

LET'S LEVEL

the Official Publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association

**FEBRUARY 2012
VOLUME 31 - ISSUE 2**

more pictures inside

REMEMBER WHEN ...



Presentation of Gavel by Outgoing President, Jay Kleiber, to Darold Wegner ~ 1978 President



1985 Halloween Party



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

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LET'S LEVEL

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Brad Boycks

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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Joke of the month

Two carpenters were working on a house. The one who was nailing down siding would reach into his nail pouch, pull out a nail and either toss it over his shoulder or nail it in.

The other, figuring this was worth looking into, asked, "Why are you throwing those nails away?"

The first explained, "If I pull a nail out of my pouch and it's pointed toward me, I throw it away 'cause it's defective. If it's pointed toward the house, then I nail it in!"

The second got completely upset and yelled, "You moron! The nails pointed toward you aren't defective! They're for the other side of the house!"

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A Note from your Executive Officer



Well, 2012 is off and running at a record pace! The Home Show is already here and preparations for the Parade of Homes are in high gear. Sorry for all the racing comparisons, I still have racing fumes in my brain from last weekend at the "525".

This year the Parade of Homes Committee is offering various sponsorships for you to consider. There is an explanation page in this newsletter, but if you have any questions contact one of the committee members or the office. Some are already spoken for so if you see one that would fit your business, let us know right away because they are all limited. The committee has gotten a lot of positive feedback about potential homes in the Parade this year, I can't leak the

number yet, but I can say it's going to be a great year, and hopefully a sign of things to come!

Russ and his Home Show committee will have a full report for you about the Home Show next month. It promises to be a great show with the new layout forcing everyone to pass all of the booths before being able to exit the hall. We hope to see you all there!

As mentioned earlier, time is flying by and before we know it the April Silent Auction night will be here. If you have something to donate for that night contact either Jonathon Smith or the office to arrange a pickup/delivery. There is also always a need for extra help that night so if you're willing to volunteer some of your time let us know!

As the WABA begins its celebration of 45 years, there will be a number of different things happening throughout the year. One of them is inclusion of various photos from the past years in the newsletters. Enjoy as you look back at some of the past events and have fun trying to decipher who the people may be, whether with, or without hair, or with or without glasses, etc.

Enjoy!

— Chris Briquet

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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President's Message



Well I got one month in and I would like to thank everyone for all your support. It's been a busy month with lots to do.

First don't forget the Home Show February 3rd-4th and 5th we can use all the Help we can get. Not busy volunteer its fun and get to meet a lot of people.

Remember if you want to get something on the Agenda for the Board Meeting we need that info by Tuesday, February 7th. Board Meeting will be on 14th. All members are invited and if you would like to get on a Committee to help out we would love it.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day, Guys don't forget your wife or girlfriend that day they do so much

for us through out the year, let them know we appreciate them.

February 16th is Business Day in Madison meet one on one with your Legislators at the Capital. Also that day is our WABA Dinner Meeting at the Great Dane. Watch for details and sign up..

Wisconsin Builder Conference is coming up February 22nd – 24th at Chula Vista Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. There's 2 full days of education offered, many courses include Dwelling Contractor Certification Credits. Lunch is provided between classes. On the 24th is the Annual Members and Board of Directors Meeting. In addition to the education there is the New Vendor Showcase Trade Show featuring new products and suppliers from around the industry. Full Conference Registration includes the Installation Dinner for our 2012 WBA President Gary Roehrig from Mid-Shores HBA. Two nights of Fun and Networking at the Popular Hospitality Suites. The Wisconsin Builders Conference is a great way to energize, educate and reward your staff.

Coming Soon to WBA some big changes to the Bylaws and Governance Review. To review all the proposed changes go to www.wisbuild.org on the member side you can view all of the Bylaw changes and how they will affect all of us. This will be voted on at the February WBA Board Meeting, another reason to come to the Builders Conference.

Everyone have a Great Month and if you have any questions or concerns please contact me, at bob@marcells.net or my cell 715-581-0980.

