

32 CONNECTIONS

U^A32

A Publication for Members of United Association Local 32

UNITED ASSOCIATION LOCAL 32 SEATTLE

Issue 4 • Holiday 2010



Local 32 Hosts Labor Neighbor Walk and Ballot Drop Rally BBQ

On October 16th, 85 union members from different affiliates came to Local 32 to participate in a Labor Neighbor walk and a Ballot Drop Rally BBQ. After receiving walk instructions, they were sent out to talk with fellow union members of all affiliation in both legislative districts 41st and 47th, and the 8th congressional district. 975 doors were knocked on in that 3 hour period. When walkers returned to Local 32 they were treated to a BBQ and several distinguished guests. Senator Maria Cantwell, Congressman Mike Honda of California, Congressman Jim McDermott, Senator Randy Gordon, Representatives Marcie Maxwell and Pat Sullivan, Suzan DelBene, Greg Hoover, and judicial candidates Charlie Wiggins and Matt Williams.

We re-elected Senator Murray!

Local 32 endorsed 26 legislative candidates and 22 of them were elected.

CONTINUED ON **PAGE 3**



UA Local 32

Newsletter Committee:

Wade Jarvis: *Chairman*
 Leanne Guier
 Dusty Hoerler
 Bruce Kelley
 Joe Morato
 Jeff Owen

Agents and Organizers

Jeffery J. Owen
Business Manager / Financial Secretary
 Steve Menne
Assistant Business Manager /
Plumber Business Agent
 PJ Moss
Steamfitter Business Agent
 Erik Pound
Refrigeration Business Agent
 Dan Jensen
Dispatcher and Inside Business Agent
 Marty Yellam
Municipalities Business Agent /
Metaltrade Marine Pipefitter Business Agent
 Troy Shopin
PSE Agent
 Brad Moore
Organizer
 Bruce Kelley
Organizer
 Eric Ercanbrack
Wenatchee Agent
 Lee Whetham
Peninsula Agent

UA₃₂

Seattle Plumbers and Pipefitters
 United Association Local 32
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Main Office Phone Number:
 425-277-6680
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 425-277-7370

Union meetings are the 2nd THURS of
 every month at 5pm.

Have an article you would like to submit? Please contact Wade Jarvis by email: wtjarvis@comcast.net or call: 425-765-0659.

Business Manager's Report

by Jeffery J. Owen

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

First of all, I would like to wish you and your families an enjoyable Holiday Season.

This past year has been a year of transition for Local 32; I don't expect that 2011 will be any different. As I have reported at the monthly union meetings, man-hours are down considerably.

The government is saying the recession is over: Announced by the **National Bureau of Economic Research**, the office arbiter of economic cycles announced the recession ended June, 2009. If true, this was the longest recession (18 months) in the post WWII period, followed only in duration by the 1973 and 1981 recessions.

This does very little for the American Worker when unemployment is at 10% nationally and here at our *Local Union* 33%. Much of the work in our Local Union, this past year, has been prevailing wage, and very little has been by the way of private money. We have seen it in our Market Recovery Program, as the long-term private jobs have not been there to bid. The exceptions are the two hospitals, one in Wenatchee and one in Issaquah (Swedish).

This leads me to the forecast for work in our area in 2011. I am acutely aware that our Membership would rather work in our home local than travel. However, 2011 will test our resolve. The work outlook looks better outside our jurisdiction. Both Local 26 and 598 will have a need for Travelers in the spring and summer. Most of the work, however, if not all, is for the Fitters, and they will need weld certifications and TWIC cards. Our work next year, at best, will be towards late summer for the Plumbers. We are looking for opportunities for both Plumbers and Fitters and if you are interested and/ or willing to travel, please contact your agent and let him know. The opportunities for traveling will also be updated at the monthly Union meetings.

BUILDING TRADES NEGOTIATIONS 2011

The Building Trades Agreement expires May 31st for the Plumbers and Fitters and September 30th for the Refrigeration Mechanics and the dates are fast approaching.

