



Spring 2009 • Issue 19

AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Moving Forward in 2009

Phil McNally, Jr., business manager

On Dec. 20, 2008, the membership of local 469 elected its officers who will serve the membership's interests for the next three years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in this election, and congratulate the newly elected officers on their victories.

Your entire team of full-time leaders were re-elected for another term and this is a good indication that the majority of our local union shares the same vision for our future. On a personal note, I wish to thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve as your business manager. To be fortunate enough to run unopposed is a very humbling and rewarding experience and I am grateful for that.

Trying times, but our union is strong

This year already has proven to be particularly challenging and the hurdles ahead are formidable as well.

But, when one considers how fortunate we are to belong to an association that provides support in these difficult times, the future does not look as daunting.

The news reports are rife with stories of massive layoffs of unprecedented proportions, with the affected worker having no option but to sit tight, collect unemployment and hope for the best. This is happening to millions of our fellow citizens around the country.

While we are not "recession proof," and we have our fair share of unemployed members, I would like to point out a few benefits we enjoy that are often overlooked, except in times like these:

- Travel work opportunities are researched for you, to continue your income and benefits streams, if travel work is available.
- Continued health benefits through your hour bank system
- Top-notch training opportunities that help position you as a more marketable craftsperson.
- Access to your pension funds are through the hardship processes.

While these benefits may seem insignificant to some, I would venture to say that if any or all of these were presented to someone who does not have any benefits or resources, they would consider themselves truly fortunate to have them.

Also, under the Federal stimulus plan, there will be some relief for members making COBRA payments due to loss of job. However, there are certain requirements that need to be met. Please check in the benefits section of this newsletter or contact Fringe Benefit Services directly should you have any questions.

Training – an invaluable commodity

Of all the benefits listed above, the training opportunity may be the most under-appreciated benefit. Due to the global economic downturn, many local 469 members have found themselves unemployed with time on their hands. At the same time, we have a plethora of training classes to improve your abilities and broaden your scope of competencies – these will pay dividends as you move into the future!

We will always have a need for **qualified welders** –

both auto-automatic and manual. We also will continue to need **detailers**, both AutoCAD and manual, **medical gas installers** and **licensed plumbers**. These are just a few of the classes our training program offers.

Please assess the skill sets you presently possess and make arrangements to secure additional knowledge of our trade. I can assure you, it will pay off for you and your family.

Changes in Southern Arizona

Effective March 6, 2008, Business Agent Jay Tripp was laid off and his duties have been assumed by Business Agent Larry Abril. I am confident that Larry's efforts will meet the needs of our industry in Southern Arizona. Please refer to Larry's report for the Tucson work update. I would like to thank Jay for his years of service and wish him well in his future endeavors.

The facilities we are utilizing in Tucson are available for sale and we have had a few prospective buyers. Presently, arrangements are being made to move Marsh Giblin and Larry Abril into the Tucson Training Center. I will send out a notification when this process has been completed. Until then, we will continue to dispatch and collect dues at the Water Street location.



Phil McNally, Jr.,
business manager

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1910 - 2010

A Century Of Excellence

1940 – 1950

1941 - UA-NCA National Construction Agreement signed. This landmark agreement is the model for current UA National Agreements.

1943 - Big-Inch Pipeline became operational.

1945 - First atomic bomb detonated. United Nation founded.

1946 - Implementing recommendations of the Committee to Eliminate Internal Jurisdictional Disputes, the UA moved to eliminate craft line by creating the Building and Metal Trades Departments and removing craft names from the UA charters and emblem.

1946 - UA General Organizer John Bruce received the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his assistance to Canadian war effort.

1947 - Taft-Hartley Act enacted.

1948 - UA formed the first joint program with a contractor's association for the purpose of standardizing national apprentice instruction.

1950 - Health and Welfare programs introduced in UA locals. Joint Apprenticeship Committee for the Pipe Fitting Industry formed.

On March 2010, Local 469 turns 100 years old. When March 2010 arrives, we will celebrate with members, customers, vendors and all the important people who have helped our organization grow and thrive. Mark your calendar now because on **Saturday, March 13, 2010**, you will be invited to enjoy a day of tours, demonstrations, displays/exhibits and lunch at the Arizona Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Training Center.

SPECIAL RECOLLECTIONS

This is part of an ongoing series of articles featuring people and significant events in organization's past, its glory moments, the tough times and the people who have helped the organization thrive and grow.

THE 1940s to early 1950s

World events shape union membership

As with all construction trades, the United Association is constantly impacted by the major events that occur throughout the world—either positively or negatively. These changes are a direct result of both the economic and political climates of the time, which shape not only the quantity of projects available, but also the number of members in the union. While every decade has an impact on the unions' membership and structure, the 1940s proved to be a time of drastic

changes for the entire country. As a result, the United Association experienced dramatic shifts, as well.

