Putting wins to work

Last year, we were able to use the strength of our Political Action Committee (PAC) to forge relationships with key decision makers. This year is the time to capitalize on our political relationships to protect and advance 469 interests in Arizona.

Seats at the table

The city of Phoenix recently launched the Ad Hoc Taskforce to review construction permitting, inspections and the general effectiveness of city government. Due to the PAC’s strategic political relationships at Phoenix City Hall, 469 Business Representatives Mel Ingwaldson and Chris Van Kirk were appointed to the Development Process Ad Hoc Committee, and five additional seats were also granted to fellow trade groups. Having multiple representatives appointed to the taskforce is paramount, as the decisions made by the taskforce will directly affect the plumbing and pipefitting industry.

As Local 469 is building visibility for the Arizona Pipe Trades in Phoenix, it is also busy in Tucson. Due to the 469 PAC’s effort in the 2011 Tucson city elections, we have a mayor and council that support Local 469. Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild and Tucson Councilmember Regina Romero helped appoint Local 469 Business Representative Aaron Butler and Jason McDonald of Torres Consulting and Law Group to the Tucson Local Jobs Taskforce, allowing us to build visibility for organized labor and increase our political relevance throughout southern Arizona.

The Tucson City Council tasked the Local Jobs Taskforce to determine methods to protect construction workers living in Tucson by creating a process that would encourage contractors that build city projects to hire a certain percentage of workers from the local area. Local 469 supports this effort. It is my goal to see more of our brothers and sisters in Tucson obtain more job opportunities near their homes.

The PAC’s work in Tucson and Phoenix protects our interests across the state by educating key decision makers about the Arizona Pipe Trades. Each political relationship we cultivate through the PAC allows our Local to promote the results of our highly skilled labor. Furthermore, it provides an extra layer of protection against anti-union zealots.

Lawmaking attacks on unions

This year, major policy battles are occurring at the legislature, with numerous interest
Local 469 is putting its 2011 election wins to work to help level the jobs playing field in Arizona.

Recently, Local 469 capitalized on its relationships with Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton, Councilmen Michael Nowakowski and Daniel Valenzuela for nominations on the Phoenix Development Process Ad Hoc Taskforce. The taskforce is comprised of a Steering Committee and several subcommittees that review construction permitting, inspections and the general effectiveness of city government.

Our PAC worked diligently with Mayor Stanton and Councilman Valenzuela to ensure that we have representation, as well as five of our trade union allies, on the taskforce. Local 469 Business Representatives Mel Ingwaldson and Chris Van Kirk were appointed seats on two of the taskforce subcommittees.

Van Kirk is a member of the Commercial Subcommittee, which oversees topics pertaining to city inspectors, planning and zoning processes, utility coordination, development cost and fees, and all commercial planning reviews.

Ingwaldson was appointed to the Residential Subcommittee, which oversees topics pertaining to city renovations, inspectors, planning and zoning processes, utility coordination, development cost and fees, and all residential planning reviews.

The taskforce is important for our industry, since the decisions it makes will directly affect our members’ work environment.

The efforts conducted by the 469 PAC in Tucson 2011 city elections also helped us gain a seat on the City of Tucson Local Jobs Taskforce. Tucson is exploring the possibility of requiring 30 percent of any workforce on a Tucson Capital Improvement project be comprised of Pima County workers. The percentage would increase the following year to 40 percent with a maximum of 50 percent in the fifth and subsequent years.

In an effort to consider the perspectives of affected parties in our community, the city has formed a stakeholder group. The PAC worked strategically with Mayor Jonathan Rothschild and Councilwoman Regina Romero to appoint Local 469 Business Representative Aaron Butler and Torres Consulting and Law Group Government Relations Account Executive Jason McDonald as active members of the group. Butler will work with construction firms to promote the use of qualified local labor on public works projects, and ultimately promote and secure Tucson work for our Local.

