Winter 2010

469 Political Action Committee: A New Year

Phil McNally, Business Manager

Happy New Year to everyone and welcome to the winter 2010 edition of the 469 PAC newsletter!

The 469 Political Action Committee (PAC) is ramping up and getting ready for an active election year. I am encouraged by the PAC’s success in 2009 and I am certain we will continue to build partnerships and influence public policy.

A good example of last year’s success was the Tucson and Phoenix city council elections. The PAC endorsed six candidates and gave them the “469 bump” in the polls. Out of the six candidates we endorsed, five won their elections! Now we know there are five more city council members in the state who understand the issues of the Arizona Pipe Trades.

This year has already shown some promise – last month, I served as a witness along side our consultant Israel Torres, at the Arizona Corporation Commission Line Siting hearing on Hualapai Valley Solar (HVS) in Kingman. I was very concerned that the jobs created by this $2.1 billion project would end up in the hands of out-of-state, non-union labor.

Based on our testimony and presentation at the hearings, the committee decided to place requirements on HVS to commence negotiations to enter into a model construction agreement with the Arizona Building Trades council. This will help ensure that most of the workforce for this project is from Mohave County and Arizona! This was a big win for our members and I will keep you posted on how this process continues, as there are more hearings and decisions to be made on this project.

As we continue our momentum this year, I urge all of you to get involved. There are a number of opportunities to volunteer and attend PAC events. To learn more, call Jason McDonald at 602.626.8805 or send an e-mail to jason@thetorresfirm.com.

I would like to thank everyone who made the PAC successful in 2009 and I look forward to an even more productive 2010!

Get Involved in Your PAC’s Upcoming Activities!

Thursday, March 4, 10:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. . Second Lunch on the State Capitol Lawn, 1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix

Wednesday, March 24, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. . . . Field Trip and Legislative Training at the State Capitol, meet 469 Hall, 3109 N. 24th St., Phoenix

Wednesday, April 15, 10-11:30 a.m. . . . . . . . PAC E-mail and Computer Training, Apprenticeship Training Center, 2950 W. Thomas Road, Phoenix

Sunday, July 25, Noon – 2 p.m. . . . . . . . . . . Yavapai County Democrats Annual Picnic (469 BBQ)

For more details about these events, view the complete event list on page three.
Legislator of the Year: Pat Fleming

About Pat Fleming
Local 469 presented Arizona State Representative Pat Fleming (District 25, Sierra Vista) with its first Legislator of the Year honor at the annual Retirees Christmas Luncheon. Rep. Fleming received the highest performance score of all PAC-endorsed Arizona Legislators.
Rep. Fleming has voted consistently for legislation that promotes job creation, smart development and healthy families. Despite taking state office for the first time in 2008, she has already demonstrated real leadership and a desire to make real, positive change in Arizona.

Fleming recognizes common goals, values
In her comments at the luncheon, Rep. Fleming recognized the 469 for creating a safer work environment, top-notch pipe trades training and livable wages for its members, as well as quality construction in Arizona. “Thank you,” she said, “for what you’ve done to make sure the buildings and homes where we live and work are safe, due to your quality craftsmanship.” She went on to reaffirm her support for the working families of Local 469.
Rep. Fleming shared her appreciation of the importance of 469’s second-to-none apprenticeship program, long history of looking out for its members, and the strides we have made in providing safe, well paying jobs in Arizona. She left everyone in the room proud to have an elected official who cares so much for working families.

469-endorsed City Council members begin terms

- Tucson City Councilmember Karin Uhlich (Ward III)
Tucson City Councilmember Karin Uhlich won her seat for another term in a very tight race. Close races like this show just how important it is to get involved and vote in every election.

- Tucson City Councilmember Richard Fimbres (Ward V)
Tucson City Councilmember Fimbres won his first city council bid with 53 percent of the vote. The PAC looks forward to working closely with him to support Tucson’s working families.

- Phoenix City Councilmember Tom Simplot (District 4)
Phoenix City Councilmember Simplot won re-election in September with well over the 50 percent needed to avoid a run-off. The PAC looks forward to working with the councilmember as he begins his third term on the city council.

- Phoenix City Councilmember Sal DiCiccio (District 6)
Phoenix voters re-elected Councilmember Sal DiCiccio by more then 55 percent of the vote. Thanks to the PAC volunteers who walked door-to-door last summer on a hot Saturday to get the word out in District 6!

