Today the NH Senate voted 16-8 to pass HB 474 the Right to Work Bill. All 5 Democrats and 3 Republicans voted against passage of the bill. I would ask members to call Senators Boutin, Carson and Gallus and thank them for their vote against Right to Work. As well as anyone in any of the democratic senators districts and thank them for their vote. The fight will move back to the NH House after the Governor veto’s the bill. I am asking that members call your reps and ask that they stand with working people and vote to sustain the veto. You can get a listing of your reps on New Hampshire Government web site at: www.gencourt.state.nh.us/whosmyleg/

While right to work was introduced in NH as a job creator, with companies lining up to move here after its passage that argument has been abandoned for the personal liberty and freedom argument. The proponents have argued that the rights of the single objector to a bargaining unit need to be protected over the majority. The legislation is a clear attack on organized labor. The people pushing RTW want nothing other than to weaken and eventually destroy the union movement. They are aware that the only power unions have is thru the membership, if they can strip away membership the union becomes a nonfactor. The facts are pretty clear that RTW leads to lower wages and benefits for all workers. Anti union and anti worker legislation is gaining ground thru-out the country. Legislation to eliminate collective bargaining, health and pension benefits are being touted as a way to balance state and local budgets nationally. Labor has come together to fight these proposals but we can not do it without members reaching out to their legislators and letting them know that we are not willing to forfeit our rights to decent wages and benefits all the while corporate America continues to make record profits for their investors on the backs of working people.

Work over the past few months has been absolutely perfect with full employment and all outage work in full progress. All calls have been filled to date and all outages are going well. Work on the road is going strong with outages across the country looking for welders. We currently have members on the road in MA, NY, IL, TN, IN, MN, CO and AZ.

We currently have:
* 178 members working for local contractors
* 109 working locally for out of town contractors
* 28 members on the road
* 13 members out of work

Seabrook Station is the big draw on the Local right now with the outage in full swing with over 140 members working that outage. Williams has the majority of the work and members working for them with 115 followed by AMES Valve with 19 and Weld Tech with 6 members.

NPI at Bow is holding steady with 28 members and 20 more members sprinkled throughout the state on miscellaneous jobs.

RTH has work at the PNSY, Pease Trade Port and Conway regional Hospital that is holding strong to maintain their 28 members.

Federal Piping in Freedom is looking for an experienced Oil Burner Tech for Residential heating service and repair. If anyone is interested or knows someone from that area interested please contact me ASAP.

Amari Plumbing has work on the Londonderry Market Basket and the new Hannafords in Gilford along with the remodel of Manchester Hannafords.

O’Connor has just completed an outage at Newington with 8 members that was successful and has begun the outage at Bow with 11 members that is expected to run for the next 30 days of 5-10s and 1-8.
2011 UA Regional Apprentice Contest
June 9th to 11th at UA Local 51 in Rhode Island.
Two apprentices from Local 131 will be participating:
Alan Dill - welder
Andrew Nostrom - plumber.

Apprentice Applications
We are currently accepting apprentice program applications. The deadline for submission is April 8th. Application forms are available on the Local 131 website and in the main office. Interviews will be held April 19th & 21st.

Plumbing Seminars 2011:
May 2 * August 1 * November 7
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.

UPCOMING TRAINING
Please reserve your spot in these sessions via the Local’s website: www.ualu131.org

- Gas Fitter Licensing
The next training session for NFPA 54 Fuel Gas Code will be held:
April 26 & 28 (5-9 PM).
NFPA 54 2006 or 2009 code book required.
($55 – available at class)

- UA Valve Repair Re-certification
Session:
April 28, May 5 & May 12 (6-9 PM)

ALSO COMING:
Crane Signal Certification: Dates TBA

2011 Scholarship Reimbursement Applications NOW AVAILABLE
Download from the local website
www.ualu131.org
or pick up at the Union Hall office

Think Green(s)!
With the price of gas impacting the price of food shipped to the grocery store from around the world, now more than ever we can appreciate the benefits of buying and eating “local” fruits and vegetables. Not only are the prices becoming comparable to those at the grocery, but the freshness and health benefits are greater. Support your local farmer's markets and CSAs! The food is better for you (and they pay taxes in YOUR town!) Good for you. Good for the local economy!

Office Bits & Bytes
Mo Demers / Office Administrator

Local Union 131 Summer Outing
Saturday June 4th
Bear Brook State Park
Active Members - $ 10.00
Retirees & Apprentices - $ 5.00

Tickets NOW AVAILABLE at the Local 131 Union Hall office.
Alec, Bill and Charles, were neighboring farmers. Alec, who owned the peacock, found an egg in Bill's car, while it was parked on Charles' land. All three men claimed possession of the egg. Alec says it is his because he owned the peacock. Bill claims it is his because it was laid in his car. Charles insists it is his because it was laid on his land. To whom should the egg rightfully belong?

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a beer made from honey and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.