

From Joe Savia, Sr., Business Manager

Dues Paid for the Year 2005

Journeyman – 12 x \$57.00 = \$684.00; **Retiree Dues @ \$24** – 12 x \$24.00 = \$288.00;
Retiree Dues @ \$21 – 12 x \$21.00 = \$252.00; **1st & 2nd Yr. Apprentices** – 12 x \$40.00
= \$480.00; **3rd, 4th & 5th Yr. Apprentices** – 12 x \$43.00 = \$516.00; **Metal Trades
Dues** – 12 x \$24.00 = \$288.00; **Residential Trades/MES** – 12 x \$43.00 = \$516.00.

There were **40 deaths** for the year – 40 x \$3.00 = \$120.00
Now is a good times to catch up your dues and deaths.

Deaths for 2005

1179 John L. Fischer
1180 Samuel Muthiora
1181 Robert Southcomb
1182 Neil Conner
1183 Hugh Luterick
1184 Garland F. Funkhouser
1185 Edgard “Chico” Planas
1186 Ray Haney
1187 Briscoe B. Bowen, Jr.
1188 George Pierce
1189 Robert Ottey
1190 Charles Hodges
1191 Robert Link
1192 Roy Calvert
1193 Tarlton Willett
1194 Frank Tolodoziecki
1195 Rudolf Lutz, III
1196 Louis Brady
1197 Eric Graham
1198 Roy Beistel
1199 Gerald Bullock
1200 Joseph Burton Jr.
1201 George Stanford
1202 Jesse Webb
1203 Richard Ford
1204 Demas Latham
1205 Kenneth Stump
1206 William Tucker
1207 Dennis Mahle
1208 Michael Warner
1209 Jim Fleming
1210 Carl M Cobbs

1211 Thomas Shahady
1212 John Heiss
1213 Robert W. Starkey, Jr.
1214 Terry Richmond
1215 Robert G. Krauss
1216 Massey Moore
1217 Terry Lawton
1218 Jack Lanham

Annual Awards Dinner Dance

Changes have been made in the issuing of Award Certificates, therefore, the Dinner Dance will be held on May 20, 2006. Awards will be issued to those with initiation dates beginning July, 1980 through May, 1981, and in five increments, thereafter.

Nominations and Elections

Nominations will be accepted at the “Special Called Meeting” to be held before the regular, March 7, 2006, meeting at the Mechanical Trades School. Nominations will be accepted for all offices (3 year terms), and one slot each for the Medical, Pension and Retirement Savings Funds (6 year terms).

The March, 2006 Cash Sheet submitted to the UA will determine the number of delegates eligible to participate in the convention. Nominations for Delegates will also take place at the “Special Called Meeting” in March, 2006.

Elections will be held on Monday, April 3, 2006, from 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Mechanical Trades School.

All results will be announced at the regular Tuesday, April 4, 2006, Meeting which will be held at the Mechanical Trades School.

In the event of a tie, a run off will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2006 from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; results will be announced at the May, 2006 Meeting.

Eligibility Requirements to run as Delegate –

Sec 17, page 13 from the Constitution of the United Association

No member shall be eligible as a delegate or alternate unless he shall have been a good standing member of the Local Union which his is to represent for at least the two (2) consecutive years previous to his election and he remains in good standing from the date of his election through the period of the convention.

Eligibility for Office in Local Union –

Sec 121, page 73 from the Constitution of the United Association

No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he shall be a journeyman member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union.

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Eligibility to Vote at Local Union Election

Sec 124, page 76 from the Constitution of the United Association

- (a) No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to vote in any Local Union election.

