

## BUSINESS MGR.'S REPORT

By Reggie Hohenberger

### Decade of the Big Zero

**G**reetings Brothers and Sisters, I hope this article finds you and your family doing well and hoping you had a great holiday season. 2009 has come to a close and 2010 is upon us. *Time* magazine has called it a “Decade from Hell.” Others have called it a decade of nothing or maybe it was a decade of The Big Zero.

What is *your* opinion of it? In 1999 the stock market reached 10,000; at the time of this writing it's at 10,520. How about the value of your house? As of right now, when you adjust for inflation, housing prices are roughly back where they started in 1999.

How about your pension? The last decade basically produced *zero gains* in the stock market. Everything the market gave you it took away. Check your annuity statements for the last few years (not just that last 7 months). Your Local and National pension has required mandatory contributions to keep in line with the Pension Protection Act of 2006.

Job creation that paid a good living with benefits was zero. Service industry jobs with no benefits were in. Those would be waiting tables, answering phones, Wal-Mart greeter, kitchen help, nursing aides, night manager/day manager of anything, word processor, or environmental engineer (that would be a janitor). You get the idea; now don't get me wrong, the jobs

just mentioned are very worthy of doing, they *just don't pay anything* and they're not full-time.

Bachelor degrees are now considered to be the equivalent to a high school degree; now you have to acquire a master's degree to be considered job-worthy, but then again, that will cost you another \$50,000. In most fields of study the pay increase is not worth the additional amount it takes to get your masters.

This past decade has offered us some real lowlights starting with the Supreme Court appointment of George W. Bush and his oil buddy, Dick Cheney. Yes, ole George was declared the winner by 527 votes, and with him we got draft-dodging Dick (5 deferments from Vietnam) Cheney for V.P. The rest is history.

Other lowlights would be the horrible 9/11 terrorist attacks, the needless invasion of Iraq on make-believe evidence, the 2004 tsunami, Hurricane Katrina (*after which George W said “Brownie, you're doing a heckuva job” while the nation watched people dying every night on TV*). The collapse of the financial markets, the Dot. Com bubble, the housing collapse, the Bernard Madoff Ponzi scheme, the collapse of the auto and banking industry.

How many times have you heard the term *free markets?* We don't need any government intervention, they said. We don't need the bureaucrats from Washington meddling in our business. We need to *deregulate* the banking industry so we can make lending that much easier. The banking lobbyists convinced both parties that the restrictions that were placed on banking institutions were needless red tape. *Well, we now know*

*how that worked out for us, don't we?* The same *free market* people were the same people looking for the government to bail them out with *your money*.

Have they learned their lesson? *Hell no!!* They're right back to giving huge bonuses and rewarding people for failure.

**So what does this country need to make sure we never walk down this street again?** We need the democratic Congress and President Obama to deliver a hard-line evaluation of what got us into this mess and then does what it takes to pass legislation to protect us from the greedy bastards on Wall Street.

And for the Republicans, now that their policies of tax cuts (*while fighting two wars*) and *deregulation* has led us into this economic nightmare, their solution for recovery is — *you guessed it* — more tax cuts and deregulation! Can we not learn from our mistakes?

Yes, these are tumultuous times we live in and yes, we will get through them. President Obama has his hands full to fix not only our problems in the states but also abroad. He quite simply was left a mess, and it is awfully unfair for anyone to judge him after only one year at the helm. We need to stick by him through thick and thin because we know what the alternative could have been. McCain/Palin. *Enough said.*

To put some perspective on what I just said, let's bring it closer to home. Imagine yourself becoming the president or superintendent of a poorly-run sheet metal company (*I know that's unheard of, but bear with me.*) And you inherit the following:

- Company badly in debt with no credit.
- Nobody is accountable.
- Poorly trained foremen.
- Estimators who can't estimate.
- Antiquated equipment.
- A bookkeeper who is keeping two sets of books.
- No credibility with your customer base.
- Your company's quality of work is horrible.

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Reggie  
Hohenberger

**REPORT FROM YOUR  
FINANCIAL SEC'Y-TREASURER**

*By Wayne Fletcher*

**B**rothers and Sisters: hope the holidays were good to everyone. Now we can get back in our regular routine. At the time that I am writing this article we are still waiting for the Senate to pass a Health Reform Bill that will help everyone in the U.S. We have the majority of the Senate and I would like to know where all of these so-called non-partisan Republicans are when we need their vote, or is it only when they want us to walk across the aisle to accommodate them in *their* nonpartisan politics?



**Wayne Fletcher**

The other question that needs to be answered is why the banks are not giving loans to businesses to get this economy moving, or is it they are investing their money into stocks when they are at a low price to make *even more* money?

I would like to thank all the members who took time out of their busy schedule to come and listen to the presentation of the Business Manager on the dues increase. There were many good questions asked after his presentation. The final outcome was 277 in favor of the increase and 158 against. The increase of ½ of 1% for building trades will start on January 1, 2010, the other half of the working dues increase will start in 2011 when your collective bargaining agreement increase goes into effect, whether it is May, June, July or December.

