

LET'S LEVEL

the Official Publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association

FEBRUARY 2011

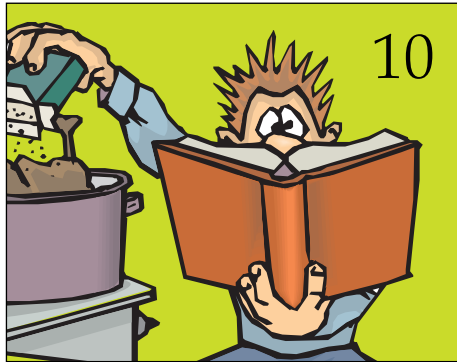
VOLUME 30 - ISSUE 2

*Happy
Valentine's Day!*



LET'S LEVEL

February 2011
Volume 30, Issue 2



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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.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 4-6

Home Show - Patriot Center

FEBRUARY 11-12

WBA Convention - Chula Vista

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Membership Dinner Meeting
The Rose Garden

FEBRUARY 18

Deadline for
Parade of Homes Contract

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Membership Dinner Meeting
Dales Weston Lanes

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Membership Dinner Meeting
The Rose Garden - Silent Auction

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Membership Dinner Meeting - VFW

TUES., MAY 31 - SUN., JUNE 5

Parade of Homes

A NOTE FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Hello –

With a busy month running, let's get right to it...

The Home Show is this weekend at the Patriot Center, Friday-Sunday. Make sure you have plans to stop and check out what the Home Show Committee has been working so hard on. Before you call and ask, yes we're aware there is a certain game being televised on Sunday, but as with the Show last year, we will be closing at 3pm Sunday and will have tear-down time on Monday so exhibitors will have the ability to

leave right at 3pm if they so choose. Let's just hope the words "World Champions" are coming out of everyone's mouths on Monday!

You should have received an email regarding the Parade of Homes contracts stating the deadline of February 18. We need to have our Builder commitments in by that time to allow for the proper marketing of the Parade and the participating Builders. If you have any questions on that contact either myself or Parade of Home Chair Jeremy Voigt. You will also be seeing advertising information for the Parade of Homes Book come through very soon so be looking for that and the exciting details that go with it!

As I'm sure you're aware, the WBA "Wisconsin Builders Conference" runs February 10-12 at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. There are a number of educational credit classes available, as well as a tremendous Keynote speaker in Joe Pusateri. I've had the opportunity to hear him speak and I can tell you he's incredibly inspirational and interesting to listen to. These are the final days to register, so do so today!

Something New!! Not only will we have the Dinner Meeting registration forms in the newsletter, but from now on you will be able to RSVP online! We hope this will be helpful in sending in your RSVP for the meetings. You will receive a separate email from this with a link to the online reservation. If you have any questions let us know!

As a final note, congratulations to Kristin Flamang and Larry Meyer for being elected Associate and Builder of the Year for 2010! Both are very deserving! Something that is very exciting about the elections this year that is very exciting is it was one of the closest in WABA history! That is something I view as very positive as it means not only are we getting incredible participation, our Members are recognizing that participation and voted in extreme numbers. One more interesting fact, this is the first time a female was selected as Associate of The Year! Again, congratulations to both of you.

See you at the Home Show!

— Chris Briquelet

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS

Rock & Tait Exteriors – Kane Rockow and George Tait
Revi Design – Jeff Nowak
L&S Printing – Paul LaPree

THANK YOU FOR RENEWING

Showcase Carpets	Brickners of Wausau
LandArt	Countryside Fence and Deck
Weather Shield	K&S Fuel Injection
Buyers Guide	Mork Contracting
Intercity State Bank	Sorensen Construction
B&D Plumbing and Heating	Verhalen / Pella Windows
Bolen Custom Homes	Woodtrust Bank

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everybody had a safe and happy holiday season. And now for business.