Sincerely,

— Bob Marcell



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FEBRUARY

2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 HOME SHOW	4 HOME SHOW
5 HOME SHOW	6	7 COMMITTEE MEETINGS AT WABA OFFICE POH - 12 PM HOME SHOW - 3 PM	8 IBS SHOW	9 IBS SHOW	10 IBS SHOW	11 IBS SHOW
12 Lincoln's B-Day	13	14 BOARD MEETING	15 PARADE OF HOMES CONTRACT FOR 1ST HOME DUE	16 DINNER MEETING	17	18
19	20 ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE President's Day	21	22 Washington's B-Day	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

MARCH

2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 COMMITTEE MEETINGS AT WABA OFFICE POH - 12 PM HOME SHOW - 3 PM	7	8	9	10
11 Daylight Savings	12	13 BOARD MEETING	14	15 DINNER MEETING	16 PARADE OF HOMES CONTRACT FOR 2ND HOME DUE	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20 ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL

2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 POH Meeting with Marketing Committee	3 POH Meeting - 12 pm Home Show Meeting - 3 pm	4	5	6	7
8 Easter	9	10 Board Agenda Items due by 5 pm	11	12	13	14
15	16 All Parade of Homes Ads Due	17 BOARD MEETING - 4 pm	18	19 Dinner Meeting - 6 pm	20 ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE April Member Renewals Due	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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Presenting Sponsor (\$2500) – one available

Name and Logo on all print, radio, and television advertising

Complimentary two page color ad, or 4 single page ads in Home Inspiration magazine ... inside center spread available on first come basis

Ten complimentary tickets to 2012 Parade of Homes

Invitation for two to the Appreciation banquet

Sign Sponsor (\$1500) – one available

Name and logo on all pre-parade signage, including directional signs to parade home locations

Complimentary full page color ad in Home Inspiration magazine

Eight complimentary tickets to 2012 Parade of Homes

Invitation for two to the Appreciation banquet

Bottle Water Sponsor (\$1500) – one available

Name and logo on complimentary bottle water given out during parade hours

Complimentary full page color ad in Home Inspiration magazine

Eight complimentary tickets to 2012 Parade of Homes

Invitation for two to the Appreciation banquet

Map Sponsor (\$750) – one available

Name and logo on detailed parade map in Home Inspiration magazine

Complimentary half page color ad in Home Inspiration magazine

Four complimentary tickets to 2012 Parade of Homes

Ticket Sponsor (\$250) – two available

Name and logo on 2012 Parade of Homes tickets

Two complimentary tickets to 2012 Parade of Homes

I, _____, as a representative of _____

Would like to commit to be a sponsor of the 2012 Wausau Area Builders Association Parade of Homes.

The level of sponsorship we choose is: _____

The invoice should be sent to: _____

Attn: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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1986 Green Bay Packer Outing



2005 Builder & Associate of the Year



1988 Golf Outing



1975 Parade of Homes



2006 Golf Outing



✓ MARK YOUR CALENDAR

★ SILENT ★ ★ AUCTION ★

Thursday, April 19, 2012

We will be holding our silent auction for Build A Better Wisconsin at our Membership Dinner Meeting on April 19, 2012. Jonathon Smith 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 Jon a call.



2004 Home Show



Come Enjoy an Italian Café Buffet



DINNER MEETING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16 THE GREAT DANE

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

Beverage: Coffee, Iced Tea and Milk
Soup: Tomato Mushroom Bisque
Salad: Tossed Caesar Salad
Entrees: Meatballs Marinara, Rigatini Pesto Primavera
Chicken Florentine Alfredo, Classic Meat Lasagna
Side: Steamed Vegetables
Dessert: Chocolate Chip Cookies

**Garlic rolls will be
served at tables**

Company Name: _____

Names of Attending: _____

Phone _____

Email _____

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

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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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, 2012 TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A SCHOLARSHIP!***



At long last, a wetlands bill is released

After several months of speculation and a lot of effort, a wetlands bill draft was sent out to legislators asking for them to sign on as co-authors. The draft is co-authored by Senator Neil Kedzie (R-Elkhorn) and Representative Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz).

WBA worked with key members and local staff on the draft to provide input on the finished proposal. Both authors, officials from the DNR (in particular Deputy Secretary Matt Moroney and Mike Bruhn), WBA and representatives of other business groups worked for the better part of the past six months on the draft.

The draft released this week will have a positive impact on the process for businesses to get a wetland permit from the DNR in a more timely matter and will also have a net benefit to Wisconsin's environment.

Some of the highlights of the draft include:

