



T W I N C I T I E S  
**INSTALL**  
INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS & TRAINING ALLIANCE  
FLOORCOVERING PROFESSIONALS

**AUGUST 2009**

**LOCAL # 596  
NEWSLETTER**

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**INSTALL Local 596 – 670 Olive Street, St. Paul, MN 55130**

**P 651.636.0091**

**F 651.636.0092**

**E-Mail [lu596@mncarpenter.org](mailto:lu596@mncarpenter.org)**

**Website**

**[www.tcinstall.org](http://www.tcinstall.org)**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:** Start at 6 PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month, at the Floorcoverers Apprenticeship and Training Center, 680 Olive St., St. Paul, MN. If you have concerns or items of interest please let this office know.

For questions on health & welfare or pension questions contact the Twin Cities Floor Covering Industry Fringe Benefit Fund Office:

**Zenith Administrators**

**PO Box 73**

**Minneapolis MN 55440-0073**

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**Locally 651-256-1803 Toll Free 1800-788-5885**

## WEBSITES UPDATE

**THE COUNCIL'S** website has been revised and is now up and running ([www.northcountycarpenter.org](http://www.northcountycarpenter.org)). On the site you will find links to other Locals including our websites [www.tcinstall.org](http://www.tcinstall.org) as well as [www.flooranswer-twincities.com](http://www.flooranswer-twincities.com). There is also a "members only" page that can only be accessed by entering your eight digit member number. You can find your member number on your monthly dues receipts or your working card. In this section you can view your personal monthly dues "paid through" date and much more. If you have comments or questions regarding the site please give us a call.

The North Central States Regional Council has asked the Locals for assistance in collecting email addresses of our membership. The Council \*may\*, in the future, send out the Carpenters Magazine via e-mail. Please call the Local (651-636-0091), fax (651-636-0092), e-mail ([lu596@mncarpenter.org](mailto:lu596@mncarpenter.org)), or mail (670 Olive St, St. Paul, MN 55130) with your email address. You can use the form on the bottom of page 7 or anything else just as long as your name is also printed on the paper. This will not change anything immediately! We would not share any information with any other parties and anything sent will be spam free.

**THE LOCAL** is working to combine the tcinstall & flooranswer websites. Some of the things you will see is an area "for members" that will give you all the same options as the current tcinstall site (upgrade classes, contractors list, current events, etc.) with an updated look & new sections that will give more in-depth information pertaining to INSTALL and to your benefits. We'll keep you updated; we are just in the planning stages at this time.

**ZENITH** has created a participant access website ([www.zenithadmin.com](http://www.zenithadmin.com)). It is anticipated that this site will be available to members on or about **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**. This site is where you can verify personal information and you will be able to view various records such as "Work History", "Health Eligibility", "Claims Status" or "Pension Information". The first screen is a welcome to Zenith Administrators website. You will need to click on the LOGIN text at the top right of the web page. The Participant Information screen will appear. This is where you will login each time you enter the site. The first time that you enter this site, you will enter your LAST NAME as your USERNAME and your SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER as your PASSWORD. Once you have entered this information, please click on the LOGIN button. If this is the first time you are entering the site you will be required to change your USERNAME and PASSWORD before you are allowed to go any further. Zenith is sending all participants this information with more detail via a mailing that should be out shortly.

## CONDOLENCES

Past member Richard Paul Allen passed away August 21, 2009 at the age of 64. Richard was a member for 23 years prior to his withdrawal of membership in 2007. Our sympathies to all who knew and loved him.

## WOOD FLOOR TRAINING

Ruben & Chris spent last week at the International Training Center to prepare for hardwood floor certification. Nail-down/sand-finish installation has not been trained in our Council by the floorcoverers or the Carpenters. The knowledge they will gather at these sessions will allow them to teach the installation & finishing of hardwood floors. This training is long overdue and will be an asset to our members.

## EMPLOYERS OWING TWO MONTHS OR MORE

**FRINGES (AS OF AUGUST 25, 2009):** American Contract Flooring, MaxPro Flooring, Patco Inc., Vaughan Floorcovering

## LOCAL UNION COMMITTEES

The International has mandated that all Local Unions in all Regional Councils form four committees. They are organizing, political, newsletter/member retention and education. We need your help! The committees meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, at 5:00 PM just prior to the Regular meeting. Your input is valuable and appreciated. Call the office for more information.

## SHOTGUN TUNE-UP

The 2009 All Carpenters Shotgun Tune-up is scheduled for September 12, 2009 at the Minnesota Horse & Hunt Club in Prior Lake starting at 11:30 AM. You need not be a Union member to participate. Teams are made up of six participants maximum. If your registration is in by September 5<sup>th</sup> you will receive one gun raffle ticker per shooter (free). Time is short, do not delay. The \$65/person entry fee includes the course fee, 100 sporting clays, beverages, dinner, awards and door prizes. The event will be held rain or shine. Registration forms are available at the Local or Council offices.



## **INSTALL CERTIFICATION RENEWAL INFORMATION**

You may have noticed that your INSTALL Certification is valid for a period four years. During that four year period you are required to complete 16 hours of qualified training which translates to: four years of your normal required upgrades. This is the same continuing education requirement that has been in article 14.02 for many years.

Certifications that expire in 2010 require eight hours.

Certifications that expire in 2011 and after require sixteen

Contact the Training Center with questions 651-221-1304.

