



Summer 2009 • Issue 20

AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

New Opportunities Amidst Current Challenges

Phil McNally, Jr., business manager

Economy stays in the forefront as a concern

As we make the transition from second to third quarter of 2009, the economy continues to struggle and the construction industry has not been exempt from this huge downturn. In fact, the overall construction outlook for this year has been revised down in several recent reports issued by industry experts.

According to these findings, **credit availability continues to be one of the leading challenges** for our industry. Of course, without funding streams in place, this has resulted in fewer projects to bid and as a result, high unemployment numbers in the market are a reality. Though the construction industry accounts for just more than five percent of the jobs in the U.S. economy, it has absorbed more than 20 percent of the job losses since this recession began.

Now that the **Federal stimulus bill** is in place, we look forward to the opportunities it can and should bring to our industry. We are nearing completion of the Department of Labor's Wage Survey for our state and feel confident that our rates will prevail on all Federal Davis Bacon projects in our jurisdiction.

Presently, we have unemployment numbers that rival the economic bust of 2001-2003. However, after one of the worst calendar years since the Great Depression and six consecutive quarters of negative returns, the **S&P 500 posted its largest quarterly gain** since 1998 in the second quarter of 2009. At a recent trustee meet-

ing, it was determined that our pension plans were still in the very desirable "green" zone. We could not have asked for better news.

Renewable energy projects on the horizon

Looking ahead on the work front, there are several reasons for us to maintain an optimistic outlook.

One of the most promising projects is the **Starwood 1 Solar Power Project**, about 70 miles west of Phoenix. The proposed 290-megawatt plant has the potential to provide a substantial number of man-hours for Local 469 and we are working with the owner's representative to secure the project. For more information on this opportunity, please refer to Business agent Chris Van Kirk's report in this issue.

In addition to Starwood 1, there are more than a dozen solar plants either in the conceptual or engineering phases that are proposed for our state. We are working with each and every developer, along with members of the Arizona Corporation Commission, a few of whom we helped get elected in 2008.

We continue to work extremely closely with our very good friends at **Arizona Clean Fuels-Yuma** to bring the proposed 175,000 barrels-per-day refining facility to reality. The UA is now engaged in the effort, keeping in constant contact with the refinery team as they navigate the political landscape in Washington, DC. We should know more before year's end.



Phil McNally, Jr.,
business manager

National trends impact most locals

Recently, I attended the North American Pipe Trades Training Conference in San Francisco. This annual conference is widely attended and is facilitated by the UA and the International Training Fund. My purposes for attending this year's conference were two-fold: to keep up with the latest training endeavors available and to network and collaborate with other managers and agents regarding work opportunities.

As I made my way through the sessions, one thing became clear: Local 469 is not alone in this economic mess. With the exception of a small number of fortunate locals, everyone else is experiencing record-high unemployment and in some cases, with no real prospects in the near future.

Project Updates

All things considered, while we are experiencing some pretty tough times, we do have projects to look forward to. When **Intel** decides the conditions are right to invest in their Ocotillo Campus as they projected earlier this year, there will be plenty of work to go around.

Your **market recovery program** (MRP) is working well for you. Among

continued on page 7



1910 - 2010

A Century Of Excellence

1950 – 1960

1952 – UA member George Meany elected AFL president and UA General President Martin Durkin appointed U.S. Secretary of Labor.

1953 – Martin Durkin resigned from the U.S. Cabinet, due to issues related to the Taft Hartley Act.

1954 – First UA Apprentice Contest and Instructor Training Program held at Purdue University.

1955 – Pension plans introduced in UA locals. AFL and CIO merged and UA purchased the AFL Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C.

1955 – First atomic power generated in U.S. for commercial use.

1956 – UA International Training Fund established.

1958 – Welfare and Pension Plans Disclosure Act enacted.

1959 – Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act enacted.

1960 – UA withdrew from the AFL Industrial Union Department.

1964 – Civil Rights Act enacted.

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 1950s to early 1960s

Milestones that shaped our future

The twenty years between 1950 and 1960 were pivotal for how the UA and all of its locals do business today.

The seeds were planted for our current **apprentice competitions** in 1954 when the first contest at Purdue University was held, along with the first instructor training program at Purdue – beginning a great tradition at an excellent institution.

Other major enhancements in the mid-1950s include the introduction of **pension plans** in UA locals – a cornerstone of what makes our trade a great one to be part of – and the

establishment of the **UA Training Fund**.

Additionally, a law was passed in 1959 that has impacted the way the 469 operates even today: the **Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA)**.

This labor law – triggered by corrupt practices identified in some unions – was established to regulate unions' internal affairs and their officials' relationships with employers. The LMRDA called for **regular, secret elections** for local union offices and review of members' claims of improper activity; **reporting of annual financial data** to the U.S. Department of Labor; **increased**

financial accountability for union officers; and, the **establishment of minimum standards** before a union can expel or take action against a member of the union.