1) First, the results from the membership survey on whether the life directors should have a vote on the local board were in favor of no. The board decided to form a life director committee and give the committee chair one vote and that will complete the by-laws revision. Look for that change and vote to approve them.

2) Second, the 2011 budget was approved by the board in December, after being revised to a balanced budget. In order to balance the budget we had to implement a \$35.00 dues increase to cover the cost of the dinner meals.

3) I would like to remind everyone the Home Show is this month. There are still booth spaces left.

4) The Parade of Homes committee needs to know if you will be having a home this year. The contract for your first parade home is due now.

5) And last of all, I apologize if you have emailed me and I have not responded. I've been having email problems for the last 6 months. I now have a new email address which is: volmbuilders@frontier.com. If you still have problems contacting me via email please call my cell phone at 715-581-6225.

Thank You, — Garry Volm, Volm Builders LLC



141 W. Thomas Street
Wausau, WI 54401
Phone (715) 842-9510
Fax (715) 845-5435
www.WausauAreaBuilders.com

OFFICERS

President	Garry Volm
Vice-President	Bob Marcell
Secretary-Treasurer	Sara Holtz
Past President	Larry Meyer
Executive Officer	Chris Briquet

STATE DIRECTORS

Bob Marcell	Mark Reede	Sid Sorensen
Garry Volm	Larry Meyer	

LOCAL DIRECTORS

Kolby Muscha	Chad Sickler
Jerry Jarosz	Jonathon Smith
Russ Utech	Jason Brettingen

LIFE DIRECTORS

Dave Kautza	Ted Peotter	Dan Sillars
Jim Woller	John Joseph	

NATIONAL DIRECTORS

Larry Meyer	Garry Volm
-------------	------------

WBA NORTH AREA VP (Associate)

Mike Richie

ALTERNATE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Dan Sillars Garry Volm

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Marketing	Jim Weimerskirch
Associates Advisory	Ray Bodenheimer
	Jason Brettingen
	Kristin Flamang
BLDR-PAC	Andy Radant
Education Committee	James Wanserski
Events Committee	Andrea Reede
Building A Better Wisconsin Trustee	Mike Richie
Governmental Affairs	Jonathon Smith
Home Show	Russ Utech
Membership	Kristin Flamang
Parade of Homes	Jeremy Voigt
Planning Committee	Mike Richie
Public Relations	Bob Marcell
Scholarship	Jerry Jarosz



Watch for the
email with link to
register online

*Come Enjoy
"Italian Night"*



DINNER MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

THE ROSE GARDEN

Cocktails at 6:00 pm | Dinner at 7:00 pm

Beverages Not Included - Cash Bar Available

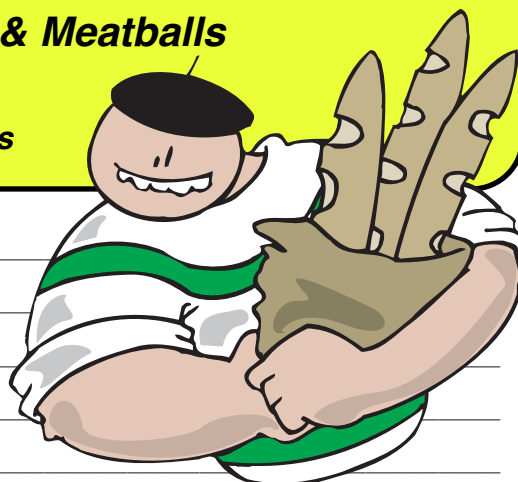
RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY

MEALS WILL NOT BE GUARANTEED FOR NON-REGISTERED WALK-INS

*Please pick from
one of these three
and put a number
of meals you'd
like to reserve*

- _____ 1. **Fettuccini Chicken Alfredo**
- _____ 2. **Lasagna**
- _____ 3. **Spaghetti & Meatballs**

*All choices come
with salad and garlic sticks*



Company Name: _____

Names of Attending: _____

Phone _____

Email _____

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 11

*Call 715-842-9510 or watch for an email with an RSVP link
One meal per membership is free, additional meals are \$15.00
(No-Shows will be billed)*



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HOME SHOW

FEB. 4, 5 & 6, 2011
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you bring a non-perishable food item**

Friday: 3-8 pm
Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 9 am - 3 pm

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HOME SHOW

VOLUNTEER WORK SCHEDULE

Listed below are the times
that are available. Please
call the office if you can
volunteer your help.

