

# LET'S LEVEL

*the Official Publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association*

**JULY 2013  
VOLUME 32 - ISSUE 7**

## summer **PICNIC**



**SUNDAY, JULY 14**

\$15.00 for association members and immediate family (spouse & children)

Children 12 & Under will be free

Tickets will be available at the "will call" window. **NOT** the regular line.

**RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY.**

Each person admitted will receive 2 sandwiches and 2 beverages.

Seating will be on an upper deck.

Call 715-842-9510 to register today!

*Game time is at 5:05*

## PARADE OF HOMES A SUCCESS

The 2013 parade of homes was a huge success. There were 50% more homes than last year and the quality of the homes were the talk of the Wausau area. We sold 2577 tickets which is up considerably from years past. Special thanks to all parade sponsors, the marketing committee, the parade committee and especially the builders and their homeowners for a great show!

*more pictures inside*



*Gift Card Winners:*

1. Renee Krautkramer
2. Jon Powell
3. Betsy Ness
4. Lois Kolpacki
5. Joe Dake
6. Sara Thomer





801 South 24th Ave.  
Wausau, WI 54401  
Phone (715) 842-9510  
Fax (715) 845-5435  
www.WausauAreaBuilders.com

#### OFFICERS

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Vice-President .....  
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Chad Sickler  
Past President ..... Garry Volm  
Administrative Assistant ..... Carolyn Wilde

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Parade of Homes ..... Tony Sorensen  
Scholarship ..... Jerry Jarosz  
Golf Outing ..... Gary Zarda  
Sporting Clay ..... Larry Meyer  
Website ..... Warren Pope  
Facebook ..... Kyle VanOrder & Jesse Maas

#### 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.

## JOKE OF THE MONTH

One day, a cat dies of natural causes and goes to heaven, where he meets the Lord Himself. The Lord says to the cat, "You lived a good life, and if there is any way I can make your stay in heaven more comfortable, please let me know." The cat thinks for a moment and says, "Lord, all my life I have lived with a poor family and had to sleep on a hard wooden floor." The Lord stops the cat and says, "Say no more," and a wonderful, fluffy pillow appears. A few days later, six mice are killed in a tragic farming accident, and all of them go to heaven. Again, the Lord is there to greet them with the same offer. The mice answer, "All our lives we have been chased.

We have had to run from cats, dogs, and even women with brooms.

Running, running, running; we're tired of running.

Do you think we could have roller skates so that we don't have to run anymore?" The Lord says, "Say no more" and fits each mouse with beautiful new roller

skates. Week later, the Lord stops by to see the cat and finds him snoozing on the pillow. The Lord gently wakes the cat and asks him, "How are things since you got here?"

The cat stretches and yawns, then replies, "It is wonderful here. Better than I could have ever expected. And those 'Meals On Wheels' you've been sending by are the best!"



## NOW OFFERING...

**We will be starting a new page that will be included in the newsletter every month. A business directory.**

**Purchase a business card size ad for \$60 and have the ad run for the entire year.**

**That's only \$5 per month to advertise your business!**

**Call Cindy at 715-443-3032 for more information.**

# GOLF OUTING



*We would like to thank Gary Zarda and his committee for the enjoyable golf outing. It seems a fun day was had by all who attended.*

*Thank you also to our sponsors who help make this event successful ...*

**Beer Hole:**  
**Larry Meyer Construction**

**Hole Sponsors:**  
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Peoples State Bank  
Well Fargo  
B.M.O. Harris Banks  
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Sherwin Williams  
The Insurance Center  
Modern Builders  
Gaffney Construction  
Menzner Lumber  
Kretz Lumber



*To all the golfers .. thank you for coming out and supporting the outing. We hope to see you again next year!*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well June went by faster than I thought but there were a lot of things happening this last month. We started off with the Parade of Homes and we had 18 beautiful homes. A big Thank You goes out to each Builder, there was a lot of work that went into getting the homes ready with the late spring

and all the rain we had, you did a great job. Ticket sales were up by over 600 from last year. People were talking about the really nice Parade this year. I would like to give a really BIG Thank you to Tony Sorensen for his hard work and his hard working committee on making this Parade a very successful event. Now let's hope you builders will be picking up some good jobs from it.

We had the golf outing this last Friday the day started out wet like over 2" of rain in the morning, but Thanks to Gary Zarda and his great committee they got it all together and there was no rain for golfers just a little wet grass. Thanks to all of the people that donated something for the golf outing, had a lot of great gifts and Thanks to all the sponsors, without all of you these events would not happen.

