



# PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS LOCAL UNION 131

NEWSLETTER  
JUNE 2015

## *The Corner Office*

*David A. Pelletier / Business Manager*

I want to congratulate the members who were nominated and elected to office this past month. The membership is lucky to have a group of committed people to help the local operate. The list of new officers is in the back of the newsletter.

At the June meeting of the mechanical licensing board the rules for initial licensure, renewal and the fees have finally been approved and will take effect on July 1, 2015. Renewal for a plumbing and or gas fitting license will now be on a 2 year cycle, the education requirements after July 1 will be 6 hours a cycle for plumbing and 6 hours for gas. The fees have also been reduced by 20 dollars. The mechanical inspectors have been actively stopping on construction sites and doing license checks individuals found working on plumbing or gas without a current license are being prosecuted and fined by the county attorney. Any member who has let their license go should look into getting it back as this is a huge part of the work we do.

The end of the legislative session brought one small success for labor and the Building Trades with the defeat of House Bill 450. The bill which passed the house drastically changed the definition of an employee making it easier for employers to classify people as independent contractors therefore avoiding the cost of workmen's compensation and employment security taxes. We were able to lobby the senate to change the bill to a study committee but in the end it was killed in the committee of conference.

We are still working with ORBIS on potential employment opportunities at the Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard. They are working to put together a bid on a 5 year contract to supply supplemental help to the yard during spikes in their work load. The contract should be awarded sometime this fall. Once the contract is awarded if ORBIS is successful in the bid we will be looking for members to complete background checks to be eligible for employment on the yard.

The annual union night will be held on Friday August 21<sup>st</sup> at the Fisher Cats. Any member who would like tickets will need to call the hall to let us know you would like to go and the number of tickets before July 31<sup>st</sup> so we can order the amount we need. The tickets entitle you to dinner and the game.

The NH AFL-CIO announced there scholarship awards recently, we had 2 members' children receive scholarships this year. Congratulations to Colin Williamson, the second place recipient and Molly Lachance the 4<sup>th</sup> place recipient.

Thank you to everyone who worked to make our outing a success and for everyone who came out to Bear Brook for the day, it is always good to see everybody enjoying the day.

Have a happy and safe summer.

## *Manpower Hour*

*Steven D. Lachance / Business Agent*

Work in the Local has exploded over the last month with Seabrook Station and Schiller Station hiring members for longer term work. We currently have members on the road in MA, NY, NJ, GA, IO, FL and MN.

We currently have;

- \* 102 working for Local Contractors
- \* 65 working locally for Out of Town Contractors
- \* 32 working on the road
- \* 17 members out of work
- \* 7 travel cards working locally

HVAC Unlimited has hired 1 plumber/fitter/welder for work on projects over the summer months.

NPI has hired 2 fitter/welders for jobbing throughout the state for the summer. They also project to hire plumbers on the school work they have in Pelham High School.

Federal Piping has work at Conway Hospital on stainless coming soon for a fitter/welder.

B&W in the Berlin Biomass has hired 16 members to do the final outage before turning the project over to the owner.

Day & Zimmermann at Seabrook Station has hired 16 members for Fukushima upgrades and outage prep. They will be hiring from August through mid-September for the October 1<sup>st</sup> 35 day outage. They currently project to need over 200 members for that outage so we will be recruiting manpower from sister locals and organizing. This work requires a 3 year background PHQ that is completed online once you have a hire date. You will have 2 hours added to your pay once you receive your badge at Seabrook Station. The Outage will work 6-12s with everyone getting a time and a half and double time day no matter what day you have off during the week.

Work on the road has slowed down this month as I have not been getting anyone out on the road but have been getting members back on a weekly basis. The work in Malta NY seems to be slowing down as well as the work in the city of Boston keeps getting delayed.

The Outing at Bear Brook State Park was a huge success due to all the members that showed up and all the hard work put in by Jimmy Griffin, Dave Pelletier, Mo Demers, Ken Lurvey, Mark Aslanian and John Cashin. We started a new tradition this year of taking a group picture and hope the group can continue to grow as the years go on.

I would like to wish everyone and their families a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the most enjoyable Summer!

## **Apprenticeship & Training**

*Jesse Torosian / Training Coordinator*

Local 131 apprenticeship program has wrapped up the academic year as of June 4<sup>th</sup>. I would like to extend a thank you to all the apprentices for all of their hard work and dedication this year. Thank you also to our dedicated instructors: Travis Cooper, Bob Fortin, Al King, Tim Poulin and Rob Record.

Congratulations to our recent graduates Andrew Willbrant, Viktor Romashka, Mike Moran, and Mike Boyle. Also to Anthony Bowers on being selected as Apprentice of the Year for 2015.

The training department will be looking at holding an EPRI Rigging certification class sometime this summer, stay tuned for more details. For any training questions, feel free to contact me anytime.

## **Office Bits & Bytes**

*Mo Demers / Office Administrator*

Well, summer is here!! I don't know about you, but it seems like this year I've got more trips and events planned than there are days to fit them into!

