

LET'S LEVEL

the Official Publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association

AUGUST 2015 - VOLUME 34 - ISSUE 8

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE
NEVER FORGOTTEN HONOR FLIGHT!



SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT



FRIDAY
AUG. 21₂₀₁₅

**MORE
DETAILS
INSIDE**

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MISSION STATEMENT:

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 consumer, building trades, industry suppliers and all facets of the building industry.

The primary goal of our association is to provide quality, affordable housing through community and government involvement, while promoting high standards of professionalism.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Summer is going fast. I hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather.

Gloria has worked hard to have a great summer activity. Attendance for the Woodchuck ball game July 30th is expected to reach 134. Thanks Gloria.

The sporting clays shoot is this month. This is a chance to have fun shooting and support the Honor Flight.

We start the monthly meetings again this fall. Thursday, September 17 at Furniture & Appliance Mart will be the first. I hope to see everyone there.

Enjoy what is left the beautiful warm weather.

Sid Sorensen, WABA President

MEMBER INFORMATION

RENEWING

*Hardwood Floors R.J.B.
Acro Plumbing, Inc.
Ostrowski Landscaping & Lawn Care
Advantage Plumbing Plus, LLC
JAT Masonry LLC
Creative Granite of Minocqua, Inc.
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PGA, Inc.
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JOKE OF THE MONTH

Two men were walking through the woods and came upon a big black, deep hole. One man picked up a rock and tossed it into the hole and stood listening for the rock to hit bottom. There was no sound.

He turned to the other guy and said "that must be a deep hole...let's throw a bigger rock in there and listen for it to hit bottom." The men found a bigger rock and both picked it up and lugged it to the hole and dropped it in.

They listened for some time and never heard a sound. Again, they agreed that this must be one deep hole and maybe they should throw something even bigger into it.

One man spotted a rail-road tie nearby. They picked up the tie, grunting and groaning, and lugged it to the hole. They tossed it in. No sound. All of a sudden, a goat came flying out of the woods, running like the wind, and flew past the men and jumped straight into the hole. The men were amazed.

About that time, an old hayseed farmer came out of the woods and asked the men if they had seen a goat. One man told the farmer of the incredible incident they had just witnessed...they had just seen this goat fly out of the woods and run and leap into the big hole. The man asked the farmer if this could have been his goat.

The old farmer said "naw, that can't be my goat...he was chained to a railroad tie."

SCHOLARSHIP THANKS YOU'S!

Dear Shirley,

Thank you for choosing me as the recipient of the Wausau Area Builders Association scholarship this year. It will be so helpful in furthering my education at the University of MN-Twin Cities next year. I am very appreciative of your generous support.

