



32 CONNECTIONS

A Publication for Members of United Association Local 32

UNITED ASSOCIATION LOCAL 32 SEATTLE

SPRING 2013



UA Local 32

Agents and Organizers

Business Manager / Financial Secretary
Jeffery J. Owen

**Assistant Business Manager /
Plumber Business Agent**
Steve Menne

Steamfitter Business Agent
PJ Moss

Refrigeration Business Agent
Erik Pound

Dispatcher and Inside Business Agent
Dan Jensen

**Municipalities Business Agent /
Metaltrade Marine Pipefitter
Business Agent**
Marty Yellam

PSE/Gas Distribution Agent
Troy Shopin

Mainline Agent
Ernesto "J.R." Ybarra

Wenatchee/Peninsula Agent
Eric Ercanbrack

Organizer
Tim Herbert

Political Action Coordinator
Leanne Guier

UA 32

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

Have an article you would like to submit? Please contact Tim Herbert by email: tim@ualocal32.com or call: 206-707-2936.

We Want to Know!

If you or someone you know has given generously of their time, and/or labor for a good cause; or has been involved in extraordinary charitable activities, please let us know! Contact Tim Herbert with all details and pictures of our members helping the community.



Business Manager's Report

by JEFFERY J. OWEN

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As spring arrives, there are signs of a recovering construction market. Work is slowly improving in many areas of the country. Some Locals have full employment, and are taking travelers. Here at home the current out of work list for Plumbers, Pipefitters, Refrigeration and all apprentices is at about 22%. There are positive signs, man hours are up 5% this year; and the contractors

have more work scheduled later in the year.

Below is a comparison of the building trades hours worked through the fiscal years of 2011-2013.

- February 2011 1,616,109.83
- February 2012 1,560,474.31
- February 2013 1,635,982.50

I attended the Business Managers and Agents meeting this past week in Arizona. I returned home with the understanding that Local 32 is doing better than most locals. The conference covered the following topics: Jurisdiction, Organizing, Political Involvement, and Apprentices.

Jurisdiction

Local 32 will continue to diligently protect our Jurisdiction and trade lines. Plumbing, Pipefitting and HVAC/R work is under attack. In today's market, the non-union and other union trades; are willing to do our work for much less than what we perform it for.

The **Sheet Metal Union** locally and nationally is consistently crossing jurisdictional lines. We have made numerous attempts to get them to the table, with minimal results. We have met with International reps, and discussed our issues with the U.A. Jurisdiction department. In Washington State, all the Local Unions are having the same issues. There is a belief that there is a directive to steal everything they can from us, for their own survival. In our Jurisdiction, the attack is on pipefitting, refrigeration piping and service work. In Local 598 (Tri-cities) jurisdiction, it's pipefitting and welding.

There is a concerted effort on behalf of the Sheet Metal Union to establish themselves in Variable Refrigerant Flow systems (VRF). VRF work replaces chillers, boilers and all related ducting associated with these systems. They see this type of work as a threat; and want to establish themselves in this market. They recently redefined a forty-four (44) story building as residential by installing VRF systems. We know that they are continuing to install variable refrigerant flow systems; and we will do whatever is needed to address this problem.

The U.A. jurisdiction department is assisting us in a grievance; which may eventually lead to arbitration. However, we are all responsible for our jurisdiction on the jobsite. Don't be afraid to ask a guy who he is, and why he is on a jobsite; then contact your agent.

Organizing

As a Local, we are at a stale mate on how we should organize. I would prefer that we drop the word "Organizing," and change it to **Increasing Market Share Organization**. The goal of increasing Market Share is simple; expand the amount of work that our mem-

Continued on next page

bers are doing in the industry. Convincing non-union contractors to accept our agreements, pension liability, and wages; are the hardest issues that we face as a local union.

Market share is defined as the percentage (%) of the market that is controlled by the Plumbing, Pipefitting and HVAC/R industries. By controlling the market share, you dictate practices in the industry. As our market share erodes, the non-unions grow stronger. The effects can be seen in our out of work list. While in some industries our foothold remains stronger than others; overall, the non-union is gaining the upper hand. We can't just blame the economy in specific areas of our industries. **Example: The Residential market. In Downtown Seattle the growth in this construction market is incredible; and yet we only have a small percentage of that market.**

In the coming weeks, a letter will be sent to our local Plumbers inviting them to interview for a new Market Share Specialist, otherwise known as an Organizer. If you're interested in this position, come prepared to discuss how you would increase our market share. Brother Brad Moore was our organizer for twelve (12) years; and recently moved on to explore other adventures in his life. The contributions that Brad brought to Local 32 and the membership in his role as an organizer will never be forgotten. His efforts have made us a better Local.

Political Involvement

We want a government that puts working families first. Our retirees want a government that protects Social Security and Medicare.

Continued on page 18

Plumber Report

By Steve Menne

It's no secret that the economy the last four (4) years has been horrible. Many of our members have felt the sting of a down economy. We have had members lose their homes, exhaust their unemployment, lose medical benefits and everything else in between.

Every day and night, these issues weigh heavy on my heart and mind. The unfortunate truth is that while we grow closer to things turning around, we are not yet there. There are encouraging signs of upcoming work. Many new projects are beginning and several others are being bid even as I write this.

- The Insignia Project that is being done by Holaday Parks will be manning up later this year.
- Demolitions for the Amazon Headquarters have started downtown, and University Mechanical has secured the first building there.
- MacDonald Miller has \$10 million of build-out work at the Virginia Mason Clinic.
- MacDonald Miller also will be starting the Alley 3 Project early this summer.

Hermanson has the Snoqualmie Valley Hospital project which is slated to start sometime in the second quarter of this year, and they are also starting to man up the Vashon Island High School.

Dispatching from the Building Trades List has been scarce. Many of our dispatches have been short

calls. Please remember you have the option to come down to the hall and switch lists.

T.I. and service work has been slow for many of our members. Many of our members doing this work are still employed but some are on rotating shifts, taking reduced hours or are on furlough; in hopes that work will pick back up soon.

Our Enhanced Residential work continues to be a bright spot. Ocean Park, Adept and SJS have many projects underway and others that have yet to begin. Currently, members are being dispatched from the Residential list. The Residential list has 12 members available. Some of our members have been re-dispatched from the Enhanced Residential list to Ocean Parks Building Trades projects.

