Plumbers & Steamfitters
Local Union 131

Newsletter
JUNE 2003

The Corner Office
Dennis Adams
Business Manager

Our annual outing was once again a huge success. We had 220 to 250 members attend this year. A big thank you for a job well done goes out to Jimmy Griffin and his cooking and cleaning crew. I would like to recognize that crew; Steve Labore, John Cashin, Mark Aslanian, Ed Jameson, Mike Brochu, Tim Poulin, Cliff Moberg, Paul Daigle, Terry Hill, Al Pelletier, Ken Wheeler, Dave Pelletier, Dave Gross, and Matt Decesare. If I have missed anyone, my apologies. It was a good time had by all.

As Dave has said, work is slow right now not only here but across the United States and Canada. I recently heard that the UA has 45 to 50 per cent unemployment across the country. If you look at past history you will see that this has happened before when we have elected a Republican President named Bush. We do not have the unemployment problems as bad as some of our sister locals. We are using every resource we have to secure future jobs for us. We are targeting jobs, meeting with owners, meeting with contractors, getting involved with permitting processes.

The AFL-CIO scholarship applications are available. Contact Mo here at the office. Local 131 scholarships have to be in by the end of this month.

(continued)

Manpower Hour
Dave Pelletier
Business Agent

This past month has continued to be slow in the area as well as on the road. We currently have 104 members unemployed with few working out of town. New England as a whole has been very slow with the exception of local 51 in Rhode Island.

We continue to meet with Gilbane on the Manchester Schools Project. Gilbane is concerned about the manpower and the scheduling of the work, on phase two, 15 elementary schools. We have assured them that any of our contractors could perform this work on time.

The Manchester Board of Mayor and Alderman has voted to bond the baseball stadium. The vote by the alderman was the last hurdle for the Riverfront Development Project. We have met with the developer several times and are working to see that our contractors secure this work.

NPI has been awarded the Science Building at Keene State College. It is a twenty-five thousand man-hour job scheduled to start sometime in July. NPI has also been in negotiations with Beacon Skanska on the 52 million dollar Kingsbury Hall job at UNH.

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NEWSWORTHY
Congratulations go out to Kim Trisciani for the job she did with the Eastern Seaboard Apprenticeship Conference. Our trade and our Local should be proud.

I hope everyone had a good time at the Summer Outing. On behalf of the outing staff, it was a privilege to serve you.

CURRENT TARGETS
Trane Co. continues to show up on our radar. A campaign is underway.

I recently toured Lonza with Dave Pelletier looking to find union travelers lurking about. No luck………………….

The employee at Granite State P&H, who was working on our behalf, says he is getting so much flak from his co-workers that he has stopped all union talk.

Don Gardner, Regional UA Organizer, recently arranged a tour through the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. We spoke with unorganized construction workers and picked up information on upcoming projects in an effort to assist our contractors bidding work at the yard.

I also recently attended COMET “Train the Trainer” classes, and with Kim’s help, will be scheduling COMET classes soon.

The Baseball Stadium and related construction is still a hot topic downtown. Progress is being made.

POLITICS
Stay tuned…Comp time isn’t dead yet.
Well, the Summer Outing at Bear Brook was a great success. The rain held off and if anyone left hungry, it’s their own fault. Kudos go to Dennis David, Tim, Jimmy, Cliff, Paul and everyone else who pitched in to make this a fantastic day. There were t-shirts with the new LU131 logo front and back, and hats for sale at the picnic. We also have golf style polo shirts available at the hall that we did not have at the outing. They are for sale for only $30.00 in a range of sizes. There are plenty of t-shirts and hats left too; $10 each.

Office Odds & Ends  
Mo Demers

The Bulletin Board

“If I were a worker in a factory, the first thing I would do would be to join a union.”
Franklin D. Roosevelt

Mark Your Calendars

Apprentice Graduation and Awards Banquet  October 4, 2003
Monthly Union Meeting  July 9, 2003 7:00 P.M.
To be attended by International Rep. Bill Turner for the swearing in of our newly elected officers – Pete Boisvert / President Steve Lachance / Trustee

Here are the election results of the vote taken 6/21/2003;
President – Pete Boisvert
Trustee- Steve Lachance
UA International Rep Bill Turner will be here at the July union meeting to swear in the new officers.
CONGRATULATIONS!

Remember to keep Randy Browning and all UA members overseas in your thoughts and prayers. I would like to thank Kim and Tim for the excellent job they did at the ESAC conference in North Conway earlier this month. I have received lots of compliments from the State of NH department heads on their exhibit and presentations.

Dennis

The Corner Office  (continued)

Manpower Hour  (continued)

Hansen-Fox has picked up work in the area. They have been awarded the next phase at Stoneyfield Yogurt. They also have ongoing work at the Londonderry freezer, Plymouth State and in the Concord area.

RTH continues to pick up work at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard as well as Philips Exeter Academy. Limbach is continuing to bid work throughout the area as well.

Dave