Congratulations

Congratulations to all of the apprentices initiated at the January 3, 2006, Meeting, please join me in welcoming our newest members:

Daniel Abel, Michael Abretski, Nathan Bailey, Matthew Baldrige, Raymond Black, Richard Brighthaupt, Jr., Robert D. Brown, Matthew Bryan, Robert D. Bumpus, Patrick J. Carroll, Jonathan W. Carter, John Chen, Jason Claiborne, James Clements, III, Jason D. Coleman, Charles L. Conley, Daniel A. Cook, Raymond F. Cook, Clements Copey, III, Thomas Cregon, Christina Cummings, Francis Dent, David Diamond, Adam Durkin, George Eggers, Jr., Jeffrey Evans, Gabor Ferenczi, Joshua Feyen, Nicholas Ford, George Freeman, Jr., Miller Freeman, Christopher Friedrich, Jeffrey Friedrich, Bernard Gallagher, George Giddings, William Gimbel IV, Daniel C. Glover, Albert Green, Bryan Griffith, Nicholas Guyot, Seth Gwinn, Jason Hans, David Harley, Jr., Edward Harrington, Frederick A. Harris, Darius Hartsfield, Devon Hartwell, Michael Hulsey, Stephen Hurley, Ryan Hurt, Charles E. Hyatt, Jr., Russell K. Jacobs, Troy C. Johnson,

Michael Johnston, Charles J. Jones, Hasan Kafimosavi, Emmanuel Karellas, Rodney Kent, Jr., Shahriar Khosraviani, Adrian P. Knight, Sharon Kunyonga, Robert Lawson, Scott E. Ledman, Jr., Jesse A. Lehman, Bernardo Lockley, George S. Long, Louis Maier, Justin S. Matthews, Daniel McArthur, Christopher McCalla, Daniel McGinniss, Adam McGraw, Mathew McNamee, Mirla Minor, Gary Mitchell, Travis Moore, Joseph Morgan, Chadwick Nalls, Jim Newman, Rashad Offord, Jeffrey Oliver, Victor Pagano, Derrick Paige, Matthew Parks, Jr., Joshua Pearson, Christopher M. Perry, Patrick Poss, Jesse Restivo, James Revard, Rene Reyes, Billy Robbins, Jr., Scott Roberts, Adrian Rodriguez, Kevin Ryan, Aleksandras Sasnauskas, Kyle Schaefer, Douglas Slusher, Douglas L. Smith, Tristan Solomon, Brian A. Stewart, Joshua Stough, Kyle Stradone, Jason Timon, Franklin Topasna, Dustin Tracey, Stephen Uriarte, Manuel Vasquez, Jeffrey L. Walker, Bryon Waltemeyer, Charles A. Welch, William T. White, Kevin Whitmon, Jr., Michael C. Wilde, Brent Wilmoth, Thomas J. Wilshaw, Charles L. Woodard, Mark P. Young.

Know Your Officers and Their Roles

Apprentice Committee – The Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer of the Local Union shall appoint a Committee on Apprentice Training whose duties shall be to establish an apprentice training program and related apprentice training courses covering the particular craft or trade of the Local Union, and said apprentice training program shall conform with the Federal Apprenticeship Standards as approved by the United Association.

The Apprenticeship Committee is made up of Joseph C. Savia, Sr., E. Wayne Updike and John Kripas.

THIS 'N THAT

Liz Glore proudly announces the birth of her new grandson, Malcolm Isaiah, born on December 18th.

BIG WINNERS

Greg Rees was the winner of the 50/50 raffle held at the January Union Meeting and, congratulations to Marlin Gibson who won the hockey tickets.

SYMPATHY

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of the following members:

Retiree Massey L. Moore, died December 10, 2005. Brother Moore was 78 years old and had been a member since May 7, 1974. Death #1216.

Brother Terry A. Lawton, died December 15, 2005. Brother Lawton was 52 years old and had been a member since April 5, 1985. Death #1217.

Retiree Jackson P. Lanham, died December 21, 2005. Brother Lanham was 67 years old and had been a member since February 5, 1974. Death #1218.

Brother Shawn M. Kopper, died January 5, 2006. Brother Kopper was 38 years old and had been a member since March 6, 1990. Death #1219.