My hope is that employment will get better in the second half of this year, and continue on through 2014. There are projects further out that look hopeful. There is the expansion of the Washington State Convention Center, an NBA/NHL arena in the SODO district, Hotels and Office towers and hopefully much more.

In closing, I would like to remind ever one to keep your Plumbers Certifications current. Please visit the training office website to enroll for early CEU classes.

In Solidarity,
Steve Menne



UA Scholarship Fund:

The application deadline is June 15th, 2013.

Applications can be downloaded off the UA website. We encourage our young people to take advantage of this resource.



Steam Fitter Report

by P.J. Moss

Brother and Sisters:

The beginning of 2013 has seen work continue to slow down for the Building Trades Fitters and Welders. Many of our Boeing jobs have started to slow, and although there looks to be more Boeing work on the horizon; we could see a slight backwards

trend there over the next few months. Our contractors that work in the tenant improvement side of our industry, have been able to weather the current situation better than most with a few exceptions; and look to pick up late spring.

After talking with many of our contractors, and their superintendents over the last month and a half we have continuously had this referred to as "The calm before the storm". Many have pointed to upcoming work they are either bidding, or have already secured. This results in a positive outlook for the third and fourth quarters this year on into 2014. Between now and then unfortunately, hiring looks to be very sporadic. As I have reported at our union meetings, most work orders that have come in over the last several months have been an average length of 4-6 weeks.

Although work in Local 32's jurisdiction appears to be slow until summer months; there are still opportunities for our Building Trades Fitters and Welders to travel. Local 290 in Portland is starting to call into their "B" list. The majority of these calls are out to the Intel Project. For those of you interested in traveling to Local 290; a letter was sent on February 12th to our Building Trades Fitter and Welder out of work list, notifying a change in Local 290 policy. The sentence below comes directly from Local 290.

"ALL TRAVELERS seeking work at any Intel job site within the jurisdiction of UA Local 290 shall be required to complete a High Tech Culture Class prior to being eligible for dispatch"

There are also upcoming travel opportunities in Canada for Fitters and Welders at Local 488 Edmonton, Alberta. Combo Welders are also in demand throughout the UA. If you are interested, and would like to know more about any of these job opportunities; or have the interest and ability to travel elsewhere, please do not hesitate to call or email me.

Our next UA weld test will be on Saturday, June 1st; the deadline to sign up will be Thursday, May 30th.

In addition to the weld tests, our weld shop runs welder and brazing continuity tests upwards to twice monthly. The upcoming dates starting in April are:

Tuesday 4/16	Tuesday 4/30
Tuesday 5/14	Tuesday 5/28

I highly suggest these testing and continuity dates for anyone that is currently on the welder list, or planning to sign the welder list. As you know, without a current up to date weld cert, you are not permitted to sign the welder out of work list. If you are on the welder out of work list; and have not kept your continuities up while out of work, we are unable to dispatch you as a welder.

For those of you who have worked on refineries or even at our local ports you could be familiar with the term "TWIC" card. TWIC stands for *Transportation Worker Identification Credential*. TWIC is a common identification credential for all personnel requiring unescorted access to secure areas of Maritime Transportation Security Act regulated facilities and vessels. This is issued through the Department of Homeland Security; and we are starting to see more jobs at places like the Port of Seattle and sites on Harbor Island along with others throughout our jurisdiction require our contractors to supply workers with this card. If you currently have a TWIC card please take the time to verify that Local 32 has a copy of it in your file, or if you are interested in applying for a TWIC card you can visit twic.program.tsa.dhs.gov or type TWIC into most internet search engines.

In closing, I want to thank all our Stewards, Elected Officers, countless Volunteers, and Staff who make Local 32 a leader in our industry and community.

Fraternally,
P.J. Moss



HVAC/Refrigeration Report

by Erik Pound

Building Trades Refrigeration & HVAC

HVAC work continues to be steady. We're starting to see building trades construction work pick-up-there are several projects downtown installing Variable Refrigerant Flow (VFR) systems that should get a few members off the out of work list.

Our HVAC service shops are all over the board. Some are doing pretty well, and others remain slow. Some members are on furlough. But I expect things to get a little busier on the service side soon.

As usual, supermarket service continues to be very steady.

I can't report that supermarket work is busy, but I'm hearing that more work is being let out for bid than at this time last year. Things haven't picked up as much as I would like to see and we have people on furlough.

I have an email list of many, but not all, of our out of work members. I use this to pass along job opportunities for city, county, shipyards & school districts as they become available; as well as other information. If you would like to be added to this distribution list, please contact me @ 425-277-6680, 206 940-4212 or Erik@ualocal32.com.

Erik Pound

Refrigeration /HVAC Business Agent

Brothers and Sisters,

Work continues to be slow, but I'm optimistic that things will pick up in 2013. For many of our contractors, this is the slow time of the year and they aren't expecting to see any improvement for at least a month or two.

We are still experiencing quite a bit of underemployment; many of our members working less than 40 hours per week. A few shops have chosen to put our members on standby; some members are working every other week, others are taking 2 or more weeks off.

As of March 20, 2013, there are 32 Journeymen on the out of work list-that's down from 43 at the time of the last newsletter. All available apprentices are working.

Local 290-Portland-will be hiring again for the Intel project soon. Members are required to take a High Tech Culture class prior to dispatch. Those of you who are interested please contact me.

Lake Washington School District

We've finished negotiations. The ratification vote was February 26, and the new contract is for 3 years: 2% for the 1st 2 years, and COLA -currently projected @ 2.7 %- for the last year.

We were also successful getting the lead pay for our plumber restored.



Local 32 Picnic

- Saturday, July 13th at Lake Sammamish State Park 11am-4pm



Pipeline Report

by Ernesto Ybarra

There is a changing of the guard as this year's pipeline season gets underway. Last year, we had three of our most experienced pipeline welders retire. We also turned out five pipeline welders, acquired two new journeymen and started eleven helpers.

All mainline members came together to pass a motion that increased our mainline working assessment. This assessment will be used for pipeline training. We have started a training facility in Woodinville with the help of Miller Welders, Mathy Dearman, Direct Wire and Cable, Lincoln Welders and our members.

We reached out to our clients about Local 32's commitment to addressing their upcoming work needs. Our next step will be locating 24" pipe so that we can train on the internal pneumatic production clamps for laying cross country lines. This will take us to the limit on our exist-

ing training location. We are looking for more acreage in order to dig and lay out for hydro testing as well as to perform tie-in work in a ditch.