*A reminder to the retirees, their dues increase of \$1.00 starts in January, 2010. Their dues go from \$15 to \$16 per month.*

The International increase also goes into effect January 1, 2010 of \$.03 more for the IA work assessment, which puts it at a total of \$.08 per hour.

**Local 33 ByLaw Changes  
Effective January, 2010  
For the Working Dues  
Assessment**

**Section 1:** Building Trades members – a working dues assessment of four (4%) percent\*\*\* of the total wage rate

\*\*\* 3 ½% effective January 1, 2010; 4% effective at each district's negotiated increases in May, June, July or December, 2011.

**Section 2: Apprentices** – When new apprentices who enter the apprenticeship after January 1, 2010 become 3rd, 4th or 5th year apprentices their working dues assessment will be three (3%) percent of their total wage rate.

**Section 3: Industrial Workers, Food Service & Beverage and Production Workers** – A working dues assessment of fifteen (\$15) dollars per month and any other assessment which is applicable for a specific purpose in an individual District, unless otherwise specified in their individual agreement.

**Section 4: Residential, Decking & Siding, Classified and Utility workers** – A working dues of two (2%) of the total wage rate.

**2010 Union Dues**

Building Trades Journeyman	\$ 37.00 per month
Testing & Balancing Journeymen	\$ 37.00 per month
Conditional Journeyman	\$ 37.00 per month
Commercial Service Trainee	\$ 37.00 per month
Youngstown Service Tech	\$ 37.00 per month
Decking & Siding	\$ 33.00 per month
Classified Building Trades	\$ 32.00 per month
Utility	\$ 31.00 per month
Industrial	\$ 36.00 per month
	<i>(\$21 dues + \$15 work dues)</i>
Food Service & Beverage	\$ 36.00 per month
	<i>(\$21 dues + \$15 work dues)</i>
Minimum Dues – Disability	\$ 27.00 per month
Residential Journeyman	\$ 24.00 per month
Residential Utility	\$ 24.00 per month
Residential Trainee	\$ 38.00 per month
	<i>dues &amp; initiation fee)</i>
Minimum dues – Retired	\$ 16.00 per month
Production Workers	\$ 36.00 per month
	<i>(\$21 dues + 15 work dues)</i>
Apprentices (1st thru 2nd year)	\$ 34.00 per month
	<i>(dues &amp; initiation fee)</i>
Apprentices (3rd thru 5th year)	\$ 17.75 per month
Testing & Balancing	
(1st thru 2nd year)	\$ 34.00 per month
	<i>(dues &amp; initiation fee)</i>
(3rd thru 5th year)	\$ 17.75 per month

Limited Member's dues will remain at \$48.00 per year  
Withdrawal Card dues will remain at \$ 60.00 per year



**CLEVELAND**

**TIM MILLER • TODD ALISHUSKY  
MIKE COLEMAN**

**W**ork in the Cleveland District has slowed down. We currently have 95 members available for work, which we are hopeful will pick up after the first of the year. *If you are laid off, current on your dues and available for work, you can file for hardship to pay your dues.*

**Some upcoming projects include:** Ashtabula Schools, Tri-C Eastern Campus, Lake Hospital Systems, Lake Erie College, Cleveland Art Museum, Ben Venue Laboratories, C.S.U. Campus, and various Cleveland Schools.

We hope everyone had a Happy Holiday; the Local #33 Christmas Party was a good time for all those who could attend. Congratulations to those who received their Years of Service pins.

As we begin another year, we encourage all our members to take advantage of the classes offered by the J.A.T.C. to upgrade or advance their Sheet Metal skills. One of the things we have over the non-union is our training and we **MUST** make sure we are better trained than they are. The more skills a member has the more employment opportunities that member will have.

**Dates to remember:**

- **3rd Tuesday** — Stewards meeting at the hall, 4 p.m.
- **4th Tuesday** — Union meeting at the hall, 7 p.m.

**Do Not Patronize List:** Ruby Tuesday, Circuit City, Tradesman Tavern, Atlas Cinemas, Par O'Brien Chevy (Willoughby Hills), Rite-Aid, Quaker Steak and Lube (Mentor).

**Cleveland Rec Fund**

**T**he Cleveland Rec Fund now has tickets available for our **Annual Reverse Raffle** which will be held 6 p.m. Saturday March 6. Tickets cost \$50 each, and include dinner, beer, wine, wash, and your number for the raffle. Top prize will be \$4000. We will once again be at St. Paul's Banquet Center located at 4548 Wallings Road in North Royalton. Contact any member of the Rec Fund for tickets, or ask at the hall. Hope to see you there. Watch for more information regarding the family picnic, which is scheduled to be held at Cedar Point again this year.

