

NEW ENGLAND Carpenter

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A Publication for Carpenters, Pile Drivers, Shop and Millmen and Floorcoverers
of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters

Spring 2009
Volume XIII, No. 1



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Local 275 Carpenter Sean Patrick Abraham, working on forms at the Carpenters Center building.

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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

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and benefit funds;
meeting schedules and
updated news.

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New England Carpenter

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in this union production.**

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or to express an interest in having one scheduled.**



It's Time to Turn America Around

A Message from Mark Erlich, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters

The construction industry has always been a barometer of general economic well-being. When times are good, our members are working, there are opportunities for overtime, and being a union carpenter is a great way to make a living.

Today, times are tough for everyone. Our nation's economy and the global economy have ground to a halt. Construction projects have been scaled back or canceled and the banking industry has crawled into a shell. After years of creating artificial and irresponsible debt, banks now refuse to provide credit for projects that could make a difference by creating jobs and building permanent structures. And since we're always the barometer, our members are paying the price for the unregulated era of corporate greed that took over our financial markets.

The federal economic stimulus package will help. In an effort to be bipartisan, the Obama administration scaled

back the original amounts allocated for infrastructure. \$288 billion of the total \$787 billion was set aside for tax cuts and only \$27 billion will go to building and repairing roads and bridges.

Still, "only" \$27 billion should make a difference. We can expect that many of the jobs that will be available in 2009 will be on publicly funded projects – either from the stimulus package or from state spending on schools and other public facilities. That means they will be covered by federal and state prevailing wage laws and should provide jobs for union carpenters.

As a union, our task is to make sure that every one of the limited number of projects under construction will be built on a union basis. The Council's leadership has been bringing the BUILD program to locals around New England. Part of the program stresses the importance of member participation at the local level to pressure owners and developers to build union. We have been doing that for

years, but now we need to step up those activities even further. In this environment, every job is like precious gold, and we need to make every effort to make sure every job is a union job.

It is ironic that the business community is unwilling to spend money in this climate to create new jobs, but seems to have little problem spending money to defeat the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA), a piece of legislation that would make union organizing easier. EFCA is not a silver bullet, but the time is long overdue to give workers the ability to make a straightforward choice for unions without having to fight through employer intimidation and reprisals. We are fortunate to have a President who claims that unions are "part of the solution" after years of hostility from the federal government.

We know the difference a strong Carpenters Union has made for our members – through good and bad times. And we know that the good times will return. ■

Es Tiempo de Cambiar América

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

La industria de la construcción siempre ha sido un barómetro del bienestar económico general. Cuando los tiempos son buenos, nuestros miembros están trabajando, hay oportunidades para trabajar horas extras, y ser un carpintero del sindicato es buena manera de ganarse la vida.

Hoy en día, los tiempos son difíciles para todos. La economía de nuestra nación y la economía global se han detenido. Los proyectos de construcción han sido reducidos o cancelados y la industria bancaria se ha disminuido. Después de años de crear la deuda artificial e irresponsable, los bancos ahora se niegan a dar crédito para proyectos que podrían hacer una diferencia por crear trabajos y construir estructuras permanentes. Y como somos siempre el barómetro, nuestros miembros están pagando el precio por una época irregular de la codicia corporativa que asumió control de nuestros mercados financieros.

El paquete federal de estímulo económico ayudará. En un esfuerzo bipartidista, la administración de Obama redujo las sumas originales alocadas para

la infraestructura. \$288 billones del total de \$787 billones de dólares, fue separado para recortes de impuestos y solo \$27 billones serán para construir y reparar pistas y puentes.

De todas maneras, "sólo" \$27 billones deben hacer una diferencia. Podemos esperar que muchos de los trabajos disponibles en 2009, sean por proyectos públicamente financiados - ó por el paquete de estímulo ó por los gastos del estado en escuelas y otras instalaciones públicas. Eso significa que sean protegidos bajo las leyes federales y estatales de sueldo existentes y deben proveer trabajos para carpinteros del sindicato.

Como un sindicato, nuestra tarea es asegurar que cada uno de nuestro número limitado de proyectos en construcción, sea fundando en la base del sindicato. El liderazgo del Consejo, ha traído los programas BUILD a varios sitios dentro de Nueva Inglaterra. Parte del programa enfatiza la importancia de la participación de la membresía al nivel local para presionar a dueños y a promotores a crear sindicatos. Estamos hace años haciendo eso, pero ahora tenemos que aumentar

esas actividades aún más. En este medioambiente, cada trabajo es como el oro precioso, y tenemos que esforzarnos para asegurar que cada trabajo es un trabajo de sindicato.

Es irónico que la comunidad de negocios esté dispuesta a malgastar dinero en este clima para crear nuevos trabajos, pero parece tener poco problema en gastar dinero para derrotar al Acto de Libre Elección de Trabajadores (EFCA por sus siglas en Ingles), una legislación que haría más fácil la organización de sindicatos. EFCA no es la solución completa, pero debería haberse dado mucho antes la opción a los trabajadores de optar simplemente para tener sindicatos sin tener que pasar por la intimidación de sus empleadores y represalias. Somos afortunados al tener un Presidente que afirma que los sindicatos son "parte de la solución", después de años de la hostilidad de parte del gobierno federal. ■

On the LEGAL FRONT

Do you have concerns about:

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Wages?

**Workers' Comp?
Safety?**

**If you, or a nonunion carpenter
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to connect with
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Familiar Name, Familiar News

On the heels of AvalonBay's subs being hit for misclassification on three of their Massachusetts jobsites and National Carpentry being arrested for non-payment of wages in Connecticut, comes this news item. Shawnlee Construction, one of the largest nonunion woodframe contractors in New England, has again been cited by OSHA for serious fall protection violations.

This time out, OSHA is accusing Shawnlee of willfully disregarding the safety of workers at a JPI project in Chelsea, MA and issuing a \$70,000 fine.

Disregard is perhaps too kind a word in this situation. The article notes that Shawnlee has been fined 25 times in the last nine years, racking up more than \$300,000 in fines! ■

Mayo Group Indicted

The Mayo Group, a Boston-based developer, has been indicted by a Worcester Grand Jury on six counts, in relation to improper removal and handling of asbestos. The Massachusetts Attorney General brought the case.

The Attorney General indicted the Mayo Group for: "improper removal of asbestos at a ten-story building in downtown Worcester. [It was] indicted on charges it violated the Clean Air Act for failure to file notices of asbestos removal with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) (2 counts), failure to comply with procedures for asbestos emissions control (2 counts), and improper disposal of asbestos waste (1 count)."

The Mayo group has been the subject of investigation and protests by the New

England Regional Council of Carpenters for a couple of years. Organizers have found immigrant workers being paid improperly, with taxes not being withheld. Despite pledges that they do and will hire contractors that comply with state and federal laws, the companies practices have been questionable.

The Grand Jury indictments of Mayo were front page news in the Worcester Telegram and Gazette, which has reported on problems with Mayo in the past. In October 2007 they ran a front page story including claims by NERCC that workers were improperly paid. The story included information from a worker on the site:

"One Mayo employee, who did not give his name, said outside the building that he is paid monthly by check and "sometimes" taxes are taken out." ■

Who Needs Comp? Everyone!

WorkersCompCentral.com posted a story late this winter that was a bit scary. While the Connecticut Division of Wage and Workplace Standards was checking to see if workers were properly classified and covered by workers' comp on a job in Stamford, a power box exploded, hurting two.

Unlucky to be injured, at least the two were lucky enough to be covered by workers' comp. Eleven others on the site were not and were pulled off the job.

The Division visited the job--a downtown YMCA building is being refurbished--as

part of routine sweeps. JV Construction and Drywall was the one being checked when the box blew. The eleven workers pulled for not having coverage were associated with the company.

"Our people had to run out of the building because of the smoke," Pechie said in an interview. "It was ironic, because we were there checking to make sure they had coverage."

Pechie said the electricians suffered second-degree burns. Both had short stays in the hospital. ■

Nombre Familiar, Noticias Familiares

Justo después de que AvalonBay fue acusado de la clasificación impropia de sus trabajadores en tres de sus sitios de trabajo en Massachussets y trabajadores del National Carpentry fueran arrestados por no pagar a sus trabajadores en Connecticut, viene esta noticia. Shawnlee Construction, uno de los contratistas de madera no afiliados a un sindicato en Nueva Inglaterra, ha sido citado por OSHA por serias violaciones de protección en contra de caídas.

Esta vez, OSHA está acusando a Shawnlee, de voluntariamente subestimar la seguridad de sus trabajadores en un proyecto de JPI en Chelsea, MA y está le entrego una multa de \$70,000.

La palabra "subestimar" posiblemente suena muy gentil para describir esta situación. El artículo nota, que se han entregado multas a Shawnlee, 25 veces en los últimos nueve años, ¡acumulando más de \$300,000 en multas!

NOTICIAS LEGALES

Mayo Group Acusado

El Mayo Group, es una inmobiliaria establecida en Boston, ha sido acusada por el Gran Jurado de Worcester por seis cuentas, en relación a la extracción y el manejo impropio de asbestos. El caso fue llevado por la Oficina del Fiscal General de Massachusetts.

El Fiscal General acusó al Mayo Group por la extracción y el manejo impropio de asbestos en un edificio de diez pisos en el centro de Worcester. Fue acusado en cargo de violar el Acto de Aire Limpio por no presentar un anuncio de la extracción de asbestos con el Departamento de Protección Medioambiental de Massachusetts (MassDEP) (2 cargos), por no cumplir con el procedimiento por el

control de la emisión de asbestos (2 cargos), y la eliminación impropia de los desperdicios de asbestos (1 cargo).

El Mayo Group, ha sido el sujeto de investigación y protestas por el Consejo Regional de Carpinteros de Nueva Inglaterra por un par de años. Organizadores se han enterado de que está pagando impropiamente a sus trabajadores inmigrantes, sin retener impuestos. A pesar de que ha prometido que tienen y contratarán a contratistas que cumplan con las leyes federales y estatales, las prácticas de la compañía son cuestionables.

Las acusaciones del Gran Jurado hacia Mayo eran noticias de portada en el Worcester Telegram y Gazette, lo cual ha reportado

problemas con Mayo en el pasado. En octubre de 2007 se publicó una historia de portada que incluía afirmaciones del NERCC, que trabajadores fueron pagados impropiamente. La historia incluía información de un trabajador en el emplazamiento:

Un empleado de Mayo, quien no dio su nombre, dijo fuera del edificio, que es pagado mensualmente por cheque y "a veces" se retienen impuestos. ■

¿Quién necesita la compensación por desempleo? ¡Todos!

WorkersCompCentral.com reporto sobre un artículo al final de este invierno que daba un poco de miedo. Mientras el Connecticut Division of Wage and Workplace Standards, estaba averiguando que los trabajadores estuvieran correctamente clasificados y cubiertos por la compensación por desempleo en un trabajo en Stamford, una caja de energía explotó, dañando a dos.

Desafortunados por ser heridos, al menos los dos tenían la fortuna de ser cubiertos por la prestación por desempleo. Había once más

en el sitio que no lo estaban y ellos fueron sacados del trabajo.

La División visitó al trabajo, estaban renovando un edificio de YMCA en el downtown, como un control rutinario del trabajo. JV Construction and Drywall, fue el que estaba examinando cuando se explotó la caja. Los once trabajadores sacados por no tener cobertura fueron asociados con la compañía.

"Nuestra gente tuvo que correr del edificio a causa de todo el humo," dijo Pechie en una entrevista. "Fue irónico, porque

estábamos allá averiguando que tuvieran cobertura."

De acuerdo a Pechie, los electricistas sufrieron de quemaduras de segundo grado. Ambos se quedaron un rato en el hospital.

Sabemos qué diferencia ha sido para nuestros miembros tener un fuerte Sindicato de Carpinteros, por los tiempos malos y buenos. Y sabemos que regresarán los tiempos buenos. ■

AvalonBay Subs: Out of Control or Following the Business Model?

AvalonBay's case for building housing projects with reputable contractors who comply with the law has gotten a lot weaker. Problems with AvalonBay subcontractors in two states have hit newspapers, once again lending credibility to claims union carpenters have been making against AvalonBay's business model for several years.

In March, Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley's office cited five subcontractors for misclassifying workers on three AvalonBay projects in Massachusetts, ordering payment of more than \$36,000 in fines and restitution.

The action came shortly after the owner of one of those same companies was arrested and arraigned in Connecticut on twenty counts of failure to properly pay workers. That company, National Carpentry, and its owner, John Kirk have become notorious with not only the union, but with state enforcement agencies in the busiest two New England states.

In December, Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal attended a press conference with a group of workers who filed a civil suit against National Carpentry and Kirk. Twenty of thirty-four workers who were owed money joined the suit after being shortchanged for work they did at a luxury condo project in Stamford. The state brought charges of wage fraud against Kirk, who is facing fines and jail time.

