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6 NERCC Delegates Elect Mark Erlich
Executive Secretary–Treasurer

Delegates to the New England Regional Council voted for change once again, electing Mark Erlich to the top spot and four new members to the Executive Board. A member of the original NERCC Executive Board, he promises faith to the original UBC missions: organizing and representing all working carpenters in the industry.

12 UBC Delegates Give McCarron An
Overwhelming Mandate

Doug McCarron has been an aggressive and active General President of the UBC. From restructuring the UBC to pushing for change in the entire labor movement, he vows to keep it up after winning another five-year term at the helm at the UBCs 39th General Convention.

16 Latinos Find A Home, Security and
Brotherhood in the UBC

There are more immigrants entering the United States now than in any period in the country’s history. The Carpenters union is here, as it always has been, making sure they aren’t exploited and ignored.

Union News

14 New Agreements Negotiated in Massachusetts

Carpenters and contractors in Boston/Eastern Mass come to terms, as do floorcoverers and wood framers in Mass

Construction News

24 Showing Off

Union carpenters and contractors are demonstrating their ability to complete projects from deep in the ocean to high overhead and everywhere in between.
The New England Carpenter is created and published by the Carpenters Labor Management Program and the New England Regional Council of Carpenters.

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www.necarpenters.org
The internet home for the New England Regional Council of Carpenters.
Visit for contact information for local unions, training centers and benefit funds; meeting schedules and updated news.

Visit Member Resources > VOC Login at www.necarpenters.org to sign up for bulletin board access and join discussions with other union members.

Address changes or death notices should be reported to the appropriate Local Union not the NERCC or the New England Carpenter.
NERCC Scholarship Recipients Announced

The New England Regional Council of Carpenters scholarship committee awarded 214 scholarships for 2005, giving out a total of $104,600. The scholarships were funded by settlements negotiated by NERCC with contractors and a small percentage of work assessment. The following is a breakdown of the number of scholarships awarded to each Local:

Local 24 12
Local 475 7
Local 107 8
Local 33 33
Local 624 2
Local 111 10
Local 43 6
Local 1305 2
Local 218 3
Local 56 9
Local 2168 3
Local 424 1
Local 94 18
Local 26 15
Local 535 1
Local 108 34
Local 40 15
Local 1121 2
Local 210 3
Local 51 2
Local 1996 17
Local 275 3
Local 67 7
Local 2400 1

Those interested in the 2006 NERCC scholarships should look for more information at their local union hall in early February or check online at www.NEcarpenters.org.

Construction Industries of Massachusetts

Effective immediately, The Labor Relations Division of Construction Industries of Massachusetts will begin accepting applications for 2006 scholarships. Five $5,000 scholarships will be awarded. They are also pleased to announce that one of the five recipients of last year’s college scholarships was the daughter of a member of the Carpenters union.

Please review the following information regarding the application process:

Who May Apply?

Any senior high school student who is the son, daughter, or grandchild of an employee of a Labor Relations Division contractor member and who will attend, on a full-time basis, an accredited four-year academic institution beginning in September 2006 to pursue a construction-related course of studies, such as Civil Engineering, Construction Management, etc. Also eligible are current full-time college students pursuing such courses.

How Will the Application Be Judged?

This year there will be five $5,000 scholarships awarded. Selections for the awards will be based upon:

1. scholastic achievement;
2. interest and effort in preparing for your vocation;
3. extracurricular activities, including community services;
4. personal recommendations;
5. essay questions;
6. thoroughness of the completed application; and
7. financial need.

Deadline for Application

All applications must be received by March 3, 2006 in order to be considered. Applications should be sent to: Labor Relations Divisions of CIM, 1671 Worcester Road, Suite 205, Framingham, MA 01701-5400. If you have any questions, please contact John O’Reilly at the Association office at 508-620-0055.
It has been three months since my election as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters. During that time, I have traveled across our region to assess where we are as a union and to let everyone know what my views and goals are.

There will be some new faces and shifts in policies, but the things we have always stood for – good wages and benefits, safety on the job, state-of-the-art training, and a strong and powerful Union – never change. Those core principles are part of a 125-year old tradition of the UBC.

The transition has been smooth. I have been part of this Council’s Executive Board since the beginning and have worked at the Council offices for 8 of the last 9 years. I know what works and how to improve what we already have.

For those of you that don’t know me, I have been a union carpenter since 1974. I worked in the field as an apprentice, journeyman, foreman, and superintendent before being elected to the position of Business Manager in Local 40 in 1992. Working on behalf of the members is more than a job for me. My grandfather was a labor leader in Poland and I grew up in a tradition of activism and organizing. I believe that unions are the force in modern American society that can make the biggest difference in the daily lives of working families.

In 1881, Peter McGuire, our union’s founder, said: “In the present age, there is no hope for workingmen outside of organization. Without a trades union, the workman meets the employer at a great disadvantage.” Some people argue that is no longer true. They claim that unions are obsolete and no longer relevant.

I disagree.

In our industry, unions are needed more than ever. Many of us who are union members worked non-union earlier in our lives. We know the difference. And those who are still outside our organization know it even better – substandard pay, no health insurance or retirement benefits. The economics of the business force decent non-union firms to lower their pay in order to compete with the bottom-feeders that set the standard.

Working carpenters need organization and we are prepared to represent every carpenter in New England in order to improve our industry and ensure that carpenters work in safety and with dignity. I’m excited about the future and what our organization can accomplish.

I am a firm believer in organizing. In the current hostile political climate, unions that are not growing are in danger of disappearing. We will be putting resources into growth in sectors where we may not be strong enough, such as retail and residential or geographical areas where we have a limited presence. We will be reaching out to non-union contractors and workers in an attempt to level the playing field and extend the union share of the construction market.

We will be politically active and support elected officials who support working men and women. I will address any local union meeting, any employers association, and any group of carpenters – union or non-union – to spread our message.

But, at the end of the day, this Union belongs to the members. I am proud to call myself a Union Carpenter – proud of my skills as a carpenter and proud of my membership in a vital and progressive labor organization – just as you are. Let’s take that collective pride and build an even better Union.
La Misión de NERCC Permanece Siendo La Misma

Un Mensaje de Mark Erlich, Secretario-Tesorero Ejecutivo del Consejo Regional de Carpinteros de Nueva Inglaterra

Ya han pasado tres meses desde mi elección como Secretario-Tesorero Ejecutivo del Concilio Regional de Carpinteros de Nueva Inglaterra. Durante este tiempo, he estado viajando alrededor de la región para saber en donde estamos como sindicato, y para comunicarles a todos acerca de mis puntos de vista y objetivos.

Van a haber algunas caras nuevas y ciertos cambios en los reglamentos, pero las cosas por las que siempre hemos abogado—buen salario y beneficios, seguridad en el trabajo, capacitación para desarrollar las mejores destrezas, y un sindicato fuerte y poderoso—nunca cambiarán. Eso es el corazón de los principios que forman parte de una tradición de UBC por 125 años.

La transición ha sido suave. He sido parte del Equipo Ejecutivo del Concilio desde el principio, y he trabajado en las oficinas del Concilio por 8 de los 9 últimos años. Conozco lo que funciona y como mejorar lo que ya existe.

Para aquellos que no me conocen he sido un carpintero del sindicato desde 1974. Trabajé en este campo como un aprendiz, viajero, maestro de obras, y superintendente, antes de ser electo para ocupar la posición de Gerente de Negocios en el Local 40 en 1992. El trabajar en el nombre de los miembros es más que un trabajo para mí. Mi abuelo era un líder de los trabajadores en Polonia, así que crecí en la tradición de activismo y organización. Creo que los sindicatos son la fuerza de la sociedad moderna Americana, y que pueden hacer la gran diferencia en la vida diaria de las familias trabajadoras.

En 1881, Peter McGuire, el fundador del sindicato dijo: “En la era presente, no hay esperanza para los trabajadores que no están organizados. Sin la protección del sindicato, los trabajadores enfrentan al empleador con una gran desventaja.” Algunos pelean que esto no es cierto. Es más, agregan que los sindicatos son obsoletos y que ya no tienen importancia.

No estoy de acuerdo con ello. En nuestra industria, los sindicatos son más que necesarios. Muchos de nosotros que pertenecemos a más de algún sindicato, hemos trabajado en lugares sin ser miembros de ninguno de ellos en algún momento de nuestra vida. Así es que sabemos la diferencia. Y aquellos que están fuera de nuestra organización lo saben aún mucho mejor – baja paga, falta de seguro médico o beneficios de jubilación. La economía dentro de esta rama ha forzado a firmas decentes que no tienen la protección de un sindicato a bajar sus sueldos para poder competir contra los que tienen la actitud de pagar solo lo mínimo.

Los carpinteros trabajadores necesitan estar organizados, y nosotros estamos preparados para representar a cada carpintero en Nueva Inglaterra, para poder promover nuestra industria, y para asegurar la seguridad y la dignidad de los carpinteros. Estoy muy contento por el futuro y lo que nuestra organización va a poder alcanzar.

Creo firmemente en el organizarnos. Dentro del clima hostil de la política actual, los sindicatos están en peligro de desaparecer. Así que estaremos poniendo recursos en sectores en donde creemos que no estamos lo suficientemente fuertes, así como en negocios, viviendas, o áreas geográficas en donde nuestra presencia es limitada. Trataremos de alcanzar a los contratistas que no pertenecen a un sindicato, para poder nivelar la profesión y para poder compartir el mercado de la construcción. Nos involucraremos activamente en la política apoyando a aquellos oficiales que apoyen a los hombres y mujeres trabajadores. Tomaré en cuenta cualquier reunión de los sindicatos y sus empleadores, así como cualquier grupo de carpinteros – dentro del sindicato o fuera de él – para poder transmitir el mensaje.

Pero en realidad, este sindicato le pertenece a sus miembros. Estoy muy orgulloso de poderme llamar un Carpintero del sindicato - estoy orgulloso de mis destrezas como carpintero, estoy orgulloso de ser miembro de una organización tan vital y progresiva como la que forman todos ustedes. Tomemos ese orgullo colectivo y construyamos un sindicato mucho mejor.
Delegate to the New England Regional Council of Carpenters elected Mark Erlich Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the organization, making him the fourth person to hold the position since the Council was organized in 1996. Erlich defeated incumbent Thomas Harrington 79-64 and was sworn into the position immediately.

The election brings a return to leadership for Erlich, who had served as Organizing Director and Senior Assistant Administrator from 1997-2004.

Erlich is one of three members of the Executive Board who remain from the original board that was appointed by the UBC when the Council was formed in 1996. Current Vice President David Woodman and Trustee David Palmisciano are the others.

The thirteen member Executive Board welcomes four new members. Joe Power as Conductor and Executive Committee members Bryan Bouchard, Richard Dean and Gary DeCosta.

Former President Bruce King did not run for re-election, while John Murphy lost a bid for Vice President to Woodman. Murphy had previously been Conductor. Bill Holmes, a member of the original NERCC Executive Board, tied with DeCosta for the fifth position on the Executive Committee, but was defeated in a coin toss.

Erlich brings a resume of diverse experience with him to the top job. In more than thirty years as a member of Local 40 in Cambridge, Massachusetts

continued on page 8
### Results of Election for Officers of the Council

* Indicates incumbent candidate running for the same position. Name of elected candidate is in dark blue. Elected officers sworn in immediately following announcement of election results.

#### Executive Secretary-Treasurer
- **Mark Erlich** 79
  - Nominated by Bill Holmes, seconded by Frank Petkievich
- **Thomas Harrington** 64
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.

#### President
- **Thomas Quinlan** 55
  - Nominated by Brian Richardson, seconded by John Avery
- **Richard Monarca** 82
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.

#### Vice President
- **David Woodman*** 79
  - Nominated by Mark Erlich, seconded by Dan Lovell
- **John P. Murphy, Jr.** 64
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.

#### Warden
- **Simon James*** 85
  - Nominated by Simon James, seconded by Jim Duncan
- **Art Sisko** 53
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.

#### Conductor
- **John Estano** 65
  - Nominated by Paul Hughes, seconded by Thomas Flynn
- **Joseph Power** 68
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.

#### Trustee (3 positions)
- **David Roy** 31
  - Nominated by Ron Rheauyme, seconded by John Manning
- **Brian Richardson** 78
  - Nominated by Gary DeCosta, seconded by Jay Glynn
- **David Palmisciano** 112
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.
- **George Meadows** 94
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.
- **Richard Pedi** 65
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.

#### Executive Committee (5 positions)
- **Gary DeCosta** 76
  - Elected by coin toss with Bill Holmes
    - Nominated by Tom Savoie, seconded by Jeff Marcoux
- **Bill Holmes*** 76
  - Nominated by Dave Woodman, seconded by Steve Tewksbury
- **Chuck Appleby*** 77
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.
- **Glenn Marshall*** 112
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.
- **Bryan Bouchard** 110
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.
- **Richard Dean** 80
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.
- **Paul Lander** 64
  - Slate nomination by Thomas Harrington, seconded by Bill Callahan and Joe Gangi, Jr.
A Turn at the Helm: NERCC Leadership 1996 – 2005

David Dow
Appointed by General President Doug McCarron in July of 1996 when the New England Regional Council was formed. Had previously been the head of the Boston District Council. Dow resigned as Executive Secretary-Treasurer in February of 1997, taking a position in the UBC General Office. He later ran for and was elected President in the first NERCC elections in the fall of 1997. Later resigned as President to pursue opportunities outside the union. Currently working on Business Development for KSS Realty Partners.

