

From Joe Savia, Sr.  
Business Manager

### Honoring 70 Years and a Large Asset to this Local

Recently CAUSE asked that we provide a Resume for Robert Eckell in honor of his 70 year award in the Local. After reading the Resume and providing the pertinent information to CAUSE I thought that I should share the entire Resume with you, as Brother Eckell is such an important part of the history of this Local and one of the reasons this Local is "95 Years Strong"



Written by Bob Eckell

Member #300180 of the United Association

Sworn in 1938 as a Helper into Local Union 602 (Membership approximately 350 Fitters and Helpers) at that time.

John Botts, Business Manager, assigned me to help acetylene Pipe Welder Paul Ingram installing the original Air Conditioning Systems in the Capitol Group (Senate, House & Capitol)

Next I was sent down to the Capitol Power Plant to Help Tiny Goodin (Elect Pipe Welder) where the Refrigeration Equipment and Piping would supply AC for Capitol Group. As a Helper for "Tiny" I had the opportunity to practice welding on scrap pipe and angle iron scrap. Continued Helping Tiny Goodin at Washington Gas Company job, the Hecht Company and National Art Gallery jobs.

Went to Philadelphia to help weld up the USS Washington (Battleship) (8 months)

Returned to 602 jurisdiction as pipe welder for Atlas Iron Works (Norman Quasbarth) then with Stone & Webster for Eddie Olson (foreman) at Buzzards point power plant, where I met my very good friend Bill Bushong, completed two units at the Plan when John Botts asked me to go to work with Norair Engineering Company for special training at Eastman Kodak for a photographic lab at the Naval Air Station at Anacostia. The project ran out of funds and I was off to the Army Air Force for the next three years.

Returned from service and was hired by Standard Engineering Company at the West Central Heating Plan. While at this job several things occurred that had much importance to my life. I enrolled at Columbia Tech's four year course in Mechanical Engineering and I ran for office for the Executive Board of the Local. As hoped, I did get elected to the Board and later did graduate as Valedictorian of my class at Columbia Tech. Still with Standard Engineering, I was placed with Harry King who installed Refrigeration Equipment for the Company.

While at the 13<sup>th</sup> Street Telephone Building I met an old friend who was employed by Johnson Service Company at the same job. Being fed up with welding and brazing I asked him how I could get hired by Johnson. The rest is history. For the next 28 years I was the "super" for Johnson. I guess my time at Columbia Tech did pay off.

I am most proud of my service as an Officer of the Local Union, to have been elected to follow Brother Bill Bushong as President of the Local is that of which anyone would be proud. Twenty years as Vice President and Chairman of the Executive Board had some good & bad memories. The Low point was chairing the hearing of charges brought against Business Manager John Martin, thankfully, all ended well. Union meeting were always interesting. I recall with much pleasure, serving with the many fine Business Managers of the Local Union and the many district and national conventions I was privileged to attend as a Representative for the members of Local 602. I have great memories of these wonderful brothers with whom I attended. Finally, if I have made any contributions to the greatness of the "best dern union in this world" I know, for sure, that I have derived tenfold, by having been a member.

Thank you brothers

I did fail to include that I served 2 terms as President and was a Trustee on the Pension Committee. While Vice President something occurred that was one of the highlights of my life. At a Union Meeting, there was a telephone call from the White House requesting to speak with President Bushong. Bill was, of course, chairing the meeting and asked me to find out what the call was about. Senator McNamara of Michigan had died, and he, having been the President of the Detroit Fitter Union, prior to getting into politics, the White House was inviting our President to accompany President Johnson to his funeral. Bill couldn't go so I was invited to go in his place. Air Force one was hardly airborne when Linden B. Johnson, came through the plane greeting all on Board.

As an Air Force Member, I have had many hours of flight time but none as memorable as that one.

## A Look in the Past

Minutes from the June 4, 1913 Meeting

Paper Hangers Hall 430 9<sup>th</sup> Street, NW

Meeting open in due form by President Pro Term C.W. Hamilton in the chair.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

Roll call of members and absentees noted.

Report of Committees

Building Trades Council read and accepted and placed on file.

Pipe Trades Council "none"

Central Labor Union "none"

Sick Committee "none"

Conciliation Committee "none"

Examining Board report unfavorable on J.W. Crosson

Executive Board action taken in regard to agreement with the Master Fitters Association. Copy which was mailed to them on May 26, 1913.