Negotiations with the MCA, in the past, have been amicable between the U.A. and the MCA. However, I am mindful of the letter sent to this office in January of 2010, requesting the following:

- » Suspend our wage allocations.
- » Suspension of our Supplemental Pension.
- » Changes to our working conditions, and to include

- » Revising the Apprentice to Journeyman Ratio down to one to one for all trades, this would have only increased our out of work list for our Journeymen.

It is my hope that the U.A. and MCA can move past this letter and continue a working relationship for the betterment of the Industry that we all rely on to take care of our families.

I will be sending out our Negotiations survey the 2nd week of January. Please fill them out and return as soon as possible.

BUILDING TRADES WAGE ALLOCATION

At our regular Union Meeting December 9th, the Membership allocated our Building Trades Wage Allocation as follows:

The **allocation of \$1.45** by the Building Trades Plumbers & Pipefitters was allocated as follows:

- » \$.054 to the National Pension
- » \$.20 to the Health and Welfare Plan
- » **\$0.71 to the check.**

We also Re-allocated \$0.35 from the hourly assessment as follows:

- » \$.05 to the WSA/UA PAC Fund (back to the assessment)
- » **\$0.30 to the check.**

Total allocation of \$1.80 was approved by the membership.

The Agreement expires May 31st 2011.

The **allocation of \$3.00** by the Building Trades Commercial & Industrial Refrigeration Mechanics was approved by the membership as follows:

- » \$2.03 to the check.
- » \$.30 to the Vacation Fund
- » \$.20 to the Health and Welfare Fund
- » \$.42 to the National Pension Fund
- » \$.05 to the WSA/U.A PAC Fund (to the assessment)

The agreement expires September 30th, 2011

Our "**Annual Christmas Party**" was held immediately after the wage allocation, and conclusion of our Union meeting. The food was great, and I want to thank those who volunteered their time and hard work to serve such a great meal to our Membership.

WORK RECOVERY UPDATE

At the December Union Meeting, concern was raised during the comment period and continued afterward regarding the decision to reduce the Hourly Assessment from \$1.35 to \$1.05 and put back on the member's check, monies which would normally be used for the purpose of funding the Market Recovery Program.

Through program efficiencies and consensus of our contractors, we have been able to manage the program without having to tap into the additional surplus created by the \$0.35 contribution made in June.

In addition, we have audited the money spent the last two years to verify the success of the program.

- » Year 2009, won 203 jobs valued at \$2,151,957.00 @ 200,545 man- hours.
- » Year 2010, won 260 Jobs valued at \$3,310,305.00 @ 328,185 man-hours as of 12/16/2010.

In Summary, we were able to increase man- hours won by an additional 63% without using any of the \$0.35 contribution allocated in June.

Below is the Agent assignments that detail the responsibilities and membership group that each of the agents are responsible for:

LOCAL 32 AGENT ASSIGNMENTS

STEVE MENNE

Plumber Agent

- » Plumbers
- » Assistant Business Manager
- » FAS Compliance
- » King Co Housing Authority
- » President Seattle Building Trades
- » Gov. Advisory Board
- » JATC

MARTY YELLAM

Metal Trades

- » SPU (7 groups)
- » Shipyards (4 groups)
- » Highline Water District
- » PAC Committee
- » JATC SPU
- » JATC Shipyards
- » Trustee Pacific Coast Metal Trades

ERIK POUND

Refrigeration Agent

- » Refer Mechanics
- » Seattle University
- » Lake Washington School District
- » North Shore School District
- » Shoreline School District
- » Jurisdictional Committee
- » JATC Trustee
- » JATC – Committee/Sub
- » Rebound Rep
- » Sustainable Works

P.J. MOSS

Fitter Agent

- » Fitters/Welders
- » Fire Stop
- » Seattle Schools
- » Port of Seattle
- » Jurisdictional Committee
- » JATC Fire Stop

TROY SHOPIN

Utilities/Gas Distribution

- » PSE
- » Gas Distribution
- » Water District #49
- » Gas Operations Training Trustee

