LET'S LEVEL

the Official Publication of the Wansan Area Builders Association

JUNE 2011 VOLUME 30 - ISSUE 6



June 2011 Volume 30, Issue 6







A Note from Your Executive Officer Chris Briquelet













Highlights for the Brewer Tailgate Dinner Meeting



Homes entered into 16 the Parade of Homes

Monday Morning Review Brad Boycks

Spikes



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.



Home Construction Loans 3.49%*

United FCS construction loans feature:

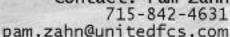
- Unlimited draws!!!
- 12 month completion period
 - Large acreage acceptable
 - Free preapproval!
 - * Rate subject to change

Land Loans

United FCS land loans feature:

- Low Down payments
- Fixed and ARM rates up to 30 years
- Hunting land, recreational land, future home site

Contact: Pam Zahn





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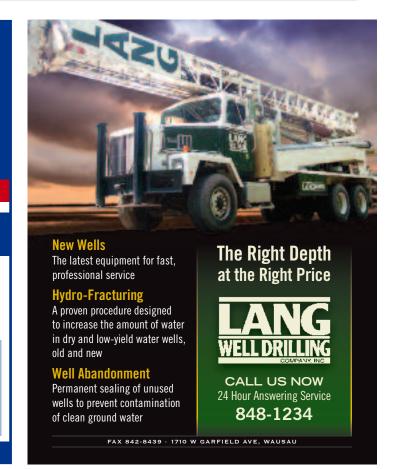


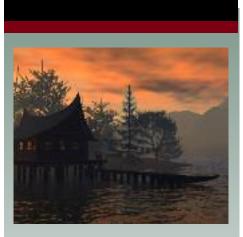
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UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 10
Golf Outing, Indianhead Golf Course

TUESDAY, JUNE 14 Board Meeting - WABA Office

TUESDAY, JULY 4-8 WABA Office will be Closed

TUESDAY, JULY 12 Board Meeting - WABA Office

THURSDAY, JULY 21 WBA Board Day - Chula Vista

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9 Board Meeting - WABA Office

WED.- SAT., AUGUST 17-20 EOC Seminar - Naples, FL

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26 Sporting Clay Shoot Wausau Skeet and Trap Club

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
Board Meeting - WABA Office

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6 WBA Board Day - Chula Vista

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 Board Meeting - WABA Office

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8 Board Meeting - WABA Office

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 Board Meeting - WABA Office

FRI.-SUN., FEB. 3-5, 2012 Home Show

A NOTE FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Welcome Summer! (Almost...)

The warmer weather finally arriving really helped the Parade of Homes Builders put the final touches on their houses for the Parade. As you'll see in the coming pages, the WABA is once again very well represented by the efforts of these builders, something for our Association to be proud of. I hope you were able to make the rounds and see all ten of the homes.

Close on the heels of the Parade is of course the Golf Outing. If you haven't already registered

your foursome, call the office to see if room is still available! On behalf of Jerry Jarosz and the Golf Committee, a big thank you goes out to our sponsors. You'll see a listing in this newsletter.

Larry Meyer and Brent Kriewaldt are working on the Sporting Clay Shoot and they need some additional committee members. If you are interested you can contact either Larry or the office and we can get you involved in this fun event. Knowledge of shooting is not necessary to have a great time!

Lastly, the office will be closed July 4-8 as I'll be on vacation. Hopefully Mother Nature will have made up her mind by then.

Let's hope for a long warm summer that will spur projects for all of our members!

Chris Briquelet

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everyone is finally able to enjoy the warm weather.

The first order of business is the need to fill positions for the fall elections. Those being, President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer and Local Directors. Please consider one of those positions or use your assets and volunteer some time on a committee. We have many to choose from: Membership, Home Show, Parade of Homes, Golf Outing, Clay Shoot or Marketing. If you'd like to join please call myself or Chris to get involved today.

I'd also like to remind you to come join the fun on Friday, June 10th at our Golf Outing. And mark your calendars for Friday, August 26th for the Clay Shoot.

Have a safe and happy summer!

