

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

Dues

On a monthly basis this office issues in excess of 250 late notices to members behind in their dues, this results in a time consuming day for the office, as well as penalties charged to the members in the amounts of \$5 - \$50, depending on the status of the delinquency. This is lost money for both the Local and the member. This is another good reason to have dues check off instituted. Call the hall and request a check off card be forwarded to you.

Currently, we have 41 contractors participating in Dues Check Off.

Please note when you change employers a new card does not have to be signed however, please call the hall and let someone know who you are working for, so the company can be notified of your desire to participate in Dues Check Off.

Local Election News

Enclosed is notification from the United Association regarding the change in dates of the Local Union elections. Please note all nominations will be accepted at the March, 2006 Union Meeting, elections will be held in April, 2006.

Eligibility Requirements to run as Delegate –

Sec 17, page 13 from the Constitution of the United Association

No member shall be eligible as a delegate or alternate unless he shall have been a good standing member of the Local Union which his is to represent for at least the two (2) consecutive years previous to his election and he remains in good standing from the date of his election through the period of the convention.

Eligibility for Office in Local Union –

Sec 121, page 73 from the Constitution of the United Association

No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he shall be a journeyman member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union.

Eligibility to Vote at Local Union Election

Sec 124, page 76 from the Constitution of the United Association

- (a) No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to vote in any Local Union election.

Know your Officers and Their Roles

Medical Fund Committee: The Medical Fund Committee shall be composed of two members and the Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer. The Medical Fund Committee shall act as the Union Trustees in the joint administration and supervision with the Contractor Trustees of the Heating, Piping and Refrigeration Medical Fund Committee.

The Medical Fund Trustees are: Brett Davis, Bernie Thornberg

Insert UA Letter

This N That

Big Winner

Fred Wilson was the winner of the 50/50 held at the October Union Meeting.

Sympathy

Our sympathy to Herbert Edwards and family on the recent loss of his mother.

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

Brother William B Tucker died September 18, 2005. Brother Tucker was 43 years old and had been a member since April 9, 1984. Death # 1206

Brother Dennis E. Mahle died September 19, 2005. Brother Mahle was 68 years old and had been a member since November 4, 1969. Death # 1207

Brother Michael G. Warner died August 5, 2005. Brother Warner was 47 years old and had been a member since December 7, 2004. Death # 1208

Brother James M. Fleming died October 4, 2005. Brother Fleming was 52 years old and had been a member since April 10, 1974. Death # 1209.

**THE CURRENT DEATH IS NO. 1209. ANY MEMBER NOT PAID THROUGH
DEATH NO. 1209 IS IN ARREARS**

Recent Retirees

Congratulations to all of our recent Retirees:

Thomas Appell	05/01/2005	Randolph Kines	05/01/2005
William War Bonnet	04/01/2005	Stuart Knudsen	05/01/2005
Norman Butler	04/01/2005	Ronald Orndoff	05/01/2005
Robert Butland	02/01/2005	William E. Orton III	04/01/2005
Thomas Jewell	03/01/2005	Martin Tiller	05/01/2005
Francis Lucas, Jr.	04/01/2005	Wesley Ringgold	05/01/2003
Robert Smith	04/01/2005	Gregory Fox	06/01/2004
William F. Walters	04/01/2005	John Morley	07/01/2005
Charles E. Conley	06/01/2005	Richard Wolfe	08/01/2005
Milton Dove	04/01/2005		

WHAT'S NEW IN TRAINING

Saturday, Journeyman Training Classes are now forming and will start on Saturday, November 5, 2005. Classes are open to all Local 602 Members. The following classes are being offered:

1. Welding (5P, 7018 and Hili Arc, Pipe Welding Certification):
Instructors – Robert Perry, Justin Batemen and Derrick Ferguson.
100 hours.
2. Advanced A/C Chillers: Instructor – George Barbeglou 100 hours.
3. Advanced Refrigeration Reciprocating 20 to 100 tons:
Instructor – John Bean 100 hours.
4. Boilers and Gas Fitters License: Instructor – John Vassallo. 100 hrs.
5. Basic/Advanced Electricity: Instructor – Robert Johnson 100 hours
6. CAD Drawing: Instructor – Matt Webb 100 hours. Dates and times TBD
7. High Purity Piping: Instructor – Larry Tyrrell. 100 hours
8. Special Seminars:
 - a. Variable Speed Drives: Instructor – Fred Lohr. 20 hours
This class will start on Saturday, January 7, 2006 at 7:00 a.m.
and will run for four (4) Saturdays.
 - b. Medical Gas: Instructor – Kevin Knighton. 40 hours.
This class will start on Saturday, January 7, 2006 at 7:00 a.m.
and will run for six (6) Saturdays.

Please call the school (301) 341-1555 for more information and to register for any of the Seminars. All other classes are on a walk-in basis, provided there is space available, to all Members of Local 602.

