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Kansas Direct Pipeline

Vol. 5 No. 1  April 2007

Political Action Committee Contributions Reap Benefits

A huge compliment was paid to Local 441 and its membership at the recent Kansas Democrats Washington Days event held in Topeka in March.

When Gov. Kathleen Sebelius introduced Business Manager Richard Taylor to President Bill Clinton, she stated, “This is Richard Taylor and he represents the Plumbers and Pipefitters of Kansas and they are one of the big reasons I was re-elected in November.”

PAC contributions from the membership enable your Political Action Committee to make contributions to the Governor’s campaign and also to many other labor-friendly candidates.

This has proven to be a tremendous benefit to all Local 441 Members and gives us recognition as a group that can and will make a difference in political races.

As we prepare for the 2008 election cycle, the Political Action Committee encourages all Local 441 Members to participate in the PAC fund. The $.04 per hour contribution adds up to approximately $80 per year for the average Member.

This is a small amount of money on an individual basis, but when combined with all members, creates a sizable pool to draw from.

Business Manager’s Report

I was inspired recently by an article I read by our House Democratic Leader Dennis McKinney concerning Kansans that seemed to coincide with our own beliefs of unionism and brotherhood. I have incorporated some of his thoughts in the beginning of this article.

After all Local 441 has been through the past four years, it is important to remember the tie that binds us all together…. a commitment to the common good. The common good recognizes that one’s own personal benefit is best achieved through a commitment to the needs of all our Brothers and Sisters. Essential to this belief is a healthy balance between self-reliance and living as a cohesive group bound together by our heritage and a determination to succeed through unity of action. Everyone benefits when everyone contributes.

This is not a new concept. It is firmly rooted in the founding documents of our United Association and is the core tenants of all faiths. It is summed up for the Christian faith by loving God with your whole heart, soul, and mind, and loving your neighbor as you love yourself. In the New Testament, Paul discusses this concept in his letter to the Philippians (2:3-4). “Humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but everyone looking out for the interests of others.”

Across the state, you as members of Local 441 have shown your support for the common good. Consider the history of the past four years. Scarce little work in 2003, 2004, and 2005, our various funds were being depleted, health insurance costs went through the roof, UA’s National Pension appeared in jeopardy, and not to mention the turmoil of the consolidation. But you stood firm and reunited as a local union, and now, through your perseverance, we are on our way to a strong and bright future.

Your local ended 2006 with 1,429,848 hours worked throughout its jurisdiction, which is 37% or 384,594 more hours, than the average of the previous three years, and all indications are that 2007 will
Governor Signs Casino Bill

Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius was in Wichita on Wednesday, April 11, to sign the bill that will allow destination casinos to be built in four different locations in Kansas. Other locations will include Ford County, Crawford or Cherokee County and Wyandotte County.

This is legislation that your officers have worked on for many years. These will be union projects that will produce many man hours during construction and continue to create jobs through additional economic development generated by these projects.

Projects could break ground as early as this fall and be operational by 2009.

Nancy Boyda Opens Pittsburg Office

Community members joined Nancy Boyda and local union members at the grand opening in February of Boyda’s constituency office in Pittsburg, KS.

Mike Wolownik (right), Business Rep for southeast Kansas, along with his wife, Stacy (left), congratulate Nancy Boyda on her election victory.

Bylaws Committee

Journeyman members Dan McCulloch, Vic Rider and Jerry Short (l-r) are currently serving as the LU 441 Bylaws Committee.

LOCAL UNION #441
Officers, Committee and Staff

Michael J. Magennis, President
Ronald D. Jameson, Vice-President
Richard L. Taylor, Business Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer
(316) 265-4291
James D. Beery, Recording Secretary
Richard D. Robinson, Sergeant at Arms

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES/ORGANIZERS
Bill Urton, Dispatcher  (316) 265-4291
John Shepherd, Jr.  (316) 265-4291
Kirk Miller, Sr.  (785) 354-8539
Denis Wittman  (785) 843-3151
Mike Wolownik  (620) 231-4280
Phil Petty  (785) 539-8977

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Angela Hermann
Jolene Senter
Carol Ann Lewis

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Gilbert R. Lane
Michael D. Mordica
Herbert Parsons, IV
Dennis Wingert

FINANCE COMMITTEE
David E. Emerson
Jerry D. Short
Thomas J. Strickland

EXAMINERS
Philip A. Hines, Plumbing Examiner
Andrew J. Tipton, Pipefitter Examiner
Donald E. Henry, Jr., Welder Examiner
Darrell D. Bunch, Refrigeration Examiner

BYLAWS COMMITTEE
If you have any questions or comments regarding 441 by-laws, please feel free to contact one of your By-Laws Committee members.