- Creates new procedures for the application, review and potential issuance of General and Individual Permits for projects impacting wetlands. Permits are considered the same as water quality certifications.
- Creates General Permits (GPs) for minor projects impacting wetlands (10,000 sq. ft. in most cases) for residential, industrial, commercial, utility, agricultural, municipal and recreational development, which are similar to General Permits currently issued by US Army Corps of Engineers.
- Authorizes the DNR to create additional GPs as necessary, including permits which are consistent with other General Permits issued by the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Establishes deadlines for the GP application process and determinations by the DNR for such permits, and sets consequences for not meeting deadlines similar to those in the amended version of Senate Bill 326/Assembly Bill 421, the Chapter 30 regulatory reform bill.
- Creates Individual Permits (IPs) for those that do not qualify for a GP, with deadlines for the process and DNR decisions, but not the same as those for GPs failure to meet deadlines. Standards for review of environmental impacts set higher than those for GPs; mitigation required, with a standard that the mitigation ratio mirror the federal ratio, but at a minimum, 1.2 acres restored or created for every 1 acre filled.
- Replaces the current law "areas of special natural resource interest" wetland designations with more specificity on the types of wetlands which are considered rare or sensitive areas.
- Revises compensatory wetland mitigation program to allow for more banking and the purchase of credits for the purpose of restoring, enhancing, creating, or preserving wetlands or other water resource features. Mitigation also includes on-site wetland restoration and/or creation.
- Revises the 'practicable alternative analysis' to be limited to those alternatives which have an impact to the project site and any adjacent parcel if the project will result in demonstrable economic benefit, or is necessary for an expansion of an existing commercial or industrial facility, and the wetland fill will not result in significant adverse impacts to wetland functional values or other adverse environmental consequences.
- Establishes a wetland restoration fund and allows the DNR to enter into agreements with third-party organizations to perform wetland restoration/creation work. Any project that utilizes such funds must be open for hunting, fishing, trapping, cross-country skiing, and hiking, but the DNR may establish reasonable restrictions on the use of the land for public safety reasons or to protect a unique plant or animal community.
- Creates inspection and enforcement authority similar to the inspection and enforcement authority found under Chapter 30 (navigable waters).

The key to this bill passing is to get some minor technical changes in committee and make sure the bill is not "watered down" (no pun intended!) during the process. WBA staff professionals will continue working with members, local staff members and the legislature to pass a strong wetlands bill before the end of the legislative session.

Movement on DATCP 110 rule revision

Recently WBA received word from Sandy Chalmers, Administrator of the Division of Trade and Consumer Protection at the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection that DATCP 110, the rule that regulates Wisconsin remodelers, would be further examined and possibly rewritten in 2012.

In an e-mail from Ms. Chalmers she stated that "DATCP 110 is on the DATCP Board calendar for 2012. Our tentative plan is to have a scope statement to the Board in June."

What that means is that if the DATCP agrees the department will begin the process of meeting with interested parties, like WBA members, on revisions to the rule.

We are thankful that DATCP is moving on this important matter in 2012 and look forward to WBA members being involved in the discussion on proposed changes.

Vos addresses business groups

In last December state Representative Robin Vos (R-Burlington) addressed representatives from a number of groups including WBA focusing on what will be covered during the final three months of session. While his first response was "not much", he also covered a number of other political items as well.

The two large pieces of legislation Vos told the group he believed would pass (at least in the Assembly) during the final three months of the session was venture capital legislation and a bill to change state statutes in regards to ferrous metallic mining.

In addition to mining and venture capital legislation Vos also predicted the passage of a number of "easier to digest bills" as well. In other words, expect some more contentious items to be passed but also several less controversial bills that may even receive bipartisan support from both houses. Vos also said that the Assembly is expected to be in session for "5 or 6 more days" from January to March of 2012.

When turning to the topic of polling and the Wisconsin political landscape, Vos noted the GOP continues to have issues in western Wisconsin (especially from La Crosse south) and to a lesser degree with independent and female voters. Much of what you see out of Governor Walker's campaign as of late is an attempt to bring some of those weary voters back to the governor and the GOP.

Waste, Fraud and Abuse release's final report

Recently Governor Walker's Commission on Waste, Fraud and Abuse released their final report. As you may remember the head of this commission was WBA Treasurer Craig Rakowski. The final is the culmination of a great deal of work by Chairman Rakowski working with most members of the commission (some made the decision not to engage in the process in a constructive manner) and those involved in state government to come up with the suggestions contained in the report.

"The recommendations by the Commission will help state government operate more efficiently and effectively," said Governor Walker. "Moving forward I will work with members of both political parties to implement the remaining recommendations made by the commission."

Overall the Commission believes their recommendations can reduce spending by local units of government by \$82.6 million and state government by \$373 million for a total annual savings to taxpayers of \$445 million.

In the "Letter from the Chairman" contained at the beginning of the report, chair Rakowski stated: 'I am thankful to the citizens of Wisconsin who submitted many suggestions for the Commission to review. I assure you that all of them were taken into consideration, many of which are addressed in the final report. I would also like to thank the Department of Administration staff for the work they put into the research that went into this report. I would also like to thank the many other state employees who spoke to us about how to make their jobs more efficient and effective. Their input was extremely valuable and I wish them continued good luck in their efforts to change the culture of our state government.'

Brad Boycks

WBA Director of Government and Political Affairs

Wisconsin Builders Association@bboycks@wisbuild.org

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(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.)