**Cleveland Retirees Club**

Dave Gaeta, President

**O**ur meetings are the *1st Wednesday of each month*, beginning at 1 p.m. at the Local 33 Cleveland District Hall, 12515 Corporate Drive, Parma, off W. 130th.

**Our next five meeting dates:** February 3rd, March 10th (*2nd Wednesday of the month* – a

*change from March 3rd*), April 7th, May 5th and June 2nd.

At all our regular meetings we serve coffee, donuts and pizza. All our luncheon meetings start at 12 Noon with the meeting following at 1 p.m. We have an Attendance Prize Pool, 60/40 Split Pot and we collect for an optional the Ohio Lottery Mega Bucks pool.

Don't forget dues are due for the year 2010. If you have not yet sent in your dues, please do so now. If you are retired and not a club member, please take the time to mail that \$12 check (made out to the *Cleveland District Retirees Club*) and mail to Co-Treasurer **Duane Miller, 4465 Lockmoor Lane, Brunswick, Ohio 44212.**

We had the election of our 2010 club officers at our November meeting and they are: President, Dave Gaeta; Vice President, Margaret Pehotsky; Secretary, Barbara Rak; Co-Treasurers, Duane and Pat Miller. I would like to thank the Raks for all the great work they did as co-treasurers and I am sure Barb will do the same as our club secretary. I am also sure the Millers will do a great job as our new club co-treasurers. Remember, no matter how much work is put into the club by the officers, it is only made successful by you the club members, taking part in all we do.

I hope the holidays were good to all. A good time was had by all who could attend our club Christmas luncheon, with some great entertainment. The kids' Lunch with Santa was another enjoyable time for them and a *big thank you* to all our Rec Fund people for another great time. The Local 33 Christmas Party was great and a lot of our retirees received their 40, 50, 60 and 70 year service pins. The 70-year

pin was Paul Ristau. *Congratulations, Paul!*

Don't forget to let your family know that the Sheet Metal logo is on file at the Plain Dealer to be used in your death notice if requested, at no cost to your family. Using it helps your fellow Sheet Metal Workers spot a death notice a lot easier.



*Retirees' Calendar*

- **Wednesday, February 3rd** – Regular Meeting at 1 p.m.
- **Wednesday, March 10th** (Note this is the *second Wednesday* of the month) will be our Annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Sandwich Luncheon starting at 12 Noon. Also our annual March breakfast on Wednesday, March 17th or 24th with more info to come. Also, the Rec Fund's Reverse Raffle on the 7th. Don't wait until the tickets are gone.
- **Wednesday, April 7th** – Regular Meeting so far at 1 p.m. Don't forget to bring your aluminum to this meeting. Our **Casino Trip** will be April 21st or 28th, destination and cost to be determined.
- **Wednesday, May 5th** – Pork Chop Luncheon at 12 noon.
- **Wednesday, June 2nd** – Annual Summer Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at The Colony Restaurant in Berea. This is an even-number month, so bring your aluminum.
- President** – Dave Gaeta, (440) 888-0904
- Vice President** – Margaret Pehotsky, (216) 226-1573
- Co-treasurers** – Duane and Pat Miller, (330) 273-2145
- Secretary** –Bark Rak, (330) 483-3216

<b>2010 MEETING SCHEDULE</b>		
<b>Location</b>	<b>Trustees Executive Board</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
JANUARY — YOUNGSTOWN	9th	12th
FEBRUARY — AKRON	6th	9th
MARCH — CLEVELAND	6th	9th
APRIL — CLARKSBURG	10th	13th
MAY — TOLEDO	8th	11th
JUNE — CLEVELAND	5th	8 th
JULY — WHEELING	10th	13th
AUGUST — VERMILION	7th	10th
SEPTEMBER — CLEVELAND	11th	14th
OCTOBER — CHARLESTON	9th	12th
NOVEMBER — PARKERSBURG	6th	9th
DECEMBER — CLEVELAND	11th	14th

## BUSINESS MGR.'S REPORT

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• Continued from Cover

- Vendors have you on a cash-only basis.
- Company has been poorly run for eight years.

So where do you start to fix this mess, Mr. New President/Superintendent? How do you bring this company back to being profitable again? Take a look at everything I just listed and ask yourself if you could fix that company in one year. The answer is certainly *no you couldn't*, and I don't care how good you are.

Well, that is exactly what the talking heads of the corporate-leaning media are asking of President Obama. *It's been one year since you have taken office and what have you fixed?* Brothers and Sisters, this country didn't get into this mess overnight and it sure in the hell isn't going to be fixed overnight.

The "Decade from Hell" is over and it amounted to a big fat zero in just about every column. Let's hope and pray for everyone's sake that we can become a country once again of rational thought, curiosity, tolerance, pride, ingenuity, honor and dignity. Everything that makes America great and makes our Union great.