Work should see an improvement in 2013. Williams Gas has said that 2014 and 2015 should be very busy for them also.

I would like to thank our local mainline members; past, present and future for their support with addressing the need for training in this growing energy industry.

Ernesto Ybarra
Local 32 Pipeline Agent

***Training for
the Future of
the Energy
Industry***





Shipyard Report

by Marty Yellam

Our current contract with Vigor Shipyard and the Puget Sound Metal Trades Council is 4 months away from expiration. The uncertainty of the transition of the Marine Pipefitter classification has become clearer as time passes.

Over the last two years Vigor Marine, under new ownership, has changed right before our eyes. The Union Affiliates of the P.S.M.T.C. have struggled to embrace the wholesale changes that are occurring at Vigor Marine. These changes have been incrementally implemented through Vigor Shipyard, Vigor Marine and U.S. Fab.

Local 32 has a M.O.U. with the Boilermakers of Local 104 at U.S. Fab. We have 20 pipefitters working with a back log of three years of work on new 164 car ferries. We have also partnered with Local 104 and have another M.O.U. at Vigor Marine. By doing this we were able to put 44 of our members to work last year at the Shell and Noble Drilling project. While work has slowed down we still have 5-10 members working at Vigor Marine.

Vigor Shipyard is under contract until July 31, 2013. We are currently meeting and strategizing for the upcoming negotiations. As I have reported in past general union meetings; the Metal Trades Department and Port Councils have negotiated a new Master Agreement that will change the way we do work in the yards for years to come.



Metal Trades Members at Work

Rumors are starting to hit the street suggesting that the Old Todd contract will not be negotiated and will default to the Master Agreement. This rumor is false. The agreement will be negotiated and voted on by the members of the P.S.M.T.C. There will be significant parts of the Master Agreement that will be added to the contract. The allocations to the U.A. National Pension, Pacific

Coast Shipyard Trust and Health Trust will remain in the new contract.

Vigor Shipyard (Old Todd's) has been a major employer of Local 32 for over 50 years. Many elder members have spent time working in the shipyards throughout their careers. One of the big changes in the new Master Agreement is the removal of craft jurisdiction and what constitutes a Journeyman classi-

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fication. The new Journey classification will call for the ability to have three different skill sets. For Local 32 it will be pipefitting, welding and rigging. The Apprenticeship Office has already added these skill sets into our Marine Pipefitter Apprenticeship program.

I will be sending out contract surveys to Vigor Shipyard employee's in April. Please take the time to answer the survey and add your comments detail-

ing what is important to discuss and/or change in the Master Agreement. This year's Metal Trades negotiations will be different than in the past. The Council will have 3 employee representatives (Stewards) joining the Agents in negotiations instead of the 16 Stewards we had in the past.

Marty Yellam
Local 32, Metal Trades

Seattle Public Utilities

by Marty Yellam

After four tough years of budget woes at Seattle Public Utilities, we are finally turning the corner. Although we did not have any members get laid off, we also did not have any new hires. However, we have lost positions by attrition and abrogation.

Late in 2012, S.P.U posted job opportunities for 5 water pipe workers. I am glad to report that we have filled all 5 positions. On behalf of the membership, I would like welcome these new members to Local 32.

In January 2013, S.P.U. Director Rick Scott called me to say he received approval to hire 15 water pipe worker apprentices. The Utilities is now going through the hiring process and will offer jobs to those 15 who are chosen. June of 2013 is the target date for these new hires. Good luck to the friends and family of Local 32 who applied.

Fraternally,
Marty Yellam



PSE/Gas District/Water Department Report

by Troy Shopin

Puget Sound Energy

Our current agreement with Puget Sound Energy ends on October 1st. The company has expressed an interest in starting negotiations early. I will continue to report on this at upcoming union meetings. If you have any questions please contact me at the business office: 425-277-6680.

I am pleased to report that the arc welding courses that our members have participated in were a success. Many of our members have been waiting for the opportunity to participate in this class. It was nice to keep the training in-house and see great results. There is also a new Pressure Control school starting up. There are eight (8) members that have signed up and are eager to start a new career path within Puget Sound Energy. Most of these members have been waiting 20 plus years for the chance to be eligible for this training. Congratulations and GOOD LUCK to you all.

Puget Sound Energy/UA Training Trust

The staff has been working hard to finish up with Operators Qualifications. They are held in the

evenings with the contractors. Dave Wooten will also be teaching the Pressure Control class for PSE members.

Distribution Contractors

It looks like a smooth start to what could end up being a very busy year. The Bare street Project is an aggressive job at 140,000ft. This project is more complex than usual because of the volume of jobs being 1500 feet or less. These jobs coupled with the daily grind of compliance, Leakage, Conversion Work and new construction are starting to pick up. I am happy to report that 2013 will be a busy year.

Water District #49

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Sheryl Stott, and Paula Oord. I am looking forward to working with both of you for many years to come. Also I would like to thank Jane Zeller and Mary Ann Mulrooney for all their years of service. I wish you both the best in retirement and may this new stage in your life be all you want and more.

Fraternally,
Troy Shopin



Eastern Wash. & Olympic Peninsula

by Eric Ercanbrack

Eastern Washington

Work in Eastern Washington remains slow with only one large project currently underway at Sterling Middle School in East Wenatchee.

Work is expected to pick up this summer for the fitters due to projects at Wells Dam and Sabey Data Center, unfortunately, these projects are light on the plumbing side and we could see several slow months for our plumbers upon the completion of Sterling this summer. There are however, several regional capitol school bond measures scheduled for this fall and early next spring that if passed could help bring over 250 million dollars worth of prevailing wage construction work to the region in the summer of 2014 thru 2015.

I have been building relationships over the last four years with most of the regions school boards and will be giving presentations to them on bidder responsibility, apprenticeship utilization and community workforce agreements over the next few months. I believe this will be an effective way to level the bidding for our contractors against the non-union competition. In the coming weeks I will be reaching out to members living in the school districts with upcoming bonds to speak in favor of these issues. If any member is interested in assisting with this please call me direct.

There will be a **Union Meeting/Wage allocation at 5 p.m. on May 17th** at the Wenatchee Labor Temple.

There will be a Plumbing Code Update class for **Eastern Washington Members** at 7am on April 20th at the Wenatchee Technical Skills Center.

