

**From Joe Savia, Sr.
Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer**

Election News

Well another term is ending and a new one starting, it seems that time is passing more quickly. Monday, April 3rd brought 628 members together, 60 of those were actually campaigning. Remember no one is a loser, you didn't accomplish your full goal, but everyone was a winner, they went up to bat for something they believed in, and they all share a common goal, the good of the Union.

The results of the election are:

President: John P. Sullivan

Vice President: Timothy B. Blackwell, Sr.

Recording Secretary: Marlin Gibson

Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer: Joseph Savia, Sr.

Asst. Business Manager: Wayne Updike

Business Agent: Kevin Sullivan

Bus Rep/Organizer: Bill Durkin

Inside Guard: Ken Bradford

Executive Board: Danny Loveless, Ed Murdock, Joe Durkin & Jerry Stack

Examining Board: Timmy Christian, Greg Hurley, Jimmy Sword, Bob "Red Dog"
Mumford, Gary Murdock

Finance Board: Sean Straser, Brett Davis, Michael "Tut" Tozzolo, III

Medical Trustee: Brett Davis

Pension Trustee: Don Braun, Jr.

Retirement Savings Plan: Bernie Thornberg

Delegates to the Convention: Bernie Thornberg; Don Braun Jr.; John P Sullivan;
Timmy Christian; Marlin Gibson; Danny Loveless; Ken Colburn, Sr.; Sean T. Straser;
Andy Blackwell; Ron O'Bier; Joe Durkin; Brett Davis; Kenny Woodzelle, III; Ed
Murdock; Jack Blackwell; Mike Kopper; Timothy B. Blackwell, Sr.; Frances "Mickey"
Lucas; Kenny Bradford; Jerry Stack; Jimmy Sword; Larry Tyrrell; Ric "2 Doggs"
Taylor; Claude Revis; Greg Hurley; Gary Murdock; Bob "Red Dog" Mumford; Roland
Johnson

Alternate One: (if we have 33 Delegates will be automatic) Chuck Jewell, Sr

Alternate Two: Jerry "Tiny" Marx

The final determination on the number of delegates will be forwarded from the UA
depending on the March, 2006 Cash Sheet.

I do owe a special thanks to the Retirees who helped the election run smoothly, without their help, we would have had long lines waiting to vote; Brian Bell; Walter Burnette; Jim Campbell; Dan Carey; Dave Ferguson; Jim Fleshman; Earle Foote, Billy Gifford; John Kripas; Bill Lohr; Bob Merkle; Phil Myers; Walt Myers; Herb Toney; Kenny Woodzelle.

UA News

The UA has recently announced the inception of the United Association Scholarship Trust Fund, which will benefit the children of UA members, beginning with the spring semester of the 2006-2007 academic year.

Eligibility for scholarships will be limited to graduating high school seniors and college undergraduates. All children of United Association members in good standing with the Union are eligible. The student's academic and personal accomplishments as well as community involvement will be the most important considerations. The financial need of the students may be considered, particularly in situations where a "tie breaker" is needed.

The application can be obtained from the UA Website, www.ua.org or our office.

Recognition

At the UA's 37th Convention the UA General Officers are planning a tribute to all the UA Brothers and Sisters that have served, are currently serving or have been killed in the line of duty while serving in Iraq. Please forward the member's name and if possible a photo of any of your Local Union brothers and sisters you know that have served.

M.EDDIE MOORE SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the year 2006 will be accepted through June 30, 2006. You must be eligible for medical coverage, in our Fund, to apply. For applications please call (301) 333-2356 or fax (301) 333-1730.

THIS 'N THAT

Congratulations to Doug & Pam Barefoot on the birth of their daughter, Ansley Brie, who was born on March 22, 2006, weighing in at 7lbs. 10oz.. Proud first time grandparents are Byron and Carolyn Barefoot.

Roy and Denise Fiddesop proudly announce the birth of their new grandson, John Austin Gaertner, who was born at 8:14 a.m. on March 13, 2006, weighing 8lbs. 13 oz and was 19 inches long.

Congratulations to Blaine and Kimberlee Carter who were married on March 23, 2006.

BIG WINNER

Pete Greenwood was the winner of the 50/50 raffle held at the April Union Meeting.

SYMPATHY

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of the following members:

Retiree, David Hoffman died March 10, 2006. Brother Hoffman was 79 years old and had been a member since April 7, 1964. Death #1223.