- Garry Volm, Volm Builders LLC

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OFFICERS

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Vice-President	Bob Marcell
Secretary-Treasurer	Sara Holtz
Past President	Larry Meyer
Executive Officer	Chris Briquelet

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Associates Advisory F	Ray Bodenheimer
	Jason Brettinger
	Kristin Flamang
BLDR-PAC	Andy Radant
Education Committee	James Wanserski
Events Committee	Andrea Reede
Building A Better Wisconsin Trustee	. Jonathon Smith
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
Golf Outing	Jerry Jarosz
Sporting Clay	Larry Meyer

JUNE, 2011 GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

- 1. Reps. John Campbell (R-Calif.) and Gary Peters (D-Mich.) week of May 16th introduced legislation (H.R. 1859) that would replace Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with five private companies that would issue mortgage-backed securities and have government backing of affordable housing in all economic and financial conditions. NAHB views this as a good sign as debate on the future of the housing finance system moves forward and anticipates that lawmakers will offer additional bills to continue to provide a predictable government role to preserve financial stability and maintain a stable housing sector. NAHB has also presented lawmakers with a detailed proposal on how a future housing finance system can be structured.
- 2. Rule reform bill set to become law on Monday May 23. any Wisconsin governor will have a greater ability to review and reject administrative rules in the future. This greatly affects the building industry because the vast majority of building code changes come via the administrative rule process. •Agencies will only have the authority explicitly specified by the Legislature.
 - *The Governor can reject regulations being advanced by his or her agencies.
 - •Agencies will (finally!) analyze the economic impact of their mandates.
 - •Citizens may challenge administrative rules in the county in which they reside, not just Dane county
- 3. Voter ID bill goes to Walker for signature,he will sign this bill into law on May 25. 2005-2006 legislative sessions where the bill passed both houses of the legislature (then controlled by the GOP) but was vetoed by then Governor Jim Doyle.
- 4. The Joint Committee on Finance, on a unanimous and bipartisan vote of 16-0, voted to eliminate the conversion fee on agriculture land. The provision will keep the PACE program in place but eliminates the funding and bonding for the program, eliminates the mandate to solicit applications for the PACE program, and requires a study on this issue and that a report be issued to the Joint Committee on Finance on the future of the PACE program by June 30, 2012. This was a top WBA Gov. Affairs priority.
- 5. Senator Herb Kohl announced he would not seek re-election and since that surprise announcement a number of names have surfaced. Former Congressman Mark Neumann; former state Senator Ted Kanavas; current Assembly Speaker Jeff Fitzgerald; current members of the U.S. Congress Ron Kind and Tammy Baldwin and former Congressman Steve Kagen; former Governor Tommy Thompson; and former U.S. Senator Russ Feingold ponders a political comeback in 2012.

Elizabeth Warren head of President Obama's new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), has been invited to headline the University of Wisconsin-Madison's annual spring conference on housing and the economy. The June 9 event, which has been dubbed "New Partnerships: Government and Real Estate," Warren will reportedly discuss how the CFPB will affect the housing industry.

FYI

For your convenience, you will be able to register electronically this year. An email with the registration link will be coming to you separately.

33nd Annual

WAUSAU AREA BUILDERS **ASSOCIATION GOLF OUTING**

Friday, June 10, 2011 **Indianhead Golf Course**

Four Person Scramble Format Registration 11:00 am - 12:15 pm 12:30 pm Shotgun Start with Dinner and Program to follow

> \$75.00/player (\$300/foursome) prior to June 1 Dinner Only-\$30 per person

\$90/player (\$360/foursome) after June 1

* Entry Restricted to the First 132 Paid Participants *

REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

Box Lunch * 18 Holes Of Golf with Motor Cart * Two Drink Tickets * Full Dinner * Door Prizes * Free Beer on the Course * Numerous Hole Events

33nd ANNUAL WABA GOLF OUTING REGISTRATION FORM ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE WABA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Business Name:	Address:	Phone:		
Player 1:	Address:	Phone:		
Player 2:	Address:	Phone:		
Player 3:	Address:	Phone:		
Plaver 4:	Address:	Phone:		

Payment must be received with registration form to ensure participation Mail registration and payment to: WABA - 141 W. Thomas Street - Wausau, WI 54401 Ouestions can be directed to the office at: (715) 842-9510

WABA DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE 2011–2012 SIGN-UP FORM

Now is the time to participate in the activities of your Association. The key to making the most of your membership is not what the association gives to you, but what you invest in the Association through participation. Play an active role in making it happen! Don't burn out the people that are always there for the Association. They are volunteers because they believe in the Association and have experienced first-hand what the Local, State and National Associations can do with team work.

