



The TRADES

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

A Message from Secretary-Treasurer Vance Ayres

Hello Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

We are still in the mists of one of the worst summers on record for heat, humidity and storms in the DC area so please once again stay hydrated no matter what you are doing. Be very careful during and after the storms that keep coming through our area, with the downed power lines and trees. Try to take precautions to be prepared for the power outages.

As I am writing this article I am very apprehensive about all of the upcoming elections. I am concerned about the average voters that mainly read, watch and listen to the surface media and that are under the impression that the situation we are in is due to some of the decisions President Obama or the democratically-controlled congress have made. I was reading a quote in USA Today, in August, stating a cold hard fact, which is right on. It reads, "This is the 30th congressional election I've followed since 1952, and I've never before experienced a Republican party so determined to sabotage the economic recovery programs of the Democrats in power. And it was the GOP that put us in near economic collapse.

The Republicans' apparent electoral strategy is to cause another mini-meltdown so they can blame the ruling party and regain Congress in the midterm elections. If the GOP strategy works and its members gavel Congress into session come January, they will surely be ready with a program of renewed tax cuts for the rich, more deregulation for bankers and oil barons, and possibly a third war, this time against Iran."

Also, on a personal note, speaking of the current money war we are in, I talked to a service member that just got back from serving his second tour in Iraq; I also spoke to him after his first tour in Iraq. I voiced the facts about the war, in our discussion after his first tour, and god bless him, he, in his heart, said we were doing some good things over there, which I don't deny. But after speaking to him again after his second tour, he told me I was right when I expressed my views about the war when it came to a lot of folks making a lot of money at the cost of the lives of many of our service members; which I personally totally disagree with, along with many other Americans. There were many things we should have done differently after 9-11 and many different ways for us to have pursued the terrorists. By all means, working to eliminate them, but because of the political party that had control, the Republicans, money and ties to certain companies that contract with the government for military, we ended up going a route that we still can't explain with no real strategy. And quite frankly we are having an extremely difficult time trying to figure out how to lower our level of involvement while still promoting the supposed reasons we went there in the first place.

I will say it one more time, you better wake up and smell the coffee and quit believing all the negative press or you are falling right into what they want you to believe. Be aware of the positive effects we have experienced under President Obama and the Democrats. We might not be getting everything we want so far but we have gotten far more than we would have under John McCain and the unreasonable Republicans.

In DC, we need to support Vincent Gray for Mayor along with certain Council members, as we continue to work on the Job Stimulus Bill in the District. In Maryland, we need to support Governor O'Malley for re-election. If he is not re-elected, we, being the labor movement and working class people, are in for a world of hurt. Please don't give me the chance to tell you "**I told you so**" if we don't elect all the folks we need to in this year's elections being the Democrats in DC, Maryland and Virginia.

Please work safe, drive safe, play safe, and for God sakes slow down and enjoy your family and friends because you never know what could happen next!

I'm challenging all of you to buy products made in the U.S.A. as much as you can even it does cost a little more to help keep and bring jobs back into the U.S.A. Ask your fellow union members and everyone you know if you see something new was that made in the USA?

Solidarity forever,
Vance Ayres
Executive Secretary- Treasurer

Plumbers Local Union 5

from the Business Office



Plumbers Local 5 had an extremely productive Instructor Training Program week this year in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Registration began on Saturday August 7th with an orientation for first-year Instructors. Classes began on Sunday morning and continued through Friday August 13th. We had two first-year Instructors among the fourteen participants, along with three post graduates back for continuing education. We also had our Business Manager, Jim Killeen, in town to participate in the Industry Day and further promote our Local. Some of the highlighted classes included certifications being earned in Green Awareness, Energy Auditing, CPR/First Aid Certification, OSHA 500, Backflow Certification, Foreman Certification, Rigging Certification, four different Welding disciplines, along with the various professional teaching classes. We also have two of our instructors on the U.A. teaching staff for the week, Tommy Gilchrist in the Welding Department and John Russell in the CAD department.

This was a special week because we had our own apprentice, Scott Loschiavo, competing for the title of Top U.A. Apprentice along with last year's winner, Jarrad Taylor, being utilized by the U.A. as a facilitator. Scott did a great job representing District II and Local 5, but was edged out in the end by the apprentice from the Chicago Plumbers Local 120. We are very proud of Scott's efforts and the positive light he and Jarrad brought to our apprentice program.

We are also proud to add another certified U.A. Instructor to our staff. Calvin Perry completed the five year program this year. Classes include 200 hours of instruction that are divided into two main elements. The professional element, which involves

courses dealing with the principles and techniques of teaching, and the applied and technical element, which involves courses dealing with scientific and technical subject matter related to our trade.

This is always a busy, challenging week for our Instructors as they are required to study in the evenings as well as prepare for presentations and certification exams by the end of the week. What makes this week so valuable to our Local, in addition to the training received, is that it allows us to discuss and compare our program to other locals across the U.A. and gauge how we stack up. We always pick up new ideas that we can easily incorporate into our school year. It also serves to sharpen our Instructors and get their game faces on for the upcoming school year.

Please check the Journeyman class schedule and take advantage of some of the new classes being offered this school year.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary L. Printz Jr.
Training Director

ATTENTION MEMBERS: 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.