Our growing representation in Phoenix and Tucson is a major stride in defending the livelihoods of our members. This is only the beginning; the 469 PAC is actively building relationships with city councils across the state to elevate our Local’s voice and protect our rights throughout Arizona.
Legislative Field Trip

Every year, the Arizona Pipe Trades 469 PAC conducts a legislative field trip to the Arizona Capitol. The tour of the Capitol helps members better understand how the legislative process works, as well as provides members the opportunity to spend time with their elected officials. This year’s tour was hosted by 469-endorsed Rep. Lela Alston (LD 15), and 469’s Arizona Senator of the Year (2011) Sen. Steve Gallardo (LD 13).

Rep. Alston provided 469 members a tour of the Arizona House of Representatives. During the tour, Rep. Alston recounted her history at the Legislature, her life as a teacher and her deep-seeded union roots. Rep. Alston also allowed members a viewing of the “gallery,” where she explained how ideas turn into laws and answered questions about current legislation making its way through the Legislature.

After touring the House of Representatives, 469 members headed to the Arizona Senate where they met Sen. Steve Gallardo. Even after being elected to the Legislature, Sen. Gallardo is still a proud, dues-paying, union member of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). After a brief introduction, the Senator led the group to a hearing room where bills are initially heard. Followed by a tour of the Democratic Caucus room, where the legislators discuss and get better acquainted with bills before deciding how they will individually vote for each piece of legislation.

After an informative tour with Rep. Alston and Sen. Gallardo, the members were joined by several other legislators for lunch, including Rep. and Minority Whip Anna Tovar (LD 13), Rep. Lynne Pancrazi (LD 24) and Sen. Paula Aboud (LD 28).

Members gather at the Capitol for a private tour.

The members of Local 469 were able to gain access to restricted areas of the Arizona Legislature.
The 469 PAC held its 4th Annual Lunch on the Capitol Lawn at the Arizona Legislature in March. Members from across Arizona visited the Capitol and spoke with legislators about issues important to Local 469 and Arizona working families. Both Democrat and Republican lawmakers came out to grab a burger after a long day of researching, debating and voting on legislation. Hundreds of lawmakers, staff and 469 members, including retirees, apprentices and contractors participated in the event. Legislators were eager to learn more about private-sector unions. Lunch on the Lawn allowed 469 members to educate legislators about the piping industry and 469’s state-of-the-art training program.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped organize the event, grill food and serve hundreds of attendees. Your help and participation made this a successful event!

Lunch on the Lawn attracted many state employees wishing to learn more about the trade.

(Right to left) Local 469 Training Director Rick Wieting shakes hands with Rep. Tom Chabin after inviting him to tour the JAC and witness the rigorous training Local 469 apprentices undergo.

(Left to right) Rep. Lela Alston, House Minority Leader Chad Campbell, Rep. Eric Meyer and Rep. Lynne Pancrazi show their support for local labor by spending their lunchtime with 469 members.

Local 469 Business Representative Rick Hudson met with Rep. Katie Hobbs to discuss some of the issues that impact the plumbing and pipefitting industry.

(Left to right) Local 469 Business Representative Aaron Butler exchanges greetings with Rep. Bruce Wheeler before discussing current and upcoming legislation.
groups using their political capital to push their agendas. Countless anti-union extremists are forging agendas aimed at crippling and inhibiting the political activities of their opposition.

Public-sector unions are at the forefront of this year’s legislative political battles. January marked the launch of several legislative attempts to strip the rights of firefighters, teachers, nurses and other public-service workers. Senate Bills (SB) 1484, 1485, 1486, and 1487 are just a few of this year’s blatant political attacks. As we support the efforts of our union brothers and sisters, we must also remain vigilant for potential attacks against private-sector unions like Local 469.

The anti-union bills clearly focus on weakening union membership by introducing hurdles that will impede a union’s ability to make its collective voice heard. The anti-worker bills are distinct deterrents to organized labor’s efforts to protect its members’ rights. The bills also impede workers’ constitutional privileges to freedom of speech, representation and association. If allowed to pass, the bills will leave the Arizona Pipe Trades exposed to similar assaults.