Sincerely,

Breanne Christian 2015

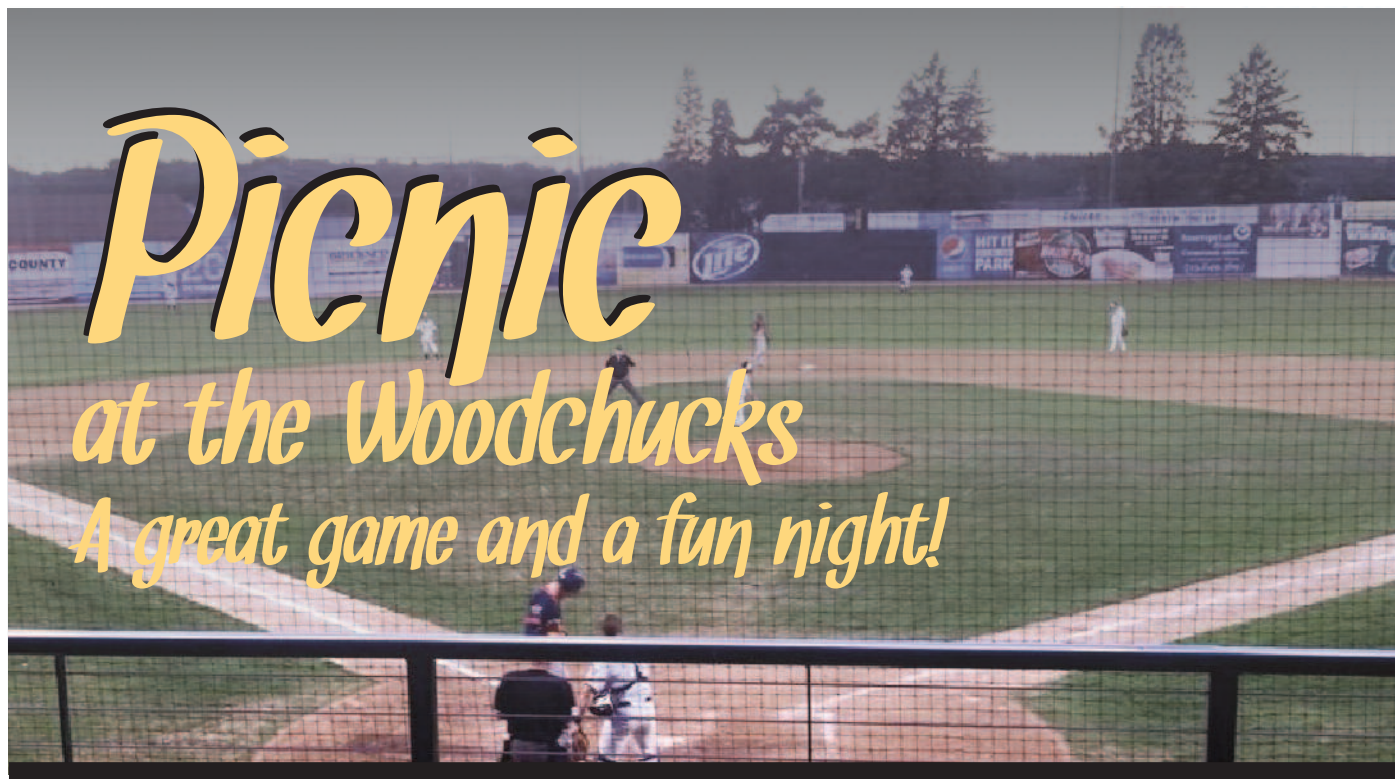
COMMITTEES UPDATES

EVENTS

I hope everyone had a wonderful time @ the Woodchuck's game!! Such a GREAT turnout!! Time to kick off the next dinner meeting! Mark your calendar for our September Dinner Meeting, which will be held Thursday, September 17th @ The Beautiful Furniture & Appliance Mart @ 1820 Stewart Av. Wausau!! Monty will be sponsoring this event again & welcoming us all @ 6 PM with refreshments and yummy dinner @ 7 PM! If you were lucky enough to attend last May there...you know what a GREAT event it was! Should be a wonderful time...especially when the weather is always around 70 degrees! So mark the date...and we'll see you all then!! ~ Mrs. Gloria Fenhaus / Director & Chair of Events



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AUGUST

2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 POH Committee Meeting - 12:30 pm	5 Home Show Committee Meeting - 4:00 pm	6 Board Packets Sent - 5:00 pm	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 AUGUST Membership Renewals Due
16	17	18 BOARD MEETING - 4 pm	19	20 ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE	21 SPORTING CLAY SHOOT	22
23	24	25	26 Membership Committee Meeting at 4:30 pm	27	28	29
30	31					



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SEPTEMBER

2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
		POH Committee Meeting - 12:30 pm	Home Show Committee Meeting - 4:00 pm	Board Packets Sent - 5:00 pm		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
						SEPT. Membership Renewals Due
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		BOARD MEETING - 4 pm		Dinner Meeting	ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			
		Membership Committee Meeting at 4:30 pm				

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THE MONDAY MORNING REVIEW



AT LAST, A STATE BUDGET

The month-long pause to pass a state budget came to an end recently with both the state senate and the state assembly taking action and passing an identical version of the state budget. The budget was sent to Governor Walker early Thursday morning once it was passed for his review, and

decisions on vetoes are likely to come when he chooses to officially sign the bill into law.