Get ready, save the date July 14th WABA will be going out to the old ball game. That's right, we are going to the Wisconsin Woodchucks game July 14th at 5:00pm against the La Crosse Loggers. Watch for the invite, it will be coming out soon. Bring the family to the game it will be fun for all.

I would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy 4th of July. Hope everyone will get a chance to spend time with the family and have a good old fashion cookout. I heard the weather was going to be dry and 78 degrees what a great day, (lets hope). Anyway, enjoy the long weekend and spend it with the ones you love. Be safe.

*Bob Marcell, WABA President*

715-581-0980, 715-581-0982 or bob@marcells.net



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## BOARD APPROVAL

*CertainTeed  
 Cunico Electric LLC*

## SORRY TO SEE YOU GO

*Thanks for keeping this blank this month!*



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# JULY

# 2013


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

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# AUGUST

# 2013

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## THANK YOU

Thank you from the association for your work or contributions for refurbishing the office's above Pro Build. Bob Marcell assisted in taking the ceiling tiles down, and painted the ceiling grills/speakers. Bob's daughter painted all the ceiling grid white. Gloria Fenhaus donated light bulbs. Dan Sillars installed the new ceiling tiles. Sid Sorensen had the door locks rekeyed, and removed the handrail for painting. Gordon Steinke's team, painted all the walls. Hallman/Lindsay Paints donated three gallons of paint. A huge thanks to all! We are well on the way to transforming our office space.



**Please be  
safe  
while  
enjoying the  
4th!**

# NEWS RELEASE CONSULTING



David Larsen, P.G., Hydrogeologist and Andy Delforge, P.G., Hydrogeologist both members of the REI Engineering, Inc. Environmental team of Wausau attended the Northeast Region Consultants Day sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources which was held in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



Topics included discussions of Wisconsin's Initiative for Sustainable Remediation and Redevelopment (WISSR), vapor intrusion leak detection and sub slab communication testing, continuing obligations, due diligence, and lender client relationships. REI's experienced team of civil engineers, land

planners and surveyors and environmental and safety consultants provides comprehensive services with practical solutions. Specific related services in environmental consulting and emergency spill response include, Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans, 24 hour hazardous chemical spill response, spill response on-site customized training, stormwater pollution prevention plans and soil/groundwater remediation.

COME  
JOIN  
THE FUN!



# SPORTING CLAY SHOOT

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

**WAUSAU SKEET & TRAP CLUB, BROKAW**

Registration 8:00 am

Shotgun Start 9:00 am (Rain or Shine)

\$65 per shooter - \$325 per team

5 person teams are NOT necessary to participate

### **REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:**

**17 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: Rabbit Station, 5-Stand and Annie Oakley Shoot

6 (six) boxes of #7 1/2 or smaller shells are recommended

(Boxes of shells will be available to purchase at the Gun Club)

Personal Four-wheeler transportation is allowed.

**EYE AND EAR PROTECTION REQUIRED - NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #4 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #5 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**NO RESERVATION IS SECURE WITHOUT FULL PAYMENT**

**85 SHOOTERS MAXIMUM**

Mail Registration with payment to:

PO Box 1241, Wausau, WI 54402

Call Larry Meyer with questions at 715-848-0518

or email [larry@meyerconstruction.com](mailto:larry@meyerconstruction.com)

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# THE MONDAY MORNING REVIEW



## **A final budget moves to Governor Walker with WBA wins**

After a procedural move by the minority party democrats in the Wisconsin State Senate, the body reconvened after midnight recently to pass the amended version of the Wisconsin state budget first introduced by Governor Walker. The version passed on a 17-16 vote with Senator

Dale Schultz (R-Richland Center) joining senate democrats in voting no.

The version passed by the state senate was identical to the version passed on Wednesday by the state assembly and now moves on to be reviewed by Governor Walker and signed into law prior to the end of the state's fiscal year on July 1.

The highlights of the state budget for WBA include:

- End of the Building Contractor Registration (BCR)
- Lump sum sales tax exemption for contractors
- Additional funding available for contractors to restore historic homes/office space
- Uniform erosion control and stormwater standards
- \$676 million income tax cut
- Property tax freeze
- Greater incentives for accurate collection of fire data in Wisconsin

We will be touching base with Governor Walker on these items in the hopes they all remain part of the final budget that he signs, likely next week.

