I would like to thank the members who volunteered on May 9th to neaten up our union hall and grounds. We had 24 volunteers show up for 5 hours of general clean up. It was a great showing and the union hall really looks great. I also want to congratulate the officers nominated and elected this past meeting on an unopposed ballot. Thank you for your commitment to the organization and its continued success.

At the May meeting the membership approved a three year agreement with our signatory contractors. The negotiating committee has been working and meeting with the contractors since January trying to iron out a deal that is beneficial to the membership while keeping our contractors competitive in this economic crisis. The local settled on a contract that included ½% increase this year, a 3.1% increase in 2010 and 2011.

To comply with the Pension Protection Act of 2006 and the Pension Rehabilitation Plan adopted by the trustee’s we need to increase the pension contribution $0.65 each year for the term of the agreement. The contract allocated the entire increase this calendar year of $0.25 to the pension fund and increases of $0.65 a year to the pension the two remaining years. To bring us into compliance and move the pension down the road to full funding status we moved $0.30 from the annuity and $0.10 from wages to the pension fund for this contract year. After the pension allocation is met in the second and third years of the contract, we will have $0.75 and $0.80 to disburse as the membership see fit.

I hope to see you at the local outing June 6th.

Work in the area has become completely stagnant. No contractor has landed a job yet this year that will put more members to work. Opportunities on bid work are very tough, with the amount of bidders and the small amount of work to bid due to the financial climate. Work on the road has also dried up with the spring outage schedules coming to an end. We still do have members on the road in MA, MO, MD, IL, WA, CO, NV, SC, WI, FL, MN and AZ.

We currently have:
* 118 working for Local Contractors
* 12 working locally for out of town contractors
* 23 working on the road
* 90 out of work

The Bow Scrubber Project is underway with the stack erector Hamon/Custodis mobilizing to the site on May 1st. The stack permit is scheduled to be released on May 22nd and the erection will immediately follow with a 18 week schedule to completion. No other work will be allowed in that area during their erection so they can complete on schedule. Once the stack is complete in late September the remaining foundations will go in and buildings will be erected that will house the scrubber process piping. We should be starting our portion of the scrubber project in 2010.

RTH has started a new service division with the hiring of Tracy Palmari as the service/sales coordinator. Tracy was a former partner in Precision Mechanical and will be a huge asset in bringing her service journeymen and accounts over to RTH. To date we have hired two of the three service journeymen she needed to secure the service accounts they have been awarded. Congradulations to RTH and their new service division.
Paul Scarlett brought in a film from the Aviation Museum for the May meeting. It was about 20 minutes long and very enjoyable. Paul plans to bring in other short movies when we start our meetings up again in September.

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.

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:** August 10 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.

A few friendly reminders:
We are always trying to keep our data base up to date.

- Please remember that you must advise the local office directly of address changes. The forwarding card you fill out at the Post Office does NOT get this information to anyone. All the PO will do is FORWARD mail sent to your old address to your new one for a few months. After that – NOTHING! And that only applies to first class mail. Bulk mail (like the paper newsletter) magazines (like The Journal) will NOT be sent along at all. If you simply call me with the info, I get it everyone associated with the UA (pension, insurance, etc…) One call does it all (as far as the union is concerned!)
- Please give YOUR phone number, NOT THE HALL NUMBER to creditors, your doctors, your child’s school, etc. In case of an accident, the school needs to reach YOU. This office cannot and will not give out personal information about you to anyone.
- All the phone numbers and website info you need for anyone associated with the UA and Local 131 is on every newsletter (paper and electronic). And our website is updated regularly. Please check it out.

Office Bits & Bytes
Mo Demers / Office Administrator

Local Union 131 Retirees Association
Jimmy Griffin / President

Enjoy the summer!

>> 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)
If five thousand, five hundred five dollars is written as $5,505, how should twelve thousand, twelve hundred dollars be written?

A day's work is a day's work, neither more nor less, and the man who does it needs a day's sustenance, a night's repose and due leisure, whether he be painter or ploughman.

- George Bernard Shaw

United Association 2009 Scholarship Applications now available!
Hard copies are available at the Local 131 office. Or visit the UA website for a printable copy. Application submission deadline June 15, 2009

Local 131 2009 Scholarship Reimbursement Applications now available!
Hard copies are available at the Local 131 office. Or visit the Local 131 website a printable copy. Application submission deadline June 30, 2009

Nominations Results
The following nominees were all unopposed
There will be no election required.

OFFICERS
Business Manager        David Pelletier
Business Agent          Steven Lachance
President                Pete Boisvert
Vice-President           Jeffrey Welch
Recording Secretary     Daniel Coffey
Inside Guard             Matt Decesare

EXECUTIVE BOARD
At-Large seats           Joe Lachance
                         Mark Grank

FINANCE COMMITTEE
At-Large seat            Rich Lamarre

FITTERS BOARD
At-Large seat            Jim Hawkins

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Chairman                 Rich Daisey

PLUMBERS BOARD
Chairman                 Ken Wheeler

THANK YOU!

“Building Clean-Up Day” was a great success!

Although the weather threatened to put a damper on the day, it turned out to be perfect for yard work. The misty air kept the bugs at bay and the temperature down, and with the labor of the following volunteers, everything on the "To Do List" was completed and the hall is looking great!

THANKS TO:
Bill Acheson, Chris Croswell, Paul Daigle, Mo Demers, Sam Eames, Mark Grant, Jimmy Griffin, Buzz Harte, Eric Judge, Lee Kolifrath, Steve Lachance, Adam MacAllister, Rich Mazzaglia, Marc McLaughlin, Brad Miller, Kevin Morse, Mark Neville, Dave Pelletier, Paul Scarlett, Gary Travis, Kim Trisciani, Marc Vaillancourt & Jeff Welch.