*Wishing everyone a great 2010.*

## DEATHS

**Akron:** Warren Edwards, George Wiant, Jr.

**Cleveland:** George Persiano, David Safran, Stanley Szczesniak, Sr., Norbert Polenske

**Toledo:** Milton Whitmill, Richard Jacobs, Larry Hyatt, Gerald Adamski, Sr.

**Vermilion:** Harley Honeberger

## RETIREMENTS

**Akron:** Myron Shetler

**Cleveland:** Joseph Bucha, Ed Bennett, Jeff McCollim

**Youngstown:** John Sheehan, Anthony Pervetich



## SERVICE PINS

We would like to congratulate the following members who earned recognition pins in 2009 for their continuous years of membership

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

MEMBER NAME	DISTRICT
Araps, John A.	Cleveland
Ballengee, John F.	Parkersburg
Bartlett, Richard K.	Akron
Courtney, Lee A.	Akron
Eversole, Jeff	Akron
Gunter, Gerald L.	Cleveland
Harris, Jesse L.	Cleveland
Hughes, Eric A.	Akron
Jenkins, Jody L.	Akron
Knopp, James M.	Parkerurg
Lisco, Mark A.	Cleveland
McCall, Robert C.	Akron
Michael, John D.	Akron
Miller, Willard R.	Parkersburg
Moder, Todd W.	Akron
Mordarski, Robert	Cleveland
Murray, Jeff K.	Vermilion
Osborne, Randy L.	Charleston
Reece, Garrick W.	Akron
Ries Sr., James T.	Akron
Rossi, Frank C.	Akron
Silvus, Jeffrey A.	Akron
Smrdel, James M.	Cleveland
Titus, Robert B.	Charleston
Vatalaro, Richard	Akron
Vermilye, Kurt M.	Cleveland
Waino, Ronald J.	Akron
Webb, Earl E.	Parkersburg
Willis, James B.	Akron
Zingale, Biagio A.	Cleveland

### FORTY YEARS

Abraham, Ronald L.	Cleveland
Atkinson, Orville L.	Charleston

Bachman, Richard L.	Wheeling
Barker, Jr, Oval J.	Parkersburg
Belch, Joseph W.	Parkersburg
Belluardo, Anthony	Cleveland
Blossom, James A.	Toledo
Bowman, Charles L.	Akron
Boyd Jr., Wendell R.	Akron
Breining, Darrel J.	Toledo
Brown, Henry E.	Cleveland
Canterbury, Lewis S.	Charleston
Caton, David J.	Akron
Cesa, Gary C.	Parkersburg
Childs, Daniel C.	Charleston
Claus Jr., Edward W.	Toledo
Cowan, Donald E.	Parkersburg
Cunningham I., James L.	Charleston
Cunningham, Richard J.	Akron
Davis, Eugene M.	Cleveland
Demuth, Jr., Kenneth W.	Wheeling
Duplain, Thomas R.	Akron
Ewing, Herbert L.	Parkersburg
Exline, Dale P.	Charleston
Froelich, Raymond	Toledo
Groening, Kurt	Cleveland
Guzy, Mark T.	Akron
Harlin, Donald R.	Akron
Harrison, Joseph L.	Charleston
Hawk, Kenneth L.	Cleveland
Hewitt, Furman J.	Wheeling
Huber, James	Parkersburg
Ireland, Orvie	Toledo
Kahn, Gary W.	Toledo
Kirby, Daniel C.	Akron
Kitchen, Ivan I.	Akron
Kobe, Victor A.	Cleveland
Kubischke, Willis W.	Akron
Lawler, Thomas A.	Cleveland
Leedy, Jack E.	Akron