Gary Pechie, the Director of the Connecticut Labor Department's Wage and Workplace Standards Division estimated the workers are owed \$55,000 and called Kirk "the poster child of how not to do business in the state of Connecticut."

National Carpentry is well known to organizers from the New England Regional Council of Carpenters. They have been one

of the larger wood frame contractors in the region for several years and one of the more aggressive in taking advantage of a "coyote" system for accessing easily exploitable immigrant workers. Their partnership with AvalonBay has not been a good one.

National Carpentry was hired to build on AvalonBay projects in Lexington and Woburn, Massachusetts. After visiting the Lexington site, OSHA issued citations and fines for inadequate fall protection. Not long after, in an unusual move, those fines were rescinded. Only months later in neighboring Woburn, carpenter Oscar Pintado fell to his death while working for National Carpentry on an AvalonBay project. National essentially disavowed Pintado, claiming he worked for another subcontractor.

In Coakley's investigation, National Carpentry was found to have misclassified employees as independent contractors on both the Lexington and Woburn AvalonBay projects.

Also cited in the investigation were AMC Building Construction LLC of Thorndike, MA and its owner, Jocelyne Boduc; DaVinci Construction Company of Massachusetts, Inc. and its President, Arthur Cipoletti, of West Bayshore, NY; F.A. Construction of Revere, MA and its owners, Francisco and Miriam Antunez; and C&K Subcontractors of Fairfax, Virginia, and its owner, Chong Kim.

National Carpentry will pay a total of \$15,000 in fines as a result of the investigation.

AMC agreed to pay a \$10,000 citation for violating laws regarding misclassification at the Lexington AvalonBay site. They have also agreed to a compliance plan

with the Attorney General's office that allows the AG to monitor operations to ensure compliance.

DaVinci Construction also agreed to a compliance plan with the Attorney General's office after investigation of their practices at the AvalonBay project in Lexington.

F.A. Construction was cited for violations at the Lexington Project and will pay more than \$20,000 in fines, penalties and restitution.

C&K will pay \$5,000 for citations for failing to provide records for inspection in regards to their work on the Hingham job.

Blumenthal had harsh words for National Carpentry and its business model, saying they "egregiously exploited its workers, hopeful or certain that they would be reluctant to report abuse for fear of retaliation or other consequences. Despite its promises, this company paid its workers less -- and sometimes nothing at all -- for physically draining 70-hour work weeks."

"These reprehensible practices allegedly jeopardized lives and livelihood -- denying hundreds of workers fair wages and employment opportunities."

"Even if employees are undocumented, they are still protected by state and federal laws that require fair treatment of employees. We will fight vigorously to uphold the law in this case -- and others when employers prey on vulnerable men and women. Substandard pay or working conditions for some workers affects all workplaces."

Blumenthal's words were not an exaggeration. Last year in Connecticut alone, the state issued ten Stop Work orders against National Carpentry for not having proper workers' compensation coverage on workers. ■

¿Están Los Subcontratistas de AvalonBay Fuera de Control ó Estarán Siguiendo El Modelo de Trabajo?

El argumento de AvalonBay que sostenía el hecho que ellos realizaban proyectos de construcción de casas con contratistas reputables que obedecían las leyes, cada vez se debilita más. Los problemas que los contratistas de AvalonBay han tenido en dos estados han sido reportados en varios periódicos, y una vez más, le añade credibilidad a las alegaciones que el sindicato de carpinteros ha venido haciendo por varios años en contra del modelo de trabajo de AvalonBay.

En marzo, la oficina de Martha Coakley, la fiscal general de Massachussets cito a cinco subcontratistas por misclasificar a trabajadores de tres proyectos de AvalonBay en Massachussets, ordenándoles que pagaran \$36,000 en multas y penalidades de restitución.

Esta acción se dio después que arrestarán y sentenciaran en Conecticut a uno de los dueños de esas mismas compañías con 20 cargos por no pagar a sus trabajadores. Esta compañía, National Carpentry, y su dueño, John Kirk se ha convertido notorio no solo para el sindicato sino para las agencias estatales de reforzamiento de los dos estados más grandes en Nueva Inglaterra.

En diciembre, Richard Blumenthal, fiscal general de Connecticut asistió a una conferencia de prensa con un grupo de trabajadores, quienes sometieron un caso civil en contra de la compañía National Carpentry y Kirk. Se sumaron a este caso veinte de treinta y cuatro trabajadores que recibieron menos de lo que tenían que recibir como pago por haber trabajado en la construcción de un condominio de lujo en Stamford. El estado condeno a Kirk por fraude de pago, y ahora enfrenta multas y tendrá que pasar tiempo en la cárcel.

Gary Pechie, el director del Connecticut Labor Department's Wage and Workplace Standards Division estimo que a los trabajadores se le deben \$55,000 y catalogó a Kirk como "un modelo de cómo no hacer negocios en el estado de Connecticut."

National Carpentry es una compañía muy bien conocida para los organizadores

del Consejo Regional de Carpinteros de Nueva Inglaterra. Ellos han sido uno de los más grandes contratistas de paneles de madera en la región por varios años, y uno de los más agresivos al tomar ventaja del sistema de "coyotes" por tener acceso a trabajadores inmigrantes vulnerables a ser explotados. La relación con AvalonBay no ha sido muy buena.

National Carpentry fue contratada para trabajar en proyectos de AvalonBay en Lexington y Woburn, Massachussets. Después de haber visitado el sitio de trabajo en Lexington, OSHA ejecuto citaciones y multas por la protección inadecuada en contra de caídas. Poco tiempo después, las multas fueron anuladas, lo cual fue una acción inusual. Pocos meses después en Woburn, un pueblo muy cercano, el carpintero Oscar Pintado se callo y murió mientras trabajaba para la National Carpentry en un proyecto de AvalonBay.

La compañía National esencialmente negó la relación de trabajo con Pintado, diciendo que él trabajaba para otros subcontratistas.

Durante la investigación de la fiscal de Coakley, la National Carpentry fue hallada culpable de misclasificar a empleados como contratistas independientes de ambos proyectos de trabajo de AvalonBay en Lexington y en Woburn.

Otras compañías que fueron halladas culpables en la misma investigación fueron AMC Building Construction LLC de Thorndike, Massachussets y su dueña Jocelyne Boduc; DaVinci Construction Company de Massachussets Inc., y su presidente, Arthur Cipoletti de West Bayshore, New York; F.A. Construction de Revere, Massachussets y sus dueños Francisco y Miriam Antunez; y C&K Subcontractors y su dueño Chong Kim de Fairfax, Virginia.

National Carpentry pagará la suma de \$15,000 en multas como resultado de la investigación.

AMC acordó pagar una multa de \$10,000 por violar las leyes de misclasificación en el sitio de trabajo de AvalonBay en Lexington. Ellos también han acordado cumplir con los reglamentos del plan creado por la oficina del Fiscal

General, que permitirá que el fiscal general monitoree y se asegure que las operaciones están en orden.

DaVinci Construcción también acordó seguir los reglamentos creados por la oficina del Fiscal General después de que sus prácticas de trabajo fueron investigadas en el sitio de trabajo de AvalonBay en Lexington.

F.A. Construction fue citado por violaciones en el proyecto de Lexington y tendrá que pagar más de \$20,000 en multas, penalidades y restitución.

C&K tendrá que pagar \$5,000 de multa por no proveer archivos de inspección relacionados con el trabajo realizado en Hingham.

Blumenthal tuvo palabras ásperas para la National Carpentry y para su modelo de trabajo, diciendo que ellos "habían explotado severamente a sus trabajadores, esperanzados ó seguros que no reportarían abusos por miedo de retaliación o por otras consecuencias." A pesar de sus promesas, esta compañía pagaba a sus empleados menos – y a veces hasta nada por setenta horas a la semana de trabajo arduo.

"Estas practicas reprensibles ponían en peligro la vida humana – negando a cientos de trabajadores sueldos justos y oportunidades de trabajo."

"Aun si los trabajadores son personas indocumentadas, ellos están protegidos por las leyes estatales y federales que requieren un trato justo para los trabajadores. Nosotros lucharemos vigorosamente por defender la ley en este caso – y a otros cuando los empleadores quieran tomar ventaja de hombres y mujeres vulnerables. Los sueldos y las condiciones de trabajo que no están a la altura de lo esperado afecta a todos."

Las palabras de Blumenthal no fueron una exageración. El año pasado en Connecticut únicamente, la National Carpentry recibió de parte del estado diez órdenes de paro de trabajo por no tener la cobertura apropiada de compensación de desempleo para sus trabajadores. ■

Carpenters Center Update

Construction of the new NERCC headquarters is moving right along on schedule. On January 28th, Yankee Environmental Services began asbestos abatement at the building. Approximately 6,000 square feet of single-glazed windows were abated, along with tiles, the entire crawl space of the building and sections of pipe covering and insulation.

With the abatement complete, including air sampling by Tetra Tech Rizzo, NASDI, LLC began demolition of the interior partitions in early February. The debris from the demolition was separated for recycling, as part of the LEED certification process. Following the cleanup of the interior demo, the air handlers on the roof were removed and then the entire roof was taken off the slab.

While this work was being done representatives from the Carpenters Union, ADD Inc., and Sensory Interactive worked on finalizing details and design of the building's transparent LED display.

The sign will be located on the Expressway side of the building, visible to traffic traveling Northbound on I-93. Mock-ups of the signs were brought to the building to give onlookers an idea of the brightness, viewing angles, and viewing distance of



A view of the building before construction began.

the LED display in both daylight and at night.

The actual display will measure approximately 32 feet high by 22 feet wide. From the inside of the building you will be able to see through the display to the Expressway, even when the sign is turned on and displaying an image.

As reported previously in the *New England Carpenter*, Suffolk Construction is the construction manager. The Project Superintendent on the project is Richard Downing. "As a twenty-three year member of Carpenters Local 33 and Project Superinten-

"After so many years of planning, it's exciting to see the new building becoming a reality."

**— Mark Erlich,
NERCC Executive Secretary-Treasurer**



The building is now a skeleton of what it once was.



By early March, the second floor was down to the concrete slab.



Crews begin taking down the roof from the interior of the second floor



Rendering of the Carpenters Center and the LED Display from I-93.

dent for ten years, most recently with Suffolk Construction, I was very excited to get the opportunity to give back to the Carpenters Union and be entrusted to be the Superintendent on the project," he said.

"I feel there will be a great deal of pride for me and all my Brothers and Sisters as we all take part in building the future home of the NERCC. This is an opportunity of a lifetime for me and will be something that I will look back upon with pride," he added.

The Carpenter Steward on site is Desmond Roach, Local 33. At print time, the entire steel structure of the second floor had been dismantled and the demolition of the first floor walls was also complete. The brick and concrete block had been removed from the entire building. Formwork was scheduled to begin in late-March.

To follow the construction of the Carpenters Center, visit the project website at www.CarpentersCenter.com. ■



Rendering of the Carpenters Center. View of the front of the building from Dorchester Ave.

Obama Administration Hits the Ground Running on Union Issues



President Barack Obama was sworn in as President of the United States in January during one of the more trying times in our nation's recent history. At the same time, he took office with tremendous hope and goodwill from the nation.

How long will the honeymoon last and what will his new administration be able to accomplish? Some of that depends on economic conditions somewhat beyond his control. There is also the Congress which, while controlled by Democrats in both houses, does not hold a filibuster proof majority in the Senate, meaning Republicans can stop any bill

by keeping all of their GOP members on their side.

These facts became clear when the biggest issue of the Obama administration thus far – the stimulus bill – was winding its way through Congress. Though the bill was clearly not perfect – Obama lamented as much after signing it – it was a big piece and done relatively quickly. It was negotiated and signed less than two months after he took the oath of office.

What Obama can do, and has been doing, is some of what Bush did during his two terms: use the power of the Executive Branch to shape administrative

policy and focus, rather than passing laws and seeking funds.

Included here are some of the issues Obama has handled since entering the White House and some clear indications that Obama-Biden will be more friendly to middle class and union Americans than Bush-Cheney. There are some big national issues, like the Employee Free Choice Act and also state-by-state rundowns of what was expected to go the New England states, though there remains a good deal of uncertainty how much stimulus money will go to which specific projects. ■

"I don't see organized labor as part of the problem. To me, it's part of the solution."

"When I talk about the middle class, I am talking about folks who are currently in the middle class, but also folks who are aspiring to be in the middle class. You cannot have a strong middle class without a strong labor union."

– President Barack Obama

Obama Reverses Bush on PLAs

In the opening days of his administration, President Barack Obama reversed a policy of George W. Bush's administration by issuing an Executive Order lifting a prohibition on the use of Project Labor Agreements on Federal construction projects. It also encouraged departments to use PLAs on projects valued at more than \$25 million.