Business Agent instructed to wire Secretary Treasurer Thomas E. Burke, Chicago Ill, to send on all organizers to take up the Pipe Work which is being done by the Otis Elevator Company on the New Government Post Office and New Bureau of Engraving. Also instructed the Secretary to write the Master Fitters Association what action #602 would take July 1, 1913.

Correspondence and action thereon.

Letter from Business Agent H.H. Gaskins, Baltimore, MD Local in regard to members from that city depositing clearance card with Local Union #602 read and placed in file.

Two letters from the Master Fitters Association in regard to agreement, read and placed in file.

Letter from Secretary Treasurer Thomas E. Burke asking about Brother William Gales read and placed on file.

Application for membership.

Brother Harry Fiddesop, Helper of Local Union #602 made application as Steamfitter. Motion made and seconded that it take the regular course and be placed in the hands of the Executive Board. "Carried"

President Hamilton placed two \$1.00 fines on Brother Charles Devere.

B. Agent Zea report and accepted.

York Engineering Co shop taken up and after considerable debate was declared out of order and the motion made on May 14, 1913 by Brother Fiddesop to stand.

Brother A.M. Bilson was given the obligation.

#### Appropriation of Money

S.D. Zea, B. Agent Salary and Expense May 21, 1913 to June 4, 1913. \$46.50

S.D. Zea, Telephone bill for month of June, Room 52 LeDroit Building \$3.30

C F Hickman for Typewriting agreement \$1.00

John M Botts \$1.00 Charter Fee for (1) Member

#### Nomination of Officers

President – C.W. Hamilton, Albert Biggs

V President – W Hurdle, J McGarun

Fin Secretary – John M. Botts

Rec Secertary – J.T. Revelle, Wm Whyte, E Collins, H Fiddesop

Treas – Wm Stecker

Business Agent – F C Luce, S.D. Zea, George Maitzler

Delegate – UA Convention – F C Luce, G.F. Hickman

Conciliation Board – E.W. Jones, J.E. Freeman, C.F. Hickman, S.D.Zea, J.M. Botts, H Fiddesop, C Hudson, F.C. Luce, George Meitzler, J.T. Revelle, Wm. Holahan, R. Brennamen

Executive Board – C.F. Hickman, F.J. Lucas, Wm. White, W Gosnell, J.M. Botts, George Meitzler, Wm Holahan, C Hudson, J E Divvens, J.I. Lundy, W Hurdle, L T Kerr

Examining Board – J.E. Freeman, W Gosnell, F C Luce, J T Revelle, Wm Holahan, George Moore, E.W. Jones, J M Botts, C Hudson, F.J. Lucs, George Meitzer, J.E. Divvens

Fine Committee – F J Lucas, George Meitzler, Wm Whyte, W Hurdle, R Bremmerman

Attendants – 55

There being no further Business the meeting was adjourned to meet June 18, 1913 430 9<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 8 p.m.

C F Hickman

### **COPE Donations**

In the next few weeks you will see a request for COPE contributions. If you have already donated this year I thank you, if not **PLEASE** forward your contribution. This election is critical in electing Labor Friendly candidates.

### **New Applicants**

The following have applied for membership with Local 602:

Christopher J Stalnaker

### **95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Items**

We are carrying zip up windbreakers and some new shirts to celebrate our 95<sup>th</sup> year, all are available for purchase. Come in before the sizes run out.

### **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.

### **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.

Please remember the Union Hall does not always know where you are working, please contact us regarding changes in employment so the new employer may be notified. Without 100% participation we still have to notify the employer.

From Kevin Sullivan Business Agent

In 2008 Senator Mikulski has attempted to put forth amendments in two separate War Spending Bills. In 2007 Sen. Mikulski was a co-sponsor of the Save Our Small and Seasonal Business Act (H2B non skilled seasonal workers). The Act had a timeline of one year so now our Senator has put forth amendments in an attempt to extend it for another year. She had the needed support in the Senate but her amendment was removed" in conference" when it went to the House of Representatives. Not sure exactly what "removed in conference" means; but I do know the Act was not extended.

