I want to start this month by thanking the members who came out to the State House to show opposition for HB 474 the “Right to Work” bill as well as the members who took the time to call their legislators to voice our concerns with the bill. As most of you know by now the labor committee after hearing roughly 8 hours of testimony and having 300 people signed in opposition to the bill while 34 people signed in support voted 10 -7 for a recommendation to the full house of “ought to pass”.

After over 2 hours of debate on the House floor, the House voted 221 to 131 to pass the bill. It was incredible to hear the spin that legislators were putting on the bill, everything from this is about job creation in NH to it is about personal liberty and freedom and that is why they were sent to Concord. Now after a hearing in the house finance committee the bill will move to the Senate where we will be working to defeat it. We will be contacting members and asking that you attend a district meeting to discuss the bill with your senator. When we have the meeting schedule we will put it on the website as well as call members to attend.

This assault on organized labor is gaining traction across the country, Right to Work fights are now going on in 14 states. In Virginia where Right to Work is already law, proponents want to make Virginia the first state with right to work part of their state constitution. In Wisconsin tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets to protest the Governors plan to strip public employees of collective bargaining rights, rallies have been taking place in other cities and states to show support for the union workers in Wisconsin. Public sector workers in Ohio, Indiana and New Jersey are also under attack, under the pretense of balancing the state budgets. Attacks on Project Labor Agreements have started in 4 western states with an expected 16 more states to vote on forbidding PLA’s from being considered for any publicly funded projects. We will continue to fight to keep the rights we do have here in NH and will be calling on the membership to engage your representatives on the issues.

Work over the past month has picked up substantially with Merrimack Station and Seabrook Station hiring about 25 members. Work on the road is also starting to pick up with the nuke outages calling for help. The AMD Plant in Malta NY has been delayed due to engineering issues over the 1/3 size expansion to the project but should start to pick up in the months ahead. We presently have members on the road in MA, VT, NY, TN, IL, IN, MN and AZ.

We currently have:
* 173 working for local contractors
* 17 working locally for out of town contractors
* 27 working on the road
* 15 members out of work

AZCO at Merrimack Station is hiring for BOP work and start up working 40 hours. We will have 11 members working there by 2/21/11 and that should maintain for the next few months.

Williams at Seabrook Station has hired approximately 20 members to date and will be hiring 85 more on 3/14/11 for the 30 day outage scheduled for April 1st. I have the paperwork here at the hall that can be e-mailed or picked up for anyone interested in going. I need to compile a list of all member interested in going so I can try to fill this call for the 100 members requested between Williams and AMES at Seabrook. If anyone wants to pick up an extra $625 in Wages and Benefits (13.34 hours) they can do their Nantel training now as I have ALL Local members loaded into the Nantel system and you can access it by going to www.nantel.org (Password = last four of ss #). 80% of the training can be done at home at your leisure and 20% has to be proctored here at the hall by Kim, Dave or me prior to your hire date. Please call to set up a time or ask any questions.


O’Connor has a 30 day outage planned at Merrimack Station for 6-12 members on 4/1/11.
Well, by now most members have received their new 2011/2012 UA Membership Cards. If you have NOT, it is most likely because you still owe some dues on 2010. If so, you are now dangerously close to being assessed a $50 fine for being over three months in arrears.

There does seem to be a little bit of confusion regarding membership dues. Especially with members who have elected to retire BEFORE age 65. If you have chosen to retire and collect your pension, that does NOT absolve you from paying membership dues. ALL members are required to pay their monthly dues to remain active, regardless of their working status. When a member reaches the age of 65, (OR retires due to disability, documented by Social Security) THEN Local 131 picks up your dues responsibility for you and pays it on your behalf to the UA. But even then, the UA requires payment of dues until you reach Life Member status after 50 years continuous membership.

So, let me repeat . . . prior to reaching age 65, you are required to continue paying monthly membership dues, regardless of when you retired. Your dues responsibility has nothing to do with when you elect to collect your pension.

There also seems to be some confusion what the monthly dues rates are. So here they are.

