

LET'S LEVEL



the Official Publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association



the
GOMEDY
of
Roger Radley

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email with link to
register online**

**MARCH 2015
VOLUME 34 - ISSUE 3**

Roger Radley is a Wisconsin native and award winning comedian who has shared the stage with such stars as George Carlin, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Marty Stuart and more! His unique blend of midwestern & "Wisconsinite" humor is sure to keep you laughing!

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Cash Bar

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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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MISSION STATEMENT:

The Wausau Area Builders Association, chartered in 1967 and affiliated with the Wisconsin Builders Association and National Association of Home Builders, is a professional non-profit trade association. Serving the community we represent the interests and concerns of the consumer, building trades, industry suppliers and all facets of the building industry.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The February meeting at the Elks gave some new insight into the DOT regulations.

Rick Nowack from the State Patrol provided us with some of the things we all wondered about, but did not know who to ask and probably didn't really want to hear.

We are trying to get him back one more time to allow anyone who was unable to attend an opportunity to get the real and correct information.

The March meeting brings us some big time comedy when Roger Radley takes the stage at The Great Dane Pub & Brewing Co. It has been a while since we have done this and I hope everyone can join us for some fun and laughter.

April brings the silent auction. Howard Freeman is in need of help to make this a great success and a lot of fun for all that attend. If you have items to donate, or would be willing to help get donations call Howard at 715-302-0345 or the office at 715-842-9510.

The Home Show was a great success for the association by the attendance and the fact Russ sold out all available booths. He even had to turn away some vendors that didn't call soon enough. The vendors expressed they were very happy with the attendance and the positive response of the attendees. They received good leads from people with interest. The committee is looking to expand the show next year into the ballroom.

Doug is working on the Parade of Homes book selling ads. The deadline is fast approaching; don't miss your chance to place an ad in this year's book.

See you on March 19. You will leave with a smile on your face!

Sid Sorensen, WABA President



MEMBER INFORMATION

RENEWING

Roger Hanson Sanitation & Excavation Inc.
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 Ver Halen/Pella Windows Inc.
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 Mike Polencheck General Contractor LLC
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 Best 1 Plumbing & Heating Inc.
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<http://ecw.org/betterbuildingswi/home>

JOKE OF THE MONTH

A man gets pulled over by the police for speeding. The cop walks up to the car and says to the driver, "Sir, did you know that you were going 60 miles an hour?" The driver says, "Officer, there is no way I could have been going 60 miles an hour!" The cop says, "Really! Why is that?" The driver replies, "I could not have been going 60 miles an hour because A couple was having a party at their house. An hour before the party the woman found out that she still needed escargots. So she sent her husband out to get it. He was walking to the supermarket and he figured he had lots of time. So he stopped at the bar on the way. An hour and a half later he looked at his watch and realized that the party had already started. He quickly ran to the market, bought the snails and ran home. He tried to sneak into the kitchen without his wife seeing him. But at that moment his wife came out. He quickly threw the snails on the floor and said, "Come on guys, we're almost there."

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE 2015 HOME SHOW

Hello all! Another Home Show has come and gone successfully! The 2015 Show was held at The Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center (formerly The Patriot Center) for the 6th year. Our attendance this year topped 2,000 people coming through the doors to see the exhibits and seminars. This was also the first year in this venue that we had all our booths filled when the show started!



I would like to thank all the exhibitors, workers, committee members, and volunteers that helped make this show a great success!

For 2016 we have many advance registrations, and with the number of exhibitors returning and asking for more booths, we have decided to use some additional space at the Expo center, so we are also taking reservations for booths in the ballroom. In the last three years we have had numerous requests for this, and we feel that 2016 will be the time to expand the show.

We are also planning a date change to the last weekend in February for 2016.

If you are interested in a booth for 2016, and you were not in the 2015 show, please contact our WABA sales rep, Doug Reimer at dougr@wausauareabuilders.com or 715-581-9520.

Thank you and have a great building season!

Russ Utech, Home Show Chair



Congrats also to our TV Winners, Amy Trittin, Marilyn Thoms, & Sandy Townshend (accepted by husband John)



Congratulations to Roger K., who won our drawing for a new Craftsman lawnmower.



SILENT



AUCTION

Thursday, April 16, 2015

THE VFW CLUBHOUSE

The committee is looking for donations for auction items.

If you have items to donate please

contact Howard at HowardF@MaccosFlooring.com

WABA SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM

Member Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Company Name: _____

Description of Item: _____

Retail Value of Item: _____

All items must be registered before the auction.

