



NARI MILWAUKEE, INC.

HENRY FENDERBOSCH LEADERSHIP AWARD

KEVIN ANUNDSON, PE, MCR, CR, CKBR, CAPS

NARI Milwaukee, Inc.'s Executive Committee is nominating Kevin Anundson, PE, MCR, CR, CKBR, CAPS for the 2019 NARI Henry Fenderbosch Leadership award.

Although the Henry Fenderbosch Leadership award focuses on the leadership, devotion and dedication at the NARI national level, Kevin is all of that to NARI, but his entire community as well. Volunteer, caring, generous, leader, committed, dedicated, serving and willing are few of powerful words people use to describe Kevin. Kevin is genuine person who gives his all to whatever he sets his mind to including his family, friends, strangers in need, his business, charitable organizations and most notably NARI.

Kevin received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Upon graduation he worked for an engineering firm, then a nuclear power plant and finally WE Energies. Kevin believes in putting every effort behind what he does and strives to be the best. To be the best engineer he joined his first professional association - the National Society of Professional Engineers and pursued becoming a licensed Professional Engineer. After four years of experience under a licensed Professional Engineer and two exams, Kevin earned his first professional designation - Professional Engineer (PE).

Kevin was not satisfied in the field of engineering and dealing with corporate America, so he started looking for other opportunities. After eleven years at WE Energies, Kevin decided to pursue a career in a related field of construction. Kevin started his remodeling career working for Wooden Thumb, Inc. a design, remodeled build firm. The firm joined NARI Milwaukee in 1999 to become part their annual consumer home shows. No differently than Kevin did as an engineer, he became active in the association dedicated to his new line of work. He then found, like the engineering association, NARI also had professional designations. He obtained his first designation, Certified Remodeler (CR) in 2001. He later obtained his Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler (CKBR) in 2003. In 2013 Kevin achieved his Master Certified Remodeler (MCR) designation.

Kevin identified that many homeowners were handy and wanted to keep costs down by doing some of their renovation work themselves. However, Wooden Thumb nor any other firm in the area supported this service model. In 2005, Kevin started his own company called The OAR Group known as Owner Assisted Remodeling and immediately joined NARI. His business became successful filling this service gap in the industry. However, like most Kevin realized running your company takes a variety of skill and knowledge not only in the field, but in the office as well. Like most NARI members, Kevin networked and made close friends with numerous people in the NARI Milwaukee Chapter. One of his close friends was Tony Rink, CR, owner of Renovators, LTD. Tony and Kevin both were serving on several of the same committees and the Board of Directors. They came to realize they had very strong complementary skills and knowledge that together would cover all aspects of running a successful business. In 2011, The OAR Group merged with Renovators, LTD to become Renovations Group, Inc. and Kevin and Tony were partners. For the next seven years they ran a very successful remodeling firm and in March of 2018 sold the business affording Tony the opportunity to retire and Kevin the opportunity to take a step back from ownership to become the Director of Design and Sales for the Renovations Group, Inc. Under new ownership, Renovations Group, Inc. remains an active NARI member.

While obtaining his NARI certifications, Kevin also became an active volunteer in NARI. Over the course of ten years Kevin served on the NARI Milwaukee Insurance, Finance, Bylaws and Ethics, Fall Home and Remodeling Show, Spring Home Improvement Show, Marketing, 2020 Vision Task Force, Personnel and Nominating committees. He was on never less than three committees at once and served on as many as nine committees plus the Board of Directors. Today, Kevin still assists with the Finance, Nominating and Election committees.

Kevin became a member of the NARI Milwaukee Board of Directors elected to Alternate Director in 2003. At that time the NARI Milwaukee board was comprised of Alternate Directors, Directors and Officers. Kevin served in that role again in 2004 and then immediately ran for an Officer position, bypassing all the other Alternate Directors and Directors and was elected Treasurer in 2005. Over the next several years he proceeded up the Officer ladder serving as Secretary, 3rd Vice President, 2nd Vice President and Vice President in 2011. In 2016, Kevin returned the NARI Milwaukee Board of Directors in a one-year President appointed Secretary position also serving on the Executive Committee due to an Officer resignation.