Brother David Bergeron
Appointed by UBC General President Doug McCarron following Dow’s resignation, Bergeron was then elected in the fall of 1997, defeating Local 111’s Joe Gangi. A member of Local 108 in Springfield before taking the position, Bergeron had served as a Business Manager for Local 108 and as an Organizer and International Representative for the UBC. In that position he completed assignments in Atlanta, Las Vegas and other areas of the country. Was defeated in the 2001 NERCC elections by Thomas Harrington. He is currently Vice President of the Residential Division of Francis Harvey & Sons.

Thomas Harrington
Elected by delegate vote in September 2001, defeating David Bergeron. Harrington worked his way up the ranks of Local 33 in Boston, working as an Organizer, Business Representative and Business Manager. He served as a Trustee on the NERCC Executive Board in 1997. Was defeated for re-election as Executive Secretary-Treasurer by Mark Erlich in September of 2005. He recently announced his retirement after 39 years in the Brotherhood.

NERCC Delegates Elect

he has served as steward, foreman and local union business manager. He has also been a trustee to numerous benefit funds as well as a member of the Local 40 Executive Board.

His reputation in the labor movement has been built through participation and leadership as well as analysis. In 1988 he served as Director of Field Operations for the Building Trades in the campaign to defeat Question 2, a ballot initiative to repeal prevailing wage laws in Massachusetts. He later authored a book: Labor at the Ballot Box, which chronicled the successful campaign. He is also the author of another book: With Our Hands; The Story of Carpenters in Massachusetts, is a regular contributor to the Op-Ed page of the Boston Globe and has contributed articles to numerous other construction and labor industry publications.

“We had an exciting and intense campaign, but now is the time to focus on improving the union and the industry,” Erlich said. “I’m up for the challenge and so is everyone else who works for the members.”

Election Process

One hundred and forty three delegates voted in the election, a number which included three alternate delegates voting in place of absent delegates.

The election was monitored by an election committee of NERCC members and International Representatives Ben Glenn from Local 132 in Washington, D.C. and Mike Capelli of Local 393 in New Jersey.

Election committee members were: Henry Welsh, Local 51, chairman; Martin Alvarenga, Local 43; Bruce King, Local 1996; John Cunningham, Local 210; Nick DiGiovanni, Local 26; Jason Garand, Local 108; Charles Johnson, Local 94; Bruce Lydem, Local 24; Dick Nihita, Local 624; Richard Scaramozza, Local 33.

The election committee was commended by all parties for its work. Numerous candidates and supporters sent cam-

continued on page 9
Mark Erlich Executive Secretary-Treasurer

paign letters to delegates, a process which is closely regulated by the committee. For the first time in NERCC elections, paper ballots were not used. Delegates were forced to wait for hours while paper ballots were disputed and tallied in the 1997 and 2001 elections. This year, the committee hired an election contractor who set up and operated two voting machines, which speeded the process.

Erlich said the transition to his administration has been a smooth one, led by his experience at the Council and the cooperation of all parties.

NERCC Council Staff and Organization

A number of changes were made to senior Council staff following the election as Erlich named Brian Richardson, Tom Flynn and Al Peciaro to head various departments based at the Council headquarters. Supervision of local unions and organizing operations were also modified as were some staff assignments.

Richardson was named Organizing Director for the Council. He will be supervising both top-down and bottom-up efforts and facilitating the development of organizing goals with staff both region-wide and in individual areas of New England.

Flynn returns to the dual position of NERCC Political Director and Executive Director of the New England Carpenters Labor Management Program that he held from 1998 to 2004. The NECLMP is a joint board of management and union representatives that works to promote union construction and the standards set by union carpenters and contractors. In addition to maintaining the Council website at necarpenters.org and publishing the New England Carpenter, the NECLMP researches problems in the industry and assists workers in filing wage claims and complaints with industry enforcement agencies.

The Contractor Relations Department at the Council will be headed by Al Peciaro, formerly a Senior Organizer for Boston local unions and a Senior Agent for specialty locals. Contractor Relations manages collective bargaining agreements with union contractors and works to build relationships between union general contractors and subcontractors. Peciaro has also been named chair of the NECLMP board.

For profiles on newly appointed Senior Administrative Staff, see pages 10-11.

Returning to the NERCC staff is John Estano, who will work as the Regional Manager for Boston Locals 33, 40, 67 and 218. Estano served as Organizing Director under Executive Secretary-Treasurer David Bergeron in 1997 and was previously a Business Agent at Local 67.

The Boston area is one of seven groups of locals that will be supervised by Regional Managers. A southeastern Massachusetts district, including Local 424, 535, 624 and 1305 will be supervised by Gary DeCosta. Jeff Marcoux will be the Regional Manager for a district covering a region north of Boston down through the Metro-west area including Locals 26, 111, 275 and 475. Central and western Massachusetts Local’s 107 and 108 will be supervised by Regional Manager Simon James. Bruce King will be the Regional Business Manager for Northern New England Local 1996. Connecticut Locals 24, 43, and 210 and Rhode Island Local 94 will be supervised by Dave Palmisciano. Specialty locals, which include Shop and Mill Cabinet Local 51, File Drivers Local 56, Millwrights Local 121, Wood Frame Local 723 and Floorcoverers Local 2168 will be supervised by Regional Manager Dave Woodman.
NERCC
Regional Leadership

Brian Richardson
Organizing Director
Local Union: Pile Drivers Local 56
History: Member since 1981
Other union positions currently held:
Trustee, Pile Drivers Local 56 Joint Apprentice
and Training Committee; Recording Secretary,
Pile Drivers Local 56

Thomas Flynn
NERCC Political Director
Executive Director of
NECLMP
Local Union: Carpenters Local 67
History: Member since 1987
Other union positions currently held:
Trustee, Massachusetts Carpenters
Combined Benefits Fund

Al Peciaro
Director of Contractor
Relations
Local Union: Carpenters Local 33
History: Member since 1984
Other union positions currently held:
Trustee, New England Carpenters Training
Fund

Richard Monarca
President
Local Union: Carpenters, Millwrights,
and Pile Drivers Local 24
History: Member since 1982
Current Position: Director of the
Connecticut State Carpenters Benefits
Fund

David Woodman
Vice President
Local Union: Pile Drivers Local 56
History: A member since 1966
Current Position: District Business
Manager for specialty trades local
Other union positions currently held:
Trustee, Carpenters Combined Benefits
Fund of Massachusetts; Member of the
Board of Directors, First Trade Union Bank

Simon James, Warden
Local Union: Carpenters Local 108
History: Member since 1979.
Current Position: District Business
Manager, Carpenters Local 107 and 108
Other union positions currently held:
Trustee, Massachusetts State Carpenters
Combined Benefits Fund; Trustee, Western
Massachusetts Carpenters Health Benefits
Fund; Trustee, Western Massachusetts
Apprenticeship and Training Fund;
Recording Secretary, Carpenters Local 108

Joseph Power, Conductor
Local Union: Carpenters Local 40
History: Carpenter since 1983
Other union positions currently held:
Business Representative/Organizer for
Carpenters Local 40; Trustee, Boston
Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Training
Fund
David Palmisciano
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 94
History: Member since 1970.
Other union positions currently held: Business Manager for Carpenters Local 94 (VT); Chair, Northern New England Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; Trustee, Northern New England Carpenters Pension Fund; Financial Secretary, Northern New England Local 1996

Richard Dean
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 275
History: Member since 1986.
Current Position: Business Manager, Carpenters Local 275
Other union positions currently held: Business Manager for Carpenters Local 1996 (VT); Chair, Northern New England Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund; Trustee, Northern New England Carpenters Pension Fund; Trustee, Rhode Island Carpenters Health Pension and Annuity Fund; Trustee, Connecticut State Carpenters Health Pension and Annuity Funds; Trustee, Southern New England Carpenters Apprentice and Training Fund.

Glenn Marshall
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 210
History: Member since 1986.
Other union positions currently held: Trustee, Connecticut State Carpenters Benefits Fund; Trustee, Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; President, Carpenters, Millwrights, and Pile Drivers Local 24.

George Meadows
Trustee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 43
History: Member since 1981.
Current Position: Business Manager for Carpenters Local 43.
Other union positions currently held: Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; Connecticut State Carpenters Combined Benefits Fund.

Chuck Appleby
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters, Millwrights, and Pile Drivers Local 24
History: Member since 1979, millwright and welder.
Other union position currently held: Trustee, Connecticut State Carpenters Benefits Fund; Trustee, Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; President, Carpenters, Millwrights, and Pile Drivers Local 24.

Bryan Bouchard
Executive Committee
Local Union: Northern New England Carpenters Local 1996, VT
History: Member since 1977.
Other union positions currently held: Business Manager for Carpenters Local 1996 (VT); Chair, Northern New England Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund; Trustee, Northern New England Carpenters Pension Fund; Financial Secretary, Northern New England Local 1996.

Gary DeCosta
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 1305
History: Member since 1988.
Other union positions currently held: Regional Manager for Southeastern Massachusetts Locals 424, 535, 624, 1305; President, Carpenters Local 1305; Trustee, Southeastern Massachusetts Apprenticeship and Training Fund.

Richard Dean
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 275
History: Member since 1986.
Current Position: Business Manager, Carpenters Local 275
Other union positions currently held: Business Manager for Carpenters Local 1996 (VT); Chair, Northern New England Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund; Trustee, Northern New England Carpenters Pension Fund; Trustee, Rhode Island Carpenters Health Pension and Annuity Fund; Trustee, Connecticut State Carpenters Health Pension and Annuity Funds; Trustee, Southern New England Carpenters Apprentice and Training Fund.

Glenn Marshall
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 210
History: Member since 1986.
Other union positions currently held: Trustee, Connecticut State Carpenters Benefits Fund; Trustee, Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; President, Carpenters, Millwrights, and Pile Drivers Local 24.

George Meadows
Trustee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 43
History: Member since 1981.
Current Position: Business Manager for Carpenters Local 43.
Other union positions currently held: Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; Connecticut State Carpenters Combined Benefits Fund.

Chuck Appleby
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters, Millwrights, and Pile Drivers Local 24
History: Member since 1979, millwright and welder.
Other union position currently held: Trustee, Connecticut State Carpenters Benefits Fund; Trustee, Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; President, Carpenters, Millwrights, and Pile Drivers Local 24.

Bryan Bouchard
Executive Committee
Local Union: Northern New England Carpenters Local 1996, VT
History: Member since 1977.
Other union positions currently held: Business Manager for Carpenters Local 1996 (VT); Chair, Northern New England Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund; Trustee, Northern New England Carpenters Pension Fund; Financial Secretary, Northern New England Local 1996.

Gary DeCosta
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 1305
History: Member since 1988.
Other union positions currently held: Regional Manager for Southeastern Massachusetts Locals 424, 535, 624, 1305; President, Carpenters Local 1305; Trustee, Southeastern Massachusetts Apprenticeship and Training Fund.

Glenn Marshall
Executive Committee
Local Union: Carpenters Local 210
History: Member since 1986.
Other union positions currently held: Trustee, Connecticut State Carpenters Benefits Fund; Trustee, Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund; President, Carpenters, Millwrights, and Pile Drivers Local 24.
Dozens of members from New England were among the Brothers and Sisters from the United States and Canada that journeyed to Las Vegas, Nevada for the 39th Convention of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

The primary function of the convention, which is held every five years, is to elect leadership for the union and consider amendments to the UBC Constitution. But another important function is renewing the bonds of Brotherhood across the union and learning from other areas how to strengthen the union for all members.

There was little surprise that Doug McCarron was again easily re-elected General President of the UBC. He enters his third full term with the support of 96% of the voting delegates, having defeated Tom Lewandowski, of Local 792 in Rockford, Illinois. His entire slate, including New England’s Andris Silins as General Secretary Treasurer was also easily re-elected.

During his address to the convention, McCarron looked back on accomplishments that have marked his time in office and vowed to continue making necessary changes.

As an example, he cited the UBC headquarters in Washington, D.C. The old building, he said, cost more than $2 million a year. Since tearing it down and building a new, modernized facility with downsized staff and a majority of the space leased to tenants, it earns $18 million a year.

“We were able to do that because you kept your commitment to change,” McCarron said. “We took something that was costing the members money and rebuilt it, restructured it to add value to the union. That is what we, all of us, have done with every part of our Brotherhood. We restructured to add value to the members and to bring the resources to the fight to reorganize our industry.

McCarron pointed with pride to the construction of a new national training center in Las Vegas and the investment the UBC has made in training on a regional and local level through grants for new facilities and programs.

The most recognizable changes during McCarron’s administration however have been the reorganization of local unions and regional councils and the UBC’s disaffiliation with the AFL-CIO.

“Everyone knows that a remodel is harder than new construction. It isn’t easy and it doesn’t happen overnight. There will be dislocations and there’s always disagreements, but (restructuring) had to be done.”

Under regional councils, McCarron said, “Organizers and agents can go anywhere the contractors goes. Signatories get better service and our targets cannot hide. Members don’t have to worry about losing work because the job is on the other side of some boundary line.”

It was five years ago that delegates to the UBC voted to give authority to the General Executive Board to leave the AFL if changes were not made to make more efficient use of resources. Less than a year
Brother Steve Tewsksbury (pictured in center), was among a small group of Brothers who were asked to represent nearly 1,000 UBC members who have seen active military duty since September 11, 2001. The group received thanks from Andy Silins and a rousing ovation from the delegates. Tewksbury is a Navy Seabee while Silins is himself a former Marine who served in Vietnam.