It was exactly the kind of move that can be made when a friendly face is in the White House. There was no funding required, no bills being sent to committee. Floor fights in Congress and head-counting to prevent a filibuster were never in the picture. It was just an administrative decision that will provide a tremendous benefit for construction workers in the United States.

The order specifically cites problems

that occur on large-scale construction projects when a structure for ensuring a steady supply of labor is not present, and when there is no formal process for resolving disputes, which are more common on sites with multiple employers on large sites.

The order stated, in part: "The use of a project labor agreement may prevent these problems from developing by providing structure and stability to large-scale construction projects, thereby promoting the efficient and expeditious completion of Federal construction contracts. Accordingly, it is the policy of the Federal Government to encourage executive agencies to consider requiring the use of project labor agreements in connection with large-scale construction projects in order to promote economy

and efficiency in Federal procurement."

Project Labor Agreements had been used by the Federal Government for years before George W. Bush issued an Executive Order prohibiting their use. Though anti-union advocates lobbied hard for that move, private companies and state governments continued to use the agreements to establish fair standards and procedures for managing projects.

The Executive Order also directs the Office of Management and Budget to study and make recommendations on broader use of PLAs "with respect to both construction projects undertaken under Federal contracts and construction projects receiving Federal financial assistance." ■

It All Starts with the Right Philosophy

The White House announced the establishment of a White House Task Force on Middle Class Working Families, not to be confused with the previous administrations unofficial War on the Middle Class. Vice President Joe Biden, who will chair the task force, published an Op-Ed piece in the *USA Today* the subject, indicating a stark contrast between the view of the current administration as compared to the last.

"For years, we had a White House that failed to put the middle class front

and center in its economic policies," Biden wrote.

"President Obama has made it clear that is going to change. And it's why he has asked me to lead a task force on the middle class."

"America's middle class is hurting. Trillions of dollars in home equity, retirement savings and college savings are gone. And every day, more and more Americans are losing their jobs."

"For the backbone of the USA, it's insult on top of injury. Over the course of

America's last economic expansion, the middle class participated in very few of the benefits. But now in the midst of this historic economic downturn, the middle class sure is participating in all of the pain. Something is seriously wrong when the economic engine of this nation – the great middle class – is treated this way."

"President Obama and I are determined to change this. Quite simply, a strong middle class equals a strong America. We can't have one without the other." ■

Secretary of Labor No Longer Hostile to Labor

President Barack Obama's nomination of Hilda Solis for Secretary of Labor created quite a bit of angst among Republicans and the business community. A four-term Democratic Congresswoman from California, Solis was seen as too friendly to unions.

Solis was a sponsor of the Employee Free Choice Act. And wide support from unions helped her unseat an incumbent Democrat when she was first elected to Congress.

From an anti-union business perspective, it got worse. Her father was a shop steward of the Teamsters in their native Mexico before they came to the United States and her mother worked on an assembly line. As a State Representative in California she was a strong advocate for raising the minimum wage.

After eight years, it seem to become accepted among Republicans that the Secretary of Labor should protect people from labor, rather than enforcing labor standards.

Her eventual appointment came after several weeks of debate over whether her nomination would fall victim to a Republican filibuster and whether it was just a warm-up for the big battle brewing on the Employee Free Choice Act. She eventually won Senate approval by a wide margin.

As Secretary of Labor, Solis is now in a position to reverse a string of anti-union administrative moves by the Bush team. Largely voluntary compliance with safety rules will probably be replaced with increased inspection and penalties for those who operate with workers safety at risk. There is also likely to be an end in the dramatic increase in demand for paperwork from unions, paperwork that seemed designed to tie up unions and cost members money more than actually protect anyone from anything.

Another big issue likely to get addressed is the misclassification of workers as independent contractors. The Inspector general for Tax Administration of the Treasury Department issued a report in early February. The report audited the incidence of misclassification and the ramifications on tax collections. The conclusion was not surprising to anyone who has been following the issue on a state-by-state basis.

"Misclassified workers are a significant portion of the employment tax gap. However, because studies of the impact of worker misclassification on the tax gap are over 20 years old, the IRS does not know the size of the problem today and is unable to determine the overall effectiveness of its actions to address this issue. The IRS conducted a preliminary



Hilda Solis, Secretary of Labor

analysis of Fiscal Year 2006 operational and program data and found that under reporting attributable to misclassified workers is likely to be markedly higher than the \$1.6 billion estimate from Tax Year 1984 indicates."

The report then calls for development and implementation of an agency-wide program to address the issue and conducting a formal compliance study to measure the issues impact. IRS officials agreed with the recommendations and expect to move forward in a coordinated fashion. ■

More Americans Becoming Union Members

Times may be tough, but there are indications that the union movement has started to reverse a long decline in membership. The Bureau of Labor Statistics, a federal government body, reported that union membership in the United States has gone up. Both total union membership and union membership as a percentage of the national workforce have gone up.

The increase in 2008 is the first statistically significant upward move since the Bureau started reporting the numbers 25 years ago.

In 2008, union members represented 12.4 percent of employed workers, up from 12.1 percent in 2007. In the construction industry, union membership went from 13.9% of the workforce in 2007 to 15.6% in 2008.

The BLS report can be found online with tables breaking down data by state. It also compares wages between union and nonunion workers—guess who makes more?—and other details

The report is located at this address: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/union2.toc.htm>. ■

Labor Takes Center Stage

The most divisive bill in Washington this year is a labor bill. It has been the source of millions of dollars in spending by supporters and opponents because it could fundamentally alter the ability of workers to form unions. The changes in law made by the Employee Free Choice Act could lead to a resurgence in the labor movement. But it's got to pass first.

The bill was introduced last year with significant support, but not enough to pass the Senate and a promised veto from then-President George W. Bush. Things started to look better after November, though. Barack Obama sponsored the bill and made its passage one of his consistent commitments during his campaign for the Presidency. Democrats secured significant majorities in both the House and the Senate. Still it might be a few votes shy.

When Republican Arlen Specter announced in late March that he would oppose the bill and wouldn't even vote for cloture, the bill seemed dead in its original form. But several Democratic Senators were lukewarm in their support, at best. Their position was due either to their conservative nature or their election from the state of Arkansas, where one of the leaders of the opposition (Wal-Mart) exerts significant influence.

What does the bill do that would whip up such "with us or against us" furor? It allows workers to form a union without the National Labor Relations Board election process, if they choose. Despite the furor over what opponents call the "elimination of the foundation of American democracy, the secret ballot," the bill does not remove a secret ballot election as a possible determination over whether workers unionize. It simply makes the method a choice for workers to make, rather than the employer.

Rather than the election process, workers could use a "card check" system whereby a union would be formed if a simple majority of workers signed authorization cards indicating their preference for a union.

The legislation is being pushed because of the difficulty workers face in the current election system. It is a lengthy process and usually involves workers being improperly harassed and threatened by supervisors, company owners and outside legal firms that specialize in "union avoidance" for companies. At least one worker is usually illegally fired and companies usually threaten to fire more or float empty threats to shut down the company or move if workers unionize. A toothless NLRB usually doesn't follow up with investigations or it imposes minimal fines that do nothing to deter employers.

The new law would impose strict enforcement and steep fines if either the company or union representatives violated NLRB regulations.

The EFCA would also push to improve what happens after a workplace unionizes. Historically, management delays negotiations or participates without any serious intention of working toward a collective bargaining agreement. The new law would require a federal mediator to be used after a period of negotiations fails to result in a contract. If there is still no agreement reached, disputed issues are subjected to a binding arbitration process.

Though Obama vowed to pass the Employee Free Choice Act during the campaign, it now remains to be seen if that will be sooner or later. It will be sooner if they compromise on a watered-down bill; later, if they wait to secure more votes or elect a greater majority. ■

In DC, 60 is the New 50

It used to be that if one party held a majority of seats in Congress, it could pass the laws it liked. Even if the President was from the opposing party, a majority could put pressure on the White House to negotiate a compromise on legislation. Things have changed.

For all the talk of bipartisanship, more and more votes in Washington are taking place simply along party lines, which makes the Senate the place where a bill's fate may be decided in the counting of votes between 50 and 60.

To pass, a bill must get a majority of members to vote in favor. In the House that's a simple 218 votes. In the Senate that number is 50. But traditional Senate rules allow for "unlimited debate." Senators opposing a bill's passage, but lacking a simple majority to defeat it, may take advantage of these rules to debate "endlessly." This is what is known as a filibuster. Ending a filibuster requires a motion for "cloture" which requires 60 votes to pass. In some cases, even those opposed to a bill will respect the merit of allowing it to go to a vote. But not in today's partisan times.

All of this is crucial now because Democrats control the House, the White House and 59 seats in the Senate, pending Al Franken's expected seating. This means that, despite being in such a minority, Republicans can stop almost anything if not one Republican Senator ever votes for cloture.

Nation Waits and Watches for Federal Spending to Kickstart Economy

Stimulus. Before all of New England's snow was melted, stimulus had probably sealed up a prize as the most commonly used word of 2009. Before he was even sworn into office, Barack Obama's Presidential legacy was already being tied to the results of a stimulus bill to jumpstart the economy as soon as possible.

Technically speaking, the stimulus bill is named "The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009." It's a big sounding title with some big spending inside. Like everything else in Washington, views on the bill were largely dependent upon which end of the political spectrum you like.

Democrats and liberals argued for more spending on job-creating projects. "Shovel-ready" was the war cry early on for people who saw a rare opportunity to jump start the economy and catch up with decades of neglect to the nation's infrastructure.

Republicans and conservatives – to the extent they were still able to agree on anything amongst themselves – called it a pork-filled boondoggle that should have included more tax cuts.

In the end, the Obama administration tweaked the original bill just enough to win a filibuster proof majority with votes of Republican Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins from Maine and Arlen Specter from Pennsylvania.

The administration predicts the bill will create and protect 3.5 million jobs for American workers and begin to put the nation's economy back on track. It will inject \$787 billion of federal money into the economy through direct spend-

ing and funds to states. They're also trying to fight back against critics who say too much money will be wasted, saying if they find instances of abuse "we will call it out and we will publicize it. A lot of money is coming out quickly [and] it's got to be spent wisely."

Vice President Joe Biden said the bill was suited to achieve the three goals the administration had identified: to put money directly into the pockets of individual taxpayers, to create jobs in the near term, and to make investments in "jobs of the future," such as solar power or the development of a so-called "smart grid" for electricity.

Though the goal was to get money on the streets as quickly as possible, identifying projects and completing design and bidding for construction projects was expected to slow start-ups of some jobs into late spring or early summer.

In addition to funding for construction projects, states received money to pay for unemployment benefits and make continuation of health benefits through COBRA easier for Americans

who had lost their jobs.

Twenty-four billion dollars is being dispersed to assist workers with COBRA coverage. It will provide individuals and their families with a premium subsidy of 65 percent of the COBRA continuation premiums for a maximum of 9 months of coverage only with respect to involuntary terminations that occurs on or after September 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2010. The full premium subsidy is limited by a taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI): \$125,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for joint filers and is phased out for individuals with an AGI between \$125,000 and \$145,000 and families with an AGI between \$250,000 and \$290,000. It provides a special 60-day election period for a qualified beneficiary who is eligible for a subsidized premium and who has not elected COBRA continuation coverage as of the date of enactment or who is no longer enrolled on the date of enactment, for example, because the beneficiary was unable to continue paying the premium. ■

"Today does not mark the end of our economic troubles. Nor does it constitute all of what we must do to turn our economy around. But it does mark the beginning of the end: the beginning of what we need to do to create jobs for Americans scrambling in the wake of layoffs; to provide relief for families worried they won't be able to pay next month's bills; and to set our economy on a firmer foundation, paving the way to longterm growth and prosperity."

– President Barack Obama

What the Federal Stimulus Package Means for New England Carpenters

Included here is some basic information about other money New England states will be receiving to fund projects directly relevant to Union Carpenters. It is not a comprehensive list of all the items states are receiving money to fund.

Connecticut

41,000 jobs will be created in Connecticut

Unemployment in Connecticut stood at 7.5 percent in March 2009.

The Department of Labor estimates that Connecticut could receive \$88.4 million in new funding if Connecticut fully enacts the UI modernization incentives that the new law provides.

According to the National Employment Law Project, this means that an additional \$100 in unemployment insurance benefits will be offered to approximately 278,000 workers who have lost their jobs in this recession.