Jerry Short  (316)733-9511
Vic Rider  (913)721-5489
Dan McCulloch  (785)286-0774
P-1 Group  
(Huxtable Shop)

P-1 Group secures large fabrication project and increases fab shop size to meet demand.

Member Bob Payne performs detailing for fab shop.


Legislative Luncheon

The Plumbers and Pipefitters and Central and Western Kansas Building Trades hosted a Legislative Luncheon in Topeka on Feb. 8.

Wil Leiker, Vice President, Kansas AFL-CIO, attended the Feb. 8 luncheon.


Rep. Barbara Ballard, Democratic Caucus Chair, with Business Manager Richard Taylor.

Chaney Inc. Job Sites

Chaney Inc. is a signatory contractor headquartered in Lawrence. Owner Roy Chaney is also a member of Local 441.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Christopher W. Ball, 36, died Jan. 5, 2007. Most recently of Parsons, KS. Brother in good standing for 1½ years.


Ronald M. Foster, 64, died Feb. 10, 2007. Most recently of Lawrence, KS. Brother in good standing for 43 years.


James H. Mercer, 70, died Jan. 6, 2007. Most recently of Wichita, KS. Brother in good standing for 38 years.

Albert Pouch, 96, died March 6, 2007. Most recently of Cherokee, KS. Brother in good standing for 65 years.

Notices of brothers and sisters passing are posted on our website as received: www.ua441.org. Click on “Member Information” and “In Memoriam.” Everyone is encouraged to notify the hall as soon as you are aware of a passing. Please share this information with our brothers and sisters.

Frontenac Area

Dear Brother and Sisters:

Hello to all and Happy Spring! First and foremost, “Thank You” to everyone for their hard work to make the turn-around at Coffeyville such a success. Many hours were worked and as always, our men stepped up and did an outstanding job. Fortunately for Local 441, we acquired more work from the non-union side of things, and little by little reach or goals in the future.

Looking ahead, one of my goals is to set up a union contractor to work on larger projects within the plant, which in turn would take these duties from the non-union contractors. The other option, of course, would be to organize one of the contractors from within the plant. I will keep you updated on my progress.

In other news:

- Currently, much of the work around Southeast Kansas is taking place in many hospitals and school buildings.
- Rumor has it Empire will complete the gas turbine project here, in the near future with the possibility of a Hercosic project in 2008.
- The current jobs at Mt. Carmel Regional Medical Center and Pittsburg State University will soon be coming to an end, but I anticipate much more work from these two entities in the future. To everyone who worked on these projects: “Thank you for your hard work and dedication.”
- The Apprentice School in Frontenac is moving in the right direction! We have received many applications for apprenticeship and are considering hiring two more teachers. For more information on our apprenticeship program, please call me at 620-231-4280 or Kerry Stine at 316-267-8508.

Again, thank you for your hard work and loyalty. If I can be further service to you, do not hesitate to contact me. Best wishes for a healthy and happy spring!

Fraternally Yours,
Mike Wołownik (602) 231-4280
Frontenac Business Representative
103 Mendicki Dr. Frontenac, KS 66763
Topeka Area Work

Brothers and Sisters,

Commercial work is still slow in the area, but heavy industrial is up. We are working on a scrubber repair job at Jeffery Energy Center, the spring outage is also upon us.

Other work being pushed for is a one hundred million gallon ethanol plant in Topeka, we placed a fair contractor bid on a ethanol plant in Hiawatha and we are checking on a bio-diesel plant in Emporia. St. Francis hospital is looking at a future on the Menniger Campus and we will try to keep our relationship continuing with St. Francis.

The Fort Riley area is picking up steam again but we still lack a lot of our area contractor involvement in the bidding process out there. We will keep pecking away.

Fraternally Yours,
Kirk W. Miller, Sr. (785) 354-8539
Topeka Business Representative
3906 NW 16th St.
Topeka, KS  66618

Waldinger Corporation
Liberal Job Site

Waldinger Corporation teams up with Local 441 members to build the largest ethanol plant in Kansas.