So many of the current rules and practices that we take for granted today were born during this time in the 469's history, and they continue to maintain cohesion and accountability in our organization.

A personal perspective – Bud McIlroy

The 1950s and 1960s also were defining times for long-time UA member Bud McIlroy.

As a young man in Kingston,
continued...

SPECIAL RECOLLECTIONS *continued*

THE 1950s to early 1960s



Bud McIlroy uses his lifelong experience in welding to teach 469 apprentices

Ontario, Canada, Bud learned welding and this led him to become an apprentice in UA Local 221. He had great enthusiasm for welding and the pipe trades, and became a journeyman in 1956.

After working for a few years as a journeyman, Bud did some travelling out West. He visited California and came to Arizona in 1966 on a travel card. He loved the Grand Canyon State and decided it was the place to be – he left his home in Syracuse, New York, where he was living at the time, and has been an Arizonan ever since.

In his early years in the trade, Bud did what a lot of pipe trades craftsmen did at the time – he traveled for work. He recalls the brotherhood and camaraderie that characterized long trips to places like Alaska to work on big projects. Back then, he shares, you would drive all the way to a work destination and you would have to test to get the job, which was risky.



Completion and Annual Pin Ceremony for members with 25 to 45 years, Ramada Inn, Phoenix, 1961

If you didn't pass, you spent the time and money to travel long distances to get work, and it didn't come through. He remembers how tough it was to see a brother experience that type of disappointment and hardship, but it came with the territory in those days.

Although he has enjoyed all aspects of his 50-plus year career, Bud recalls his favorite jobs have involved new oil refineries and maintenance on existing ones, as well as working on the Alaska Pipeline Project.

Bud has taken all of these years of



469 members who worked on Glen Canyon Dam (Page, AZ), in front of the fab shop, 1962

experience and training and has channeled them into teaching. Many current 469 apprentices and journeymen know Bud as an enthusiastic welding instructor at the Arizona Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Training Center in Phoenix. With all of his experience, Bud has great insight into all of the developments and changes that have occurred in the pipe trades over the years, which can be summed up in one word: technology.

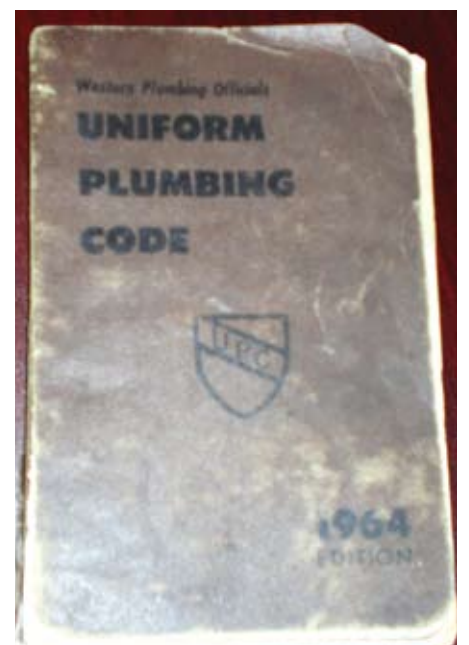
Bud points out that the equipment, computer-based tools and the opportunities to learn so many different skills have grown exponentially over the years, and offer a world of options to aspiring and current pipe

trades crafts people. "This training center and program are second to none," says Bud. "The training and education provided here is something I am extremely proud of – our program produces the best trained pipe trades people in the country."

His main goal as an instructor is ensuring that today's apprentices succeed, but he acknowledges that they have to do their part to complete the rigorous requirements of the program. Bud is confident the apprenticeship program will continue to expand and offer the best pipe trades education and experience to its apprentices.

Although he is "technically" retired, Bud's teaching and involvement in the program look like anything but retirement. His passion for the trade and helping the people who are entering it is obvious when he points out that this isn't just a job...it's a career for life. As Bud says, "You love it in your head, but you also have to love it in your heart."

Well said, Bud!



1964 Uniform Plumbing Code: As one retired members states, "This was like the Bible. Everyone studied this to pass the city of Phoenix test to get their plumbing licenses."

Legislative Update – 2009 Session produces some new laws, with budget debate continuing

Israel G. Torres, political consultant



The 2009 legislative session is finally beginning to wind down, and it's time to look back at what your 469 political action committee (PAC) has done this year to ensure the Pipe Trades remains visible with our state elected officials.