FOCUS on New England

The New England Regional Council continues to have a high profile within the UBC across the country. It starts with Local 67’s Andy Silins, who was re-elected General Secretary-Treasurer with 92% of the vote. But it doesn’t end there. New England was well represented in the twenty-seven committees that made reports to the convention on a number of issues. Among them was Local 1996’s Elizabeth Skidmore, who served as a staff member for the first Women’s Committee to ever address a UBC Convention.

Skidmore has been at the forefront of UBC efforts to retain and recruit more women into the Brotherhood. Five years ago, a small group of women met with McCarron about issues confronting women in the UBC. The result was the first ever UBC Women’s Conference in Las Vegas. More than 200 people attended, a number that more than doubled at the second such conference earlier this year. Skidmore helped coordinate both conferences and has been active here in New England, developing and supporting women’s committees in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut that meet regularly.

Skidmore was asked to attend the convention to share ideas with the committee, including a plan for increasing female membership in the UBC, a plan that was recently approved and adopted for use around the country. The plan was developed by the New England Women’s Committee.

Among others serving on committees were:

- **Bryan Bouchard** (Local 1996): Misclassification of Employees Committee
- **Matt Capece** (Local 210): Misclassification of Employees Committee
- **Mark Erlich** (Local 40): Misclassification of Employees Committee
- **Thomas Flynn** (Local 67): Appeals & Grievances Committee, Education Committee
- **Joseph Gangi, Jr.** (Local 111): Contracts and Jurisdiction Committee
- **Thomas Harrington** (Local 33): Pension Plans Committee Chair, Resolutions Committee
- **John Jackson** (Local 1996): General Secretary-Treasurer’s Report Committee
- **Kevin Kelley** (Local 275): Trustees Report Committee
- **Bruce King** (Local 1996): Political Action Committee
- **Paul Lander** (Local 94): Organizing Committee
- **John Murphy Jr.** (Local 33): Council Operations Committee
- **Glenn Marshall** (Local 210): General Executive Board Report Committee
A Happy Ending to A Long Story

Years of talking, arguing, demonstrating and filing of claims have come to an end as Farmington Concrete has signed a union agreement and reached a settlement on wage claims filed by workers.

The company, which is based in Unionville, Connecticut, has largely worked on bridges and highways, but is now using relationships developed through the union to branch out into light commercial work.

NERCC Organizers have been chasing Farmington for at least five years, according to Business Representative/Organizer Bob Corriveau, who began watching them when he first became a full-time staff member.

“They were largely working prevailing wage jobs and we talked to a lot of unhappy immigrant workers who weren’t being paid properly,” he said. Corriveau said the company wasn’t reporting nearly enough carpenter or ironworker hours for the type of work they were doing and underpaying employees as laborers.

When Farmington didn’t respond to calls by Corriveau and other staff members, the union and Jorge Cabrera of the New England Carpenters Labor Management Program (NECLMP) helped the immigrant workers file claims for wages they were owed. Eventually, the company agreed to pay between $10-12,000 to settle the dispute.

Later, Corriveau, and NERCC staff Bart Pacekonis, Margaret Conable and Miguel Fuentes learned that some workers might have been improperly fired by Farmington Concrete and worked with Cabrera to file charges for wrongful termination and lost wages.

Cabrera played an important role because he often serves as a liaison between workers and government agencies that handle worker complaints. In particular, the Connecticut Department of Labor has been responsive to complaints filed by workers being assisted by the Carpenters union because of the reputation for reliability the union and NECLMP have developed with the department. Cabrera and Fuentes, who both speak Spanish, bolstered the confidence of the immigrant workers to trust the union to stand by them and have confidence that filing for lost wages would benefit them.

After the second round of charges had been filed, Corriveau said Farmington began to realize they needed to make some changes in the way they do business. “Their troubles were mounting and they knew we weren’t going away.”

With the wrongful termination charges at the National Labor Relations Board settled, but wage claims still pending, the company entered serious discussions about signing an agreement, which ultimately led to them becoming a union contractor. The company then worked with the union to settle the pending wage claims for about $9,000 and moved forward building its business through union initiatives.

Since signing, Corriveau said the company “is doing well and growing. They have up to 60 employees at times, which is up from around 20. They’re chasing work and doing the right thing.”

Farmington is now building its crews by hiring out of the hall and taking on qualified concrete workers who have left other non-union companies to join the union.
Un Final Feliz después de Una Larga Historia

Los años de discutir, pelear, demostrar y archivar peticiones han llegado a un final y Farmington Concrete ha firmado un acuerdo sindical y ha alcanzado un acuerdo acerca de las peticiones de sueldos presentadas por los trabajadores inmigrantes.

La compañía, la cual tiene base en Unionville, Connecticut, ha trabajado mayormente en los puentes y en las carreteras pero ahora está usando relaciones desarrolladas a través del sindicato para empezar un poco del trabajo comercial.

Los organizadores NERCC han estado persiguiendo a Farmington por cinco años al menos, según el represente de negocios y organizador Bob Corriveau, el cual empezó a vigilarlos tan pronto se convirtió en miembro del equipo.

“Estaban haciendo trabajos recibiendo pagos mínimos, así es que hablamos con muchos trabajadores inmigrantes que no estaban contentos, los cuales no estaban recibiendo pagos de manera apropiada,” dijo Corriveau, quien también dijo que la compañía no estaba reportando suficientes carpinteros o trabajadores del hierro. Considerando el tipo de trabajo que estaban haciendo, los empleadores no estaban pagando suficiente a sus trabajadores.

Cuando Farmington no respondió a las llamadas de Corriveau y otros miembros del equipo, el sindicato y Jorge Cabrera del Programa de Labor para Carpinteros de Nueva Inglaterra (NECLMP), ayudaron a los trabajadores inmigrantes a presentar peticiones por sueldos debidos. Eventualmente, la compañía dijo que pagaría entre $10.00 - $12.00 para resolver la disputa.

Luego, Corriveau y los miembros del equipo NERCC Bart Pacekonis, Margaret Conable y Miguel Fuentes se dieron cuenta que era posible que algunos trabajadores fueran despedidos injustamente por Farmington Concrete. Trabajaron con Cabrera para presentar cargos de despido injustificados y sueldos perdidos.

Cabrera tiene un papel importante porque sirve como consejero entre los trabajadores y las agencias gubernamentales que trabajan con las peticiones de los trabajadores a menudo. Particularmente, el Departamento Laboral de Connecticut ha respondido a las peticiones presentadas por trabajadores ayudados por el sindicato de Carpinteros. Esto se debe a la reputación de fiabilidad que el sindicato y NECLMP han establecido con el departamento. Cabrera y Fuentes, los cuales hablan español, aumentaron la confianza de los trabajadores inmigrantes para que tuvieran confianza de que el sindicato iba a pararse al lado de ellos y de que la acción de presentar peticiones por sueldos perdidos los beneficiaría.

Después de la segunda ronda de cargos presentados, Corriveau dijo que Farmington empezó a mostrarse que necesitaban hacer cambios en la manera en que hacían negocios. “Sus problemas estaban aumentando y sabían que no iban a desaparecer.”

Con los cargos de despedsidas incorrectas presentadas al National Labor Relations Board (la Junta Nacional de Relaciones Laborales), y con las peticiones de sueldos todavía pendientes, la compañía entró en discusiones serias para firmar un acuerdo, lo cual resultó en que se convirtieran en contratistas sindicales. La compañía después trabajó con el sindicato para resolver las peticiones de sueldos pendientes por $9.00 y adelantó el desarrollo de su negocio a través de iniciativas sindicales.

Desde que firmaron, Corriveau dijo que la compañía “está bien y está creciendo, tiene hasta 60 empleados a veces, lo cual ha crecido desde que empezó con 20 empleados aproximadamente. Están buscando trabajo y haciendo lo correcto.”

Farmington está ahora formando sus equipos contratando trabajadores del sindicato y empleando a trabajadores del cemento calificados, los cuales han dejado sus otras compañías sin sindicatos para hacerse miembros del sindicato.
Caesar Huerta is thirty years old and emigrated from Mexico eight years ago hoping to make a better life for his wife and two daughters. Unable to travel to the United States with him, Caesar has been supporting his family from a great distance, but has found a sense of stability since joining the union two years ago.

His goals are very similar to his American-born Brothers in the union: "I want to be the best carpenter that I am capable of becoming; I want to learn every aspect of the trade."

Before joining the union, Huerta’s experience on jobsites was much like other immigrant workers in the area. He describes union jobsites as much ‘safer and more tranquil.’ Unlike some of the non-union sites he has worked on, he describes union sites as a lot less chaotic. An emphasis is placed on safety and quality of work, rather than just getting the job done, at the expense of the safety and well being of the workers.

Huerta was encouraged to join the union by NERCC staff that visited a jobsite where he was working. He had been told by former employers that the union representatives were simply sent to the site to ‘confuse and scare’ the workers. He was told that their talk of the benefits of the union were merely empty promises. He was told he was welcome to leave to join the union, but was offered extra money to stay. He never saw this money.

“We are well treated in the union; it is a much different working environment than a non-union jobsite.”
— Caesar Huerta, Local 723

Caesar Huerta, Local 723 member (left) with NERCC Organizer Mario Mejia

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“We are well treated in the union; it is a much different working environment than a non-union jobsite,” states Huerta who has worked steadily without a single lapse since joining Local 723 two years ago.

He describes the benefits of joining the union as both physical and financial. Physically, not only does he feel safer on the job, he also has the peace of mind that if there was an accident, he would be taken care of. He no longer has to worry if he will be paid for the work he does each day. He no longer has to face the exploitation that was once a daily part of work.

Working beside Huerta is Jorge Jacinto, who is twenty-six years old and who emigrated from Guatemala six years ago with his brother. He currently lives in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. He has been a member of Local 723 for less than a year and is working as a foreman.

"Becoming a foreman has been a big step for me," states Jacinto who was encouraged to join when visited by union representatives on a non-union jobsite.

"Before joining the union, I always thought of union workers as lazy. I have now seen a new side to things. We work very hard, but under safe working conditions, for fair wages and with benefits packages. We work eight-hour days with breaks during the work day, and if we work longer, we get paid for it. This is a much better working environment."

Jacinto experienced the same working conditions as Huerta in the past. He has worked in unsafe conditions, working for cash, often six or seven days a week, well over forty hours a week.

In addition to the obvious benefits of working in safer conditions, Jacinto also notes the promise the future now brings for him. "I now have a retirement plan and can think about the future."

Both Jacinto and Huerta view joining the Carpenters union as a positive experience and encourage others to join as well. "I would invite [other Latinos] to become a part of a well-balanced organization, by joining the Union. It’s very nice being part of a Brotherhood,” notes Huerta.
Los Latinos Encuentran un Hogar, Seguridad y Fraternidad en el UBC

Cesar Huerta tiene treinta años, e inmigró de México hace ocho años, deseando crear una mejor vida para su esposa y sus dos hijas. Puesto que su familia no pudo viajar a Estados Unidos con él, Cesar ha estado apoyando a su familia desde muy lejos pero ha encontrado una sensación de estabilidad desde que se hizo miembro del sindicato hace 2 años.

Sus metas se parecen mucho a las de sus hermanos del sindicato nacidos en América, “Quiero ser el mejor carpintero, quiero aprender todos los aspectos del oficio.”

Antes de hacerse miembro del sindicato, las experiencias de Huerta en sus sitios de trabajo se parecían mucho a los de otros trabajadores inmigrantes en la región. Describe que los sitios con sindicatos son mucho más “seguros y más tranquilos.” A diferencia de los sitios sin sindicatos en que ha trabajado, describe que los sitios con sindicatos son menos caóticos. Hay un énfasis en la seguridad y la calidad del trabajo en vez de un énfasis en solo completar el trabajo, al costo de la seguridad y bienestar de los trabajadores.

Los empleados de NERCC que visitaron el sitio de trabajo en que Huerta estaba trabajando le animaron a hacerse miembro del sindicato. Sus empleadores anteriores le habían dicho que los representantes de los sindicatos son muchos más “confundir y asustar” a los trabajadores. Así mismo le dijeron que los discursos acerca de los beneficios del sindicato simplemente eran promesas falsas. Le dijeron que estaba libre de irse y hacerse miembro del sindicato, pero le ofrecieron dinero si se quedaba. Nunca vio este dinero.

“Somos bien tratados en el sindicato, es un ambiente de trabajo mucho mejor,” dice Huerta, el cual ha trabajado continua-mente sin ninguna falta de trabajo desde que se hizo miembro del Local 723 hace dos años.

Describe que los beneficios de hacerse miembro del sindicato son tantos físicos como financieros. Físicamente, no sólo se siente más seguro en el trabajo, también tiene la seguridad de que si ocurriera un accidente, estaría bien. Ya no tiene que preocuparse si es que va a recibir pago por el trabajo que hace cada día. Ya no tiene que enfrentar la explotación que antes era parte cotidiana del trabajo.

Trabajando al lado de Huerta está Jorge Jacinto, el cual tiene veintiséis años, e inmigró de Guatemala hace seis años con su hermano. Actualmente vive en Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Hace menos de un año que es miembro del Local 273 y está trabajando como un capataz.

“El convertirme en capataz ha sido mucho mejor,” dice Jacinto, el cual fue animado a hacerse miembro por representantes del sindicato cuando lo visitaron en su trabajo el cual carecía de sindicato.

“Antes de hacerme miembro del sindicato, siempre pensaba que los trabajadores con sindicatos eran perezosos. Ahora lo he visto desde una perspectiva distinta. Trabajamos muy duro, pero bajo condiciones de trabajo seguras, por salarios justos y con beneficios. Trabajamos días de ocho horas con descansos durante el día, y si trabajamos más horas, recibimos pago por éstas. Es un ambiente de trabajo mucho mejor.”

