



The TRADES

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The Newsletter of the Washington, DC Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO

A Message from Executive Secretary-Treasurer Vance Ayres

Hello Brothers, Sisters and friends,

Hang on and try to have positive thoughts as another month has passed. Even though the weather still is unsure of what it wants to do, we are almost into spring. I know we are all ready for the nice spring weather, that being the most comfortable weather to work in. I have been attending many meetings and having many phone conversations about possible work coming our way. It can't happen fast enough, as we are ready and need to get back to having the employment levels we had 2 - 3 years ago, before the downward slide of the economy. On a positive note, the simple fact is, no matter what the economy looks like construction work always picks up in the spring compared to the winter.

To give you an update on our fight in Annapolis, we have had numerous bad bills come out against unions and ones directly targeted at the union construction industry--which means you. There are three bills that I want to bring to your attention, the first of which is Anti-PLA legislation, which is trying to make PLA's illegal in the state of Maryland. The second bill is trying to eliminate Prevailing Wages on state funded projects, which are basically union wages (your wages) that were enacted in 1935 by the federal government. The third is the "Right to Work", which is a law that says a person NOT willing to participate and pay union dues should be able to make the same money and have all the same benefits that a dues paying member should.

Based on these bills, assuming you think they are fair, the next time you pass by an exclusive club, for example a Country Club, you should be able to walk in off the street and enjoy all the privileges as the dues paying member, for free. And if you belong to a Country Club that you pay a lot of money to belong to don't be upset when some person walks in off the street and wants to swim in the pool, play golf on the course or wants to use the clubhouse for a celebration or a party all for free. Because, if you believe in "Right to Work" this is what you believe. It leaves you paying for certain things that were negotiated for you when you joined that country club, for probably a pretty nominal fee and monthly/yearly dues, but everyone can use it for free. Some of the simple facts are in a so called "Right to Work" state, 21% less people have health insurance, so the tax payers pay for that, the median income is \$8,518 less per the 2010 census, the job fatality rate is 51% higher, the infant mortality rate is 16% higher, the poverty rate is almost 10%, compared to 8% in a non-right-to-work state, and the list goes on.

I am going to say it again (as your union leaders say all the time), quit worrying about whether you think you are a republican or a democrat, and start paying attention to who actually votes in support of the legislation that will help you. It doesn't matter whether you are a working class person or a business person that profit off us- the working class union building trades folks. If you do not pay attention to who is voting on our behalf, you will continue to vote (or not participate at all) our way right out of our livelihoods.

We have started, and need to increase, working together on all fronts of the union construction industry, in order to gain back the market share we once had, or we are all going to go away.

Lastly, I want to say again to all of our members, employers, vendors, pension funds/investment groups, lawyers and everyone else in the union circle of life, whether you think you're a republican or not, you better wake up and see the light. You need to start supporting, promoting and voting for the legislators that promote and support working people. Otherwise, we will wither away and your work with the unions will wither right along with us.

Fraternally,
Vance Ayres
Executive Secretary- Treasurer



Rodman Local Union 201

from Kevin McVeigh, Business Manager

Brothers, we continue to send some members back to work, so keep in contact with the Union Hall.

Brother Edward Byorick is home after being in the hospital.

Brothers, at our **April's meeting** we will discuss and vote on what to do with the \$1.35 from our third and final year of this contract. Brothers, it is the members who come to this meeting and vote that will decide on how this raise is spent.

This is the **second notice** that the meeting held on **May 20th we will have nominations for Local 201 Officers and Convention delegates** which will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. We will hold elections in June 17, 2011 at 3:00-8:30 p.m. at the Union Hall. To be nominated for office, you must have been current on your dues for at least 24 months prior to nominations and election.

April 15 is just a couple of days away and here is the break down for dues and deductions for 2010: 12 months dues at \$37.00, seven deaths at \$18.00, 6% of your gross wages for check-off, and all tools and gloves. For new members that paid initiation fees, Apprentice - \$100.00, A-Rodman - \$100.00 and Journeyman - \$250.00, these are tax deductible.

