The Federal Dept. of Labor has contracted an independent consulting firm, Hill International to conduct a study and issue a report on the feasibility of constructing the Job Corps Center under a Project Labor Agreement. The DOL would like to put the project out to bid this fall and has contracted Hill to issue the report that they can use to justify the decision to use a PLA or not on the project. They need to have the report as a result of the protest by North Branch on the original bid documents that included the PLA provision. North Branch and the ABC have argued that a PLA is not needed in New Hampshire because the workforce is predominantly non-union and the majority of work being done in the state is done by non-union workers. They have also raised issue with the requirement to pay into benefit funds for their workers. They have represented that they have health and retirement benefits as well as apprenticeships in place, and there is no need to force them to utilize union programs.

We have met with the consultant and are in the process of getting him all the information he needs to complete his study. The Building Trades has hired a consultant to help us put together the information and frame it in the right format to move our cause. We have also given the consultant contact information for our contractors, politicians and business leaders who are in favor of a PLA for the benefit of local workers. We are hopeful that at the end of the day the report recommends a PLA for the benefit of all the workers on the project.

As I mentioned before, Congressman Paul Hodes, Congresswoman Carol- Shea Porter as well as Senator Jeanne Shaheen have been keeping the pressure on the DOL to issue the job with the PLA. With the November elections right around the corner, we must keep in mind that without labor friendly people in office the idea of a project labor agreement would never have seen the light of day.

We will be working with the NH AFL-CIO to advance labor candidates in the November elections. We are looking for members who can volunteer to help with phone banks on Tuesday evenings here at the Hall. We are also looking for help with labor walks on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. If you could set some time aside to help with one of the walks or phone banks it would be greatly appreciated. The results of this election will mean the difference between moving forward with worker friendly policy or going back to a philosophy that rewards the wealthy corporations and share holders with tax breaks and drives the middle class into extinction.

Work in the Local has been slow with no new work starting and no bids being won by union contractors over the past few months. Work on the road has been slow with the exception of September through October outage season coming upon us. We currently have members working on the road in NY, TN, IL and AZ.

We currently have:
* 154 working for local contractors
* 20 working locally for out of town contractors
* 28 working on the road
* 32 members out of work

Amari has landed the Market Basket in Londonderry and has put on 4 members to date under the Residential Agreement. They may be looking for 2 more plumbers over the next few weeks.

Keystone was awarded the floor drains at Merrimack Station and has hired 2 plumbers for that work that will go through the end of the year.

Corporate Mechanical was awarded the heating main replacement at Fidelity in Merrimack working second shift. To date they have hired 5 members.

O’Connor has an outage at Merrimack Station in Bow scheduled for 30 days of 6-10s starting September 22 for 20 members. Scope of work will include relining the other intake tunnel and misc. valve work throughout the plant.

PCI/MJ Electric has the Instrument and Control work as a sub to AZCO at Merrimack Station and has a pre-job scheduled for September 21 with us. They are projecting to hire 2 instrument fitters.

The AMD Plant in Malta NY and the Paper Machine in Hudson Falls NY has slowly begun to hire travelers. Members interested in travelling should contact me.

The nuclear outage cycle is upon us and calls for welders are streaming in everyday for Sequoyah TN, Palasaides, MI, DC Cook MI and Browns Ferry AL. They are all 30 day outages that start in October.
As the unemployment rate has risen, so has the number of membership applications we have received. It seems the general public thinks that unions have a “corner on the market” when it come to jobs.

Well, unions don’t exist in an economic vacuum. We are subject to suffer the same job losses as the non-union workforce in these tough economic times. When banks are not making big construction loans and no one is building new buildings, there are simply fewer jobs to go around; both union AND non-union. What to do?

As brothers and sisters in the union work-force, it is in our own best interest to make it evident to contractors and the public that hiring UNION LABOR is in THEIR best interest!!

Those brothers and sisters who are working represent their union to their employers and to the public. We need to always put our best foot forward every day on the job. Don’t just SAY we’re better than the non-union work force; BE better than the non-union guys. We sell ourselves on our value to the employer. Be valuable!! Work hard, know your craft, don’t complain, and give a day’s work for a day’s pay. Take pride in your trade. Do all your work as though you were going to sign your name to it.

Those brothers and sisters who are not working; use this time to get training !!! Make yourself a valuable commodity. Expand your skills; brush up your old ones and learn new ones!. Make yourself so versatile that a contractor would be crazy to hire non-union help over you!. Make non-union help look pale in comparison. Be WORTH every penny we negotiate for the contractors to pay us and they will be GLAD to pay us!!

There is still work to be had. Let’s make sure WE get it!!

Office Bits & Bytes
Mo Demers / Office Administrator

UA Weld Test Event:
Weld tests will be held quarterly. NPI, RTH and HVAC Unlimited have committed to participate in the quarterly test events as contractor representatives. Interested members are encouraged to register via the Local’s website, www.ualu131.org so appropriate arrangements can be made. The next weld test event will be held October 20, 2010.

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.

Plumbing Seminars 2010:
November 1
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.

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2010 THE STATE OF NH IS NOW USING THE 2009 IPC BUILDING, MECHANICAL & PLUMBING CODES!

Apprenticeship & Training
Kim Trisciani / Training Coordinator

Apprentice Training:
The 2010/2011 Academic year has begun and we are looking forward to another successful year! 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.

Each apprentice is encouraged to utilize the resources available to become successful in the pipe trades.

We would are looking for apprentices to participate in the New England UA Apprentice Competition that will be held in June 2011. An apprentice from each discipline can compete in the competition. HVAC, Plumbing & Welding/Pipefitting.

Gas Training: Looking to schedule an 8 hour code class...Interested members please register, include your expiration date so we may schedule accordingly.

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**The Bulletin Board**

**NEXT Union Meeting**
October 13, 2010 - 7:00 PM

The November Meeting has been **CHANGED** to the 1st Wed, Nov 3, 2010

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**MEMBER NEWS**

**Condolences to the family & friends of:**
Norman Samuelsen, who passed away Sept 9, 2010
[Click here](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?px=12714018&pg=personal&fr_id=28146&fl=en_US&et=ik5c0V-1IB9DHlgOJ7yYrSQ..&s_tafId=542185) to view obituary.


To donate, [click here](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?px=12714018&pg=personal&fr_id=28146&fl=en_US&et=ik5c0V-1IB9DHlgOJ7yYrSQ..&s_tafId=542185) or cut and paste the following into your web browser.

**VERY INTERESTING STUFF**

In the 1400’s a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick so long as it was no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have the expression “rule of thumb”.

Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden’...and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn’t added until 5 years later.

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**Items of Interest / Upcoming Meetings**

- October 12 - Hooksett Fire Dept speaks on fire safety in the senior home
- November 9 - Short films on WWII (provided by Brother Bob Drew)
- December 14 - A health care professional speaks – What you should know about Assisted Living

Retiree membership dues (just $20! for the year) are due each September. These funds are used to benefit our own retirees (flowers and cards for the ill – donations to those in hardship – etc -)

Please be sure to get your dues in ASAP! *(Additional donations always gratefully accepted!)*