Local 441 Plan Administrator’s Report

Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry Retirement Plan of Kansas

The new Local 441 Collective Bargaining Agreement for the Frontenac, Lawrence, and Topeka Zones contained language that allowed Members to make deferred compensation (employee) contributions to our 401(k) Plan effective January 1, 2007.

Many Members that work in these Zones elected to begin employee contributions during the election period. All changes must be made on an Elective Contribution Changes Form and must be submitted by January 15 of each year.

There is one exception to this rule; you can reduce your deferral amount to $0.00 at any time. To do so, please contact me at (620) 235-1744 or contact Local 441 and we will send you the necessary Form. The Form must be returned to the Local or to C&J Benefit Solutions, do not give the Form to your Employer.

For the Members that have elected to make employee contributions, you should watch your pay stubs to make sure your employer is deducting the amount you specified. When you elect to make employee contributions, the Form is circulated from you to the Local and/or to C&J Benefits and to the Employer.

As Benjamin Franklin said, “There’s many a slip twixt cup and lip,” so check your pay stubs and notify us if you notice a problem. Also, while your employee contributions are non-taxable, both you and the employer must pay Social Security and Medicare withholding on the amount you defer (7.65% paid by the employer and 7.65% paid by you).

This means that when you receive your W-2 from your employer each year, your gross taxable wages should be less than your Social Security wages. If they are not you should contact your employer and request a corrected W-2.

The merger of Local 441 401(k) Plan and the PPI Retirement Plan of Kansas was completed by January 1, 2006.

After one year, and minimal problems, it is a pleasure to report that the merger of the two Plans resulted in a combined decrease in administrative expense of over 30%. Many times over the years, I have had to be the bearer of bad news, so it’s nice to be able to report the success of the Plan merger.

As you are aware, Plan assets are invested with MassMutual Financial Group. The rates for the Guaranteed Interest Account for January through June 2007 are 3.25% on old money (contributions received by MassMutual prior to January 1, 2007) and 4.25% on new money (contributions received by MassMutual after January 1, 2007). If you wish to make changes to your portfolio, you can do so by calling MassMutual at their toll-free number (800-743-5274) or by signing up for Internet access to your account. The MassMutual web address is www.massmutual.com/retire.

Last, but certainly not least, the Plan’s Investment Consultant is Ben Newhouse. If you have questions about a particular MassMutual Investment Fund or if you need investment advice about the family of Investment Funds offered by the Plan, please contact Ben. His toll-free number is (888) 214-0777. Ben is a licensed investment advisor.

As always, if any of the foregoing conflicts with the rules of the Plan, the Plan Document(s) will govern.

Joe Pucci, Plan Administrator
(620) 235-1744

Visit YOUR Website: www.UA441.org
P&E Commercial Services

New Wichita-area mechanical contractor P&E Commercial Services signs agreement with Local 441.

Owners Roger Dorpinghaus, Blaine Tharp and Mark Howser.

Owners Blaine Tharp, Mark Houser and Roger Dorpinghaus in front of a new service van.

Journeyman Shawn Korntheuer and Apprentice Justin Wayne.

Blaine Tharp, Pat Blake and Shawn Korntheuer.

Roger Peterson prepares to weld some fabrication for a new project.

College Credits from Apprenticeship Programs

Effective August 2000, current UA apprentices who completed their apprenticeship can earn up to 32 college credits for their experience with Washtenaw Community College. UA members can use this credit to earn an Associate Degree in Construction Supervision, Industrial Training, or Journeyperson General Studies from WCC.

The program covers fundamental supervision skills, project management, contracts, human resources, legal aspects, and many other topics relative to management in the construction industry. This degree is for UA members interested in moving into a construction management position.

Journeyperson Kristan Palmer is taking advantage of the College on Demand distance learning opportunity at WCC. Currently, she has completed three of the five required core classes to apply toward her degree.

UA members who achieved journeyman status prior to August 2000 will need to pass the UA STAR exam in order to receive the 32 credits for their apprenticeship experience. UA members seeking a degree with Washtenaw Community College, who have previous college experience, should send their official college transcripts for evaluation.

“I have 32 credits for apprenticeship completion, previous college credits and three required core classes to apply to a degree in construction management. I have only one class to finish my degree, that makes me feel great.”