## **UI tax increase veto request**

One area of concern in the state budget is a provision that was added in the Joint Committee on Finance that would create three additional rate categories, with an increase in the top rate from 9.8% to 12%. For employers in that top category, this would be a 22.4% tax increase. Unfortunately, that tax increase would most dramatically impact cyclical and seasonal industries like construction and manufacturing.

WBA is working with a coalition of other construction and union groups that is 22 members strong asking for Governor Walker to veto this increase and work on an alternative before the rate would increase in 2015.

A portion of the letter sent to Governor Walker is reprinted below:

*"This tax increase will cost affected employers an estimated \$24 to \$33 million a year in additional UI taxes. In fact, the attached estimate from DWD shows*

*half of the entire UI tax increase will fall squarely on the construction industry.*

*We are aware of the perception by some that not all businesses are paying their "fair share" into the UI fund. Determining what UI rates are fair is a complicated and somewhat subjective question that deserves a thorough discussion. However, because of the timing of its introduction into the Budget, this UI rate increase did not have any legislative hearings or discussions between the interested parties.*

*Therefore, as part of your veto, we would ask that you direct the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council to: 1) Review the existing UI tax rate structure; 2) Review the many changes that have been made to the UI laws in the last two years; and 3) Determine if any additional changes to rates or policies are needed to protect the health and stability of the UI fund for the long term."*

We are hopeful that the large and diverse groups involved in this discussion will have success with Governor Walker when he reviews certain provisions in the state budget to alter or veto before it is signed into law.

## **DATCP talks changes to 110**

Recently WBA members and staff professionals sat down with high ranking staff members at the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to discuss the outline of a rule revision to DATCP 110, the rule that greatly affects remodelers in Wisconsin.

We started conversations with DATCP dating back to 2011 on efforts to modernize this rule and we believe the recent discussions are definitely a step in the right direction.

Some of the changes discussed include:

Exempt major renovations from DATCP 110. A major renovation is defined as an improvement project that exceeds the assessed value of the property. The example

DATCP gave was a tear-down/rebuild.

Relaxation of building permit requirement. The proposal allows a project that consists of multiple sub-projects to proceed as required permits for each sub-project are obtained.

More flexibility for providing warranties. The proposal allows a remodeler to provide manufacturers warranties at the beginning of the project, as equipment is installed, or at the end of the project, provided the time is specified in the contract.

Eliminates the cap on liquidated damages for a customer who breaches the contract. The proposal

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deletes a \$100 maximum for liquidated damages, and retains the 10% limit.

More flexibility on change orders. The remodeler may accept verbal change orders that do not increase the cost of the project or reduce the quality of materials used.

Easier to accept email change orders. The wording of the draft will make it clearer that remodelers may use email to obtain owners consent on change orders.

More flexibility with lien waivers. The draft allows the owner and remodeler to forgo "proportional" lien waivers.

Removes liability from the remodeler for customer-caused delays.

Clarifies provisions related to third-party financing with a note that illustrates that a customer is not responsible for work that is not completed, even when the financing for that work is provided by a third party creditor.

Merges, without change, ATCP 111, the regulations for basement waterproofing into ATCP 110.

WBA staff professionals will continue to work with the WBA membership and DATCP officials on these changes moving forward through the rule making process.

### **Wisconsin polling released**

A new poll conducted recently by the Marquette Law School found Congressman Paul Ryan leading other possible challengers in Wisconsin for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton leading the 2016 presidential field for Democrats.

Ryan came in as the favorite with 27% ahead of Florida U.S. Senator Marco Rubio with 21% and Governor Scott Walker with 16%.

Former Secretary of State Clinton had a commanding 62% of Democrats surveyed on their 2016 preference with Vice-President Biden registering with 13% and Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren coming in at 5%.

Looking closer to home and more towards 2014, the survey added the following concerning Governor Walker's job performance. Gov. Scott Walker's job approval stands at 51 percent while disapproval is 45 percent. In March, Walker's approval was 50 percent with 44 percent disapproval. Voters have begun to be a bit more optimistic about the economy, with 39 percent thinking that it will get better over the next year, 20 percent that it will get worse and 37 percent that it will stay about the same. In March, 33 percent expected a better economy, while 26 percent said they thought it would worsen and 38 percent said it would stay the same.

### **Perfect weather for 2013 Kirking golf event**

On May 16 WBA members from across the state gathered for a perfect day of sun and golf as part of the 2013 Gloria Kirking Memorial Golf Outing for

Housing Advocacy. The annual event helped raise funds for NAHB's political action committee BUILD PAC and was held this year at the Wild Rock Golf Club in Wisconsin Dells.

Thank you to those who made the trip and donated to BUILD PAC to make this event a success!