**THE CURRENT DEATH IS NO 1219. ANY MEMBER
NOT PAID THROUGH DEATH NO. 1219 IS IN ARREARS.**

BACK TO THE FUTURE

By Bill Durkin

I remember when I was a very small child, my father telling me four things. Go to church on Sunday. Don't eat meat on Friday. Don't drink Coke, and we DO NOT shop at Sears. Well this left me a bit confused. The Sisters at my elementary school cleared up the first two points, but the other two still perplexed me. I asked my dad what this Coke and Sears stuff was all about. He explained that people were trying to organize a Union at these two companies and the Durkin family would not patronize these companies until they allowed their workers to form a Union.

This was my first memory of what it was to be a Union family. The Coke wasn't an issue, we still had Pepsi. But a brand new Sears store had just opened and we lived close enough to walk to it. Nothing else was accessible to a kid, even with a bike. Even with this temptation, I knew that this prohibition was up there with salvation issues. So I stayed away.

These lessons have stayed with me all of my life. At the time my father was working as a Union Pipefitter. He was able to buy a home and raise eight children while my mother worked at home taking care of all of us. This was done with one paycheck.

Looking back, I believe that I was growing up at the time of the labor movement's high water mark. I am afraid we have been on a long decline and we need to stop.

It is kind of interesting to look back in time on how the Labor movement got to where it is today. In the beginning, there wasn't a National Labor Relations Board to hear our Unfair Labor Practice charges; we didn't have lobbyists at the State House and on Capitol Hill. We didn't have "Right to Work" in some states. We had it in all of them, In fact, a Union was considered to be a legal conspiracy.

But men and women continued to join unions to get a better deal. They acted together, they elected leaders but, in the beginning leaders carried out their union responsibilities in addition to their regular jobs, but they knew that when they needed to act, the workers would be with them. They had the respect of all working people.

The Union movement started to succeed, laws were enacted to protect the workers and the movement started to grow. Many people have forgotten that labor unions put an end to child labor. It was labor unions that demanded and got the 40-hour week, the 8-hour day and work place safety. Every law that protects working men and women in our society is the result of the labor movement's actions.

Unions continued to grow in this country. With the increasing numbers of members, the Unions realized that they needed full time managers to run their organizations. Many of the first elected men and women did the heavy lifting that got the Unions to where they were. These people knew what it took to make gains for their members and, we were able to build on our predecessor's successes.

Today, the members of Local 602 have been able to build up over \$295 million in Pension Assets. We have over \$3 million in the General Fund and, we maintain \$14 million in our Medical Fund. We are continually working to maintain and expand the prevailing wages on Government work in our jurisdiction and, we must remember there is no such thing as a self-enforcing contract. Everyday we are working to see that our employers fulfill their contractual obligations and, of course, we have to keep track of the laws and lawmakers in order to protect workers.

Yes, we started with noting and have come a long way.

Our most powerful weapons in our continuing struggle are our ideals of fairness, living wages, decent pensions and affordable health care for all. These are the same ideals that Unions had in the beginning.

We must recommit ourselves to Labor's vision of Social Justice. Yes, we have good pensions, but we must fight hard to protect Social Security, not just for ourselves, but for all Americans.

To be more effective, we all need to be more involved in the Union Movement. I plan on talking to Local 602 members to hear their ideas as to how to increase member participation. I know we have a vast warehouse of knowledge and talent within our membership. We need to tap it, together; we can help to return Unions to their rightful position in this country.

SOLIDARITY
President, John P. Sullivan

"A Cooperative Approach To Mine Safety"

A few things should be understood about the importance of coal mining in West Virginia. It is estimated that 13 billion tons of coal has been mined in the state since 1863. It is currently believed that 54 billion tons of recoverable coal remains. West Virginia produced 160 million tons of coal in 2005. At this rate, coal mining will remain a part of the lifeblood of West Virginia for the next three hundred years.