FRIDAY

2:45 pm – 5:30 pm

5:15 pm – 8:00 pm

SATURDAY

8:45 am – 11:00 am

10:45 am – 1:00 pm

12:45 pm – 3:00pm

2:45 pm – 5:00 pm

SUNDAY

8:45 am – 11:00 am

10:45 am – 1:00 pm

12:45 pm – 3:00 pm



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LOOKING AHEAD IMPORTANT DATES

March 18, 2011

Parade Home contract
and entry fee due for
2nd home entry

May 31 – June 5

2011 Parade of Homes

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PARADE *of* Homes

MAY 31 - JUNE 5

Ad information for our 2011 Parade Book will be sent out soon to any past advertisers. If you are a new member or have not advertised in the past but would like to, please call the office at 715-842-9510.

**CONTRACT DEADLINES
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Thank you to the incoming WBA President, Don Esposito for making the trip from Madison to induct our new officers!



Annie Meyer was unable to attend the Party, but asked Elizabeth Beckett to read a very touching letter to Larry.

Annual Party Highlights



The Mike and Brian Experience entertained everyone after an excellent dinner.

BUILDER OF THE YEAR



For some reason when Kolby mentioned that the 2010 Builder of the Year is the only person known to order an Old Milwaukee on purpose .. everyone knew who he was talking about.

ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR



Larry Meyer (L) receives the 2010 Builder of the Year award from our 2009 Builder of the Year, Kolby Muscha



Kristin Flamang received the 2010 Associate of the Year ~ the first time ever that a female has received this award.

Congratulations Larry & Kristin on honors well deserved!



Board members being sworn in.



Don Esposito (L), the incoming president for the WBA installs Garry Volm as president.



Swearing-ins take place

On January 3, 2011 all of the constitutional officers in Wisconsin (Governor, Lt. Governor, Treasurer, Secretary of State and Attorney General) in addition to members of the state Senate and Assembly were sworn in and began their new terms in office.

Governor Scott Walker, before a packed crowd in the rotunda of the state capitol, took the oath of office administered by Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson with his wife and two sons by his side. Later in the afternoon members of the state Senate and Assembly were sworn-in in separate ceremonies in their respective legislative chambers.

The heart of his Walker's speech and goals for his term were best summarized by this portion of his address:

And as your Governor, I make this pledge:

- *Wisconsin is open for business. We will work tirelessly to restore economic growth and vibrancy to our state. My top three priorities are jobs, jobs, and jobs.*
- *We will right-size state government by ensuring government is providing only the essential services our citizens need and taxpayers can afford. My fellow state workers, I invite you to partner with me in this necessary work.*
- *We will also remain focused on the long term, creatively improving our education system so that our children can be competitive in a global marketplace.*
- *We will protect our vital natural resources.*
- *And we will honor and respect the foundational role of the family in our society.*

Schroeder retained; Coello joins Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code Council

WBA recently received word that Mary Schroeder had been reappointed to serve on the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code (UDC) Council and that one of the new members appointed to represent material supplier was another WBA member, Michael Coello.

WBA had recommended these appointments in earlier communication with officials at the Department of Commerce.

The UDC Council will be meeting next on Wednesday March 2, 2011 in Middleton.

Congratulations to both Mary and Michael as they start their new term on the UDC Council!

The battle on redistricting begins

The Assembly and Senate Committees on Organization recently both meet to discuss and vote on funding to pay for legal fees associated with redistricting legislative districts to match the 2010 U.S. Census numbers that are starting to be released.