Around 2007 Kevin started representing NARI Milwaukee as a Delegate to the NARI business meetings. He then got involved with committee work. He started on the Education Committee and then moved to the Certification Board. He advanced to be the Chair of the Certification Board. As Chair he also served on the NARI Board of Directors. Kevin then served on the Technical Committee who created the Certified Remodeler Project Manager (CRPM) designation. He then became a member of the Nominating committee and Strategic Renewal task force. In 2011 Kevin ran for an Officer position on the NARI Board of Directors and was elected Secretary 2011-2012. Again, working his way up the Officer ladder serviced as Treasurer, Vice President, President in 2014-2015 and Chairman of the Board in 2015-2016 and then Chair of the President's Council. During his Officer years he served on every committee as a Liaison. With Kevin's passion around education and promoting being the best one can be in their field, he continues to serve on the National level. Kevin was on the Accredited Remodeling Company task force that developed the accreditation program and continues on the sub-committee. He is the current Chair of the Accredited Remodeling Company Accreditation Board. Kevin continues to be an active member of the President's Council.

NARI is a supporter and sponsor of the SkillsUSA program. SkillsUSA is partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps students excel through educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms. NARI supports SkillsUSA as part of the remodeling trades workforce development initiatives. As a sponsor to SkillsUSA Kevin represents NARI as the liaison to the SkillsUSA Carpentry Teamworks Competition committee. This committee organizes the annual national competition in Louisville, KY. He works on the committee throughout the year and then attend the competition assisting in conducting the event. Kevin also assists as needed with the Wisconsin State SkillsUSA Carpentry Teamworks Competition that NARI Milwaukee began hosting four years ago.

With Kevin's commitment to running his own company, significant involvement with NARI Milwaukee and NARI National, plus his wife and two sons, one would think he had no other time to give. But actually, Kevin is also highly involved in his community and this is what makes Kevin an amazing servant leader. Kevin is a Boy Scouts Cubmaster for Pack 18 in Muskego, WI. Kevin became involved in scouts when his two sons joined the Cub Scouts in their

community. Like everything Kevin does, he doesn't get involved to be a bystander – he's a leader. Cub Scouting is fun, hands-on learning and achievement that puts kids in the middle of the action and prepares them with lifelong skills. Kevin flourished in the prominent values-based youth development organization. Kevin's collaborative and patient personality made him a natural Cubmaster participating on committees and scouting events. As Kevin's sons advanced in the program so did Kevin by becoming a Scoutmaster for the Boy Scout Troop 18 that focuses on boys 11 to 17 in age. Here Kevin not only helped and taught his son's, but many boys explore their interests and improve their skills earning Merit Badges and some the coveted Eagle status including both of Kevin's sons. He received several honors leading the scouts, but some of the most meaningful are Mentor Pins given by the youth in recognition of someone who impacted them and made a difference in their scouting journey.

As a veteran himself, Kevin also helps his fellow veterans. Kevin volunteers for Wisconsin Adventures on Wheels (WAW) a privately funded nonprofit dedicated and designed solely to provide a quality outdoor experience for mobility challenged individuals, veterans, and their families. Kevin was part of a volunteer group that built accessible hunting platforms, with blinds, for the comfort of the hunters as well as provide camouflage. The blinds on the grounds of the WAW in West Central, WI and have ramps that lead to hardwood-sided permanent buildings with multiple windows providing a wide field of view in all directions for hunting, game observation and photography.

Kevin also volunteers for the The Highground Veterans Memorial Park in Neillsville, WI. The Highground has evolved to be a memorial park that pays tribute to the dead, and honors the survivors, their service, and their sacrifices. Once a field, over the year's volunteers have helped build this location into a wonderful park encompassing the original view. Kevin was part of a development team that hauled in gravel to build various areas of the park.

Kevin was also one of the Founders of an organization called The C.A.R.I.N.G. Group - Companies Actively Reinvesting In Neighborhood Growth. Local businesses owners who have been in business for at least one year join the group agreeing to donate a minimum of 5% of sales back to local member schools. The money is used to fund programs not budgeted to provide opportunities to students. The group was established on the premise that if you support the local businesses, the local businesses will support you.