The issue that appears to have broken the log jam on the state budget in the state senate was an agreement on prevailing wage reform. Originally the state assembly was going to go first on a budget vote, but, once the state senate had a plan and agreement on prevailing wage, they decided to go to the floor on Tuesday with an amendment to the budget that exempts local government projects for prevailing wage and uses federal Davis Bacon wage on state projects.

In the senate, they had to secure 17 votes for budget passage. Having a “strong” prevailing wage package allowed Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald to secure the votes of three of his members to get to 18 votes. Senators who moved from a “no” to a “yes” with the reform package were Senators Steve Nass, Frank Lasee and Duey Stroebel.

Securing 18 votes for the budget also meant that Senator Fitzgerald did not need to negotiate with Senator Rob Cowles, the lone GOP “no” vote in the state senate. That had a direct effect on another issue WBA has been supportively tracking in the state budget, as Senator Cowles had wanted the statewide standard for shoreland zoning rules (NR 115) removed from the budget.

CAMPGROUND BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

On July 1 Governor Scott Walker signed into law a bill that WBA has been working on for the past two years that calls for a modest code for camping units that are located on licensed campgrounds in Wisconsin.

Now, Wisconsin Act 49 allows the Department of Safety and Professional Services to consult with the Uniform Dwelling Code Council to establish this modest code.

This bill was the result of conversations that took place last summer with groups that were first looking to just exempt these units from the code. WBA members had a better idea that is now reflected in 2015 Wisconsin Act 49 to build a code specifically for these camping units.

Thank you to the lead authors of this law, State Senator Luther Olsen and State Representative Keith Ripp.

NAHB LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO IDENTIFY MORE ADVOCACY PARTNER IN WISCONSIN

The WBA was recently made aware of a project that NAHB has launched in Wisconsin to identify individuals outside of the building trades that would be willing to make contacts with members of the Wisconsin congressional delegation on important advocacy issues.

NAHB is trying to find 30 individuals in most Wisconsin congressional districts and 25 individuals for both Wisconsin members of the U.S. Senate over the next few months who can be called on to contact members of the U.S House and Senate to advocate in favor of NAHB bills and policies. To do this work, the NAHB has contracted a well-regarded firm out of Green Bay.

Gathering the names of industry leaders who support advocacy issues that NAHB is pushing will be one more important tool to build grassroots support in Wisconsin and the other states where NAHB is doing the same work.

DSPS COUNCILS GET NEW NAMES

Also signed into law on July 1 was our bill to rename the Dwelling Code Council the Uniform Dwelling Code Council and the Building Code Council the Commercial Building Code Council. Senate Bill 86 is now 2015 Wisconsin Act 29.

This new law will help to better define the mission and purpose of these councils and make clear to the public what they are advising the Department of Safety and Professional Services on.

Lead authors of 2015 Wisconsin Act 29 are State Senator Roger Roth and State Representative Bob Kulp, both WBA members.

KAPENGA WINS REMATCH AGAINST DOROW IN GOP PRIMARY

Recently, current State Representative Chris Kapenga bested Brian Dorow and Mikael Langner in the GOP primary of the 33rd Senate District which covers a large portion of GOP dominated Waukesha County. Kapenga and Dorow had faced each other in a GOP primary for a state assembly seat in 2010 with Kapenga the winner in that primary and finally the general election.

Kapenga received 52% of the vote and Dorow came in at 46%, with Langner trailing far behind with only 2% of the vote. The raw vote totals in the race were 5539, 4888 and 168.

Next up is the general election where Representative Kapenga will now face the democrat in the race, Sherryl Shaddock, on Tuesday, July 21. This is Shaddock's second try for the seat after being defeated by current State Senator and Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow in 2014.

Brad Boycks

WBA Director of Government and Political Affairs

Wisconsin Builders Association@bboycks@wisbuild.org

(608) 242-5151 ext.16

Visit our web site: www.wisbuild.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES

(watch your inbox for online registration)

AUGUST 21ST

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT

Proceeds go to -

Never Forgotten Honor Flight
Wausau Skeet & Trap Club

SEPTEMBER 17TH

DINNER MEETING

FURNITURE & APPLIANCE MART

OCTOBER

DINNER MEETING

2016 Parade of Homes Kick Off

NOVEMBER 19TH

DINNER MEETING

Elections @ Ferguson Enterprises



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2016 Show Schedule

Dates, times and locations are all subject to change.