The 1930s set a sobering tone for the union, as the UA's membership had expanded to approximately 60,000 members. However, the depression began to place a major strain on people and the industry, causing membership to hit an all-time low. By the time the market crashed from the banks' failures, the membership had declined to 35,000 members. The unfortunate circumstances of the 1930s required the nation, and the UA, to seek

solutions.

The UA was able to overcome these tough times. As the 1940s arrived, the U.S. was involved in World War II. These wartimes lead to a dramatically large spike in the membership. In 1941, membership had risen to 81,000 members. By the end of the decade, the UA membership soared to 210,000 members.

As the international union expanded, the UA Local 469 used this period as a time to capitalize on growth. In 1945, the UA Local 469 organized its first class of

continued...

SPECIAL RECOLLECTIONS *continued*

THE 1940s to early 1950s



First Refrigeration Class, 1945

refrigeration. **C.F. Voss Kneeling** organized the first class of refrigeration apprentices. The class was comprised of approximately 35 members. Today, refrigeration still is an active trade area of the 469.

Taft-Hartley places restraints on union growth – Local 469 responds

While it may appear that the 1940s was entirely a booming period for organized labor, there were several setbacks that prevented the union from expanding to its full potential. In 1947, the **Taft-Hartley Act** was enacted. The Taft-Hartley Act greatly restricted the activities and powers of labor unions. Among other things, this act prohibited closed shops and placed great restraint on laborers' ability to strike.

As an anti-labor political climate began, the UA Local 469 was prompted to become politically and civically involved. Political figures attended many of our local's activities and events. For example, at the end of the decade, the UA Local 469 sponsored a **Labor Ball** that celebrated the **first statewide agreement between PIPE contrac-**

tors and the Local 469 and Local 741. Given the political climate of the day, the UA Local 469 had Phoenix Mayor John Nicholas Udall and the Arizona Governor Howard Pyle as guests at the event.

Political Action begins... and still exists today

While the celebration of the first statewide contract was not directly connected to politics, the 469 felt that it was important to engage politicians in its interests. Incorporating the political world into the 469's operations is something we still do today via the 469 Political Action Committee. As in the 1940s, the present-day political and economic climates have a direct effect on our working members, their families and our retirees and contractors. By engaging in the political climate, the 469 works to make positive public policy changes for our members.



Special Organizer Frank Rizzo presents award to Phoenix Mayor Udall at Labor Ball, 1951



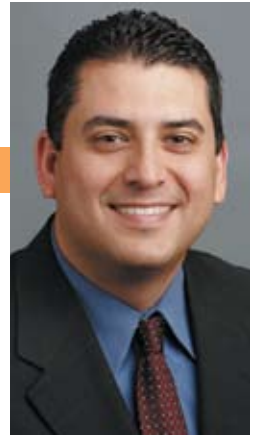
Special Organizer Frank Rizzo presents award to AZ Governor Pyle at Labor Ball, 1951



Parties sign the UA 469's first statewide agreement at the Labor Ball, 1951 (at far right is Howard Clements, UA Local 469 Business Manager / Financial Secretary)

Legislative Update – Hundreds of bills introduced, but balancing the state budget remains the focus

Israel G. Torres, political consultant



Keeping up with the policy-making process requires daily monitoring, and here is how things look at news-letter press time:

- Bills introduced in the House of Representatives – 673
- Bills introduced in the House of Representatives – 520

Your political action committee (PAC) has been tracking – among others – these key bills, which, if passed, will affect your job, your family, and your community:

HB 2080, Contractors; Payment: 469 PAC SUPPORTS

This bill has been nicknamed “Prompt Pay,” as the changes made by this bill will make it easier for subcontractors to be paid in a timely fashion. The bill defines “final completion” under the law, and requires that owners pay contractors within seven days of final completion unless they give a written reason why the work is not complete.

As you can imagine, this would be a great win for many of our contractors who too often are stuck holding the bag when there is a disagreement between an owner and a general contractor.

HB 2335, Improvement Districts; Renewable Energy: 469 PAC SUPPORTS

This bill would allow counties, towns, and other local governments to form improvement districts as well as charge fees within that district to support renewable energy and water conservation projects.

When coupled with HB 2336 (below), this bill could help create hundreds of jobs for our members throughout Arizona.

HB 2336, Community Facilities Districts; Renewable Energy: 469 PAC SUPPORTS

This bill creates a niche in Arizona law for renewable energy infrastructure projects. HB 2335 (above) created special improvement districts; this bill adds renewable energy infrastructure to the list of projects that those districts can spend money on.

If these improvement districts begin to invest in renewable energy infrastructure, it will create hundreds of new jobs for highly-skilled, well-trained, safe workers—the kind of labor that the Arizona Pipe Trades is ready to provide.