“The classes I have completed really help in the understanding of management within our industry. The great thing about college on demand is that when you complete a class you can immediately register and begin the next course. COD lets you take classes when you have the time. I hope to finish my classes at Washtenaw by the end of May. Anyone interested in pursuing a degree through the Washtenaw should contact your local training center.”

Visit YOUR Website: www.UA441.org
Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Meeting with candidates for April 3rd general election for Lawrence city commission and school board. The hope is to elect three candidates that are labor supportive.

A career fair will be held on April 4th for Junior High students at Liberty hall. Four different trades including Plumbers and Pipefitters will demonstrate and hand out informative brochures on their trades.

Apprenticeship applications have been received and interviews will start April 18th.

Wes Jackson of the Greeley fab shop retired after 42 years of service. Congratulations to Wes on his years of service and retirement. Bruce Sommer has taken over the foreman position and the local feels that he is quite capable of doing a good job.

Work in the Taylor Forge fab shop in Greeley is going well and outlook is good for future work.

Other areas in Zone IIB that have work in progress are:
- Huxtable Fab shop
- Fort Riley area
- Washburn University in Topeka
- Lawrence Memorial Hospital
- Lawrence High School
- KU student union & other various jobs on campus
- Condominium project in Lawrence
- Shawnee Mission North
- American Eagle in Ottawa
- North Lawrence chemical plant
- Eudora recreation center
- Lawrence powerhouse
- Work looks steady for the upcoming future.

Sincerely,
Brother Denis Wittman (785) 843-3151
Lawrence Business Representative
930 E. 28th Street Lawrence, KS 66046

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# Employment Dispatch

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

The industrial and commercial work outlook for 2007 looks excellent for Local 441! A big part of our upcoming work will be hospitals and ethanol plants, with the strong possibility of powerhouse work. We also have several other large projects in the bid process at this time, including the scrubber project at Jeffries Energy.

I would like to congratulate every member that worked on the Coffeyville turnaround. We peaked out with three contractors and 285 UA Members on that project. The manpower numbers were much more than we anticipated, primarily because the plant realized we could man the work and get it right the first time.

We currently have three hospital projects in the state (Neodesha, Salina, and Chanute). All three will be hiring through the spring and early summer.

Waldinger Corp. was awarded the largest new ethanol plant in the state of Kansas and will top out with manpower of approximately 60. A separate bid package for an adjoining energy center will be awarded later this month, which will take about 25 at peak.

Huxtable & Associates was awarded the fabrication on two other ethanol plants, one for a site in Nebraska and the other for Iowa.

There are several more ethanol plants announced to be built this year and Local 441 will go after every one of them.

Our number one goal is to regain market share and I believe we are making progress. Local 441 will meet the challenges of 2007.

Fraternally,
Bill Urton (316) 265-4291
Business Representative/Dispatcher

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# Wichita Area Zone 1A

Spring is here and our winter slump is beginning to break. In previous articles I have mentioned several large projects on the horizon. We are on the leading edge of these projects coming to fruition. Our contractors are in various stages of securing these projects, which total about $30,000,000 worth of mechanical work. Industrial maintenance and construction will see shutdowns from mid-spring to early summer. These projects will equate to thousands of manhours being worked. I urge every Local #441 member to take advantage of this upward swing in the industry. Much of this years work on the books is a direct relationship to the many hours of dedication and quality workmanship from the previous year(s). Plumbers & Pipefitters of Kansas Local #441 sets the standard for the industry in this state. Customers, architects, engineers, and schedulers know this and hold it over the head of all non-union contractors. We have begun and will continue to reap the benefits.

Presently we are in a battle in the city of Wichita over plumbing code adoption. As stated in the Founding Ceremony of the Ritual of the United Association, “the local union shall seek to regulate and control all existing State, Provincial and Municipal Codes that have to do with the installation and design of plumbing, mechanical, and fire sprinkler systems,” we will organize our efforts and fight for the Uniform Plumbing code to the bitter end.

A message to all apprentices: I strongly encourage everyone take advantage of the training program to the fullest extent. We are not grooming journeymen for the future. We are creating craftsmen, foremen, and leaders of this organization. I truly value the discussion, debate, and comments we have had in the past, and I hope we can keep an open line of communication in the future. My focus is to always remember where my roots come from, and they are deeply entrenched in the apprenticeship program.