In a recent letter to President George Bush Sen. Mikulski said of her expansion of the work visa program. "The H2B visa was designed to provide access to non immigrant temporary workers for seasonal and peak load needs when no American workers can be found. What we want to know from Sen. Mikulski is "how can 300 pipefitter and welders from India end up working in Mississippi for Signal International with H2B visas. How can 61 Filipino workers, hired by Integrated Service Company, a Tulsa, Okla. Based company also known as Inserv find work at a Nebraska City, Nebraska power plant. How come it took Union officials to find and question the legal status of 100 Filipino welders at a power plant under construction near Emporia, Kansas? Union official said the Filipino welders replaced about 40 Americans who were doing the same jobs; apparently for about \$ 10 an hour less. With Calvert Cliffs looking more like a reality; could the third reactor be built using foreign workers?

The United Association has been in contact with Senator Mikulski throughout her push of the H2B work visa program. We have expressed to her our fears of resident pipefitters being shut out from working in their own jurisdiction. I am sure that the restaurant and hotel owners, of the Eastern Shore are pressing Senator Mikulski to expand the work visa program: but changing sheets and waiting tables is a little different than building a nuclear reactor. We do need to be as polite as possible with her and her staff as she could very well become the next chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee in the Senate, if Sen. Kennedy does not return. But at the same time this is all the more reason for her to hear from Labor about the need to fix or kill the H2B system.

Senator Mikulski has always been an ally of ours; and we would like to keep it that way. When construction of a new power plant becomes a reality we will need her help. We have the qualified workers here at home. We don't want what happened in Mississippi, Nebraska, or Kansas to happen here. The H2B program was designed to help small businesses with their un-skilled work force. Building power plants takes the skill and experience that we at local 602 have. E-mail her with your concerns and ask for her help. With North Anna power plant, in Virginia, applying for a license to build another unit our members in Virginia should ask their US Senator for that same help. I looked up the Senators from each state and if you look up Maryland Senators Ben Cardin / Barbara Mikulski or Virginia Senators John Warner/Jim Webb they will have a CONTACT ME on their web site; please do. Our union needs your

help in voicing our collected concerns to their political electorates. Please take 5-10 minutes of your time to contact your Senator: it could pay huge dividends in the end.

P.S. the Washington Building Trades did sign a Project Labor Agreement with Bechtel to build Calvert Cliffs using Union Labor. We still want you to contact your representative for we don't want laws enacted that could hurt us or the UA in other projects.

## **THIS 'N THAT**

### **BIG WINNER**

Chris Madello was the winner of the 50/50 raffle held at the August Union Meeting, Chris donated his winnings to the Retiree's Club.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Kevin Sullivan on becoming a grandfather. Kevin's daughter Leslie and husband Charlie gave birth to a baby boy, Jack Messick Gibbons on July 14, 2008. Jack weighed in at 8lbs and was 18 ½ inches long.

Congratulations to Larry Foreman on becoming a grandfather. Larry's son, Matthew and his wife gave birth to a daughter, Madison Christine Foreman, weighing in at 8lbs 10 oz. Also, congratulations to Larry Foreman and Betty Foreman on becoming great grandparents.

### **SICK BAY**

Arnie Prada shattered his heel and will be home recuperating for six months.

Michael Porter is home recuperating after prostate surgery.

### **SYMPATHY**

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Norman D Mattingly (Matt), Norman was the father of Maurice (Maury) Matting, grandfather of Matthew (Matt) Mattingly, uncle of Gary Fleshman, great uncle of Robbie Fleshman and Joseph Mattingly and cousin of Eugene & Alfred (Butch) Mori and Steve Leedy.

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

Retiree, John J Lazarz died July 18, 2008. Brother Lazarz was 81 years old and had been a member since March 5, 1957. Death #1298.

**THE CURRENT DEATH IS NO. 1298. ANY MEMBER NOT PAID  
THROUGH DEATH NO. 1298 IS IN ARREARS**

## TWO MODELS OF UNIONISM, BY BILL DURKIN, ORGANIZER, BUSINESS REP

When Unions were first organized, the workers' success depended on total membership involvement since the early organizations had no resources except the passions of the members and their communities. As Unions became more established, this Organizing Model of Unionism gradually was replaced by The Servicing Model of Unionism, which became the dominant structure for unions. The mid-1990's as some Union Officers recognized the desperate situation for unionism, the Organizing Model was revived, at least as a discussion topic.