## SERVICE PINS 2009

Lemmon, Charles W.	Wheeling	Yerkey, Gary L.	Akron
Lohr, Sr, Vernon W.	Parkersburg	<b>FIFTY YEARS</b>	
Lopez, Joe A.	Cleveland	Boehm Jr., Michael J.	Cleveland
Lorenzen, Steven R.	Toledo	Boiano, John J.	Akron
Lybarger, Donald W.	Akron	Duffey, Michael	Toledo
Mahoney, David E.	Parkersburg	Enzor, James B.	Akron
Marunowski, Raymond	Cleveland	Franjesh, Joseph M.	Akron
Mazur, Michael E	Vermilion	Friedel, William	Cleveland
McPherson, Kenneth L.	Parkersburg	Gangidine, John J.	Cleveland
Miller, Charles R.	Parkersburg	Graham, Hal E.	Toledo
Morris Jr., Walter	Cleveland	Gullo, Joseph V.	Cleveland
Palfi, Imre	Akron	Haney, Robert D.	Akron
Payne, H. David	Charleston	Hoover, Donald L.	Akron
Radtke, Ted L.	Akron	Perseitz, Ludwig	Akron
Rawlings, Robert E.	Cleveland	Reschke, Richard	Cleveland
Roach, Jr, Davis K.	Parkersburg	Sentelik, Joseph	Akron
Robinson, Robert D.	Akron	Spies, Norman E.	Cleveland
Sadler, Asa T.	Parkersburg	Stout, Charles R.	Parkersburg
Scheithauer, Robert C.	Cleveland	Sulik Jr., George E.	Cleveland
Schneider, Raymond J.	Akron	Talbott, Mandel D.	Akron
Sedlar, Thomas E.	Toledo	Walker, Richard O.	Toledo
Severin, Robert A.	Cleveland	<b>SIXTY YEARS</b>	
Sipe, Ronald L.	Akron	Boehm Jr., Michael J.	Cleveland
Skipworth, Harold J.	Cleveland	Demchuk, George	Cleveland
Skubovius Jr., Charles W.	Cleveland	Hughes, Harold	Charleston
Slider, Thomas E.	Parkersburg	Kubuske, Leroy	Vermilion
Smith, Terry W.	Akron	Miller, Charles H.	Charleston
Snead, Leslie L.	Toledo	Shiflett, William J.	Akron
Snell, James A.	Vermilion	Taylor, Harold	Akron
Staats, Jimmie L.	Parkersburg	<b>SEVENTY YEARS</b>	
Starr, Leo D.	Akron	Ristau, Paul A.	Cleveland
Stoiber, Russell	Toledo		

## WHEELING SCOTT MAZZULLI

I hope that everyone and their families had a safe and happy holiday season.

Work in Wheeling remains very good at the time of this writing. Global picked up all the men that they had laid off, plus George V. Hamilton picked up some travelers at Cardinal and Kammer plants. Cattrell picked up a couple of guys. Johnson Plumbing and Heating has HVAC work at the Cardinal Plant, we sent four guys there.

First Energy and Bechtel moved the completion of the fan date up on Global, that's why they hired everybody back. *I would like to thank all of the travelers that helped us out.* With all the contractors that hired I wrote 54 referrals in less than a week. By the time you are reading this article all the travelers are probably gone from Global. The positive is that project produced lots of man hours for the brothers and sisters from all of Local 33.

We still have a lot of school work coming as well as a 7-story addition to Wheeling hospital, which is supposed to break ground in January. The first floor is 22,000 sq. ft while the other six are 19,000 sq. ft.

I attended the Belmont County Commissioners meeting on December 2nd. I received a phone call from commissioner Ginny Favede informing me that they were going to fix the problems that we have had in Belmont County. They adopted the sub-contractor language to the resolution. **Now subs have to meet the same criteria as the general they are bidding with have to meet.** This is a BIG deal for us. *If you see Commissioners Probst, Favede or Coffland please be sure to thank them.* I put a lot of time in fighting for this criteria in Belmont County. With the ousting of Mark Thomas, we finally have commissioners who care about local labor, apprentice programs and quality projects being built in their county.

**Project Best** has a new Project Labor Agreement/ Bid Criteria Committee. I am the chairman of it. I put Dave Mains on the committee with some of the other crafts. December 15th was our union meeting so Dave was able to attend the Jefferson County JVS school board meeting. Dave and the rest of the committee put on a presentation of why they should enter into a PLA with the Upper Ohio Valley Building Trades. At the time of this writing (Dec. 21) we have not heard back from Jefferson JVS yet. Members of the committee and me are already working on getting the same criteria that we have in Belmont County adopted in Jefferson, Harrison and Monroe. Commissioner Probst said that he would not have a problem speaking to his neighboring counties in our favor.

**The Christmas Party** held December 5th at the Elm Grove Civics was a huge success. Members and their families totaled 227. Big thank you to all the members of the Rec. Fund for all your hard work putting together such a successful event.

### Rec Fund Functions for 2010:

- March 14th – Bowling Party, Park Legion Lanes, Martins Ferry, 12:30-4:30
- June 5th – Picnic, Benwood Park, 1 pm to ?
- December 4th – Christmas Party, Elm Grove Civics

### 2010 Retirees Meetings

January 27th, March 24th, May 26th, July 28th, September 29th, November 17th (Holiday Breakfast). All meetings are at the First Ward in Martins Ferry

### Reminders:

- WE ARE A BROTHERHOOD
- You need to get a referral when you are called out to work, even if on recall.
- If requested by a contractor I need the proper request form.
- **Apprentices:** OJT sheets are due by the 6th of every month.
- **Meetings** are the 4th Tuesday at 7 p.m.

## TOLEDO

JOHN SCHLAGHECK • DONALD HAFNER

**Greetings Brothers & Sisters:** I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday. Hopefully, everyone who attended the Christmas Party had a good time; there was plenty of food, spirits, and story telling for all, and it's nice to see all the retirees once again.

Work in the Toledo district remains slow. At the time of this writing we have 130 journeyman, 15 apprentices, 1 sider/decker, and 6 residential available for work. I would like to thank some of the other districts for putting a few of our members to work in these tough times. Hopefully 2010 will be a better year.