- \$19.7 million through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of drinking water infrastructure needs
- \$48.8 million through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of clean water infrastructure needs
- \$302.1 million in Highway Funding to be used on activities eligible under the Federal-aid Highway Program's Surface Transportation Program and could also include rail and port infrastructure activities at the discretion of the states
- \$137.5 million in Transit Formula Funding for investments in mass transit
- \$35.9 million through the Public Housing Capital Fund to enable local public housing agencies to address a national \$32 billion backlog in capital needs – especially those improving energy efficiency in aging developments – in this critical element of the nation's affordable housing infrastructure
- \$26.3 million in HOME Funding to enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families
- \$65.8 million through the Weatherization Assistance Program

Maine

15,000 jobs will be created in Maine

Unemployment in Maine stood at 8.1 percent in March 2009. The Department of Labor estimates that Maine could receive \$28.4 million in new funding if Maine fully enacts the UI modernization incentives that the new law provides.

According to the National Employment Law Project, this means that an additional \$100 in unemployment insurance benefits will be offered to approximately 70,000 workers who have lost their jobs in this recession.

- \$19.7 million through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of drinking water infrastructure needs
- \$30.8 million through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of clean water infrastructure needs
- \$130.8 million in Highway Funding to be used on activities eligible under the Federal-aid Highway Program's Surface Transportation Program and could also include rail and port infrastructure activities at the discretion of the states
- \$13.3 million in Transit Formula Funding for investments in mass transit
- \$8.4 million through the Public Housing Capital Fund to enable local public housing agencies to address a national \$32 billion backlog in capital needs – especially those improving energy efficiency in aging developments – in this critical element of the nation's affordable housing infrastructure
- \$10.7 million in HOME Funding to enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families
- \$42.8 million through the Weatherization Assistance Program

Massachusetts

79,000 jobs will be created in Massachusetts.

Unemployment in Massachusetts stood at 7.8 percent in March 2009. The Department of Labor estimates that Massachusetts could receive \$163.7 million in new funding if Massachusetts fully enacts the UI modernization incentives that the new law provides.

According to the National Employment Law Project, this means that an additional \$100 in unemployment insurance benefits will be offered to approximately 503,000 workers who have lost their jobs in this recession.

- \$52.6 million through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of drinking water infrastructure needs
- \$135 million through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of clean water infrastructure needs
- \$437.9 million in Highway Funding to be used on activities eligible under the Federal-aid Highway Program's Surface Transportation Program and could also include rail and port infrastructure activities at the discretion of the states
- \$319.7 million in Transit Formula Funding for investments in mass transit
- \$82.3 million through the Public Housing Capital Fund to enable local public housing agencies to address a national \$32 billion backlog in capital needs – especially those improving energy efficiency in aging developments – in this critical element of the nation's affordable housing infrastructure
- \$59.7 million in HOME Funding to enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families
- \$124.7 million through the Weatherization Assistance Program

New Hampshire

16,000 jobs will be created in New Hampshire.

Unemployment in New Hampshire stood at 6.2 percent in March 2009. The Department of Labor estimates that New Hampshire could receive \$31.6 million in new funding if New Hampshire fully enacts the UI modernization incentives that the new law provides.

According to the National Employment Law Project, this means that an additional \$100 in unemployment insurance benefits will be offered to approximately 57,000 workers who have lost their jobs in this recession.

- \$19.7 million through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of drinking water infrastructure needs
- \$39.8 million through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of clean water infrastructure needs
- \$129.4 million in Highway Funding to be used on activities eligible under the Federal-aid Highway Program's Surface Transportation Program and could also include rail and port infrastructure activities at the discretion of the states
- \$13.2 million in Transit Formula Funding for investments in mass transit
- \$7.8 million through the Public Housing Capital Fund to enable local public housing agencies to address a national \$32 billion backlog in capital needs – especially those improving energy efficiency in aging developments – in this critical element of the nation's affordable housing infrastructure
- \$8.4 million in HOME Funding to enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families
- \$23.7 million through the Weatherization Assistance Program

Rhode Island

12,000 jobs will be created in Rhode Island.

Unemployment in Rhode Island stood at 10.5 percent in March 2009. The Department of Labor estimates that Rhode Island could receive \$23.6 million in new funding if Rhode Island fully enacts the UI modernization incentives that the new law provides.

According to the National Employment Law Project, this means that an additional \$100 in unemployment insurance benefits will be offered to approximately 86,000 workers who have lost their jobs in this recession.

- \$19.7 million through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of drinking water infrastructure needs
- \$26.7 million through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of clean water infrastructure needs
- \$137.1 million in Highway Funding to be used on activities eligible under the Federal-aid Highway Program's Surface Transportation Program and could also include rail and port infrastructure activities at the discretion of the states
- \$29.6 million in Transit Formula Funding for investments in mass transit
- \$19 million through the Public Housing Capital Fund to enable local public housing agencies to address a national \$32 billion backlog in capital needs – especially those improving energy efficiency in aging developments – in this critical element of the nation's affordable housing infrastructure
- \$12.1 million in HOME Funding to enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families
- \$20.5 million through the Weatherization Assistance Program

Vermont

8,000 jobs will be created in Vermont.

Unemployment in Vermont stood at 7.2 percent in March 2009. The Department of Labor estimates that Vermont could receive \$14 million in new funding if Vermont fully enacts the UI modernization incentives that the new law provides.

According to the National Employment Law Project, this means that an additional \$100 in unemployment insurance benefits will be offered to approximately 48,000 workers who have lost their jobs in this recession.

- \$19.7 million through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of drinking water infrastructure needs
- \$19.5 million through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to address the backlog of clean water infrastructure needs
- \$125.8 million in Highway Funding to be used on activities eligible under the Federal-aid Highway Program's Surface Transportation Program and could also include rail and port infrastructure activities at the discretion of the states
- \$5.7 million in Transit Formula Funding for investments in mass transit
- \$3.4 million through the Public Housing Capital Fund to enable local public housing agencies to address a national \$32 billion backlog in capital needs – especially those improving energy efficiency in aging developments – in this critical element of the nation's affordable housing infrastructure
- \$5.5 million in HOME Funding to enable state and local government, in partnership with community-based organizations, to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate affordable housing and provide rental assistance to poor families
- \$17.2 million through the Weatherization Assistance Program

Helping Neighbors in Need

Apprentices from the New England Carpenters Training Center and Floorcoverers from Local 2168 were recently called upon to help a local charitable organization refit their space.

Thirteen years ago when the senior citizens of South Boston were in need of a space to gather, the Building Trades generously stepped up. In the course of a day a home was built on a vacant lot by various volunteers from the Boston Building Trades. The building was called the South Boston Neighborhood House and was the new home for a Senior Program for the elderly, providing them with opportunities to be active and contributing members of their community.

Earlier this year, due to economic conditions the program needed to consolidate the larger program's operations. The program needed to move its administrative offices, after school program, and teen programming to the second floor of the building. In order to properly handle these additional operations, various changes needed to be made to the existing space.

Three crews of volunteer apprentices from the New England Carpenter Training Center, along with Instructor Dave Leonhardi traveled to South Boston to help in the efforts. The crews' work included drywall metal stud, doors and hardware, and decking of the floors for office space. "It was a nice opportunity for a change of scenery for our training and more importantly to give back to the community," notes Leonhardi.

Local 2168 utilized the South Boston project to enhance the skills of several members. With this type of project, the theoretical combined with "real" life installation situations provided the opportunity for someone to build the confidence and gain valuable field experience. The apprentices who rarely get delegated intricate work loved the challenge and again gained confidence that should allow them to remain employable moving forward.

Instructor Rick McLaughlin got his feet wet as far as utilizing his teaching skills on a fast track job. The installation of flooring included: VCT on the diagonal, rubber stair treads, carpet, floor prep, and wall base.

Local 2168 would like to extend a big thank you to signatory contractors Pavilion Floors and Independent Floors who donated materials to the project. The total cost of donated man-hours and materials from the flooring component of the project was valued at over \$35,000.

In a letter posted on their website (www.sbnh.org) Executive Director Barbara McDonald said, "Our country is in severe distress. Many of the union workers who have donated their time and skill are either underemployed or unemployed. In a show of selfless generosity, however they offered their help. Most of these individuals are not residents of South Boston... A sign up sheet was posted at the union hall and they simply joined our effort... We are tremendously grateful. We could not have done it



Mike Higgins, Local 2168, installs flooring.

without you!"

Once again, the Carpenters Union answered the call and through the volunteer efforts of its members, the South Boston Neighborhood House is able to continue to serve its community.

To view a video of this project visit the new Building New England website at www.NERCCBuildingNewEngland.com. ■

NECTC Apprentice Volunteers:

Frank Angelo, 40; Matt Baldwin, 40; John Burns, 33; Eric Bustos, 33; Pat Cole, 33; Kevin Cook, 33; Joe Daly, 67; Ryan Doherty, 111; Joe Faricelli, 33; Tom Flaherty, 33; James Giuffre, 33; Mark Glynn, 40; Richie Hannon, 40; Kim Hokensen, 275; John Judge, 475; Roberto Lima, 218; Tiago Meneses, 111; Bill Newton, 275; Kevin O'Connor, 67; Jon Parisian, 26; John Reneri, 33; Ken Santana, 40; Adam Sinkus, 33; Carlo Tardaico, 218; John Toti, 33; Ryan Tuttle, 67; and Sodhath Yin, 40

Local 2168 Volunteers:

Apprentices: Luis Bonilla, Robert Bradbury, Rudy Renderos.
Journeyman: Tony Carter, Mike Higgins, Rick McLaughlin, Tom O'Toole, Thomas Quinlan, Phil Russo, Mike Vasquez, Dave Weaver

Local 535 Fishing Derby

On February 15th, Carpenters Local 535 held the second annual Ice Fishing Derby. This year's event was held at Asnocomet Pond in Hubbardston, MA. The first prize winner, for the second year in a row, was Charlie MacFarlane, Local 723, with a 2 pound, 13 ounce land-locked salmon.

Members from Locals around the Council participated in this year's event. Local 535 is taking suggestions for a location to hold the 2010 derby. If you have any suggestions, contact Joe Broderick at 78-963-0200. ■

Participants of the 2009 Fishing Derby (l-r): Kevin Bedard, Bill Broderick, Joe Broderick, Chris Shannon, Fred MacFarlane, Steve Akers, Charlie MacFarlane, and Paul Dickson.



Members Help Rhode Island Family Shelter

This past holiday season, staff and members of Carpenters Local 94 pitched in once again to give to those in need. Since 1999, Local 94 has been raising money to aid the Rhode Island Family Shelter.

The fundraising efforts were organized by the Local 94 VOC Raffle Committee. The committee sent out a mailing to solicit donations from signatory contractors and also organized a raffle. Local 94 donated the cost of the raffle tickets and prizes, including

a flat panel HD TV. This year's fundraiser was once again a great success, with over \$10,000 raised in direct contributions and raffle ticket sales.

Over the last nine years the Carpenters have raised over \$45,000 for the shelter, both through fund raising efforts as well as sponsorship of two rooms at the shelter and volunteer construction work.

Keep up the good work! ■

Carpenters Got An Early Start

The Carpenters union provides opportunities for workers to earn a decent living while providing quality labor to union contractors and those engaging in building projects. But more than that, union carpenters and contractors play an important role off-the-clock, giving their skills and effort as the foundation for charity work or community building.

For several months, members of Carpenters union apprenticeship programs have been working with union contractor Bilt-Rite to help a street and a community in need. Long before the financial crisis and rash of foreclosures hit the nation, Hendry Street in Boston was facing chronic problems.

Absentee landlords, foreclosures and crime plagued the Dorchester street, giving it a level of notoriety. And before any stimulus or bailout packages were being discussed, union carpenters were on Hendry Street making a difference.

Boston Mayor Tom Menino took a stand to bring the street back by taking over several buildings and turning them over the Bilt-Rite for development as affordable housing. Teaming with Training Directors Dick Nihtila in Millbury and Ben Tilton



in Brighton, Bilt-Rite has been turning around the multi-family houses from boarded-up eyesores to clean, fresh opportunities.

Special thanks to all the apprentices and instructors who have helped out on site was given by Mayor Menino during a visit that was covered by several local news outlets. ■



New Signatory Contractors

To learn more about these and other union contractors that can help you build a winning team, contact the Contractor Relations Department.

Throughout New England, call 1-800-275-6200, ext 5112 or 617-307-5112.

The New England Regional Council of Carpenters continues to sign companies to collective bargaining agreements, showing that union construction is not only the right thing to do, but makes good business sense as well.

Growth in the number of contractors choosing to do work with union carpenters is not only good for members and the union, but good for other union contractors as well. The more contractors that uphold industry standards, the more level the playing field becomes for honest contractors. It also allows union general contractors more of a selection in building teams for their projects and gives union subcontractors a larger group of general contractors to work for.

The expanded listing of new contractors below is intended to help members and existing union contractors identify and consider newly signed contractors for upcoming work. Contractors are listed in the chronological order they signed collective bargaining agreements.

The Northern Corp.

Southborough, MA

Specialties: Toilet partitions

Bidding range: \$1,000,000 – \$5,000,000

JTR Associates, Inc.

