

The Builder News

The Official Publication Of The Wolf River Builders Association

Calander of Events

July 2016

Date	Event Listing
July 4	<i>Hope you all had a safe & fun Independence Day!</i>
July 12	WRBA Picnic and Short Member Meeting – Park Shelter in Pella – starting at 5:45 p.m.
July 19	Chamber Business Connection at Backes Brat Haus & Meat Market 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., N5858 Lake Dr., (Next door to the Spinning Wheel!)
July 26	WRBA Board of Directors Meeting Launching Pad, 5:30 p.m.
July 28	WBA Member Meeting Day – All are welcome to attend!
Coming Events	
Aug. 4	Lunch & Learn – Chamber Office “Likes, Camera, Action – putting social media video to work for your business” 11:45-1:00, Box lunch provided, \$8 for Chamber Members
Aug. 9	WRBA Golf Outing, Golden Sands Golf Course, Cecil
Aug. 16	Chamber Business Connection at the Wallrich Agency, 5:00–6:30 pm
Aug. 18	Wolf River Habitat for Humanity Golf Outing, Pine Hills Golf Course
Aug. 26	WRBA Board of Directors Meeting, Launching Pad, 5:30 p.m.

Mission Statement

The Wolf River Builders Association's purpose is to associate the builders within Menominee, Oconto and Shawano Counties for the purpose of mutual advantage and cooperation; to collaborate with all fields related to the building industry for the benefit of the industry as a whole; and to assist in the accomplishment of the mutual objectives of the National Association of Home Builders and Wisconsin Builders Association.



WRBA

Wolf River Builders Association

Professionals You Can Trust!



July 12th

WRBA Potluck Picnic & General Membership Meeting
When: Tuesday, July 12th, 2015
Where: Pella Park Shelter

Take County M West out of Shawano to Pella, then left on County D in Pella. Park is on right.

Social/Networking: 5:45 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Meal is Potluck. Meat will be provided by WRBA as well as condiments, paper products, water and lemonade. Please bring a dish to pass, and if desired, your own beverage.

Short Meeting to follow.

Progressive “Attendance” Pot at \$80

PLEASE RSVP to Diane by July 10th

@ 715-853-2310 or via Email -

wolfriverbuilders@gmail.com

Interested in bringing a door prize?

Let Diane know or just bring it along!

Hope to see you there!

Check out the Member Benefits through NAHB –

<http://www.nahb.org/ma>



Progressive “Attendance” Drawing

The name drawn for the **\$60 pot** at the June 14 meeting held at J & H Game Farm was **Tom Darga** with T & L Builders of Shawano. Tom was not in attendance, so the pot for the July 12th meeting will increase by \$20 and be \$80. Sorry Tom!

The “Progressive” Attendance Drawing” is fairly new with WRBA. For each General Membership Meeting, each member will have a chip with a number that corresponds to their name placed in the bucket, whether you are in attendance or not.

If you are present and your name is drawn, you will win the pot! If you are not present and your name is drawn, the pot will grow by \$20 for the next meeting. Minimum pot will always be \$20.

Make sure you are there to win if your business/name is called!

Activities

The June 14 meeting was our Sporting Clays Outing at J & H Game Farm. We had some great shooting and good weather for our outing. The results of the Sporting Clays Outing are as follows:

- 1st place with a score of 40 was Bill Rapaich
- 2nd place with a score of 37 was Josh Van Gheem
- 3rd place with a score of 36 was Mike Johnson
- Last place with a score of 24 was Bryce Maule

Total possible score was 50. Nice job guys! The door prizes for June were provided by J & H and WRBA.

The July meeting will be the annual picnic at the Pella Park (see page 1). We plan to have steak on the grill – your option to grill your own or have us grill it for you. I am hoping that we will have lots of good dishes brought by all of you to go with the steak for the potluck! Greg Brown is planning to bring Alex, the student that we helped to fund the trip to National Competition for Skills USA. Come out and meet him and find out more about that program.

WRBA Golf Outing – Golden Sands Golf Course

The August 9th meeting will be our golf outing. Flyer for that will be out soon...I just need to confirm some prices – we will keep it reasonable! We are looking for Hole Sponsors - \$50 per hole. Let Diane know if you are interested.