_____ I will deliver the item to the VFW Clubhouse by 5:30 pm the evening of the auction.

_____ Please let this serve as my reservation for dinner

Name: _____ Guest: _____

_____ I cannot attend and would like someone to pick the item up at my office.

Return by Friday, April 10 to: Wausau Area Builders Association, 801 South 24th Ave., Wausau, WI 54401

or email to www.wausauareabuilders.com



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FEBRUARY DINNER MEETING

Photos courtesy of Kyle VanOrder



MARCH

2015

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



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APRIL

2015

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

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THE MONDAY MORNING REVIEW



Assembly GOP "Term Papers" become public

Recently an article appeared in the Wisconsin State Journal highlighting a project that concluded last November where members of the Assembly Republican Caucus provided "term papers" to Assembly Speaker Robin Vos to outline issues they thought should be addressed during the upcoming session.

The exercise of using the summer and fall months to come up with big and small ideas to address during an upcoming session is not new to staff and legislators at the state capitol on both sides of the aisle. When the legislature is out of session and before campaigns really heat up after Labor Day this type of research and brainstorming is a good way to "think outside of the box" and come up with new ideas to improve government.

In addition to providing some input on public policy members of the Assembly Republican Caucus were also asked to provide input on the committees they would prefer to chair and the committees that they would like to serve on in 2015-2016.

You can read all of the term papers here but here some highlights related to housing and natural resources that you might find interesting:

Freshman Representative Terry Katsma from the 26th Assembly District and new member of the Assembly Housing Committee state that "Real estate is a key component of the state's economy. How can the state stimulate economic development in the real estate industry?" Katsma also stated "Now that the housing and real estate industry have modestly recovered from the recession it is important for the industry not to over expand." Finally, Katsma was one of the legislators who requested to be a member of the Assembly Housing Committee.

Freshman Representative Romaine Quinn from the 75th Assembly District stated, "Continue to hold the DNR officials accountable for the decisions and the programs they wish to implement. We also need to do a much better job at brining the public in on some of the decisions in order to realize valid concern, and eliminate needless worry and discussion." Quinn requested and received a seat on the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage.

WBA member and State Representative Bob Kulp from the 69th Assembly District stated he wanted to "draft legislation that reaffirms the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as the sole environmental regulator."

The member of the assembly that had the most to say about housing and real estate was freshman State Representative Scott Allen from the 97th Assembly District when he stated some

of his major concerns as "fairness in code compliance and enforcement" and "protection of private property rights including the right to rent one's own property." Representative Allen is now the Vice-Chair of the Assembly Housing Committee.

Other members who requested and were placed on the Assembly Housing Committee by Speaker Vos were Chair John Jagler of the 37th Assembly District and Representative Dave Murphy of the 56th Assembly District.

Senate Democrats announce "Wisconsin Families First" Agenda

The Wisconsin Families First plan focuses on growing Wisconsin's economy by investing in families, businesses and public infrastructure. It will provide greater protections for Wisconsin students, promote good jobs, strengthen health care and invest in local communities.

"We are focused on addressing the issues that matter most to working families, children and seniors in our state," said Senate Democratic Leader Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse). "It's time to get to work, tackle the tough issues and do the job that voters elected us to do."

Several legislative proposals to encourage job creation, increase family wages and strengthen local communities have already been proposed by Senate Democrats. Over the coming days and weeks, they plan to introduce additional legislative proposals as part of their Wisconsin Families First agenda.

Victory in Sheboygan

Recently we received word that the City of Sheboygan was in the process of revising their local ordinance that requires contractors to pay fees and take a test that exceeds the provisions of state law on the matter.

Early in the summer of 2014, we sent a letter to Sheboygan's mayor making him aware of the Wisconsin Attorney General Opinion that was issued on the topic saying that locals could not exceed state law on the matter. After receiving no response, we followed up with a letter to the Sheboygan City Attorney that referenced the Wisconsin Attorney General Opinion in addition to a letter from the legal counsel at the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) that specifically addressed Sheboygan's ordinance and offered to work with them to change the ordinance.

The City of Sheboygan is proposing a change to their ordinance that will exempt anyone who has a valid state credential, which is a big step in the right direction. One big question remains... if someone goes to pull a permit in Sheboygan and they do not have the state credential but have the Sheboygan requirements, would they issue the permit? If yes, that is against state law which requires the state credential to issue the permit.

We continue to talk with DSPS and the Sheboygan County Home Builders Association on this matter in the hopes that all of the language could be eliminated from the ordinance.

Elections have consequences: MN vs. WI

The term "elections have consequences" may be overused, but recently while reviewing articles from other states on housing issues, some news from Minnesota can be used as a good example of the old adage.

It was reported that the Builders Association of the Twin Cities (BATC) filed a lawsuit against the State of Minnesota against the new code mandating fire sprinklers in single family homes that exceed 4500 square feet (with basements included in the square footage).