Meet your fellow members - they're nice people Indicate your interests below and return the sign-up sheet today!

President-Elect	 Home Show	
Secretary-Treasurer	 Membership	
Local Director	 Parade of Homes	
Golf Outing	 Clay Shoot	
	Marketing	

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Name			
Company			
City	State	Zip Code	
Business Phone	Email		

If you have any questions about a committee, please feel free to call the office at 715-842-9510. Not all committees have monthly meetings, rather meet when needed or when the chair schedules one. It's imperative to the growth of the Association that everyone does their part to help **their** industry grow.

Mail to the office at: 141 W. Thomas St., Wausau, WI 54401 or fax the form to 715-845-5435







Highlights from the



Representatives from Focus on Energy were on hand talking about the various rebates and incentives available for new and existing homes. Chad Sickler discussed the upcoming Parade of Homes Jerry Jarosz updated everyone on the Golf Outing and gave away a Foursome for the event.









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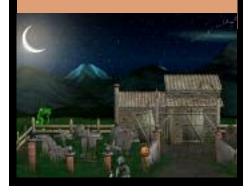
Merrill Boy Scout Troop 599 is in the process of constructing a haunted house and is looking for material donations. The haunted house theme is an old saw mill so we are looking for items to fit that theme as well. We are looking for used items (the older the better) but would not turn away anything new as well.

Boy Scout Wish List:

- lights and lighting fixtures
- doors (all sorts and types the older and banged up the better)
- door hinges
- electrical wire
- plexi glass
- pvc pipe and connectors
- old tools saws / blades / hammers etc
- plywood sheeting, nails, screws, lumber
- insulation sheets
- other old materials metal drums or anything that would add to the illusion of a haunted saw mill that we are trying to create

If anyone has any of these items to donate please contact Jim Woller at 715/536-8164 or 715/574-2350

A donation receipt will be provided upon request.





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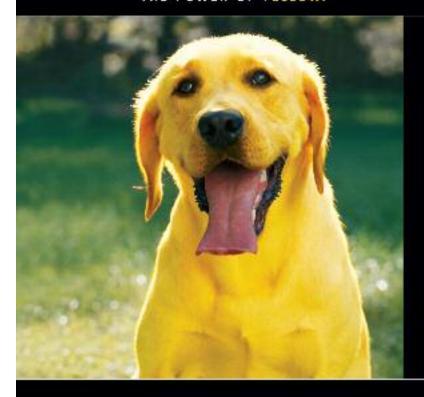
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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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Name	Date				
Company Name					
Address		City	S	tate	Zip
Phone: Office					
Email					
Is this company a Corporatio					
List of Officers, Directors, or Part	ners				
Name of representative(s) who wi	ll attend meetings				
List of spouse(s) (optional)					
Address of representative if differ	ent than above				
Number of years in business					
Along with this	application for member	ership, certificate of insurance i	nust be subn		,
) Liability, \$500,000 A	uto Insurance and Worker's Co	mpensation,	uniess exem	pt.
REFERENCES:					
Bank Suppliers:					
Name	Δ	ddress		Phone	
Name					
Customers:				, 1 none	
		ddress		Phone	
Name Address Name Address					
Name					
Federal ID#					
MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICAT		aa ahaale waxe mambarahin	antagaria		
Basic membership dues are \$430. Builder: Any self-employed p					m the
construction industry, land de					
immediately prior to date of a	application. Applic	ant must present a copy of	a valid co	ntractor's l	icense.
Certificate Number			_		
Associate: Any person, firm o	or corporation, that	provides service and/or pr	oducts to 1	the constru	ction industry
and has been in business for a * A \$25.00 late fee will be charged		2 1			istatement charge
By signing this application you are authorizing			-		_
is subject to the Board of Director's approval or eturned to the applicant. This Association do against qualified handicapped persons or quali crimination. This application will be given ev I agree to abide by the Constitution and the By Association and the National Association of H membership dues in the affiliated Associations to all national, state and local newsletters.	vithin 60 days of this app es not discriminate in met fied disabled veterans. N ery consideration, but its rlaws of the Local Associa ome Builders of the Unite	lication date. If this application is donbership on the basis of race, color, o question on this application is intereceipt does not imply that the application to which this membership applied States with which it is affiliated.	enied, a check religious creed nded to secure cant will be ac- ication is direct A remittance of	for the applica d, national origininformation to cepted. eted and the Wi of \$430.00 repr	ition fee will be in, sex, ancestry, age or be used for such dis- isconsin Builders resenting my annual
Sponsor					
Sponsor Applicants Signature		Date			
Duos normanta to WA	DA oro NOT doduce	tible og oboritoble contribution	ng for fodor	al tax numa	999