Do you enjoy golfing or just want to have fun with our Scramble – Best Ball event? Why not put together a team and join us? Don't have a team? We can put you with someone...just let us know! We will also be looking for door prizes – if you have something to donate we'd love to hear from you.

Activities Chairperson: John Maule – 715-853-6826

Advertising

The July issue of the Shoppers Guide with the WRBA front page ads will come out on July 26th. Any additions, corrections, or changes for the July ad are due to Diane by July 20th.

Pricing for one space is \$90 per quarter (three issues--one ad/month--a cost of only \$30/month). You can also do a double ad on a quarterly basis for \$180/quarter.

As always, ad space is available on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to have your ad included in the future, let Diane know that you are interested by contacting her at 715-853-2310 or via email.

Education

Don't forget to check the WBA website (www.wisbuild.org) for the education opportunities being offered by the area builders associations. Many offer “member” rates to all WBA members. If there is any interest for specific subjects for classes, please let Greg or Diane know and we will see what we can do. Topics do not need to be only builder related, although we will do what we can to help the builders get CEU's!
Education Chairperson: Greg Brown – 715-526-2175

Membership –

We need to grow our membership! Please **invite member prospects** to the general membership meetings! We'll cover dinner to give them the opportunity to see what we are all about. And we will give **you** a \$10 Kwik Trip Card for bringing them! We need to promote new membership and the benefits that NAHB, WBA and WRBA offer, but we also want to focus on retention within our organization as well. There are lots of reasons to maintain your membership! We'd love to hear what you find valuable in your membership...the networking? Dinner meetings? Discounts through NAHB? Contracts, Legal Hotline, or Rebate Program through WBA? Member-to-Member discounts offered at local level? Advocacy? Let us know!

Membership Chairperson: Tom Krause – 715-853-7859

Co-Chairperson: Trish Kieckhafer – 715-853-9961



Member of the Month

New member Steve Larson **with Universal Windows and Affordable Siding** was our Member of the Month for the June 14 meeting. Thank you Steve for sharing the story of you and your business!

The July 12 meeting will have Greg Brown, WRBA member and Instructor for the Trades Programs at Shawano High School as our Member of the Month. Greg took 11 students to Madison for the Skills USA competition and had one of his students, Alex Reader, place first in the Residential Wiring category. Alex will be joining Greg at our July meeting/picnic. Come on out to the picnic and meet Alex and find out more about this program!

Member of the Month Program

WRBA would like to have more of the members present information about their business at the monthly general membership meetings. It could be general information about who you are, how your business got started, what your company does, or info on a special promotion that you are holding, a sale that you have going on, etc. If we don't get volunteers, we will be contacting members to ask that you take a turn and tell your fellow members a bit about your business! Consider it free advertising! Contact Diane today via email or phone message!



Monday Morning Review
June 20, 2016

State Assembly Races Coming Into Focus

In Wisconsin, June 1st is the day that candidates running in the fall election are required to submit the required number of signatures from voters in their district so they can get on the ballot, first for the August Primary and then for the General Election on November 8, 2016.

In Madison, all four campaign committees working to elect and reelect candidates host "meet the candidate" events and it is the most optimistic day of the year, with those in the majority arguing they are going to gain seats in November, and those in the minority touting the quality of their challenger candidates (predicting they will be measuring for curtains in their new and bigger offices on the morning of November 9 as they make plans to take back the majority in January 2017).

In the state assembly, all 99 seats will be voted on in November. The GOP currently holds the

majority in the lower house and will be defending 63 of the 99 seats this fall.

One of the bigger surprises in the state assembly was that current State Representative Warren Petryk (R-Eleva) has no opponent in 2016, precisely because he is in a 50/50 district that always faces stiff competition. This is a big deal for the GOP because it is one less seat that they will have to keep an eye on. Why no opponent for Petryk? That is likely due to a combination of three things: 1) he had over \$100,000 in the bank already to use for his reelection; 2) he works extremely hard during campaign time, and; 3) he is most likely one of the nicest people who currently serve in either house of the legislature. Representative Petryk is proof that nice guys don't always finish last.