The first batch of population numbers from the census were released just before Christmas. One thing is for certain, this time around (unlike in 2001) Wisconsin will not lose a congressional district.

The dynamics of redistricting are much different this year than in 2001. In 2001 you had GOP control of the Assembly and governor's office but Democratic control of the state Senate led by former State Senator Chuck Chvala (D-Madison). This time around the GOP controls all branches of state government. If they comply with federal laws concerning redistricting that pertain mostly to the city of Milwaukee, they will be able to pass a bill that becomes law and resets the map prior to the 2012 election.

With split houses in the past, both the GOP and the Democrats received state funding for outside legal counsel. This time around the GOP argued that since it is very likely a bill will be passed by both houses and signed by the governor that concerns addressing things like the Voting Rights Act in the bill and representation of both political parties is no longer necessary.

Democrats in the Assembly and Senate strongly disagreed with this move and stated this was nothing but a GOP power grab to draw districts that favor their re-election efforts in 2012 and beyond.

This is the first, but certainly not the last you will hear about the contentious process of redistricting that will take place in 2011 and 2012.

Rules and Regulation Reform package released

Governor Walker released what is expected to be his last special session bill on job creation recently. The eighth bill rolled out focuses on reforming the administrative rule process (a WBA priority this session) and targeted regulation reform.

On the topic of administrative rule reform Governor Walker said, "We need to ensure that state agencies are focused on job creation. The proposed review process will make sure only the most necessary rules are implemented so businesses are no longer held back by the costs of overregulation."

The Rules and Regulatory Reform package include the following provisions:

- *Agencies may not create rules more restrictive than the regulatory standards or thresholds provided by the Legislature*
- *Agencies cannot create rules based on the agency's general powers or duties*
- *Rules can be challenged in the county circuit court where the plaintiff resides*
- *The Governor must approve proposed rules*
- *Require an economic cost/benefit analysis of rules*
- *Changing wind energy citing standards*
- *Targeted wetland regulatory reform*

Discussions between the governor's office and legislative leaders continue on this package. Many expect some of the policy and various details in this package to be slightly altered before the bill ultimately reaches the governor's desk.

NAHB Legislative Conference Set for March 16

The Legislative Conference, NAHB's most important lobbying event of 2011, will take place on March 16 in Washington, D.C., the same week NAHB's Executive Board gathers for its March meeting.

Since Congress selected the week of May 16 as an in-district workweek, the NAHB had to adjust the scheduling date of the Legislative Conference.

Considering the numerous challenges that our industry currently faces, it is imperative that we have a strong turnout on March 16 to ensure that lawmakers hear our messages loud and clear.

Now is the time to help the NAHB help your business by showing up in force and making a powerful impression on those who are in a position to move our agenda forward. Make your plans to attend today.

What's more, please spread the word to your fellow NAHB members that the Legislative Conference is on March 16, 2011 — significantly earlier than our traditional practice of pairing the event with our Spring Board meeting.

For details on registration, accommodations and a tentative schedule of events, please visit <http://www.nahb.org/legcon> or e-mail Nick Gentile or call 800-368-5242, x8542.

Commerce says no to adopting IRC

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce (DOC) has indicated it is not planning to adopt the International Residential Code (IRC) as the base code for the Uniform Dwelling Code (UDC). In a recent letter to WBA Executive Vice President Jerry Deschane, DOC stated:

At this time, we are not planning to adopt the [IRC] as the base code for the UDC. There is no consensus yet among various code users, including code officials, for such an action.

This is an important statement given that DOC is in the process of updating the UDC. Moreover, there has been much discussion regarding whether Wisconsin should adopt the IRC as its base building code for one- and- two family dwellings. Recently, the WBA Board of Directors voted to oppose adopting the IRC as Wisconsin's base code. As a follow-up to that Board action, WBA submitted a letter to DOC Secretary Aaron Oliver expressing its opposition to adopting the IRC as Wisconsin's base dwelling code.