In addition to the lawsuit against the fire sprinkler mandate, BATC is also filing a lawsuit against the state objecting to new energy efficiency standards in the one- and two-family building code.

Fortunately we do not have these serious challenges in Wisconsin. There has been no effort to mandate fire sprinklers in residential structures and even if there were, it would be greeted unfavorably by the legislative majorities in Wisconsin.

On the energy code issues, the Dwelling Code Council discussed these changes in early 2014 and decided that the changes provided very little in energy efficiency gains and would have cost the average homeowner in excess of \$5000 per home. This change was unanimously rejected and is not part of a code package that is still making its way through the process.

WBA Advocacy efforts' effect on business...we need your testimonials!

Sometimes it is tricky to boil down why WBA's advocacy efforts are important to members and nonmembers alike in a few key talking points. One way to do that quickly and easily is by getting personal testimonials from members and Executive Officers from across the state on how recent WBA advocacy efforts have had a positive effect on their business and helped to improve housing in our state.

We have an incredible story to tell and we need your help to do it!

We already have some good examples of personal testimonial from builders, developers and Executive Officers, but we need more for an upcoming article in the WBA Badger Builder on this important topic.

Please take five minutes to write up a few sentences on a recent WBA advocacy provision that made a difference to your business and improved housing in Wisconsin. From the improved wall bracing rule, changes to DATCP, or the changes that allow a developer to use a bond over a letter of credit when dealing with a municipality, we need your stories!

Please click here to send a brief summary of your own!

Update on more uniform commercial building code

2013 Wisconsin Act 270 established the Wisconsin Uniform Commercial Building Code. The previous Commercial Building Code acted as a minimum standard and allowed municipalities to enact local ordinances to supplement the Code. The Wisconsin Uniform Commercial Building Code replaced the previous Commercial Building Code and eliminated municipal variations. However, Act 270 allowed municipalities to submit ordinances relating to fire detection, prevention, and suppression to the Department of Safety and Professional Services for review and "grandfathering" into Wisconsin Uniform Commercial Building Code if the submitted ordinances went above and

beyond the provisions included in the Wisconsin Uniform Commercial Building Code.

The Department of Safety and Professional Services has completed its review of all municipal ordinances submitted under Act 270. The results are posted for public reference on the Department's website.

The Wisconsin Uniform Commercial Building Code went into effect upon publication, April 16, 2014. The grandfathered ordinances will be in effect as of the date of posting, January 26, 2015. No municipal commercial building ordinances, including those now grandfathered by the Department, were in effect between 4/16/2014 and 1/26/2015. Any commercial buildings permitted during that time are required to comply only with the Wisconsin Uniform Commercial Building Code.

Walker makes another move towards running for president

On the heels of a well received speech in Iowa comes the announcement of a political organization by Governor Walker to continue his move towards running for President in 2016.

The 527 organization is called "Our American Revival" and is being lead by key Walker advisor Rick Wiley.

With the launch of Our American Revival came what some are calling Governor Walker's first commercial for the Presidency. The video promoting the new group can be viewed here.

Brad Boycks

WBA Director of Government and Political Affairs

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rosettes and corner blocks, complete the
aesthetic.

Ultra Series Sterling triple hung windows present the warmth of wood on the interior with clad with low-maintenance aluminum and durable finishes on the exterior. These windows are engineered with smooth-operating, spring-loaded block and tackle balances or Class 5 balances to accommodate the largest sizes.

Wood covers conceal Ultra Series Sterling triple hung windows' interior jamb liners, bringing the their appearance up to the level of fine furniture. Extruded aluminum trim and sill nosing offer architectural aesthetics similar to wood trim, and typically are finished to match the windows' frames and sash. For unique expressions, custom trim profiles may be requested and the trim, sill nosing, frames and sash may be finished in complementary or contrasting colors.

Both Old World Classic and Ultra Series Sterling triple hung windows may be requested with performance divided lites, interior removable grilles or grilles-in-the-airspace, finished to match inside and out. Glazing bead options accentuate the desired style: Beveled glazing beads help create the traditional look of wood windows. Ovolo glazing beads create a more unique profile.

Further defining a one-of-a-kind look, consider Kolbe's tinted, colored patterned or finely crafted glass. Beyond aesthetics, Kolbe supports energy efficiency across the various climate zones in the U.S. with glass options that include high performance, insulating glass with LoE coatings. Laminated glass may be specified for enhanced safety, security, sound control and UV control. Impact resistant glass further withstands harsh environmental conditions, especially in coastal regions.

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The 2015 Parade of Homes will be held June 2-7.