HB 2397, Sports Authority District: 469 PAC SUPPORTS

HB 2397 sends two questions to the ballot for voters in Pima County: (1) authorizing a sales tax on car rentals, hotels and other lodging, restaurants, bars, and professional sporting events; and (2) authorizing bonds to finance the construction of sports facilities.

If both of these questions are approved by Pima County voters, a new Sports Authority will be created and tasked with building new professional and youth sports facilities for Pima County. For our members, this means one thing: jobs.

HB 2274, Paycheck Deductions; Political Purposes: 469 PAC OPPOSES

The groups supporting this bill call it “paycheck protection.” PAC members and other labor advocates prefer to call it “paycheck deception.”

HB 2274 unfairly targets labor unions with PACs, making them jump through administrative hoops just to be involved in the political process.

These rules apply only to unions, not to the thousands of non-profits, corporations, and other groups that also have PACs. It’s clear that the sponsors of HB 2274 would rather hear from their corporate donors than from the working families represented by those unions.

As you can see, there is still a lot to do before the legislative session wraps up for the year. The best way to stay on top of the latest legislative information and PAC activities is to subscribe to PAC Pulse, the 469’s online political headquarters. The 469 PAC sends out emails about once a week, with information on bills of interest, volunteer alerts, opportunities to write to your elected officials, and upcoming PAC events.

To get on the list, call Lauren Harmon at 602.626.8805 or email Lauren@thetorresfirm.com. To check out PAC Pulse for yourself, visit www.capwiz.com/thetorresfirm.

Watch for more PAC-related events, details and updates in an upcoming Political Action Newsletter!

DISPATCH NEWS

What's on Tap for 2009

William Moody, financial treasurer/secretary

Throughout the year, members will have ample opportunities to upgrade skills or re-certify current certifications. Many of our contractors will place manpower requests for upcoming projects that will require certifications and/or a City of Phoenix Journeyman's license.

The time is now to invest in your future *and* your family's future, by taking upgrade classes available at the Training Center. Call 602.269.8213, ext. 125, to inquire

about the training schedule or go online to www.ualocal469.org and follow the link to the Training Center or visit www.pipetrades.org.

In January 2009, we began dispatching apprentices at Local 469 prior to journeymen dispatch. The apprentice signs in when terminated at the union hall – not at the Apprenticeship Program. The apprentice registers for dispatch exactly as the journeymen do currently.

As a reminder, dispatch begins at 9:30 a.m.

Please arrive at the hall prior to 9:30 a.m., or call the job line 602.956.9702 and press "1" before 9 a.m. to register for dispatch for that day.



SOUTHERN ARIZONA ACTIVITY

On The Business Front

Larry Abril, business representative

Currently, we have 130 members dispatched to southern Arizona contractors. As many of you know, southern Arizona encompasses several large communities with a million-plus residents. Unfortunately, past inattentiveness in this area has reduced our market share to basically zero.

To address this issue, Local 469 and our partner, the PIPE contractor

group, are developing and assembling resources to **recapture market share in the south**. Identifying and securing new business has always been challenging, but strategic thinking and being market driven and client focused are vital to ensuring our enhanced success.

Local 469 members have played an **instrumental role in the development of Arizona** for the past

century – our local will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2010! Fully aware of the quality and reliability of our work product, our signatory contractors depend on us to be safe, competent and productive, and to **get the job done right... the first time!**

Jay Casey, training coordinator

The Tucson Training Center is offering an **arc welding class** this spring and there is room available for those needing to brush up on their skills in preparation for a welding certification. Class times are Monday and Wednesday evenings, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Additionally, if there is sufficient interest, we will offer **Medical Gas and tube bending classes**. Please call 520.622.0015 for more information for any of these classes.

Currently, we are developing a system for our Tucson members to attend a journeyman class – classroom only; no hands-on training – simultaneously when the class is offered in Phoenix. As we continue toward this goal, we will inform members on the status and when this option is available.

The Tucson Training Center has received two checks recently from non-union contractors, thanks to the **City of Tucson Training Apprenticeship Ordinance**. This

city ordinance requires contractors that have been awarded city contracts to pay into apprenticeship programs in Pima County. P & H Contracting, Inc. in Tucson sent a check for \$5,179.27 and FNF Construction, Inc. from Tempe paid \$13,089. We will see more checks as construction projects are awarded from the City of Tucson.



PI.P.E. – The Year in Review

by **Carl Triphahn**, PIPE executive director

PI.P.E. Committees

The following are committee meeting days and times. All committees are open to interested stakeholders and are held at the P.I.P.E. Office unless otherwise noted.

