sixth Annual Golf Fore Scholarships event set for Friday, June 14, 2019.

Regards,

Golf Fore Scholarships Committee Members

Wood Technology Education Fund Scholarship Recipients

Brian Miller
Adam Edwards
Nick Luparello
Don Fay
Brian Miller
Michael H.
Brett Grunwald
Cassidy Holpach



12/3/2018

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Bill Nietert, MD
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Pamela Schindler
Andrew Weber, MD



Dear Friends of the Never Forgotten Honor Flight,

We would like to thank you for your generous support of the Never Forgotten Honor Flight. Your contribution of \$ 1600 with total contribution of \$3000 will help us continue our work to honor veterans in North Central Wisconsin.

With the help of hundreds of volunteers and with generous financial donations like yours, we have been able to make 34 flights since our beginning in 2009—as well as continued flights in progress for 2019. To date, we have been able to give 3137 WWII, Korean and Vietnam era veterans the opportunity to visit "their" memorials in Washington D.C. at no cost to the veterans. This is only possible with your generous support.

We would also like to make clear that no goods or services were provided to you in return for your contribution.

We offer our sincere gratitude to you in helping us further this wonderful and important cause. For more information, please visit www.neverforgottenhonorflight.org.

Yours very truly,

R
Richard A. Jarvis
Treasurer
Never Forgotten Honor Flight
(715) 571-1834

Merry Christmas!



DEAR SANTA -
I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE
OF MORE THAN JUST
WILDLIFE ON MY REMOTE
MONITORING CAMERAS.
DON'T WORRY, YOUR SECRET
IS SAFE WITH ME!
PS. SMILE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

R *JS* *Jim Schultz*
CELLCOM | NSIGHT TELSVCES | NSIGHT TOWER | GLAS



Dylan B
Mike
There is no better time than the Holidays to express our appreciation for your business and friendship. May all the joys of the season be yours.
Josh Myers
Wendy
Merrill Sheet Metal Works Inc
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Janet Myers
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Merry Christmas