— Jorge Jacinto,
Local 723

Jorge Jacinto,
Local 723 member (right)
with NERCC Organizer
Mario Mejía

Antes, Jacinto pasó por las mismas condiciones de trabajo que Huerta. Ha trabajado bajo condiciones peligrosas, ha trabajado por efectivo, a menudo seis o siete días a la semana, mucho más de cuarenta horas por semana.

Además de los beneficios obvios de trabajar bajo condiciones seguras, Jacinto también nota la promesa de que el futuro ahora tiene para él. “Ahora tengo un plan de jubilación y puedo pensar sobre el futuro.”

Jacinto y Huerta ven la experiencia de hacerse miembro del sindicato de carpinteros de manera positiva y animan a otros que se hagan miembros también. “Les invitaría (a otros latinos) a hacerse parte de una organización bien equilibrada, a través de hacerse miembros del sindicato. Es muy bonito ser parte de una fraternidad,” dice Huerta.
Agreements Negotiated for Mass Carpenters, Framers and Floorcoverers

Three contracts have recently been negotiated and ratified in Massachusetts to cover commercial and residential carpentry work and floor covering.

The Boston and Eastern Massachusetts commercial agreement provides $9.50 in increases to wages and benefits over four years. Estimates by actuaries show that a portion of that will be needed to maintain health care benefits at their current level. Allocations of increases will be made during the life of the agreement.

Included in the agreement is a change in how annuity benefits are paid to apprentices indentured after August 31, 2005. First year apprentices will be paid 20% of the journeyman annuity. The rate increases to 40% of the journeyman annuity for second year apprentices, 60% in the third year and 80% during the fourth year.

The premium for foreman pay was increased from $2.50 an hour to $3.00 an hour.

Language was added to the trade autonomy of the contract to strengthen efforts to increase market share in the wood frame and residential segments of the industry.

Among those efforts is an incentive program that will allow contractors working outside Zone 1 to pay carpenters working on interior residential work the Zone 2 residential wage and Eastern Area benefit stamp with additional pay for productivity.

A new contract for wood frame construction in Massachusetts has been negotiated and ratified by members of Local 723. Fifty-eight cents was added to the total package and another $1.42 will be added to wages as a result of savings on contributions to the health fund.

Wage zones were changed to match those in the commercial agreement and the contract now recognizes residential language in Local 108’s contract.

A Saturday make-up day at straight time was added, while overtime will now be paid after ten hours in a day or after 40 hours have been worked in a week. The contract will expire August 31, 2009.

Local 2168 members are working under a new four-year contract that includes a $9.50 increase in wages and benefits. The parking allowance was retained and increased to up to $25 a day with a receipt. Foreman pay will be $3.25 over the rate, an increase of 25 cents.

Language changes include a reduction in the hours required by an apprentice to advance in the program from 950 to 750 hours every six months. Apprentices will also earn contributions to the annuity fund on an earlier schedule, as in the Boston and Eastern Massachusetts Carpenters agreement. Apprentices will also now be allowed to collect unemployment benefits while attending two-week training sessions in Milbury.
The national Base Realignment and Closure Committee voted in late August to keep both the submarine base in Groton, CT and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, ME open.

The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is the government’s oldest shipyard, while Groton is the nation’s first submarine base. Keeping these bases open has preserved two areas with a rich history in the industry, and traditions that trace back through generations of workers.

The Pentagon submitted a list in May 2005 with recommendations to close thirty-three military bases and make changes to another 800 other installations in an effort to generate billions of dollars in savings. The potential economic impact in the affected areas, however, could have been devastating, especially in New England, which stood to suffer the largest job loss of any region.

The Pentagon’s list was presented to the nine-member non-partisan Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRACC) appointed by President George W. Bush for review. After fierce lobbying by those in support of keeping the bases open and the careful consideration of the committee, BRACC voted to keep open both the submarine base in Groton, CT and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The revised list was then sent to President Bush where it was accepted and passed through to Congress for a final vote.

As reported in the last issue, UBC Local 3073, Portsmouth Navy Yard, has approximately 100 members, primarily representing Plastic Fabricators, Shipwrights, and Supply Woodworkers. All of these members would have been directly affected by the closure of the base. In Connecticut, the Navy would have lost an important relationship with Groton-based Electric Boat (Local 1302), which has 300 members. The ripple effect of jobs lost through closure would have deeply impacted the local economy in these areas.

Immediately following the announcement of the Base Realignment and Closure Committee there was one final demonstration outside the gates of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. This time, however, about 2,000 workers carried signs thanking BRACC and celebrating their victory once again. This was the third time the shipyard escaped closure, having done so in 1993 and 1995. Similarly, in Groton, the base escaped closure for the second time, having done so in 1993. “There was...a general atmosphere of relief at having accomplished everything that we did,” notes Bob Burleigh, Council Industrial Representative/Servicing Agent, Local 1996.

Although there were a number of projects put on hold as a result of the original plans for closure, the workload at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is very good. $8 million has already been reallocated by Congress for the replacement of a test tank. There are also a number of buildings that need to be renovated; efforts are in place to fund these projects.

Burleigh is very hopeful about the future of the shipyard and notes, “the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the nation’s oldest shipyard, can look back on its 205-year history with pride and hopefully it will be around for another 200 plus years.”

In Connecticut, the future is a bit more uncertain. A recent bid for work was lost to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, which opens up the potential for a layoff of about 150 workers after the holidays. Bob Tardif, Council Representative for Local 1302, also notes that given the current workload predictions there is a very good potential for more layoffs. They are, however, waiting on a bid for a 699 boat, and hope that winning this bid will create much needed work in the area.

Thanks to all of those who worked tirelessly in the efforts to save these history-rich bases.

“The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the nation’s oldest shipyard, can look back on its 205-year history with pride and hopefully it will be around for another 200 plus years.”

— Bob Burleigh, Council Industrial Representative/Servicing Agent, Local 1996
Members of the Carpenters union, along with contractor Complete Concrete, were recently involved in a project that aired on national television on November 21st.

The producers of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* recently notified the building inspector in the town of Medfield, MA to inform him that they would be coming in to town to work on a project, and they were looking for a contractor that could handle a very unique job. The producers needed a contractor who could lay the foundation for a home, and have walls up and stripped in about 13 hour’s time, working through the night. The Medfield building inspector had union contractor Complete Concrete at the top of his list.

*Extreme Makeover* is a reality television program that airs on Sunday nights at 8 pm on ABC. Currently in its third season, the show receives over 10,000 applications each week, people hoping to be selected to receive a complete transformation of their home. Extreme Makeover surprises the selected family, which has often suffered a recent hardship, early on a Saturday morning, by showing up on their doorstep and whisking them off to a vacation in an unannounced location.

The eleven person design team, along with volunteers from the community removes everything from the current home, demolishes it, and builds a new house from the ground up in only seven days.

Erica Stahler nominated her sister Heidi Johnson, from Medfield, and her family to be the recipient of a new home. Heidi’s son William, who is only five years old, has spinal muscular atrophy and cannot stand or walk on his own. This genetic disorder causes a breakdown of the nerves that signal muscle movement in the body, and is eventually fatal, over time weakening all voluntary muscles in the body.

Unable to stand on his own, William’s family had to carry him up to his second-story bedroom each night, and he had a lot of difficulty maneuvering his motorized scooter on the first floor of their cramped home. The community recently raised $30,000 for the Johnson family, which was used to build a handicapped-accessible bathroom in the home. The family had also recently remortgaged their home in the hopes of funding various other renovations to make the home more accessible for their young son. In stepped the crew from Extreme Makeover and working with the community 14-16 hours a day, often through the night, they were able to transform the turn-of-the-century farmhouse into a new Greek Revival-style home, with a wheelchair accessible design.

Brian Breslin, owner of Complete Concrete and member of Local 535, along with Local 535 members Tim Farrell, Jason Savageau, Eddie Eppolito, Manny Martins, Walter Bartberger, Dennis O’Donnell, Cyril Chafe, and Paul Donlan began their work Monday night, with the footings put in place at 8 pm, they worked through the night, and had the walls up and stripped by 9:30 am, Tuesday morning.

While working at the house, these volunteers discovered there was another Carpenters union member on the site. The grandfather of William, David Lounard is a retired member of Local 33, and he was on site helping to build a new home for his grandson.

The project was completed by Saturday morning, when the family returned for the unveiling of their new home. The new home featured an open floorplan and a chair lift, which made the entire home accessible by William in his scooter. The backyard features a replica of Fenway Park, complete with a working scoreboard on the Green Monster.

The Johnson family is grateful for their new home and hope the episode will also help them in their efforts to raise both awareness of spinal muscular atrophy as well as the much needed money for research of this rare genetic disease.
The Least We Could Do: New Home for Injured Vet Completed

Sergeant Peter Damon and his family are finally home. The efforts of dozens of union apprentices and journeyman, union instructors and community volunteers and businesses have been completed, the ribbon cutting has been held and the furniture is all moved in.

Damon lost the majority of both of his arms to an explosion while serving in the Persian Gulf and was forced to learn a new way to do some of the most basic day-to-day tasks. But union members have given him a boost by assisting in the construction of a new adapted home that includes plate racks built into cabinets, specially adapted fixtures and door knobs, all with a goal of making it easier for him to live with a prosthetic arm and hook.

Businesses donated many of the services required to acquire the land and process permits, while area contractors donated material and helped with construction.

Members of the Carpenters union played a central role. Tim Tudor, a wood frame instructor at the New England Carpenters Training Center in Millbury, Mass. designed the house to conform with government specifications for handicapped housing and then led a regular parade of apprentices to the site to work on constructing the home. Staff and journeymen also flooded the site on a regular basis to help with the foundation, decking, framing, roofing and siding.

Special congratulations to Tudor, as well as Jim Burba, who helped to start the effort and Kirt Fordyce, who temporarily came out of retirement to serve as volunteer superintendent on the site. Other members and friends who volunteered their time and skills included:

Sisters Jump in for Habitat in Brockton

Carpenters have often been key members of Habitat For Humanity building teams in New England. Because the organization relies heavily on unskilled volunteers as a major part of its mission, having a few professional carpenters helps keep their efforts focused and moving in the right direction.

Recently, union carpenters proved they’re up to the latest challenge Habitat had in store.

A home in Brockton was being built for a single mother and the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity wanted to build it with only women volunteers. Sister Meg McCormick of Local 33 found out about the project, and brought it to the NERCC Women’s Committee. Sisters McCormick, Mary Ann Cloherty of Local 40 and Laurinda Campbell of Local 275 spent a few Saturdays helping get the house started. Habitat was desperate for licensed builders to supervise the site, and Sister Campbell was hired for a few Saturdays to do just that. Then, in October a larger group of experienced and dedicated members joined the Brockton effort and spent a day pushing the project forward the way only union carpenters can.

When they arrived only the first floor was framed, there was no access to a second floor, and the key to the storage shed that held all the tools had been misplaced. Not to be stopped, the sisters jumped in and the problems were solved. After building a ladder and laying the decking for the second floor, they went to work calculating and building the interior staircase.

The future homeowner, a petite mother of three, worked side-by-side with union carpenters, learning skills as did three other community volunteers.

Though drenched by the heavy rain that fell that day, the members went home feeling great about helping move a struggling family towards the stability of home ownership.

Among the Sisters who helped meet Habitat’s challenge were, clockwise from top right: Sandy Lizotte, Local 107; Denise Kelley, Local 33; Judy Sullivan, Local 33; Mary Ann Cloherty, Local 40; Latisha McQueen, Local 67; and Phylis De’Licen, Local 67. Elizabeth Skidmore of Local 1996 took the picture.

Carpenters Ride Again (in the Rain) for Research

On October 9th, Local 275 held the fifth annual Ride for Research, with proceeds to benefit diabetes research. Although the weather did not fully cooperate, fifty riders participated in the event, with an additional seventy-five people in attendance to support this great cause.

Local 275 would like the following VOC members and their families, whose dedication made this year’s ride another successful one: George Benjamin, Rob Johnson, Tom Cooney, Bill Hazeltine, Tim Champagne, Frank Farrell, Sam Fera, Joe Rodgers, Pat Dean, Mike Rogers, Jim Carey, Mike Cormier, Rick Ilsley, Rick Mills, Richard Dean, Kevin Kelley, and Jessica Lee.

The event raised over $6,500 for diabetes research. Plans are already in place for the sixth annual Ride for Research to be held next Fall, 2006.

A special thanks also goes out to the following event sponsors: Allan Construction, Inc.; Alterisio Construction, Inc.; Bingay & Sons Corp.; Capeway Interiors, Inc.; Carpenters Local 108; Carpenters Local 111; Carpenters Local 218; Carpenters Local 33; Carpenters Local 40; Carpenters Local 424; Carpenters Local 56; Carpenters Local 94; Commodore Builders; David Powell; Elaine Construction Co., Inc; EMR Drywall; F.L. Caulfield & Sons, Inc.; First Trade Union Bank; Floorcoverers Local 2168; Francis Harvey & Sons; Gallagher Concrete Construction, Inc.; Krakow & Souris, LLC; Mark Leslie, CPA; Millwrights Local 1121; N.E. Carpenters Labor Management Program; New England Regional Council of Carpenters; Quincy Sons of Italy Lodge 1295; Salem Glass Company; Save-On-Wall, Inc.; Stafford Construction Services, Inc.; W.S. Kenney Co., Inc.
Who Ya Gonna Call? Union Carpenters!

A group of apprentices in Connecticut recently volunteered their time building a saloon and other “haunted” sites at the Southington CT Jaycees annual Haunted Trail.