HVAC Committee:

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Monthly, second Tuesday of the month

Medical Gas Committee:

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Monthly, third Wednesday of the month

Safety Committee:

7 a.m.

May 21, Aug. 20, Nov. 19

Plumbing Service Committee:

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

May 12, July 14, Sept. 8, Nov. 10

Marketing Committee:

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Monthly, first Wednesday of the month

CWI Committee: 4 – 5 p.m. at the Training Center, 2950 W. Thomas Rd.

Monthly, second Tuesday of each month

Labor Day 09

We look forward to another fun day at the ballpark this year. UA Local 469 and P.I.P.E. will once again sponsor Labor Day at Chase Field. This year's game will be our Arizona Diamondbacks vs. the Los Angeles Dodgers and game time will be at 12:40 p.m. Look for more information as the date approaches.

Training news

P.I.P.E. recently completed its **eight-week computer course**, instructed by Gateway Community College and held at the Training Center, with programs including Microsoft 2007 Word, Outlook, Excel and Power Point. Participants expressed much gratitude and appreciation for this course, commenting on how much they learned and how helpful this knowledge will be in their daily work.

Congratulations to these attendees!!

The **ASPE/P.I.P.E. Medical Gas Seminar** is scheduled for May 8, 12 to 4 p.m. at the Training Center, and will include hands-on brazing demonstrations.

Upcoming Classes

APRIL

- April 14 Metasys Training
- April 15 Metasys Training
- April 16 Professional Mgmt. – Making Meetings Work Part I
- April 22 Backflow Refresher
- April 23 Plumbing Service
- April 23 Professional Mgmt. – Making Meetings Work Part II
- April 25 Foreman Training
- April 28 Safety Awareness – Material Handling
- April 29 Backflow Testing

MAY

- May 4 Continuity Update
- May 5 Medgas Class Begins
- May 9 Foreman Training
- May 13 HVAC Training – Pure Humidification Systems Phase 2
- May 14 Professional Mgmt. – Problem Solving Lite, Getting to Root Cause
- May 20 Backflow Refresher
- May 20 Metasys Training
- May 21 Metasys Training
- May 26 Safety Awareness Training - Working/Walking Surfaces
- May 27 Backflow Testing
- May 28 Plumbing Serv. Tech – Flow Guard Hybrid Systems
- May 28 Safety Awareness Training – First Aid/CPR
- May 28 Backflow Test

To learn more about these classes, contact P.I.P.E. at 480.966.0377 or visit www.pipetrust.org.

Exemplary Workmanship and Problem-Solving – APS West Phoenix Power Plant

For the past 100 years, the UA Local 469 has provided not only efficiency, but also quality work. Recently, 469 members working for our contractor partner G.D. Bari demonstrated this at the Arizona Public Service (APS) West Phoenix Power Plant.

Unfortunately, the APS West Phoenix Power Plant recently experienced a 5A exhaust diffuser failure. This failure occurred as the weld between the strut heat shield and the external cylinder failed. As the six-strut shield to the external cylinder weld failed, the entire exhaust diffuser dropped from the original position. Such failure could potentially result in the entire strut to fail. The symptoms involved with this include thermocou-

ple failures, difficulty inserting new blade path thermocouples, and visual misalignment of the diffuser.

Demanding repairs were necessary



to prevent the entire strut from failing. Originally, it was foreseen that these repairs would cause a 30-day closure of the unit, along with \$4 million in repairs. However, the UA Local 469 was able to intervene and repair the diffuser in substantially less time, with minimal costs.

The repair process was long and tedious. First, members needed to cut out access panels in the outer diffuser heat shields in order to allow for welding. Next, the strut shields were rotated and aligned with the external shell weld pads. The strut heat shields were welded to the external shell weld pads and then replaced by the access panels.

Members on the site exemplified not only an impressive level of difficulty but also efficiency as they proved to accomplish the task in an unbelievably short period of time at minimal costs. Congratulations to everyone involved on a job well done!

Moving Forward in 2009 *continued*

Current job outlook

On the work front, bidding opportunities have tightened up and we are allocating market recovery resources accordingly. This fund has been a pivotal tool when it comes to securing work in times like these. In fact, it was utilized in securing an upcoming **bio-medical facility** in downtown Phoenix, a project that will pay out several hundred thousand man-hours of work starting later this year.

Intel has committed to spend several billion dollars at its Ocotillo Campus. We are awaiting word on the official start date, as there are many rumors out there.

We are in constant contact with **Arizona Clean Fuels Yuma** and it looks as if the funding for their refinery project in Southwest Arizona is shaping up, with a construction start date of fourth quarter 2009. No contractor has been selected yet.

The **Solano Solar Plant** needs funding, and we have a couple of contractors lined up for that project.