From Business Agent, Kevin Sullivan

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has initiated a “two strikes” program to deal with the absenteeism and lack of skill encountered on their construction sites. The President of the IBEW, Edwin Hill, has laid down a policy stating that if any worker is discharged for cause twice, during a twelve month period, the underlying reason must be addressed before the worker is eligible for future job referral. Hill said, in a video presentation, “our customers have a choice and far too many of them are choosing our non union competitors. As individuals, and, as an organization, we have to do better”.

IBEW’s new, get tough policy addresses what the Union considers, as a small percentage of its members in construction, who are not meeting productivity expectations because of absenteeism, tardiness, inadequate job skills, or a general lack of cooperation.

The “root of our problem” Hill said, “is attitude. Study after study confirms it.” Interviews with union contractors categorize their IBEW electrician as follows, Hill said, 15 percent are “top notch producers,” 70 percent are “solid contributors,” and the remaining 15 percent are “on cruise control, looking for the path of least resistance, content to let others carry the load.”

The poor work habits of the bottom 15 percent “infect” the rest of the group and “drag down” the Union’s overall reputation. Hill said, “When a few workers don’t produce, it gets noticed and we all pay the price.”

The Union’s two strike policy for dealing with what one Union Official called “the problem person no one wants to deal with” is embodied in the new collective bargaining agreement language. No local agreement will be approved by the International Union, unless this language is included verbatim. Text of the contract provision follows:

“An applicant who is discharged for cause two times in a twelve month period shall be referred to the neutral member of the Appeals Committee for a determination as to the applicant’s continued eligibility for referral.”

“The neutral member shall, within three business days, review the qualifications of the applicant and the reasons for discharge.”

“The neutral member may, in his or her sole discretion: (1) require the applicant to obtain further training from the JATC before again being eligible for referral; (2) Disqualify the applicant for referral for a period of four weeks, or longer, depending on the seriousness of the conduct and/or repetitive nature of the conduct; (3) refer the applicant to an employee assistance program, if available, for evaluation and recommended action; or (4) restore the applicant to his/her appropriate place on the referral list.”

I have put this in front of you because, according to this article, the Insulators, Painters, Sheet Metal Workers and the United Association, have shown an interest in the program.

This is your Union, so I would like to hear from the membership whether they see a problem out there, or, is this just an IBEW problem. During negotiations, if we heard once, we hear 100 times, “if your members want a raise, tell them to come to work 40 hours”. The Medical Trustees changed the required number of hours to remain eligible for coverage from 300 to 400 hours in an attempt to address absenteeism.

If this is not a problem in our Local, we sure are paying the price for it. If there is a problem, I would like to hear from you, and get your opinion on a possible solution. If there is no problem, tell me, least of all I will know the people actually do read these articles.

Please let me know your opinion on this controversial move by the IBEW (301) 333-2356, ext 6.

If you happen to spot a couple on the news, wearing Local 602 shirts, working along side the Red Cross in Baton Rouge, LA; that is Retired Brother, Dick Loveless and his wife, Peggy.

Through the efforts of Brothers Bill Whitt and Skip Wagner, two tractor trailers, carrying school supplies, were delivered to Gulport and Long Beach, Mississippi.

Please welcome Ronnie Brock, Matthew Cattaro, Nathan Fulkerson, Dean Justice and James Kungis, our new members.

From Bill Durkin, Business Rep/Organizer

Something to Think About

Several weeks ago I spent an evening with about fifteen non union men to discuss Union Representation. I arrived early at the apartment where we were to meet. At the door I was greeted by a man I didn't recognize. After finding out that I was in the right place, I introduced myself to this man whose name was Earl. From his accent I knew he was out of the deep south.

I didn't know his position in this organizing drive. Was he pro-union or would he have the anti-union bias you sometimes find in people from right to work states? He might have been a company spy sent to the meeting to report back on the employees. After the rest of the crew arrived, the meeting started and the conversation soon heated up. I was fielding questions about the union one after another. I had laid the union authorization cards on the table and explained that they needed to sign them in order to get an election.

There was some apprehension and the cards remained on the table. I was getting concerning that I might have misread this group, that maybe, they weren't strong enough to go to an election. Earl, during all the talking, had signed the card, but had seated himself across the room reading his Bible. To all appearances he was oblivious to what was going on. Then, after marking his place, he put his Bible down and walked over to the group. Earl is a tall man and he towered above the group. He said, "I want to say one thing. I have worked in this trade for twenty-seven years and never had medical coverage given to me. I have never had a retirement paid by the employer. You people are young and should listen to what is being offered."

By the time Earl sat back down, the authorization cards were off the table and everyone in the room had signed one.

This story reminds all of us that the best organizers are often working non-union employees, just waiting for the opportunity to join a Labor Union and to get a much better deal for themselves and their families.

Those of us that came into the trade at an early age sometimes take what we have for granted. Most of us have not paid for our training. Most of us have never had to go out and buy medical insurance for our families. We don't have to set aside monies for our old age. Our pensions will cover us until the day we die, as well as our spouses, if that is our choice.