The apprentices worked in the shop for two days to frame out the two scenes, which were then broken down and rebuilt on site.

The trail was open on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights during the last two weeks of October. Proceeds from the Halloween event were to benefit Hurricane Katrina victims as well as various charities in Connecticut.

Volunteers included Joseph Sanford, Justin Sands, Thomas McNabb, Damian Lang, Anthony Cugno, and Aaron Bueler.

Carpenters, First Trade Union Bank Team Up to Help YouthBuild Providence

The New England Regional Council of Carpenters and First Trade Union Bank have reached out to YouthBuild Providence with financial and career opportunities for participants in the program.

Richard R. Hanratty, Senior Vice President of First Trade Union Bank, Warwick, RI recently presented a $2,500 contribution to Andrew L. Cortés, Director of YouthBuild, Providence, RI to sponsor financial education and literacy for the program. Mr. Hanratty said, “We at First Trade Union are proud to partner with YouthBuild Providence to help complement the viability of this vital and essential program.”

YouthBuild Providence is an alternative education and workplace development program for low-income young adults who have not completed high school. Through an innovative, project based curriculum students gain skills relevant to building a better future themselves while earning a high school diploma.

YouthBuild’s program couples financial literacy, academic instruction, and a job readiness curriculum with leadership development and service to the community. An additional unique component of their plan is the partnership with the New England Regional Council of Carpenters’ Apprenticeship Training Program.

Tom Savoie, Business Representative and Organizer for Local 94, is working with YouthBuild Providence to help qualified candidates apply and enter the union’s apprenticeship program. Savoie noted that, “this is the kind of partnership that the Carpenters union is proud to be part of.”

Cortés, Director of YouthBuild, Providence, himself a long time union carpenter, said, “First Trade Union Bank’s contribution helps ensure opportunities for young adults who are unemployed or who have been unsuccessful in traditional educational environments because of low literacy levels or poverty.”

First Trade Union Bank is a $350 million full service bank with offices in Warwick and Boston, Massachusetts. Its mission is to provide unrivaled customer satisfaction delivered in ways that extend beyond the four walls of the bank, anytime, anywhere. Founded by union benefit funds, it has always strived to be “the bank that works for working people.” It is a regular participant and funding supporter of community programs. For more information, visit www.ftub.com.

“FTUB . . . the bank that works for working people”
Training of skilled workers continues to be a leading factor in the ability of contractors to win work in the construction industry. And while unions often get the bulk of the credit for driving training programs, it is important to note that union contractors sometimes go even beyond labor-management created programs.

Such is the case for JF White, a general contractor based in the Boston area who is investing in both technology and employee training to win work across the country. They are also getting help from the union, which has worked with JF White to draft new contract language to meet the demands of the specialty work.

The company is currently training six divers who are members of Pile Drivers Local 56 to use state-of-the-art one-man submersible and atmospheric dive suits (ADS). Both tools allow workers to work hundreds of feet below the water’s surface without the need for saturation and decompression and eliminate most limits to the length of time divers can work at depth.

JF White’s initiatives in the diving division are led by company Vice President Jim Clark, a member of Local 56 himself.

Six of the company’s employees have already been sent by the company to a facility at Texas A&M for two weeks to train on the submersible with the inventor at a cost of $100,000. They are currently making plans to train on the atmospheric dive suits at either back at Texas A&M or at a facility in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada where Nuytco, the company operated by inventor Phil Nuyton is located.

While the cost is steep, the investment is already paying off. JF White already has a job on the books in California that will utilize the suits to drill 12 foot rock bolts in a back surge shaft in the Sierra Mountains at a depth of up to 600 feet. Clark estimated that utilizing the ADS technology allowed JF White to shave a third to half off of what a standard saturation diving contractor would bid for the same work.

Clark says saturation diving on the job would require three days to saturate divers and two days to desaturate divers. Divers would have to have been worked in shifts, with each pair of divers being sent down for a strictly limited period. With the ADS suits, divers can dress in under an hour and go down to the site and back up whenever needed, without delays to protect divers from the changes in pressure.

Not only is time saved with the suits, but getting to and from the jobsite will be much easier. Traditional diving would require one or two tractor trailers to haul the equipment necessary while the ADS system might be brought in the beds of two 4x4 trucks, a crucial fact because the dive site is a remote location more than an hour outside Auburn, California.

Local 56 Agent Dan Kuhs, who worked as a diver, said the only limit to how long a diver can work at depth in the suits is literally how long they can go without using the bathroom. Because there aren’t severe limitations on how long a diver can work, there is less pressure to work quickly and more flexibility in adjusting work when things don’t go perfectly.

In addition to being faster, the equipment is safer than traditional diving. It allows rescuers to reach divers faster; the submersible allows 80 man hours of air breathing time while the suit provides 40 hours. Air mixtures can be monitored and changed both by the diver and surface crew and rebreathers allow for “scrubbing” air for longer air supply time.

Clark says a key to the company’s ability to bid the work was the cooperation of Local 56 and the UBC General Office.

“Local 56 has always been very encouraging about innovative technology,” he said. “When we got involved with the technology, they got involved with creating agreements that fit. Dan and Local 56 helped us go to the national union and establish brand new work rules and pay rates for this work. It’s defined, it’s fair for both the company and the workers.”
A union carpenter turned contractor is building a successful national business based almost entirely on reliable help from UBC union halls across the country.

Bill Tyndall joined Local 107 in Worcester as a journeyman in 1969. After working for several years at the Blackstone power plant, he moved his book to Millwrights Local 1121. When work slowed at Blackstone and he was laid off, he went back to carpentry, specifically fixture installation.

Over the years he had developed relationships with fixture manufacturers and began doing installation for some of them directly. He later purchased a company that was union in some parts of the country, but not here in New England. Now he’s the owner of Greenwood Installers, a retail fixture installer that’s working across the country with the support of local unions and signed to a NERCC agreement.

Tyndall still works with the tools and employs Ken Sweeney from Massachusetts Local 424 and Kevin Short from Washington D.C. Local 32 as his only fulltime employees. He says the biggest source of his success has been his ability to hire out of UBC union halls across the country.

“We’ve had no problems getting quality people. It works great,” Tyndall said. “We’ve been consistently happy with the skill and quality of the people that have been dispatched to us on both large and small jobs.”

Tyndall has made such good connections with union halls and individual members around the country that he saves himself a lot of travel between jobs. He routinely calls back carpenters he’s hired to return to jobs and complete punch list items without needing to watch over them. That frees him up to meet with owners and bring in more business.

“Because of the networking we’ve been able to do with local unions and the workers we’ve gotten from them, we feel like we could handle anything we’re asked to do by a client. We haven’t had to pass on anything because we couldn’t handle it.”

“The locals around the country are interested in hanging onto the fixture business. They know they need to man jobs to maintain relationships and they do it. They respond as well as we could ask them to. Every city we’ve gone to, we’ve gotten quality help. We’re almost guaranteed a minimum skill level by going to a union hall.”

In fact, union dispatched workers have done great work for Tyndall even when they get to a job and he doesn’t. Last summer, he had a job in Garland, Texas with carpenters from the area being dispatched to the job on a Monday and materials being delivered the same day. Unfortunately, his flight was held over in Orlando and he didn’t make it to the job until Monday night.

“The guys that were sent from the hall took the initiative to unload all the materials and stage the entire job exactly the way I would have had them do it,” Tyndall said. “I showed up Tuesday and the whole job was ready to go. Rather than losing a day, I was probably ahead of where I would’ve been and I didn’t even know their names. That’s typical of the help I’ve gotten.”

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To learn more about these and other union contractors, contact:
Contractor Relations Department
Connecticut and Rhode Island
203-265-0819.
Elsewhere in New England,
1-800-275-6200

Commercial Contractors, Inc.
Interior Management Solutions, Inc.
United Constructors & Builders, LLC
MLB Industries, Inc.
Automation Solutions, Inc.
Long Bow Acoustics, LLC
Williams Architectural Millwork, LLC
Ferraro Custom Woodworking, LLC
Raito, Inc.
JMCI, Inc.
On-Site Equipment and Maintenance, LLC
NES Rentals-Albany
R&B Ceramic Tile and Floor Covering, Inc.
McSwain Contracting, Inc.
Safespan Platform Systems, Inc.
Hayward Baker, Inc.
Custom Trim Works
Four Corners Construction
Joseph B. Fay Company
Frank Lill & Son, Inc.
Complete Construction Consortium, Inc.
Construction Products & Services, Inc.
Amber Blue, Inc.
Specialty Installation Services
Semper Industrial Diving Corp
New England Retail Construction Corp
Regal Floor Covering, Inc.
CFP Construction, Co, Inc.
Carpenters and Piledrivers, working with General Contractor H&H Builders, along with subcontractors Redmond Concrete and Nicholson Construction, were recently an integral part of a project at the IBEW Local 103 training center in Boston, MA.

The IBEW, in the hopes of staying on the forefront of the latest technology in renewable energy, decided to install a wind turbine at their training center. The turbine will produce part of the electricity for their training center, and will be used as a means of training their electricians on the latest technology in their field.

The IBEW has made a strong effort to stay ahead of the evolving technology of renewable energy. They have also installed an 8kw photovoltaic cell system on the roof of their training center. These solar panels along with the 100kw wind turbine built on their property will help them to stay at the forefront of their field. They will also provide 30% of the power used by the school.

For Richard Burum, superintendent/project manager for H&H Builders and member of Carpenters Local 67, the project entailed coordinating the permitting, contracts, support, layout, excavation, cassons, quality assurance and quality control, foundation, cranes, turbine foundation fitting, and final landscape. Burum emphasized that this project “is setting a precedent within the unions as well. This project was made up of a composite crew of both carpenters and electricians.”

Due to the location of the training center, the turbine built at this location is shorter than those generally built, standing at 149 feet tall. Along with training its members, the site will be used to educate the community on the benefits of renewable energy and green building, an effort which may help to further along other similar projects in the future.

At a time when fossil fuels are rising in cost, many people are looking to make energy more affordable. Wind turbines have the power to significantly cut energy costs. Unfortunately, similar projects have met a lot of resistance in the area. Brother Dan Kuhs, Council Representative for Pile Drivers Local 56, has been following the Cape Winds project for well over three years now and has come up against strong opposition along the way.

The proposed project will be capable of replacing up to 113 million of gallons of oil per year through the use of 130 wind turbines to be built five miles off the Cape Cod shoreline. On an average day, this ‘wind farm’ would produce 75% of the electricity for Cape Cod and the islands of Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket.

continued on page 34
Retail Committee Begins Work

The New England Regional Council of Carpenters recently set up a special committee that will target specific end-users in the retail community, with the goal of obtaining a hold on this section of the construction industry.

One of the first projects the committee worked on involved various malls throughout New England. Representatives spoke with mall managers and encouraged them to add signatory sub-contractors to the list of subcontractors they provide to end-users. The malls will now be monitored to see if any work is generated.

Two specific segments of the retail community that will be immediately targeted are TGI Friday’s restaurants and Rite Aid pharmacies. The TGI Friday’s chain has twenty-five restaurants in New England, all which will be remodeled in the coming year. The committee is planning on targeting each of these twenty-five restaurants.

Eighteen NERCC staff members make up the ‘retail committee,’ collectively representing all of New England. Meeting every two weeks in Millbury, the committee will work together to develop region-wide campaigns, initially for these two projects.

“It is no longer acceptable to say that the jobs [in one area] will be union, we need the commitment made to projects throughout New England,” notes Organizing Director Brian Richardson. The committee is putting the strength of twenty-six local unions against particular targets. It is a much larger scale focus than in the past.

With the help of Local members, the committee looks to utilize bannering and leafleting at TGI Friday’s locations as well as the Rite Aid pharmacies.

“This is not just a local store, local issue. We are targeting the same stores throughout New England,” notes Richardson.

If members wish to help in these efforts, please contact your Local Union hall and ask to be put in contact with the committee member in your area.

IKEA’s First Massachusetts Store Is A Model in Construction and for Drawing Shoppers

The world’s biggest home furnishing chain recently opened up a new store in Stoughton, MA, the first for the chain in Massachusetts. IKEA held the grand opening for the 346,000 square foot project on November 9th. The chain has 227 stores located in 33 countries. Dimeo Construction was the construction manager on this 13-month, $50 million project.

“The building is classified as one of IKEA’s most difficult of their three store designs,” notes Senior Project Manager David Peckham. “The building is elevated above grade with parking available under the building and within the attached parking garage. This, along with the schedule being compressed into a tighter time frame to allow IKEA to open prior to the holiday season, also created a greater challenge to overcome.”

The fast-track project was completed on an eleven month schedule and for the first time on any of its projects, IKEA made a commitment to achieve LEED-certification. ‘Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a ‘green’ building rating system that aims to develop high-performance, sustainable buildings.

Although the final certification is still pending, it is expected that it will be granted by the United States Green...
Another New Hampshire Battle with Right to Work

Carpenters living in New Hampshire are being called into action as a national anti-union group is attempting to revive a campaign to pass so-called “Right to Work” laws.

The group last tried to pass a right to work bill in 2003, but was defeated by an almost 3-1 margin. After laying low for a few years, a national group has pumped new money into New Hampshire, with the hopes of getting the restrictive laws passed. There are two bills filed for which language is not public, but which are expected to be fairly standard right to work bills.

In 2003, carpenters used a grassroots, bipartisan approach to win the support of more than 260 legislators, including over 100 Republicans.

Hundreds of members living in New Hampshire actually belong to locals in Massachusetts, but recognized the importance of protecting workers rights in both states. They joined members of Local 1996 to talk with their local state representatives and state senators in a number of small district meetings.