We work closely with municipal and state leaders to determine how the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, a.k.a. the **stimulus package**, will affect us here in Arizona. Here are some early indications of the breakdown for our state:

- \$722M for infrastructure and roads
- \$122M for energy and weatherization assistance
- \$498M for education and training
- \$553M for government assistance programs
- \$2B in Medicaid and health insurance programs

We will continue to track this funding to ensure our contractors get a shot at any work associated with these dollars.

National political developments

Recently, President Obama issued an Executive Order on Project Labor Agreements only after a few weeks in office. This Order allows governmental entities to use union-only PLAs. This is a huge victory for organized

labor, as we had no chance of this opportunity under previous administrations.

The new President made good on his campaign promise here and we should be proud of our role in last year's election.

As you may have heard, the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) has now become a nationally important piece of legislation. The EFCA provides the American worker the right to choose to have union representation in their workplace, pure and simple. There are some misleading campaigns out right now and I would implore each of you to visit www.EmployeeFreeChoiceAct.org to see for yourself how all of labor would benefit greatly from the enactment of EFCA.

In closing, I know I speak for all of your officers here at local 469 when I say "Thank You" for your continued support, especially in these difficult economic times. We have prevailed through previous challenges in our 99-year history and we are positioned to do so once again.

Inaugural PAC Lunch at the State Capitol

In February, your 469 Political Action Committee (PAC) hosted its first-ever Lunch at the State Capitol, which took place on the Arizona House of Representatives Lawn in downtown Phoenix.

Throughout the legislative session, interest groups and organizations host catered lunches, barbecues and other types of events to draw attention to their policymaking goals and get face-to-face with our elected officials.

Local 469 volunteers pulled up the barbecue grills and sponsored one of the best-attended lunches of the 2009 session thus far, thanks to our hard-working volunteers and members who came out to show their support.

The event served approximately 500 lunches and provided an excellent venue for our retirees, working members and leadership to talk with our state and local elected officials. This ensures that our lawmakers know that working families, the unionized construction trades, and our members in particular, are monitoring what's happening at the State Capitol – and letting them know what we think about it!



Business Manager Phil McNally, State Senator Meg Burton-Cahill and Corporation Commissioner Sandra Kennedy



State Representative Pat Fleming speaks to 469 members while they enjoy their lunches on the Capitol Lawn.



More than 70 members arrived via buses from Phoenix and Tucson, while other members grilled hundreds of hamburgers and hotdogs for the droves of BBQ attendees.

Draws Lawmakers & Statewide Attention



Rep. Anna Tovar (D-13) and 469 Member (and D-13 resident!) Jesse Perez.



The casual picnic atmosphere gave members the opportunity – in a sea of orange! – to mingle with each other, as well as lawmakers and appointed officials from state government. A great time was had by all!



Business Representative Larry Abril and Corporation Commissioner Sandra Kennedy



Left to right – 469 Consultant Israel Torres, State Representatives Steve Farley and Daniel Patterson, and Business Manager Phil McNally

BY INDUSTRY

Commercial & Service

Mel Ingwaldson, business representative

Our signatory contractors are working hard to bid on anything of size in the marketplace. At present, 22 of the contractors with whom I work have 341 of our members providing top-notch trades work on various projects throughout the state.

The following is a selection of current projects on which our members are working:

W.D. Manor

- Queen Creek Banner Hospital (Queen Creek)
- Mayo Hospital (Scottsdale)
- John C. Lincoln Hospital (Phoenix)

Miller Bonded, Inc.

- Thunderbird Hospital (Phoenix)
- Desert Banner Heart Hospital (Mesa)

Cholla Plumbing

- Good Samaritan Hospital (Phoenix)
- St. Joseph's Hospital (Phoenix)

Harris Mechanical

- Central Arizona Project Pumping Station Modifications (various locations)

W.J. Maloney

- CityScape (Downtown Phoenix)



Industrial & National Service Work

Larry Abril, business representative

As many of you know, work has slowed in the recent months, with numerous layoffs in industrial work. Conversely, some of the power plants have had shutdowns that translated into some related work for a few 469 members.

End users who employ our service contractors have been conservative with their maintenance budgets and are foregoing a substantial portion

of the normal maintenance that occurs during the cool winter months. Pushing out maintenance unfortunately has forced layoffs and reduced hours for many of our members who are in the service industry.

Our contractors have postponed many upcoming projects anywhere from one month to one year from their original starting dates, which is attributed to our current slowed

economy and construction sector. On the positive side, these projects will happen and we will work on them – but precisely when the work begins is unknown.



Member news: 469 Retiree gets "big game" on recent hunt

In November 2008, Local 469 Retiree, Jim Miller, embarked on a seven-day rifle hunt north of Young, Arizona. On the fifth day of his hunt, Jim harvested a six-by-six elk. In the thick juniper, Miller was able to shoot the bull with only one simple shot to the neck from 45 yards away. The sharp shot that took down the 750-pound bull left Miller with an entire freezer of elk.