Wilton, CT

Specialties: Design/build residential projects

Bidding range: \$100,000-\$71,000,000

Watch City Door Specialists, LLC

Waltham, MA

Specialties: Doors & hardware

Ice Installing Coolers Etc., Inc.

Anoka, MN

Specialties: Walk-in cooler installation

MCM Acoustics, LLC

Hartford, CT

Specialties: Acoustical ceilings, general trades, drywall

Bidding range: up to \$2,000,000

Piledrivers at Black Falcon Terminal

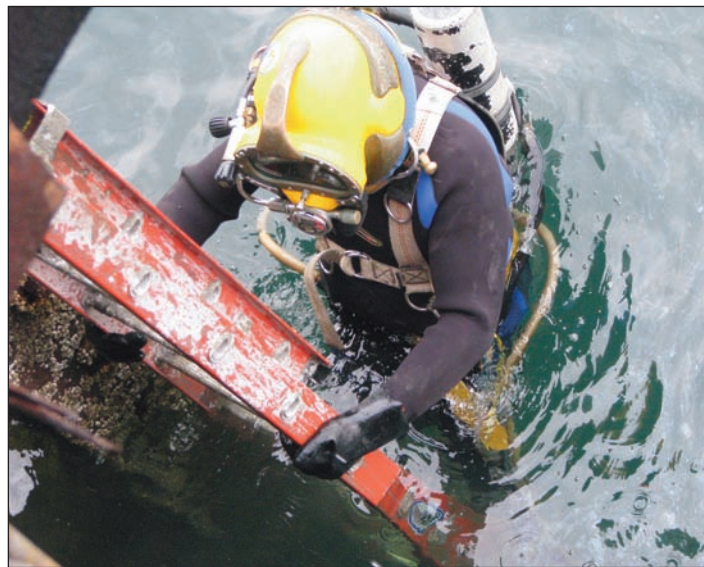
At the Black Falcon Terminal in South Boston, members of Piledrivers Local 56 are working with signatory contractor CRC Company, Inc., of Quincy, MA, installing a two million dollar fender system to better handle the burgeoning cruise ship business.

While the cruise ships are tied to the pier, rising and falling with the tides, the fender system keeps the ships and the pier itself from being damaged. The fenders are being installed at ten locations along the pier. The construction includes working underwater as well as forming and pouring concrete at low tide.

Divers are able to work in the 30 degree water using a hot water suit. During the dive hot water is pumped through plastic tubing that runs throughout the wet suit. Divers work using surface supplied air and have an emergency air supply tank on their back.

The primary diving tasks involve using hydraulic saws to cut concrete and wood, and using pneumatic impact hammers for demolition.

The project is expected to be completed within three months to accommodate the 2009 cruise season. ■



Diver Fran Kotek enters the water.

Connecticut Implements Best Practices in Health Care Construction Training

Construction in occupied healthcare facilities is a large and expanding segment of the construction industry. Billions of dollars are spent annually on additions and renovations to existing, occupied healthcare facilities.

These work opportunities, however, present unique challenges to contractors, healthcare administrators, workers and patients. Many hazards exist that are unique to the healthcare industry. Contamination, cross-contamination, mold, viruses and other issues must be considered and addressed. The statistics are staggering: 1.75 million cases resulting in nearly 100,000 deaths annually from healthcare associated infections (HAI's).

In an effort to address these issues and expand the work opportunities for union members and contractors, the Carpenters International Training Fund has developed a training course called "Best Practices in Healthcare Construction: Occupied Facilities". This 24-hour member training course covers types of hazards and methods used to minimize and control exposure; types of healthcare facilities; how infection control measures are determined; common types of contaminants and how they are spread as well as ways to control airborne mold spores. The training involves class-

room training as well as hands-on practice using isolation methods, negative air-pressure environments, personal protective gear and contaminant removal methods.

The Connecticut Carpenters Apprentice & Training Program recently presented the first session of the Best Practices in Healthcare Facilities class. Members employed with the S.G. Milazzo Company attended the first class. Instructor Timothy Moriarty presented the curriculum and supervised the hands-on practice session.

This training should be in high demand in Connecticut and the rest of New England with the large number of hospitals, convalescent homes, out-patient clinics and other healthcare facilities around the region. The volume of current work and projected work in the future indicates that the need for this



Participants demonstrate how to utilize a "Portable Work Cube" to remove a contaminated ceiling tile from an occupied area.

important training will increase into the foreseeable future. ■

Wood Structures Closes Its Doors

Wood Structures, Inc. the Saco, Maine based yard that sold raw lumber and manufactured trusses and other materials for lumber yards throughout New England, has closed and could be liquidated through Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceedings.

Wood Structures has been struggling for some time as the housing sector steadily declined. The company, more than 40 years old has had multiple owners, according to news reports. The current owner was listed as Roark Capital

Group of Atlanta, GA. The final 50 or so employees, who were members of Carpenters Local 1996, were laid off.

Employees who belong to Local 1996 of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters will be owed a week's pay for every year of service, said Bob Burleigh, the union's industrial representative. Severance and vacation pay will be among the issues the union will seek for workers during bankruptcy proceedings.

Union workers earned wages ranging from approximately \$15 to \$25 an hour

and received benefits, including health care, a retirement plan and paid vacation.

"They were very good jobs," Burleigh said.

In addition to being a well known name to lumber yards and contractors in the region, Wood Structures was a familiar site to any New Englanders travelling to Maine. Its property sat right alongside Route 95, with its yard and materials in full site of passersby. ■

Union Building Online

Despite all the advances in technology and computers, despite G3 wireless networks, iPhones and social networking, nobody has yet finished an actual construction project in “cyberspace.”

Construction still needs human hands and arms to swing a hammer, not a mouse, actual backs to carry and lift materials, not a keyboard, and actual places in the real world to serve as construction sites, not computer screens.

So why is the New England Regional Council of Carpenters asking members to take advantage of things like Facebook, blogs and Twitter? Because just like the old town square, social halls and public forums, the conversations and relationships that develop online are having a growing impact on what people know, how they think and, as a result, whether a project gets built and who gets hired to build it.

NERCC launched its most basic online presence—necarpenters.org—close to a dozen years ago. The official NERCC website contains phone numbers, names and addresses for training, benefit funds, local unions and the Council. Schedules for union meetings and bios of Council leaders can be found here, as well as information about the union that is useful to nonunion carpenters or contractors interested in learning more. It also contains a VOC discussion board. Members must register for access, using their U# for verification of membership. A section includes Pride Point prize and redemption information.

The union has found NECarpenters.org to be a good basic tool for information that doesn't change that often, but it isn't as easy to use to share developing news. For that reason, the union launched the NERCC Blog last year. Blogs are something of a cross between a diary and an online news publication, with posts made on a regular basis, sometimes multiple times a day.



The site, at NERCCBlog.com, contains articles and links to online information of interest. The union launched another blog when planning was underway for the new NERCC headquarters building.

CarpentersCenter.com includes articles and pictures from the site. A banner advertises the site to drivers on the well-traveled Southeast Expressway into Boston. It offers average citizens a peek inside a construction site and the world of union carpenters. Pictures are taken and posted from the site once or twice a week.

NERCCBuildingNewEngland.com, is a third blog that serves as an online portfolio of projects where union carpenters and contractors are working in New England, including community projects. Members are encouraged to take pictures of their job and forward them with basic information about the job for possible inclusion. Pictures and information can be sent to bdurand@neclmp.org

or mwalsh@neclmp.org.

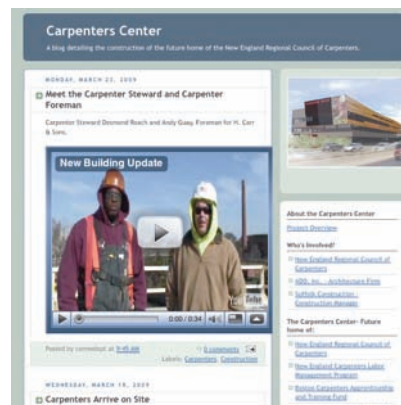
Rank-and-file union carpenters have started building their own community online at **Facebook**. Several dozen members who already had accounts on the popular service signed up to join the New England Regional Council of

Carpenters group within weeks of its creation. Groups for Local 424 and 67 have also since been created.

In addition to stories and links to information, the blogs and Facebook users have also been seeing videos produced by NERCC. Several video presentations shown at last fall's NERCC convention have been

posted on YouTube. Numerous other videos have since been posted, featuring community work by members, promotional clips for the union and clips and interviews from the Carpenters Center. To view videos, go to youtube.com and in the “Search” box type “NECarpenters”.

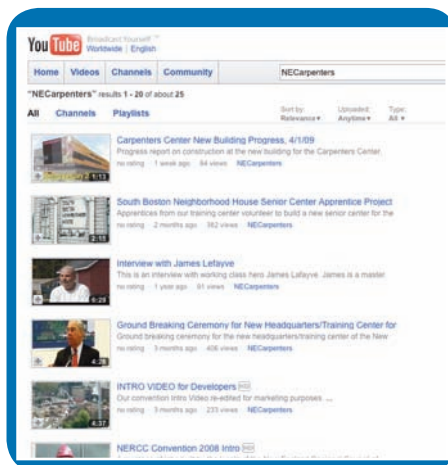
From the NECarpenters site on YouTube, members can email videos to fellow members, family or friends. They can also be embedded on other sites, as they



often are on the NERCC blogs. While the NERCC family of blogs and Facebook activity focuses largely on issues internally important to the union, online newspapers and blogs offer a wealth of opportunities for members to promote union values to a larger world.

National progressive blogs like **Daily Kos** (DailyKos.com) and **Talking Points Memo** (talkingpointsmemo.com) have built heavily trafficked sites that straddle journalism and the corner coffee shop, with everyone having an chance to get on the soapbox.

Blue Mass Group (bluemassgroup.com) is one of the more popular political sites in New England. Managed by three friends who are interested in politics, but who don't work in government or politics, it played a significant role in organizing supporters of Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick before he was given much of a chance against a field of



well-known Democratic primary rivals.

Anyone can post on Blue Mass Group, with the three proprietors picking and promoting the most interesting. Members also enter into lengthy discussions of posts in comment sections.

Other blogs are run by newspapers, with reporters blogging more opinionated pieces or stories that didn't make the

paper, but might spark reader interest and discussion.

Like blogs, newspapers themselves online offer an opportunity for members to educate the general public about facts unknown or misunderstood when it comes to unions and the construction industry.

Some members are already involved in commenting on stories posted by newspapers online. General guidelines for members posting are given in the accompanying item.

Some carpenters may be intimidated by computers and unless they're hanging out in the trailer, they may never use them to do what needs to be done onsite to turn an empty lot into a usable structure. But that doesn't mean computers and online activity won't impact them. Learning to use the tools in cyberspace may provide more opportunities for union carpenters to use their tools on site. ■

Comment on News Stories You Read Online

Many news sites allow readers to post comments about a story. Reader comments may appear beneath the story with a form for submitting more comments. Members are encouraged to use this feature and express their feelings about stories they read online concerning union and construction issues.

Remember these are public forums, so be direct, but respectful of others. Site editors do reserve the right to remove comments they find objectionable.

Tips for commenting

Make a rational case, but also keep in mind a few things:

- **Visibility:** The last few comments (or first comments, whichever appear at the top of the list) might be the only ones someone reads. So getting in early or going back to make sure you have a comment within sight of the top (whichever way they list) makes a difference.
- **Popularity:** It helps to get multiple people involved on your side. If someone that doesn't know better reads through, they feel like more people agree with your point than the other, making your point "right".
- **Diversity:** If you can get more people involved, a mix of rational, fact based comments with straight forward statements of opinion works well. Different readers, with different levels of sophistication, might gloss over or ignore "educated arguments" but react to short, emotional or clever appeals. "Sophisticated" or "educated" can be taken here to mean sophisticated or educated in relation to the industry or unions, not that you were on the Ivy League Debate team.

NERCCBlog.com for news and information.

CarpentersCenter.com to follow construction of the new NERCC HQ.

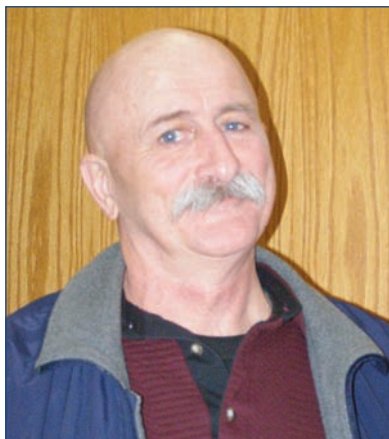
Two Veteran Staffers Retire from NERCC

Brothers Simon James and Jeff Marcoux have retired from their full-time positions with the New England Regional Council of Carpenters, taking with them years of experience as Business Agents for their Local Unions, Trustees for Carpenters benefit funds and respected leaders in the union.

