The New Year is upon us and reflecting back at 2011 we had a great start with the Seabrook Station spring Outage that brought us full employment through May. The summer did not produce much new work and employment was weak locally but we were able to put over 30 members in NY on the Global Foundries job. The year has closed out strong with the work at Merrimack Station in Bow keeping near full employment through the end of the year and into January 2012.

Calls for the first quarter of 2012 will be in the Hanover area with new work starting on Hypertherm in Lebanon and the Dartmouth Inn at Dartmouth College. Both of these projects will require Plumbing Licenses and OSHA 10 certification cards.

The PLA was approved and is out to bid for the Manchester Job Corp Center on Hackett Hill Rd. That is a project that should start in 2012 pending any more unforeseen delays.

Seabrook Station has a fall outage on October 1st and has hinted they may bring in 8 to 12 members in May for fabrication of some of the Service Water piping they will be replacing in the Diesel Generator Building. It looks like they have chosen the Super Stainless material they used last Outage and are waiting on long delivery dates.

I would like to wish every member and their families a Happy, Safe and Prosperous New Year in 2012!
These days, technology is advancing at an ever faster and faster pace. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the sales flyers at Christmas: specifically – TELEVISIONS!!

32 inch – 46 inch – 60 inch!! 1080p, 120hz, contrast ratio, 2D, 3D!!! USB ports, HDMI ports, QWERTY remotes!! OUCH - my head hurts!

Well, if you’re like me, there is at least one man in your house. And at this time of year, while the women suffer sunlight deficiency disorder, men suffer from “TV Envy” and the dreaded side effect “There’s Nothing On!”. Even though men will tweak and pamper and tinker with that 1983 Dodge Dart in the backyard that “still has a few good years in ’er”, they seem incapable of applying the same reasoning in the living room: the logic that “there’s absolutely nothing wrong with the TV we have.”

I managed to soothe my ailing husband this year. No, I didn’t shell out $1000 for a unit that will cost $300 in June. But I did pony up for an ointment to calm the side effects. I finally signed us up for Netflix. Of course, we don’t have an Xbox or a Wii, and our TV isn’t internet ready (yes it’s a dinosaur. It’s 4 years old!). But I managed to find a sale at Best Buy for a Sony Media Player. Half price! So of course I bought two.

So on Christmas day while my poor suffering husband moaned and groaned in pain sprawled out on the sofa, I spent 5 ½ hours reading directions, moving TVs, connecting wires, drilling holes in the floor (the computer is downstairs, you see), shuffling ceiling panels, logging on the web to register, disconnecting wires, figuring out the now 3 remotes, writing down the EXACT steps to use said remotes, replacing ceiling panels and vacuuming up the resulting mess. But it was all a small price to pay to hear him “purrrrr” in contentment as he settled down to watch “Rambo 4”.

What bliss!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!
REMINDER:

Monthly Dues for Apprentices
go to $26.00 a month JANUARY 2012

The day before yesterday, Cindy was 17. Next year she will be 20. How can this be?

Did you know that...?

- The medals that honored the winning athletes at the Olympic and Paralympic 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver were the first in history to contain gold, silver and copper recovered from end-of-life electronics otherwise destined for the landfill.

- If you recycle just two gallons of used oil, it can generate enough electricity to run an average household for almost 24 hours.

- Americans throw away enough trash every minute to fill a house. At least 39.9% of the waste stream in the U.S. is paper.

- Five recycled soda bottles make enough fiberfill for one ski jacket.

- Every year, we make enough plastic film to shrink wrap Texas.

- If you stacked the aluminum cans that people sent to the landfills, in just five weeks they would reach the Moon!

- Visit Earth911 to learn more about recycling and other important environmental issues.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the family and friends of Brother Clarence “Jack” Robinson, who passed away Friday Dec 9th.

MEMBER NEWS

Drum and be thankful to the host!
What seems insignificant when you have it, is important when you need it.

- Franz Grillparzer