Reminder! Reminder! Reminder!

- Due to high unemployment, per Section 20 of our Bylaws, you are reminded that you can request an advanced stamp for your dues if you are out of work for three months or more.
- 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 experience. Refer to "Coordination with Medicare" in the plan's *Summary Plan Description*.



Local 5 Members Attending the Instructor's Training Program in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Plumbers Local Union 5

from the Business Office



• Members, please take a few moments to review and update your beneficiary information for the Local and U.A. Burial Fund, Retirement Savings Fund, Medical Fund and National Pension Fund. Many don't realize each fund has its own, unique beneficiary designation and I can't stress to you how important it is that each one of the four funds has its own beneficiary designation. Please make sure your beneficiaries are not minor children, ex-spouses or ex-significant others. Please don't leave us to figure it out after you're gone.

• 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.

• Check out our website at www.local5plumbers.org. Some of the information you can find there includes: information about obtaining DC, MD, VA and WSSC licenses; current contractors list; medical forms; links to the United Association, National Pension Fund, Helmets to Hardhats, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, PPO, Caremark, VSP and Carday; the list of Primary Care Dentists; lists of recently retired, recently deceased, and life members; the separation form; information regarding classes offered at the U.A. Mechanical Trade School; current wage rates; scheduled meetings; information about our excellent Apprenticeship Program and detailed application information; the current Apprenticeship flyer; and photos of Local 5 activities.

We congratulate the following members who have retired: On April 1, 2010 Brother Duane M. Hunter retired after six years of service. On

June 1, 2010 Brother Michael T. Carr retired after 30 years of service. Also on June 1, 2010 Brother Stephen Washington retired after 42 years of service! We wish all three a long and happy retirement!

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Brother James P. Boyd, Sr. Brother Jim was born September 8, 1945, initiated February 9, 2000 and passed away on July 26, 2010. Jim is survived by his wife, Evelyn; their children, Christina and her husband, Tom, Patricia and her husband, Brian and James, Jr.; four beautiful grandchildren and a multitude of close relatives and friends.

2010/2011 Journeymen training classes are now being formed. If you are interested in attending any class or classes please call (301) 322-8810 to register. Classes are open to Journeyman members in good standing with Local Union 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.* Please check the Local 5 website for class descriptions.

The Special Order of Business at our Wednesday, September 8, 2010 Union Meeting will be to:

1. Vote on the Finance Committee's Report.
2. To act on a Christmas party for Local 5 members in December 2010.

The Special Order of Business at our Wednesday, October 13, 2010 Union Meeting will be to:

3. Vote on the Finance Committee's

Report.

Current Assessments Due: Death 1121, Revolving 187 and Michael A. Collins Assessment (2010).

Calendar

Monday, September 6, 2010

Labor Day

(Paid Holiday per the C.B.A.)

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

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

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

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

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

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

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

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

To Be Determined

November Union Meeting

Thursday, November 11, 2010

Veteran's Day (Paid holiday per C.B.A.)

To Be Determined

November Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, November 25, 2010

*Thanksgiving Day
(Paid holiday per C.B.A.)*

Friday, November 26, 2010

*Day after Thanksgiving Day
(Paid holiday per C.B.A.)*



Rodman Local Union 201

from Kevin McVeigh, Business Manager

Brothers, have sent some members back to work, so please check with the Union Hall.

Brothers, remember, Monday September 6th is **LABOR DAY**. This is *our* holiday to celebrate and to remember all of the brothers and sisters who fought and struggled to give us the 40-hour work week, safety on the job and the right to have representation for workers.

TO ALL APPRENTICES: All apprentices are required to come to the Union Hall on **TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010** at 3:00 PM. If you have any questions contact the Apprentice Office.

Our **Annual Local 201 Family Picnic** will take place on Saturday, September 11th, from noon to 6:00 p.m. at the Three Rivers Sportsman Club in Harwood, Maryland. The menu will include steamed crabs and shrimp, bar-b-que chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, crab soup and all the trimmings and ice cream for dessert. There will be a moon bounce, pony rides, a clown and games for the children. The tickets are \$30.00 per family, which includes your wife or girlfriend and your children. An individual ticket

is \$25.00. We don't encourage guests because of limited space but if you insist, guests are \$25.00 per person. You will need to get your tickets by September 6th, so we know how many to prepare for. We are having a raffle to help fund the picnic and prizes. Make your plans early to spend the day with us.

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, the following members could have gone suspended as of August 31, 2010 for being six months behind in their dues: A. Contreras, B. Cortes, J. Dade, M. Torres, O. Garcia, A. Hernandez, M. Hernandez, M. King, W. Martinez, B. Prebble, S. Ramirez, W. Ramirez, J. Rhine, P. Rivera, C. Robles, D. Spaglesy, K. Stanton, D. Torres, J. Travers.

Schedule of Meetings & Events

- Wednesday, September 1, 3:30 p.m.**
JATC Meeting
- Wednesday, September 8, 12:30 p.m.**
Retirees Meeting
- Wednesday, September 8, 2:00 p.m.**
Stewards Meeting
- Wednesday, September 8, 5:00 p.m.**
Executive Board Meeting
- Saturday, September 11,**
12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Local 201 Picnic
- Friday, September 17, 6:00 p.m.**
Local 201 Membership Meeting

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