I would like to take the opportunity to thank Jim Griffin and all the members who contributed their time and effort to make this years outing a success. We had a great day at Bear Brook with beautiful weather and a great turn-out. Thanks to all who made it possible.

As most of you are aware we continue to lobby the state legislature on the “Right to Work” legislation. The local has had great turn-out of our members as we lobby at Wednesday sessions. The Speaker of the House has not held the override vote for 4 consecutive sessions now, one of which he publicly announced the vote would be taken. The AFL-CIO and affiliated unions have had great turn-out as well and good response from legislators who support working families and the middle class. The Republican reps that have taken a stand to support labor have come under a great deal of pressure from the Speaker’s office to either change their vote or not be present for the vote. So far they have stood strong with us and have been at every session day to uphold the Governor’s veto. This fight looks like it could drag on through the fall if the vote is not held on the 22nd or 29th of June. As of now there are no session days scheduled in July.

We thank all the members who have taken the time to contact their reps on this important issue as well as the many members who have been at the State House numerous times this session. Any members who can make it on the 22nd or 29th please check the Local 131 website or the e-mail alerts for the times.

The filing deadline for new legislation for the next session has closed. The list looks as bad for labor as the session we are ending. Attacks on unions, pensions and benefits seem to be a common thread in a handful of legislative titles as well as another “Right to Work” bill. We will be monitoring bills and will be reaching out to you again to contact reps on the issues.

We are continuing to monitor the progress of the Berlin Laidlaw project. Laidlaw and PSNH must answer another challenge at the PUC. A protest has been filed by the Independent Power Producers, relating to the contract price of power PSNH has agreed to pay Laidlaw.

Work has come to a standstill in the state and competition for the work is at an all time high. We have been unsuccessful on many of the jobs we were after at UNH, State DOT and miscellaneous school projects. It is going to be a long slow summer. Work on the road has been tough to find and all of it requires some sort of catch. Most of them require welders to test on their own time at the local training centers and then test again on the site, and the jobs are still filling fast due to the poor economy across the country. We currently have members on the road in MA, VT, NY, TN, IL, CO and AZ. We currently have:

* 133 working for local contractors
* 8 working locally for out of town contractors
* 26 working on the road
* 63 members out of work

The outage at Seabrook Station ended in May and went back on the grid at 100% power on May 26. Kudos to all who worked on the outage. It was a huge success for the construction services group. There were no lost time accidents or OSHA recordable injuries and our portion of the outage went according to plan. It’s too bad this is overshadowed by the fact that the outage went 26 days over schedule.

Keystone had hired 2 members for Bow to complete their portion of the scrubber project and has already reduced that number to 1.

BSE has hired 2 members for Bow to complete their portion of the conveyor systems on the scrubber project.

Federal Piping is looking to hire an HVACR service technician for the north country to compliment their crew and expand their work opportunities.

Amari has hired a few members for work on the Gilford Hannaford and Derry Market Basket along with BJ’s in Nashua.

NPI and RTH are slowing down as projects are finishing up and no new contracts have been awarded to either contractor.
**UA Apprentice Competition:**

**Congratulations** to Alan Dill and Andrew Nostrom. Both of these individuals competed in the 5th annual UA District #1 (New England) Apprentice competition which was held June 9 – 11 in Providence, RI. Alan competed in the welder discipline while Andy competed in the plumbing discipline. Both did a fantastic job and proudly represented Local 131 and the State of New Hampshire. Please extend your congratulations to both Alan and Andy!

This is the first time that our local was represented in the UA competition since the competition was reinstated in 2006. We look forward to the 2012 competition!

2010 – 2011 **Apprentice of the Year:**

This year’s recipient of the Apprentice of the Year award is **ALAN DILL**! This award is presented annually and is based on classroom grades, attendance and job performance. Alan is employed with Northern Peabody and completed this year with a 92.4% average & ZERO absences.

Runner ups were: Chad Baril (HVAC Unlimited) 90% and Joe Miller-Ordway (Northern Peabody) 89%.

**New Apprentices:**

Please welcome our new apprentices: Viktor Romashka (RTH Mechanical), Nick García (NPI), Travis Provost (RTH Mechanical), Kyle Reiss (JCI), Dean Fragola (NPI)

**Special thanks to our instructors for the 2010 – 2011 academic year:**

Travis Cooper, Bob Fortin, Darren Gallant, Tim Poulin & Mark Vaillancourt. Your passion and determination to improve our training program is greatly appreciated. All of these individuals have been instrumental in changing the lives and improving the skills of our apprentices. We cannot thank you enough!

**Plumbing Seminars 2011:**

**AUGUST 1ST & NOVEMBER 7TH**

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.

**UA Weld Test:** Next quarterly weld test will be held July 20th (5:00 – 9:00 PM)

**WISHING ALL MEMBERS A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER!**

---

**Office Bits & Bytes**

Mo Demers / Office Administrator

Well, no long stories this month. Just a bunch of random thoughts . . .

- I need to revisit my will. I haven’t looked at it in several years. I might HATE some of those people now. Better check.

- Is it just me? The checkout sign should read “Express Line: 10 Items or Fewer” NOT “10 Items or Less.” Why are we afraid of proper English? It’s nothing to be ashamed of.

- I used to hate banks with velvet ropes that herded people up to the tellers. Made me feel like cattle. NOW I hate banks that DON’T have them. Everyone shuffles around the lobby trying to figure out who’s in line for which teller; if you step right up will you be too close to the person at the counter and tick them off; will you cut in front of someone else and tick THEM off? At least with the ropes, EVERYONE knew who was next in line. Now I don’t even know where the line IS!

- I flat REFUSE to use the “Self Checkout” lane. The wages of the cashiers are factored into the price of the items I’m buying. If I’m going to do their work, I don’t want to pay for it anyway. I’m paying for their service; I want it. Now if the store gave me a discount for using the self serve . . .

- I flat REFUSE to use the “Self Checkout” lane. (Part 2) I don’t want to be a part of taking away someone’s job. Unemployment is too high. Let them hire someone to work at the cash register. I’m paying for it anyway. Keep people working.

- Definition of a boat: “A hole in the water, surrounded by wood, into which one pours money.”

- When did we lose the common courtesy of removing your hat at the table? Next time you’re in a restaurant, look around.

- ALWAYS use manners with your family. If we can say “Please” and “Thank You” to total strangers, how much more important is it to use them with the people we profess to LOVE?!

- Better to say “I’m glad I did.” than “I wish I had.”
Member News

Brother John Timmons has transferred to Local 630, West Palm Beach, FL. Best wishes, John!
Brother Shane Post has transferred in from Local 130, Chicago, IL. Welcome aboard, Shane.

Little Red Ridinghood was walking through the woods on her way to Grandmother’s house. On the path there is a bridge. In front of the bridge was a big, bad wolf with an axe.

The wolf said to Little Red Ridinghood, "You cannot cross. I am going to kill you and eat you. But you can choose how you meet your end. You may make one last statement. If I think the statement is true, you will be strangled. But if I think the statement is false, your head will be chopped off."

A moment later, Little Red Ridinghood skipped over the bridge, leaving the hungry wolf behind.

What did Little Red Ridinghood say?

How dinosaurs became extinct.


The retirees send a big "Thank You" to Jeanne Lachance for the wonderful home baked cupcakes!!

Kim Trisciani gave a very interesting presentation on the Local 131 Apprenticeship Program.

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!)

There will be NO Retiree meetings June / July / August.
Have a wonderful summer!!

If you want to see something in the newsletter, let me know. - Jimmy Griffin 603-736-4626