As most of you know, we have an ongoing campaign to **boycott Home Depot** because they decided to bring contractors up from Georgia to build a distribution center in Van Buren, Ohio. We would like thank those who have helped so far.

Anyone needing **Journeyman Update Classes** can call Dan Kline at the JATC (419) 873-9964 or can stop by the lobby and add your name to the sign-up sheets. *Now is the time take advantage of the training being offered at the school.* OSHA-30 training is increasingly being required for different jobsites; don't miss an opportunity to work because of not taking advantage of the free classes.

As we start the year 2010 there are a lot of unanswered questions on the economy, saving and lending of banks, health care reform, wars, and jobs. We also will be in a fight of our lives to elect labor-friendly candidates in state and national offices, so we will all have to do our part to keep the people who want to destroy the middle class *out of office*.

We still have a number of members who have moved or changed phone numbers. *If you have a new home or cell number please call the hall to update.* If we can't contact you, we can't put you to work.

## VERMILION

DAVID LARSON

**O**n December 22, the Vermilion District Recreation Fund held its annual Christmas party at the Vermilion union hall. Dinner was served at 6 p.m. to approximately forty five members. After dinner a short presentation was held for members who were eligible to receive their service pins. Those members that were recognized are as follows: 25 YEARS: **Jeff K. Murray**; 40 YEARS: **Michael E. Mazur** and **James A. Snell**; and with 60 YEARS of continuous service: **Leroy Kubuske**. Con-

*gratulations to these members for their many years of service and dedication to the sheet metal industry.*

Work in our area has picked up a little during the holiday season with some shut down work that we haven't had the privilege of enjoying for a while. This work was at the Elyria Foundry and unfortunately will be winding down shortly after the first of the year. This project, as with many others throughout the local, has reinforced the fact that it is very important to either maintain or acquire your welding certifications, OSHA cards, and drug free cards. When a call for manpower comes in there usually is not time to get them caught up before the job starts.

In a couple months the Building Trades members of the Vermilion District will be receiving surveys regarding our upcoming contract negotiations. Our current agreement expires May 31st and the information from those surveys is very important when we prepare for our negotiations. *Please take the time to fill them out and return them within the specified time frame.*

On behalf of the Vermilion District, I hope all of our members and their families had a happy and safe holiday season.

## YOUNGSTOWN

TRAVIS HOSKINSON

**W**ork has slowed up a bit in Youngstown. Still waiting on word from General Motors on retooling the Stamping Plant, tentatively in the first quarter. We're all holding our breath waiting on the industrial work coming the second half of the year. My suggestion is to take any welding classes or certifications that are offered. The American Welding Society estimates that nationwide there will be a shortage of 200,000 skilled welders. It would be a shame not to fill as many of these jobs with Sheet Metal Workers as possible.

*I appreciate the calls I've been getting from everyone on non-union contractors working in our area; keep it up.* Shane and myself have been doing everything we can think of to stop them. We cannot be everywhere at once, so we appreciate your calls.

I am currently putting a class together for **Steward Training**. It should be in January sometime. If you are, have been or possibly would have interest in becoming a steward, please contact me at the office. If you feel that your current Steward is not performing their duties properly or you don't have a Steward at your place of employment and you are interested please call.

I am trying to change the mind set in Youngstown. I want people to know they can

contact me without fear of any type of retribution. I will try to keep your name out of things unless I absolutely have to, and will tell you if that's the case beforehand. I understand people are uncomfortable with change, but I think if you can embrace it, you may find it can be better. At one point the wheel was probably square, someone wore the corners off and said, "Hey, this works better." I am always open to suggestions, and my door is open.

Hopefully everyone had a safe and happy holiday season.

*Remember the Union Meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of the month.* If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, we'd like to see you. This is *your* Union – if you don't participate, your voice won't be heard.

## CHARLESTON

JIM KING

**W**ork in Charleston still remains good as of this writing and should stay busy through the winter. The John Amos Power House should start winding down towards the end of February. Thanks to all the Charleston and out-of-district Local 33 guys that helped out on this project.

The Mountaineer Power House in Mason, WV is set to receive \$334 million from the US Energy Department to develop a commercial scale project that will capture carbon and inject the gases underground. The Mountaineer Plant already is capturing and storing carbon dioxide at the plant. The Federal Stimulus Funding is aimed at allowing the plant to capture and store 90% of carbon emissions from the plant; this should allow for work opportunities for some Sheet Metal Workers in the near future. The Sheet Metal Workers' International is already looking at this project for work opportunities.

I would like to congratulate Charleston District's newest journeymen that turned out this year: **Matt Davis**, **Tony Totten** and **Carl Tolley**. Great job guys and please stay involved with your Local Union.

