



# NDAB NEWS

Monthly News from the North Dakota Association of Builders April 2017



## Presidents Message

**NDAB President  
Eric Brenden**

There has been much talk in recent years about the labor shortage in the construction industry and the difficulty in getting kids and young adults to want to work in the construction field.

I recently came across an article by NAHB that discussed the results of a special study by [HousingEconomics.com](http://HousingEconomics.com) related to that very issue. The primary purpose of the study was to shed light on the attitudes of young adults toward the trades, the compensation level that could entice some of them to join the industry, and the reasons many won't even consider construction as a possible career path. There were a few results of the study that might help us understand how to attract more of them into the industry.

First of all, the small percentage of young adults that want to have a career in the construction trades came to that choice mainly because it is what they are most interested in or it is where their skills lie. To them, the two most important benefits of a career in the construction trades are good pay and the acquisition of useful skills.

Most young adults who have yet to make up their minds on a career see very little chance they would join the trades even if the pay was high. This decision is based mostly on their view that construction work is physically demanding and difficult. The positive news for the construction industry is that many young adults who generally would not like to work in the trades would reconsider it if the salary made it attractive enough. There is a perception among many young adults that salaries are not very high for those in the trades.

A take away that I have after reading this article is that continued effort needs to be made by all of us to start educating our children at an early age of the benefits and positives of working in the construction/housing industry. If kids are not exposed or given the opportunities early on, they will not develop the skills or have interest in pursuing the industry as a career once they become young adults. Technology is also going to change the industry dramatically in the near future. I would guess that many of these advances will make working in the trades less physically demanding and more attractive to young adults.

Therefore, I would like to continue the effort put forth by our Past President Arnold Karsky, along with many others, and encourage everyone to look for creative ways of educating our youth about our industry.



**Kim Schneider**

## Making an Impact

NDAB is sure making an impact and showing strength in numbers during the 65<sup>th</sup> Legislative session! We appreciate our members that have taken the time to meet with their local Representatives and Senators either at meetings back in their home districts, or at the Capitol. Those members who have called or emailed their legislators asking for their support on NDAB's stance on bills and those who have proudly worn the NDAB shirts during the Legislative Impact Day and Builders Day at the Capitol. We have heard from your legislators that our

presence has been strong and making an impression with them. Great work!

On March 16, members from across the state gathered in Bismarck for our Builders Day at the Capitol where we served lunch to the legislators, legislative staff members and statewide elected officials. It was a delicious lunch, well attended and a relaxed opportunity to meet with those who represent us. We are continuously grateful to those of you who take time out of your busy schedule to attend these events and help ensure your voice is heard!

Our advocacy work doesn't stop at the local or state level. In June, NDAB members are invited to travel to Washington, DC to participate in National Association of Home Builder's Mid-Year Meeting where we will also be visiting the National Capitol and meeting with Senator Heitkamp, Senator Hoeven and Congressman Cramer. We invite all of you to join us! Registration opens April 3 and the meetings will be held June 13-17 at Marriott at Wardman Park. If you have never had the opportunity to attend NAHB meetings, we have plenty of members that have regularly attended and would invite you to join them. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 701-222-2401.

We would like to take this time to recognize and congratulate our 2017 NDAB Professional Builders:

- *Tom Spaeth, Accent Kitchen & Bath, Fargo*
- *Gary Orth, Cornerstone Specialties, Fargo*
- *Donald Dabbert, Jr, Dabbert Custom Homes, Fargo*
- *John Gunkleman, Dakota Construction, Fargo*
- *Robert Leslie, Designer Homes, Fargo*
- *Jason Eid, Eid-Co Homes, Fargo*
- *Charles Bon, C'est Construction, Inc.*
- *Eric Berg, Eric Berg Construction, Fargo*
- *Tyrone Leslie, Heritage Homes, Fargo*
- *Robert Kochmann, Kochmann Brother Homes, Fargo*
- *Greg Krueger, Krueger Construction, Fargo*
- *Mark Spriggs, M&J Construction, Moorhead*
- *Todd Halle, T&S Custom Homes, Fargo*
- *Jayson Kuznia, Titan Homes, Fargo*
- *Michael Bullinger, Western Products, Fargo*
- *Charles Zach, Zach Construction, Wahpeton*

Take care, Kim Schneider

**Back your PAC ... your PAC backs you!** NDAB-PAC is the North Dakota Association of Builders' Political Action Committee. It is a non-partisan political action committee that provides support for candidates who are friends of the building industry. Contact NDAB at (800) 326-4746, (701) 222-2401 or [info@ndbuild.com](mailto:info@ndbuild.com) to contribute or learn more!

# Around the State

## Bismarck Mandan Homebuilders Assoc.

Dot Frank, Executive Officer  
701-222-2400  
bmhba.com

- The 2017 Home Show was hosted in February attracting more than 219 vendors filling 100,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space.
- The Spring Parade of Homes will be hosted in early May to accommodate Builder member needs due to extreme winter weather.
- Box Lunch with a Builder debuted in March. The event pairs a roomful of Associate members with two Builder members to share industry insight.
- Fun Night at Jerome Distributing was in March. Board members will battle to win the 2017 Chili Champ ladle.