Retiree, Amos F. Gunnell died March 23, 2006. Brother Gunnell was 70 years old and had been a member since July 30, 1962. Death #1224.

**THE CURRENT DEATH IS NO. 1224. ANY MEMBER
NOT PAID THROUGH DEATH NO. 1224 IS IN ARREARS.**

From Kevin Sullivan Business Agent

I would like to thank all those that came out to vote in last month's election; for taking the time to participate in their unions' future. I am not alone though in wondering why such a low turnout on a day of such importance. Here are some sobering facts from the election. On a positive note it is good to report we as a union are growing and are now a little under 3400 members. Out of those a little under 1,000 were ineligible to vote. That figure is somewhat misleading for out of that you must take out the apprentices, owners, and new members recently cleared in; but that still leaves over 400 (13%) that could not vote because they had been placed on reinstatement for non payment of their union dues. The 628 that did show up was a mere 25% of those eligible.

Was the small numbers due to some positions running unopposed? All of the Board and Committee positions were open and you only need to read the bylaws to realize what a vital role they perform in our Union. I just hope that it is not apathy; that your voice and your vote does not matter. In their next opportunity to vote I do encourage our members to participate. Research the candidates, ask questions of their honesty and work ethic but for the sake of the Union please make it out and vote. You might not have needed it yet but there will come a time when you or a family member will call upon the Union for assistance, and you will be glad you chose an officer that you new would go that extra mile for its members. Remember though, when you choose not to vote you are also making a decision that I guarantee will affect you down the line.

I do believe the officers along with the board and committee members are doing a good job. As any employer would do I encourage you to evaluate us in our job, letting us know when we are lacking but also crediting us in a good job done. Let us know how we can help you.

Please welcome Michael Proctor as the newest member of Local 602; he was initiated at last month's union meeting.

SOLIDARITY

President, John P. Sullivan

I am of two minds on the immigration issues and will address the first part this month. My ancestors came to these shores after the Great Famine in Ireland. The population of Ireland prior to the potato blight of 1845 was 8 million. Over the next five years 1 million died and 1 million fled on the Coffin Ships to England, Canada, and the United States. Most paid for the passage by indenturing themselves as servants and common laborers. They were stuffed below deck like cheap cargo. Up to 20% died during the passage on ships that were barely seaworthy.

The first generation lived in squalor in the major cities of the North. They were destitute, illiterate, unskilled, and oftentimes, they did not speak English. They worked at jobs that others wouldn't. Generally that meant that the Irish would take the lowest paying and most dangerous jobs. Many of the other jobsites had posted signs that stated, "NO IRISH NEED APPLY".

They enlisted in the army and the navy. They worked in the mines and the factories. They built the bridges. They dug the canals, tunnels and the sewer systems. They laid the rail for the trolleys and the railroads. Many died on the job but they were soon replaced with new arrivals from Ireland. Their ranks swelled to 3.5 million by 1880.

The average American at that time did not just hate the Irish, they detested them. The prejudice of the times could be summed up with a Chicago Post editorial which stated that, "The Irish fill our prisons, our poor houses...Scratch a convict or a pauper, and the chances are that you tickle the skin of an Irish Catholic. Putting them on a boat and sending them home would end crime in this country."

The backlash against the immigrants periodically turned violent. Shantytowns and Catholic Churches were burned to the ground. There were beatings and lynchings. In response, the Irish immigrant communities banded together in gangs and secret societies. They organized unions and formed their own

political parties. Over time their self-defense became effective. After the religious riots in Philadelphia, the Mayor of New York asked Archbishop Hughes, "Do ye fear that some of your churches will be burned. The Catholic Archbishop responded, "No sir, but I am afraid some of yours will be. We can protect our own." No Catholic Church was set ablaze in New York.

The next generation, natural citizens by birthright, learned the language and moved into other jobs. By 1900 the Irish were only 7.7% of the general male workforce. However, they had a near monopoly of the police and firefighters' jobs. They also held a third of the plumbers, fitters, and boilermakers jobs in the country. They were no longer just common laborers.

Were the Irish who came here in the 1800's considered to be illegal immigrants or undocumented aliens? No, immigration and naturalization laws allowed for contract laborers. Becoming an American citizen was mostly just a matter of time. Fourteen years was the early threshold but that time requirement was later reduced. By the end of the 1800's, if you were Irish and were once listed on some ship record, kept to your contract and paid for your passage, stayed out of jail and the whore houses for five years or better, you probably could and would vote in the next election.

