

at a glance  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- December 9th **Board Meeting, 5:30pm**  
Goodin Company lunchroom  
**Member Meeting, 6:30pm**  
Goodin Company – Speaker on Radon and tour of the Goodin facility.
- January 6th **Board Meeting TBD**
- January 8th **Christmas Party/Annual Banquet**  
at the DL Community Cultural Center
- February 10th **Builder Expo/Continuing Education Day**  
Holiday Inn
- Feb 26th-28th **28th BAM State Convention**  
Craguns Resort in Brainerd
- March 3rd **Continuing Education**  
Full day of classes at Speak Easy
- March 28th-29th **2009 Home Show**
- April 4th & 5th **2009 Tour of Homes**
- April 14th **Board Meeting, 5:30pm**  
TBD  
**Member Meeting, 6:30pm**  
Luxury Landscaping & Lawn Care - Audubon
- May 12th **Board Meeting, 5:30pm**  
Speak Easy  
**6:30 Social**  
**7:00 Terra Guetter from MPCA**

**BOARD? ANSWERS**

1. LEGISLATIVE 2. SPRINKLERS 3. REGULATIONS  
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DECEMBER 2008

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SERVING BECKER, OTTERTAIL, NORMAN, WILKIN AND MAHNOMEN COUNTIES

**BUILDERS BUZZ**

Greetings Builders and Associates  
The November Meeting and bus trip to Fergusson in Fargo was well attended. Thanks to the Fergusson crew for their hospitality!  
I have received a Thank You from Mike Smith. He has been home & tried the ramp and said it works great!  
I would like to welcome Marga Yabara and Mike Hough to the Board of Directors for 2009.  
The December 9th meeting will be at the Goodin Company Showroom. I am looking for a big turnout so I hope you can make it.  
Happy Holidays to all!  
Perry Nodsle



**LRBA LEADERSHIP**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b><br>Perry Nodsle<br>Nodsle Construction                       | <b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b><br><b>Tim Roble</b><br>Lavelle Company | <b>Ross Gailfus</b><br>Schiller Insurance                  |
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| <b>EXECUTIVE OFFICER</b><br>Sharon Westerholm                                 | <b>2008 STATE DIRECTORS</b><br>Mike Eidenschink and Jason Coley  | <b>LEGAL ACTION COMMITTEE DELEGATE</b><br>Mike Eidenschink |
| <b>PAST PRESIDENT</b><br>Mike Eidenschink                                     | <b>BAM-PAC REPRESENTATIVE</b><br>Greg Neisen                     |  |

— Visit [bam.org](http://bam.org) each week for up to date happenings —

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**A FUN NOVEMBER EVENING**



Once again Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery out did themselves in hosting the November meeting. There was a very good turnout for the bus trip and several more met us in Fargo. The program divided the attendees into two groups, with Jay Kirsch, the Kohler Rep doing half the group and Bruce Ellison, the Bosch, Thermidor Appliance Rep doing the other half and then everyone switching speakers. They were great. Terry had also invited a few Builders from the Fargo Moorhead Association. It was nice visiting with them too. The Ferguson employees treated us as special people once again. Thank you to Ferguson Employees: Trent Lee, Aaron Hummel, Tom Bevins, Terry Lipp, Jerrod McPherson, Kari Cossette, Errin Bjerke, Jenna Martin, Lori Holden, Neil Eilers and Deb Grothe.

# MY VIEW

Sharon Westerholm, EO

Hi Everyone. Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and didn't eat toooo much.

We had a great meeting at Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Galley and our December meeting at Goodin Company should be a great night too. So that we can give them a head count, please call and leave a message so I know how many to tell them. The Board of Directors will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Goodin lunch room and social will start at 6:30. I sent all the nomination forms I received into BAM for the Convention Awards. Most of you should have heard from BAM by now.

We have 64 people signed up for our January Christmas Party, Annual Banquet. The Board of Directors will be installed that night, and outgoing members will be recognized. Linda Jutz has been helping organizing the dinner for the evening.

I am also working on the Builders Expo scheduled for February 10th, a day of Continuing Ed on March 3rd, the Home & Garden Show March 28th & 29th, then it will be the Tour of Homes on April 4th & 5th. Where does the time go.

IT'S MERRY CHRISTMAS TIME SOON - MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

# MEMBER NEWS

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

No new members this month! Ask all those builders, plumbers, and electricians that you know! Invite them to December's meeting at Goodin Company!

## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS FOR RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIPS...

*Your Membership is Appreciated and Valued*

- FOLTZ BUILDERS, INC. — David Foltz
- HOUGH, INC. — Mike Hough
- CRANE JOHNSON LUMBER OF PERHAM — Greg Neisen
- COLOR-TEK COATINGS, INC. — Tom Jessop
- STATE BANK & TRUST — Mark Hagedorn
- ZAYIC CONCRETE, INC. — John Brehm



## FINGALSON FAMILY BENEFIT

DEC. 13, 2008 • 4:00 TO CLOSE • SANDBAR IN DETROIT LAKES

The Fingalsons were in a terrible auto accident in which their daughter Abbie lost her life. (Abbie Fingalson was the great niece of our LRBA member at Paschke's Heating & AC, Kelly Fingalson). Blake & Connie Fingalson both received multiple injuries in the accident that resulted in surgeries with many medical expenses to follow.