As I have stated in the past. Our success is credited to the membership as a whole. I thank each and every one of you who upholds these keys.

John H. Shepherd Jr. (316) 265-4291
Plumbers & Pipefitters of Kansas Local #441
Wichita Area Business Representative
P-1 Group Commercial Projects


Lawrence Memorial Hospital

Denis Wittman, Steve Hoover, Kristin Palmer, Dennis Wingert, Chuck Green and Richard Taylor.

Washburn University, Topeka

Christ Foreman Brent Neis and Project Manager Chris Champagne.

Jim O’Toole

Chris O’Toole

Brent Neis, Jim O’Toole, Tony Beck and Chris O’Toole
be even better. As Business Manager, it is my commitment to utilize your Local 441 leadership team to partner with our contractors and take advantage of our political clout to secure work and improve our market share. We are now working in areas of the state and securing projects that in the past have been dominated by the nonunion sector. Several of these projects are highlighted in this newsletter. This is also being fueled by the quality of work and performance on the job by the membership. As I travel around the state and visit with end users and contractors, more and more of the comments are positive toward Local 441’s workforce…Thank you. We must continue to perform on the job, demonstrate the right attitude, show up on time, look presentable, maintain the top level of craftsmanship, and not let up. This all coincides with the UA’s “Standard of Excellence” policy that has been implemented by General President Hite. The Standard of Excellence is fast becoming a mission statement to all in the plumbing, pipefitting, and mechanical industry.

The audit for 2006 was completed in March. I am happy to report that your funds are doing well with substantial increases to all. Total assets for the local were up for the year by $190,676 with only a 2.37% or $35,053 increase in total expenses. Along with the Finance Committee, we will continue to monitor where costs can be cut, where we can be more efficient in our day-to-day operations, and strive to lower our operating expenses. It is your money that operates this local union. It is my fiduciary responsibility as Financial Secretary/Treasurer to see that it is spent wisely and in a manner that benefits the common good.

The Trustees of your Health and Welfare Plan met in November of 2006 and because of the willingness of the membership to make some tough adjustments to that plan over the last few years, they were able to implement several positive changes to the benefit coverage. The shared amounts for hospital coverage were lowered from $3,000 to $2,500 for single and from $6,000 to $5,000 for family, eyeglass coverage was increased from $200 to $300, orthodontics was added with coverage of up to $1,000.00 lifetime for dependents under 19, and additional organ transplant benefits. They were also able to continue to cover approximately 80% of the cost of retiree’s subsidy coverage. To assure that the Plan continues to move in a positive direction, the Trustees agreed to maintain the $.20 per hour increase effective June 1st.

As for the National Pension, effective January 1, 2007, the yearly benefit amount increased from 50% to 75% of pre 2005 benefit amounts. The National Pension Trustees will continue to meet on a regular basis to monitor the fund. At this time, it appears to be on the road to a full recovery.

Visit YOUR Website: www.UA441.org

Keep up your certifications!

Amid many other activities, the next couple of months will be spent working with the Zone I-A (Wichita area) Negotiating Committee preparing and conducting contract negotiations. We have been researching and collecting information to aid us in obtaining the best contract that we can negotiate; while remaining competitive in the future. This contract is scheduled to expire May 31, 2007.

As we move forward into the year, one concern to be addressed is available manpower. I serve as the Business Manager for the Central and Western Kansas Building Trades Council. In that capacity, the Building Trades Council recently sent me to Washington DC to attend the National Building Trades Legislative Conference. General President Billy Hite was also in attendance and addressed the issue of the upcoming manpower shortage. He has assigned the International Reps to do an audit of every Local Union to analyze the projected work and manpower requirements in each area. The objective is to make sure we have enough skilled craftsman to meet upcoming needs, without flooding our membership for the future. Local 441 will be working closely with our new International Rep, Mike O’Mara, to make sure we meet manpower and training needs both now and in the future. Representative O’Mara is tentatively scheduled to attend our May 14th Union meeting. The membership will be notified once this date is secured.

Your Joint Apprenticeship Committees are in the process of preparing to interview potential candidates for the new first year apprenticeship class of 2007. It is exciting to see the new training equipment the Training Department has acquired through the UA grant for all the training centers. These trainers along with many new computers and other classroom aids are the latest educational tools available. This equipment will help to ensure that our apprentice and journeyman are familiar with the newest innovations in the industry. Training has always been the backbone of the United Association, and equipment such as this gives our instructors the tools to maintain that record of excellence.