The **Eastern Washington Golf Classic** will be held at Highlander Golf Club in East Wenatchee on September 7th. Registration fliers will be available at the April Union meeting.

Olympic Peninsula

Nippon Paper Mill (Port Angeles)

We have begun to see some work pick up for our signatory contractors at Nippon, both University Mechanical and JH Kelly have projects underway at the mill and have indicated to us that they are bidding on several projects upcoming in the mill. The size

and scope of this work is yet to be determined but there is a possibility some out of work members could get a call there.

Nippon Bio-Mass Co-Gen

Local 32 recently received word in mid February that Nippon Paper had asked JH Kelly if they had the capacity to install the piping for the boiler and associated piping, JH Kelly responded they indeed could perform the installation. This request from Nippon is likely in response to the project being over 4 months behind schedule and the lack of skilled mechanics to install and weld the pipe. As yet, JH Kelly has not heard anything else from Nippon, but told me very little pipe has been installed and they feel they still have an opportunity to acquire the work.

Note: The United Pulp and Paper Workers are currently working without a contract at Nippon and there is the possibility of a Labor stoppage there in the near future. We are monitoring the situation and will contact any affected members working at the mill if the situation changes.

Tesoro Fuel Dock

There are currently bids under consideration for retrofitting of the Tesoro Fuel Dock in Port Angeles. Both JH Kelly and Haskell are bidding the project, preliminary information leads us to believe there are no non-union bidders but we cannot be sure until a contract has been signed. In the event the project goes forward the way it was conveyed to Local 32, the project will be done over a 3 month period and will require members working there to have a TWIC card and be able to perform under 100% X-Ray welding conditions.

Sequim School District

The Sequim School District currently has pre-bond planning underway for either remodel or complete replacement of both Helen Haller Elementary and Sequim High School. The District informed me that they intend to put a capitol bond measure to the public next February. The scope of this bond measure will be dependent on the pre-bond study but will likely be substantial.

Note: any bond measure upcoming inside the Peninsula jurisdiction will receive the same directive from Local 32 as outlined in the Eastern Washington report. If any member is interested in assisting with political action on the peninsula please contact me direct.

In Solidarity,
Eric Ercanbrack



Eastern Washington Golf Tournament

- Saturday, September 7th, Highlander Golf Course – Wenatchee, WA

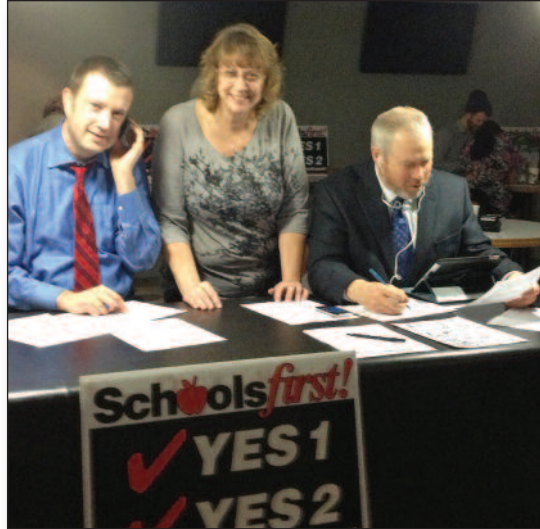


PAC Report

by Leanne Guier, Political Action

The PAC is in a process of re-defining its vision. We need your help.

Our contractors were not awarded the work at the Auburn High School. We assessed the reasons why our contractors are unable to compete financially in a prevailing wage market. There are several ways that we can better position our contractors to be awarded work in this construction environment. It has become clear that our school boards lack knowledge about "RESPONSIBLE BIDDER" language and



Leanne working with Mayor Mike McGinn and King County Council Member Joe McDermott

apprenticeship utilization. As a local, we all know the value of our apprenticeship program and take pride in the quality of work that we provide. The standards that we hold are higher than our Non Union competition. School boards set policy and standards for accepting bids and do not want substandard work performed with tax payer money. However, they do not know all the ways that the Non Union side step

the rules to meet these minimum standards. It is for this reason that we are putting together a power point presentation that we will be using to assist in educating the elected officials and school board members on the value of Apprenticeship, quality workmanship and State bidding requirements. With the passing of the Seattle School Capital levy, we will have an opportunity to put our new ideas to work.

We are continuing to actively recruit labor friendly candidates. Our involvement will go beyond endorsing a candidate and contributing to their campaign. We will be building relationships; and educating all involved on issues that matter to our members. Prior to endorsement, candidates will be given a tour of our training facility. This will help them visualize what our apprenticeship training entails. Our training facility and instructors are top-notch, and we would like our endorsed candidates to see that for themselves. Once they are elected we will keep in touch and continue to educate on job related issues. This will give us the opportunity to provide guidance on policy making decisions. I have heard it said,



The PAC is looking for your help

We would like you to come up with a logo separate from Local 32's. This logo will be used for

Newsletters, banners, tee shirts, hats, etc.

to identify Local 32's Political Action Committee.

The deadline is May 1st.

Your PAC will pick the winning design.

The plan is to roll it out at the June union meeting.

E-mail your designs to Leanne Guier at

Leanne@ualocal32.com

Or to Local 32's Business office.

If you have any questions, please call

Leanne at 206-290-7710.



**Local 32
PAC ?**

“That you are either at the table OR you are on the menu!” By implementing these strategies, we will be sitting at the head of the table.

In closing, I would like to say if you have ever considered running for office in your community please contact me at 206-290-7710 or at Leanne@ualocal32.com. Whether it's for fire com-

missioner, water commissioner, school board or city council. It all starts with wanting to make a difference in your community.

Fraternally yours,
Sister Leanne Guier

Organizing

by Tim Herbert



I would like to start my article by thanking Brad Moore for his service to Local 32, and the Organizing Department for the past 12 years. Local 32 could not have asked for a more dedicated, hard working organizer and member. Brad Moore

has been instrumental in the development of Local 32's Residential Plumbing Program. He has touched the lives of many of our members, and has helped change the plumbing industry for the betterment of all. We all wish you the best in the next phase of your life.