If you are interested in advertising in the parade book please check your choice at the bottom of this page and send the signed form below with a check made out to WABA to 801 South 24th Ave., Wausau, WI 54401

If you have any questions please call Doug at 715-551-9520 or you may email him at dougr@wausauareabuilders.com Ad copy in a pdf, eps or jpg format should be send here as well.

Please Reserve Ad Space For:

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Contact's Signature _____

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Please check ad size(s)

MEMBER

Black & White

- ☐ Full Page (B/W) - \$300.00
- ☐ 1/2 Page (B/W) - \$220.00
- ☐ 1/4 Page (B/W) - \$165.00

Color

- ☐ Full Page (Color) - \$500.00
- ☐ 1/2 Page (Color) - \$340.00
- ☐ 1/4 Page (Color) - \$240.00

NON-MEMBER

Black & White

- ☐ Full Page (B/W) - \$450.00
- ☐ 1/2 Page (B/W) - \$330.00
- ☐ 1/4 Page (B/W) - \$250.00

Color

- ☐ Full Page (Color) - \$750.00
- ☐ 1/2 Page (Color) - \$510.00
- ☐ 1/4 Page (Color) - \$360.00



AVAILABLE SPONSORSHIP

Take advantage of these Parade of Homes Sponsorship Options! These are available for WABA members only. The options will be available to associate members only until March 6h. After that time they will be open for all builders as well.

PRESENTING SPONSOR

(2 available - 1 taken) - \$2,500

- Company name/logo present on all media advertising (newsprint radio, tv)
- Complimentary two page color ad in parade magazine.
- 10 Complimentary tickets to the WABA Parade of Homes
- Invitation for 2 to the annual parade builders appreciation banquet

BUS TOUR SPONSOR

(1 available) - \$500

- Company name/logo displayed on bus for pre-parade builders tour
- Chairman acknowledgement and opportunity to address the participants
- 2 Complimentary tickets for pre-parade builders bus tour
- 2 Complimentary tickets to the WABA Parade of Homes
- Complimentary 1/4 page color ad in parade magazine.



BUS TOUR LUNCH SPONSOR

(1 available) - \$500

- Company name/logo displayed on lunches for pre-parade builders tour
- Chairman acknowledgement and opportunity to address the participants
- 2 Complimentary tickets for pre-parade builders bus tour
- 2 Complimentary tickets to the WABA Parade of Homes
- Complimentary 1/4 page color ad in parade magazine.

RAFFLE PRIZE SPONSOR

(2 available - 1 taken) - \$500

- Company name/logo displayed at sign-up station at each parade home
- 2 Complimentary tickets to the WABA Parade of Homes
- Complimentary 1/4 page color ad in parade magazine.



APPRECIATION DINNER

(4 available - 1 taken) - \$175

- Company name/logo displayed at annual parade builders appreciation banquet
- Chairman acknowledgement and opportunity to address the participants
- Invitation for 2 to the annual parade builders appreciation banquet

ARTICLE IN PARADE BOOK

(5 available - 1 taken) - \$100

If you have or will be purchasing a 1/2 or full page ad in the Parade of Homes book you are eligible to purchase an article page for an additional \$100. These pages are information for the public and include 1 or 2 pictures and your logo. If you are interested please contact Cindy at 715-443-3032 for more information.

For any of the above sponsorships please call Tony at 715-551-8720 or Cindy at 715-443-3032.

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The National Association of Home Builders' NAHB Legal Research Program provides free legal research assistance and information on building industry-related issues to all members and staff of affiliated home builder associations. While the NAHB staff counsel cannot replace your local attorney, they offer legal research, litigation funding, and/or litigation strategy, depending on the situation and the issues involved. You can review the Legal Services brochure for details.

NAHB offers members easy access to information about federal and state case law. Attorneys are available at NAHB to examine proposed local legislation for procedural and substantive legal issues in the Legal Ordinance Review Program.

And the legal team works with NAHB's Building Product Issues Committee to minimize construction defect and builder liability problems arising in connection with new construction and remodeling.

Throughout the year, NAHB Legal Services focuses on land development challenges, environmental issues, and problems affecting our industry.

This is just one more way that membership in your local home builders association can directly help you and your business.

To find out more, give us a call at (715) 842-9510 or contact us at carolyn@wausauareabuilders.com.

DINNER OFFER



The WABA is now allowing you, the member, to

BRING A potential MEMBER to a dinner meeting FREE OF CHARGE!

This offer pertains to the regular dinner meetings with the exception of the Christmas Party and summer picnic.

The potential member **MUST** be a business owner or representative of a business that relates to the shelter industry and each potential member is only eligible to attend one meeting free of charge.