Thanks to their presence at the State Legislature, PAC members were able to make sure our legislators understand that the Arizona Pipe Trades does not support Democratic bills or Republican bills—we support good bills that help Arizona's working families. Here are some of the bills the 469 PAC advocated that became Arizona law:

- **HB 2336: Renewable Energy Incentive Districts**

HB 2336 allows cities and towns to form a tax incentive district to attract renewable energy projects to their areas. The PAC supported this bill because Arizona must do everything it can to attract these industries and their associated construction jobs. More renewable energy construction means more jobs for our members! **PASSED!**

- **SB 1403: Renewable, High-Wage Industries Incentives**

This bill allows the state of Arizona to create additional tax incentives for renewable energy projects to move into the state. Combined with HB 2336 (above), Arizona is doing its part to become a leader in these new technologies. State officials have already used SB 1403 to persuade large-scale solar firms to consider locating their project in Arizona. **PASSED!**

Unfortunately, not everything that came out of this year's legislative session was good. Some potentially

beneficial bills did not make it out of the legislature, and some harmful ones did. Fortunately, the hard work of our PAC members made it possible to stop many of the worst bills that were thrown at us:

- **HB 2274: Paycheck Deductions; Political Purposes**

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. **STOPPED!**

- **HB 2267: Municipalities; Counties; Fire Sprinklers; Codes**

This bill would have made it illegal for any county or town to require fire sprinklers in a residence. Under HB 2267, local voters can decide to require sprinkler systems in their new construction, without state law preventing them to do so. **STOPPED!**

Although there will be no more bills filed this year, the budget process is not yet completed as this article is being written. Legislators have found a way to fund K-12 education, and with that accomplished, they now have until October 1 to complete the rest of the budget—with about 70 percent of the work remaining.

It will be an interesting summer and fall as your PAC continues to monitor developments in state and local politics. 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 budget updates, 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. The check out PAC Pulse for yourself, visit www.capwiz.com/thetorresfirm

Thanks to everyone who has already joined us for PAC-sponsored events this year. There will be many more activities and events coming soon, so let's continue to make 2009 a great year for the Arizona Pipe Trades!

Upcoming volunteer opportunities

Phoenix: Walk for 469-endorsed Phoenix City Council candidate Sal DiCiccio (District 6):
Sat., Aug. 15, 9 a.m. – noon

Tucson: Walks for 469-endorsed Tucson City Council candidates Karin Uhlich (Ward III), Richard Fimbres (Ward V) and Nina Trasoff (Ward VI):
Sat., Aug. 29, 9 a.m. – noon
Join us for a free BBQ lunch afterwards!!

Water, volunteer t-shirts and snacks provided – come make a difference with your Local 469 PAC!

Volunteer or for more info: Call Lauren Harmon, Torres Consulting and Law Group, 602.626.8805 or Lauren@thetorresfirm.com

DISPATCH AND FACILITY NEWS

William Moody, financial treasurer/secretary

As the year progresses, the manpower requests that contractors submit to the 469 in most cases will require certain skills or certification. If you have allowed your certifications to lapse or need to acquire certain skill sets, then now is the time to visit the Training Center to get things up to date. Call the Training Center at 602.269.8213 ext. 125, to inquire about the training schedule or visit www.ualocal469.org and link to the Training Center or visit www.pipetrades.org.

Presently travel work is not very abundant. Be assured that we do investigate all leads of work in other areas of the country. In most

cases, the other locals have high unemployment just as ours does, and only need welders with current certifications. Your officers have been calling the other regions of the country to help secure employment for those who wish to travel.

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 to leave your message before 9 a.m. to register for dispatch for that day.

ALL APPRENTICES WILL BE DISPATCHED FROM THE UA LOCAL 469 HALL BEGINNING SEPT. 1, 2009

Southern AZ office changes

We have closed the Water Street office and have moved operations to

601 W. Rillito, Tucson, Arizona, 85705. The Rillito office is open from noon to 4 p.m. and on the last business day of the month, and normal business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch.



SOUTHERN ARIZONA ACTIVITY On The Business Front

Larry Abril, business representative

Good things are happening for the Local 469 in southern Arizona, with more opportunities for visibility and business development on the horizon.

Facility Changes

As many of you know, the facility on Water Street in Tucson has been closed and we have consolidated some of its functions with the Phoenix hall, while other activities are taking place at the **Tucson Training Center** on Rillito.

Tucson apprentices are now attending training classes in Phoenix, but in the future we expect to continue to provide some journeyman upgrade training at the Tucson facility. We will also utilize the classroom there to provide other services to our members, including Political Action Committee (PAC) Computer Training (see announcement in this issue).

Tucson Contractors' Reception

On June 30, we hosted a **reception in downtown Tucson** that

included Tucson and Phoenix contractors, local elected officials, 469 representatives and other community leaders (see photo collage in this issue). It was an excellent opportunity to demonstrate to city council members from Tucson, Sahuarita and South Tucson that our statewide union and our contractor partners are ready and willing to work collaboratively with government and industry in southern Arizona.

I want to thank all of our partners in attendance for taking the time to participate in this first-ever gathering, including Shorty Allison from APCON Construction Co., Gary Schultes from S & S Air Conditioning, Michael Collins from Plumb Happy, Jeff and George Michels from Comfort Control Corp., Richard Bettis from Pipe Systems, Inc., Brad Thornton from University Mechanical, Dan Naylor from Kinetics, and Carl T. Triphahn from W.J. Maloney. **You made this event a great success!**

Rosemont Mine Tour

The Rosemont Mine, with facilities

near Sahuarita, is in the early stages of planning a major **pipeline**. Although mine officials are still working on securing funds and land for the project, some preliminary discussions are happening and 469 has been included in them.