West Virginia ships coal to 33 states and 25 countries. Half of the U. S. exports come from West Virginia. Coal is used to produce over half of the electricity generated in the United States. Overall, 13% of the gross products of West Virginia are directly connected to coal production, with another 5 to 6% resulting from coal related industries. In 2004, the coal companies and power companies paid 60% of the business taxes collected in West Virginia. All 55 W Va. counties fund part of their budgets from taxes on coal.

The coal industry is booming. The price for a ton of coal has increased from a low of \$18 in 1999 to today's price of \$40 to \$50 a ton for power-plant coal and up to \$100 a ton for metallurgical coal sold to steel plants. With surging profits comes further political clout. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, coal companies over the past six years have donated \$9 Million to federal political campaigns and their supporting parties. Of this total, 90% of the money found its way to the Republican Party.

The Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA) is the primary Federal agency charged with enforcing the law in the coalfields. President Bush first appointed David Lauriski, a former coal industry executive to head the agency. He is credited with advocating a "Cooperative Approach To Mine Safety". His administration has retitled mine safety inspectors as "compliance assistance specialists". I'm sorry, that's taking a cop and making him a counselor.

In 2001, there was a similar mine disaster in Brookfield, Alabama where 13 miners died in an explosion. The investigation of the deadliest disaster in two decades resulted in \$435,000 in fines levied by the locally based, Federal MSHA inspectors. The fines were reduced in Washington by 99%. The final fine, relating to the death of 13 human beings, was \$3,000.

President Bush's current nominee to succeed MSHA Director Lauriski is Richard Stickler. He hails from the hollers of Marion, Co. West Virginia where, in 1968, 78 miners died in one of the worse mine disasters in our history. The W Va. Gazette recently described Stickler as "...an industry manager with questionable qualifications. He ran mines with injury rates twice the national average." If approved, Stickler will oversee the investigation into the deaths at the Sago Mine.

The MSHA information on the Sago Mine (ID# 4608791) can be found at their website (<http://www.msha.gov>). There was three times the national average of injuries at this mine during the last six months. There were a dozen roof falls in that same period. From July through September, MSHA cited this mine with 70 violations, 42 of which were considered serious and substantial. From October through December, MSHA handed out 46 additional citations, 18 of which were considered serious and substantial. In all, since

February 2004, MSHA has issued 273 violations which cost management \$ 24,000. The Sago Mine had revenues of \$ 136 Million in 2004. Do the math.

The violations included inadequate air quantity and accumulation of combustionable materials. More damning, the owners were cited repeatedly for failures to provide an adequate ventilation plan and to conduct weekly exams of worked out areas. The most damning of all the violations are those relating to repeated failures to conduct pre-shift exams. Within three hours of any shift work, management is responsible to conduct tests for methane, oxygen deficiencies, and to ensure that adequate ventilation air is provided and is moving in the proper direction.

The basic premise of all Federal safety laws is that it is the responsibility of the employer to provide a safe work place. No legal or moral argument can be made that questions this foundation for all OSHA and MSHA safety laws. In the end they will conclude that lightning was the cause of the explosion. And to be honest, there are 2000 thunderstorms occurring at any one time on this planet, with 100 lightning strikes per second, 366,000 per hour, 2,880,000 per 8 hour shift, and well, sparks do happen. Unfortunately, one bolt just happened to find combustionable gases and coal dust that should have been removed from the miner's workplace.

From Kevin Sullivan Business Agent

With a new year upon us, I wondered how many of us made New Years resolutions and if you were still sticking by them. In the past mine seemed to always resolve around health issues; I needed to not drink as much, smoking is killing me and the always “ I need to exercise more”. Did anyone resolve to do the same? I started to look into the effects of our lifestyle choices that we make; those of our general well being and the economic impact.