Dues payments to WABA are NOT deductible as charitable contributions for federal tax purposes. However, dues payments may be deductible as an "ordinary and necessary" business expense. Make checks payabe to WABA & return this application to: WABA, 141 W. Thomas St., Wausau, WI 54401

NAHB MEMBER IDENTIFICATION (ID) CODING INSTRUCTIONS

The NAHB Member Identification (ID) Code is made up of eleven data blocks which are explained below. It is separate from the six-digit NAHB Membership Number assigned to each member. The ID Code designed for use by NAHB and its affiliated state and local associations to provide services which respond to the changing needs of our membership. Please note as in the examples below. If the requested data for a particular block is not applicable, enter a dash (-). Also, if you don't know the exact answer for a particular block, please give your best estimate. In order for an associate member to receive the <u>Builder Magazine</u> they must be classified with an occupation code ranging from (A-Z). A "Z" or "other" classification code must be further defined by writing the members specific occupation in the space provided. Any associate member not classified as outlined will not receive a copy of the <u>Builder Magazine</u>.

Г	Membership Classification:	
1ST BLOCK	enter a code (1) for all Builder Members enter a code (2) for all Associate Members	
2ND BLOCK	enter the primary business activity code (a-z) from the following selection including any subcodes:	
D - Multifamily Builder/O	L - Accounting M - Architects, Planners, Designers, Engineers Speculative (Detached and Attached) Speculative (Detached and Attached) Custom O - Computer Products and Services Sale Units Wa - Flooring Wa - Floori	
3RD & 4TH BLOCKS	using the above Business Activity Codes, code the second and third business activity, including sub-codes if applicable.	
5TH BLOCK	enter the members annual dollar volume of all construction/development. Choose from the following list of codes: 1 - Under \$1 million 2- \$1 million to \$5 million 3 - \$5 million to \$10 million 4 - Over \$10 million	
6TH BLOCK	enter the members annual number of residential dwelling units. Choose from the following list of codes: 1 - 0 units 2 - 1 to 10 units 3 - 11 to 25 units 4 - 25 to 100 units 5 - 101 to 500 units 6 - over 500 units	
7TH & 10TH BLOCKS	enter the total number of paid employees, including the member.	
using the following list of Title Codes, enter the member's business title: A - President/CEO/Owner/Principal/Partner B - VP/General Manager C - Construction Superintendent D - Sales and Marketing Manager using the following list of Title Codes, enter the member's business title: F - Financial Manager G - Other Management Personnel H - Non Managerial Personnel I - Other (please specify)		
built 11 homes with a total Code would be:	is a home builder and land developer. He is also the owner of a real estate company. Adams has a total of 19 employees in both his companies. Last year he al sales value of \$900,000, and he developed 17 building lots for himself and other builders for a total value of \$500,000. Bill Adams NAHB Membership ID	
Example #2: Adelie Boyc with a total market value	B J U 2 3 2 0 A is the owner of an architectural/design firm with 8 employees on her payroll. Last year her firm also converted an old school building into 8 apartments of \$475,000. Adelie Boyd's NAHB Membership ID Code would be:	
2		



HOME 2

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Like Obey last year, Senator Kohl calls it quits

Recently I took a call from a new staffer at the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC) to catch up on Senator Kohl's seat and discuss those who have been rumored to be considering a run on the GOP side. We both agreed that whoever decided to run would very likely be facing Senator Kohl in a re-election bid. We (and most other political observers) were proven wrong today.

At a news conference on May 13 Senator Kohl confirmed that he would not be seeking re-election in 2012 for the U.S. Senate seat he was first elected to in 1988.