Jim is no stranger to the wilderness. Throughout his life, he has harvested seven elk, and spends his summers fishing in Northern Arizona. When asked about his most recent accomplishment, Jim replied, "The elk hunt gave me at my age of 66, hope for a future hunt."

Congratulations, Jim and best of luck in future hunts!

Have a story about an accomplishment, travel or other interesting item? Let us know about it by sending an e-mail – with photos – to info@thetorresfirm.com.



High-Tech, High-Rises, Healthcare & Higher Education

Chris Van Kirk, business representative



Thanks for your participation and PAC-tion!

Once again, I need to begin by extending a thank you to our members and their families that support our Political Action Committee. In February, we had **our first lunch on the lawn event at the state capitol.**

We had more than one hundred of our members and spouses in attendance, along with many representatives of our contractor group and members of other building trade's locals. The significance of that "sea of orange" – our volunteer PAC t-shirts – did not go unnoticed by our elected officials.

A volatile economy, with some help on the horizon

While our country and the world continue to struggle with the **financial markets**, as this article was being written, the stock market had four of the previous five days ending "up." Of course, no one knows when the turn around will actually happen, but economists point out that sustained, positive financial market movement is the first sign that confidence in our markets is improving.

Increased confidence can mean more funding availability for not only projects that our contractors have booked, but those that are in the planning stage. The **Economic Recovery Act** also should impact our work outlook, as a large portion of

the money in the act will be designated for "shovel-ready projects" and infrastructure.

Industry happenings

We had a unique opportunity in February when our International Representative, Mark Butler, conducted a meeting of the five state business managers in his region. Tom Hynes spoke to us, representing Mesirow Financial. Mesirow Financial provided the funding for our first commercial **Building Trades Project Agreement**, the One Central Park East high-rise tower in downtown Phoenix.

Although the road to success on this project was bumpy, the Building Trades participation in this project was more than 70 percent. Rick Hudson, the superintendent for **Kinetic Systems Inc. at One Central Park East**, was on hand to extend his appreciation to Mesirow Financial, and to also let them know Kinetic Systems Inc. is delivering a quality product to them.

Some of our ongoing projects include:

- Phoenix Children's Hospital addition
- Banner Desert Hospital Children's Tower
- New American Express building
- Banner Hospital Office and Medical Center
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield Data Center

- Estrella Community College addition
- Honeywell
- Casino Arizona Hotel and Casino

We also have begun work on a couple of the projects at a **major micro-electronics manufacturer**. While we have started on these projects, the bid dates for many other projects at that site have been periodically pushed back. Nonetheless, the 469 is positioned to capture a large number of jobs when the bid and award processes are finalized.

As you know, the training and experience of UA Local 469 members is one of the reasons for our past successes. Help yourself and the local union continue to have the resources we need to be successful by contacting the training department and upgrading your skills and qualifications.

On a closing note, I hope you all had a chance to take your family and friends out for a Spring Training game this year. If so, you may have had opportunity to see one of our finished product at Camelback Ranch at Glendale, the spring training home of the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Chicago White Sox. This is truly a state-of-the-art training facility that I'm proud to say we helped build.

Get Your 469 News Via E-mail!

Would you like to receive your Local 469 newsletter electronically to your e-mail account? In addition to the membership and Political Action Committee newsletters, you also receive up-to-the-minute legislative updates and other timely announcements.

Sign up below!

Name _____

E-mail Address _____

Telephone _____

You can sign up **four** ways:

1. Complete the information on this form and **mail** to:

Torres Consulting

ATTN: Erin Barrett
202 E. Earll Dr., Suite 400
Phoenix, AZ 85012

2. **Fax** this form to 602.626.8889 (no cover sheet needed)

3. **Send an e-mail** that includes your name, e-mail address and telephone number to erin@thetorresfirm.com.

4. **Call** 602.626.8805 and provide your information – we'll get you signed up!



Training Center News

by Mike Wall, training director

Staff news: new addition

A new and welcomed addition to our staff – who is quite

familiar to most of you – is **Rodney Pack**. Rodney has spent most of his life in the construction industry. He brings many skill sets which we feel will move us very quickly into the digital age.

Rodney is a graduate of ASU in Communication, and was Project Manager for APS Energy Services, involved in energy retrofits throughout Arizona, Nevada, and California. Updates on Rodney's activities will appear in future newsletters.

Distance Learning

Big changes are on the horizon for the **Blackboard system!** The new layout should make it easier and faster to navigate in the system. In addition, we are adding course content in various media types for your use, as well as tutorials on how to use the Blackboard system. You will start to notice changes to some of your courses immediately, while others will change in the near future.