We hope to build on this year's event this year and into the future!

### **From NAHB: House Lead Paint Bill Would Help Remodelers, Consumers**

Responding to concerns from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and affiliated trade groups, bipartisan legislation to make much-needed improvements to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Lead: Renovation, Repair and Painting (LRRP) rule was reintroduced in the U.S. House of Representatives today.

The Lead Exposure Reduction Amendments Act of 2013 (H.R. 2093) is identical to legislation introduced in the last Congress. The bill would reinstate the opt-out provision to allow home owners without small children or pregnant women residing in the home to decide whether to require LRRP compliance, allow remodelers to correct paperwork errors without facing full penalties and provide an exemption for emergency renovations. It would also eliminate the requirement that recertification training be "hands on," so that remodelers would no longer have to travel to training facilities out of their region.

The bipartisan bill, companion legislation to S. 484, was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. Tim Murphy (R-Pa.), along with 21 original co-sponsors.

"H.R. 2093 will make common sense improvements to the EPA's lead paint rule for home owners and remodelers who must comply with the regulation's costly work practices and recordkeeping requirements," said NAHB Remodelers Chairman Bill Shaw, GMR, GMB, CGP, a remodeler from Houston. "Most importantly, it will continue to protect pregnant women and small children against lead hazards. I commend the bill's co-sponsors for their commitment to improve this burdensome regulation."

The LRRP rule applies to homes built before 1978 and requires renovator training and certification, adherence to lead-safe work practices and record keeping.

By removing the opt-out provision in July 2010, EPA more than doubled the number of homes subject to the LRRP rule, adding an estimated \$336 million per year in compliance costs to the remodeling community – without making young children any safer.

For more information about remodeling, visit [www.nahb.org/remodel](http://www.nahb.org/remodel).

Brad Boycks

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(608) 242-5151 ext.16

Visit our web site: [www.wisbuild.org](http://www.wisbuild.org)

# COMMITTEES UPDATES

## **ADVERTISING / MARKETING** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **GOLF** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **PERSONNEL** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **EVENTS** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **HOME SHOW** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **SILENT AUCTION** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **SCHOLARSHIP** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **FACEBOOK** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **MEMBERSHIP** \_\_\_\_\_

No updates this month.

## **SPORTING CLAY** \_\_\_\_\_

Event: This year's event is scheduled for August 23

Location: Wausau Skeet and Trap Club in Brokaw

Cost: \$65 (not including your shells)

What's included: Round of sporting clays (you shoot approximately 100 shells per round), Lunch and refreshments, Various other shooting competitions available at an additional cost

Contact Larry Meyer at 715 848-0518 if you would like to help or if you have any questions.

## **PARADE OF HOMES** \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you to all who were involved in the Parade of Homes. Whether it be on a committee, a builder or just coming to view the homes, your help made this year a great success!

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# Scholarship Thank You

Dear Wausau Area Builders Association,  
Thank you for presenting me with a scholarship. It means so much that you would invest in a student like me. I have worked very hard to earn this gift for my continuous education in LaGrasse. Thank you again for choosing me as one of your scholarship recipients.  
Sincerely,  
Alecia Stevenson

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June 10, 2013

Wausau Area Builders Association  
230 Reservoir Avenue  
Wausau, WI 54401

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for considering me in the Wausau Area Builders Association Scholarship. The money that I have received will be put forth to help me pay for my education. Next year I plan to attend the UW-Marathon County to get a degree in accounting. I am very appreciative and grateful that I have been chosen for this scholarship; so again, I would like to thank you for the scholarship, it will help me on my journey to a better education.

Respectfully,

  
Tyler Schertz

# Scholarship Thank You

6/11/2013

Dear Wausau Area Builders Association:

I would like to thank you for selecting me to be a recipient of the \$485 scholarship from the Wausau Area Builders Association Fund. This scholarship will aid in the financing of my education at UW Oshkosh.

I am looking forward to starting a new school year in the fall and studying in the field of Criminal Justice. College will be a new and exciting experience. Thank you once again; your scholarship is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Philip Lemmer*

Philip Lemmer

Dear Wausau Builders Association,

I am very thankful that out of all the worthy people in this area you chose me. I would really like to thank Jerry J. for taking his time to come to Mosinee just to give me and another this award. I know this Association does a lot for our community and I wanted to thank you for that. This scholarship will do wonders for me and I will do my best to make it worthy. Once again thank you Wausau Area Builders Association.

Sincerely,

*Gauntt Stiggemann*