Last month, Sahuarita Town Council Member (469-endorsed in 2009) Roseanna Gabaldon invited the 469 to accompany her on a tour of the mine facilities and for some of the discussion. The tour and meeting were very informative and the 469 will stay engaged in how this potential project progresses. While there, I stressed the importance of **using local pipe trades crafts people who are trained locally** for this job, as we have the **best workforce** in the state and the Southwest.

Thank you for all you are doing to make the 469 successful statewide, and we will continue to pursue opportunities actively as they arise.



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

Chris Van Kirk, business representative



While we have been going through a period of decreased opportunities for immediate employment for our members, the wheels are in motion for Local 469 and its members to rebound. We are working diligently with many sources to develop work opportunities in our jurisdiction that have the potential to be nothing short of unbelievable.

Opportunities in solar power generation

Together with the Arizona Building and Construction Trades Council, we have provided the required information for what we expect to be a favorable decision by the builder of the **proposed largest solar power generating station in the United States, Starwood 1**. This 290mw plant will consume three square miles of desert in the Harquahala Valley just west of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.

The technology used in this plant involves concentrating the power of the sun on a pipe, heating the transfer fluid in the pipe to approximately 700 degrees Fahrenheit, and using that heat to complete the power production through the power block. This plant also will be the first to utilize storage of heat produced during daylight hours through a salt storage system that will allow the plant to produce electricity as much as six hours after sundown.

It will produce enough electricity to power 73,000 customers.

During the construction process, Starwood 1 may produce as many as 7,000 jobs. You may have noticed the name of the plant ends in a "1." If this plant is built and functions as planned, the owner has plans for Starwood 2, Starwood 3, and

Starwood 4. The opportunities for Local 469 members are boundless with this client alone.

At the same time this plant is being planned, there are at least four other huge solar power plants planned for the jurisdiction of Local 469. We feel that all of these are viable entities also. If they are funded it will have an impact on Local 469 comparable to Starwood 1. It appears that these other plants are going to need Federal stimulus money to proceed forward. That doesn't appear to be the case for Starwood 1. Our plan is to position the 469 to successfully construct Starwood 1, and use that plan as a template to secure the additional plants that become economically viable projects.

The Obama administration has made it clear that **renewable energy is key** to changing the economy of the United States. We are making it clear that Local 469 intends to be on the leading edge of that process.

Many other projects have been booked and are being built by our contractors. We continue to be successful at our largest **microelectronics manufacturers site**, and expect the uptick in CPU demand will result in increased work opportunities for our contractors and members in the near future.

Quality that's "off the charts"

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate **BelAire Mechanical and all of our 469 members** who worked on the **Banner project on Country Club Drive in Mesa**. This project had a large number of our members working on it, and once again they have shown that using a

signatory contractor is the right choice for owners, developers, and general contractors.

The project included a major renovation of a nine-story medical facility. While everyone working on this project for BelAire demonstrated the effectiveness of the UA Standard for Excellence, I would like to particularly recognize the plumbers. When the plumbing work was finished, something extremely unusual happened – when the punch lists were developed for items that needed a little tweak to complete, there were zero plumbing items on the list.

Anyone that has worked on finalizing a project knows that punch lists are normal. The focus of the plumbers working that job must have been amazing. I would like to extend a **hearty congratulations to everyone on that project, and especially to Christine Phillips**. Christine was the lead field plumbing supervisor, and completing that project with no punch-list items is comparable to pitching a no hitter in baseball every day for the life of the project. With supervision like Ms. Phillips and members that understand the importance of doing it right the first time, the continued success of 469 is assured.

BY INDUSTRY

Commercial & Service

Mel Ingwaldson, business representative



Stimulus news

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will not only be important to our country, but also for Arizona. This year at the annual legislative conference, we learned that stimulus moneys will remain as Federal Davis Bacon dollars. This is important because Arizona has no little Davis laws for when money is allocated to state or city/county funds.

Arizona is also under a Federal Davis Bacon wage survey until August. If you are on a Federal job and currently working, please call me at 602.956.9350. It is critical that all of our contractors turn in their rate sheets and we show work in all fifteen counties in Arizona.

Air conditioning and plumbing service work

Arizona Plumbing and Cooling Contractors (APACC) is a soon-to-be-launched business, advertising and marketing initiative for the 469, membership and contractors in the service industry. The toll-free telephone number and Web site will aim to attract potential consumers to our quality services in the residential market. The United Association National Residential Agreement will be another key piece to service success. Please contact me for any questions about the program.

Light commercial/commercial

The market is very slow right now and the few jobs bidding have numerous contractors turning in numbers that are very low dollar.