Nearly 2.5 million people die each year in the United States. We all have to go sometimes, but do some of us go before we have to? Studies show a sizeable portion, 20 to 60 percent, of chronic diseases can be prevented by reasonable lifestyle choices. There are four major life choices you can make to increase your odds of growing older and grayer:

- 1) Snuff it out – everyone knows that smoking is bad for you yet an estimated 24% of men and 19% of women in the U.S. smoke. The years that it takes off your life versus a non- smoker is 12.2 for males / 14.5 for woman.
- 2) Get moving – physical activity gets the heart pumping and helps keep excess weight off. Obesity is a major contributor to heart disease and diabetes.
- 3) Eat better – cutting back on salts, fats, and sugars and adding a diet rich in fruits and veggies has been found to stave off the bad (cancer, high cholesterol, heart disease, flu)
- 4) Have regular checkups – an annual physical is crucial for monitoring your risk factors for chronic diseases. The sooner you identify conditions such as high blood pressure or early cancer signs the better.

What are the economic impacts on our lives?

Expenditures for health care in the United States continue to rise and are estimated to reach \$ 1.80 trillion in 2006. In 1974 when I started the trade, 4.8% of my wages went towards health care; today 12.4% goes into our medical. Much of these costs can be attributed to the diagnosis and treatment of chronic diseases and conditions such as diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease and asthma.

- Approximately 135 million U.S. adults are overweight or obese which costs this Nation anywhere from 70 billion to 120 billion per year.
- In 2005 an estimated 19 million people (6.5% of the population) had diabetes, costing the U.S. approximately 150 billion. People with diabetes lost more than 8 days per year from work, accounting for 15 million disability days.
- Heart disease and stroke are the first and third leading causes of death in the United States. In 2005 alone, 1.3 million Americans will have a heart attack. Cardiovascular diseases cost the Nation more than \$300 billion each year.
- Approximately 23 million adults and 9 million children have been diagnosed with asthma at some point within their lifetime, which costs near 14 billion per year.

You can see from these facts the costs incurred by these diseases to our medical fund. A much smaller amount is spent on preventing these conditions. As an individual you can take stock of the things that you yourself can do. If you made some of the above resolution and have already strayed off course, don't be discouraged, and resolve to stick with it till you get it right. Eighteen years ago I took stock of my life and realized I was killing myself on a daily basis. I didn't wait till New Years to make a change; I was ready; and life has never been better. I don't want to be, nor do I want you either, to retire only long enough to collect a year of benefits. Resolve to get yourself checked out; the cost of the doctor's visit may save your life

Welcome to our newest members

Timothy Altizer

Randy Pierre

Wayne's World

“Step Up to the Challenge”

602 is not a babysitting service. We are not here to carry dead weight. 602 exists to uphold High Standards of Excellence! 602 exists to provide opportunities! 602 exists to create power through solidarity, political action and training! 602 promotes fairness and equality in return from our members we want your efforts and commitment in the workplace. 602 members are PROFESSIONALS who are there to represent other professionals. Being at work every day matters a lot! Some members think what's the difference if I show up or not? What is the difference? What if you were a NASCAR driver and one of the pit crew didn't show up for an important race? Now your crew boss will have to reassign somebody who won't be quite as good as the guy who didn't show. It's no different in our job market, 602 is in tough competition with the open-shop. We can not afford to lose the edge and run short, you can't win that way. Every 602 member on every job is important, if you weren't you wouldn't be there. Without you there is a

hole that needs to be filled. Without you, the crew isn't as effective and competitive as it needs to be. Even if you don't feel like getting up, just drag your butt out of bed and come to work. Our membership, which has always pulled together when it really counted, well today, more than ever, this is needed. Nationally, the Union work force is shrinking, and without unions setting the standards for the rest of the workers in America, we would not be awarded the wages and the benefits that we enjoy today.

602 MEMBERS, BE ALL THAT YOU CAN BE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We are continuously updating our records. We now have over 3300 Members and close to 200 Contractors. Addresses, phone numbers and many other changes that we, at the Hall need to keep current. We have found that with upcoming events, and the speed that the world expects, we have found that we need to include email addresses in our database. If you have changed ANY of your vital information please let the union office know. You can email us at ua602@aol.com or mail in the changed information.

Name
Address
Email
Telephone
Cell #