This was a very tough winter for me and I didn't get a lot of outdoor activity in, so it has been a slow start to the hiking season. I've only been out 3 times so far. And I'm still a little sore. But I have a deadline: I'm taking two of my grand-daughters on an overnight hike to an AMC hut in the White Mountains in July. And I HAVE to be ready. They're 12!! They're gonna run circles around me. But we'll have a great time. It will be an adventure for them.

I also have a week at a cabin on Conway Lake at the end of June. I have my sister coming up for a 5 days at the end of July. Our family has a week-long camping trip scheduled early August. Then there's camping on Labor Day weekend and Columbus Day weekend. Oh... AND I have a big family BBQ at my house in late September. And I don't mean a big BBQ; I mean a big FAMILY! With 5 kids, and wives and 13 grand-kids and now 3 great grand kids and all the boyfriends and girlfriends... YIKES!

Sadly one of our grandsons will probably not be able to join us at the BBQ. By the end of June he will be at Army basic training in Missouri: The first one in the family to go into military service. I have such mixed emotions about it. Why couldn't he join a rock band?! He would have been the first in the family to do *that*. But he's a good boy and smart. He'll be OK.

Well, I guess having a crazy, hectic summer is something to be grateful for. After all, I have my health so I can enjoy it all. Although, I will admit I am slowing down just a wee bit. I try to eat right and the hiking keeps me active. But you never know when life will throw you a curve ball. A year ago, my husband had some stomach discomfort and the doctors sent him for a CT scan. They found an aortic aneurism. They repaired that and he has been symptom free. But they also found a small spot on his lung. They did a PET scan, told him it didn't appear to be anything to worry about and sent him on his way with direction to have a follow up in a year. Well, his follow-up was last week; the spot is still there and increased in size. So he goes back for another PET scan this week. But they've pretty much already told him that, no matter what they find on the PET, they will most likely schedule surgery to remove "whatever it is". What scares me is not the "remove" part: it's the "whatever it is" part. We don't know if it's a cyst, a shadow, scar tissue, cancer, ... ? So we don't know what they'll find when they "remove" it. I just hope that "whatever it is", we found it soon enough to deal with it. I want him to share a few more crazy, hectic summers with me like this one!

## **Local Union 131 Retirees Association**

*Jimmy Griffin / President*

>> RETIREES' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS <<

Every Second Tuesday – 10:00 am, Local 131 Union Hall, Hooksett NH

***NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING  
September, 2015***



# The Bulletin Board

## Quarterly Notified Union Meeting

September 9, 2015

(NO meetings July and August)

### Union Night at the Fisher Cats!

\* Dinner and a Game \*

Friday August 21 - 7:00 pm

Local 131 would like to have a BIG showing of solidarity at this event.

Tickets are FREE (a \$21 value!)  
Includes game and all-you-can-eat burgers, dogs, beans, salad, cookies, water, punch & iced tea.

Deadline to order: July 31st.

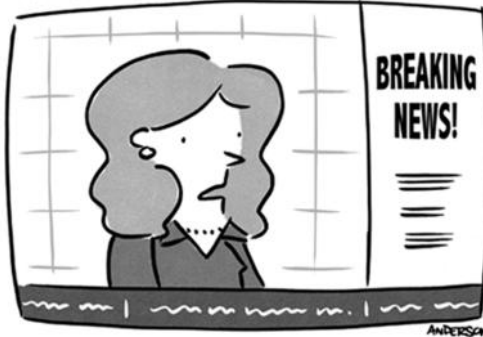
The strongest bond of human sympathy outside the family relation should be one uniting working people of all nations and tongues and kindreds.

- Abraham Lincoln

Men can read smaller print than women can;  
Women can hear better.

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"Details are sketchy, so we're just going to make stuff up for a while."

Contract rate increases effective June 1, 2015

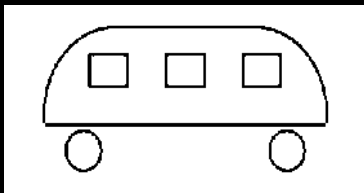
- Base wage increase \$ 0.25
- LU131 Pension increased \$ 0.15
- Health & Welfare increased \$ 0.70

### Election Results

Since ALL nominees for all open positions this election cycle were unopposed, NO election vote was required.

#### Positions filled:

Business Manager:	David Pelletier
Business Agent:	Steven Lachance
President:	Pete Boisvert
Vice-President:	Jeff Welch
Recording Secretary:	Dan Coffey
Inside Guard:	George Stitt
Executive Board:	Rich Lamarre and Tom Harvey
Finance Committee:	Eric Berry
Plumbers Exam Board:	Kevin Morse
Fitters Exam Board:	Al King
Scholarship Committee:	Jesse Torosian and Wayne Schoch
Funds Trustees:	Charles Harte



### "Pre-School" Test for you:

Which way is the bus above traveling... toward the left or the right?

Can't make up your mind? Look carefully at the picture again. Pre-school children all over the United States were shown this puzzle, and 90% of them gave the correct answer!

You cannot see the door, so it must be traveling to the left.