LEE WHETHAM

Port Angeles/Agent

- » Port Angeles Agent
- » Area Organizer
- » Pres. Olympic Peninsula Bldg. Trades
- » WSBTC
- » Focus on Organizing in Shipyards
- » Olympic Labor Council Delegate
- » North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center Advisory Board Member

ERIC ERCANBRACK

Wenatchee Agent

- » Wenatchee Agent
- » Area Organizer
- » President NCW Labor Council
- » Central WA Bldg. Trades
- » Workforce Development Council Board of Directors
- » Wenatchee Valley College Advisory Board

BRAD MOORE

Organizer/Agent

- » Residential Plumbers
- » Seattle Housing
- » King County Facilities
- » Parks
- » Regional Justice
 - » King County Jail
 - » Airport
 - » Plumbing Inspector
- » Organizing
- » Sustainable Works
- » Residential JATC

BRUCE KELLEY

Organizer

- » Organizing
- » Political Liaison
- » PAC Committee
- » Office Rep for Newsletter Committee
- » Bates Advisory Board HVAC

DAN JENSEN

Inside Agent

- » Work Recovery
- » Dispatching

GAS DISTRIBUTION AND MAINLINE

The uncertainty of whether or not our current contractors will continue their Agreement with PSE is coming to an end. The decision should be made by the end of the year. Distribution Negotiations will begin the 1st or 2nd week of January and any financial settle-

ments retro-active to November 15th 2010.

Mainline work is slow and has continued to move at a snail's pace. The only work for our Members has been in Local 290. The mainline man-hours for 2010 are about 12,000 for the entire year. The lowest man hours reported in recent history.

SHOP UNION FOR HOLIDAYS

This holiday season, union families can use their power to help keep good union jobs in the community by purchasing union-made goods and services. The AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Department has compiled a list of union-made products you can buy and another list of products and services that the AFL-CIO has approved for boycott.

Start your shopping list with a visit to the Union Label website, www.unionlabel.org, and click on Search for Union Products to see if a product is union made and what union produces it. If you can't find what you're looking for there, move on to the websites of individual unions that show up as links on the page.

Another great place to find a wide assortment of union-made products is the **AFL-CIO Online Store**, where you will find unique apparel, buttons, mugs, decals and other outstanding union items.

Again, have a Happy Holiday Season

Fraternally,

Jeffery J. Owen

WALK & BBQ FROM FRONT PAGE

Of the 11 senatorial candidates endorsed, 8 of them were elected. We endorsed 5 congressional candidates and 4 of them were elected. Initiative 1082 failed good for us, but so did referendum 52 costing us jobs.

Getting these candidates elected and I-1082 to fail, took work from several of our members. I would

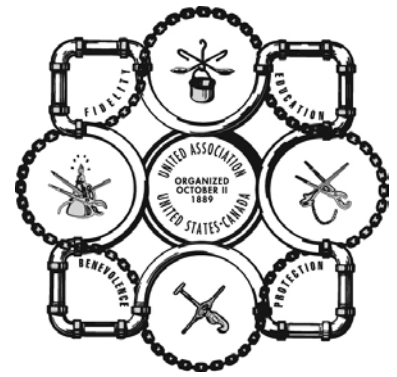
like to acknowledge the following people for their efforts in the 2010 election cycle. Brothers Steve Menne, PJ Moss, Eric Pound, Marty Yellem, Bruce Kelly, Brad Moore, Eric Gilbreath, Keith Nester, Troy Hewitt, Chris Elwell, Zac Smith, Dee Stewart, John Perkins, Karl Davies, Gordon Baxter, Erik Miltun, Greg Fuller, Dusty Hoerler, Augie Montoya, Rob Cornet, Jake Ritter, Jeremy Sandor, Allen Lunberg, Ean Thompson, Jason Clark, Angel Koler, Philip Gerard, Kevin Nicholas, Kevin Harrington, and Business manager Jeff Owen. I like to send a special thanks to brother Wade Jarvis for taking the pictures at our rally. Submitted by **Sister Leanne Guier**



Jason Clark doing his part for Labor Neighbor.