The meetings made a tremendous difference. Because the New Hampshire legislature does not meet year round and pays a negligible salary, many elected officials operate small businesses that bring them into contact with residents on a regular basis.

Carpenters developed relationships through the meetings and moved many off of positions that were simply a result of ignorance on the issue and loyalty to party leaders who asked for their vote.

Joe Donahue, Education coordinator in New Hampshire, said the same approach will be needed to win again. “We’re going to be reaching out to members here to come to those face-to-face meetings and maintain support from the elected officials that were with us before.”

Donahue said that while the union’s political power has grown since the start of the 2003 fight and now has a Democratic governor with a promised veto should it be necessary, going that far is a last resort.

“The right to work folks seem to have more energy this time and will count on some unhappy public employees to speak out,” he said. “How this plays out could have a big impact on who has momentum going into elections next fall, so we’d like another big win. We don’t want to give them any reason for hope or momentum to raise money to do this again.”

Right to work laws allow employees to enjoy the benefits of collective bargaining—higher wages and benefits, work rules and safety protections—without paying dues that support negotiating and enforcement of those agreements.

There are currently 22 states that have right to work laws in place, many of which are in the deep south or rural states such as Wyoming, Idaho and the Dakotas. Workers in right to work states earn lower wages, are less likely to be covered by health insurance and receive lower workers compensation benefits when injured on the job.

Union Sees Promise in New Hampshire 1099 Fight

A move last year by the New Hampshire legislature to create a study committee on misclassification of workers is beginning to show results, both in education and cooperation of state agencies and new legislation that could help curb the practice.

The study committee includes three Republicans and two Democrats and its meetings have brought together the state’s Commissioners of Labor, Revenue, Insurance and Unemployment.

The scope of the problem and the ambition to do something about it were made clear in only the second meeting of the group. At that point, the Commissioner of Revenue, G. Philip Blatsos, unveiled numbers he and his staff had dug up on its own. They showed that, among the state’s workforce of approximately 600,000, more than 100,000 were working as independent contractors. The fact that the state issues more than 300,000 “1099” tax forms further showed that the practice is even more widespread.

Blatsos testified that more than $13 billion in wages were involved and he was certain that the numbers would be significantly higher if cash employees and Canadian workers were included.

The study committee has developed five legislative pieces that it is unanimously sponsoring. Individually, they would:
- Extend the term of the study committee another year, to enable it to deal with more complicated issues.
- Change workers compensation rules to allow the state to fine companies for each day it works after a cancelled policy, rather than from the date the state discovers the termination, as is now the law.
- Require companies to have a New Hampshire workers compensation policy in place from the first day of beginning work. Current law only requires it if a company works five or more days in the state.
- More clearly define employees and independent contractors.
- Require companies to post definitions and obligations of independent contractors in workplaces with currently required notices on workers compensation, minimum wage laws and others.

The Commissioner of Unemployment is filing additional legislation to modify how and in what manner he can fine companies that misclassify workers and don’t make payments to unemployment. Fines could be $25 per day for each worker.

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Backed into a Corner, Bush Backtracks on Katrina Wage Cuts

In a surprising move, President George W. Bush in October reversed an earlier proclamation that exempted reconstruction of the Gulf Coast from Davis Bacon prevailing wage laws.

In the days following Hurricane Katrina’s assault on the region—after FEMA finally responded to the calls for help, but before rescue and recovery efforts were complete—Bush issued a proclamation that national emergency powers would be used to allow contractors to pay below established prevailing wages in the region.

The move added insult to an already injured region, where prevailing wages for trades workers are modest to begin with. It caused immediate head scratching by some news media and a core of moderate Republicans who consistently support Davis-Bacon. How, they wondered, was the President justified in asking residents who had lost everything to take a pay cut at the same time?

On most policy moves, Bush has built a reputation of stubbornness bordering on defiance, often in the face of logic.

But in the month after he rescinded prevailing wage protections for workers rebuilding the Gulf Coast region he faced increasing pressure from united Democrats and a growing number of moderate Republicans. A group of union carpenter apprentices in a labor history class in Boston also voiced opposition. As a class exercise, they each wrote letters to Labor Secretary Elaine Chao. Excerpts from some are included below.

Representative George Miller (D-California) teamed with Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy to almost immediately file legislation to overturn the president’s proclamation, but the bill was quickly buried by Republican leaders.

A group of 37 Republicans then signed a letter to the President asking him to reconsider, saying “Davis-Bacon prevailing wages will not drive up the reconstruction costs in the Gulf region; rather they will help ensure quality work and fair wages for those impacted by the storm.”

Representative Miller then filed a joint resolution under a 1976 National Emergencies Act to terminate the president’s proclamation. The deft legislative maneuver required a floor vote within 15 days, a vote the president was likely to lose. Facing an embarrassing defeat and getting signals that other White House legislative priorities might be stalled, Bush caved and reversed himself.

Co-sponsors to Miller’s original bill included New England Representatives Mike Capuano, Marty Meehan, Steve Lynch, Bill Delahunt, Patrick Kennedy, Mike Michaud, and Bernie Sanders. New England Republicans who signed the letter to the president were Rob Simmons, Christopher Shays and Nancy Johnson.

Apprentices Speak Out on Prevailing Wage

“Prior to the hurricane making landfall, union carpenters were making $13.42 an hour and $5.04 an hour in benefits. These wages that our Brothers and Sisters fought for have been taken away…

The hard working people of the Gulf Coast will now be making substantially less money than they were, making the task of getting back on their feet seemingly unattainable. All the while the owners and contractors are raking in enormous profits…

The workers that are putting in a hard day’s work are working in very unsafe conditions and without prevailing wage, they weren’t being properly compensated for it…”

— Jack Holden Day
First year apprentice
Local 33

“…It is completely unfair and an insult to Americans and all the hard working men and women of all our different trades. The unions of America are continually helping to better our communities, build our society, raise funds, take part in politics, etc.

Now President Bush decides overnight that he wants to over ride the Davis-Bacon Act, forcing hard working men and women to take extreme pay cuts while the contractors profit remarkably. It is a lousy choice, and should be reconsidered…”

— Stephen Perkins
First year apprentice
Local 67
THE OBLIGATION

I do, of my own free will and accord, solemnly and sincerely promise on my sacred honor that I will never reveal by word or deed any of the business of this United Brotherhood unless legally authorized to do so.

I promise to abide by the Constitution and Laws and the will of the majority, observe the By Laws and Trade Rules established by Local Unions and Councils affiliated with the United Brotherhood and that I will use every honorable means to procure employment for brother and sister members.

I agree that I will ask for the Union Label and purchase union-made goods and employ only union labor when same can be had. And I further agree that if at any time it should be discovered that I have made any misstatements as to my qualifications for membership, I shall be forever debarred from membership and donations in this order.

I pledge myself to be obedient to authority, orderly in the meetings, respectful in words and actions and charitable in judgment of my brother and sister members.

To all of this I promise and pledge my most sacred word and honor to observe and keep the same and to bind me as long as I remain a member of the Brotherhood.

And I further affirm and declare that I am not now affiliated with and never will join or give aid, comfort or support to any organization that tries to disrupt any Local Union, District Council, State or Provincial Council or the International Body of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.
The New England Regional Council of Carpenters would like to recognize the service of the following members who have passed away recently. Our condolences to their families, friends and those who worked with them.

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In Memory

In Memory

**Member** | **Years** | **Age** | **Member** | **Years** | **Age**
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John Belanger | 8 | 50 |
William Bourque | 64 | 93 |
Raymond Lepine | 57 | 80 |
John Miele | 46 | 78 |
Gerard Ricard | 64 | 88 |
Edwin Baldwin, Jr. | 23 | 48 |
Stanley Finn | 54 | 78 |
Martin Johnson, Jr. | 43 | 86 |
William Oliver | 48 | 83 |
Eve Principe | 53 | 83 |
Mario Russo | 51 | 74 |
Rocco Vizzini | 39 | 71 |
Roy E Spear | 37 | 79 |
Patsy DePillo | 44 | 81 |
Michael MacNeil | 5 | 43 |
Richard Canavan | 6 | 53 |
John Kinney | 18 | 47 |
James Conlin | 63 | 82 |
Theodore Karonis | 58 | 86 |
Thomas King | 36 | 77 |
Leo Lizotte | 57 | 89 |
Robert Rogers, Jr. | 63 | 89 |
Paul Champagne | 61 | 93 |
James Chaissone | 41 | 92 |
Maurice Dupuis | 31 | 56 |
Ludger Galameau | 16 | 84 |
John Harrison | 11 | 45 |
Nathaniel Kelley | 50 | 87 |
Rene Lebel | 52 | 80 |
John Mason | 41 | 87 |
Arthur Turgeen | 42 | 69 |
Gerald Vintinner, Jr. | 40 | 59 |
Unusual Accident Takes Steward, Leaves Second Member Critical

Two carpenters, elevated more than 20 feet on a scissor lift, were thrown to an interior concrete floor when the platform of the lift they were working on apparently broke free. The accident took the life of one and left the other in serious condition.

Steward John Kinney and Bob “Bubba” Perry, both members of Local 624, were installing temporary winter protection windows on a high school project in Bridgewater, Mass. They were working for Bacon Construction.

They were transported to an area hospital and then airlifted to Boston hospitals. Kinney, unresponsive to treatment and in a coma, died a week later. He was 47 years old.

Perry was in a medically induced coma for some time, but as the New England Carpenter was going to press, he was awake and making progress in his recovery.

Local 624 Business Representative Rick Anderson said he and other members were still in shock and stunned at the loss of Kinney and the nature of the accident, which is under OSHA investigation.

“Every guy on that job was OSHA safety trained and these two were experienced carpenters,” he said. “This looks like a really unusual, freak accident. Neither one of them was the type to be reckless on a job, so it’s hard to see this happen. The stewards are a pretty tight knit group, so it’s been really tough for some of them.”

Former Local 624 Representative Dick Nihtila said Kinney was the type of steward companies like having on a job. “He was hard working and, skill-wise, could do anything from concrete to installing doorknobs.”

Kinney had more than 18 years in Local 624 and had served as a steward for the last ten. Nihtila recalled that Kinney had taken a job as a superintendent at one point, but left the position after a single job so he could return to being a steward.

Anderson and Nihtila said Kinney was always an active and vocal member of the group, never shy to let his feelings be known. He was regularly involved in volunteer projects and the local’s cookouts and Christmas parties.

Perry has been a member of the Local for 24 years. His son, Jonathan, is an apprentice in the local, and was working on the same job. “Bubba’s” dad is also a retired member of the local, with 50 years in the Brotherhood.

Details of the accident are still under investigation, so company officials and others are not talking publicly about what exactly happened.

Kinney leaves a longtime companion, Maggie, two children and a large group of brothers and sisters. He and Maggie were also raising four of her children. Andersen said a fund is being established to assist both the Kinney and Perry families financially, but details were yet to be finalized at press time.

Please contact Local 624 at 781-963-0200 for updated information.

Bergami, Active in LU 24, Hamden, CT

Brother Renato Bergami, a 66-year member of Carpenter Local 24 and a longtime champion of Veteran’s rights, passed away in October.

An active member of his local and the community of Hamden, Bergami and Brother Jim Gagliardi were the driving force of rank-and-file activity in the town.

Gagliardi said that twice Bergami was responsible for halting work on a new middle school in Hamden, where Konover Construction was the construction manager. As a good union member, “he was focused, hard working and a man of strong opinions; always ready to fight the good fight,” said Bruce Lydem, Business Representative for Local 24. Brother Bergami was 83 years old.
Local 210, NERCC Mourn Baldwick

Carpenters in Connecticut are mourning the loss of Business Representative Ed Baldwick, Jr., a 24-year member of Local 210 who passed away this fall.

Baldwick was on a family vacation out of state when a fall down a set of stairs left him paralyzed from the neck down. He later died of complications caused by his resulting condition. He was 48 years old.

Baldwick had been a full time staff person for Local 210 and the New England Regional Council of Carpenters for more than thirteen years, serving as an organizer and business representative. He was also a veteran of both the United States Navy and Marine Corps. His father, Edwin Baldwick, Sr. is a 37-year retired member of Local 210.

“We’ve lost a dear friend and someone that was a tremendous Brother here in Local 210 and in the New England Regional Council,” said Glenn Marshall, President and Business Manager of Local 210. Marshall became a full time staff member with the union about a year after Baldwick and remembered some of the things that were important to him.

“Family was number one with Eddie, but he was also a great union member that cared deeply about the organization and the members. He was dedicated to helping both the members and nonunion workers to make good decisions that would enable them to make better lives for themselves.”

For much of the last six years, Baldwick was teamed with Mike Mizzone, also of Local 210. Mizzone remembers Baldwick’s intimidating physical presence – he was full bodied and reached 6’6” tall – was only the first impression he made.

“Eddie was a big guy and people would get intimidated when they saw him, but as I got to know him I realized that the only thing bigger than his size was his heart. He was a really kind and gentle person that had a soft spot for people and workers in the industry and really enjoyed doing his job and improving working conditions in the industry.”

Aside from organizing, Baldwick and Mizzone also teamed up to teach steward training classes, C.O.M.E.T classes and even travelled to work as evaluators on 3-day staff hiring programs for other Councils.


Contributions can be made to the Baldwick Children’s Educational Fund by contacting Local 210.

Ellen Jackson, FTUB Charter Board Member

Ellen Swepson Jackson, a charter member of First Trade Union Bank and the epitome of a mother who made a difference died recently in Boston.

