

Bylaws Amendment Notification

The second and final reading of the recommendation of the Bylaws Committee will take place at the March 4th, 2008 meeting. It is proposed that Article XIV, Sec.1, Par. 3 be amended to read: "All members shall be notified by mail with reasonable written notice prior to the date of final action on proposed changes to the bylaws."

**From Joseph Savia, Sr.
Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer**

A Look at History

It seems appropriate that in celebrating our 95th year we take a look at how we got to where we are; the minutes from the March 18, 1913 seems a safe place to start, the minutes read:

Washington D.C. March 18th 1913

Meeting open in due form by Pres A. Boyce

Roll called and absentees noted; Members present 86.

Reading minutes of previous meeting 'approved'

Minutes of the Conference Committee were read with recommendations regarding the standing of various members and the conditions in which they can be admitted into the U.A. The recommendation after being read was concurred in on motion and 'carried'. A motion was made by Bro. J.M. Botts that all moneys now on hand be placed in hands of trustees 'carried'

A motion was made by Bro J.T. Revelle that the Local be giving the obligation as members, after which they could elect new officers 'lost'

Pres John R .Alpine and a committee of two from Local Union #5 U.A. Mr. J McDonald and Mr. F Kohler were in the Ante Room.

An objection was raised to admitting the committee from Local #5

Bro J.T. Revelle made it a motion and it was voted and 'lost'

Motion was made by Bro Wm. Locraft to have a smoker 'lost'

At this time, Mr. John R. Alpine, Pres of the U.A. accompanied by Mr. J McDonald and Mr. Fred Kohler were admitted and after remarks by Bro Alpine the Members and following officers were obligated and Installed:

A. Boyce (Pres)

W. Holohan (V.P.)

C.F. Hickman (R.S.)

J.M. Botts (F.S.)

W Stecker (Treas)

Geo Nau (Sentry)

Fred Drescher (Trustee)

Thomas Breslin (Trustee)

C.F. Hickman (Trustee)

Executive Board

William Stecker
W.W. Vaughan
J.M. Botts
Geo Seymore
Geo Nau

Geo Meitzer
A Boyce
C F Hickman
W Hurdle

Members present and obligated March 18, 1913: J. Aue, W. Aue, T. Adams, J.V. Anderson, G.W. Beall, Sr., A Biggs, J.M. Botts, M.R. Botts, A. Boyce, Geo Boyce, T Breslin, H.M. Brown, G W Beall, Jr., E Bladen, Geo Burr, R Bremmerman, M. Caton, E Collins, SV Carroll, W Custard, Chas Collier, Roy Cooke, E A Conboye, J E Vivver, Chas Divine, Fred Duffy, W A Davis, Fred Drescher, W.W. Evans, E Eslin, F E Freman, A Fealey, W E Gosnell, Geo Garrett, Chas Hamilton, B Harris, C. F. Hickman, A Hepburn, W Holahan, C Hudson, Geo Hunter, H Harmon, W Hurdle, E W Jones, Cleve Kemp, P Kleese, L.T. Kerr, Theo Lee, W Locraft, F.J. Lucas, F.C. Luce, J.L. Lusby, G Meitzler, C Murray, T Murphy, G H McCrillis, W Martin, F Maley, J.D. McGrann, T McDonald, G F Nau, M. O'Conner, T O'Brien, C. Poore, J. Poore, H Reichard, J.T. Revelle, W Stecker, J Stewart, R Straub, G Seymore, A Sidenspinner, E.E. Shields, G Sheets, J.E. Shomaker, G Stadtler, W J Shockency, C. Trueman, C Vesters, W.W. Vaughan, H Worthington, R H Watts, W. Whyte, J Wilson, S.D. Zea, H Taylor.

Pres Alpine at this time gave a short history and the conditions existing in the various cities which he has visited recently and hoped that it would not be long before their would be only one organization of the pipefitting industry in this country.

This Local Union will be known as Local Union #602 of the United Association.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to meet March 26, 1913.

Attendance: 86

* We apologize for any misspelling of names, however, the minutes are all handwritten

Maryland License Plates

The new License Plates are out and traveling around town. If you are interested please contact the Hall for the application, checks or money orders for \$25.00 payable to the MVA must be returned to the Hall with the application. The hall will forward the application for you.

Motorcycle plates have been delayed, we currently need 23 more applications to be eligible for the motorcycle plates. If you are interested please file an application with the hall. We will notify you when we have 23 and are submitted the request.