Local 201 had License Plate holder made with our Logo on them. They are \$4.00 each and all proceeds go to our Special Events Fund.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: On Friday, April 15, at 5:00 p.m., before our regular meeting, we will have MASS MUTUAL here from our ANNUITY FUND to discuss and educate our members on their annuity accounts. It is very **important** to attend this meeting to learn how **YOUR** annuity account works. **(THIS CLASS WILL BE HELD IN ENGLISH & SPANISH.)**

A REMINDER: you only have **72 hours** from receipt of the notice to take your test. If you fail to respond to this notice, you will be put on the inactive list. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS YOU MUST CONTACT THE LOCAL AND MOBILE MEDICAL (1-888-662-8356).** If you miss the test in 72 hours the only ways to fix this is if you were out of town working (with pay stubs) or you have moved (prove change of address) or on vacation (prove

with receipts: hotel, air fare etc.).

We have a membership drawing held at every regular membership meeting night (third Friday of every month) the names of all members in good standings are in the drawing and **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.** If there is not a winner \$25.00 will be added each month until someone wins. Due to the date this article was written, if there was not a winner at the March meeting, then April's meeting will be \$300.00.

Due to the date this article was written, the following members could have gone suspended as of March 31, 2011 for being six months behind in their dues: G. Morales, R. Cook, J. Dade, M. Escobar, O. Gomez, R. Gutierrez, R. Holloway, R. Howells, M. King, W. Martinez, B. McLaughlin, E. Osorio, R. Palacios, B. Prebble, J. Samayoa, D. Spragley, C. Stallings, K. Stanton, D. Torres, R. Webber, J. White, A. Zuniga.

Schedule of Meetings & Events

Wednesday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.

J.A.T.C. Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 12:30 p.m.

Retirees Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 2:00 p.m.

Stewards Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 5:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting

Friday, April 15, 6:00 p.m.

Local 201 Membership Meeting

Friday, April 15, 6:00 p.m.

Annuity Information Class

Friday, May 20, 6:00 p.m.

Local 201 Nominations of Officers and Convention Delegates. Nomination and election of Judges of Election.

Boletín de Noticias

Hermanos estamos mandando algunos miembros al trabajo, entonces manténgase en contacto con la oficina del local.

Hermano Edward Byorick está en casa después de estar en el hospital.

En la reunión de abril discutiremos y votaremos en que hacemos con el \$1.35 de nuestro tercero y final año de este contrato. Los miembros que vienen a este reunión y votar que van a decidir en como este aumento se divida.

Esta es **la segunda** noticia que en la reunión en el **20 de mayo tendríamos nominaciones para la junta de Local 201** a las 6:00 de la tarde en El Local. Tendríamos elecciones el 17 de junio de 2011 a las 3:00 - 8:30 de la tarde. Para ser nominado para la junta usted tiene que estar al día con sus cuotas por lo menos 24 meses antes de nominaciones y la elección.

El **15 de Abril** está muy cerca y acá están las cuotas y deducciones para 2010: 12 meses Cuotas @ \$37.00 dólares, 7 muertes @ \$18.00 dólares, el 6 % de sus salarios para check-off, y todos las herramientas y guantes. Para nuevos miembros que pagaron honorarios de Iniciación, Aprendiz @ \$100.00 dólares, A-Rodman \$100.00 dólares y Hierros \$250.00 dólares éstos los puede declarar en sus impuestos.

El Local 201 está vendiendo sostenedores para las placas de auto con nuestro logotipo. Cuestan solo 4.00 dólares cada una y todos los beneficios van a nuestro Fondo de Acontecimientos Especiales.

NOTICIA IMPORTANTE: Viernes, el 15 de abril a las 5:00 de la tarde, antes de la reunión regular, Mass Mutual del fuente de anualidad va a hablar y educar nuestros miembros en su cuentas de anualidad. Es muy **importante** que usted asista esta reunión para aprender como sus cuentas de anualidad funciona. **(Esta clase va a ser en inglés y español.)**

UN RECORDATORIO: Usted solamente tiene **72 horas** del recibo del aviso para hacerse la prueba. Si usted no responde al aviso, su nombre será puesto en la lista de trabajadores inactivos. **ES IMPORTANTE QUE NOTIFIQUE AL LOCAL Y TAMBIEN A MOBIL MEDICAL (1-888-662-8356)** si usted se mueve o cambia su dirección. Si falta de hacerse la prueba de drogas después de 72 horas, la única manera de corregirlo es si usted estaba fuera de la ciudad trabajando (con colillas de cheque), si usted se ha movido (con prueba del cambio de dirección) o si usted estaba de vacaciones (prueba de recibos: hotel, boletos Aéreos, etc.).