The **Fire Life Safety Classes** have been scheduled in Charleston for **March 3, 4 and 5**. Anyone wishing to attend please call the JATC office at 1-866-222-5282. Classes in welding and CAD are also available at the JATC School in Parkersburg.

The **Apprentice Orientation** is scheduled for **Saturday, March 27** in Morgantown, WV. Reminder: Apprentice OJT reports are due by 6th of every month.

*Charleston District Union Meetings are on the 4th Tuesday at 7 p.m.*

**PARKERSBURG**

**DEAN TUELL**

**H**ope everyone had a good and safe Holiday season! While work in the Parkersburg District remains steady, man hours were down about 20% in 2009. I am optimistic that in 2010 we will get those hours back as local shops seem to have work for the first quarter of the year and local plants might spend some money on maintenance and capital improvements. Alker Construction, contractor at DuPont Washington Works, is being replaced with Washington Group. Hopefully, this transition will be an improvement for us in the long run. Some of our members are still working in Charleston, North Central, and Wheeling. I would like to thank those members for their willingness to travel and protect our work. Also, we would like to credit the agents for giving our members this opportunity.

**Tri-County:** IF YOU CHANGED, your new rate and plan are effective January 1. If you encounter any problems, be certain to let BeneSys or a Trustee know. If you have questions, call BeneSys (866-599-3176) or ask your Agent. Please be patient and read all communications from the fund, or check the web site for additional information: <http://www.sheetmetalworkers33benefitfunds.org>

**SASMI:** If you filed for advanced supplemental underemployment for the "B" period, be certain to come in the first of the year and complete the paperwork for the full underemployment (hours are 850 for "B-09" and 750 for "A-10" determined by SASMI). *Please let*

*me know if you have questions concerning this benefit or would like to apply.*

**APPRENTICE COMMITTEE:** School is in progress. Those who have not yet started, remember to complete your homework assignments that were handed out at orientation. Regarding our new **debit card** implementation, please do not lose your card.

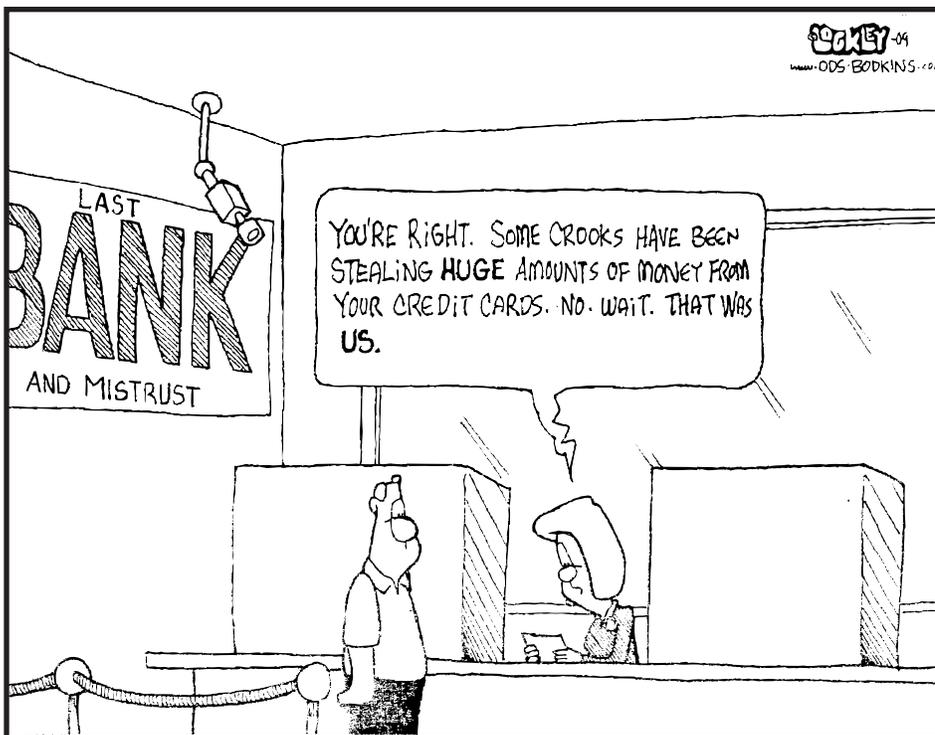
**If anyone is interested in Welding, CADD, or any other training,** let the committee know. You may respond by our web page or phone, 866-222-5282.

The mandatory, not optional, **Union Orientation for Apprentices** will be March 27 at the Waterfront Place Hotel, in Morgantown, WV. Additional information will be provided regarding this *mandatory* orientation.