RETIREE CORNER

BY BROTHER MIKE SHILLEY (Interim Reporter)



NEW RETIREES

Many of our members have retired since the beginning of the year. We wish you all the very best in your future new life. You will soon wonder where you ever found the time to do so much “stuff”. Good Luck!

RETIREE BREAKFASTS

Retiree Breakfasts continue in the North and South. Many enjoyed the “Old Timers” celebration and the annual picnic this year. Many continue to volunteer hours to benefit Local 32, of these several have been active teaching at our school. They include, Mike Buroker; Jerry Keelean; Jim Karlin; Jim Baker; Jesse Beavin; Wayne Steadman; Al Peterson; Brian Easton; Al Hutson; Steve Grimes; and Bob Wilker. We are blessed to have so many skilled and dedicated retirees.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

This quarter we feature steamfitter **David LaPerle**, born 3/17/41 in North Adams, Mass. The past three

years David and his wife Linda have been living at Lake Stevens, Snohomish County, after 35 years being a resident of Lynnwood. Daughters Denise and Cindy and son Jeff, plus thirteen grandchildren round out the family. They all like to camp and hike, David and his son were both active in Troup #7 of the Evergreen Scout Council for many years and love to backpack. Jeff received his Eagle Scout award back in 1986.

David has two sisters and three brothers, grew up poor back

East and left school early to work in a shoe factory. 1960 saw him join the Marine Corps and in 1963 was posted to Whidbey Island; he credits this service for instilling discipline and pride into his life. David knew he had to obtain more education and through correspondence courses finished up at Everett Junior College where he studied metallurgy. Welding was part of his course and he took to it like fish to water. Working in Lockheed Shipyard developed his welding skills and in 1971 went as a journeyman to work pipeline at the Arco Refinery. With his Building Trades Fitter card in hand David developed his skills working for Botting, Auburn, Magnolia and ACCO rising to foreman then general foreman. Serving eighteen years as a JATC member then graduating as a UA instructor, he served twelve years teaching welding and gas piping at our school. Being a general foreman on the fifty eight stories Washington Mutual Tower was his biggest challenge to date and bode him well for future challenges at Safeco Field, Swedish, Virginia Mason, and Evergreen hospitals.

David retired in 2003-- he knows family has always been his greatest joy. He tells us sharing knowledge and allowing new ideas is how our trade will grow, so “work like you need the money” and “dance like no one is watching.” He and his wife, now more than ever, enjoy travelling around the beautiful places this country has to offer, the Pacific beaches being a favorite. They visit their extended family often, and attending their grandchildren activities is a great joy. David LaPerle is a credit to Unionism; it has been a great pleasure getting to know you.

Brothers and Sisters, we need to profile more of our outstanding members, they are a model for the rest of us to emulate. Call in the outstanding member’s name you would like to see featured.

We are looking for a new reporter for this section of the newsletter. Maybe you the reader or someone you know would like to volunteer four times per year to write this article. Please contact the newsletter committee if you are interested.



David LaPerle -
Fitter retiree

CHAMPION PROGRAM

BY BROTHER WADE JARVIS

Habitat for Humanity In Local 32



Residential Plumbing Apprentices at Paterson Park Habitat for Humanity, 2005

Habitat for Humanity has played a strong role in our local charity efforts. We are able to use our Local's talents and gifts to give back to the community by building high-quality affordable homes for families in need. This project has been managed by Al Peterson as part of our Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee. Al organizes apprentices and journeymen volunteers for service projects in our area.

Al has the help of his sons Russell and Rob on many projects. He also has had a great deal of help from Jake Ritter, Sarah Rowhan, Joe Ta, and many other volunteers that have admirably donated time for charity work. Our volunteers in Habitat projects bring many invaluable benefits to our Local and to our community.