I am very proud of our training program and I want to thank everyone associated with it. We spent more then $1 million toward training in 2006 and that does not include the $190,000 grant for the new equipment. I doubt very few organizations make that kind of an investment in training. As General President Billy Hite has stated…”It really all comes down to three major things: competency through superior training…being the most competitive in the market…and having a commitment to excellence at every level at all times.

We are on course to making Local 441 and our contractors ready for the challenges ahead. I look forward to these challenges because I know we have the membership that can overcome them and continue to rise to the top of our industry. God bless and be safe on the job.
Do you ever wonder what benefit the UA training fund provides for us on a local level? Many are aware of the Instructor Training Program held once a year at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor, Michigan. But is that all?

Plumbers and Pipefitters Apprenticeship Training of Kansas (PPATKS) was very fortunate to receive a grant from the UA Training Fund in the latter half of last year. In that grant, PPATKS received approximately $45,000 in welding and cutting equipment. That welding equipment is being put to good use in Wichita at this time and will be incorporated into an expansion of Topeka’s weld shop. Topeka has also added a new exhaust/makeup air system and remodeled the existing weld booths to provide more room in the booths.

Another portion of the grant, approximately $60,000, went to HVAC training equipment. Pictured here is Wichita HVAC instructor Larry Adams with the Hampden HVAC/Refrigeration trainer and the Hampden Johnson Controls DDC trainer.

With the optional cooling tower module connected, the multipurpose HVAC/Refrigeration trainer can be used for training in air-cooled, domestic water-cooled or cooling tower water-cooled applications. It can also be set up for air conditioning, medium temperature cooling, and low temperature cooling or as a chiller. All of this can be configured with different expansion devices and operating controls. The trainer also has the option of connecting a computer to monitor and log its operation. These pieces of equipment will be used at all the training centers on a rotating and as-needed basis.

The largest portion of the grant went to new computer equipment for the instructors in all three training centers and computers for new computer labs in Wichita and Topeka, approx $71,000. The grant was finished off with approximately $10,000.00 of classroom LCD projectors and document cameras. This brought the total for the grant to approximately $186,000.

This is just a start, as future grant applications will seek to increase our capabilities in the weld shops and in HVAC training.

Thank you for your support of the nickel fund and please try to make use of our upgraded facilities when possible.
The Health & Welfare Office handles your local pension information, 401k, and general questions regarding your health insurance (such as your status in qualifying for insurance benefits.) If you have specific questions regarding your insurance, such as a list of doctors, please refer to the numbers listed below for Blue Cross and Delta Dental.

Health & Welfare Office
www.ppi-fund.org
(316) 264-2339 or (800) 423-6517

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas
www.BCBSKS.com
(800) 432-3990 or (785) 291-4180

Delta Dental of Kansas
www.DeltaDentalKS.com
(800) 234-3375 or (316) 264-4511

If you have a Pension through the United Association, the National Pension office is where you would call for any questions related to your pension. If you are close to retirement and are ready to start the paperwork, please request an application for a retirement packet from National.

If you have a local pension or Kansas Annuity benefit, you will also need to contact the Health & Welfare office to request the retirement information for that benefit.

National Pension (800) 638-7442
Local Pension/KS Annuity (316) 264-2339 or (800) 423-6517

United Association Website: www.ua.org

Jerry Jones Honored by State

Kansas Secretary of Labor Jim Garner presented a certificate to Jerry Jones, retired Director of Training, on Jan. 12 for Jones’ years of service to the labor movement in Kansas.
While attending the Legislative Conference in Washington DC, Business Manager Richard Taylor met with Rep. Nancy Boyda and UA General President Billy Hite.

“The conference was a rare opportunity to meet with national leaders who make decisions that affect working people in the United States,” said Taylor.

Building and Trades organized a labor rally in front of our nation's capitol in conjunction with the legislative conference.

Edward C. Sullivan, President, National Building Trades, addressed union leaders at the labor rally.

Democratic Presidential Hopefuls Addressed the Building Trades Delegates

Hillary Rodham Clinton
John Edwards
Joseph Biden
Barack Obama
Christopher Dodds
Bill Richardson
Dennis Kucinich