This chart shows the difference between the two models:

<u>ORGANIZING MODEL</u>	<u>SERVICING MODEL</u>
Proactive	Reactive
Independent of Management	Dependent Upon Management
Actively involves members in all decisions	Union officers "solve problems" for Members in response to complaints or requests
Creates many activities in workplace	Total reliance on grievance and arbitration
Constantly negotiating for improvements	Waits for regularly scheduled contract dates
Develops the skills and abilities of the Members	Total reliance on union staff, "experts" and lawyers
Open communication channels	Union info is considered privileged and kept secret to a small group
Active membership	Passive membership
Decentralized union structure	Centralized union structure
Bottom-up decisions	Top-down decisions
Regularly supports other unions	Basically isolated from other activity

---

I have taken the liberty to reprint a handout that I received in Every "Labor Studies" class I have taken. It contrasts the two views of how a Labor Organization should operate.

As stated above the "Organizing Model" was used in the formation and growth of Trade Unionism. Unions grew in the wake of the Great Depression up until 1953 when they represented 35% of the work force in this country. They have continued to decline ever since, with the exception of a short expansion of .9% during the Carter Administration.

John Sweeney, President of the AFL-CIO, called for a move to organizing when he came into office. The UA took up the challenge and formed the State Pipe Trades Organizers. The UA called for a 1% increase per capita per year. In old copies of the UA Journal the articles or reports consisted of the President's report and reports from various "Organizers". These were the only two titles. This shows the emphasis put on organizing.

The objections I have heard from some of our brothers and sisters is that if we bring in new members there won't be work for the current member. "They" aren't up to our standards. These non Union workers are here and they are working, so the work is there. Let's face it; some of our old members aren't up to "our standards". Any member that has come through our Training Program has received the best training available. Montgomery County Government approached us awhile back and asked us to train their maintenance people because there wasn't any training in the area that offered the level we have. When they refused to join 602 we turned down their request. You have the tools to compete with and surpass any new members.

The other aspect of the two forms of Unionism is the "Servicing Model". It hasn't worked. We think, "someone else will take care of it". Learn your contract and bylaws. Attend your meetings and ask questions. Remember we work for you. Spread the work to the non-union about your wages and don't forget your benefits. These are foreign to the open shop worker. On the job if a problem arises try and settle it on the site. If you don't have a steward call the hall and we will appoint one. The Hall can't address every situation, the biggest fire will be put out first, and your issue may be overlooked.

Remember YOU ARE THE UNION.

NOTE: The Community College of Baltimore County will be offering three credit classes this fall in the Washington DC Metro Area. The Labor History I will be held at our Apprentice School. For further info call Bill Barry at CCBC (410) 285-9563.

## SOLIDARITY

President, John P. Sullivan

Labor Day 2008

New York, Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1882, only a few dozen union members gathered at City Hall to organize the demonstration and planned march past the millionaires' mansions. They had all been warned that they would be fired if they joined the one-day, wildcat strike.

By the time Peter J. McGuire stepped off of the curb to lead the first Labor Day march the ranks of the workers had swelled to over 400. They had their own brass band and they were ready for a grand parade as they started up Broadway.

The police refused to block traffic at the intersections but they marched and danced right on through. Word spread quickly through the city that the workers were marching. Men and women dropped their tools, left their looms, stopped the steam presses and joined the procession past Fifth Avenue. By the time the parade reached 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue it was estimated at 5,000. By the time it reached Reservoir Park the crowd had doubled. Ten thousand

union activists and supporters enjoyed a concert, picnicked and listened to “radical” speeches calling for “more pay” and an “eight-hour work-day”.

The brothers and sisters in New York did it again the next year. Philadelphia, Boston, and Chicago soon adopted the same tradition. City by city, town by town, Labor Day became a national wildcat movement in 1886. In 1894, Congress capitulated, admitting the plain truth that union men and women are to have their day, Labor Day.

It will soon be Labor Day once again. It is 2008 and we are still struggling for “more pay” and an “eight-hour work-day”. Inflation is eating up our base paycheck. Many need to work overtime in order to meet the family budget.