## Dickinson Area Builders Assoc.

Tiffany Dolechek, Executive Officer  
701-483-0044  
dickinsonareabuilders.com

- The Dickinson Area Builders hosted the Home Show April 1st and 2nd! There were over 90 different vendors exhibited with over 140 booth spaces. On Saturday April 1st we hosted our annual Home Show Social at the Eagles for the vendors, committee members, and volunteers to network and relax after the stressful day. Thank you to our Platinum sponsors Builder First Source Montana Dakota Utilities and Bosch Lumber, Gold sponsors Dakota Community Bank & Heartland Homes, Silver sponsors Benchmark Engineering & Midwest Doors, and bronze sponsors Jay R's Spray Foam, Seacrest Homes, Kahm Construction, Allan's Decorating Center, Jerome's Distributing, & Quality Quick Print!
- March 29th was our PAC event & general membership meeting at the Elks lodge. We have invited all the local legislators and city officials to speak to our members at this event. Our goal is to get 5 more members signed up at the 365 level. We are hoping for a great turnout again this year and a fun night!
- The Dickinson Area Chamber of Commerce made us their Business of the Week the first week of March! From left to right Vice President Mike Jangula, Director Gene Kruger, EO Tiffany Dolechek, and Past President Lance Kilwein. (See photo)

## Home Builders Assoc. of Fargo-Moorhead

Bryce Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
701-232-5846  
hbafm.com

- The 2017 Home & Garden Show had increased attendance from last year, over 70 kids participated in the Lego Homebuilding Competition and 500 kids participated in the Treasure Hunt.
- The HBA of F-M will have over 90 homes on the Spring Parade of Homes. This year will feature three weekends, April 22-23, 28-30 and May 5-7. Visit [paradefm.com](http://paradefm.com) for details.
- The "Chilly" Cook-Off was March 23 at Town & Country Credit Union. Stone Countertop Outlet sponsored drinks and members competed to win best chili and dessert.
- The Membership Committee set a goal of 90 new members in 2017, breaking down to 25 builders and 65 associates. Nineteen members joined in January and February combined.

## Forx Builders Association

Betty McDonald, Executive Officer  
701-746-4536  
forxbuilders.com

- Our 2017 Home Design & Garden Show is in the books and was a success. Attendance was very good giving the vendors lots of good leads. There were lots for the kids to do with the playground, bouncy games and Little Builder's Workshops. Good food was prepared and shared by chefs from the Wild Hog and Skip's Gourmet Grub. As always, the gardening seminars by Tim Shea's Nursery & Landscaping and Bergeson Nursery were very popular.
- PS Garage Doors will host Builders after Hours on April 25th. All members and potential members are invited to attend.
- Our Annual Sporting Clay Shoot is in the planning stages and will be held in May.

## Minot Association of Builders

Elysha Head, Executive Officer  
701-852-0496  
minotab.com

- The 2017 Home and Garden Show was a hit! Over 3,000 people attended the Show which is an increase over previous years. MAB is very pleased with the turnout considering the change in Show days and times. New additions like the Pub in the Park, Ready Builders Lego Competition, The Youngster Yard and Workshops with The Market on 4th increased attendance and helped spread the word about the all-new Home and Garden Show. MAB is

already brainstorming for the 2018 Show and have a few ideas in the works!

- The Minot Association of Builders invite members to join us on April 25th for Hard Hat Happy Hour and Corn Hole tournament at the Minot Country Club from 5-8 PM! We have spots for 16 teams in the Corn Hole Tournament! Registration is \$50 per team. Sign up at [www.minotab.com/hardhat](http://www.minotab.com/hardhat). Entry fee includes entry to tournament, drink ticket, appetizers and a donation to NDAB-PAC.
- May 23rd brings another new MAB event dubbed the Tool Belt Barbecue. Join us at the MAB office parking lot for a free lunch sponsored in part by First International Bank & Trust! It's business in the front and party in the back! More details to coming soon.
- The MAB Golf Tournament and Builder Ball Drop will take place on July 31st this year. We have some big changes coming to the tournament this year that will be released soon!

## Williston Area Builders Association

Ann Kvande, Executive Officer  
701-572-5744  
willistonbuilders.com

- 2017 Home and Garden Show Scheduled for April 7-8, 2017
- The Williston Area Builders Association (WABA) is excited to announce that the date for 7th Annual Home and Garden Show has been set for April 7-8, 2017 at the Raymond Family Community Center in Williston. The Home and Garden Show is the largest public event WABA hosts each year with over a 100 vendors and thousands of participants.



Dickinson Area Builders "Business of the Week" From left to right Vice President Mike Jangula, Director Gene Kruger, EO Tiffany Dolechek, and Past President Lance Kilwein.