## **UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSINGS**

Danielle will be out of the office:

Leave at 1:30 PM on September 2<sup>nd</sup>

Holiday – September 7<sup>th</sup>

Off all day - September 8<sup>th</sup>

Off all day - September 10<sup>th</sup>

As usual if you need to pay dues you may do so at the Minnesota Carpenters Referral Desk located at 710 Olive Street (the same building we are in). Also credit card payments over the phone can be made to the Council at 651-646-5843. If you need to conduct other business on these days, please call ahead so that we may insure someone is available to assist you. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## **TRADE TIP OF THE MONTH**

Most all commercial work now requires hard hats, safety glasses and work boots. If you show up to the job site without any of these items you may be asked to leave until you have these items. As a result you could end up missing work hours or not working at all. It is best to keep all of these items in your vehicle at all times to avoid this potential situation at the job site or trouble with your employer.

It is important to always dress appropriately for the job, not only to avoid the above, but also for your safety.

**HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE**  
**LABOR DAY!**

## COLD & FLU SEASON

Fall is fast approaching and it has us all thinking of back to school, Minnesota's beautiful fall foliage, hunting season and so on. It also has us dreading the colds and flu season. With all the news coverage of another potential H1N1 outbreak, let us take a minute to go over some basics that can help to keep you and your family healthy this fall & winter. The top eight things that the government (CDC) says we can do are:

- **Maintain a healthy lifestyle** through rest, diet, exercise and relaxation.
- **Wash your hands frequently** with soap and water for 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based cleaner if soap & water are not available. Be sure to wash your hands after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- **Avoid touching your nose, mouth and eyes.** Germs spread this way.
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue**, or cough and sneeze into your elbow. Dispose of tissues in no-touch trash receptacles.
- **Keep frequently touched common surfaces clean**, such as telephones, computer keyboards, doorknobs, etc.
- **Do not use other workers' phones, desks, offices, or other tools and equipment.** If you need to use a co-workers phone, desk, or other equipment, clean it first.
- **Don't spread the flu! If you are sick with flu-like illness, stay home.** Symptoms of flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius) or chills and cough or sore throat. In addition, symptoms of flu can include runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting. The Center of Disease Control (CDC) recommends that sick workers stay home if they are sick with flu-like illness at least 24 hours after they are free of fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
- **Get vaccinated against seasonal flu** when vaccine is available in your area. If you are at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 flu complications you should receive the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine when it becomes available. People at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 flu complications include pregnant women and people with chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, heart disease, or diabetes).

## ATTENTION HAM LAKE MEMBERS

Last month we sent out information late (due to office equipment failure) regarding a notice from the Minneapolis Building Trades pertaining to an important prevailing wage meeting, August 3rd, please accept our apologies.

However, the subject was on the City Council agenda but was never discussed in August. The topic was pushed off until the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting at 6pm at the Ham Lake City Hall – 15544 Central Avenue NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304. The Ham Lake City Council will be hearing public testimony on a Prevailing Wage ordinance that they are considering. The room will need to be filled with Building Trades members that live in Ham Lake that support prevailing wage. We need people to step up to the mic during open comment period.

We **strongly** encourage members living in the area to participate. It is being said that this will be a tough fight because it is thought the city council has ties to non-union builders and that will most likely be in attendance to speak against the Prevailing Wage Ordinance.

## VOTER REGISTRATION

Recently we were informed that only 64% of members within the North Central States Regional Council are registered voters. Now more than ever it is important to know and vote for candidates that are labor friendly, from City Council Members to the White House. With the 2010 Minnesota gubernatorial and US House of Representatives elections a little over a year away, now is the time to register. You may verify your voter registration status by contacting your county. If you are not registered you can download the Registration Form at the MN Secretary of State Website ([www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us)) or contact the Local or Council and we will get one to you. Pre-registration must be 20 days prior to election or you may register at your polling place on Election Day.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2008/2009 GRADUATING APPRENTICES

Michael Duresky  
Andrew Galbreath  
Chad Hammer  
Kevin Harrison



Phil Harbulak  
Nicholas Nehring  
Deryk Palmer  
Ryan Richardson

**Congratulations and we wish you well in your careers.**

## UPGRADE SCHEDULE

<b>September</b>				
9/1/2009	Tuesday	Custom Rug	4:30 PM	Learn the basics for rug making
9/8/2009	Tuesday	Armstrong Flat Lay Certification	4:30 PM	If you have taken and passed the INSTALL Resilient Certification already this is an opportunity to come in for a 25 question, open book test to also become Armstrong Flat lay Certified.
9/10/2009	Thursday	Carpet Claw	4:30 PM	Learn information and practice on a new take-up machine
9/14/2009	Monday	Proper moisture testing procedure	4:30 PM	
9/17/2009	Thursday	Pattern match principles	Follows Metro Union Meeting	
9/22/2009	Tuesday	Resilient base installation	4:30 pm	
9/23/2009	Wednesday	Install Resilient Refresher	4:30 PM	Skills needed to successfully complete the INSTALL resilient Certification
9/28/2009	Monday	Pie Steps	4:30 PM	
<b>October</b>				
10/1/2009	Thursday	Stretching woven carpet	4:30 PM	
10/5/2009	Monday	Install Carpet Refresher	4:30 PM	Skills needed to successfully complete the INSTALL Carpet Certification

**Floor Coverers Training Center – 680 Olive Street, St. Paul, MN 55130 – Phone: 651/221-1304**

Classes that are up to 4 hrs count as ONE UPGRADE    Classes that are 4-8 hrs count as TWO UPGRADES  
 Classes that are more than 8 hrs count as THREE UPGRADES

Opeiu#12/ds

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MEMBER NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST M/I

PHONE NUMBER ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this to the Local as stated in Page 2. Thank you.

INSTALL Local 596  
670 Olive Street  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55130



**IMPORTANT  
MEMBERSHIP  
INFORMATION  
ENCLOSED**