Senator Kohl said in a statement "So even though I continue to love this job, I have decided that the time has come to

give someone else the opportunity to serve. Therefore, I am announcing today that I will not seek another term as your Senator. Rather, I will devote all my energy and time in the next 19 months to continuing to serve the people of our state."

This announcement was seen as bad news for the Democrats and their efforts to hold the majority in the U.S. Senate post the 2012 election. This will be another open seat in addition to defending a number of seats across the country currently held by Democrats.

Let the rumors begin on who will run for this open seat. Expect to hear former U.S. Senator Russ Feingold and current U.S. Congressman Ron Kind to be mentioned for the Democrats. Former Congressman Mark Neumann has been mentioned as someone considering a run before the Kohl retirement announcement in addition to former state Senator Ted Kanavas. Former Governor Tommy Thompson is also said to be close to announcing a run as well.

Now that this is an open seat, you can expect a long list will form of Republicans and Democrats who are considering a run. We can also expect another very high profile, very expensive U.S. Senate race in Wisconsin in 2012.

Permanent property tax restrains included in state budget

The Joint Committee on Finance (JFC), on a 12-4 party-line vote, voted recently to make property tax restraints contained in Governor Walker's budget permanent for Wisconsin homeowners.

The committee passed a zero percent property tax cap for the next two years and a permanent 1.5% cap in the future.

"In these tough times families need certainty," said JFC Co-Chair Senator Alberta Darling (R-River Hills). "Today, we stood up for the property taxpayers by saying 'no' to out of control taxing and spending."

"We're putting our money where our mouth is," said JFC Co-Chair Representative Robin Vos (R-Burlington). "We talked about permanent property tax limits during the last campaign and now we're making it happen so local governments finally will get the fiscal certainty they need."

WBA Remodelers Council members meet with DATCP officials on 110

Recently Gerry Lycholat, Abe Degnan and I had an opportunity to meet with officials from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) on DATCP 110, the remodeling rule.

Sandy Chalmers, who is the new Administrator of the Division of Trade and Consumer Protection said that in conversations with the DATCP Secretary, Ben Brancel, he had mentioned that the modernization of DATCP 110 was a priority for the new secretary. WBA GA staff met with Secretary Brancel on this topic earlier this year and was happy to hear he shares our vision for needed reforms of DATCP 110.

Where do we go from here? WBA GA staff, members and attorneys are in the process of putting together a memo to highlight our specific issues with DATCP 110. Once that is done we will be sharing with DATCP staff and then meeting to further discuss.

If all goes well we will be working with DATCP staff on a rule reform package on DATCP 110 that then can move to the legislature in the future.

A strong effort by John Lautz in the 94th Assembly District

On Tuesday, May 3 voters in the 94th Assembly District went to the polls in a special election to elect a successor to Department of Administration Secretary Mike Huebsch. WBA member John Lautz was matched up against Steve Doyle in the general election with Doyle besting Lautz 54-46%.

John Lautz ran a smart and efficient campaign but came up short in the general election after a convincing primary win a month earlier where he beat four other GOP candidates with 48% of the primary vote.

WBA members from across the state were very generous with their time and pocket book to help a fellow member in his run for the state Assembly this winter and spring. In total WBA members donated \$11,737 through the Builders Direct Fund Conduit and the Building a Better Wisconsin PAC made donations total the legal limit of \$500 to the Lautz for Assembly Campaign.

The Building Industry Council (BIC), a separate but WBA affiliated 501 (c)(4) group was also active in the two weeks leading up to primary election in the 94th Assembly District. BIC purchased \$15,000 worth of radio airtime in the Coulee Region to discuss the public policy of agenda of John Lautz which included support for balancing our state budget and streamlining government to help grow existing businesses and attract new jobs to Wisconsin.

Western Wisconsin, including the 94th A.D. has been trending to the Democrats for the past decade or so in the top ticket races (president and governor) and in state Assembly and Senate races. Even the former representative from the 94th, Secretary Mike Huebsch began to be targeted by the Democrats in recent years. Before Huebsch won this seat in 1994 it had been held by Democrat Virgil Roberts from 1986 to 1994.

