Thank you to the many members who participated through attending hearings and/or making calls to Senators and Representatives in regards to House Bill 496 and Senate Bill 152. The enormous turn–out from all the New Hampshire Building Trades Affiliates and members was the key to defeating both these bills. Wednesday I attended the Senate session where SB 152 was voted inexpedient to legislate on the recommendation of the full Senate Energy Committee. Without the turnout from the membership the outcome would have been quite different. I have heard many times over the past few weeks from legislators and Lobbyist, what an impressive turnout we had at the hearings and how the legislators really took notice. This victory reinforces what we can do when we all work together for a common goal.

We still have one bill in the legislature that we are watching, there was an amendment offered to Senate Bill 97. SB 97 is a bill to establish a committee to study how information is provided to electric service consumers. The day before the hearing an amendment was drafted to include much of the language in SB 152 into SB 97. We found out about the amendment just prior to the hearing and were able, on very short notice, to again flood the hearing and have the amendment language stripped from the bill. SB 97 moves on to the house in its original form. We will be monitoring it to ensure no detrimental amendments are offered in the house.

In May will have a full agenda for our monthly meeting. It will be a contract meeting as well as a by-law meeting and nomination of officers. I encourage everyone to attend and have your voices and opinions heard. I also encourage you to take an active role in your union and run for office.
Apprenticeship & Training
Kim Trisciani / Training Coordinator

LOOKING FOR INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

UA Weld Test: To be arranged for a Saturday pending participation of a contractor for the required third party inspection.

UA Foreman Training: 40 hour course. OSHA 10 & understanding of Blueprint reading is required. Classes will be scheduled during the week, evenings 5 – 8 PM.

OSHA 30: 30 hour course. Classes will be scheduled during the week, (10) evenings 5 – 8 PM. If there is an interest for currently unemployed members this class can be held during the day over (6) days 8 AM – 1 PM.

NFPA -54 Fuel Gas Code: 8 hours required for NH Gas Fitter License renewal. Classes will be held in two (2) four (4) hour sessions. Dates and times will be arranged depending on participation.

UA Medical Gas Installer: Dates and times to be arranged depending on participation.

Interested members are encouraged to sign up for training sessions on-line at the Local 131 website www.ualu131.org so arrangements can be made for classrooms, books, etc.

Plumbing Seminar: May 4th 6 – 9 PM
Registration begins at 5:30 PM. IPC 2006 code books are required. Current NH Plumbing license and UA Membership card with dues paid current also required.

UA Welding and UA Medical Gas Installer Continuity requirements are required every six (6) months….please check your credentials and submit your continuity documents accordingly.

Any questions, comments or suggestions for the Apprentice and Training Program can be submitted to the Business Manager or Agent of Local 131.

Office Bits & Bytes
Mo Demers / Office Administrator

“Waste not, want not.”

Remember your mother saying those four little words when you tried to throw away a perfectly good shirt that was just out-of-style? Or when you had to wear hand-me-downs?

How many times did your own children roll their eyes when you repeated that ageless axiom to them?

With the next generation becoming the prophets of “green living” and the economy pushing us all to tighten our belts, “Reduce-Reuse-Recycle” is no longer a lofty goal, it’s a painful necessity. Lots of opportunities exist to stretch your shrinking dollar AND do the right thing.

Most of you have heard of Ebay, the original on-line yard sale. But here are a few other choices:

Craigslist.com - this website is not monitored, (like a bulletin board) so stick to buying locally
Freenapkin.com - works like an auction website, but everything is free – keeps stuff out of the landfill
Freecycle.org - a cross between a free auction and a swap meet – must register to the website
Goodwill - a physical store with donated items sold at low prices. Proceeds support charities.

Retirees’ Breakfasts <<

every first Monday – 9:00 am Windmill Restaurant, Loudon Rd, Concord

Retirees’ Association Meetings <<

every second Tuesday – 10:00 am – Local 131 Hall (no meetings June/July/August)

There is no scheduled speaker for the April meeting. We hope to have a guest for the last meeting this season, May 12th. **

The summer outing is June 6. Anyone needing a ride, let me know. Tickets are available at the hall. This year, there is a $5.00 ticket price for retirees and apprentices. Everyone else went up to $10.00 **

As always, PLEASE contact me with ANY news about any fellow retiree.

Yearly Dues - $10.
If you don’t know if you are current – call Jimmy Griffin
Cell (603) 568-1962 Home (603) 736-4626
** Volunteers Needed **

**Building Clean-Up Day.**
Trash pickup / painting / cosmetic repairs

May 9th  7:00 am to noon
(rain date May 16)

>> Followed by a “Thank You” cook-out! <<
Come pitch in!
Solidarity & Pride still mean something!
Please call Dave to get on a detail list.

CALL FOR HELP
Brother Bob Drew is asking his Brothers and Sisters from Local 131 to participate, in support of his daughter, in the

**16th Annual Walk for Epilepsy**
Saturday May 16th, 2009 10:00 a.m.
DCR’S Artesani Park * Soldiers Field Road * Boston MA

If you would like to support my daughter online, the address is  www.firstgiving.com/debramayo
Or mail Bob a check made out to “EFMRI”
[Epilepsy Foundation of Mass and Rhode Island]
Mailing address:
Bob Drew, 55 Heather Lane, Concord NH  03301-2658

Please support my daughter and all others who have this illness.
THANK YOU

Next Union Meeting is a
“Special Notified Meeting”
May 13, 2009 7:00 pm

Topics of Discussion
- Contract Negotiation Report
- Nominations
- LU131 By-Laws

2009
Summer Outing
June 6th 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Bear Brook State Park
(rain or shine)
Tickets Available now!
Apprentices & Retirees $5.00
Journeymen $10.00

What do these 3 have in common? Superman, Moses and The Cabbage Patch Kids

Member News

Congratulations:
Marc and Liz on the birth of their son
Caleb Joseph Vaillancourt

Get Well Wishes:
George Fogg
who had heart surgery March 24th.
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Blythe Morrison,
former member of LU131
who had a stroke March 15th.

Condolence:
Family & friends of Bob Chabot
who passed away March 10th.
Memorial donations can be made to:
St Marie Organ Restoration Fund
378 Notre Dame Ave.
Manchester, NH 03102

They were all adopted.
Plumbers & Steamfitters
Local Union 131
Office Hours
Monday thru Friday
7:00 AM to 4:00 PM
(603) 669-7307     FAX: (603) 668-2037

Monthly Union Meeting
2nd Wednesday each month 7:00 PM

Monthly Retirees Association Meeting
2nd Tuesday each month 10:00 AM
(except June/July/August)

Officers & Contacts

Business Manager / Financial Secretary
David A. Pelletier
E-mail  pelletierd@ualu131.org

Business Agent
Steven D. Lachance
E-mail  slachance@ualu131.org

Main Office
Mo Demers
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Retirees Association
Jimmy Griffin / President
Cell  (603) 568-1962
Home  (603) 736-4626

Insurance Programmers
UA National Pension
Comerica
SAV-RX
Main Line: 1-800-446-8646
Local 131: 1-888-317-4759
1-800-638-7442
1-800-538-2476
1-800-228-3108