We must all become organizers. We must let people know the benefits of collective bargaining, the benefits that go unnoticed until we need them. Get the word out to friends, relatives and strangers about the benefits we have. Those opposed to us are getting their message out. They say that union projects are too costly.

Remember, the bill for providing medical care to the uninsured is paid for by the taxpayer. The entire community pays for those who have inadequate retirement income and no pensions. When Union members grow old and can't work, they don't become a burden on society; they have retirement security.

The truth is good wages are better for all. You pay now or we all pay later.

Get the word out.

ORGAINIZE!

SOLIDARITY
President John P. Sullivan

Our local union's jurisdiction in Virginia encompasses all land north of the Rappahannock River. And because of that, every member of our local union has a stake in the results of the November 8th election in Virginia.

The construction and service man-hours worked in Northern Virginia has been a significant factor in the growth of our local union and has helped to sustain our

apprentice, medical, and pension funds. Yes, Virginia is a “Right to Work” state, but that has not prevented us from establishing our wage rate as the prevailing wage in many areas of Northern Virginia.

Whether you live in Virginia or not, we need your help with the upcoming election. If you can do nothing else, make sure that your union brother and sisters (and all of their kin), get out and VOTE for the labor-endorsed candidates. If you can do more and wish to volunteer, please call the Northern Virginia Central Labor Council at 703-750-3633. Remember, you will only be asked to help to turnout the union vote. All of our efforts are directed towards AFL-CIO union households.

For the three top state jobs the AFL-CIO has asked us to support:

Tim Kaine
for
Governor

Leslie Byrne
for
Lt. Governor

Creigh Deeds
for
Attorney General

For a list of the endorsed candidates for the House of Delegates please read the September 2005 602 Journal. You can view the newsletter on line at <http://www.steamfitters-602.org> by clicking on the NEWS tab.

From Wayne's World



Our Picnic took place this year on Sunday, September 11, at Mayo Beach Park. What a beautiful Summer Day to have 777 of our members and friends in attendance. We had amusement for the kids, Moonbounce, Jumbo Slide, Pony Rides, Clown, Magic Show and Spin Art. For the big kids, we had the Hi Striker, a 12 Foot High Tower with a loud ringing bell at the top, You would use a big hammer to ring the bell. At first it was hard to ring the bell but after some adjustments it sounded like a fire truck. We consumed a lot of food, 2500 ice creams, 1300 snow cones, 1000 cotton candies, 400 hot dogs, 300 hamburgers, 600 sausages, 500 lbs of beef, 250 lbs of turkey, 15 Kegs of Beer and 50 cases of soda. As well as potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, crab soup and corn on the cob, one thing is for sure IT WAS ALL GOOD! While all the eating and drinking was going on we had a DJ cranking out the oldies. At 2:00 the beach games began, foot races and one hand softball toss. The winners of the 7 and under boys and girls foot races were named King and Queen of the picnic. The sand started to rumble when the 18 to 35 and 36 and over ran their races, there was also some sand eating and belly surfing along with

it. The best part of the picnic is seeing the Brothers you have been out of touch with, and catching up. As always, fun was had by all.

Winners of the Games:

Foot Races
(7 and Under)

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Joe Koffman (King of the Picnic) | 1. Melissa Blanch (Queen of the Picnic) |
| 2. Bradley Bogaczyk | 2. Alison Shoemaker |
| | (8 to 10) |
| 1. Jesse Dove | 1. Mickey Moody |
| 2. Gregory Taylor | 2. Christina Armiter |
| | (11 to 13) |
| 1. Jason Moody | 1. Angela Sita |
| 2. Mark Conley | 2. Candice Knott |
| | (14 to 17) |
| 1. Brent Bogaczyk | 1. Ashley Gatewood |
| 2. L J Hockenberry | 2. Tiffany Wiley |
| | (18 to 35) |
| 1. Adam McFarlin | 1. Tina Thompson |
| 2. Jim Blackwell | 2. Victoria Klock |
| | (36 & Over) |
| 1. Drew Koffman | 1. Dawn Maloney |
| 2. Tim Blanch | 2. Monica Armbruster |

Soft Ball Toss

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| 1. Zack Hall & Dex Neely | 2. Jim Blackwell & Lee Arnold |
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I have to thank the following people for their Help, which made this year's picnic a BIG SUCCESS!

Director of Operations:	Joe Savia, Sr.
Secretaries of Operations:	Linda, Robin & Sandy
Front Gate & Ticket Sales:	Retirees and Board Members
Games:	Dan Glover, Mike Kopper, Bill Stiles, Kevin Sullivan and Pattie Westland

Thanks to all the members who brought their Bikes and Hot Rods, it adds a nice touch.

Hope all enjoyed and hope to see you at the next Picnic!!!!!!!

Insert pictures