The downturn will not last forever and keeping our integrity and quality up will pay off in the long run.

Finally, for those of you interested in passing along some of your pipe trades skills to the next generation, we have a great opportunity with the **Boy Scouts of America**. For **Plumbing, American Labor, and Home Repair** merit badges, the Boys Scouts are looking for **instructors who can help scouts earn their badges** in these areas. To volunteer, please contact me at 602.956.9350 or mingwaldson@ualocal469.org.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer!

New Opportunities... *continued*

the many projects this invaluable tool has helped secure, I would like to address one in particular – **Phoenix Children’s Hospital**. This project was secured with the assistance of the MRP by **University Mechanical** in December 2007 and I cannot imagine Local 469 not taking the opportunity to step up and assist on this job. It would be a tough pill to swallow in this economic climate to drive by this large project and know the work went to our competition. By having the vision to fund your MRP, this job provides a great example of what investing in your future truly means.

New ventures to adjust to tough markets

Besides wage subsidization, the MRP has been extremely successful in “branding” the local and our contractors throughout Arizona. Currently, we are in the process of launching a

huge marketing campaign to establish ourselves in the highly lucrative residential service markets, both plumbing and HVAC. The new endeavor has been aptly named **Arizona Plumbing and Cooling Contractors, or APACC**. APACC will be marketed as a 24/7-service association of top-notch, quality contractors who employ a professional, efficient and certified workforce.

The Web site for APACC should go live by mid-August, with multiple advertisements rotating on 620KTAR, not only during the Diamondbacks and Cardinals games, but throughout each and every day. You also will find APACC linked to the Web sites of 469, PIPE, the JAC, along with a strong presence in phone books, both printed and online and other electronic venues such as Twitter, YouTube, and any other emerging technologies developing in the marketplace.

I would like to thank each of our

contractors who have made the commitment to dedicate resources to this extremely important program, and I am sure the results will exceed our expectations.

So, when you find yourself in need of a residential service contractor, just call APACC at 1-877-58-APACC, or to learn more, visit www.KeepArizonaCool.org or www.PlumbingArizona.org.

Labor Day at the Ballpark

In closing, I would like to remind everyone to join us at **Chase Field on Labor Day**, September 7 for our 469/PIPE day at the ballpark (see page 12 for details). The D’backs will host the Dodgers this year and the tickets are free. To date, we hold the record for the largest single-day purchase by one group at Chase Field. Let’s break our own record and show our support for our hometown team! See you there!

Tucson Reception brings together contractors, members and local elected officials

On June 30, the 469 sponsored a first-of-its-kind gathering to celebrate partnerships and build new relationships in southern Arizona.

Held at the historic Hotel Congress in downtown Tucson, attendees enjoyed food and camaraderie while taking the opportunity to discuss industry and workforce issues with local elected decision makers.

Special thanks go out to everyone who attended, including the following representatives from 469 contractor partners:

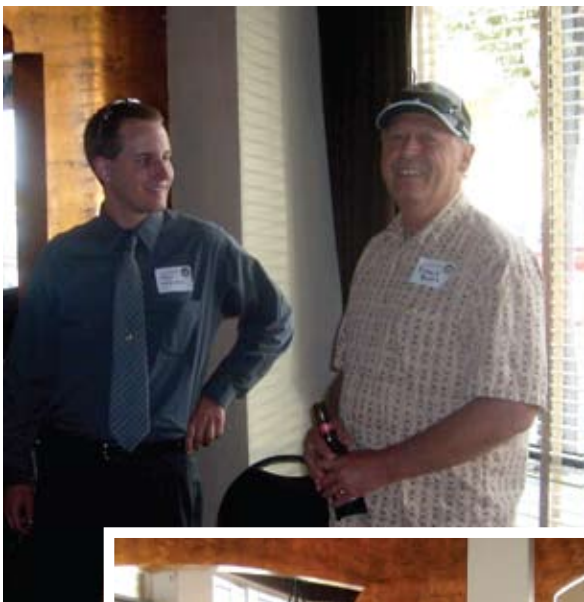
- Shorty Allison, APCON Construction Co.
- Richard Bettis, Pipe Systems, Inc.
- Michael Collins, Plumb Happy
- Jeff and George Michels, Comfort Control Corp.
- Dan Naylor, Kinetics
- Gary Schulte, S & S Air Conditioning
- Brad Thornton, University Mechanical
- Carl T. Triphahn from W.J. Maloney



Tucson City Council Member Karin Uhlich discusses issues with participants



Tucson City Council Member Rodney Glassman meets reception attendees



Attendees enjoy food and conversation at the Hotel Congress in Tucson



Business Manager Phil McNally and Tucson City Council Member Nina Trasoff



Left to right – Business Representative Larry Abril, 469 Consultant Israel Torres, Tucson City Council Member Nina Trasoff and Brad Thornton, UMEC



South Tucson Councilman Charlie Salaz and 2008 469-endorsed legislative candidate Andrea Delassandro



Sahuarita Town Council Member Rosanna Gabaldon and Richard Bettis, Pipe Systems, Inc.