Tenemos una rifa para la membresía sostenido cada reunión de miembros (el tercer viernes de cada mes). Solamente los nombres de esos miembros que están bien

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Plumbers Local Union 5

from the Business Office



I'm sure everyone's heard what's going on in Wisconsin and other states attacking Unions Collective Bargaining rights. There have been rallies across the nation in support of these rights. It is difficult to gather people almost on a moment's notice, but if you have access to a computer, this a good website for information on them: streetheat@dclabor.org.

How many people reading this article were raised on Union wages and are now raising their families on the same and even better conditions? Let's not lose them. They were handed down to us because our past Union Brothers and Sisters built a foundation for us to continue and fortify our rights to collectively bargain. This is our time and responsibility as a Union Member to carry the torch and hand it over to the next generation—a better way of life than was given to us. I'd like to quote Edward Bennett Williams, a great defense lawyer, who used to say to his clients, "We all hang together, or we all hang separately." That's the basic principle of labor negotiation—a Union of collective interest hanging together. People are being told to hate Union workers today, but every other worker is next.

I'd like to thank the following members who went to the State Senate Building in Annapolis on March 3, 2011 to oppose S.B. 660—the right to work: Tony Colevas, Earl Sellers, John Morgan, Bill Garity, Ronald Purvin, Doug Hobgood, Victor Guido, Tim Parker, Jeff Taylor, Ben Firth, Dick Harrigan, Jim Stacho and Jeff Guido.

I'd also like to thank Jim Stacho, Chris Biondi, and Roger Calven, for attending a rally in Annapolis supporting the Wisconsin Workers and Mike Bell, Dave Mulhern, Joe Sollers, Paul Sollers and Patrick Sollers for attending a rally on in Washington, DC supporting the Wisconsin Workers, both on February 26, 2011.

I send my thanks to Jim Meisinger, Vic Guido and Earl Sellers who went to Annapolis on March 8, 2011 and attended a rally opposing H.B. 743—the right to work.

I would like to thank Tony Colevas, Earl Sellers, Marianne Sellers and Setina

Sellers for helping out with the WDCSPC mailing. Many hands make work light and we appreciate your efforts!

Reminder! Reminder! Reminder!

- The Medical Fund requires coordination of benefit with Medicare eligible retirees and eligible dependents. It is important that you and/or your dependents enroll for Medicare at age 65, or if disabled prior to age 65, when you are eligible for Medicare coverage. Be sure to enroll in both part "A" and part "B" of Medicare. Failure to do so will result in lower medical protection and greater out-of-pocket expense. Refer to "Coordination with Medicare" in the plan's Summary Plan Description.

- If you file for unemployment, please don't list Local 5 as an employer. List the company your payroll check was drawn on. If you list Local 5 as your employer, your benefits could possibly be delayed while it is sorted out.

- Per the IRS, please be advised that your Burial Fund Beneficiary will receive a Form 1099-MISC and will be expected to pay taxes on your Burial Benefits.

2011 Journeymen training classes are still being formed. If you are interested in attending any class or classes please call (301) 322-8810 to register. Classes are open to Journeyperson members in good standing with Local Union No. 5. Dates are subject to change. All classes are subject to cancellation based on poor participation, so don't wait until the last minute to sign up. Training is offered *free of charge* to members in good standing, however, some classes require third-party testing for certification. Any testing fees listed are the amounts paid by the Apprentice School for the mandatory third-party testing. **ALL CLASSES begin promptly at 5:00 p.m.**

Backflow: Re-certification (Two Classes) 8 hours, B Building. Must attend both nights per session to re-certify. Instructor: Contic, Session III, April 14-15, 2011.

UA STAR CLASS: \$125.00 Testing Fee; 4 nights plus test night; Instructor: Haley; April 8, 15, 22, 29, 2011.

Virginia Continuing Education Code

Class Plumbing/Gasfitter: A Building, 4 Hours: Session IV- April 15, 2011, 5-9 p.m.

Green Awareness: Instructor: Shavatt, 6 nights, May 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 2011.

Plumber's Math: 3.5 Hours, Instructor: Haley: Session IV- April 15, 2011, 5-8:30 p.m.