The only exception to these charts - members who retired prior to 2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apprentice Training:</th>
<th>Educational Opportunities:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APPLICATION PROCESS IS OPEN! Applications can be obtained on-line via the local’s website, <a href="http://www.ualu131.org">www.ualu131.org</a> .</td>
<td>Weld Test: April 20, 2011; test/continuity update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 2010/2011 Academic year has been a very successful year! We have added four new apprentices to our ranks! All members are encouraged to participate in the on-the-job training of our apprentices; encourage them to learn new skills that will make them efficient and marketable trades people. Each apprentice is encouraged to utilize the resources available to become successful in the pipe trades.</td>
<td>Valve Recertification: schedule TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crane Signaling Certification: schedule TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gas Licensing Continuing Ed: schedule TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interested members are encouraged to register via the Local’s website, <a href="http://www.ualu131.org">www.ualu131.org</a> so appropriate arrangements can be made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plumbing Seminars 2011:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MAY 2, AUG 1, NOV 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registration begins at 5:30 PM. Class starts promptly at 6:00 PM! IPC 2009 codebooks are required. Current NH Plumbing license and UA Membership card with dues paid current are required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Journeymen Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 month</th>
<th>$ 35.00</th>
<th>5 months</th>
<th>$ 175.00</th>
<th>9 month</th>
<th>$ 315.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>$ 70.00</td>
<td>6 months</td>
<td>$ 210.00</td>
<td>10 month</td>
<td>$ 350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>$ 105.00</td>
<td>7 month</td>
<td>$ 245.00</td>
<td>11 month</td>
<td>$ 385.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>$ 140.00</td>
<td>8 month</td>
<td>$ 280.00</td>
<td>12 month</td>
<td>$ 420.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Apprentices / Tradesmen**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 month</th>
<th>$ 22.00</th>
<th>5 months</th>
<th>$ 110.00</th>
<th>9 month</th>
<th>$ 198.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>$ 44.00</td>
<td>6 months</td>
<td>$ 132.00</td>
<td>10 month</td>
<td>$ 220.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>$ 66.00</td>
<td>7 month</td>
<td>$ 154.00</td>
<td>11 month</td>
<td>$ 242.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>$ 88.00</td>
<td>8 month</td>
<td>$ 176.00</td>
<td>12 month</td>
<td>$ 264.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that this information is always available on the website! www.ualu131.org
**CONDOLENCES**

On the loss of Kathleen Berrios, wife of Brother Don Berrios.  
Kathleen passed away Feb. 13, 2011.  
[Click here for full obituary.](#)

On the loss of Marybeth Sacharczyk, wife of Brother Steven Sacharczyk.  
Marybeth passed away Feb. 18, 2011.  
[Click here for full obituary.](#)

---

During a visit to a mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director what the criteria is that defines if a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub. We offer the patient a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket and then ask the patient to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would choose the bucket, as it is larger than the spoon."

What was the director's response?

---

**ITEMS OF INTEREST / UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**March 8**  
Guest Speaker – Hooksett Police / Topic: Be Safe At Home

**May 9**  
Kim Trisciani - discussion of Apprenticeship program in NH today

---

Retiree membership dues (just $10! for the year) are due. These funds are used to benefit our own retirees. Please be sure to get your dues in ASAP! (Additional donations always gratefully accepted!)

No one attending our meetings is under any obligation to do anything other than see a few friends, eat a few snacks and have a good time! If you want to see something in the newsletter, let me know.  - Jimmy Griffin 603-736-4626

---

**Items of Interest / Upcoming Meetings**

**>> RETIREES' BREAKFASTS <<**

Every First Monday – 9:00 am Windmill Restaurant, Londond Road, Concord

**>> RETIREES' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS <<**

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

---

**Local Union 131**  
Retirees Association

**Jimmy Griffin / President**

---

**Notified**  
Union Meeting  
Election of Delegates  
38th Annual UA Convention  
Wed, March 9, 2011

---

**Attendance at the December Meeting:**  
Mr & Mrs Paul Scarlett, Al Plourde, Roland Hill, Bob Drew, Steve Labore, Marc Boucher, Al Pelletier, Mr & Mrs Alphe Lachance, John Trisciani, Gerry Maynard, Gloria Bouchard, Jimmy Griffin

---

The next meeting will be March 8th, 10:00 am.  
**We want to remind ALL members of Local 131 that everyone is welcome to attend.  No obligation.  And we ENCOURAGE family and friends to join us.**  

---

**B.Z. Toons**

by Brian Zalkowski

Oh yuk, a snake! I hope they don't get any bigger than that.

---

**--”Ask not what your country can do for you.  
Ask what you can do for your country.” -- John F. Kennedy**