At the June union meeting there was a discussion about the recent lack of work in the jurisdiction and what can be done to capture more work. Although we have certainly seen a downturn in man-hours worked locally this is not the first time this has happened. Construction is a cyclical business and presently all of New England, after years of a boom in construction, is seeing the downturn in work opportunities. Presently the central parts of the country and the west coast are experiencing construction booms while the rest of the country remains slow. As you have read in the UA Journal, the demand for qualified journeymen in these parts of the country is exceeding the availability of qualified manpower.

Locally Steve and I are working with our contractors, the building trades and meeting with owners and developers to try to land more work for the members. We are trying to use every avenue available from targeting jobs to meeting with owners to try convincing them that they will get a better product, on time and under budget by utilizing the local’s trained productive workforce. We in the office are only a small piece of the puzzle; it is the work the members do everyday in the field that will ultimately land us more employment opportunities. As a labor force we need to deliver on our claims of safety, productivity and being the best trained piping professionals a client’s money can buy. The attitude we display on the job can mean the difference between getting more work with a client or general contractor and being on the outside looking in. As GC’s move from job to job and people change positions in companies a good experience using union labor on a project can equate to more work opportunities down the road.

We as an organization are the only ones who can sell the virtues of using union labor, if we deliver the quality work safely and on time with the clients needs in mind, we can prove we are the best value and improve our market share through our actions.

Work in the area continues to be slow with no major projects happening at this time. Work on the road is beginning to pick up with all of it happening in the mid-west to further out west and all working at least 5-10s at this time. We currently have members on the road in Illinois, Washington, Utah, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Texas and South Carolina. We currently have:

- 130 working for local contractors
- 20 working locally for out of town contractors
- 28 working on the road
- 69 out of work

RTH has work coming up at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, New Castle Docks, UNH and Plymouth State College in NH. They also have work in Maine at Bath Iron Works and Ocean Gateway in Portland.

NPI has been holding its own with work at CMC Hospital, UNH, Dartmouth College, Rochester Schools and Budweiser in Merrimack.

Williams at Seabrook Station has put on two more members for work they have scheduled over the next few weeks. There is still no decision on ORO12, if it will stay in April of 2008 or be moved up to December 31, 2007.

The Royal Shores project at Hampton Beach has been delayed once again due to a possible redesign and lack of construction storage area until at least October 2007. The financing is still through Amalgamated Bank, which will require all construction to be done with union labor.

Amari Company has some plumbing work coming up in Conway/Berlin area on a new Rite Aid and a Lowes and may be looking to put on some new members under the Residential Agreement.

Federal Piping is holding its own on work in the North Country and is looking to expand it coverage area with work to be bid throughout the state.

HVACU has some work at St. Paul School and may be looking for help when that job takes off this summer.
**Apprenticeship & Training**  
*Kim Trisciani / Training Coordinator*

* 2007 Plumbing Seminars *  
**August 6 * November 5**

All seminars begin at 6 pm. Current NH Plumbing License and UA Membership card required for registration.

The State of NH is scheduled to change to the IPC 2006 Plumbing code. Books are available $58 each.

A very successful 2006/2007 academic year has come to a close. I would like to thank the many individual’s who gave their time and efforts to our training program: (Instructors) Dan Coffey, Bob Fortin, Darren Gallant, Steve Lachance, Tim Poulin, Rob Record, Todd Turcotte and John Wawryzniak. (JATC Committee) Dave Pelletier, Rich Hansell, Sean Doherty, Dana Wentworth, John Cashin and Jeff Welch. Each year we improve our training program and the membership participation is important to our future success.

**Training Events being considered are listed on the Message Board at the Local 131 website:** CPR/First Aid, Medical Gas Installer and Foreman/Leadership.  
**SCHEDULES ARE FLEXIBLE!**

**REMINDER**

All UA certified welders and medical gas installers… **continuity is required every six (6) months.** If you are unable to satisfy this requirement on the job, you may do so here at the hall!

Congratulationss to the following individual’s that are scheduled to complete the UA Apprentice program: Jeremy St. Amour, Matt DeCesare, Jesse Torosian, Jesse Michalides and Kevin Morse.

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**Office Bits & Bytes**  
*Mo Demers / Office Administrator*

This is the address of the new Local 131 website. It has been up and running for about 2 months and we have been receiving some great comments. But we have less than 90 people registered. There is a lot to be had on the website and I’d like to strongly recommend getting registered and checking in on a regular basis. The website is available to you 24 hours a day - 7 days a week. Certainly there are times when you need some piece of information; and the local office isn’t open to call. **It’s on the website!**

- You usually stop by the hall to pay your dues, but you’re working out of town and need to mail it. Then you realize you can’t remember the street address for the local office. **It’s on the website!**
- You just can’t seem to remember the current monthly dues rate. **It’s on the website!**
- You’re planning a hiking trip with the family and you need to know whether or not we honor a certain holiday. Well, you know that it’s printed in the contract, but who the dickens remembers where they put **that**, if you even have a copy. **It’s on the website!**
- You’ve been talking about a certain labor law in NH and you know it might be online somewhere, but you can’t remember the web address to the Department of Labor. **It’s on the website!**
- You’re filling out some unemployment forms and you need the address and phone number for one of our contractors that you worked for. **It’s on the website!**
- You remember reading something in one of the newsletters, and you’d really like to look it up, but you don’t save your copies from month to month. **It’s on the website!**
- There’s an apprenticeship class scheduled for tonight, but it’s snowing like crazy. You really need to know if the class has been cancelled before you drive all the way down from Berlin. **It’s on the website!**
- You just heard that a brother you worked with has passed away, but you don’t know where he lived recently and can’t find his obituary in the local papers. You really want to attend the services, if you could just find out when and where. **It’s on the website!**

As you can see, there’s a lot to be found on the website. All you have to do is look! Check it out!
Every advance in this half-century; Social Security, civil rights, Medicare, aid to education; one after another came with the support and leadership of American Labor.

- Jimmy Carter -

The chance of rolling snake eyes is 1 in 36.
If you roll snake eyes eight times in a row with the same pair of dice, what is the chance of rolling snake eyes on your ninth roll?

Bert and Ernie
Remember those two funny characters from Sesame Street? Bert and Ernie were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in the Frank Capra movie "Its A Wonderful Life".

The newsletter is now available via e-mail!!
If you would rather get the newsletter in your e-mail instead of in your mailbox, go to www.ualu131.org and sign up!

“What fits your busy schedule better, exercising one hour a day or being dead 24 hours a day?”

Pretty good. Eight snake eyes in a row? The dice are obviously loaded.

Even though we have suspended meetings for the summer, we still gather for breakfast on the 1st Monday of each month at the City Side Grill on Manchester Street in Concord. Take Exit 13 off I-93. From the south, turn right at the end of the ramp. From the North, turn left at the end of the ramp. The restaurant is just over the river on the left. Next gathering: July 2nd at 9:00AM

And if you weren’t aware, the City Side Grill gives us “seniors” 20% discount at these gatherings!

It was wonderful to see all the retires that made it to the summer outing. It started off a bit slow, with dark skies threatening to wash us out. It did drizzle for a bit, but there’s always plenty of room in the shelter and plenty of reminiscing to do when the weather (and our backs!) rule out softball! Thanks go to the office crew, Dave, Steve and Mo along with Pete Boisvert, Tim Nerat and Gary Travis for all the prep work. Thanks also to all who worked on KP duty, including John Cashin, Mark Aslanian and Ken Wheeler on grill duty; Sam Eames on the lobster/steamer pots and Cliff Moberg for his great pig roast.