Prior to taking this position, WBA members, along with building inspectors, participated on an IRC Task Force, which completed an extensive comparison of the IRC to the UDC over the course of a year. DOC employees also participated in the meetings comparing these codes, although they were not members of the Task Force. WBA then went through a process to examine the benefits and detriments associated with using the IRC as Wisconsin's base code, which culminated in the Board of Directors adopting the position noted above at its October 7, 2010 meeting.

While there were a number of concerns regarding using the IRC as Wisconsin's base code, one important consideration was Wisconsin's loss of control over its code process. If the IRC was adopted as Wisconsin's base code, the hundreds of changes to the IRC would be presumed to be included in Wisconsin's code, even though these provisions would have likely been developed with little input from Wisconsin citizens. Rather than this approach, the process Wisconsin now follows for code adoption allows for the examination of the IRC, and for the incorporation into the UDC those provisions that benefit Wisconsin's citizens.

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

(This is a monthly report from the Wisconsin Builders Association, our "political arm" at the state Capitol in Madison. Each month, the Monday Morning Review will highlight the going's on under the Capitol Dome with an eye toward what matters to the housing industry.)



Kolby Mucha
Kolby Costruction

*Thanks for
Being a Member!*

Member Spotlight **BUILDER**

- 1) How long have you been a member? *Since 2002*
- 2) What's the most valuable thing you've gotten from being a member?
Getting to know people ~ Exposure through the Parade of Homes
- 3) What's your favorite beverage? *Mountain Dew*
- 4) If you could be any superhero, who would it be?
I still like Mighty Mouse
- 5) What's your favorite vacation? *Anywhere with no cell phone reception*
- 6) Your favorite childhood toy? *TYCO Racetrack*
- 7) What's the oddest thing a customer has ever asked for?
A cold water toilet bidet
- 8) What are you involved in with the WABA? *Currently, a local director*
- 9) What is the last movie you watched? *The Dawn Treader*
- 10) What would be the hardest thing for you to give up?
A morning Mountain Dew



Elizabeth Beckett
Inner Piece Interiors

*Thanks for
Being a Member!*

Member Spotlight **ASSOCIATE**

- 1) How long have you been a member? *3 years*
- 2) What's the most valuable thing you've gotten from being a member?
Networking - meeting great people
- 3) What's your favorite beverage? *Diet Pepsi w/lime*
- 4) If you could be a superhero, who would it be? *Cat Woman*
- 5) What's your favorite vacation? *Italy*
- 6) Your favorite childhood toy? *We played outside - that was the best!*
- 7) What is one thing people would be surprised to know about you?
I milked cows growing up - we had a hobby farm
- 8) What is the hardest thing you've ever had to do? *Give up on a dream*
- 9) Who is the person you admire most? *My dad*
- 10) What is the last movie you watched? *Million Dollar Baby*
- 11) What would be the hardest thing for you to give up? *My family*
- 12) If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be? *Tahiti*
- 13) If you could be granted one wish, what would it be?
That my kids and family stay safe and healthy
Second wish: Where's that lottery money (??!!)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SILENT ★ AUCTION ★

Thursday, April 21, 2011

The Rose Garden

We will be holding our silent auction for Build A Better Wisconsin at our Membership Dinner Meeting on April 21, 2011. Andy Radant will be chairing this event and would like some volunteers to help him make some phone calls and get items for the auction. If you would like to help or have something you would like to donate, give Andy a call.

GO PACK!