She served on the board until her retirement in 2003, when she was named an Emeritus Director. While active on the board she chaired the Audit Committee and was a member of the Personnel Committee.

Because of her accomplishments and prominent position in Roxbury, where she was born and lived, she served as an important link in helping First Trade establishe relationships in the community.

Jackson gained local fame in the 60s when, as a mother of five children attending overcrowded and predominately black schools, she fought to have them attend better equipped white schools which had empty seats.

The move initiated what later became the forced desegregation of Boston schools through city-wide busing programs.

Not content to fight for the education of just her children, Jackson earned a Bachelors Degree from Boston State Teachers College and a Masters Degree in Education from Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She would later teach at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard before becoming a Dean at Northeastern University. She also led several community, state and national political organizations focusing on education and women in politics.
As part of the revitalization of downtown Manchester, New Hampshire, carpenters with Local 1996 have worked on many projects in the area, including a new baseball stadium and the Verizon Wireless Arena. Most recently, they were involved in the construction of a $27 million high-end residential apartment/condominium complex, called Manchester Place. The project also included a parking garage and retail space.

“Manchester Place was the first multi-story residential building built in downtown Manchester in a number of years,” notes John Jackson, Local 1996 Business Manager. The General Contractor was Moriarty. Also on site were ETI Corp., S&F Concrete, LaBonte Drywall Co., Stanley & Sons, Archer Corp., Allegheny Flooring, Northborough Contracting, and Ipswich Bay Glass.

The carpenters have been a large part of the various projects involved in the revitalization of the area. On this project the drywall finished six weeks ahead of schedule and the entire project was finished as scheduled. The complex was able to open on time, with residents moving in as planned and business opening their doors. The carpenters hope to see this revival continue as they are involved in future projects in the area.

The strongest opposition to the project has come from wealthy home owners in the area who claim the project would ruin their view of Nantucket Sound. From the closet beach, however, the wind turbines will appear only one half-inch above the horizon on a perfectly clear day. These home owners are pressuring their politicians to oppose the project as well.

“I am amazed at the local politicians that have taken stands against this project without knowing the positive effects it will have on the area and the economic boom it would bring,” Kuhs notes.

Kuhs plans to travel to Washington D.C. to meet with National Legislative Directors and members of the Senate and Congress to drum up support for the Cape Winds project.

Although the Cape Winds project has meet opposition, the future of green building projects is bright. Rich Burum continues his involvement in similar projects and notes that although a time table has not been set, there will be other wind turbines going up in the near future.
Names, Faces, People, Places

Charles Boudreau of Local 56 Receives Award for Civilian Bravery

Pile Drivers Local 56 member Charles Boudreau was honored at the Massachusetts State House on September 11, 2005 with the Madeline Amy Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery.

Boudreau was being honored for his efforts to save an operating engineer who was thrown with his rig into the Fort Point Channel in South Boston, where he was working. In April, Boudreau and fellow pile driver/divers working nearby responded to calls for help by entering the water and removing the unconscious man from the cabin and administering first aid until emergency personnel arrived.

The Madeline Amy Sweeney Award was established by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety to honor an Acton, Massachusetts woman who was killed aboard American Airlines Flight 11 on September 11, 2001. Sweeney, a flight attendant, contacted ground authorities to pass along information about the flight and hijackers who would later fly it into one of the World Trade Center towers in New York.

Happy 100th Birthday!

A proud member of his Local, Ware participated in the Local 1996 annual cookout this past summer, at the age of 99, and was able to meet the newest member of Local 1996.

On November 24th, Charles Ware, member of Carpenters Local 1996 turned one hundred years old. Charles was born in Saco, Maine, in 1905 and is currently the oldest member of Local 1996.

Ware’s first job after finishing school was with Maine Central Railroad, where he worked as a clerk, earning $26.00 a week. Ware’s father was a Union Carpenter in the early 1900s and a day after his birthday in 1940, following in his father’s footsteps he joined UBC Local 517, in Portland, Maine.

Ware worked throughout Maine and Massachusetts, working as a superintendent and foreman at various points in his career. He became an honorary member of Local 1996 in 1990.

Erlich Co-authors Piece on Unions

Mark Erlich and Cornell University’s Jeff Grabelsky teamed up to write an article for the November issue of Labor History.

The piece, titled “Standing at a Crossroads: The Building Trades in the Twenty-First Century” is available in PDF form at necarpenters.org or by emailing the Council.

July 1, 2006 Deadline for OSHA 10-Day Construction Safety Course Certification

Members in Massachusetts are reminded that by July 1, 2006, a law will take effect requiring all workers employed on state or local-funded construction projects to have completed the OSHA 10 construction safety course.

OSHA 10 classes are regularly scheduled at numerous locations in the state. If you have not completed the course, please contact your local union or a training center in your area to sign up for the class.

If you have not completed the course, you may be removed from a job until you complete the course. Safety makes sense, losing a job does not.

Earn ‘em, Collect ‘em, Redeem ‘em

Members who are active in the Brotherhood earn Union Pride Points for their efforts.

Pride Points can be redeemed at the Council for embroidered Carhartt jackets, micro-fiber jackets, embroidered sweatshirts, t-shirts and American Express gift certificates.

Points should be collected from NERCC staff following participation in approved union events. Contact Lisa LaCasse at the Council (617-268-3400, xt 2112) for information on redeeming your points.

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Apprentices Celebrate Graduation

This Fall, the Boston Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund, the Southeastern Mass Apprenticeship & Training Fund, and the Northeast Mass Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund held graduation ceremonies for all apprentices who had completed the four-year training program. Congratulations to the following graduates:

Alain Affonso, 130
David Allan, 1305
Erik Ardita, 33
William Augenti, 723
Steven Balentine, 42
Jamie Baranowski, 33
Nathan Barnhill, 11
Jason Basile, 218
Michael Batson, 111
Keith Beaudoin, 111
Gregory Belanger, 3
Alan Bellomo, 26
Joan Bennett, 33
Jason Bentley, 424
Jare Bettencourt, 40
Sean Booker, 33
Kenny Boucher, 62
Erwin Brown, 33
Robert Brown, 67
Jeffrey Bruyere, 4
Renee Burt, 67
Joseph Byrne, 3
Pierre Calizte, 67
Laurinda Campbell, 275
Michael Catarius, 33
Brian Chianca, 33
Richard Conneamey Jr., 33
Jeff Couture, 26
Henry Cunniff, 3
Anthony DiGiacomandrea, 40
Michael Doherty, 67
Brian Dunleav, 11
Roger Farmer, 33
David Filiatrault, 26;
Bryan Flynn, 33
Shawn Flynn, 33
Gabriel Francisco, 111
Craig Gaudreau, 1305
Joshua George, 1305
Michael Georgopolis, 111
Eric Giordano, 218
Matthew Glynn, 67
Erik Goodreich, 67
Jacob Grace, 33
Edward Graffam, 218
William Greene, 33
David Hall, 275
Kyle Hathaway, 33
Ronald Hughes, 67
Joseph Iacobucci, 33
Brian James, 33
Michael Kelly, 475
Thomas Kilcoyne, 33
Scott Kirk, 218
Keith Knowlton, 26
Eric L’Etoile, 111
Michael LaBella, 218
Christopher LaCorte, 424
Richard Lallis Jr., 33
Jason Lattanzia, 111
Son Le, 40;
Joseph Lechner, 275
George Liberty, 723
Russell Loder, 33
Partick Loftus, 33
Eyon Lozanne, 40
Brian Lum, 33
Sean Lynch, 26
Walter Mains, 33
Wayne Marcou, 535
Andrew Marecki, 33
Keith Maslarekis, 1305
Michael Mastalerz, 535
Megan McCormick, 33
Ricardo McCollum, 535
Donald McFadden, 475
Matthew McGrail, 218
Patrick Meleo, 33
Kevin Mendes, 33
David Merchant, 275
Marc Morin, 40
Thomas Murphy, 33
Robert Myers, 33
Mechele Myles, 67
Juan Najarro, 33
Harold Nash, 40
Chau Nguyen, 26
Scott O’Connell, 624
Gideon Ofori-Asante, 26
Daniel O’Grady, 67
David Oteri, 33
Quito Pagan, 33
Jorge Pais, 67
Matthew Pavao, 1305
Craig Payne, 111
Albert Pecora IV, 33
Antonio Pereira, Jr., 40
Ayana Pizarro, 67
Bruce Pointer, 26
Gwendolyn Popplewell, 33
Christopher Prizio, 218
Kenneth Reichert, 33
Leonard Richardson, 723
Manuel Rodriguez, 33
Craig Sacco, 1305
David St.Ford, 723
Stevo Sosa, 33
Jonathan Splaine, 40
Linda Stock, 6
Marc Surprenant, 33
Mark Thomas, 40
Edward Tobin, 475
Douglas Tremblay, Jr., 33
Urbano Uccello, 218
Hung Van Le, 67
Cullen Veale, Jr., 67
John Verissimo, 1305
Nick Viale, 26
Mervin Weller, 40
Todd Wiggins, 535
Kevin Williams, 3;
Elray Williams, 475
Ryan Williams, 1305
Thomas Wilson, 40
Chung Wong, 33

Connecticut Dedicates Training Center in Yalesville

The Connecticut Carpenters Apprentice Training Program recently dedicated its training center in Yalesville in the name of Sal Monarca, a long-time leader for union carpenters in the state and a champion of training. The late Monarca, who died a year ago, was a 50-year member of Local 24 the union as well as a longtime member of the Middletown Housing Authority.

His legacy in the union and for training has been cemented by his son, Richard Monarca, who was coordinator for the program as well as an agent for the local before becoming the Administrator of the Connecticut State Carpenters Health, Pension and Annuity Fund. He is also the President of the New England Regional Council Executive Board.
Carpenter Training Opportunities

Connecticut Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund
Training Center
500 Main Street
Yalesville, CT 06492
Contact: Richard Christ
Phone: 203-284-1362
Course catalogues with dates, times and course descriptions are available through the Training Center.

NNE Local 1996
Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont
Contact: Dana Goldsmith
Phone: 207-622-6664
Scaffold Training - 32 Hr Accelerated or 40 Hr; UBC Rigging Qualification Training, Dial Indicator Shaft Alignment, Laser Shaft Alignment, Millwright Qualification Refresher, Stepping up to UBC Foreman, OSHA 10, OSHA 30, Millwright 16 hr Safety Course; GE Gas Turbine Familiarization Course; Drywall Certification, Blueprint Reading, 16 Hr Welded Frame and Mobile Tower, First Aid/CPR, Systems Refresher

SE Massachusetts Training
21 Mazzeo Drive
Randolph, MA 02368
Contact: Rick Anderson/Ann-Marie Baker
Phone: 781-963-0200
30-hour OSHA Construction Safety, 10-hour OSHA Construction Safety, 32-hour scaffolding, Steward Training, Stepping Up to UBC Foreman and Construction Supervisors License (Building Code)

Massachusetts Infrastructure Local 2168
803 Summer Street, 2nd Floor
South Boston, MA
Contact: Tom O’Toole
Phone: 617-268-6318
Classes for floorcoverers only:
Flash cove, Vinyl sheet goods, Forbo linoleum installation and welding, Laminate flooring, Sports flooring, Stair treads, Carpet, Upholstery, Sewing and VCT.
Classes held Saturdays at the New England Carpenters Training Center in Millbury.

Pile Drivers Local 56
Marine Industrial Park/EDIC
22 Drydock Ave, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02210-2386
Contact: Ed Nickerson
Phone: 617-443-1988
CPR and First Aid: ongoing; call for dates and times; Journeyman upgrade welding: Wednesday evenings. OSHA 10 Hour Safety: ongoing; call for dates and times. UBC Rigging: dates and times to be announced Blue Print Reading: dates and times to be announced.

Northeast Massachusetts Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund
350 Fordham Road, 201
Wilmington, MA 01887
Contacts: Jeff Marcoux/Connie Faro
Phone: 978-752-1197
Blue Print Reading 1, Blue Print Reading 2, OSHA-10 hour, OSHA 30 hour, 16-hour Scaffold, 32-hour Scaffold, 8-hour Scaffold Refresher, 30-hour Massachusetts Construction Supervisors License Prep Course, Metal Stud and Drywall, Door and Hardware Installation or 24-hour Certification, Steward Training (offered at Local Level only)

Boston Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training
385 Market Street
Brighton, MA 02135
Contact: Benjamin Tilton
Phone: 617-782-4314

New England Carpenters Training Center
13 Holman Road
Millbury, MA 01527
Contact: Richard Nihtila
Phone: 508-792-5443
30-hour OSHA Construction Safety, 10-hour OSHA General Industry, First Aid, CPR, Understanding Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), Permit Required Confined Space, Blue Print Reading, Construction Supervisors License (Building Code), Framing Square, Hazardous Waste Worker, Hazardous Waste Worker Refresher, Lead Paint Abatement Worker, Welding, Drywall, Drywall Certification, Cabinet Making, Solid Surface Installation, Scaffolding, Transit Level.
Classes for floorcoverers only:
The New England Carpenters Training Center is also offering 32-hour scaffolding classes on an as needed basis. The class will allow for the certified worker to work and erect tubular welded frame, systems and tube and clamp scaffolds.
If there are no power plants in your area, you may want to participate in the 16-hour tubular welded frame scaffold class only. Certification is good for 3 years.
Union Sees Promise in New Hampshire 1099 Fight

continued from page 28

Joe Donahue, Education Coordinator for the New England Carpenters Labor Management Program in New Hampshire said he’s been pleasantly surprised by the work the commissioners and members of the committee have done.