In February, the Organizing Department spent nine (9) days at the Seattle Home Show. While there, we promoted the Residential Plumbing Services program (RPS). RPS recently advertised in the Seattle Yellow pages. The call center for RPS has reported that they are now receiving more than double the amount of calls they previously had coming in. The RPS program is patterned after the RES program (Residential Electrical Services). The RES program started out slow, but now generates hundreds of thousands of work hours for its participating members. We

hope that we can continue to see growth, and one day reach those same or larger numbers. That being said, I would like to thank Howard of Howard's Plumbing for coming down to the home show and helping out. It was nice to have a participating contractor present to answer questions and help promote the program.

If you're interested in starting a business please contact me. The Customers in the Residential Service industry are looking for options other than S.W Plumbing and Beacon Plumbing. This is a multi-million dollar industry that has yet to be tapped into by either our current contractors or our members.

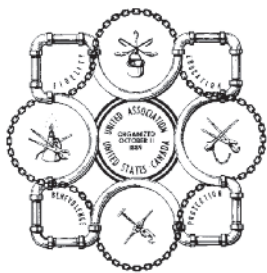
The organizing department will be monitoring the Auburn School District job to make sure that prevailing wage rules will be followed. I would like to inform you that Bulldog Plumbing and Crescent Sheet Metal have removed from the job due to their inability to bond.

If you see anything while out on job sites that you want the organizing department to look into, please contact us. We will look into any and all issues you uncover. You can call the office at 425 277-6680 or call my cell phone directly at 206 707-2936.

Fraternally yours,
Tim Herbert

Apprentice Golf Tournament

- Saturday, July 27th at Druids Glen Golf Course in Black Diamond, WA



Retiree Corner

Member Spotlight: **Paul Meredith**

Brother Paul Meredith is currently the oldest living member of Local 32 at age 97. Most members would assume that I interviewed Paul from a hospice bed at his advanced age. Nothing could be farther



Paul Meredith in his youth

from the truth. On the day of our interview, Paul pulled up in front of the Wenatchee Labor Temple in his Chevy pick-up on a 30 degree morning; jumped out of the truck, lifted a display case with his medals and commendations out of the back-seat along with a large binder of pictures from his past. He then proceeded to shove open the heavy glass doors of the Temple with nothing but his elbow; and made his way to

my office where he spoke for over 90 minutes about his life, with a clarity that a man half his age could only hope to achieve. Paul was born to Gomer and Blanch Meredith on September 27th 1915 in Hysham, Montana. His family later moved to Lake Crystal, Minnesota where Paul grew up and graduated from Mankato High School. Shortly after graduating, Paul left the family farm and enlisted in the Navy in 1934. Assigned to the U.S.S. Mississippi, he rose to the rank of Machinist First Class due to his ability to "tinker with things and make them work"! At the age of 25, he was honorably discharged in 1940. Having spent six long years in the navy, Paul was ready to take the mechanical skills he had learned into the workplace. These plans would be put on hold however, due to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Paul re-enlisted in the navy in 1941 and was assigned to the US Naval troop

transport vessel USS Hugh L. Scott in 1942. The Hugh L. Scott was transporting over 2200 soldiers and was part of Transport Division 3, (Operation Torch) supplying General Patton's North African invasion force. On November 12th the Hugh L. Scott finally began to unload her supplies in the exposed Fedhala roadstead. Then without warning, she was hit by two torpedoes from German U-Boat, U-130 after it slipped undetected past the defensive line of US Destroyers protecting the transport vessels.

Shortly before the attack, Paul went below deck to the engine room to deliver a radio-gram to a young sailor on watch; the message was to inform him that he had recently become a father. While delivering this message, Paul noticed that the ship's bilges were filling up due to rags blocking the bilge suction line. He then jumped into the oily bilge water and removed the rags, fixing the problem. Paul's willingness to get dirty and get the job done would prove to save his life. After cleaning out the bilge he went up to his quarters on the next deck overhead to change his soiled uniform. While he was changing the two torpedoes fired from U-130 struck the Hugh L. Scott, one in the engine room and the other in the fire room. Paul was thrown violently into the overhead by the explosion but managed to make his way to the stern of the badly listing and fire engulfed ship. Along the way he had grabbed a life vest, which he threw in the water and then jumped in after.

Paul spent two hours afloat in the water prior to being rescued. During the struggle for his own life; he witnessed two other ships take direct torpedo hits, and sink along with the Scott(USS Rutledge, USS Tasker S. Bliss).

Torpedoing of the Scott



Torpedoing of the Scott

Eight officers and 51 crew men aboard the Hugh L. Scott perished that day. However, many lives were saved by the presence of several landing craft in the area that assisted in the rescue of the ship's crew members. During our interview, Paul spoke to me about the effect of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder; and how he wishes more was being done for our present day soldiers returning home from the wars in the Middle East. While Paul says that he learned long ago how to keep the memories of that day from his mind during the daytime, he has relived that day in his dreams every night since.

The sinking of the Hugh L. Scott, forced Paul to wait in Fedhala, French Morocco until he was re-assigned. While there, he met US General Patton in a bombed out church that Paul, and other survivors were camped in. Paul was then assigned to the USS Chantelain; as part of the submarine hunter-killer group formed around the USS Guadalcanal.

As they were providing escort to transport ships across the Atlantic Ocean in 1943; Paul with only the complement of a few young and green sailors, successfully repaired one of the ships 700-plus pound fresh water coolers, while underway in rough seas. The leadership and expertise exhibited by Paul under these circumstances, earned him a Navy commission as an Ensign.

The USS Chatelain would famously go on to sink German U-515; and lead the dramatic disabling and capture of German U-505. Significantly, the U-505 was the first German U-Boat boarded by the US Navy. Paul would go on to achieve the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Upon the completion of the war, Paul was once again honorably discharged from the navy in 1946. Paul then married his late wife Goldie, and came to the Seattle area to seek work in the shipyards. As he put it, "that's what I knew!"

Due to Paul's knowledge of both steam and refrigeration systems; he joined Local 32 as a service mechanic for Appliance Service Station located in Westlake. Paul then worked for Refrigeration Engineers and Tyler Refrigeration, before settling at Key Mechanical in 1951.

Paul would stay at Key, working throughout the Seattle area until he retired in 1979. It is unknown

how many sailors were mentored and trained by Paul throughout his 12 year Navy career. Or, how many members have been fortunate to learn from him, during the 67 years he has been a member of Local 32. The number would likely be too many to count.

Paul and his wife Goldie, who sadly passed away in 1986; lived in Bellevue. They raised two sons; Keith and Greg who have blessed him with 2 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 4 great great-grandchildren. Paul also has two living sisters Maxine and Gladine. Paul also had two brother's Wayne and Robert who sadly have past on.

