

# MBEX Quarterly Exchange

Briefings from the Minnesota Builders Exchange

Volume 15 | Issue 1 | Winter 2021

## Social media

Stay up-to-date with events and what's going on at MBEX.

Like and follow us today!

### Twitter

@MplsBEX

### Facebook

@MnBEX

### LinkedIn

@MinnesotaBuildersExchange

## Using mbex.org

Make the most of your membership— learn how to utilize the many features of the online plan room via our YouTube channel.

Pull up a chair and watch the full-length (53-minute) tutorial or check out select portions of the video instruction to navigate along with while logged on to [mbex.org](http://mbex.org):

- Deskpad page (9 minutes)
- Filters + project info (23 minutes)
- Specs, addenda and plans (13 minutes)
- Ordering plans, misc. (9 minutes)

### Need a quick tip?

Select from 16 tutorial tip videos, each ranging from 1-3 minutes. Save time and get fast answers on how to use specific features of our online plan room.

## A letter from the Board President



First, I want to begin with stating that I am grateful and humbled to be entrusted as your MBEX 2021 Board President. MBEX holds a rich history and tradition in the construction industry. I am truly honored to help lead such a wonderful and diverse organization.

The 2021 MBEX Annual Meeting took place on January 13 through the miracle of technology. Although not our preferred delivery option, the Zoom presentation allowed us to reach our members and share important MBEX annual updates. I extend my thanks to the MBEX staff, Executive Director Tom Getzke and the members that tuned in for our presentation.

Despite these turbulent times, MBEX remains as resilient as ever. With a record number of plans on our state-of-the-art online plan room, MBEX remains one of the strongest and most reliable builders exchanges in the upper-Midwest. We look forward to creating stronger relationships with the architectural and engineering community to keep our services competitive and relevant.

Please follow all MBEX social media pages for any updates on upcoming events. I look forward to serving you all in the coming year!

Erik Molin  
MBEX Board President

## MBEX: 2020 Association Report

Despite the challenges of 2020, our staff has worked tirelessly to ensure members continue to receive the best membership experience possible.

The Association Report provides an account of 2020 membership numbers, a listing of our scholarship recipients, board of directors and more.

As we review 2020 and begin working on our 2021 goals, take a look back on some of the notable moments at MBEX this past year.

Check out the complete 2020 Association Report online today at:

[mbex.org/annualreport](http://mbex.org/annualreport)



# Annual Meeting goes virtual

On Wednesday, January 13, 2021 MBEX hosted its first virtual event via Zoom. Representatives from over 50 member companies logged on to join our 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting. Despite the change in forum, our staff provided the traditional meeting procedures with ease.

Attendees watched and listened as MBEX shared board election results and reported on past and future happenings at our organization.



## 2021 Board of Directors

### President

Erik Molin  
Molin Concrete Products

### Vice President

Randy LaFaive  
Market & Johnson

### Treasurer

Greg Grazzini  
Grazzini Brothers & Co

### Past President

Danielle Dziedzic  
Dziedzic Caulking

### Directors

Sean Ochis  
Northern Industrial Insulation

Heidi Sedlacek  
Bituminous Roadways

Adam Kuettel  
A W Kuettel & Sons Inc

Nate Sapik  
Benson Electric Company

Michael Carlson  
Max Gray Construction

Kelli Lind  
John A Knutson & Co

Andy Ristrom  
Carl Bolander & Sons

Ben Newlin  
Terra Construction

Karin McCabe  
McGough Construction

## Volunteer of the Year



MBEX presents the Earl Madison Annual Volunteer of the Year Award to an individual that provides an outstanding level of volunteerism and support to our organization.

This year, we honor Heather Grazzini-Sims of Carciofini Company for her outstanding and dedicated participation throughout the years. Her "leadership by example" has encouraged others in the industry to volunteer. With countless volunteer hours and consistent support of our organization, she remains a constant bright spot in the MBEX community. Thank you, Heather!

## Distinguished Member



The annual Distinguished Member Award honors an individual for their lifetime contributions to the construction industry, builders exchange and the surrounding community.

We proudly present this prestigious award to Thomas Pitra (retired) of PCL Construction. His journey from the Army to the construction industry spanned over 45 years. During his career, Tom served on our board as both director and president. After retirement, he remains dedicated to our mission, continuing to volunteer his time and energy to MBEX. Congratulations, Tom!





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[www.mbex.org](http://www.mbex.org)

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## In This Issue

- 2020 year in review
- Annual Meeting recap
- scholarship information
- social events update

Questions or comments about this publication:  
Contact the Editor, Jill Gerwig at [jills@mbex.org](mailto:jills@mbex.org).

Have news to share? Send it to [news@mbex.org](mailto:news@mbex.org).

## 2021-2022 Scholarship Program

The Minnesota Builders Exchange, along with our donating partner, The Builders Group (TBG), offers scholarships to students currently seeking an education directly-related to the construction industry.

In 2020, with the help of TBG, MBEX awarded nearly \$24,000 in scholarships. Since the inception of our program in 2003, we have contributed over \$235,000 in scholarships to students in the construction industry.



We look forward to the continued success of our scholarship program for many years to come!

## The process...

Curious about the MBEX scholarship program?  
Take a look at the planning and award process:

March: committee meets

April: applications available

May 31: application deadline

All applicants notified of results by July 1.

[mbex.org/scholarship](http://mbex.org/scholarship)

Stay informed about our annual scholarships— help spread the word to students in the industry and bookmark our scholarship page today.