Our Local could face comparable political attacks next year, making it difficult for labor groups to protect the right to earn decent wages for a fair day’s work. However, the 469 PAC is working hard to protect 469 working families from similar blatant assaults. Every year, our PAC is becoming more organized and influential, allowing us to advance the 469 political agenda and goals across Arizona.

Let us continue our momentum into Tempe elections and have it last throughout 2012 fall elections! Members, please continue to support the 469 PAC, and help the Arizona Pipe Trades defeat our opponents and promote our positive vision for the future.

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**Gallardo and Gallego Named Top Legislators by Local 469**

Each year, the Arizona Pipe Trades presents the Legislator of the Year Award to a member from each chamber of the Legislature who has substantially assisted in the advancement of our statewide policy initiatives.

This year’s recipients of the Local 469 Legislator of the Year Award are Arizona State Sen. Steve Gallardo (District 13) and Arizona State Rep. Ruben Gallego (District 16).

When the PAC endorsed the candidacy of both legislative representatives, they each pledged to introduce or support legislation or amendments that advance our legislative goals. In 2011, despite an uphill climb with opposition, both legislators continued to demonstrate their commitment to uphold Local 469’s interests.

Gallardo: “The current Legislature wants to take the opportunity to be represented collectively away from unions. We, pro-worker legislators, are saying ‘No.’ We will not let bad legislation bust organizations like Local 469 and prevent them from representing hard workers who are making our economy a success.”

Gallego: “I will continue fighting for UA Local 469 and for every other union and every other working family in Arizona… I will do whatever it takes to ensure that our working families continue to have the benefits and job opportunities that they need.”

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**Business Manager’s 469 PAC Report continued from front cover**
After a rigorous endorsement process, the Arizona Pipe Trades 469 endorsed the following candidates for Tempe mayor and city council. All candidates running in Tempe were given an opportunity to fill out a questionnaire regarding their position on unions and their commitment to working families across Arizona. Those who replied went through a rigorous interviewing process with the 469 PAC. The candidates below were selected for their support of working families and their willingness to advance policies that will help the members of Local 469 and their families.

Endorsed Tempe candidates include Councilmember Mark Mitchell running for mayor, and Councilmember Corey Woods and Dick Foreman running for city council.

The primary elections were held on March 13 and we are proud to announce the re-election of Councilman Corey Woods. Councilman Mark Mitchell and Dick Foreman will advance to the run-off election on May 15!

Councilman Mark Mitchell running for Tempe mayor
“I support the use of Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) for private and public projects. For generations, PLAs have been a fair way to ensure a skilled labor pool for projects, fair wages and more hiring from local communities. They also reduce conflicts between labor and management.”

Councilman Corey Woods, re-elected to the Tempe City Council
“Our residents deserve to have the highest quality workers on job sites. By having workers on-site who have the proper experience, bonding and certification, the city council, staff and residents will be comforted by knowing that the job will be done right the first time.”

Dick Foreman running for Tempe City Council
“I cannot imagine restricting my assessment of a bid to just the low bid. Low bids sometimes come with high costs. I am a life cycle thinker by nature and will always want to see more data that ensures the best taxpayer investment over the term of the project, not just the opening bell.”

To find out more about your legislative or congressional district and 469-endorsed candidates, visit PAC Pulse (469PACPulse.com) for all the latest information. Navigation is simple; starting from the home page, scroll down and click on “Stay Informed,” click on the link that reads “Action E-List,” fill out the attached confidential form, and finish by clicking “submit.”
469 PAC volunteers kicked off the volunteer season by walking door-to-door for endorsed candidates in Tempe. Mayoral candidate Councilman Mark Mitchell, along with Councilman Corey Woods, proudly wore the “I support the PAC” orange shirts and spoke about the issues they care about and why it was important to volunteer.

In a surprise appearance, former Congressman Harry Mitchell attended in support of Tempe candidates and spoke to the volunteers about the importance of voting. To see a video of this event, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ArizonaPipeTrades469.

Thanks to the efforts of the Arizona Pipe Trades volunteers, we delivered literature to more than 2,000 households for endorsed candidates. There will be many more volunteer opportunities for members to get involved with the 469 PAC, so stay tuned!