Saturday, January 16

8:00 am-5:00 pm Pre-Show Courses
12:00 pm-5:00 pm Exhibitor Registration Open

Sunday, January 17

7:00 am-5:00 pm Attendee/Exhibitor Registration
8:00 am-5:00 pm Pre-Show Courses

Monday, January 18

8:00 am-5:00 pm Pre-Show Courses

Tuesday, January 19

6:30 am-6:00 pm Hotel Shuttle Service
7:00 am-5:00 pm Attendee/Exhibitor Registration
7:30 am-5:00 pm IBS Centrals
8:00 am-9:00 am Opening Ceremonies
8:00 am-5:00 pm The Bookstore at Design & Construction Week
9:00 am-5:00 pm IBS Exhibits
10:00 am-4:00 pm IBS Education Sessions*
4:00 pm-6:00 pm Beer Garden at Show Village
5:00 pm-9:30 pm The Nationals**
6:30 pm-8:30 pm IBS House Party**

Wednesday, January 20

6:30 am-6:00 pm Hotel Shuttle Service
7:00 am-5:00 pm Attendee/Exhibitor Registration
7:30 am-5:00 pm IBS Centrals
8:00 am-4:00 pm IBS Education Sessions*
8:00 am-5:00 pm The Bookstore at Design & Construction Week
9:00 am-5:00 pm IBS Exhibits
10:00 am-12:30 pm Sales Rally*
4:00 pm-6:00 pm Beer Garden at Show Village
5:00 pm-6:30 pm NAHB Student Chapter Awards
6:30 pm-8:30 pm Best in American Living Awards**
8:30 pm-10:30 pm Young Professionals
After Hours Party**

Thursday, January 21

6:30 am-6:00 pm Hotel Shuttle Service
7:00 am-5:00 pm Attendee/Exhibitor Registration
7:30 am-2:00 pm IBS Centrals
7:30 am-3:30 pm IBS Education Sessions*
8:00 am-5:00 pm The Bookstore at Design & Construction Week
9:00 am-5:00 pm IBS Exhibits
3:30 pm-4:00 pm Best of IBS Awards
5:00 pm-7:30 pm IBS Spike Concert**

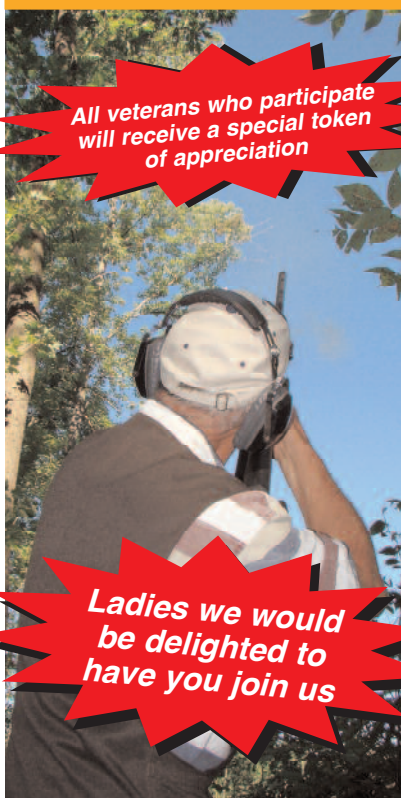
**IBS Full Registration Required **Ticketed Event*

Registration & Housing Details opens September 1, 2015
Early Registration is Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, 2015 • Regular Registration is Nov. 21, 2015 - Jan. 16, 2016
Housing Deadline: Dec. 18, 2015

For more information go to www.buildershow.com



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have you join us



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FRIDAY AUG. 21, 2015

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Registration 8:00 am

Shotgun Start 9:00 am (Rain or Shine)

\$75 per shooter - \$350 per team

5 person teams are NOT necessary to participate

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14 Sporting Clay Shooting Stations • Lunch and Refreshments

Raffles will be available for an additional cost.