Thanks to everyone who attended and made this inaugural event such a success!

469 donation keeps school cool for inner-city kids

Giving back to the community is a priority for Local 469 – whether it is hosting a charity golf tournament for the Arizona Transplant House, a scholarship fundraiser or sponsoring events that promote the union’s community and public policy interests.

Keeping with this tradition, Local 469 contributed \$10,000 to make replacements and upgrades to the ailing HVAC system at Phoenix

Advantage Charter School, a school that serves inner-city Phoenix children. The school conducts year-round classes, including summer school. Two critical rooms in the building – a classroom and the cafeteria – were not being cooled sufficiently, causing major operational problems for teachers and students alike.

Local 469 recognizes the importance of a quality education for the kids in our community, and a big part of this is a functional and comfortable learning environment. Thanks to everyone involved who helped make this school a better place for the students to learn and thrive!



The happy (and cooler!) faces of Phoenix Advantage students



469 Business Manager Phil McNally presents a check for the HVAC upgrades to (left to right) school administrators Kristen Jordin and Jack Rowe, along with Michael Harrel.



469 Political Action Computer Training

The 469 Political Action Committee (PAC) brings its computer training session to Tucson:

10 – 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept., 9
Tucson Training Center
610 W. Rillito St., Tucson

The PAC’s Online Legislative Alert Center is easy to use and just a few “mouse clicks” away! The PAC will hold a straightforward workshop on how to use this resource, which will keep you up to date on what is happening that could effect your retirement, your job and your family. If you don’t have an e-mail address, we will set you up with one and teach you how to use it.

Call Lauren Harmon, Torres Consulting & Law Group, at 602.626.8805 to sign up, or send e-mail to Lauren@thetorresfirm.com.

CONTRACTOR CORNER

Building Information Modeling and Pipe Systems, Inc. – a winning combination

Richard Bettis, a 469 member and a small business owner, is president of Pipe Systems, Inc., a 469 signatory contractor. Bettis and his company, by using Auto CAD, a technology called **Building Information Modeling (BIM)** and other state-of-the-art software, are at the forefront of the technology curve on their projects.

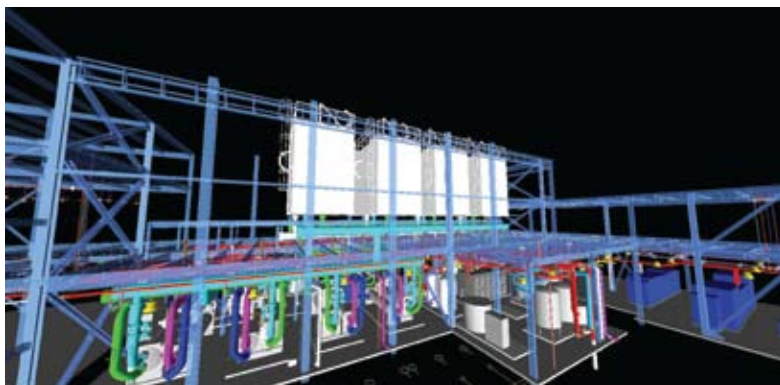
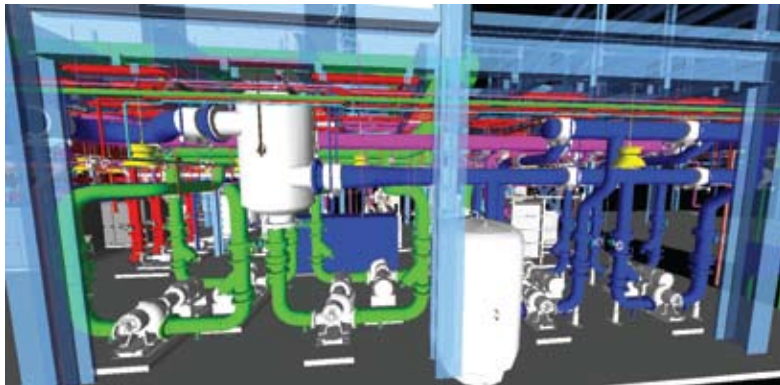
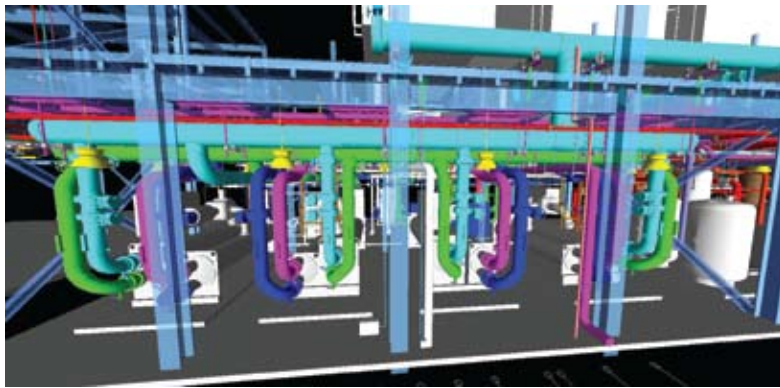
Pipe Systems, Inc. has worked on four major projects with UA 469. The most recent one is the **central plant at Casino Arizona**, located on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community near Scottsdale at the 101 Freeway and Via de Ventura Blvd.