95th Year Celebration

At this year's Annual Awards Dinner Dance we will celebrate our 95th Anniversary, we have booked the Hubcaps as the entertainment, this should be an enjoyable event for all. Please mark your calendars to help us all celebrate our 95th Year.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Megan Sue Lee (daughter of Joshua Lee) and Kevin Parrish (son of Dale Parrish), as the 2007 winners of the UA Scholarship.

Substance Abuse Issues

We are still holding our Substance Abuse sessions on Thursday's in the hall at 4:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Dues Check Off

With the start of Dues Check Off some clarifications need to be made. If the company withholds from your January paycheck that covers the February Dues. Any amounts due prior to February are your responsibility. All deaths and any initiations are also your responsibility. However, if deaths are not paid, according to the UA Constitution they can be credited prior to your dues. Make sure your deaths and dues are caught up.

If a month has a fifth week, the company is withholding the extra week, that will go to pay any shortage of dues or deaths, whichever is needed.

If you have any questions regarding Dues Check Off or you would like to sign up for Dues Check Off, please contact the Union Hall.

THIS 'N THAT

BIG WINNER

Michael Long was the winner of the 50/50 raffle held at the February Union meeting.

LATEST RETIREES

Richard Dixon	January 1, 2008
Jerry F Goldsmith	March 1, 2008
Sherlock Lee	January 1, 2008
Frank Manuel	January 1, 2008
David Necessary	January 1, 2008
Scott Snellings Jr.	January 1, 2008

SICKBAY

George Harbaugh will be having heart surgery on February 21, 2008.

Chester Lanehart is currently in Southern Maryland Hospital due to complications following surgery.

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy go out to Bill, Joe, John and Marty Durkin and their families on the loss of their mother, June.

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

Retiree, Norman G. Butler, died January 22, 2008. Brother Butler was 61 years old and had been a member since October 1, 1986. Death #1279.

Retiree, Juan R. Reyes, died January 16, 2008. Brother Reyes was 79 years old and had been a member since December 7, 1976. Death #1280.

Retiree, George Dragoo, died January 19, 2008. Brother Dragoo was 85 years old and had been a member since January 3, 1947. Death #1281.

Retiree, Henry L Brown II, died January 30, 2008. Brother Brown was 77 years old and had been a member since September 6, 1977. Death #1282.

Brother, John A Vucci, died February 3, 2008. Brother Vucci was 49 years old and had been a member since March 1, 1988. Death #1283.

**THE CURRENT DEATH IS NO. 1283. ANY MEMBER
NOT PAID THROUGH DEATH NO. 1283 IS IN ARREARS.**

From Kevin Sullivan, Business Agent

Recently, a memorandum went out to the employees of one of our contractors. The memorandum was in regards to their employee handbook, standards of conduct, and their drug and alcohol policy. We began receiving calls from employees wondering what they should do since the document stated "a refusal to sign was grounds for termination". Not knowing what the document entailed, we had an employee fax a copy to the Hall.

Upon glancing at the document it was clear that their policy conflicted with the Collective Bargaining Agreement and Local 602's Drug and Alcohol Policy. In the meantime we advised employees not to sign and to advise their supervisors they were waiting for the Union and the Contractor to agree on the documents.

This is not the first time we have seen a company policy which conflicted with our contract. Local 602 does not dispute that the company can implement reasonable work rules and enforce them in a reasonable fashion. Local 602 is committed to the highest standards of accountability and productivity at work sites and will uphold reasonable work rules and policies to achieve these common goals so long as they do not conflict with the contract.

Our sole concern is that company rules not be written in a way that supersedes or nullifies any provisions of the contract. It is our intention to ask our signatory contractors to submit company policy to the Hall first, so that we can review; looking for inconsistencies with our agreement and drug policy.

Dispatching

Bill Durkin

As many of you already know the dispatching in service is conducted in a different manner than in construction.

The service is growing in leaps and bounds. It's challenging for the local to fill the demands of the contractors. The contractor, in turn, will look for that person who best meets their requirements: subsequently an interview between the two will take place.

When the Business Manager assigned me the service side to deal with, I believed that the internet was a tool we could use to our advantage. So we established a "Contractor's Needs" list. Any contractor needing manpower calls us and we place their name, contact person and the job requirements on the listing. This is then emailed to any service mechanic looking for work. With the other demands of my job I am not always available to take calls and the members are not available to receive mine. By using the email I can send out any job listing as we receive it. Everyone receives the same list at the same time. The person can decide to pursue the job or not.