Five Shooters per Team / 100 Rounds per Shooter

Side Events Available: Fur & Feather, Flurry - \$5 each

Bring your own shells – 5 or 6 boxes of shot size 7-1/2, 8 or 9 only

Personal Four-wheeler transportation is allowed.

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Shooter #1 _____ Phone: _____

Shooter #2 _____ Phone: _____

Shooter #3 _____ Phone: _____

Shooter #4 _____ Phone: _____

Shooter #5 _____ Phone: _____

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70 SHOOTERS MAXIMUM**

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For Online Registration Go To www.wausauareabuilders.com

BUILDER CONFIDENCE HITS HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE NOVEMBER 2005

July 16, 2015 ~ NAHB

Builder confidence in the market for newly built, single-family homes in July hit a level of 60 on the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI) released today while the June reading was revised upward one point to 60 as well. The last time the HMI reached this level was in November 2005.

“The fact that builder confidence has returned to levels not seen since 2005 shows that housing continues to improve at a steady pace,” said NAHB Chairman Tom Woods, a home builder from Blue Springs, Mo. “As we head into the second half of 2015, we should expect a continued recovery of the housing market.”

“This month’s reading is in line with recent data showing stronger sales in both the new and existing home markets as well as continued job growth,” said NAHB Chief Economist David Crowe. “However, builders still face a number of challenges, including shortages of lots and labor.”

Derived from a monthly survey that NAHB has been conducting for 30 years, the NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index gauges builder perceptions of current single-family home sales and sales expectations for the next six months as “good,” “fair” or “poor.” The survey also asks builders to rate traffic of prospective buyers as “high to very high,” “average” or “low to very low.” Scores for each component are then used to calculate a seasonally adjusted index where any number over 50 indicates that more builders view conditions as good than poor.

Two of the three HMI components posted gains in July. The component gauging current sales conditions rose one point to 66 and the index charting sales expectations in the next six months increased two points to 71. Meanwhile, the component measuring buyer traffic dropped a single point to 43.

Looking at the three-month moving averages for regional HMI scores, the West and Northeast each rose three points to 60 and 47, respectively. The South and Midwest posted respective one-point gains to 61 and 55.



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Member Rebate Program Gives You Money!

Since the Member Rebate Program (MRP) has been offered as a free member benefit of the Wisconsin Builders Association, it has given participating members a total of \$108,837. With 108 members participating in the program, that is an average of \$1,007.75 going to each builder and remodeler member!

WBA's Member Rebate Program lets builders and remodelers receive cash rebates for using certain manufacturers' products in the building and remodeling of homes. There are currently 45+ participating manufacturers covering 35+ different product categories.

Every quarter MRP works on improving in every way possible. It is because of this urge to enhance the program that MRP is proud to be adding [Generac Power Systems](#), [Dutch Quality Stone](#), [StoneCraft](#), [Eldorado Outdoor](#),

[Eldorado Fireplace Surrounds](#), and [Element Central Vacuum System](#) to the program starting the 1st Quarter of 2015.

First you need to register:
www.HBArebates.com
This tells MRP where to send your rebate check!

Once you are registered, you are eligible to claim on a quarterly basis. Any home, remodeling project, or multi-family unit completed from January — March 2015 is eligible to be submitted by May 22, 2015.

The claiming process is just as simple as registering. An address is ready to be submitted once it is completed. MRP will ask for your company name, the completed address, and the completion date(s). You then complete the information required for each manufacturer used.

The information required by most

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Quantity used.

Subcontractor or supplier name

Model number

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ZURN PEX PLUMBING AND RADIANT HEATING SYSTEMS The industry leader in pex plumbing.		Radiant: <input type="checkbox"/> Radiant Heating	Job # from Zurn: _____ Radiant Software: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SFamily <input type="checkbox"/> MFamily		Subcontractor: _____ Supplier: _____	

Once a project is completed and the form is filled out, all you have to do is send it in. MRP will process your quarterly information, send it to the manufacturers, and issue you one lump-sum check for all of your rebates!

Nationwide, over 70% of the builders and remodelers who participated last year have received in rebates more than they paid in annual dues to their HBA.

Get the most of your membership by taking advantage of this free member benefit.

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