Our summer outing was held June 6th and I would like to thank Jim Griffin and all the members who continue to volunteer their time to make it a great success.

We are working with our contractors and various project developers to try to land work in the area. At the present time the only job moving forward is the scrubber project at Merrimack station. Financing for other projects continues to be hard to come by, causing delays and cancellations of work. On a number of projects our contractors have been up against as many as fifteen bidders, many who have no experience doing the proposed work but under cut us and are awarded the job. Unfortunately in this economy everyone is hungry for work and trying to land whatever they can to keep busy.

The New Hampshire Building Trades has been working with Congressmen Paul Hodes, Carol Shea – Porter and Senator Jeanne Shaheen to secure a Federal Project Labor Agreement on the Federal Job Corps Center being built in Manchester. We have heard from their offices that the project is on course to be a PLA. At this time Federal PLA Language has not been finalized. We are continuing our discussions with Dick Anagnost on the Rivers Edge Project. This is another project that has had trouble securing financing. The Building Trades is also still talking to the Laidlaw group in regard to the Berlin Bio-mass Plant. There has been a new curve thrown at the project with the approval of the Coos Wind Farm Project. The wind farm is a 99 Mega-watt project and the concern is when the wind farm is producing at full capacity there may not be enough capacity left on the Northern Loop to accept the power from the Laidlaw Plant. ISO New England and Laidlaw are currently doing studies on the available capacity and the ability of redirecting the power from the wind farm over the northern sections while directing power from Berlin to the South.
The mountains are calling. And I’m not ready!
Since I’ve taken up backpacking, each summer has involved planning and preparing for one big trip. Some in places far from home. Some right here in New Hampshire. And since I’m not much for winter sports, it takes a concerted effort to get myself ready, both physically and psychologically. Usually this isn’t too hard. Spring brings longer days and sunshine – flowers and chipmunks – birds chirping and lawn mowers rumbling. And all this gets me motivated to get outside and get moving! Usually by now I’ve been out on the trail dozens of times, with at least 4 or 5 overnight treks into the White Mountains. But somehow, this year I’m way behind. I’ve been out for only 2 overnight backpack trips and I didn’t enjoy either one very much. And with each one, I limped for a week afterwards because I haven’t been getting any regular day-hiking done. It seems like there just hasn’t been any time. Where did it go? Oh wait . . . I know! There was no “June” this year! Well, technically there was a June, but I spent every day of it in the house because of the RAIN!!

Last weekend I spent the night on top of Mt. Kinsman on the west side of the Franconia Notch. The trail to the summit is only about five miles long. I chose it because I got a very late start and had to get home early on Sunday. The trail passes by the Lonesome Lake AMC hut. Now, I’m a bit of a purist, believing that if I can’t carry it on my back, I don’t really need it. BUT . . . I’m not against stopping in at a hut for a cup of coffee and some trail chat. People who hike and backpack come from all walks of life and all of them have great stories. This trip I met the man who designed the memorial structure to commemorate the Old Man of The Man. How wonderful to know it was designed by someone who has actually spent some time in these White Mountains (even if he is actually from New Jersey!) I met a 12-year old boy on his very first overnight trip carrying a pack bigger than mine. And I met two folks thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail, having started on Mt Katahdin in Maine in early June. I envy them trekking the trail for months. But what an awful start for them both. They hiked in the rain for 30 straight days! I guess they envy me, too. When it rains, I can pull the warm covers of my bed back over my head.

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.


Document packages will be mailed to all apprentices the week of August 3, 2009. Any questions regarding school should be referred to Kim Trisciani.

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.

**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:** There are eighteen members with valid NFPA 99 code certification that are eligible to re-qualify their brazing certification. Please check your credentials! Re-qualification dates and times will be arranged depending on participation.

Any questions, comments or suggestions for the Apprentice and Training Program can be submitted to the Business Manager or Agent of Local 131.
There is
NO UNION MEETING in July.
The next meeting will be
August 12, 2009
7:00 pm

Member News

CONDOLENCES:
To family and friends of
Brother Sherward Ingerson

CONGRATULATIONS:
Bob Drew, who, on behalf of his daughter, collected
almost $900.00 in donations for the 2009 Epilepsy
Walk-A-Thon. Debra’s team had the second highest
total donations collected of over 800 participants!
Thank You to all LU131 members who contributed!

50th Anniversary Open House
The family of Burton & Carolyn Lashua invites all
Local 131 members to celebrate with them
Sunday - September 6, 2009 - 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm
46 Adams Street / Greenville, NH 03048
Brother Burton has been a member of LU131 for 42 years,
having joined in 1967 and is now retired.

Local 131 Retirees,
I am writing this letter for 3 reasons:
* First: I’d like to remind everyone of the monthly meetings (see box above). We always have coffee and donuts along
with a 50/50 raffle and lottery ticket drawing. Three or four times a year we try to have a speaker come address the members.
This past year, thanks to Paul Scarlett, we had a WWII fighter pilot speak on his experiences in the war. We also had the “Moxie
Man” come in and give us the history of Moxie with a speech and a movie. Both men were very interesting. We also have the
Manager and Agent give us an update at every meeting.
* Second: It was voted at the April meeting to raise the dues to $20 a year. All the money collected goes back to the
retirees. At Christmas time we send checks to all the shut-ins that we know about. Last year there were 14. Whenever one of
our retirees passes on, we send a donation to charity of the family’s request. Occasionally a special case comes up and we discuss
at the meetings what aid, if any, we can offer. But we want everyone to know, that even if you can’t pay the dues, you are STILL
a member. ALL retirees are welcome to come enjoy the meetings and see all your old friends, and maybe make new ones!
* Third: As you know, the printed newsletter is only mailed out quarterly, but a monthly issue goes out on e-mail. All
the back issues are on the Local website as well. I’m sure many of you, like me, do not have a computer. At the May meeting,
Jeanne Lachance suggested that if you have a family member that has a computer and would be willing to give the Local their
e-mail address, they could receive the monthly newsletter for you! Great idea!

In closing, any one sending dues, donations or other information they want us to have, just send it to the Local hall
(address on the outside of this newsletter) and Mo will put it in our box. Remember, we depend
on all of you to keep us informed. I hope this letter finds everyone in good health,
 enjoying the good weather and I hope to see you in September!