I have, on rare occasions, picked up the dispatch for construction and have seen how difficult it is to catch up with members and fill a position.

Using email there is a written record. No garbled voice mail, no missed number, no wrong number. Well, maybe a wrong email, but still another way to contact our members.

We are still using some of the technology that our grandparents used. We now live in a world that, despite the technological advances, demands more and more of our time. When feasible we need to streamline our operations. In cases where members don't have email we can contact them by other means, but at least the numbers are fewer. This leaves the officers more time to deal with other concerns of the local. We must never forget that as our market grows so does the local membership and the demands of those members.

We encourage all members to send us your email address. You may never need it for a job placement but it may come in useful as we find our local growing and communication becomes more difficult.

SOLIDARITY

President, John P. Sullivan

On the eve of the Chesapeake Primary

Excuse me if I am a little underwhelmed by the reported historic voter turnout in the states that have held their caucuses and primaries. Historically, about a quarter of those that are registered actually turn out to vote in a presidential primary. Yes, the numbers are higher this time around. But still, nearly twice as many of the registered voters stayed home than those who ventured to the polls.

Roughly only half of the voting age population is actually registered to vote. So only one out of five or six are deciding who gets to run for our highest office. That's pretty scary if you think about it.

Initially, the right to vote in this country was limited to only white male citizens. Passage of the Fifteenth (race), Nineteenth (gender), and Twenty-Sixth (age) Amendments to the U.S. Constitution guaranteed the right to register and vote to all citizens who are eighteen years or older except those that are prevented by state law.

I will accept that there are some reasons that a citizen might not registered. There are moral and religious reasons relating to the taking of any oath that are honorable and need to be respected. In addition there are certain state restrictions such as laws barring felons, idiots, and the insane.

I've heard many excuses over the years for not registering to vote but few are well founded. Chief among them is the "serving on a jury excuse". In our jurisdiction the local and state governments use various licensing procedures to establish their database for potential jurors. So if you have a driver's, business, or trade license, you are probably already in the pool.

Most are unregistered because they have either moved or failed to vote over a number of years. You have up to one year from the time of your move to re-register in some localities. After that time you may be purged from the rolls. Also, if you have failed to vote in a "Presidential Cycle", that is, once every four years, you may have been purged from the rolls. Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia have varying rules in this regard.

It is fairly simple to register or re-register to vote within our local union jurisdiction. You may download a form over the Internet by contacting the Maryland State Board of Elections, the Virginia State Board of Elections or the District of Columbia Board of Elections. You can register at the DMV or MVA. In the District you can register at libraries, firehouses and police stations. If all else fails, contact the Union Hall and ask for a registration form. Deadlines for applications are typically one month before the election.

**FROM WAYNE'S WORLD
GAME DAY
OUR SUPER BOWL IS EVERYDAY**

Every day at work is like the Super Bowl. Let's have a two minute drill. Every morning you have the team huddle with the head coach (foreman). He goes over the game plan for the day. Every job has a game plan, and every member should have one too. Ask yourself, what is my game plan as an apprentice? Do I go to school and work not missing any time. Do I pay attention in class and to the Journeyman on the job. Am I open to learning new and different tasks everyday on the job. Am I an employee a contractor would want to have on their job. Do I have long term goals? Where do I want to be in ten years, the time it takes to be a skilled journeyman. Are some of these things in your game plan? I can ask the journeymen some of the same questions. Are you dedicated to making 602 the best it can be, by having self pride, union pride, a good attitude and attendance, working safely and being productive on the job. Do you attend Union Meetings, social events like the Dinner Dance (95 year celebration this year), semi yearly picnic, the diabetes walk, 37 years of golf tournaments, 8 years of Heat's On Water's Off, and for the first time this year a bull roast supporting our apprentices. Are you a responsible voter in your Local Union elections as well as your Local and National elections. Are you interested in teaching apprentices your work skills which is an important part of their training. Do you work with the contractor to build a stronger bond between us? Are these some things in your game plan? On game day we also need a playbook. Our playbook is the Agreement along with the Standards of Excellence. Following this playbook the performance of our contractors and members will never be questioned. It will minimize errors and both of us will be in the game. The more both of us know our game plan and the playbook, the greater the chance of becoming the MVP of the game. It is never too late to change your direction. Are you in the game? Do you have a game plan for yourself? Here is an example of 602 members having a game plan. With two large hospital jobs in our future, do you have your Medical Gas certifications? If we don't man our jurisdiction guess who will.

GET IN THE GAME AND BE A MVP.