“We went into this hoping to just educate the state agencies about what a problem misclassification is,” he said. “They’re taking it upon themselves to meet with their own staffs and come back with aggressive ways to take on the problem. This is better than we ever expected.”

NNE Pension Merging with Massachusetts

Trustees of the Northern New England Carpenters Pension Fund and the Massachusetts Carpenters Pension Fund have reached an agreement in principle to merge the funds. Some of the details are still being worked out between the two funds, but the merge is expected to be completed by early in 2006.

Contributions on behalf of members in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont will begin to be made to the Massachusetts fund at that time.

The existing Northern New England Fund is paying about 700 pensioners and holds benefits for 1,000 active employees. The merger would transfer about $22 million to the Massachusetts State Carpenters Pension Fund.

Benefits for Northern New England members expect to be improved in a couple of ways. The normal retirement age without penalty could be reduced from 65 to 62 with the penalty for early retirement (before 62) being reduced from 3% per year to 1% per year under age 62. Members could also be able to qualify for a 30-year service pension, meaning that after earning 30 pension credits they would be able to retire at any age without a reduction in their pension. The rate for pension benefits is expected to remain unchanged.

Pension benefits earned by members in Northern New England, whether currently being collected or not, will remain at existing levels and could increase in the future. Likewise, the financial standing of the Massachusetts fund will not be negatively impacted by the merger.

We’ve orchestrated the largest joint venture in construction today: union carpenters and contractors.

The New England Carpenters Labor Management Program is in full swing.

More than 25,000 members of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters, plus 2,000 union contractors have teamed up to establish the highest standard in building today.

We work with professionals throughout New England to help us reach one goal: improve the industry.

We’re helping to negotiate wages and working conditions that are fair, and to eliminate fraud throughout the industry.

We have created health, pension and annuity plans that are affordable, and our training programs are helping to prepare the next generation of New England crafts workers.

Call 1-800-275-6200 for more information about the New England Carpenters Labor Management Program.

We’re working hand-in-hand to build a future for all of us.
## Contact Information for Benefits Funds Offices in New England

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Name</th>
<th>Health Fund Administrator</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>On the web</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts State Carpenters Health Benefits Fund</td>
<td>Jim Buckley</td>
<td>350 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA 01887</td>
<td>800-344-1515</td>
<td><a href="http://www.carpentersfund.org">www.carpentersfund.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts State Carpenters Pension and Annuity Fund</td>
<td>Harry Dow</td>
<td>For Health Fund, mail to: PO Box 7075, Wilmington, MA 01887</td>
<td>978-694-1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts State Carpenters Collection Agency</td>
<td>Harry Dow</td>
<td>Address: 350 Fordham Road, Wilmington, MA 01887</td>
<td>800-344-1515</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Massachusetts Carpenters Health Benefits Fund</td>
<td>Carol Burdo</td>
<td>29 Oakland Street, Springfield, MA 01108</td>
<td>413-736-0486</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut State Carpenters Health, Pension &amp; Annuity Fund</td>
<td>Rich Monarca</td>
<td>10 Broadway, Hamden, CT 06518</td>
<td>800-922-6026</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island Carpenters Fringe Benefit Fund</td>
<td>Betty Pacheco</td>
<td>14 Jefferson Park Road, Warwick, RI 02888</td>
<td>401-467-6813</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern New England Carpenters Benefits Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td>250 Center St., Suite 361, Auburn, ME 04210</td>
<td>800-545-6377</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Health Fund, mail to: PO Box 7075, Wilmington, MA 01887
Meeting Schedule

Schedule of Monthly Union Meetings

Carpenters LU #24 / Eastern & Central Conn. 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Carpenters LU #26 / Salem / North Shore 3rd Thursday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #33 / Downtown / Boston Last Wednesday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #40 / Cambridge / Brighton 4th Tuesday, 4:00 pm
Carpenters LU #43 / Hartford / North Central Conn. 3rd Thursday, 5:30 pm
Shop and Mill LU #51 / MA Statewide 1st Monday, 7:00 pm
Piledrivers LU #56 / MA Statewide Last Monday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #67 / Dorchester / Milton / Dedham 2nd Wednesday, 4:30 pm
Carpenters LU #94 / Rhode Island 4th Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Carpenters LU #107 / Worcester / Central Mass 3rd Thursday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #111 / Lowell / Lawrence / Methuen area 2nd Thursday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #210 / Western Conn. 1st Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Carpenters LU #218 / Logan / Charlestown / Medford / Malden 3rd Thursday, 7:30 pm
Carpenters LU #275 / Boston Metro-West area. 2nd Wednesday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #424 / Quincy / S. Shore 3rd Wednesday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #475 / Framingham-Marlboro 1st Tuesday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #535 / Norwood / Attleboro / Milford 3rd Monday, 7:00 pm
Carpenters LU #624 / Brockton / Cape Cod 2nd Thursday, 2:45 pm
Woodframe LU #723 / MA-Statewide 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Millwrights LU #1121 / MA-Statewide 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Local Union 1302 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Carpenters LU #1305 / Seekonk / Fall River / Wareham 1st Wednesday, 5:00 pm
Carpenters LU #1996 2nd Tuesday, 5:00 pm
Maine:
New Hampshire:
Vermont:
Floorcoverers LU #2168 / MA-Statewide
Connecticut Shop Carpenters / CT-Statewide

Schedule of VOC Meetings

Following is a schedule of meetings for Volunteer Organizing Committees held in Local Unions throughout the Council.
If there is a regular VOC meeting in your local union or hometown, please let us know by sending and email to:
bdurand@neclmp.org.

Local 26
First Thursday of the month at 5pm at the Local 26 Union Hall in Wilmington.

Local 107
Wednesday after regular union meetings at 5:30 pm at the Local 107 Union Hall on Endicott Street in Worcester.
Contact: VOC Chair Wayne Boulette or Council Rep Art Sisko at Local 107.

Local 275
Third Wednesday of the month at 4pm at the Local 275 Union Hall on Lexington Street in Newton.
Contact: Brother Bruce Whitney through Local 275.

Local 424
Second Wednesday of the month at 5pm at the Randolph Union Hall. All members in SE Mass are invited.
Contact: Council Rep

Local 535
First Wednesday of the month before regular monthly union meetings at the Italian American Club, Walpole.

Local 1996
Second Wednesday of the month at 4pm in Vermont; 5 pm in Maine and as scheduled in New Hampshire. Meetings are held at Local Union halls.
Contact: Randy Evarts (ME), Elizabeth Skidmore (NH), and Matt Durocher (VT).
Local Unions Affiliated with The New England Regional Council of Carpenters

Carpenters Local 24
500 Main Street
Yalesville, CT 06492
Council Representatives: Chuck Appleby, Bruce Lyden, Jay Zupan
Phone: 203-295-6242, 203-285-6236
Fax: 203-295-4556
597 Broad Street
New London, CT 06320
Council Representatives: Chuck Appleby, Ray Kevitt
Phone: 860-442-8655
Fax: 660-437-3353

Carpenters Local 26
392 Fordham Road
Wilmington, MA 01887
Council Representatives: Nick DiGiovanni, Ken Ameno, Steve Falvey
Phone: 978-698-5420
Fax: 978-650-3878

Carpenters Local 33
12 Channel Street, Suite 604
Boston, MA 02210
Council Representatives: Richard Neville, Neal O’Brien, Richard Scaramuzza
Phone: 617-390-0014, 617-390-0015, 617-390-0018
Fax: 617-330-1894

Carpenters Local 40
10 Holworthy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
Council Representatives: Joseph Power, Tom Puglia
Phone: 617-547-8537
Fax: 617-547-8511, 617-547-8512

Shop and Millmen Local 51
760 Adams Street, 2nd floor
Dorchester, MA 02122
Council Representative: Henry Welsh
Phone: 617-295-3444
Fax: 617-295-3437

Piledrivers Local 56
Marine Industrial Park/EDIC
22 Drydock Avenue, 3rd Floor
South Boston, MA 02210—2386
Council Representatives: Dave Woodman, Dan Kulis
Phone: 617-443-1888
Fax: 617-443-4566

Carpenters Local 67
760 Adams Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02122
Council Representatives: Steve Tewksbury, Chris Shannon
Phone: 617-474-7879
Fax: 617-474-9484

Carpenters Local 94
14 Jefferson Park Road
Warwick, RI 02888
Council Representatives: David Palmisiciano, William Holmes, Paul Landier, Tom Sawin
Phone: 401-487-7070
Fax: 401-467-6838

Carpenters Local 107
29 Endicott Street
Worcester, MA 01610
Council Representative: Jack Donahue, Art Sisko
Phone: 508-755-3034
Fax: 508-752-6714

Carpenters Local 108
28 Oakland Street
Springfield, MA 01108
Council Representative: Simon James, Jason Darland
Phone: 413-736-2878Fax: 413-781-1640
150 North Street, Suite 308
Fitchburg, MA 01420
Phone: 413-441-7439

Carpenters Local 111
13 Branch Street
Unite 215
Methuen, MA 01844
Council Representatives: Jeff Marcoux, Jim Gang, Jr.
Phone: 978-683-2175
Fax: 978-685-7373

Carpenters Local 210
427 Stillman Rd, PO. Box 668
Fairfield, CT 06824
Council Representatives: Glenn Marshall, John P. Cunningham, Richard Warga
Phone: 203-333-4300
Fax: 203-334-4700

Carpenters Local 218
35 Salem Street
Medford, MA 02155
Council Representatives: Paul Hughes, Richard Pedi
Phone: 781-391-3332
Fax: 781-391-3542

Carpenters Local 275
411 Lexington Street
Newton, MA 02168
Council Representatives: Richard Dean, Kevin Kelley
Phone: 617-965-6100
Fax: 617-985-9778

Carpenters Local 424
21 Mazzo Drive, Suite 201
Randolph, MA 02368
Council Representative: Richard Braccia
Phone: 781-983-6200
Fax: 781-983-9887

Carpenters Local 475
58 Union Street
Ashland, MA 01721
Council Representative: Charles Ryan
Phone: 508-881-1885
Fax: 508-881-6041

Carpenters Local 535
21 Mazzo Drive, Suite 201
Randolph, MA 02368
Council Representative: Joe Broderick
Phone: 781-963-0200
Fax: 781-963-9887

Carpenters Local 624
21 Mazzo Drive, Suite 201
Randolph, MA 02368
Council Representatives: Rick Anderson, Jim Buffa
Phone: 781-963-0200
Fax: 781-963-9887

Carpenters Local 658 – Katahdin Paper Co.
9 Canyon Drive
Millinocket, ME 04462
President: Rod Daigle
Phone: 207-723-9163

Carpenters Local 723
803 Summer Street, 2nd floor
South Boston, MA 02127
Council Representative: Charles MacFarlane
Phone: 617-269-2360
Fax: 617-486-3319

Millwrights Local 1121
90 Braintree Street
Allston, MA 02134
Council Representative: Jack Winfield, James Dalton
Phone: 617-254-1655
Fax: 617-783-5554

Local 1302 (Electric Boat)
171 Thames Street
Groton, CT 06340
Council Representative: Robert Tardiff
Phone: 860-449-0891
Fax: 860-445-6384

Carpenters Local 1305
P.O. Box 587
Fall River, MA 02722
Council Representative: Ron Rheaume, Mike Nelson
Phone: 508-672-6612
Fax: 508-679-0771

Local 1612 – Katahdin Paper Co.
P.O. Box 706
Millinocket, ME 04462
Council Representatives: Rick Anderson, Joe Broderick
Phone: 207-723-9163
Fax: 207-723-5247

Carpenters Local 1996
803 Summer Street, Suite 2
PO Box 1648
Raymont, NH 03077
Council Representative: John Jackson
Phone: 603-895-0400
Fax: 603-895-0474

Carpenters Local 1996
60 Industrial Drive
Augusta, ME 04330-3002
Council Representatives: Bruce King, Allen Wynn, John Lavitt
Shop Agent: Bob Burleigh
Phone: 207-621-8160
Fax: 207-621-8170

Carpenters Local 1996
5 Gregory Drive
S. Burlington, VT 05403
Council Representative: Bryan Bouchard
Phone: 802-852-9411
Fax: 802-863-4327

Carpenters Local 2168
17 Fleetwood Road, Suite 2
PO Box 1498
Randolph, MA 02368
Fax: 781-963-9887

Carpenters Local 2400 – Domtar Paper
P.O. Box 995
Baileyville, ME 04694
President: David Gall
Phone: 207-427-3844

Carpenters Local 3196 – South Africa Pulp and Paper, Inc.
185 Pennsylvania Avenue
South Portland, ME 04106
President: Michael Chase
Phone: 207-833-5524

Carpenters Labor Management Program
Boston
803 Summer Street, 4th Floor
South Boston, MA 02127-1816
Executive Director: Tom Flynn
Phone: 617-288-0014

Connecticut
2 North Plains Industrial Road
Wallingford, CT 06492
Phone: 203-679-0861

Research Department
803 Summer Street, 2nd Floor
South Boston, MA 02127-1816
Phone: 617-268-7882
Research Director: Steve Joyce

Regional Organizing Offices

Boston
803 Summer Street, 2nd Floor
South Boston, MA 02127
Phone: 617-444-4559

Central Mass Area
29 Endicott Street
Worcester, MA 01610
Phone: 508-798-4182

Connecticut/Rhode Island
2 North Plains Industrial Road
Wallingford, CT 06492
Phone: 203-285-2514

Western Mass
29 Oakland Street
Springfield, MA 01108
Phone: 413-781-1840

Northern New England
991 Candia Road, Unit A
Manchester, NH 03109
Phone: 603-621-7077