Some key races to watch this summer and fall:

Assembly District 1: State Representative Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) faces his first reelection after being elected to an open seat in 2014. This has been and will continue to be a target seat for the democrats because the numbers have been trending away from the GOP for a number of years now. The current composite number in a presidential year for this seat is 51.1% DEM. There is no primary on either side in this seat, so Kitchens will face democrat Lynn Utesch in November. Utesch was described as "a farmer, Veteran and clean water advocate" in an article on his announcement in the Green Bay Press Gazette.

Assembly District 29 (open): With the retirement of longtime Friend of Housing award winner Representative John Murtha (R-Baldwin) earlier this spring, the voters in the [29th Assembly District](#) will first need to pick candidates on both sides of the aisle in the August primary. There are two democrats and two republicans running for the seat to replace Murtha. This is a 50/50 seat in presidential elections that will likely garner a great deal of attention and dollars this fall from both sides.

Assembly District 51: This southeastern Wisconsin district is at the top of the target list for Assembly Minority Leader Peter Barca this fall. Representative Todd Novak (R-Dodgeville) is up for reelection this fall in the most democrat seat that any member of the state assembly currently holds in Wisconsin. The composite number in this seat is 56% democrat which puts it into the "Strong DEM" listing for assembly seats. Democrats are pinning their hopes on Jeff Wright (<http://www.wrightforwisconsin.com/>), who currently serves as the assistant superintendent for the Sauk Prairie Schools. Since this seat is mostly in the Madison television and radio market, this will likely be one of, if not the most, expensive races in the state this fall.

Assembly District 67 (open): Master electrician and member of the legislature since 2010

Representative Tom Larson (R-Colfax) elected to not seek another term in the legislature this fall. There are four republicans and two democrats who will face off in August to move on to the General Election in November. Regardless of who wins these primaries, this 53.7% GOP seat will likely see a great deal of attention by the candidates and independent third party groups this fall.

Assembly District 68: Just up the road in from assembly district 67 is another seat being targeted this fall by assembly democrats because the numbers in that district indicate it should be a seat represented by a democrat. This 52% DEM seat in presidential elections means that State Representative Kathy Bernier (R-Chippewa Falls) will once again be at the top of the target list for democrats. Bernier faces attorney Howard White from Altoona in November.

Assembly District 72: Since his upset win against longtime member of the state assembly Marlin Schneider in 2010, now State Representative Scott Krug (R-Nekoosa) will be in the hot seat come this fall to retain his northcentral Wisconsin assembly seat. This time around, the part time realtor Krug will have to wait for a primary between David Gorski and Russ Brown before going tow to tow for this 50.4% DEM seat.

Assembly District 75: Yet another 50/50 seat in the state assembly is the 75th district in northcentral Wisconsin, anchored by the City of Rice Lake. Representative Romaine Quinn (R-Rice Lake) will face former technical college vice president and campus administrator Joe Huftel in this 50.7% GOP seat.

Assembly District 85: Those living in Wausau, Hatley, Elderon, and points in between are going to be seeing a lot of mail in the mailbox this fall with the same candidates that ran for the seat in 2010. One term State Representative Dave Heaton (R-Wausau) decided against a run for a second term, which set up a rematch between former radio talk show host Pat Snyder and former State Representative Mandy Wright. Wright bested Snyder for the seat in a very close race in 2010 before losing the seat in 2014 to Heaton.

Reminder to Use [Builders Direct Fund](http://www.buildersdirectfund.com) for Contributions

Now that nomination papers are in and candidates are on the ballot for this fall, the next likely thing that will happen is candidates calling you for campaign contributions. This is a friendly reminder to use the Builders Direct Fund Conduit to make those contributions to those running for state assembly or state senate this fall. (Please note contributions to federal candidates are not processed via the Builders Direct Fund Conduit.)

The Builders Direct Fund Conduit allows you to make contributions by first donating to the fund and

then directing those dollars to any candidate you choose. From the most liberal to the most conservative candidate on the political spectrum, we want all members to first make those donations via the Builders Direct Fund Conduit, which gives the WBA more "credit" for the contribution and **helps your local HBA get closer to their political fundraising goal of \$20 per member in 2016.**

The quickest and easiest way to use the Builders Direct Fund Conduit is by going to www.buildersdirectfund.com to make those donations. You can use either a personal credit card, or, if you are a single member LLC you can use that credit card as well. After you enter the amount of your contribution and personal information, just indicate in the "Special Instructions" section the candidate you want the contribution to go to and press the "Submit Donation" button. We take care of the rest!