“There’s going to be an election whether people vote in it or not. Someone is going to be elected. Those people who do vote have a higher influence on who will win.”
– Former Arizona Congressman, Harry Mitchell

Local 469 PAC volunteers gear up for a weekend campaign push in support of pro-worker candidates.

(Left to right) Councilman Mark Mitchell, former Arizona Congressman Harry Mitchell, 469 Business Representative Rick Hudson and newly re-elected Councilman Corey Woods proudly display their “I support the PAC” orange shirts.

Eighty million wage and salary workers belong to a union. That is more voting power than the membership of PETA, the Sierra Club, MoveOn.org, the Heritage Foundation, Americans for Prosperity, and FreedomWorks combined. — U.S. Labor and Statistics

The 469 Political Action Committee (PAC) provides an opportunity for 469 members to collectively elect pro-worker candidates, who are supportive of our interests and will fight for issues that are important to 469 working families.
In 2011, the Arizona Pipe Trades 469 enjoyed an unprecedented year of success in city elections. The increased volunteerism of our members allowed us to strengthen and expand the efforts of our PAC, amplifying our voice in Arizona politics. The support of our volunteers has gone a long way in developing the Local’s political influence and educating elected officials about the needs of Arizona’s working families. The hard work of PAC volunteers helped elect key candidates to office.

To thank our volunteers for all their hard work during the last election cycle, we held a Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony at the 469 Annual Family Picnic. We recognized our 2011 volunteers of the year, gave out awards and celebrated the political achievements of our PAC!

Congratulations to Rick Hudson and Timothy Hegg for receiving the 2011 Volunteer of the Year and 2011 Apprentice Volunteer of the Year awards! Both of them showed great commitment to the 469 PAC by volunteering at multiple PAC events. They walked door-to-door, dropping off campaign literature for endorsed candidates and advocating for Arizona Pipe Trades 469.

Candidates understand that the support of Arizona Pipe Trades 469 translates into an army of volunteers, who are willing to walk door-to-door dropping off literature, pounding signs into the ground and so much more!

There will be lots of volunteer opportunities in 2012. If you would like to volunteer for the 469 PAC, please contact Feruza Amanova at Torres Consulting and Law Group at 602.626.8805 or send email to feruza@thetorresfirm.com.

**Volunteer Appreciation**

**Volunteer Spotlight: Timothy Hegg and Rick Hudson**

**Why do you think it’s important to support the PAC?**

 Somebody’s got to step up to the plate and do what’s right. I know that our hall needs our help to get our name out there and let people know who we are. We need to support candidates that are going to help us.

**Why should other members volunteer?**

What goes around, comes around. We help them [469 endorsed candidates], they help us. Hopefully this will lead to more work.

**What does it mean to you to be a union plumber or pipefitter?**

I am proud to be a union member. It means better wages and benefits. I am proud of who I work for, where I work, what we build and how it looks when we stand back and look at it.

**If you had a couple of minutes with an elected official, what would you want to say to them?**

Local 469 supports families. Everybody working through the Local is working for their family.

- Timothy Hegg, Local 469 Apprentice.

**Why do you think it’s important to support the PAC?**

It’s important because we need political leaders to support labor and what we stand for.

**Why should other members volunteer?**

We need everyone to volunteer. Volunteers are working towards one goal, which is more achievable if everyone helps out.

**What do you like most about volunteering?**

Last year was a very successful year thanks to our volunteers, which felt great. I like interacting with people and talking to the younger generation. Unless the younger generation gets involved, their voices will not be heard and their opinions will not matter. They have got to get involved.

**If you had a couple of minutes with an elected official, what would you want to say to them?**

The trade is invaluable to the public. We’re about safety, superior knowledge of the trade, new technology and so much more.

- Rick Hudson, Local 469 Business Representative.
The Arizona Pipe Trades 469 strives to make its members a relevant voting bloc, so candidates running for office will want to seek our endorsement. Therefore, it is especially important for 469 members to increase their activity in local politics. Our members must make their voices heard by voting!