NAHB Applauds Reps. Gary Miller and Brad Miller for Legislation Addressing Housing Lending Crisis

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) applauds Rep. Gary Miller (R-Calif.), Rep. Brad Miller (D-N.C.) and 29 other original co-sponsors for introducing bipartisan legislation aimed at restoring the flow of acquisition, development and construction (AD&C) credit to the housing sector to help spur job growth, support a recovery in the housing market and keep the economy moving forward.

"We commend Reps. Gary Miller and Brad Miller for championing a legislative solution aimed at ending the freeze in housing production credit that has forced countless home building firms across the nation to shutter their doors, resulting in grave repercussions for job growth and the overall economy," said NAHB Chairman Bob Nielsen, a home builder from Reno, Nev.

The credit crunch has taken an enormous toll on the nation's economy, with job losses felt most acutely in the housing sector, where more than 1.4 million construction workers have been idled since 2006. Factoring in the effect of the housing plunge on industries that provide materials and services to home builders, the total impact of the housing slump has been the loss of more than three million jobs and \$145 billion in wages in all housing-related industries.

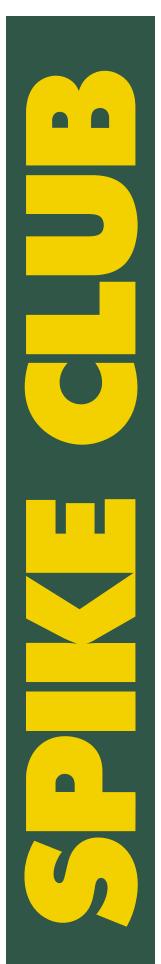
H.R. 1755, the Home Construction Lending Regulatory Improvement Act of 2011, would address specific regulatory obstacles to the credit needs of the nation's home builders.

In a letter to fellow lawmakers seeking support for their bill, Reps. Gary Miller and Brad Miller said that "one of the major reasons for this lack of credit is the overly restrictive actions by banking regulators which have hindered federal and state chartered banks and thrifts' ability to make and maintain loans to qualified small home builders that have viable projects."

To rectify this situation, the legislation would grant authority and guidance to federal and state banking regulators to ensure that financial institutions that provide financing to America's home builders are permitted to make loans, restore liquidity and provide stable financing to the residential housing sector.

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.)



NAHE STATUS CREDITS

for month ending April 30, 2011

SUPER SPIKE

(250-499)

Dan Sillars (481)

ROYAL SPIKE

(150-249)

Dave Framke (230)

Rod Werner (214.50)

Ken Bauer (199.50)

Jim Woller (187.50)

Guy Reedy (182)

Doug Knight (160)

Larry Voigt (162.50)

RED SPIKE

(100-149)

Sid Sorensen (137.50)

Jim Voigt (120.50)

Dave Kautza (119.50)

Jerry Draxler (114.50)

Rick Kuharske (100)

GREEN SPIKE

(50-99)

Jerry Jarosz (89)

Larry Meyer (88.50)

Dwight Dorpat (75)

Will Keener (71.50)

LIFE SPIKE

(25-49)

James Koebe (47.50)

Cory Sillars (45.50)

Arden Emmerich (42.50)

Bernie Wood (38)

Jeremy Voigt (37)

Bob Sundell (35)

Kolby Muscha (29.50)

Dan Thomas (27)

BLUE SPIKE

(6-24)

Garry Volm (22.50)

Bob Kolbeck (21.50)

Ted Peotter (21.50)

James Wanserski (19.50)

Rob Mork (19)

Brian Luedtke (18.50)

Ken Wanta, Jr. (18.50)

Ray Bodenheimer (18)

Shane Brzezinski (18)

Jason Brettingen (15.50) Leroy Kazmierczak (14.50)

Bill Schnowske (11.50)

SPIKE CANDIDATE

Tim Brown (3)

Mark Reede (3)

Don Marquardt (2.50)

Robert Kulp (2)

John Proulx (2)

Andy Radant (2)

Sarah Ruffi (2)

Matthew Waldvogel (2)

Rick Wanta (2.50)

Gary Guerndt (1.50)

David Kempf (1.50)

Mike Polencheck (1.50)

Gary Rusch (1.50)

James Coleman (1)

Jonathon Smith (1)

David Zick (1)

Michael Bolen (.50)

John Ohrmundt (.50)

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 member 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 hardearned 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.