Paul now resides with his son Keith in East Wenatchee; He is enjoying his retirement as you can see by the beautiful salmon he caught on the Columbia River a few years back!

Thank you Paul for your service and the honor of having you as a member of Local 32.



Paul Meredith and crew at Appliance Service Station



Paul Meredith fishing on the Columbia

Retiree Union Meetings



February 2013 Retiree Union Meeting Attendees

Old Timers' Meeting

- Saturday, September 14th, 2013

Since the last newsletter there have been two (2) retiree union meetings. They were held on December 18th, 2012 and February 19th, 2013. Both meetings were well attended by our retirees. The retiree participation has been between 75 to 85 at each meeting. The Business Manager gives an overview of the day to day business of the Local Union and reports on retiree issues that may have an indirect effect on retirees.

The Christmas meeting held on December 18th included two presentations for the retirees. Robby Stern from the Puget Sound Advocates Retiree Action gave an informative presentation on upcoming Medicare and Social Security legislation in Olympia. Wes Yoder our Health Plan consultant gave a presentation regarding the status of the Health and Welfare Trust.

The February 19th meeting had two guest speakers. Brother Jeff Zielinski and Brother Fred Volkers spoke to the retirees. Brother Zielinski gave a brief

report about the Husky Stadium Project and its progress towards completion in time for the Opening game in September. He also spoke about the Trimble, and how this new technology assists our members in the field.

Retired member Fred Volkers reported on "Plumbers without Borders". This nonprofit organization, www.plumber-withoutborders.org/ is a grassroots effort, born from the desire to help people in dire need. It focuses on human suffering and diseases that are caused in part by a lack of safe plumbing and hygienic sanitation. They are looking for Plumbing and Mechanical professionals to work together to alleviate water and sanitation poverty. Brother Volkers asked members who are interested in helping to sign his list so that he could contact them. They are also looking for help from individuals with computer, office and accounting skills.

The Retiree Union meeting is normally scheduled every two months. The next meeting is scheduled for April 16th at 11:00am. We hope to see you there. Lunch will be provided. If you know of a retiree that needs a ride please call the office and arrangements will be made.

Sister Leanne Guier

Next Retiree Union Meeting to be held April 16, 2013 at 11 a.m.

Training Department

by Jeff Zielinski

Hello to all from the training office. As winter winds down the training office looks forward to a busy and productive spring and summer. In May four (4) of our Local Unions finest apprentices we will be competing at our state competition at Local 44 in Spokane. Given our results from last year our sister locals know Local 32 is once again the Local to beat. Last year after winning at both the state and district competition we witnessed Jesse Reed (HVAC/R) and Collin Greene (steamfitter) move on to compete at the national level in Ann Arbor Michigan. Both performed at a very high level and repre-

sented Local 32 well. Their success is a credit to the training staff and the membership for their mentoring in the field and the classroom.

As our trades evolve technology seems to be at the forefront. The Trimble along with the evolving of CAD systems is becoming more prevalent. Our Saturday Trimble courses are becoming very popular. I am working on getting this course approved for journey level CEU's. Call the training office to check for the next scheduled class.

Training Department, continued



From L to R: Duane Bjornson, Jesse Reed, Jeff Zielinski, Colin Green and Tom Barrett at UA Competitions in Ann Arbor, MI.

In the last year we have added an additional rigging course to our curriculum. The Washington State Rigging Qualification is recognized by the state to allow our members to rig on the job. This course is approved for four (4) hours CEU's industry related training.

If you want to take a class or classes please check the website or contact the training office for availability. If you have the opportunity to work with an apprentice in the field please take the time to mentor, train and evaluate our young work force.

CEU classes will be held for our outlying members but are open to any members that are in need of CEU's.

- CEU training will be held in **Sequim on April 6th**
- CEU training **Wenatchee on April 20th.**

Please contact the training office for specific times and locations.

UPDATE- New Electrical Changes to the WAC 296-46

Changes to the WAC 296-46

Effective Date is 3-1-2013

Changes that may affect you: If you currently hold an Electrical Trainee Card or a Specialty Electrical License.

House Bill 1055 Electricians and Trainees are now required to wear and visibly display on the front of the upper body, a valid certificate while performing electrical work requiring certification.

The certificate may be worn inside the outer layer of clothing when outer protective clothing is required. (e.g. raingear when outside in the rain, arc flash, welding gear, etc.) The certificate must be worn inside the protective clothing so that when the protective clothing is removed, the certificate is visible. A cold weather jacket or similar apparel is not protective clothing.

The certificate may be worn inside the outer layer of clothing when working in an attic or crawl space or when operating equipment (e.g. drill motor, conduit threading machine, etc.) where wearing the certificate may pose an unsafe condition for the individual.

The certificate must be immediately available for examination at all times.

When working as a certified electrician, the electrician must not display a training certificate.

Any person working as an electrician, electrical trainee must also possess a government issued photo identification and immediately present that identification when requested by the inspector.

House Bill 6133 (Trainee Certificate holders)

Currently you need to attend 32 hours of Continuing Education class hours until June 30th 2013 to renew your trainee certificate, after June 30th 2013, you will be required to attend 48 hours of basic class room CEU's. Note: once you make application to test you will need to show 48 hours of CEU's approved by the department for trainee certificate card holders.

Note Changes to:

- WAC 296-46-010 Adopted Standards: The 2014 NEC will be adopted July 1st, 2014 currently adopted 2008 NEC
- WAC 296-46-901 Electrical work permits
- WAC 296-46-908 Class B Permits

Go to our website for class schedules:

www.seattlepipetrades.org

If you have any Question call

Dale Wentworth at 425-271-5900 ext 125

In closing, everyone in the training office would like to pass on our best wishes to all and we look forward to seeing you either in the training center or out on the job-sites.

Fraternally,
Jeff Zielinski

UA LOCAL 32



LEFT CHEST EMBROIDERY
Gold Thread

Carhartt Duck Detroit Jacket

12-Ounce, 100% cotton duck and features a blanket lining in the body with quilted nylon lining in the sleeves. Corduroy top collar with under-collar snaps to attach an optional hood. A welt pocket inside. Outside there are two large front pockets and zippered left-chest pocket. The waist and cuffs are snap adjustable.