**Voting is a way to speak your mind and let your voice be heard**

Your vote is your voice.

When we vote, we are actually telling elected officials and lawmakers how we feel about jobs, education, public safety, social security, health care, and other important issues.

**Every vote counts**

Remember, there is power in numbers! Only when we vote and are able to motivate our family members to vote, can we truly make a difference. If you do not vote for what you believe in, others will and you may not like the outcome.

**Vote to effect change**

Voting is our chance to make a difference in our own lives and our community. Through elections, we have the power to elect officials who will act as our champions for union rights, including living wages and fair benefits.

**Voting gives you credibility!**

Often times, we voice our concerns to elected officials, however if they see we are not proactive voters, our concerns may go unnoticed because we have not shown that we have an active presence at the polls. Each member’s vote adds to the credibility of our Local and shows we have the power to turn the electoral tide in a candidate’s favor. This, in turn, makes the concerns of our members a top priority for lawmakers.

We encourage all of our members to sign up for the Permanent Early Voting List (PEVL) by re-registering to vote and choosing to automatically receive early ballots for each election for which they are eligible. Your ballot will be mailed to you for every election, making your civic duty easy and convenient.

**Voter Registration**

“Voting is easy and convenient! It’s patriotic and responsible! You must make your voice be heard!”

Voting is a way to speak your mind and let your voice be heard! Your vote is your voice.

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**Voter Information**

Spring city elections are on their way! Make sure to make your vote count.

The following cities will hold elections for mayor and/or city council this Spring. Make sure to check if your city is holding elections and vote for the folks who will represent you best!

If you are not registered to vote, simply go to [https://servicearizona.com/webapp/evoter/](https://servicearizona.com/webapp/evoter/) or call 1-877-THE VOTE (843-8683) for more information.

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**REMEMBER TO VOTE!**

**ON MAY 15 IN SELECT CITIES**
The Arizona Pipe Trades 469 is endorsing candidates in Arizona. As part of our endorsement process, we inform and educate the candidates about our trade by providing tours of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Center (JAC). The tours allow the candidates to develop a deeper understanding about the trade in an effort to break old stereotypes they might have about pipe trades professionals.

This year, we held tours for endorsed Tempe candidates, as well as elected officials in the Arizona Legislature. When elected officials first heard about the tours, they could not wait to see the training facility. Rep. Ruben Gallego, the Arizona Pipe Trades 469 Representative of the Year (see page 6), was eager to see the training facility firsthand and learn more about the expertise of our members. After leading a tour of the Legislature (see page 3), Rep. Lela Alston toured the Joint Apprenticeship Training Center, where the finest plumbers and pipefitters in the state learned their trade.

Tempe Councilman Mark Mitchell, who is running for mayor, Councilman Corey Woods, who just won re-election in the March 13 primary, and Dick Foreman, also running for city council, have also seen the training facility and learned for the first time about the amount of highly technical skills and knowledge required to be a successful plumber or pipefitter.

While touring the facility, the candidates noted that our apprenticeship program offers an unparalleled career pathway, suiting individuals with valuable skills that will lead to good jobs with high wages and comprehensive benefits. The tour was an eye-opening experience for the candidates, allowing them to see that 469 offers a one-of-a-kind technical training program that can teach the skills needed to survive in a tough economy.

No other training facility has a more comprehensive curriculum, state-of-the-art equipment or opportunities for on-the-job training than the JAC, and everyone who toured was highly impressed by the facility and curriculum that the apprentices receive in the classrooms and on the job.

As companies expand in Arizona, they will demand skilled tradespeople to safely and accurately install medical gas pipes, heating, air conditioning and plumbing systems. Elected officials and candidates running for office are starting to understand that a skilled labor force is integral to attracting highly technical jobs that will jump-start Arizona’s economy.

Newly re-elected Tempe Councilman Corey Woods receives a special behind-the-scenes look at the high-tech equipment used at the JAC.
Have you ever wondered…

How does the PAC benefit Local 469 members?

The enclosed PAC Reference Card addresses why a Political Action Committee is necessary.

PAC Reference Card enclosed