To expand upon our current distance learning, we are exploring various technologies to allow for **Teletraining**, which will allow live instruction in one location and a real-time remote attendance for those in another location. This will eliminate the need for individuals who live outside the Valley of the Sun to drive to the training center.

The first implementation of Teletraining will be between the Phoenix training center and the Tucson training center.

Coordinator Event

The United Association selected Arizona as its location for the forth annual coordinator conference. More than 100 coordinators from around the country were guests of 469 from March 30 to April 2. Tours took place at the training center on the first day of the conference, with classes on the remaining days at the Scottsdale Chaparral Suites.

Apprentice Contest

- Apprentice Contest Timeline:
- Scholastic portion began on March 24 in Tucson and Phoenix
 - UA51 was held on April 6
 - Three finalists per discipline were chosen to continue through the testing process
 - The drawing portion was held the week of April 6
 - The hands-on portion will be held April 25

Rigging Structure

The rigging structure almost is complete and will be available for use by the next rigging class. A special thanks needs to go out to all apprentices and instructors for all their help during the construction of the structure. In the future, this rigging structure will be used to train Journeymen, as well.

Zero Tolerance

A zero tolerance policy will be enforced for non-payment of tuition by apprentices. If you have not

paid for your course by the first day of class, you will be removed from the course.

For your convenience, we have set up the computer room to register for your classes ahead of time. Additionally, you can use the computer room to print receipt and confirmation of payment for your courses. For now, Tucson apprentices will still need to go through Central Arizona Community College for their registration needs.

Skills USA

Skills USA was held on April 9. PIPE, Local 469, and Arizona Apprenticeship are sponsors of the welding and plumbing portion of the competition, as well as for the state finals with winners competing in Kansas City, Missouri for USA Champions.

Watch for more information on the event in an upcoming newsletter!



Annual Picnic

Annual 469 Picnic - food, friends, family and fun!

The annual UA Local 469 Picnic was held Saturday, March 7, at Saguaro Ranch Park in Glendale. More than 1,000 469 members and their families attended and enjoyed a great day of camaraderie, entertainment and of course, a picnic lunch spread that was second-to-none!



Special and sincere thanks to the members of the 469 Picnic Committee for the hard work they do all year to ensure that picnic-goers have a memorable and enjoyable time. And thanks to everyone who attended – we'll see you again in 2010!

Save the Date!

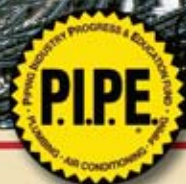
Calling all 469 Members & Families: P.I.P.E. Labor Day at Chase Field

Monday, Sept. 7, 2009 at 12:40 p.m.

Celebrate Labor Day by watching the **Arizona Diamondbacks** play the Los Angeles Dodgers! Almost 2,000 union members, families and contractors attended last year's event – one of the largest groups to ever visit Chase Field. Let's break the record in 2009!

Free tickets will be available for members and their families.

Be on the lookout for ticket reservation information in the next 469 newsletter, due out this summer – we hope you can join us to celebrate our trade, our families and our D'backs!



TRUST FUND UPDATE

On The Benefit Front

by Harry Auston, account manager

Social Security Numbers Update

Unless the information is already on file, you would have received a communication from the Administrative Office asking for the social security numbers of your covered dependents.

As mentioned in the prior 469 newsletter, this is necessary because of a new Federal requirement from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that will require our office to gather employees' and dependents' Social Security Numbers and dates of birth to submit eligibility information quarterly to CMS. This is a Federal mandate with substantial penalties for non-compliance.

Thank you for helping us in gathering this data by responding promptly to the request when received.

Defined Contribution Fund

The Defined Contribution Fund statements for the last fiscal year (ending May 31, 2008), have been mailed. The earnings for that period amounted to (-2.2129%).

If you have not received your statement, please contact the Fund Office for a re-print. There will be another valuation made for the six-month period that ended Nov. 30, 2008, and the earnings information will be completed when the auditors and actuaries complete their analysis.

The Trust Fund is Online!

We hope you are making use of the Trust Fund Web site at <http://www.azpipe.org>. You can review benefit issues and obtain printouts of any forms or documents you might need. There are several links on this Web site. The link to the Administrative Office will give you access to your medical claim history and status, as well as the current balance in your HRA account.

If you haven't already done so, sign

onto the medical website at www.fringebenefitsonline.com, set up your secure user account and update your medical coverage.

If you just want to leave a message, go onto your user account and select the "contact us" tab. We generally will get back to you within two days of your message.

Status Reports will get New Look

You will note that your monthly status report now contains information as to the current balance in your HRA account. We are in the process of re-designing the status report to provide additional information to keep you fully informed as to your status in each of the benefit plans.