Kevin fully and genuinely gives of his time, talent and resources whenever and wherever he can. He is a true humanitarian who gives and gets involved because he wants to, not because he has to. He's in it for the good of the task at hand, not the recognition. Kevin would tell you he is not deserving of this award or any award, but many would beg to differ and say no one else deserves it more. Specifically, Kevin's dedication to NARI locally and nationally has been exceptional and the fact he continues to be involved, giving of his time and talents is reflective of true meritorious service to NARI and the remodeling industry.

We ask that you consider honoring Kevin Anundson, PE, MCR, CR, CKBR, CAPS for the 2019 NARI Henry Fenderbosch Leadership award.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
The NARI Milwaukee Executive Committee

Business Spotlight: Renovators Ltd. of Elm Grove has a program for every construction job

They do owner-assisted, or not; new homes or renovations



Tony Rink (left) and Kevin Anundson, of Renovations Group Inc. in their Elm Grove showroom.
Photo By Mary Catanese

Dec. 29, 2014

If Kevin Anundson had any second thoughts about merging his Owner Assisted Remodeling Group, Inc. with Renovators Ltd., a local full-service residential and light commercial design-build company, they were quickly put to rest by the job requests that followed shortly thereafter.

"Since the merger, we've seen a significant upswing in both phases of the business," said Anundson, of the late 2011 partnership that produced Renovations Group Inc. "The increase in

the size and scope of projects homeowners are interested in has been a good indicator of consumer confidence. Additions, kitchens and rec rooms are once again outpacing bathroom remodels."

Kevin operates the Elm Grove-based business with Renovators founder, Tony Rink, who runs the showroom, and original OAR partner, Jeff Auberger, who oversees the company's Elkhorn showroom.

"While both OAR and Renovators were previously very successful, the merger allowed us to bring something to the business that the other lacked, resulting in a very well-rounded arrangement," said Anundson, the vice president, who also currently serves as president of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. "Jeff and I came with a passion for design and sales, while Tony, who I met when we were on the board of directors for the Milwaukee chapter of NARI, brought over 25 years of business and accounting know-how, along with a staff that included veteran carpenters, and an experienced designer with an architectural degree.

"The formation of Renovations Group also provides additional assurance to our customer base that we'll be available to support them not only during their project, but long after it's completed. Our goal is to be their contractor for life."

Four divisions reside under the Renovations Group umbrella: the merged businesses, plus two new additions — Sweetwater Builders, which specializes in constructing upscale lake and country homes, and Preservation Homes Inc., a custom home designer/builder focused on environmentally-friendly building.

According to Kevin, collaborating with a potentially inexperienced homeowner on a remodeling project makes the Owner Assisted Remodeling program both the most challenging and rewarding part of the business.

"I completely understand why most full-service construction firms do not get involved with owner-assisted remodeling," he said. "However, for Renovations Group, it's a hurdle we'll gladly jump over.

"I think it's fair to state that we have the most experience in the owner-assisted remodeling field — especially, since we created and own the registered trademark for that term. So, if homeowners can save a portion of the cost by doing some of the work themselves, then it's really a win-win for everyone."

JUST THE FACTS

BUSINESS NAME: Renovations Group, Inc.

ADDRESS: 13390 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122

PHONE: (262) 821-1100

WEBSITE: www.renovationsgroupinc.com

OWNERS: Kevin Anundson, Jeff Auberger, Tony Rink

INCORPORATED: 2011

TYPE OF BUSINESS: Home remodeling

PEARLS OF WISDOM: "Relax and enjoy the process."

Brookfield Now, New and Features, Business Spotlight

December 6, 2018

To the Directors, Officers and Staff of Milwaukee NARI and NARI National:

I am writing this letter to support the nomination of Kevin Anundson for the NARI Lifetime Achievement Award.