Free will offering meal: Pork sandwiches, beans, potato salad, chips and bars will be served. There will be a Raffle, Silent Auction and Music to follow.

Matching funds by Thrivent. Donations taken at door. Any questions contact Angie at 701-446-7220 or Dani at 849-3131.

If you are unable to attend the benefit and wish to make a donation, they are being taken at Midwest Bank, Benefit Blake and Connie Fingalson Fund, PO Box 1665, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502

## GETTING INVOLVED IS KEY!!

You Will Get Out Of Your Membership What You Put In!

- \* Join An Event Committee
- \* Attend Monthly Meetings
- \* Attend All Of Our Events

Is there something happening in your business, with your family, whatever, we would like to acknowledge it!

## 2008 GM \$500 Private Offer

As the exclusive automotive manufacturer of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) GM is pleased to extend this private offer of \$500 toward the purchase or lease of most new GM vehicles to association members. Through January 2, 2009 Purchase or Lease any New 2007, 2008 or 2009 Car, Truck or Van, many makes and models. More details see [naah.org/MA](http://naah.org/MA)

## CODE OF ETHICS

Members of the Home Builders Association subscribe to the following Code of Ethics

- Members shall constantly seek to provide better values for the customers they serve.
- Members shall at times share their knowledge with fellow members in the public in the best interest of those they serve.
- Members shall not obtain any business by means of fraudulent statements or by use of implications unwarranted by fact or reasonable probability.
- Members shall comply, both in spirit and letter, with rules and regulations prescribed by law and government agencies for health, safety and progress of the community.
- Members shall not perform a cause to be performed at any act which would tend to reflect on or bring into disrepute any party of the industry served by this association.

**"To Promote Professionalism and to educate members and consumers on legislative issues, while fostering cooperative relationships for all stakeholders"**

## BAM NEWS

### Request for your opinion on wetland replacement

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has been going through rulemaking changes for the Wetland Conservation Act the past two years, and they're now in the home stretch for final rules. The Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) and the Builders Association of the Twin Cities have been at the table discussing and weighing in on how various rules will affect your ability to build. Listed below are five public policy initiatives, in draft form, that BAM feels will hamper building and development in Minnesota.

Please take some time to review the new rules and send your feedback to Lisa Frenette, BAM Government Relations Director. Her email address is: [lisaf@bamn.org](mailto:lisaf@bamn.org). All BAM considerations are draft suggestions in an effort to provide feedback to BWSR. Final determination on any suggested rulemaking language will be made by the Government Relations Committee and worked out in conjunction with BATC.

**1. Letters of Credit:** BWSR is proposing a Letter of Credit (LOC) to assure successful replacement of a wetland by the applicant. The financial assurance would cover the "cost of actions necessary to bring the project into compliance with the approved replacement plan specifications and monitoring requirements." BWSR is also proposing to retain portions of a LOC on Wetland Replacement Areas until a final monitoring period of 5 years comes to a close. The release of any amount would depend on successful vegetative establishment and completion of the monitoring period (see monitoring below). BAM Recommendation: BAM proposes a full release of the LOC when the monitoring period is complete.

**2. Monitoring:** BAM agrees that monitoring is an important part of the wetland replacement process to ensure compliance. However, BWSR is proposing that, "any agreements regarding the transfer of monitoring responsibilities must be agreed upon by both parties in writing and do not release the applicant from the responsibility to provide replacement as specified in the approved replacement plan." BAM Recommendation: BAM proposes striking this language. Any contract made between parties (landowner and builder) ought to be the determining factor for responsibility of compliance for a wetland replacement.

BWSR has also added language that would allow the monitoring period to last an unspecified amount of time without a Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) review. Determination would be left to the discretion of the local government. BAM Recommendation: BAM proposes striking this language. A 5-year growing season is timely even with varying weather conditions for a replacement wetland.

**3. Buffer Areas:** Discussions about buffer areas are still ongoing at BWSR and no specific language has been brought forth. BAM Recommendation: BAM proposes that all buffer areas be site-specific with determination by Local Government Units and a TEP analysis review. This ensures that local conditions, function and value of wetlands are considered when local government units set the buffer width consistent with their delegated authority to protect water quality.

**4. Determination of Complete Application:** In an effort to interpret Minnesota Statutes 15.99, BWSR has proposed "cit(ing) seasonal constraints as a basis for determining an application incomplete." BAM Recommendation: BAM proposes striking this language. BWSR must be consistent with the current law that allows development upon conditional approval of a plat. This allows builders and developers to move forward with a project rather than waiting for a whole season to pass by while allowing BWSR to re-inspect for different conditions in the spring.

**5. De Minimis:** BWSR has been talking for some time about changing replacement plans for de minimis areas. After discussions with builders and developers, BAM decided not to battle this rulemaking change on the front end.

Please let us know your thoughts about the policy initiatives above. We will provide the feedback to the Government Relations committee for review and recommendation to the BWSR. Thank you for your input.



# BOARD?

unscramble the words

1. VLELGAIISET
  2. RRKSPENIL
  3. GLUNREINOST
  4. DNPEENNITD
  5. RNCACOTORT
- answers on page 4

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