WAUSAU AREA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

***Any student within the top 50% of their class is eligible
to receive the WABA Scholarship and is encouraged to apply.***

Applicant's Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

1. High School Attending _____

2. Name of Parents _____

3. Are they members of WABA? YES NO

4. If yes, name of the company _____

5. What school will you be attending? _____

6. What course of study are you planning to pursue? _____

7. How do you intend to finance your education? _____

8. What extra-curricular activities have you been involved in while in school?

Indicate any offices held, awards, or achievements. _____

9. What community activities have you been involved that are not school related?

(Work activities, volunteer work, church, etc)_____

10. What are the major courses you have been studying while in High School?

11. What is your grade point average? _____

12. What is your rank in your class? _____

Return Applications to:
Wausau Area Builders Association
141 W. Thomas Street
Wausau, WI 54401

***APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN OUR OFFICE NO LATER THAN
APRIL 1, 2011 TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A SCHOLARSHIP!***

NAHB SPIKE CLUB

NAHB STATUS CREDITS

for month ending December 31, 2010

SUPER SPIKE

[250-499]

Dan Sillars (480)

ROYAL SPIKE

[150-249]

Dave Framke (229.50)

Rod Werner (211)

Ken Bauer (198.50)

Jim Woller (185)

Guy Reedy (181.50)

Doug Knight (160)

Larry Voigt (160.50)

RED SPIKE

[100-149]

Sid Sorensen (134)

Jim Voigt (120.50)

Dave Kautza (118)

Jerry Draxler (113)

Rick Kuharske (100)

GREEN SPIKE

[50-99]

Jerry Jarosz (87)

Larry Meyer (86)

Dwight Dorpat (74)

Will Keener (71)

LIFE SPIKE

[25-49]

James Koebe (47.50)

Cory Sillars (44.50)

Arden Emmerich (42)

Bernie Wood (37.50)

Jeremy Voigt (37)

Bob Sundell (34.50)

Dan Thomas (27)

Kolby Muscha (27)

BLUE SPIKE

[6-24]

Garry Volm (22)

Bob Kolbeck (21)

Ted Peotter (20)

James Wanserski (19.50)

Rob Mork (19)

Ken Wanta, Jr. (18.50)

Brian Luedtke (18)

Ray Bodenheimer (16.50)

Shane Brzezinski (16.50)

Leroy Kazmierczak (14.50)

Jason Brettingen (14)

Bill Schnowske (11.50)

SPIKE CANDIDATE

Mark Reede (3)

Tim Brown (2)

Don Marquardt (2)

John Proulx (2)

Andy Radant (2)

Gary Guerndt (1.50)

David Kempf (1.50)

John Ohrmundt (1.50)

Mike Polencheck (1.50)

Gary Rusch (1.50)

Matthew Waldvogel (1.50)

Rick Wanta (1.50)

James Coleman (1)

Robert Kulp (1)

Sarah Ruffi (1)

Jonathon Smith (1)

David Zick (1)

Roger Zell (.50)

SPIKES - WHAT ARE THEY?

Spikes are very valuable to our association because they work to bring in new members and encourage current members to renew their membership. Their efforts are essential to the growth and well-being of our association. We are pleased to join with NAHB and its affiliates across the country in recognizing our "Spikes".

Created in 1953, the NAHB Spike Program is designed to recognize and reward those members who are actively involved in recruitment and retention of members. There are currently 15,164 Spikes in local associations across the country and almost an equal number of Spike Candidates, those individuals working to obtain Spike status. Through the NAHB Spike Club, these members receive awards of silver and gold lapel pins, plaques, blazers and sweaters for their efforts in membership development.

At local membership meetings and at the NAHB annual Convention, Spikes proudly wear their hard-earned blazers and sweaters, and on Spike Color Day at the Convention, thousands of Spikes are recognized on the board floor by the NAHB Board of Directors.

As additional recognition, all Spikes in good standing that have also recruited at least one new member during the Membership Year, are invited to attend the annual NAHB Spike Party held during the Convention in January.

To become a Spike, an individual must obtain 6 credits within two consecutive years. Spike members must then earn two credits until they reach Life Spike status with 25 credits.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can become a member of the Spike Club and enjoy its rewards, contact the Wausau Area Builders Association at 715-842-9510.

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