These changes will occur in the coming months to bridge the time it will take to get the next phase of the Trust Fund website developed with secured individual information about your eligibility and account balances.

If you are not regularly receiving a monthly status report and are working for a signatory employer, we may not have a good address on file. Please advise the Administrative Office when any change occurs in your address or family status.

Please direct your benefits questions to the Administrative Office at the toll-free number 877-429-7473. You will reach a "live" operator during normal hours, who will direct your call to a person who can work with you most efficiently on your specific issue. When reaching our automated attendant during off hours, or when the phones are overloaded, you can get connected to the correct department either by listening to the menu options or dialing directly to the extension number of the person you wish to speak with.

Prescription Services Changes

In October 2008, CVS Caremark completed its acquisition of Longs Drugs Stores and its subsidiary, RxAmerica. With the completion of this acquisition, please be aware of some changes that have taken place.

Company Brand

On April 3, 2009, the RxAmerica name changed to **CVS Caremark**. Members will begin to see the trusted CVS Caremark brand on letters, labels, forms, packaging and other materials.

Home Delivery

Home delivery of regular maintenance or specialty drugs fulfillment was transitioned on April 3, 2009, to CVS Caremark mail and specialty service pharmacies.

CVS Caremark possesses robust resources around the country and electronic order intake and management to ensure prescriptions are fulfilled accurately, efficiently and promptly, even in the event of a natural disaster.

New benefits upon the transition include:

- Enhanced phone system to order refills and request order status
- New Web site to order refills, check order status and access an extensive library of healthier information and tools.
- New options for how and when to be notified about orders, upcoming refills and health information by phone, e-mail or text message.
- Wide range of payment options, including electronic check processing and new credit card options.
- You will continue to use the toll-free phone number you have always used.

continued...

On The Benefit Front

Any remaining refills will be transferred automatically to the CVS Caremark system.

ID Cards

Existing ID cards will continue to be honored.

Customer Service

Members may call the same toll-free customer service number as they have in the past.

Specialty

Home delivery of specialty medicines now are filled by CVS Caremark Specialty Pharmacy. Members should have received a call from their Specialty Care Teams to discuss their new home delivery service of specialty medicines and to answer questions.

CVS Caremark Specialty Pharmacy not only fills your prescription order for your specialty medicines, but also provides you with personalized pharmacy care management services, including:

Staff pharmacists, available to support you 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week.

Coordination of care to facilitate medicine needs with you, your doctor and health plan.

Convenient delivery- CVS Caremark will deliver your prescription directly

to you or your doctor's office.

Medicine and disease-specific education and information.

Plan participant support through our website at www.Caremark.com, including disease-specific information and interactive areas to submit questions to pharmacists and nurses.

In the meantime, if members have any questions regarding the home delivery of specialty medicines, they can contact our Specialty Pharmacy Care Team at CaremarkConnect toll-free at 1-800-237-2767 Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (CT).

More Pharmacy Services News – Three for Free Program

We want you to save on the cost of prescription drugs with a new program offered by Arizona Pipe Trades Welfare Trust Fund and RxAmerica. The “Three for Free” program encourages the use of generic drug alternatives for certain medications.

With the “Three for Free” program, if you have one of the conditions listed in Column 1 (see the blue boxes below) and you are taking any of the medications shown in Column 2, check with your doctor to see if the generic alternative listed for your current medication in Column 3 is right for you. Once you have received approval from your doctor to switch to one of the drugs in Column 3, you will have ZERO co-pay for up to three 30-day retail refills or one 90-day mail order fill. Another benefit of continuing to use the new generic drug in Column 3 is that your subsequent co-pays may be lower than what you are currently paying for your medication shown in Column 2.

This program is effective for any generic prescriptions from Column 3 that you begin taking after 07/01/2009 and through 09/30/09 as a substitution for a medication in Column 2.

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--|---|---|
| If you have one of the following conditions, | And you have been using any of the medications below, | Please check with your doctor about the following generic alternatives. You can get up to three 30-day refills with ZERO copay. |
| High Cholesterol | Lipitor, Crestor | Simvastatin, Lovastatin, or Pravastatin |
| Stomach Ulcer or GERD | Aciphex, Nexium, Prevacid, Protonix (or Pantoprazole) | Omeprazole |

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices
of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the
United States and Canada
Local #469
3109 North 24th Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-7399



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INFORMATION CHANGE FORM

If you have changed your address, phone number or area code, use this form to send the information to Fringe Benefit Services immediately. Completely fill the form out, sign on the signature line and mail to:

**Fringe Benefit Services
7010 North Broadway
Suite 106
Denver, CO 80221**

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Name | _____ |
| Social Security # | _____ |
| Former Address | _____ _____ _____ |
| New Address | _____ _____ _____ |
| New Phone # | _____ |
| Signature | _____ |