I've known Kevin for about 20 years. I met him when he was working for another remodeling firm that was a friendly competitor of mine. Shortly thereafter Kevin started The OAR Group, and we continued to grow our friendship. Kevin and I served on the Milwaukee NARI Finance Committee and Ethics Committee together for many years. We also served as Milwaukee NARI Board Members, and later as Milwaukee NARI Officers. During our time as Officers we often traveled together to participate as Delegates to NARI National. It was at this time that Kevin and I got to know each other on more of a personal level, as well as how we operated our respective business. We talked about our strengths and weaknesses, and in 2009 we initiated a discussion about merging our two remodeling firms. In 2011 we did indeed merge our two companies, and Kevin continued his involvement with NARI National. Very early on I recognized Kevin's genuine commitment to NARI, as well as commitment to other interests he had.

Whenever Kevin gets involved in something, he does it because he really cares about the cause, not for his own personal gain. Often I've heard people ask why Kevin volunteers so much or stretches himself so thin, as most people can't imagine giving so much of their own time. But Kevin isn't most people, he is very much a 'giver' and a pleaser. I once called Kevin to see if he had a transfer pump I could borrow to get some water out of my basement. He didn't have one, but he knew someone that did. So, without my knowledge he left his house that night, went and borrowed the pump, and then showed up with it at my home. This is exactly the type of person Kevin is. And there are countless other examples of Kevin's benevolence; much too many to illustrate here. I do want to mention a time when one of Kevin's neighbors got seriously injured and ended up in the hospital for an extended time. This neighbor had a rental property that he was trying to get ready for a new renter. When this man's wife contacted Kevin to tell him what had happened, and that they could not finish the rental home in time, Kevin put the word out and rallied volunteers to finish the home. Kevin acted as project manager to finish the work, and even did much of the work himself, including tiling, painting and other repairs. If this were anyone else I might have been surprised at that level of concern for others, but knowing Kevin as I do, it did not surprise me at all.

For several years Kevin was involved, and was in fact a founder, of a group called "The Caring Group". Without going into great detail, it is a group of businesses that agree to donate a percentage of their profits to the local schools so the school children could have opportunities that weren't in the schools budgets.

Whether it's causes like these or his participation in causes like Boy Scouts of America or Skills USA, Kevin gives his time, not for recognition, but because it's who he is and what he wants to do.

Last year a mutual friend of mine and Kevin's had fire that destroyed his hunting cabin. Kevin immediately jumped in to help. First he offered advice on rebuilding the cabin, then he took time to create a CAD drawing of a new cabin. Kevin's help did not end there. Once construction began, Kevin gave up three or four weekends to help build the new structure.

During my time of involvement with both Milwaukee NARI and National NARI I've met many people within the remodeling industry that have impressed me with their dedication and commitment to helping and serving others, as well as the association, and many of these people would be deserving of this honorable award, but none more so than Kevin

For these reasons, and many more, I feel that Kevin Anundson has earned your consideration and subsequently your vote for the NARI Lifetime Achievement award.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tony Rink", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tony Rink
Retired President of Renovations Group, Inc
Former business partner of Kevin Anundson
Current and lifetime friend of Kevin Anundson

12/8/19

RE: Nomination of Kevin Anundson for the NARI National Lifetime Achievement Award

Dear Judges,

I would like to strongly recommend Kevin Anundson for the NARI National Lifetime Achievement Award. He is definitely worthy of this recognition for his 20 plus years of service and commitment to NARI.

I met Kevin through NARI Milwaukee around 2000 – 2001. He was working for Wooden Thumb at the time. It was through his work at Wooden Thumb that he became familiar with NARI. They heard about the Home Improvement Show and wanted to participate. After joining, Kevin found out about NARI's certification program for remodelers. He felt that if he was going to be in the remodeling industry, getting certified was the logical next step.

Over the years, Kevin has contributed to multiple committees on both the local and national level, most recently serving as the National President. He is a lifetime advocate of NARI and has played an active role in shaping our future. When we went through the process to mirror the national board size and terms, Kevin was a leader on the steering committee. He has contributed to the Nomination and Leadership committee, carefully identifying and qualifying future leaders of our chapter.

Outside of NARI, Kevin has been a scout leader for years, mentoring our youth to become responsible adults. On a personal level, if you need help with anything, Kevin is the first to offer assistance.