- Phoenix City Councilmember Michael Johnson (District 8)
City Councilmember Johnson has been working in the Phoenix community for decades and the voters wanted him to stay. He won the Primary election easily in September. The PAC is glad to have Councilmember Johnson for another four years – his strong community ties and long history in Phoenix will greatly benefit the council.
Upcoming PAC Events

Thursday, March 4, 10:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
(9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for Tucson members)
Second Lunch on the State Capitol Lawn,
1700 W. Washington, downtown Phoenix

For the second year, the PAC will host a BBQ lunch for state lawmakers and 469 members on the lawn at the Arizona State Capitol. Come on down and meet your elected officials and let them know that we are paying attention to state politics. This free event will include lunch, a t-shirt, and transportation to and from the 469 Hall. All you have to do is show up! If you would like to drive yourself to the event, lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, March 24, 8:45 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Field Trip and Legislative Training at the State Capitol, meet at 469 Hall

This informative two-hour tour will show you how things get done at the Arizona State Legislature. Hosted by 469-endorsed Rep. Steve Farley (District 28), this is an exclusive opportunity for 469 members to get “up close” with their elected officials and the lawmaking process, and to learn how they can make an impact. We’ll provide transportation to and from the hall.

Wednesday, April 15, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
PAC e-mail and computer training, Apprenticeship Training Center, 2950 W. Thomas Rd.

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 affect 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.

Sunday, July 25, Noon to 2 p.m.
Yavapai County Democrats Annual Picnic
(469 BBQ)

The PAC 469 is once again teaming up with the Yavapai County Democrats for their annual picnic. We’ll hitch up the BBQ trailer and head to Prescott to cook lunch for our endorsed candidates in the area and their volunteers. It is a great opportunity to meet current and future elected officials from Yavapai County, get out of the central and southern Arizona heat, and spend time with fellow 469 members.

To sign up or get directions or more details about any of the above events, call Jason McDonald, Torres Consulting and Law Group, at 602.626.8805, or send an email to jason@thetorresfirm.com.

New Year Wishes from Phoenix Councilmember Sal DiCiccio and Tucson Councilmember Richard Fimbres

Happy New Year to you and your family. In the coming year, we must work together to maintain and improve our quality of life. Through working together, the city and the labor organizations across the city can spur economic development and make Phoenix the best place to live.

Phoenix City Councilmember Sal DiCiccio

I want to wish every member of the Plumbers and Pipefitters, Local 469, a happy, safe, healthy and successful 2010. I am grateful for the help and support Local 469 gave me during my campaign for the Ward 5, Tucson City Council seat. Thanks to you all, as well as my fellow union brothers and sisters, I was victorious in this effort, getting the most votes cast.

This campaign is only the first part and now the works begins and we are facing economic challenges that haven’t been faced before in this state, but I know that when we are faced with these types of challenges we all work together to make Tucson a better place to live, work and raise a family.

Again my appreciation and my door at Ward 5 is always open. Together we will make a difference.

Tucson City Councilmember Richard Fimbres

Are you signed up for PAC Pulse?

Get the latest on Your 469 PAC – Here’s How:

1. Go to the PAC Pulse
   Web site – visit
   www.capwiz.com/thetorresfirm.
   From there, scroll down about half way and look for a box on the right-hand side that says “Stay Informed.” Click on “Action E-List,” fill out the form with your information (which remains completely confidential), and hit “Submit.”

2. By Email – Send an email Jason McDonald at jason@thetorresfirm.com, and be sure to include your full name and phone number.

3. By Telephone – Call Jason McDonald at 602.626.8805 with your full name, email addresses and phone number.

Once you are signed up for PAC Pulse, you will receive the latest PAC information, volunteer opportunities, trainings, and legislative alerts right in your email inbox. And don’t worry – your contact information is completely confidential.
Calling all members! Don’t miss…
The Second Lunch on the State Capitol Lawn!
Thursday, March 4

Don’t miss the largest 469 Political Action event of the year! Last year’s event was a huge success, so help make it even bigger in 2010—mark your calendar!

- Meet your Arizona State Senators and Representatives face to face
- Enjoy a free BBQ lunch at the Arizona State Capitol
- Show our elected officials that the UA Local 469 PAC is involved at the State Capitol
- Get a free 469 Lunch on the Lawn t-shirt

Where: Meet at the 469 hall in Phoenix or Tucson...we’ll get you down there and pick you up! No need to worry about parking hassles and finding the right place.

When: Phoenix: Bus leaves the hall at 10:15 a.m.; returns by 1:30 p.m.
    Tucson: Bus leaves the hall at 9 a.m.; returns by 3 p.m.

Sign Up or Get More Details: Call Jason McDonald, Torres Consulting & Law Group, 602.626.8805, or send an e-mail to jason@thetorresfirm.com.

Look inside for more details!