Importance of clean, decent, and stable housing

Habitat for Humanity has shown that building

homes does more than put a roof over someone's head. In clean, decent, stable housing:

- Families can provide stability for their children.
- A family's sense of dignity and pride grow.
- Health, physical safety, and security improve.
- Educational and job prospects increase. (www.Habitat.org)

Our union has always fought for these principles. We believe everyone is worthy of the resources and infrastructure needed to provide for their families. The involvement of this local and our contractors shows the sincerity of our convictions and the important role we play in the stabilization of our community. At Local 32 we build strong families and by playing a role in Habitat for Humanity we practice what we preach. We are always looking for more volunteers to expand our impact: contact Al Peterson, JATC office.

SOLIDARITY

BY BROTHER DUSTY HOERLER
AND BROTHER JOE MORATO



The Hard Work Of Organizing Leads To Commitment From A Political Leader

On October 21 at the Sound Alliance fundraiser, Washington State Treasurer Jim McIntire announced that Bank of America will open up two locations in Western Washington to meet face-to-face with those who have mortgages with Bank of America and are trying to save their homes. One of the homeownership centers will be co-located with the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle. The other center will be located at the Bank of America office in downtown Seattle.



Right: State Treasurer Jim McIntire announcing his commitment at Sound Alliance fundraiser.
Below: Jim McIntire speaking to the full house.



September 13, 2010

Sound Alliance
649 Strander Blvd, Ste B
Tukwila, WA 98188

Dear Sound Alliance Coalition Member,

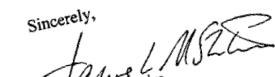
Your organization recently contacted my office concerning the difficulty your members are having when trying to apply for loan modifications and your efforts to ask all major banks that provide home loans in this state to open a Homeowner Service Center in Western Washington.

I agree and support this objective. Foreclosure rates are at a historical high and the services and information a customer is provided can make all the difference in whether or not they are able to save their home. These homeowner service centers can and do make a difference when it comes understanding the process of loan modification. Asking home loan providers to open a homeowner service center in Western Washington and to provide that level of customer service is a reasonable request.

It is my understanding that some banks have opened these service centers and they should be commended. I believe that all lending institutions should provide a certain standard of service for all their customers, especially when that customer is in danger of losing their home. I will do my best to ensure all major mortgage lenders prove the same level of service that they provide my office.

Thank you for contacting my office and I look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,


James L. McIntire
Washington State Treasurer

Legislative Building, P.O. Box 40200 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0200 • (360) 902-9000 • TTY USERS: CALL 711
FAX (360) 902-9037 • Home Page <http://tre.wa.gov>

SOUNDALLIANCE

Sound Alliance held a fundraising dinner on October 21, 2010. It was well attended and there were some great motivational speakers.

This organization is comprised of a wide selection of unions, community groups and religious organizations working together for the “common good.”



Sound Alliance Chairman Joe Chrastil and Local 32's Augie Mo.



Left: Keisha Krumm addressing the crowd.
Middle: Dessert Auction at Sound Alliance Fundraiser: many desserts donated by Local 32 member Doug Irish and his wife Patty.
Right: Cody Hinman, recent Leadership Training Graduate.



Jeff Owen, Augie Montoya, Dusty Hoerler.

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32 CONNECTIONS

COMMUNITY CORNER

BY JUSTIN SHOOK, JORDAN SLYE and SCOTT JOBE

Helpers Build Solidarity

We have learned over the three years that we have been helpers that we like the work, we enjoy the challenge and we anticipate the opportunity to join the trade as an apprentice.

When the rain is cold and the wind is blowing we look forward to our time in the dry shack. We look forward to sharing that 15 and 30 minutes when we're all on the same playing field, sharing food and a few good laughs. That's why we organized a potluck in our dry shack



Dry shack potluck, Swedish Hospital job, Issaquah

one Friday of the month. It's a huge morale booster, bottom line it brings every one together for some

good eats. Top to bottom everyone has got to show leadership, even the helpers.