The central plant services the heating and cooling system for the entire Casino Arizona facility, and an immense amount of pipe was needed for this project in a small area – approximately 212 by 75 feet. The Local 469, working for its contractor partner Kinetics, installed four boilers, four chillers, soft water skids and a reverse osmosis system in the central plant.

Bettis took on the project with engineering drawings and turned it into a three-dimensional model. Using the 3D modeling made it possible to see how everything worked together for fabricating the pipe and installing it. It made it possible to coordinate with other trades to make sure that everybody was on the same page, anticipate any issues or conflicts that may arise, and ensure that everything is installed per the model. No project ever goes perfectly, but the issues

that did arise during the duration of the project were easily anticipated, assessed and corrected using the 3D modeling.

BIM takes **quality assurance** to a new level. By utilizing the 3D model, all crafts can see the parts put together and make any changes necessary before the plans are printed.



This not only saves on ordering supplies – it also **saves the time and painstaking effort** it requires to revise hard copies of the drawings.

Because Richard was a union pipe-fitter for 30 years and has first-hand knowledge of the installation, welding, cutting and placement of pipe materials, his experience is extremely beneficial for these projects. He has been doing CAD work for 10 years and

his expertise in producing drawings for the field and pipe fabrication has proven valuable, as well.

BIM is what makes the difference, according to Bettis. Using this technology has been so successful because it reduces time spent in the field, with minimal questions regarding exactly what needs to be fabricated for a project. Due to its **real-time and computer-based way of operating**, any problems that arise in the field are usually solved through a quick telephone conversation with the people on site.

It is also helpful when ordering materials, as Pipe Systems, Inc. can produce a complete list of necessary materials at the onset. The materials are then ordered and checked against the model or drawings to ensure all is correct.

Pipe Systems Inc. claims it has generated a 100 percent collision free model of the mechanical and plumbing systems by coordinating with the electricians, ductwork and fire protection. As a result, when the model is assembled, it is **highly accurate**. Although human error can play a part when gathering and inputting

information, using BIM renders it much easier to make changes and plan ahead for the successful construction of a project.

Company Information:

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Mobile: 602-684-6048
richard@pipesystemsinc.net

“Back to the drawing board” – a better way to produce fab drawings

Local 469 member and journeyman Ed Jordan knew there was a better way to produce fabrication drawings. In his view, the old wooden boards used to create isometric drawings (for piping, plumbing and electrical fabrication drawings) definitely needed improvements.

Putting ingenuity to work, Ed trademarked his name and developed the idea for an improved drawing board about four years ago. After making a few prototype boards, he created a design that vastly enhances the function of drawing boards. Now, this innovative product is known as the AZLyte Drawing Board.

These made-in-the-USA boards are lightweight – less than two pounds – and made of aluminum. Available in eight anodized colors, this new product is certified for use in clean room

environments. The boards are equipped to hold 11” by 17” paper. For quantities of 12 or more drawing boards, they can be laser etched with a company name.

Company Information:

AZLyte Drawing Boards
Ed Jordan
602.524.9986
Azlyte@live.com
www.azlyte.com



P.I.P.E. Labor Day at Chase Field

Order your free Diamondback tickets now!

Monday, September 7, 2009 at 12:40 PM

Celebrate Labor Day by watching the Arizona Diamondbacks play the Los Angeles Dodgers! This event is to honor and thank the union crafts people and contractors who have dedicated themselves to putting the unionized skilled labor miles above the rest!

Free tickets are available to members and their families by contacting Cathy Mayeux at P.I.P.E., 480.966.0377 or cmayeux@pipetrust.org

**** All tickets are located on the Lower Level ****

EDUCATIONAL *insights*

Arizona Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Training Center



Skills USA 2009

by Mike Wall, training director

The 2009 Skills USA held this spring was a resounding success! PIPE, Local 469, and Arizona Apprenticeship were proud to be sponsors of the welding and plumbing portion of the competition.

Special thanks to competition organizers, judges and participants, who all helped make this a great year for Skills USA in Arizona!



TRUST FUND UPDATE

On The Benefit Front

by Harry Auston, account manager

New status reports mailed to members

Members recently should have received the new **Monthly Status Report**, reflecting their past year's eligibility history in the Health Plan. The report also includes the Total Credited Service in your pension account and balances in the Defined Contribution and HRA accounts up to the previous month-end receipts.