Your contribution is then sent to your candidate of choice, **your local HBA gets credit towards your 2016 political fundraising goal**, and WBA also gets recognition for the contribution coming from a member of the association.

Again, bookmark www.buildersdirectfund.com to make all of your contributions to those running for state assembly and state senate this fall!

2 Races Rise Above the Rest in the State Senate

Half of the seats in the Wisconsin State Senate are up for election this fall. If you happen to live in a district with an even number, you will have an opportunity to vote for a member of the state senate come November and in some cases choose a primary candidate in August.

As we move into the fall, the number of races that are competitive will likely grow but right now there are two races that rise above the rest, the 18th Senate District (Oshkosh-Fond du Lac) and the 12th Senate District (Northeastern Wisconsin).

The 18th Senate District has been held by a republican since 1939, outside of the 18 months that democrat Jessica King held the seat after her successful recall election of former State Senator Randy Hopper. This seat is open due to the unexpected retirement of State Senator Rick Gudex (R-Fond du Lac).

The 18th Senate District is in the "lean GOP" category in presidential years when the seat is up for election with a 52.6% GOP number.

The democrats are running current Winnebago County Executive Mark Harris for this seat this fall. Harris is well known after serving many years in his capacity as county executive, and for his unsuccessful run for the congressional seat in the area now held by Glenn Grothman.

The GOP must first choose between two candidates running in the primary for the seat. The candidates running in the primary show the traditional split between the two largest cities in the district, Oshkosh and Fond du Lac. Mark Harris, who ran unsuccessfully for the 54th Assembly District, is now running for the 18th Senate District and is from Oshkosh. Dan Feyen has been the chair of the Fond du Lac County Party since 2007. The likely key to this primary will be who can get the most votes in the western part of the district outside of Fond du Lac and Oshkosh.

Finally, the 12th Senate District, which is held by freshman Tom Tiffany, has been rumored to be a top target for democrats and those in the trade unions after Tiffany's support of efforts to alter prevailing wage laws in support of Right to Work.

The playing field was recently clear for democrat Brian Van Stippen, who recently jumped from being a candidate in the 35th Assembly District to running in the 12th Senate District. After Van Stippen made the announcement of the switch, several construction trade unions announced their support of him and the candidate that was already in the race, Dave Polashek of Oconto Falls, dropped out.

Expect big money to be spent against Tiffany in this seat that sits at 52.8% GOP.

Johnson-Feingold Rematch Remains Close in Latest Marquette Law School Poll

The second consecutive Marquette Law School Poll recently revealed that the race for the U.S. Senate in Wisconsin is much closer than what had been reported in polls done in late 2015 and early 2016. The poll, released on Wednesday, June 15, indicated that the challenger Feingold leads the incumbent Johnson 45% to 41%. The last time this poll was conducted in March, Feingold lead Johnson 47% to 42%.

According to a press release announcing the results of the latest Marquette Law School Poll, "In Wisconsin's race for U.S. Senate, Feingold is viewed favorably by 40 percent of registered voters and unfavorably by 33 percent. Another 26 percent say they haven't heard enough or don't know how they feel about him. In March, Feingold's ratings were 41 percent favorable, 35 percent unfavorable and 25 percent not able to rate him.

Johnson is seen favorably by 33 percent of registered voters and unfavorably by 31 percent, with 35 percent saying they have not heard enough or don't know how they feel. In March, Johnson's ratings were 32 percent favorable and 31 percent unfavorable, with another 36 percent unable to rate him."

With the numbers in the Johnson-Feingold race staying close, expect even more money to be spent in Wisconsin on this race this summer and fall, from the candidates themselves and even more from outside groups hoping to influence the race independently.

Walker Narrows List of Supreme Court Candidates to 5

Since current Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice David Prosser announced earlier this spring that he would be stepping down from his seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, all eyes have been on Governor Walker and his Judicial Selection Advisory Committee to begin the process to pick his successor.