Brother James, who served as the Warden of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters as well as the Business Manager of Carpenters Local 108 and Regional Manager for Central and Western Massachusetts retired earlier this year.

James has been a member of the Brotherhood for more than 29 years and has served as a Trustee on numerous benefit and training funds. He was elected to serve as the NERCC Warden in 1997, 2001 and 2005.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Mark Erlich has appointed Jack Donahue to fill out James' unexpired term on the NERCC Executive Board as Warden.



Brother Jeff Marcoux

Donahue will also take over as Regional Manager for Central and Western Massachusetts. Jason Garand has been named Business Manager for Local 108.

Brother Marcoux retired this spring from his role as Business Manager for Carpenters Local 111 in the Merrimack Valley of Massachusetts. He was also the Regional Manager for Eastern Massachusetts Locals north and west of Boston.



Brother Simon James

Marcoux has 40 years of membership in the Brotherhood and has served as a Trustee on numerous benefit and training funds as well as the New England Carpenters Labor Management Program.

Following Marcoux's retirement, Brother Lou Catanzaro has been appointed to serve as Regional Manager of the area. Joe Gangi, Jr. has been named Business Manager for Local 111. ■

Take advantage of your wellness benefits.

Learn more at
carpentersfund.org/news.asp

New England Carpenters
Health Benefit Fund

Taking Measure | Taking Care

WELL BEYOND | NEW ENGLAND
CARPENTERS
BENEFIT FUNDS

ANNOUNCING YOUR | NEW WELLNESS BENEFIT

Carpenter Training Opportunities

Listed below are training programs where upgrade classes are held and a list of the classes that each offers. A listing of currently schedule sessions for these classes can be found on page 28. If a class you are interested in taking is not currently scheduled, please contact your training center and express your interest. Sessions are often scheduled when a minimum number of people express interest.

Connecticut Carpenters Training Center

500 Main Street
Yalesville, CT 06492
Contact: Richard Christ
Phone: 203-284-1362

Blueprint reading, Builders Level and Transit, Total Station, Concrete Formwork, Insulated Concrete Forms, Stairs, Metal Framing and Drywall, Suspended Ceilings, Solid Surface Installation, U.B.C. 32-Hour Rigging Certification, Forklift Training, Lift & Boom Training, Fall Prevention, O.S.H.A.-10 Safety Awareness and O.S.H.A.-30 Construction Safety, Basic Welding and D.O.T. Welding, C.P.R. & First Aid, Powder Actuated Tools, U.B.C. Forman Training, Floor Covering, Ingersoll Rand Door Hardware Certification, U.B.C. Scaffold Certification.

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, Stepping up to UBC Foreman, OSHA 10, OSHA 30, GE Gas Turbine Familiarization Course, Drywall Certification, Blueprint Reading, 16 Hr Welded Frame and Mobile Tower, First Aid/CPR, Systems Refresher.

Eastern Massachusetts Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund

SE Location

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 Floorcovers Local Union 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, Install Carpet and Resilient Assessments
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. HAZ-WOPER: ongoing; call for dates and times.

Eastern Massachusetts Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund

NE Location

350 Fordham Road, 201
Wilmington, MA 01887
Contacts: Connie Faro
Phone: 978-752-1197.

UBC Foreman Training, First Aid/CPR, Finish and Cabinet Installation, Construction Math, Acoustical Ceilings, Basic Computers, Builders level/Transit Laser. 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

Blueprint Reading for Construction, Cabinetmaking, Ceiling Installation, Computer Aided Drawing and Design (CAD), Computer Literacy, Computer Spanish, Construction Supervisors License (Building Code), Door Hardware, Door Installation, Ergonomics for Construction, Ergonomics for Train the Trainer, ESL (English as a Second Language, ESL (OSHA 10-hour Spanish), Finish Carpentry, First Aid/CPR (for Construction Industry), Labor History, Math for Carpenters, Mentoring, Metal Stud & Drywall (Training and Certification), OSHA 10-Hour Construction Safety, OSHA 30 Hour Construction Safety, Rafter Layout I & II, Scaffolding 16 & 32 Hour Training and Certification, Steward Training (NERCC & Floorcovers) Survey/Project Layout, Total Station, UBC Foreman, Welding & Certification.

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, UBC Foreman Training, Finish and Cabinet Installation, Construction Math, Acoustical Ceilings, Basic Computers, Builders level/Transit laser.

Classes for floorcoverers only:
Vinyl Sheet Goods, Forbo Linoleum Installation and Welding, Plastic Laminate Flooring Certification, Scaffolding Users, Linoleum Seam Welding 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. ■

Total Skills Keep Union Carpenters on Top

Training programs throughout New England offer skills upgrade classes to help members become more complete workers. Taking classes allows members not only to maintain their skills, but to expand them. This allows signatory contractors to provide their clients with the highest level of workmanship.

Below is a schedule of classes offered at training centers in New England. Please check with your local training center to confirm times and dates and to ask about additional offerings in your area. Many classes are scheduled in other areas when requested by members. Please check other training pages in the magazine and call your local union or training program to indicate interest. In some cases, a \$25-30 deposit may be required for registration. Fees are refunded upon successful completion of each class.

Best Practices in Healthcare Construction: Occupied Facilities

Connecticut

24-hour certification class. Limited to 8 participants per session

Session 2:

4/18	7:00am-3:30 pm
4/21 & 4/23	5:30-9:30 pm
4/25	7:00 am-3:30 pm

Session 3:

5/6	5:30-9:30 pm
5/9 & 5/13	7:00 am-3:30 pm, and
5/16	5:30-9:30 pm

Building Code Preparation

Millbury

4-part class:

4/25, 5/2, 5/9, & 5/16 7:00 am-3:30pm

\$65 Deposit will be returned upon completion

Commercial Door & Hardware

5-part class:

5/17, 5/19, 5/24, & 5/26 5:30-9:30 pm and
5/21 7:00 am-3:30 pm

CPR/First Aid

Boston

2-part class:

Saturdays
4/18 & 4/25 7:00 am-2:00 pm

3-part class:

Tuesdays
5/19, 5/26, 6/2 4:30-8:30 pm

Eastern MA Carpenters – Randolph

5/18 & 5/19 5:00-9:00 pm

Drywall Certification

Boston

Call to schedule: 617-782-4314

Drywall Day Classes

Boston

Monday-Friday 7:00 am-3:30 pm
Call to schedule 617-782-4314

Fall Prevention

Connecticut

5/21 5:30-9:30 pm
Certification card will be issued upon completion

OSHA-10

Boston

3-part class:
5/5, 5/7 5:00-8:30 pm, and
5/9 7:00-10:00 am

Eastern MA Carpenters – Randolph

5/2 7:00 am-5:00 pm
6/13 7:00 am-5:00 pm

Eastern MA Carpenters – Wilmington

3-part class:
4/6, 4/7, 4/9 5:00-8:30 pm or
5/4, 5/5, 5/7 5:00-8:30 pm

Millbury

Saturday, 5/30 7:00 am-5:30 pm

OSHA-30

Boston

6-part class:
5/5, 5/7, 5/12, 5/14 5:00-8:30 pm and
5/9 & 5/16 7:00 am-3:30 pm

Eastern MA Carpenters Randolph

1st 10 hours:
3/4, 5/9, or 5/16 7:00 am-5:00 pm or
within 6-months with same instructor

2nd 10-hours:
5/2, 5/9, or 5/16 7:00-5:00 pm

3rd 10-hours:
6/13, 6/20, or 6/27 7:00 am-5:00 pm

OSHA-30

Eastern MA Carpenters – Wilmington

6-part class:
5/11, 5/12, 5/14, 5/18,
5/19, 5/21 5:00-8:30 pm

Millbury

1st 10-hours
5/30 or 6 months prior at NECTC

2nd 10-hours

6/6 7:00 am-5:30 pm

3rd 10-hours

6/13 7:00 am-5:30 pm

Rafters I & II/Wood Frame Cert. Eval.

Boston

2-part class:

Saturdays
4/18 & 4/25 7:00 am-3:30 pm
Saturdays
5/9 & 5/16 7:00 am-3:30 pm

Scaffold Erector Training 32-hour

Connecticut

6-part class:
5/4, 5/6, 5/11, 5/13 5:30-9:30 pm and
5/9, 5/16 7:00 am-3:30 pm

Eastern MA Carpenters – Randolph

4/1 & 4/2 5:00 pm and

3 Saturdays

4/11, 4/18, & 4/25 7:00 am

Scaffold Refresher 8-hour

Connecticut

5/19 and 5/20 5:30-9:30 pm

Eastern MA Carpenters – Randolph

2 nights

4/1 & 4/2 5:00-9:00 pm

Eastern MA Carpenters – Wilmington

Saturday

4/11 7:30 am-4:00 pm

Welded Frame & Mobile Tower Erector 16-hour

Connecticut

3-part class:

5/4 & 5/6 5:30-9:30 pm and
5/9 7:00 am-3:30 pm ■

NECTC Hosting More than Apprentice Carpenters

If it belonged to anyone else, the New England Carpenters Training Center might just be a conveniently located building with just the right facilities for hosting a meeting of people converging from different parts of the region. But it's not. It's also affiliated with one of the more active and connected organizations in the area.

That became apparent again this spring when two groups visited the Millbury, MA training showcase to discuss issues that overlap carpenters interests.

One week the Massachusetts Joint Task Force on the Underground Economy and Employee Misclassification hosted a meeting of close to 50 investigators, administrators and lawyers from six different state agencies and departments.

In addition to discussing ways to communicate on enforcement and jobsite raids against suspected cheaters, they heard from NERCC Organizers Mario Mejia and Manny Gines as well as Steve

Joyce, the Legislative Director for the New England Carpenters Labor Management Program. Mark Erlich, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters co-hosted the meeting with George Noel, the Director of the Massachusetts Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Gines and Mejia provided real life examples of how contractors insulate themselves with layer upon layer of "sub-contractor" relationships to avoid legal liability. Joyce talked about efforts to improve coordination between the agencies on the Task Force and understand the tools available through Massachusetts law.

State agencies and departments who sent staff to the meeting included: the Attorney General's office; the Department of Revenue; the Department of Industrial Accidents; the Department of Capital Asset Management; the Office for Refugees and Immigrants Department; and the Department of Occupational

Safety. The meeting was led by George Noel, Director of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The next week, 80 people in the industry came to the New England Carpenters Training Center for a meeting of the Construction Roundtable. The group, developed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) was established nine years ago. It brings together construction safety professionals to discuss both new initiatives and recent events in the industry.

The meetings include both regional staff of OSHA and safety professional from some of the largest general contractors in the region.

The meeting was slated to feature an update from the regional administrator, a review of recent fatality numbers and general news updates from the region. ■

Training Funds Join Operations

Three training funds affiliated with NERCC local unions in Massachusetts have merged with a goal of reducing administrative costs and creating more uniformity for apprentice and journey level training for members of nine local unions.

The Northeast Massachusetts Carpenters Apprenticeship Fund, the Southeastern Massachusetts Training Fund and the Local 107 Carpenters Training fund have merged to form the Eastern Massachusetts Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund.

The geographic coverage of the fund will match the area defined by the Massachusetts collective bargaining as being covered by Eastern Area wage and

benefit rates. The fund will service members of Local 26, 107, 111, 275, 424, 475, 535, 624 and 1305 and will be administered by labor and management trustees

representing the three previous funds.

Members seeking upgrade classes will continue to contact training centers in their local area, as listed on page 28. ■

Union Trustees

Nicholas DiGiovanni, Secretary-Treasurer
Richard Braccia, Co-Secretary-Treasurer
Richard Anderson
Joseph Broderick
Joseph Gangi, Jr.
Kevin Kelley
Ronald Rheume
Charles Ryan
James Turner

Management Trustees

Bertrand Rousseau, Chairman
Leo F Ryan, Co-Chairman
David Donovan
Anthony Giordano
Donald McKinnon
Donald Seymour
Thomas Steeves
Stephen Weinig
Rodney White

Members Graduate from JATCs

Members of several local unions recently graduated to full journey level status. In a dinner and ceremony in Boston, Apprentices from Eastern Massachusetts and Boston Apprenticeship and Training Funds were celebrated for completing the four year programs.

Congratulations to the members listed below for their hard work and commitment to becoming the best trained carpenters in the industry.