All the issues that we were fighting for 128 years ago remain as part of our ongoing struggle to preserve a working-middle-class-America in 2008. The millionaires in 1882 are our billionaires today. Standard Oil was formed in 1882. It cornered 90% of the market before the monopoly was broken up. In 2008, Exxon has reported the largest corporate profits in our nation’s history. The oilman ruled then and he still does today.

It is no easier today to form a union then it was in 1882. Getting that first signed contract is no easier today then it was then. Bargaining in good faith is no more guaranteed today then it was then. Federal labor law protections are hollow. Our battle to promote a 2008 working-class-America through collective-bargaining remains the same as it was in 1882.

Nearly sixteen million workers are members of American unions. Our ranks swelled by over 311,000 members in 2007 but we still represent just over twelve per-cent of the workforce. We have a lot of work to do if we are to rebuild the labor movement. Our struggle truly continues.

Years ago, the National Labor Relations Act was passed by Congress to end labor unrest by guaranteeing the right to freely form unions. Unfortunately the Act, as amended over the years, has been weakened to such a point as to be largely ineffective. It does not guarantee that you can form a union and successfully bargain for a contract.

The National Labor Relations Act needs reform. That can only happen if your Congressman, Senators, and President agree. Our bedrock union issue in 2008 is the passage of the Employee Free Choice Act. It is an election year so it is proper on Labor Day to ask the labor question, “Which side are you on?”. Further, “Which side are your candidates on?”.

## **WHAT’S NEW IN TRAINING**

### **DC JOURNEYMAN LICENSING**

The time to renew your DC Journeyman HVAC License is here. All Journeyman licenses expire on September 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. By now you should have received notice from Pearson Vue (the successor to Promissor) via mail. They are encouraging everyone to renew their license via the internet. However, you can request a written application by contacting Pearson Vue at 1-877-540-5384 between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm EST Monday through Friday. If you choose the internet option, you still need to submit the confirmation and two (2) passport size photos. Your renewal is not complete until you submit those documents via mail. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Apprentice School.

## **FOREMAN'S TRAINING CLASS**

The Foreman's Training Class will be held on Monday's and Wednesday's this year. The class will start on Monday, October 6, 2008 at 4:30 pm. The class will be held at 8509 Ardwick Ardmore Road, Landover, MD 20785. Please meet in the Training Director's office in the "B" Building, on the second floor. The instructor for the class will be Ernie Brady. This class will run for ten nights. To sign up for this class please call (301) 341-1555.

## **FROM WAYNE'S WORLD**

### **ANGER**

Anger – a feeling of hostility towards something or someone.

High unemployment equals financial problems. Financial problems equals increase in stress. More stress makes our members more emotional. With my job of finding jobs and putting our members back to work, lately the out of work members have been calling very emotional, very stressed and very angry. Unemployment may be related to less job openings and I have seen it related to past resentments between our own members and the unwillingness to hire another member because of past resentments between themselves. Being a member of our Brotherhood means supporting each other and working out past problems. So let's look at a checklist why a member may be so angry. Do they believe that nothing seems fair? For example: in their eyes they were laid off unfairly. Could they have had high absenteeism, low work production or too much cell phone time? Does the member who struggles with unemployment also struggle with low self esteem? When you do not like yourself, you become angry and it's easier to blame others. Some people turn to alcohol and other to drugs, this helps them from feeling angry. This also makes people do things they regret later. Many times that includes unnecessary anger on the job. The member then becomes embarrassed and angry at themselves and will start drinking and drugging all over again. So what can I do to control my anger? Put yourself in the other person's shoes. How many times have you become angry with a member and later found out that they were struggling with a serious personal problem. So try to take time to understand what's going on with others before you get angry with them.

Don't personalize other member's behaviors. Most times their behavior has nothing to do with you! For example: If a foreman seems to be upset with you, step back, and put yourself in his shoes. Think about the pressure he is going through to get the job done on time. Sometimes it only takes one thought to send a person into anger. It's important to become aware of your angry thoughts. Think about this, how many times have you blamed 602 for being unemployed? Stop and ask yourself if your unemployment was related to your behavior on the job, your work ethic or attitude? The above examples are tools that will help reduce your anger. All the tools in the world can help only if you use them. They will not be helpful if you leave them sitting in the toolbox. Take charge of your anger, feel better about yourself and improve your relationships with other members.