The Judicial Selection Advisory Committee convened earlier this week to narrow the list of candidates and set up a process to move forward with the appointment.

The final five finalists are:

Hon. Mark Gundrum, Wisconsin Court of Appeals District II

Hon. Thomas Hruz, Wisconsin Court of Appeals District III

Hon. Randy Koschnick, Jefferson County Circuit Court

Hon. James Morrison, Marinette County Circuit Court

Attorney Daniel Kelly

The selection phase will now be conducting second interviews, and, after that, a narrowed list of finalists will be presented for Governor Walker to consider for his appointment.

Expect a decision on the appointment in mid to late July, as Justice Prosser's retirement is effective July 31.

Conventional wisdom is that Walker will ultimately select the Honorable Mark Gundrum of the Wisconsin Court of Appeals District II for the Prosser vacancy.

Brad Boycks

WBA Executive Director



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Celebrate with Cellcom

June not only signals the start of summer, but the start of Cellcom's annual Customer Appreciation Celebrations. Celebrations are one of the many ways Cellcom thanks its customers and give back to the communities it serves. Each summer, the company hosts more than 40 events at its locations across Wisconsin from June 6 – July 29. To see when the fun heads to your neighborhood, visit www.cellcom.com/events.

Cellcom's customer Appreciation Celebrations feature free food and beverages for all attendees and a small prize with registration. There are multiple chances to win additional prizes and accessories as well as great deals on products. Bring a non-perishable food item for 25% off select accessories. Visit www.cellcom.com/celebrations to see what phone discounts are being offered!

###

Cellcom is an innovative wireless company that provides nationwide service for its customer base throughout Wisconsin and Michigan, with nearly 70 retail and agent locations. Cellcom is respected for its long-standing reputation of delivering extraordinary customer care, being a strong community partner, and for its renowned network, which is customized to its rural markets. As a subsidiary of Nsight, Cellcom is part of a family of companies offering complete telecommunications services.

Cellcom Customer Appreciation Celebrations

Here is the list of dates for the local area events for Cellcom:

Shawano – Tues., July 12 & Wed. July 13 at the Shawano High School.

Abrams – Thurs., July 14 at the Cellcom Store

Oconto Falls – Sat., July 16 at Oconto Falls Radio Shack

Pulaski – Mon., July 18 at the Cellcom Store

All are 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. except Oconto Falls – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

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Press Release from NAHB:

WASHINGTON, June 21 – The House today approved the Small Business Healthcare Relief Act (H.R. 5447), legislation championed by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) that would allow small business owners to help their employees pay for health insurance.

“The nation’s home builders commend the tireless efforts of Reps. Charles Boustany (R-La.) and Mike Thompson (D-Calif.) for advancing this bipartisan, common-sense bill that will help small business owners across the land to ease the prohibitive cost of health care insurance for their workers,” said NAHB Chairman Ed Brady, a home builder and developer from Bloomington, Ill. “We urge the Senate to act promptly to pass companion legislation S. 3060.”

The Small Business Healthcare Relief Act would allow home building firms and other small businesses to provide Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs), which let employers contribute something to their employee health costs. Specifically, HRAs allow small businesses to offer pre-tax dollars to insured employees to help pay premiums and/or other out-of-pocket costs associated with medical care and services.

HRAs are very flexible and affordable, allowing employers to design their plan to meet the unique needs of their company. All employer contributions to the plan are 100 percent deductible to the employer, and tax-free to the employee, making this a great benefit to help workers to obtain health insurance.

Unfortunately, the Internal Revenue Service issued guidance in 2013 stating that employers are no longer able to use HRAs because they don't meet the requirements of the Affordable Care Act. Not only did the IRS make HRAs illegal, the agency decreed that all employers can face fines of \$100 per day per employee if they offer this benefit to their workers. That can add up to \$36,500 per employee over the course of a year and up to \$500,000 per company. This \$100 per day penalty went into effect on July 1, 2015.

“By reinstating the use of HRAs and rescinding the punitive IRS penalties associated with them, this legislation will allow small employers with fewer than 50 employees to help their workers to obtain coverage or pay for their medical bills,” said Brady. “The Senate must now do its part so that our nation’s small businesses can continue to voluntarily provide health care assistance to their employees without fear of government reprisal.”