Having been personally involved in NARI Milwaukee for 25 years, I know of no one else more deserving of this recognition than Kevin Anundson. He is the right choice for this prestigious award.

If you wish to discuss this in more detail, please call or email me. I am happy to contribute in any way.

Best regards,

Paul Kraemer, CIC, CRM, CRIS

VP Commercial Sales

The Starr Group

414-761-4827 pkraemer@starrgroup.com

December 17, 2018

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Kevin Anundson of NARI Milwaukee. It is my understanding that Kevin is being considered as a candidate for the NARI Lifetime Achievement Award. I believe Kevin is an outstanding candidate for this designation and I am in favor of him receiving this high distinction of honor from his peers.

I know Kevin on three different levels. One is on a professional level as a NARI Milwaukee member. I first met Kevin over ten years ago as we served together on the NARI Milwaukee Board of Directors. His forefront thinking, knowledge of the trade, and willingness to do whatever it takes to better the organization and everything he does was evident in his thoughts, words, and actions. He was always involved with the future of NARI and NARI Milwaukee. One example is when he organized a task force called 2020 that was to look at what we were doing then and how it would affect NARI and its members in the year 2020.

A second level I have become to know Kevin is on a business level with the Remodeling Company that he created called Owner Assisted Remodeling. Again, he was willing to do whatever it took to take care of what was needed. He saw a need in clients that wanted to do portions of the work themselves and he was willing to work with them when others preferred not to. I hired Kevin and Owner Assisted Remodeling to work on my own home and with his help created a NARI Award winning Kitchen. I still remember several occasions where things weren't working out as planned and Kevin stepped up and did whatever it took to get the job done right. He continues to do this with everything he does and is a perfect example of what being a NARI member is all about.

The third level that I have come to enjoy and experience over the years is my personal friendship that has been created because of meeting Kevin through NARI. I have had the pleasure of calling him my friend for over a decade now and it feels like a lifetime.

If there is one thing that I feel is Kevin's weakness, it would be his willingness to help out and get it done, with whatever it takes. He is always willing to commit his time, energy, ideas, knowledge, and help to benefit others. He has proven this in his personal life, in his business life, and most importantly in his NARI life. It is this weakness that I feel makes Kevin the perfect recipient of the NARI Lifetime Achievement Award. I know I have not listed his multitude of achievements throughout his NARI membership, but if you knew everything he has done for this organization and its members over the years, there would be a note on the back of his award that reads "we should have given this to him sooner."

Sincerely,

Jim Pitzen, CR, ALA

NARI Milwaukee Member since 1999

Proud recipient of the NARI Professionalism Award



N22 W22922 Nancys Court
Waukesha, WI 53186
262-875-4300

Weather-Tek.com

NARI Lifetime Achievement Award selection committee:

Being in window & door sales, I first met Kevin Anundson in January of 2004, shortly after arriving in Wisconsin. He soon became a customer, but more importantly, he became a friend. I have always been amazed at the time and effort Kevin puts in outside of his normal work. He has been involved with Boy Scouts since his two sons were old enough, with both obtaining Eagle Scout status. Through Scouts he was also a Scout Master, involved with many other kids besides his own.

If anyone needed help, Kevin was always the first to volunteer. If someone at his church needed help, or know someone that did, he was there. He has helped other volunteers remodel a veteran's house to accommodate wheelchair accessibility, to name one of many.

Kevin is also a veteran and has volunteered to build hunting blinds at Wisconsin Adventures on Wheels, a not-profit group dedicated to veterans, disabled or not, who enjoy being in the outdoors.

He also volunteered his time to haul gravel to the Highground, a Wisconsin veteran's memorial park that was constructed in Neillsville, WI.

This is all on top of being an active member of NARI for longer than I have known him. He has been a valued committee member as well as holding several local and national offices. Kevin is the epitome of a caring and valuable member of NARI in particular and society in general. He is the definition worthy of the National Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sincerely
Stan D Prater
Outside Sales Rep
Weather-Tek Windows & Doors

NARI Lifetime Achievement Award Selection Committee:

I have known Kevin Anundson since 2002 when his sons joined Cub Scouting in which my sons and I were also members. Kevin was a natural and effective leader as a Cubmaster in Muskego Pack 18 and later as a Scoutmaster in Boy Scout Troop 18. I worked side by side with him on adult Scouting committees and joined him with scouts on many campouts, scout events, and meetings through 2015. It was always a pleasure to work with Kevin.