ALL SIZES **\$140.00**
PERSONALIZATION **\$10.00**

*Price includes full back and left chest embroidered logo.
All prices include tax.*



FULL BACK EMBROIDERY
Gold Thread

IN DOUBT? ORDER A SIZE LARGER! ALL SALES FINAL!

NAME _____

TELEPHONE # _____ EMAIL _____

YOUR NAME _____

SIZE

TOTAL: \$



QUESTIONS?

Contact Local 32 Business Office 425-277-6680

14201 SE Petrovitsky Road | Suite A3-161
Renton, WA 98058

C - 206-795-0042 | F - 425-277-5299

www.unionswag.org



An independently owned and operated Adventures in Advertising member

UA Local 32 Dental Provider List

Pacific Dental Alliance (PDA)

100% dental coverage for our members*

The offices listed here accept the Seattle Area Plumbing & Pipefitting Trust Dental Plan as payment-in-full.

To receive your benefits, call one of the dental offices directly and inform them you are a UA Local 32 member. The staff will confirm your eligibility and schedule your first appointment.

Your UA Local 32 No Out-of-Pocket Dental Offices

Arlington

(360) 548-3188
Affordable Dental Care
16404 Smokey Point Blvd.
Ste. 301

Bellevue (Factoria)

(425) 401-5000
Affordable Dental Care
4122 Factoria Blvd. SE
Ste. 301

Bothell

(425) 488-2345
DMG Dental Design
1908 201st Place SE

Bremerton

(360) 792-0300
Avenue Dental Care
2741 Wheaton Way
Ste. B

Burien

(206) 988-0500
Affordable Dental Care
15726 1st Ave. S.

Covington

(253) 630-3500
Affordable Dental Care
16720 SE 271st St.
Ste. 211

Edmonds

(425) 778-6333
Avenue Dental Care
23805 Highway 99
Ste. 100

Everett

(425) 438-8584
Avenue Dental Care
1920 100th St. SE
Ste. C-1

Federal Way

(253) 946-3895
Sterling Dental Care
30620 Pacific Hwy S.
Ste. 111

Mt. Vernon

(360) 424-7921
Alpine Dental
120 S. 15th St.
Ste. A

Puyallup

(253) 435-5656
Avenue Dental Care
10317 122nd St. E
Ste. D

Renton

(425) 264-0044
Affordable Dental Care
3900 East Valley Road
Ste. 203

Spokane (North Side)

(509) 467-8000
Avenue Dental Care
755 East Holland Avenue

Spokane Valley

(509) 926-1500
Avenue Dental Care
20 North Evergreen

Tacoma

(253) 471-2655
Affordable Dental Care
3402 South 18th St.

Tumwater (Olympia)

(360) 943-5420
Affordable Dental Care
6015 Capitol Blvd. SW



Dentists: Steven Paige, Danlu Lee, Wendy Yeung, Katherine Kim, Rattan Bains, Arpita Sharma, Andrea Doan, Michael Nguyen, Ram Patel, Gabor Klade, LeRoy Horton, Varun Sharma, Lauren Semerad, Kenza Houki, Francisco Juson, David Myaskovsky, Jason Bressler, Matthew Paige, Sukhbir Kolar, Lavonne Sawyer, Syeda Bakhtawar, Joonil Park, Rafia Jawed, Janice Chen, Jakie Tuazon, Hasan Dbouk, Navdeep Virk, Warren Mitchell

* Applies to members covered by the Seattle Area Plumbing & Pipefitting Trust Dental Plan. This offer is valid through October 2013. Porcelain crowns (ADA Codes 2740, 2750, 2751, 2752) will not have co-pays. **Other crowns with gold and all porcelain crowns, implants, implant crowns, porcelain onlays/inlays, and specialty services performed in or out of these offices are not included as payment in full.**

The goal for the future is to build stronger relationships within the cities that we live. We must know our mayors, city and county councils, and school boards. With our focus on education and accountability; the agenda is simple, JOBS!

The work we are doing in Political Action is continuing to evolve, and is moving in the right direction. It's an area that we do a lot of things right. The work done by our current and former PAC chairs and committee has prepared us to take the next necessary steps in this arena. The PAC's commitment to focus on job related issues is the key to our continued success and growth.

Apprenticeship

The U.A. would like for all Unions to have a 20% or greater apprenticeship ratio. We are currently at about 15% for all our crafts. Our training office works with our contractors, and manages the current out of work list of apprentices. This is by far the most reasonable approach to growing our apprenticeship. We recently dropped the ratio from 3-1 ratio to 2-1 ratio; to assist on prevailing wage projects that will promote putting more of our members to work, both journeyman and apprentices.

Health and Welfare

The current contribution rate is \$8.36. The Benefit plan booklet is being updated. A new version will be sent out in the next few months. We currently have 7.5 months in reserve. The trustees monitor the financial health of the plan monthly. They are evaluating cost adjustments to our plan as the health care act is implemented throughout this year and next. There isn't any clear direction legislatively yet in how plans such as (Taft- Hartley Plans), jointly administered by labor management; will overall be affected financially.

Beginning May 1st, the random drug testing program will be administered by our trustees. This is good for our membership. If there are testing problems or appeals that need to be heard; it can be done in a timely manner, verses having to wait for a vendor schedule. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the changes.

Washington State Pension

The total number of participants in the plan as of December, 2012 was 7,840.

- 3,425 were active participants

- 3,003 are retired and receiving benefits
- 1,412 are separated from service, but are entitled to future benefits

For the plan year, the state pension was up 12.38%. Overall, the plan is 86.5% funded. The man hours worked is approximately 5,150,000 for the year. Members from Local 32, 26, 44, and 598 participate in our State Pension plan.

Retiree Planning

If you plan to retire in 2013 or 2014; the next Retirement class is scheduled for Saturday, September 28th. There will be a panel of experts, and consultants from our benefit plans onsite. These experts will address any changes to Social Security, Health and Welfare, and answer questions regarding the State and National Pension benefits.

Upcoming Events

Wage Allocation at the May meeting is \$1.00 for the Plumbers, Fitters, and HVAC/R.

Also, during the May 14th union meeting there will be nominations for the general election. The general election is to be held at the June 13th union meeting.

These include:

- President
- Vice President
- Business Manager / Financial Secretary
- Inside Guard
- Executive Board (4)
- Finance Committee (3)
- Washington State Association Executive Board member
- Reading Clerk
- Refrigeration, Plumber & Fitter Exam Boards (3 each)

I look forward to seeing you at the union meetings, and discussing any of the topics outlined above.