Membership News

WRBA New Member – Welcome!

- **A-1 Elevator Sales & Service Corp.**
2213 Velp Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54303
Representative: Tony Pfefferman
Sponsor: John Maule (current President)

WRBA Members Renewed – Welcome Back!

- SCHS Trades Program
Representative: Greg Brown

Members – Renewal Due June

- Wolf River Habitat for Humanity
Affiliate Member – Ted Foster

Members – Renewal Due July

- J C Santy Construction LLC – Brad Santy
- Contractors Choice Lumber LLC – Brenda Thomas

There are no renewals due in August.

Non-Renewing Members

The following member has either allowed their membership to lapse with NAHB or have opted to not renew their membership. If you see this past member, please encourage them to renew today.

- Valentine, Inc. – Bob Valentine
- Denkins Drywall, Inc – Jeff Denkins
- Menards – Gene Braatz
- Wolf River Media – Chris Kennedy

Membership Dues — Installment Payments

If desired, you may make installment payments on your membership dues renewal. You may split the payment up into two or three payments, with the final payment due by your renewal date. There will be no refunds if dues are not paid in full. And one payment in full when due is always an option!

COMING EVENTS:

August 9 – Golf Outing @ Golden Sands G. C.

September 13 – Election of Officers

October 11 – Installation of Officers

November – No Meetings

December 13 – Regular General Member Meeting

January – Christmas Party/General Member Meeting

Wolf River Builders Association 2015/2016 Board of Directors

President	John Maule Maule Construction LLC 206 E. Freeborn Street Cecil, WI 54111 715-745-2256
President-Elect	Bill Rapaich Top Shelf Builders Inc. W8043 County Road M Shawano, WI 54166 715-524-2016
Treasurer	Don Pedersen KerberRose, S.C. 115 E. 5 th Street Shawano, WI 54166 (715) 526-9400
Secretary	Cap Wallrich Wallrich Agency 300 E. Green Bay St. P. O. Box 90 Shawano, WI 54166 715-526-2156
Past President	Mark Flunker - Wolf River Habitat for Humanity (715-584-5995)
Builder Directors	Mary Huntington – Crossroads Custom Cabinetry (715-526-3261) Trish Kieckhafer – Stone Creations of WI (715-526-8690)
Associate Directors	Tom Krause – Cellcom (715-853-7859) Bill Gorman – Gorman Plumbing (Deceased) Tammy Brzeczowski – Dynamic Designs Unlimited (920-822-4450)
State Directors	John Maule – Maule Construction LLC Bill Rapaich – Top Shelf Builders Inc.
Executive Officer	Diane Montour Email: wolfriverbuilders@gmail.com Website: www.wolfriverbuilders.com Ph: 715-853-2310

National Association of Home Builders

Put your membership to work now.

Money-saving discounts that benefit you, your business, and your family



and many more...



nahb.org/MA

Correspondence Received

Following is a copy of the thank you notes received from two of the \$500 scholarship recipients from this year.

From Graham Welch, Oconto High School –

“I am writing to thank you for your generous financial support towards my higher education.

I am a woodworker who plans to pursue a career in woodworking such as cabinetmaking or carpentry. I am enrolled at Fox Valley Technical College in the Wood Manufacturing program for the 2016 fall semester. This summer I took a job as a cabinetmaker at a local business in my hometown.

By awarding me the Wolf River Builders Association Scholarship, I am able to concentrate on what is important for me, woodworking. Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal and has inspired me to help others by giving back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help other students achieve their goal just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,

Graham Welch”

From Nate Laude, Shawano High School –

“Thanks, you made my day! Thanks so much for the gift of money! I will be attending UW–Stout for residential building and minoring in safety!

Thanks again!

Nate Laude”

Other Correspondence:

From Dorothy with Wolf River Habitat for Humanity:

“More thank yous to the members of the Wolf River Builders Association for caring about the mission of Habitat for Humanity and for the wonderful donation of Home Show entry fees!”

(Donation for entry fees was \$1378.00. Does not include canned food donations made to SAFPARC.)