One last point. While watching the Latinos march I wondered. Would the Irish immigrants or their miscreant offspring dare march through the major cities of America draped in the flag of the old sod? Shouldn't we be upset if they still have an accent and speak with a brogue? And what should we do if they continue to sing their old songs, play the bagpipes and remain fiercely proud of their Celtic heritage?

I don't know; it's a tad unclear to me. I'm still hungover from the last St. Paddy's Day parade.

SUPPORT LOCAL 602'S ANNUAL PROJECT
FOR THE JUVENILE DIABETES
RESEARCH FOUNDATION
“WALK TO CURE DIABETES”

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2006
FEDERAL CENTER SW METRO
3RD & MARYLAND AVENUE, NW
(MALL)

WASHINGTON, DC
CHECK IN AT 8:30 A.M.

WALK BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 10:00 A.M.
POST-WALK SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED
WALK WILL TAKE PLACE RAIN OR SHINE

MAKE CHECK DONATIONS PAYABLE TO:
JUVENILE DIABETES FOUNDATION
AND MAIL TO

STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 602
8700 ASHWOOD DRIVE, 2ND FLOOR
CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD 20743



STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 602

proudly presents the

“Awards Dinner Dance”

Saturday, May 20, 2006
7:00 p.m. till 1:00 a.m.

at

Martins Crosswinds
Greenbelt, Maryland

Sumptuous Dinner * Open Bar * Dancing

A Very Special Night

Come and celebrate with your Friends and Co-Workers
\$90.00 per Couple ***Non Refundable*** \$50.00 Single

For Ticket Information and Seating Call Sandra Macek
301-333-2356 ext 9

Limited to the First 600

Special Room Accommodations will be available
For Local 602 at the Greenbelt Holiday Inn
(301-982-7000) located next to Martins Crosswinds

FROM WAYNE'S WORLD

SPRING HAS ARRIVED

March 20th brought the arrival of Spring. Spring is defined as a “Time or Season of growth, development or renewal”. As the new season starts that I am still paying \$2+ for a gallon of gas! My Gas and Electric bill has increased over the winter. My son and daughter’s tuition has increased at the University of Maryland, a State Funded College, and at the same time, our government has increased the rate of repayment for Student Loans. I don’t follow the stock market anymore, it’s like being on a roller coaster, and our President was to get involved in another war? It is the same across the Board, no matter what your job, it seems like someone is reaping the rewards of our Blood, Sweat and Tears. I don’t believe it is fair to our Brothers and Sisters. In the next few months we all need to concentrate on Voter Registration and getting involved in the Political Arena, to focus on turning things around. The working people deserve tax breaks, not the wealthy who never seem to pay their fair share. Unions make it possible to support your family and provide a decent standard of living. The Federal Government is in default, and is cashing in on the 401K’s of government employees to pay down the deficit, currently a \$423 billion deficit. Six years ago we started with a surplus of \$936 Billion. Thank you George!

Millions of jobs in America as susceptible to outsourcing, and thousands of jobs daily are lost due to foreign trade. Millions of Americans don’t have Health Care Coverage and for the one that do, usually don’t have Prescription Drug Coverage. 602 members pay close of \$11,000 a year for Health and Prescription Coverage years, which comes close to exceeding the income of a minimum wage worker.

Pay close attention to the Democratic Party’s Unity Plan to “Take Back America”. This will include Health Care and Retirement Security, it will protect our rights to organize and join unions. It will push for energy independence with the United States, and proposes to stop tax subsidies for Corporations moving jobs overseas. Is this important to you? Think about all that has happened to Unions under the George Bush dictatorship. This about your children and grandchildren.

Brothers and Sisters make sure you vote in 2006 to support candidates working for the betterment of Unions and the working people of this country.

We are continuously updating our records. We now have over 3300 Members and close to 200 Contractors. Addresses, phone numbers and many other changes that we, at the Hall need to keep current. We have found that with upcoming events, and the speed that

the world expects, we have found that we need to include email addresses in our database. If you have changed ANY of your vital information please let the union office know. You can email us at ua602@aol.com or mail in the changed information.

Name

Address

Email

Telephone

Cell #