If you are not receiving this report and you participate in the Health & Welfare Fund, please contact the Fund Office to ensure we have a correct address.

Keep your address current

Defined Contribution statements were mailed to all participants with a valid address on file. Unfortunately, many statements could not be mailed due to incorrect addresses. If you believe you have a balance available in your Defined Contribution account, and did not receive a statement, please call the Administrative Office with your correct address.

Members can opt for electronic resources and notifications

Members soon will receive a mailer with a postage-paid reply envelope containing a preference card for receiving a new PPO directory, identification cards, or other hard copy material.

Additionally, if you wish to receive future Administrative Office mailings via e-mail, please check the box that indicates this and include your e-mail address. By indicating this preference, you will receive announcements and statements by e-mail.

Finally, please use this card to provide us with suggestion, comment, or concern you may have.

Get what you need...online!

The Trust Fund Web site, at www.azpipe.org, is a valuable online resource. On the site, members can review benefit issues and obtain printouts of most any form or document. The link to the Administrative Office provides access to your **medical claim history** and status as well as your **current balance and activity in your HRA account**.

If you have not already done so, sign onto the medical Web site at www.fringebenefitsonline.com, set up your secure user account and access claim information, request identification cards or update your medical coverage. You may also ask a question or leave a message by signing onto your user account and selecting the "send a message" tab. A benefits specialist generally will contact you within two working days of your message.

Please direct your **benefit 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 to whom you wish to speak.

Get Your 469 News Via E-mail!

You can sign up **four** ways:

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

Torres Consulting

ATTN: Lauren Harmon
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 lauren@thetorresfirm.com.

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

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.

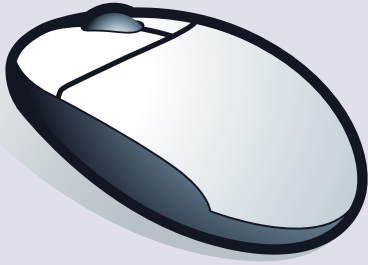
Sign up below!

Name _____

E-mail Address _____

Telephone _____

On The Benefit Front



Arizona Pipe Trades Website Redesigned

The Arizona Pipe Trades website has a great new look! Check it out at www.ualocal469.org. Here are a few of the features you can look for in the new website:

- We've expanded some sections, such as the Political Action segment, so that all past newsletters can be posted.
- The redesigned site uses the new 469 logo and truly reflects the state-wide nature of our local union.
- The old Training Center website (pipetrades.org) will be coming down, as the Training Center now has its own section within the main UA Local 469 website for news, events, and a photo gallery. There is even a new Pipe Trades YouTube channel of all training-related videos!
- The new website also has a new retirees section for news, photos, and events.

Make sure you check the website often for news, information, updates, and events!

EAP PREFERRED

Free Confidential Counseling for Members and Their Families

Arizona Pipe Trades Health & Welfare Trust Fund has long offered members and their families an excellent benefit – an **Employee/Member Assistance Program**. The program is absolutely free and totally confidential; while the Fund pays all costs of the program, it does not receive any information about who uses it or why. This option can provide you and your family counseling for many of life's challenges, including stress, anxiety, depression, family issues, and substance abuse.

The program is managed by EAP Preferred of Phoenix. Call them directly at **602.264.4600** or **1.800.327.3517**, and press **extension 2** to discuss your needs and make free, private appointments with their therapists. The program includes

up to six free counseling sessions per problem per year, meaning that a person can receive up to six sessions for one issue and then later receive up to six other sessions for a different need at no extra cost.

EAP Preferred has clinics in Central Phoenix, Mesa, Paradise Valley/Scottsdale, and Tempe with a staff of licensed therapists. If their office locations are not convenient for you, EAP Preferred has **hundreds of other licensed therapists** throughout Maricopa County, all of Arizona and the country.

With the ongoing economic crisis, the Employee/Member Assistance Program has had a significant increase with stress, marital and substance abuse problems. Please inform your family (household) members about the program and that they can use it as they need.

Arizona Pipe Trades Health & Welfare Trust Fund wants to help you to help yourself and your family.

ARIZONA PIPE TRADES TRUST FUNDS Toll Free: 1-877-429-7473 Important Information

Department	Extension	Name
Employer Reports	4308	Nikki Schutt
Reciprocity	4316	Susan Duval
Medical Claims	4410	Char Hollands
	4409	Pam Walker
Pension Questions	4317	Mickey Palmore
Self-Pay	4311	Jean Vega
Eligibility	4316	Susan Duval
Harry	4301	
Tom	4302	
Bob Gerken	4310	
Tim Sielaff	4309	Reciprocity Research
Denise Marshall	4303	Claims Manager

Fax: 303-429-1359

E-mail: tlaake@fringeinc.com

Website: www.fringebenefitsonline.com

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



Nonprofit
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Phoenix, AZ

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	_____