Local 33

Derrick R. Beaudoin, Alessandro Cafarelli, Vincenzo Casazza, John M. Casey, Jr., Mark N. Corbett, Sergio L. DeMedeiros, Christopher P. Dunphy, Mark A. Greene, Kevin J. Hemphill, Kenneth S. Holomon, Michael P. Kelly, Todd B. Kinniburgh, Todd M. MacIsaac, Thomas H. Mason, Nicholas A. Mastrogiacomo, Matthew T. Mayo, Sean M. McCarthy, Dennis J. Missett, Jr., ippy, Matthew J. Quinn, Raymond Richardson, David M. Rochon, John Simmons, Howard J. Settlers, Albert Spahiu, Goon Que Tam, Bryan T. Tester, Christopher L. Walker

Local 26

Brian Alex, Tyler Lowthian, Scott Morse, Christopher Murphy, Paul Patturelli, David Sadoway, Jason Taschereau

Local 40

Robert G. Acosta, Scott A. Aideuis, Steven J. Bedard, Anthony DeAmelio, Joseph W. Donahue, Brian J. Donoghue, Nicholas A. Dumont, Anthony A. Fedele, Matthew A. Jeannotte, Patrick E. Kelley, Andrew C. Kramer, Michael H. Lively, Steven M. Portlock, Evan E. Randall, Timothy A. Wells, Kevin R. Yonge

Local 67

Boston, Lucious, Gregory A. Brodeur, Jacob Butler, Matthew G. Dupont, Johnell Gilmore, Charles W. Hudson, IV, Matthew J. Killeen, Courtney R. Latty, Terrance P. Murphy, Luis Pais, Domenic Quintiliani, Jr., Oscar I. Ramos, Brian A. Ricketson, Jesse Ruiz, Leon Smith IV

Local 107

Kenneth Aberle, Matthew Buduski, Karsten Forkuo, Kenneth Haenisch, Jr., Walter Hansen, Paul Lewis, David Minasian, Scott Murphy, Christian Southworth, Andrew Wall, David White

Local 111

Michael Carney, Gerald Cintron, Jason Cote, Stephen Crow, Stephen Georgopolis, Jeff Realejo, Jordan Santa Fe

Local 218

Christopher J. Brown, Sean A. Farrelly, Keith B. Fitzpatrick, William J. Manning, Jason C. Resendes, Christopher C. Rooney

Local 275

Sean Abrahams, Michael Bourgeois, Lemoine Dorinvil, EricMcKinley, Jacob Moreau

Local 424

Randy Quirion

Local 475

Damien DeAmelio, Jeffrey Leduc

Local 535

Matthew Burke, Thomas Carnevale, Thomas Crossman

Local 624

Jacob Bettencourt, Pete Boisvert, Americo Demelo, Richard DiFonso, Alexander Eustis, Matthew Guerra, David Marchand, Mark McKinley, Stephen McNamee, Nicholas St.Germain, Adam Stewart, Bernard Strickland, Joseph Sullivan

Local 723

Adam Greene, Randall S. Thornton, David A. Wiest

Local 1305

Derek Adamiec, Andre Almeida, Trevor Campbell, Jason Carreiro, Thomas Codega, Joseph Couto, Timothy Fraga, Paul Hausammann, Laura Joubert, Aaron Lacombe, Shane Lafountain, Michael Medeiros, Shawn Melo, Paul Menard, Miguel Montero, Josue Quinones, Rafael Valencia ■

New Members Welcome

Steve Achilles, Jorge Aguila, Kevin Almeida, Kendy Amazan, Christopher Anderton, Jamie Ardolino, Michael Ardolino Sr., Don Arrington, Christopher Atkinson, Jowanna Aubry, Brian Avila

John Baldwin, Joshua Bard, Luis Barrios, Esvin Barrios, Guy Beattie, Arthur Belem, Kenneth Beyus, Brent Blanchard, Joseph Bohan, Luciano Botelho, Ryan Bourke, Anthony Brenton, Carlo Brogna, James Bronowicki, Kevin Burgess, Matthew Burke, Frank Burnett, Patrick Burns

Joseph Cabral, William Camuso, Anthony Carey, Joseph Castro, Chris Castro, Daniel Chagaris, Brad Chambers, Christian Charbonneau, Marcel Chrissman, Andre Coelho, Jay Crump

Joseph D'Agostino Jr., Joshua Davidson, Colin Dawkins, Christopher Deane, Nicholas DePari, John Desjardins, Michael Desjardins, Tony Docanto, Kevin Doiron, Richard Donoghue, Steven Donoghue, Girard Dubois II, Kenneth Dwyer Jr.

Jeremy Enzian

Joseph Fernandes, Harvey Fiset, Nathan Fontes, Everett Francis Jr, Nicolas Fulciniti, Joseph Furtado

John Gallager III, Michael Gallimore, Aaron Gaudette, Patrick Giammarco, Jose Giron, Roy Gless, Jacob Gogan, Stephanie Green, Jarrod Gustafson, Pedro Guzman

Paul Hagberg, Richard Hedger, Alberto Hernandez, Matthew Higgins, Steven Hodge, Donald Hodge, William Holt Sr, Sean Hutchinson

Steven Jannell, Johnson Jean Pierre, Bryon Johnson, Sean Johnson, Terrell Jones

John Kalafatis, Christopher Keane, Gregory Kelly, Michael Kennedy, Matthew Kinley, Jerry Kling, Kyle Kollmann, Michael Kubiak

Alain LaBranche, Kevin Lacey, Charles Lacey Jr., Charles Lacey Sr., Michael Laitinen, Thomas Leahy, Michael Leroux, Alan Letendre, David Lowenadler, Justin Lucas

Brian MacPherson, John Malmquist, Kevin Marcelli, John Marckini, Fredy Martinez, Robert Marus, Garry Materese, Aidan McCarthy, Shane McNamara, George Mercuri, Joseph Miller, Richard Monsini, Benjamin Moore, Gustano Morales, David Murray

Frederic Nadeau, George Napoli

Leandro Oliveira, Geremia Ortega, Anthony Ottaviano, Mitch Overson

Sean Parker, David Parlee, Barry Patterson, Robert Pelchat, Thomas Pestritto, Peter Philbrick Jr, Nelson Pimentel, Bruce Podavini, John Poulos, Slava Pride

James Rennick Jr, Julio Ribeiro, Thomas Rice, Anthony Rivel, Angel Rivera, Robbie Robbins, Ronald Rose Jr.

Anthony Sabella, Antonino Saladino, John Santos, Donald Scalfani, Jeff Seidnitzer, Patrick Shaughnessy, Timothy Sheehan, Carl Silva, Jason Silva, Joseph Simonet Jr, Colin Sinish, Kevin Sistrunk, Marc Smith, Michael Smith, Micah Smith, Robert Sokoloski, Lek St.Onge, Clifford Steeves, Chris Stodulski

Hieu Tang, Scott Thomas, Adenilso Tramontin, Timothy Tremblay

Michael Upton

Marc Vega

David Waskowitz, David Williams, Joe Winn

Roi Young

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 and the same 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.

In Memory

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.

Member	Years	Age	Member	Years	Age	Member	Years	Age
Local 24			Local 94			Local 210		
Hector N. Dorval Jr.	43	65	Oscar J. Bourgette	62	85	John J. Gellatly	62	87
Norman Greenbacker	57	89	William Dugas	59	79	Local 218		
Joseph Kiss	67	98	Eno J. Genga	62	88	G. T. McCormick	40	77
Robert C. Knight	61	81	Raymond Leveille	69	89	Local 424		
Joseph J. Kwasniewski	52	86	Anthony C. Masciarelli	58	80	Barry Walden	7	49
Jozef S. Madey	53	84	Roy E. Robinson	13	50	Local 475		
Salvatore J. Russo	59	59	Michael S. Rosewell	29	54	Michael Soares	12	39
Local 26			Leo Smith	60	84	Local 535		
Giuseppe Grasso	58	88	Thomas P. Smith	57	79	Paul J. Grant	40	75
Local 33			Phillip Stafford	57	77	Local 624		
Ronald Anastasio	49	72	Local 107			Ernest Ortiz	30	54
James Barry	32	51	Ferninand A. Leblanc	26	78	Local 1996		
Blair Briggette	22	59	Verdeon J. Pienta	54	91	Douglas A. Beckwith	27	67
Alfred J. Damelio	37	76	Local 108			Richard E. Goodmaster	11	64
Tylor V. Sawyer	44	73	Noiel R. Brill	49	71	Victor S. LeBretton Jr.	7	59
Edson H. Thompson	46	81	Paul E. Vadnais	60	79	Local 3196		
Local 40			Daniel J. Coughlin	40	67	Peter R. Ettinger	34	61
Edward R. Power	28	67	Local 118					
Local 43			Robert A. Savoie	54	80			
David D. Coyle	60	88	Robert M. Schmidt	29	63			
Harley R. Marshall	28	67	Revilo C. Wightman	43	77			
			Meredith E. Young	54	95			

Rx Prices to Be Cut 5% Thanks to NERCC Fund Suit

A judge has approved a final settlement in a class action lawsuit brought by the New England Carpenters Health Benefits Fund and an AFSCME health fund in New York that will lead to a reduction in prescription drug costs by 5%, starting in six months. The 400 affected drugs include nearly all of the most commonly prescribed drugs and could lead to savings of \$1 billion.

The lawsuits alleged that from 2002 to 2005, First Databank and Medispan conspired with leading prescription drug wholesale provider, McKesson Corp., to arbitrarily increase by five percent the markups between what pharmacies pay

wholesalers for prescription drugs, based on an industry benchmark called the “Wholesale Acquisition Cost” (WAC), and what health plans and insurers reimburse pharmacies for them, based on another benchmark called “Average Wholesale Price” (AWP). The difference between what the pharmacy pays the wholesaler and what the health plan pays the pharmacy is called the “spread,” and it is the pharmacy’s profit on that prescription. The lawsuits alleged that McKesson colluded with these two publishers to inflate these prices, in order to raise profits for pharmacies, many of which were McKesson customers.

“Our Fund works hard to provide affordable benefits for our union members and their families,” said Mark Erlich, Chair of the New England Carpenters Health Benefits Fund. “We got involved in this case to make real change for working people, and that’s what rolling back this price inflation will do for consumers nationwide. But we also need better regulation and accountability to prevent this kind of price-fixing in the future.”

For more details about the settlement and history of the case, visit the Prescription Access Litigation (PAL) Project. ■

First Trade Bolsters Staff

First Trade Union Bank recently announced the addition of a new key staff member in support of the organization’s continued growth.

Donna C. Watkins was named Vice President of Institutional Banking and Business Development Officer for First Trade. In her new role, Ms. Watkins will be responsible for identifying and cultivating new relationships with union

organizations throughout the State of New York. Donna is a seasoned banking professional and comes to First Trade from State Street Global Advisors, where she served most recently as Senior Relationship Manager for Public Funds and Senior Global Strategist.

“I feel that I have joined a great financial institution,” commented Ms. Watkins on her new appointment.

“My experience as a business development strategist, coupled with the Bank’s vision and commitment to its clients, will prove to be a winning combination. We will be able to provide a level of service and expertise to union organizations in New York that is unparalleled in the financial services industry today.” ■

Maine Creates 1099 Task Force

Maine Governor John Baldacci signed an Executive Order establishing a Joint Enforcement Task Force on Employee Misclassification, making Maine the latest state in New England to take formal and serious steps to stop the practice.

The task force will include representatives from the Department of Labor, Workers Compensation Board, Office of

the Attorney General, Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the Professional & Financial Regulations agency.

The Executive Order assigned the group to coordinate information sharing among agencies; study the extent of the problem of misclassification, suggest legislative action that may be needed and work with interested industry groups and

individuals to educate and assist them.

Audits performed by the Maine Department of Labor between 2004 and 2007 showed misclassification to be a quickly growing problem. In 2004, 29% of audits uncovered misclassification. Only three years later, 41% of employers were found to have misclassified workers. ■

Don't Shortcut Yourself When It Comes to Safety

It happens all too often on a job. Something needs to get done, and it looks quick and easy enough. But doing it easy isn't the same as doing it right...or safely. Taking time to make sure proper equipment and procedures are used on a job may cost a few minutes, but it could save your life.

On a few occasions in the last year, accidents caused from aerial lift equipment improperly maintained or improperly used have cost workers their lives or caused them considerable pain. There is no substitute for actual training or certification on the use of aerial lift equipment. There is also nothing that can replace common sense. If you are not qualified or do not feel comfortable using any equipment, do not use it. It is not worth risking your health and safety to stay in good standing with an employer or other workers on a job.

**Remember to follow basic common sense safety guidelines.
And if you don't feel safe: don't do it.**



Aerial Lifts Safety Tips

Aerial lifts include boom-supported aerial platforms, such as cherry pickers or bucket trucks. The major causes of fatalities are falls, electrocutions, and collapses or tip overs.