Kevin has a style of leadership that draws in all (scouts and adults) to participate. He encourages everyone to contribute to the solution or planning. When it's time for execution, everyone feels it is a group plan. Working with the group, Kevin can keep everyone on task but his patient and flexible demeanor make sure every event is a learning experience with fun and minimal stress. This is a perfect combination when working with scouts.

Kevin has a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience. This is only revealed because the passion of a teacher in him wants to share knowledge and skills. Otherwise, Kevin is very modest and mostly demonstrates his expertise by teaching and taking part in the work.

He was a guiding force for my younger sons who reached the Rank of Eagle under his guidance:

In 2014, my son Miles was working with my father on building four Little Free Libraries for the City of Muskego as part of his Eagle project. My father unexpectedly passed away in the middle of the project. Kevin graciously stepped in to give support and advice. His generosity of time and guidance helped get us through a difficult time. At his Eagle Court of Honor, Miles presented Kevin the Boy Scout Mentor Pin for his support.

It was through Kevin's encouragement that our fifth son, Elliot, took on a very ambitious project of re-siding a small house for the Muskego Historical Society. Kevin taught Elliot the skills needed on how to re-side a house, but more importantly, he taught him the perseverance to see a large project to its completion, the leadership to make sure all people were participating as they were able, and the modesty of leading by joining in the work. Those lessons will be used his entire life. Elliot also awarded Kevin the Eagle Rank Mentor Pin at his Court of Honor in 2018.

Kevin's contributions of leadership and commitment to the Muskego Scouting community is immeasurable.

Sincerely,

Kelly Bognar

Cub Scout Pack 18, Den Leader and Advancement Chair (1997-2010)

Boy Scout Troop 18/19, Assistant Scoutmaster (2010-2018)

kellybognar@wi.rr.com

262-366-0500

Renovations Group, Inc.'s Kevin Anundson is President-Elect of National NARI

By [Judi Murphy](#), Patch Contributor | May 6, 2013 9:02 pm ET

This post was contributed by a community member.



Elm Grove firm's owner recognized for excellence by National NARI members

Kevin Anundson, CR, CKBR, CAPS, PE, an owner of Renovations Group, Inc., Elm Grove, Wis., has been named President-Elect of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). He has twenty years' experience in the residential remodeling field.

Anundson said, "Within the past several years, the remodeling industry has surpassed the new home construction industry in the overall number of dollars spent nationwide – representing billions of dollars spent."

"It's an honor to have the opportunity to be part of the leadership of the national NARI organization and take an active role in its direction. I view my responsibility as equally shared between providing homeowners with the most knowledgeable and quality-minded contractors and suppliers, and benefits to our members that cannot be realized by any other organization," he continued.

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry is the nation's largest organization representing the remodeling industry's professionalism and unified voice. NARI is a consumer-based organization whose goal is for every homeowner to only use NARI members because of their knowledge, quality of workmanship, and willingness to comply with NARI's code of Ethics for their project.

Tony Rink, business manager of Renovations Group, Inc., said, "Professionalism in the remodeling industry has exponentially increased over the past decade. Homeowners recognize the long-term value of using NARI members for their projects, and NARI members recognize the importance of providing the highest level of quality and professionalism on every project."

In conjunction with National Home Improvement Month in May, the local chapter of NARI will host its Annual Tour of Remodeled Homes on May 18-19, 2013. The NARI Milwaukee Chapter is located at 11815 W Dearbourn Avenue, Wauwatosa, Wis. 53226. Phone: 414-771-4071. www.milwaukeeenari.org.

Renovations Group Inc was formed by the merger of Renovators Ltd and The OAR Group (Owner-Assisted Remodeling) in July, 2011. They are located at 13390 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122. For further information, contact Tony Rink, business manager, at 262-821-1100, or info@renovationsgroupinc.com or by visiting www.renovationsgroupinc.com.