Fraternally,

Jeffery J. Owen
Business Manager, Local 32

Have Your Benefits Expired??

If you no longer have medical benefits, we have a card available to use for discounts for some health care services. It is not insurance, and does not work like an insurance plan. It does not replace any medical coverage/insurance that you currently have. The "WellCard Health" can be picked up at the local's office.

It is a discount plan that some providers and pharmacies agreed to participate in to provide discounts for certain services. The card offers discounts to over 450,000 health providers, 70,000 dentists, 11,000 vision providers, and 59,000 pharmacies nation-wide.

You can call (800) 562-9625 to get the name of a participating provider in your area or you can go online at www.wellcardhealth.com. The first time you access the website you will be asked to register your card.

Always check with the provider or pharmacy to make sure they will accept this card and confirm you only need to pay a discounted amount at the time of service.

The discount plan is administered by AccessOneConsumerHealth, Inc. and the card provided through Zenith American Solutions. If you have any questions about the discount card you will need to call the 800 number above. Do not call Zenith (Trust Office) as they do not administer this program and will not be able to answer any questions.



The graphic features a collage of images at the top: a smiling woman and an elderly woman, a close-up of blue and white pills, and a group of medical professionals in white coats. Below the images, the text reads: "WellCard Health Saves Members Up to 50% on a Wide Range of Health Services, Including:"

 Doctor Visits – save up to 25% Over 450,000 physicians and ancillary providers nationwide provide a full range of specialties and services. WellCard participants average savings of 20% at time service is rendered.	 Prescription Drugs – save up to 65% WellCard is accepted at over 59,000 pharmacies nationwide. Over 60,000 brand and generic drugs are included, with savings as high as 65%. WellCard may be used any time and with no annual limit.
 Dental – save up to 50% WellCard is accepted at over 70,000 provider locations nationwide, and covers all dental services and specialties, including orthodontia. Savings can be as high as 50%, and there is no limitation on services or use.	 Hearing – save up to 15% WellCard participants receive a free hearing test and 15% discount on over 80 models at 1,350 Beltone locations nationwide, with a Lifetime Care Program included.
 Vision – save up to 50% WellCard is accepted by over 11,000 OUTLOOK vision providers. Cardholders receive up to 50% savings on lenses, frames, and other vision needs.	 Diabetic Care Services – save up to 10% A full line of diabetes testing supplies are delivered directly to the member's home. Members receive free access to a Certified Diabetes Educator and Envoy Health newsletter with tips on living with diabetes.
 Surgical Centers – save up to 80% Members have access to surgical centers of excellence throughout the United States at a savings of 30-80%. Professional Care Coordinators assist with scheduling, travel, and accommodations.	 Vitamins – save up to 10% A wide range of vitamin and mineral supplements are delivered directly to the member's home at discounted rates.
 MRI & Imaging – save up to 70% WellCard participants receive concierge appointment service and enjoy savings of 20% and more on MRI, PET, and CT scans, as well as other imaging services at over 3,900 locations nationwide.	 Medical Bill Help – save up to 30% Experienced, trained professionals help negotiate lower prices on medical bills and address errors. Members pay only if savings are achieved.
 Lab – save up to 60% WellCard participants save up to 60% using the online search tool to locate a lab and order their test. Actual savings are displayed immediately. Test results are available within 48-96 hours.	 Daily Living Products – save up to 10% A wide range of medical supplies, safety equipment, and health products are delivered directly to the member's home at discounted rates.
 24/7 Doctor – save up to 65% WellCard cardholders have access to licensed credentialed physicians 24/7 by phone or email.	 WellCard Rewards – get cash back Cardholders receive a percentage of their purchase back as cash when shopping online with hundreds of merchants.

Over 410,000 Physicians and 45,000 Ancillary Provider Locations

Over 59,000 Nationwide Pharmacies Accept WellCard Health with Availability for Mail Order and Specialty Pharmacy

WellCard Health
An Empowering Health & Wellness Program

This is Not Insurance. It is a program that provides access to discounts on health care and other services with participating providers. It does not replace COBRA or any other medical insurance program nor is it a Part D prescription drug plan. Cardholders are responsible for paying the discounted cost at the time of service. WellCard Health has no membership fee. The discount plan organization is AccessOne Consumer Health, Inc., 34 Vito Rd., Greenville, SC 29615.



Seattle Plumbers and Pipefitters
United Association Local 32
595 Monster Road S.W., Suite 213
Renton, WA 98057



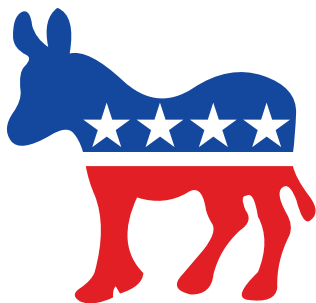
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A large graphic with the number '32' in a bold, stylized font, followed by the word 'CONNECTIONS' in a similar font. A red wrench is positioned diagonally across the '32'. In the background, there is a silhouette of the Seattle skyline, including the Space Needle.

32 CONNECTIONS

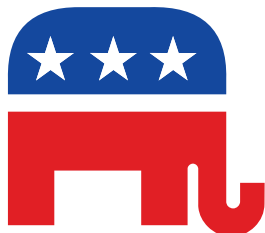
Did You Know?

The **Democratic donkey** and the **Republican elephant** icons originated from negative comments and political cartoons.



The **Democratic** Party's first association with the donkey was during the election of 1828 when **Democratic** candidate Andrew Jackson ran a campaign slogan of "Let the People Rule." Jackson's opponent labeled him a jackass (donkey) for his populist beliefs and slogan. Jackson embraced the term and started using the symbol on his campaign posters.

The first appearance of the **Republican** elephant appeared in an 1864 Abraham Lincoln campaign cartoon. The illustration depicted an elephant raising a flag and rejoicing in the Union's victories. During this time, the term "seeing the elephant" meant engaging in combat, and used in the illustration, symbolized a successful battle.



Thomas Nast was the first political cartoonist credited for propagating the parties' symbols in an 1870 issue of Harper's Weekly. He used the animals to illustrate how intra-party fighting was creating chaos and decreasing productivity in government. Little did he know that his political cartoons would continue to have an impact on American society.

Source: www.ourwhitehouse.org