Daytime Welding Class: 3-5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call the school for details. **GET CERTIFIED!**

Evening Welding Class: 5-8 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call the school for details. **GET CERTIFIED!**

We send our congratulations to Brother Joseph Vose, who retired January 1, 2011 with 17.9 years of service.

We also send our congratulations to Brother Patrick J. Boyle, Jr. and best wishes to Deborah Ann Vukelich, who were married on February 11, 2011.

We send get well wishes to Brother Jim Spencer. Brother Jim had ankle replacement surgery in February 2011. We all know he will be out there, come warm weather, running around those bases.

We send get well wishes to Brother Bruce Petty (second-year apprentice) who is recovering from testicular cancer. He urges all his brothers to go get checked out.

We send get well wishes to Brother Ralph Round, who had knee replacement surgery in February 2011. We know he'll be recovered and out on the golf course as soon as possible.

Our sympathy is extended to Brothers Kevin, Steve and Matthew Pezutti on the death of their father and grandfather.

The Special Order of Business at our April 13, 2011 Union Meeting will be:
1. Vote on the Finance Committee's Report.

The Special Order of Business at our May 11, 2011 Union Meeting will be:
1. Vote on the Finance Committee's Report.

2. Vote on appropriating \$15,000 from the General Fund and transferring it to the Local Union's Political Action Fund, and vote on appropriating \$95,000 from the General Fund and transferring it to

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Rodman Local Union 201 *continued*

con sus cuotas son incluidos en esta rifa. USTED TIENE QUE ESTAR PRESENTE PARA PARTICIPAR. Si no hay un ganador agregamos \$25 dólares cada mes hasta que alguien gane. Debido a la fecha que este artículo fue escrito, si no hubo un ganador en la reunión de marzo, el premio será \$300 dólares para la reunión de abril.

Debido a la fecha que este artículo fue escrito los siguientes miembros podrían haber ido suspendidos desde el 31 de marzo de 2011 por estar ser seis meses atrasados en sus dudas: G. Morales, R. Cook, J. Dade, M. Escobar, O. Gomez, R. Gutierrez, R. Hol-loway, R. Howells, M. King, W. Martinez, B. McLaughlin, E. Osorio, R. Palacios, B. Prebble, J. Samayoa, D. Spragley, C. Stallings, K. Stanton, D. Torres, R. Webber, J. White, A. Zuniga.

Horario de Reuniones y de Acontecimientos

Miércoles, 6 de abril, a las 3:00 pm
Reunión de J.A.T.C.

Miércoles, 13 de abril, a las 12:30 pm
Reunión de los Retirados

Miércoles, 13 de abril, a las 2:00 pm
Reunión de los Shop Stewards

Miércoles, 13 de abril, a las 5:00 pm
Reunión de la Junta Ejecutiva

El viernes, 15 de abril, a las 6:00 pm
Reunión de miembros del Local 201

El viernes, 15 de abril, a las 6:00 pm
Reunión de los miembros del Local 201

El viernes, 20 de mayo, a las 6:00 pm
*Local 201 Nominaciones de delegados
para nuestra convencion*

Plumbers Local Union 5 *continued*

the United Associations Political Action Fund.

3. Vote on changing Section 4 of the By-laws: Change the start time of the meeting from 5:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

4. Vote on changing Section 19 of the Bylaws to read "The Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Full-time Officer or Secretarial Staff of the Local Union will collect dues: a. Five (5) days in the week, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

b. The Financial Secretary-Treasurer or a Full-time Officer will also collect dues at the regular meetings of the Local Union.

5. Vote on increasing the the Local Union's Burial Expense Benefit from \$7,000.00 to \$7,500.00.

The Special Order of Business at our June 8, 2011 Union Meeting will be:

1. Vote on the Finance Committee's Report.
2. Act on Christmas Donations. (Rule 41 of the Bylaws)
3. Vote on the the disbursement of the \$1.50 wage and fringe benefit increase due August 1, 2011.

Current Assessments Due: Death 1128, Revolving 187 and Michael A. Collins Assessment (2011).

Calendar

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

*Monthly Union Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
at the U.A. Mechanical Trades School*

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

*Executive Board Meeting at 4:00 p.m.
at the Union Hall*

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

*Monthly Union Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the
U.A. Mechanical Trades School*

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

*Executive Board Meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the
Union Hall*

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

*Monthly Union Meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the
U.A. Mechanical Trades School*

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

*Executive Board Meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the
Union Hall*

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