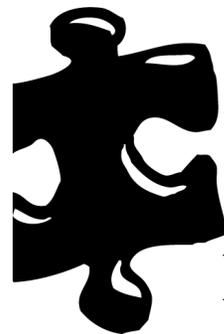
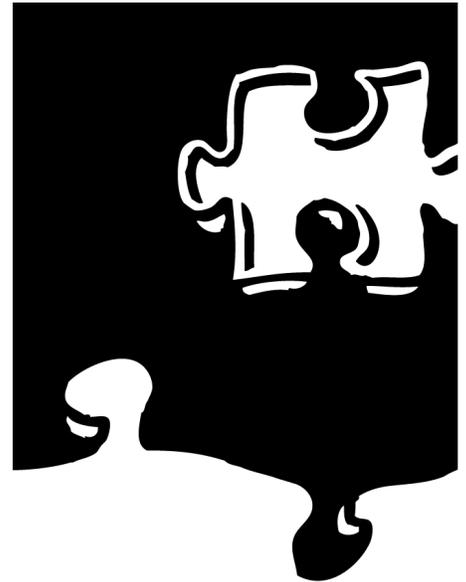
Have a good school year. If you need anything, or have questions or concerns, contact your instructor, or a committee member.

Please remember **time sheets** are due on the 6th (PAY RAISE)! <http://www.wjajtc33.com/>

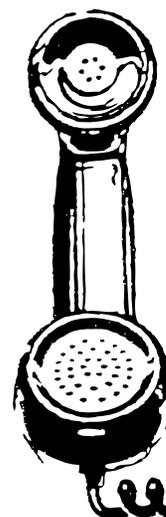
**DRUG CARD** — Drug testing must be kept up-to-date. You do receive notification when your card is about to expire. If you are uncertain if your testing is current, check with the PMCT office (304-485-6322) or go online at <http://pmctedf.com/>. Most of our work sites require verification before you enter. *Don't cost yourself \$350 per day because you are not up-to-date.*



You Are the Missing Piece



Attend Your Union Meetings



Local 33  
TOLL-FREE  
NUMBER  
1-800-  
527-3834



**SHEET METAL WORKERS  
LOCAL 33**  
12515 Corporate Drive  
Parma, Ohio 44130

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Cleveland, OH  
Permit No. 30

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**LOCAL 33 LAYOUT**

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## **NORTH CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA**

**STEVEN PERDUE**

**W**ell it's 2010, and the world is still in one piece, at least for now. It seems as if the downward trend may be coming to a halt and starting to level off. Even then it will be a rough road to travel getting back to where we were before the Bush regime.

Millions of jobs have left the United States and relocated in Mexico, China, India and many third world countries, all for a cheaper workforce. It amazes me that a company, (multinational corporation) will pack up and move its operation to a new location; build a state-of-the art facility costing millions or even billions of dollars, use untrained workers, forget quality and all this in order to pay the worker less, but give huge bonuses to a select few.

You must understand that until we see that THE CITIZENS of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA are put first in HEALTH & WELFARE, receive RESPECT for being a WORKER in a FREE COUNTRY, are afforded a DECENT EDUCATION and are treated like HUMAN BEINGS, will we ever be free to have a normal productive life.

*Our members need to get involved in their communities and the local union. Anyone wishing to become a delegate to the Marion County*

Labor Council, Mon.-Preston Labor Council or the North Central Labor Council, call me and I will see what can be done.

It's election time again and labor cannot give up the gains of the last election. We still need to pick seats in the Senate and the House in order to advance labor's agenda for the betterment of the working class and the country.

We will be working on legislation this year to help the Union Sheet Metal Workers in West Virginia, and protect the consumers from unscrupulous contractors and to insure that the workers are qualified to perform the work. A Code of Ethics which is coming down from the International, and it covers absenteeism, work ethics and other items that affect our industry and how we are viewed in the workplace. Our professionalism on the job, quality of workmanship, work done in a timely manner, our safety record, are just a few of the things we do to keep our trade in existence. Our failures do not only affect us but also affect the retirees and apprentices, as do our successes. We can learn from each other when we work together.

**Work in the North Central Area is still good.** There may be a slow period in the summer, but should pick back up in the fall. *There is*

*an ongoing need for certified welders!* Remember on almost all jobs the OSHA 10 and Drug Testing is **mandatory** just to get on job site and OSHA 30 for foremen, so stay ahead of the game and get it done ahead of time. We finished the first Fire Life Safety Training class and more classes will be set up in the near future.

**SASMI papers for period B are in my office for those who qualify.**

**Work at the Ruskin Plant** seems to have leveled off for a while. The company is picking at the contract in order take from the workers, things that are not in black and white, so they say, (cutting operating expense by taking from the employees). *For all the laid off employees that have not kept their dues up to date or have not taken a temporary withdraw card, a reinstatement fee will be charged upon re-employment.*

There are concerns over the illegal use of prescription drugs at the plant. For those that don't know, it is illegal to take other persons prescription or take the medicine in a non-prescribed manner. With all the dangerous side effects of today's prescriptions and the reaction that one medicine might have with another, it is wise to read all the warnings that come with prescriptions and to take only as prescribed. *If you do have a reaction to a medicine, contact your doctor.* Be smart about medicines and have a safe and healthy life.