Safe Work Practices

- Ensure that workers who operate aerial lifts are properly trained in the safe use of the equipment.
- Maintain and operate elevating work platforms in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Never override hydraulic, mechanical, or electrical safety devices.
- Never move the equipment with workers in an elevated platform unless this is permitted by the manufacturer.
- Do not allow workers to position themselves between overhead hazards, such as joists and beams, and the rails of the basket. Movement of the lift could crush the worker(s).
- Maintain a minimum clearance of at least 10 feet, or 3 meters, away from the nearest overhead lines.
- Always treat powerlines, wires and other conductors as energized, even if they are down or appear to be insulated.
- Use a body harness or restraining belt with a lanyard attached to the boom or basket to prevent the worker(s) from being ejected or pulled from the basket.
- Set the brakes, and use wheel chocks when on an incline.
- Use outriggers, if provided.
- Do not exceed the load limits of the equipment. Allow for the combined weight of the worker, tools, and materials.

For more complete information:



OSHA 3267-09N-05



Jirafas Consejos de Seguridad

Las jirafas incluyen a las plataformas elevadas de aguilón sostenido, como lo son las de puntal extensible con canasta (mejor conocidas como "cherry pickers") o los camiones canasta. Las principales causas de muertes son por caídas, electrocuciones y colapsos o volteos.

Prácticas de Trabajo Seguras

- Asegúrese que los trabajadores que operan jirafas están adecuadamente adiestrados en el uso seguro del equipo.
- Mantenga y opere las plataformas de trabajo elevadas de acuerdo con las instrucciones del fabricante.
- Nunca invalide los dispositivos de seguridad hidráulicos, mecánicos o eléctricos.
- Nunca mueva el equipo con trabajadores en una plataforma elevada, a menos que sea permitido por el fabricante.
- No permita a los trabajadores ponerse entre riesgos que estén por encima de la cabeza, como viguetas y vigas, y las barandas del canasto. El movimiento de la jirafa puede aplastar al trabajador.
- Mantenga una distancia mínima segura de las líneas eléctricas aéreas más cercanas de al menos 10 pies, ó 3 metros.
- Siempre trate a las líneas de energía eléctrica, alambres y otros conductores como si estuvieran energizados (vivos), aún si están fuera de servicio o parece que están aislados.
- Use un arnés de cuerpo o correa que restrinja el movimiento con una cuerda de seguridad atada al aguilón o canasto para prevenir que el trabajador salga disparado o sea tirado del canasto.
- Ponga los frenos y use calzos cuando esté en un área inclinada.
- Use estabilizadores, si son provistos.
- No exceda la carga límite del equipo. Tome en cuenta el peso combinado del trabajador, herramientas y materiales.

Para información más completa:



Contact Information for Benefits Funds Offices in New England

New England Carpenters Benefits Fund

Executive Director: Harry R. Dow

Pension, Annuity, Health, Vacation, Savings and Central
Collection Agency for Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine
and Vermont

Address:

350 Fordham Road
Wilmington, MA 01887

Telephone:

800-344-1515
978-694-1000

On the web: www.carpentersfund.org

Western Massachusetts Carpenters Health Benefits Fund

Fund Director: Carol Burdo

Address:

29 Oakland Street
Springfield, MA 01108

Telephone:

413-736-0486
800-322-0335 (in MA only)

Connecticut State Carpenters Health, Pension & Annuity Fund

Fund Administrator: Rich Monarca

Address:

10 Broadway
Hamden, CT 06518

Telephone:

800-922-6026
203-281-5511

Rhode Island Carpenters Fringe Benefit Fund

Fund Manager: Betty Pacheco

Address:

14 Jefferson Park Road
Warwick, RI 02888

Telephone:

401-467-6813

Clip and save this important contact information



Schedule of Monthly Union Meetings

Carpenters LU #24 / Eastern & Central Conn.	1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm	Odd months at New London Hall Even months at Yalesville Hall Knights of Columbus, Wakefield Florian Hall, 55 Hallett Street, Dorchester Cambridge VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave. 885 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford 500 Gallivan Blvd., Dorchester K of C, West School St., Charlestown Florian Hall, 55 Hallett Street, Boston 14 Jefferson Park, Warwick Italian-American Victory Club, Shrewsbury 108 office, 29 Oakland, Springfield 150 North Street, Suite 57, Pittsfield Lodge of Elks, 652 Andover St., Lawrence 17 Freetown Road, Raymond 427 Stillson Road, Fairfield VFW, Mystic Ave, Medford
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	2nd Thursday, 5:00 pm	
Carpenters LU #108 / Springfield / W.Mass	3rd Thursday, 5:00 pm	
Carpenters LU#108 / Berkshire County	4th Wednesday, 5:30 pm	
Carpenters LU #111 / Lowell / Lawrence / Methuen area	2nd Tuesday, 5:00 pm	
Carpenters LU #118 / New Hampshire	2nd Wednesday, 7:00 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 #475 / Framingham-Marlboro	1st Tuesday, 5:00 pm	
Carpenters LU #535 / Norwood / Attleboro / Milford	1st Wednesday, 5:30 pm	
Carpenters LU #624 / Brockton / Cape Cod	2nd Monday, 6:30 pm	
Woodframe LU #723 / MA-Statewide	2nd Tuesday, 5:00 pm	
Local Union 1302	2nd Thursday, 2:45 pm	
Carpenters LU #1305 / Seekonk / Fall River / Wareham	3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm	
Carpenters LU #1996		
Maine:	2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm	60 Industrial Drive, Augusta
Vermont:	2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm	5 Gregory Drive, S Burlington
Floorcoverers LU #2168 / MA-Statewide	1st Wednesday, 5:00 pm	K of C Hall, 323 Washington St., Brighton
Connecticut Shop Carpenters / CT-Statewide	Last Tuesday, 5:30 pm	LU 43, 885 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford

Schedule of VOC Meetings

Plymouth County, Mass.

First Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Plymouth Library.

Contact: Ron Reilly or Dennis Lassige through Local 624.

Local 26

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

Contact: Council Rep. Ken Amero or Lou Catanzaro at Local 26.

Local 43

First Thursday of the month at 5pm at the Local 43 Union Hall.

Contact: Marty Alvarenga at Local 43.

Local 107

Wednesday in the week preceeding regular union meeting at 5:30 pm at the Local 107 Union Hall.

Contact: VOC Chair Rich Crompton or Council Rep Jim Turner at Local 107.

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 an email to: bdurand@neclmp.org.

Local 108/Berkshire So Vermont

Wednesday following the third Thursday after union meeting.

Contact: Jose Luis DeMedieros, Tim Crawl

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 at 4:30 pm before regular monthly union meetings at the Italian American Club, Walpole.

Local 624

Plymouth County—First Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Plymouth Library.

Contact: Ron Reilly or Dennis Lassige through Local 624.

Brockton and Vicinity—Third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 pm at 66 Green St, Brockton.

Contact: Jim Bragg or Marc Dupont through Local 624.

Local 1305

First Wednesday of the month at 6 pm at Local 1305 Union hall.

Local 1996

Second Wednesday of the month at 4 pm in Vermont; 5 pm in Maine. Meetings are held at Local Union halls.

Contact: John Leavitt (ME) 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,
Bill Callahan, Jay Zupan
Phone: 203-265-6242
Fax: 203-265-4556

597 Broad Street
New London, CT 06320
Council Representatives: Chuck Appleby,
Bob Beauregard
Phone: 860-442-6655
Fax: 860-437-3353

Carpenters Local 26

350 Fordham Road
Wilmington, MA 01887
Council Representatives: Nick DiGiovanni,
Lou Catanzaro
Phone: 978-658-5520
Fax: 978-658-3878

Carpenters Local 33

1252 Massachusetts Ave
Boston, MA 02125
Council Representatives: Richard
Scaramozza, John Murphy
Phone: 617-350-0014
Fax: 617-330-1684

Carpenters Local 40

10 Holworthy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
Council Representatives: Joseph Power,
Tom Puglia
Phone: 617-547-8511
Fax: 617-547-0371

Carpenters Local 43

885 Wethersfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06114
Council Representatives:
George Meadows, Martin Alvarenga
Industrial Representative: Glenn Miller
Phone: 860-296-8564
Fax: 860-296-8010

Shop and Millmen Local 51

760 Adams Street, 2nd floor
Dorchester, MA 02122
Council Representative: Vic Carrara
Phone: 617-265-3444
Fax: 617-265-3437

Piledrivers Local 56

Marine Industrial Park/EDIC
22 Drydock Avenue, 3rd Floor
South Boston, MA 02210—2386
Council Representatives: Dan Kuhs
Phone: 617-443-1988
Fax: 617-443-4566

Carpenters Local 67

760 Adams Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02122
Council Representatives: Steve Tewksbury,
John Cahill
Phone: 617-474-7879
Fax: 617-474-9484

Carpenters Local 94

14 Jefferson Park Road
Warwick, RI 02888
Council Representatives: David Palmisciano,
William Holmes, Paul Lander, Tom Savoie
Phone: 401-467-7070
Fax: 401-467-6838

Carpenters Local 107

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

Carpenters Local 108

29 Oakland Street
Springfield, MA 01108
Council Representative: Simon James,
Jason Garand
Phone: 413-736-2878
Fax: 413-781-1640

150 North Street, Suite 27
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Phone: 413-447-9213
Council Representative: Tim Crow

Carpenters Local 111

13 Branch Street
Unit 215
Methuen, MA 01844
Council Representatives: Joe Gangi, Jr.,
Al Centner
Phone: 978-683-2175
Fax: 978-685-7373

Carpenters Local 118

17 Freetown Road, Suite 2
PO Box 1498
Raymond, NH 03077
Council Representatives: John Jackson,
Elizabeth Skidmore
Phone: 603-895-0400
Fax: 603-895-0474

Carpenters Local 210

427 Stillson Rd
Fairfield, CT 06824
Council Representatives: Glenn Marshall,
John P. Cunningham, Richard Warga
Phone: 203-334-4300
Fax: 203-334-4700

Carpenters Local 218

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

Carpenters Local 275

411 Lexington Street
Newton, MA 02166
Council Representatives: Richard Dean,
Kevin Kelley
Phone: 617-965-6100
Fax: 617-965-9778

Carpenters Local 424

21 Mazzeo Drive, Suite 201
Randolph, MA 02368
Council Representative: Richard Braccia
Phone: 781-963-0200
Fax: 781-963-9887

Carpenters Local 475

200 Turnpike Road, Suite #1
Southborough, MA 01722
Council Representative: Charles Ryan
Phone: 508-486-0040
Fax: 508-486-0043

Carpenters Local 535

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

Carpenters Local 624

21 Mazzeo Drive, Suite 201
Randolph, MA 02368
Council Representative: Rick Anderson
Phone: 781-963-0200
Fax: 781-963-9887

Carpenters Local 658 – Katahdin Paper Co.

90 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: 617-464-3319

Local 1302 (Electric Boat)

171 Thames Street
Groton, CT 06340
Council Representative: Robert Tardif
Phone: 860-449-0891
Fax: 860-445-6384

Carpenters Local 1305

P.O. Box 587
Fall River, MA 02722
Council Representative: Ron Rheaume
Phone: 508-672-6612
Fax: 508-676-0771

Local 1612 – Katahdin Paper Co.

P.O. Box 344
East Millinocket, ME 04430
President: Joey Devau
Phone: 207-746-5482

Carpenters Local 1996

60 Industrial Drive
Augusta, ME 04330-9302
Council Representatives: John Leavitt,
Allen Wyman
Industrial Representative: Bob Burleigh
Phone: 207-621-8160
Fax: 207-621-8170

Carpenters Local 1996

183 Middle Street
Portland, ME 04101
Council Representatives: John Leavitt,
George Bertini
Phone: 207-874-8052

Carpenters Local 1996

5 Gregory Drive
S. Burlington, VT 05403
Council Representative: Bryan Bouchard
Phone: 802-862-9411
Fax: 802-863-4327

Floorcoverers Local 2168

760 Adams St., 2nd floor
Dorchester, MA 02122
Council Representative: Mynor Perez,
Tom Quinlan
Phone: 617-825-6141
Fax: 617-282-5047

Local 2400 – Domtar Paper

P.O. Box 995
Baileysville, ME 04694
President: David Call
Phone: 207-427-3844

Local 3073 – Portsmouth Navy Yard

PO Box 2059 Pns
Portsmouth, NH 03801
President: Michael Chase
Phone: 207-439-4281

Local 3196 – South Africa Pulp and Paper, Inc.

105 Pennsylvania Avenue
South Portland, ME 04106
President: Fred Hirling
Phone: 207-883-5524

Carpenters Labor Management Program

Boston

803 Summer Street, 4th Floor
South Boston, MA 02127-1616
Executive Director: Tom Flynn
Phone: 617-268-0014

Connecticut

2 North Plains Industrial Road
Wallingford, CT 06492
Phone: 203-679-0661

Research Department

803 Summer Street, 2nd Floor
South Boston, MA 02127-1616
Phone: 617-268-7882

New England Regional Council of Carpenters
803 Summer Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02127

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