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PUBLISHED BY THE FINISHING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO, CHICAGO PDCA, AND THE PAINTING & DECORATING CONTRACTORS INDUSTRY ADVANCEMENT & PROMOTIONAL FUND

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WELFARE FUND REPORT

Trustee Marty Tew reports for the Health & Welfare Fund that for February, 2010, that Ordinary Income of \$2,000,646.83 plus Investment Income of \$303,541.88 minus Expenses of \$2,060,890.46 yielded a Net Income of \$243,298.25.

For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Ordinary Income of \$28,985,304.90 plus Investment Income of \$8,871,802.68 minus Expenses of \$31,126,484.61 yielded a Net Income of \$6,730,622.97. The Fund Value as of 2/28/10 was \$89,271,075.79.

PENSION FUND REPORT

Trustee Jeff Hester reports for the Pension Fund that for February, 2010, that Ordinary Income of \$2,028,163.11 plus Investment Income of \$5,255,444.54 minus Expenses of \$3,504,071.55 yielded a Net Income of \$3,779,536.10.

For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Ordinary Income of \$31,198,808.73 plus Investment Income of \$64,480,434.31 minus Expenses of \$30,971,744.94 yielded a Net Income of \$64,707,498.10. The Fund Value as of 2/28/10 was \$480,029,692.11.

are going out of business daily, which must stop for the benefit of all. We simply must not fail our two mutual constituencies, and these are the only solutions I believe would work in this dire emergency.

I look forward to meeting with you again as soon as possible to continue this dialogue regarding saving the future of our industry. As partners, it is within our grasp to make these changes to rescue our entire industry.

Please contact me so that we can set up another time to meet.

**Very truly yours,
THOMAS TYRAKOWSKI
President, FCAC**

LETTER TO PDC14:

**Terry Fitzmaurice
Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL NO. 14
1456 West Adams Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607-2897**

Dear Terry:

This is to recap our recent meeting regarding the loss of work within P.D.C. 14 and provide information which you requested to supplement that discussion.

At our meeting, I discussed several options which could improve the hours of employment for P.D.C. 14 members. In addition, I have spoken with several other local and national contractors and associations to seek ideas for stemming our Association members' continued loss of business and the resultant loss of employment opportunities for your members due to the bad economy. The following are the items which I proposed to you as essential for achieving higher levels of employment during the balance of our current Contract:

1. Freeze the current wage and benefit package for all prevailing wage work at the current level for the duration of the Contract. It is my understanding that the reserves of the Welfare Fund and Pension Fund are sufficient so that an increase to those contribution rates are not needed at this time. In fact, with the increase in the number of hours worked by eligible participants the funding of such plans could actually increase instead of being adversely affected, which could occur if we increased the

contribution rate and have the hours continue to decline. (Of course, if the actuarial soundness of either plan is in jeopardy we can revisit contributions to such plans.)

2. Create a "recovery wage rate" for non-Prevailing Wage work. This has been proposed in other jurisdictions within the country to stem the loss of work to non-Union companies and to get the Union employees back to work. I have attached copies of a few proposals which I have received. I believe the Hawaii model has worked out very well in that District Council.

3. We need changes to the work rules that are consistently applied and that can be relied upon by contractors when bidding work.

To be clear, this effort by the employers is to increase the hours worked by your members by making us more competitive in the marketplace, which will increase the contributions to the benefit funds, get our employees back to working full time, and increase the dues generated to P.D.C. 14. This is not about increasing profit margins, it is about trying to recover work that has been lost over the past few years and ultimately about the survival of our Unionized industry.

While there may be certain employees working full time who could incur a reduction in their compensation, there are far, far more individuals who are working reduced schedules or are laid off. Our employees (and a significant portion of your membership) are looking to us for a solution to increase their hours worked. Our Association members



**A Few Words
From...**

**TOM TYRAKOWSKI
President, FCA of Chicago**

A CALL TO ACTION

Readers of *The Dropcloth* may ask themselves why we would write a letter, such as that appearing above, to the Union. I actually had two reasons in mind for doing so.

For our FCAC Contractor Members, I want you to know that we are leaving no stone unturned in our efforts to work with the Union in efforts to deal with our current economic realities. Toward that end, I met

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News From The Apprentice School...

By ED BOGDAN, Apprentice Training Coordinator

Financial reports for the JATC Committee for February, 2010, indicate that Ordinary Income of \$87,270.57 plus Investment Income of \$24,828.21 minus Expenses of \$145,151.59 have yielded a Net Income of (\$33,052.81).

For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Ordinary Income of \$210,907.21 plus Investment Income of \$39,106.39 minus Expenses of \$285,143.03 have yielded a Net Income of (\$35,129.43). The Fund Value as of February 28, 2010 was \$4,460,992.27.

There are presently 95 Apprentices enrolled, 14 Industrial Apprentices, a 25% Unemployment Rate, a 57% Minority Rate, and two female students.

On March 31, 2010 the fourth annual STAR Program year came to a close. Interest and participation have grown year after year. This past year 505 Union members enrolled in STAR classes. Of those, 421 have met the School's requirements for receiving one raffle ticket, and 142 qualified for two tickets at the STAR Awards Breakfast to be held later this year. To fully qualify, these students must also have worked 1000 hours, have 800 safe hours, and have met their Union obligations.

Now that the JATC Training Facility has received accreditation from the National EPA, the last hurdle to jump before RRP classes can be taught at the JATC facility is receiving approval by the Illinois Department of Public Health. If all goes according to plan, we should be teaching RRP classes by early June.

Lastly, we have changed our shaving policy for our Respirators class. Students are now required to be cleanly shaven **before entering the building** to take the class. There is no more shaving at the school. Per OSHA regulations, the only acceptable facial hair is a mustache that ends at the corners of your mouth. **There will be no exceptions or debates regarding this policy.** Those students who do not comply will be asked to leave.



2010
FCAC & PDCA Meetings & Events

PDCA Golf Outing June 11, 2010 Bloomingdale G.C. Bloomingdale	FCAC Xmas Lunch December 8, 2010 Maggiano's Little Italy Schaumburg
FCAC Membership Meeting September 8, 2010 Maggiano's Little Italy Chicago	PDCA Xmas Lunch December 17, 2010 Basils Greek Dining Fox Valley Ctr; Aurora

Painting Industry Loses Veteran
April 7, 2010

We are saddened by the passing of Gregory Waksman, founder and owner of Corona Brushes, Inc. for over 60 years. He died in Tampa, Florida, having arrived in the U.S. from his native Cuba in 1961, fleeing the Castro regime. He prospered making fine quality brushes for the painting trade. A member of Congregation Rodeph Sholom, he supported numerous charitable causes. He is survived by Maria, his beloved wife of 59 years, and sons Benjamin, Sergio, and Albert.

recently with Terry Fitzmaurice to suggest taking the emergency measures summarized in the letter. I firmly believe every last word of that proposal, I know it is fair to all, and I hope that our Union partners will agree.

Like other legitimate Union Painting Contractors, I have lost far more jobs to the non-Union competition in recent months than ever before, and I know for a fact that my fellow Union Contractors are all experiencing the same thing. We simply cannot endure another \$3.30 per hour increase next month without finishing off the small amount of business we have.

This is really nothing less than a Call To Action for both the Association and the Union.

On the Union side, I urge our Union Member Employees to take this message to heart as your personal livelihoods hang in the balance. If an employer cannot get any jobs, you will not get any hours. I beg you not to take this lightly...it is not an attempt by the management side to take unfair advantage of anyone. Rather, it is a simple, straightforward Call To Action intended to save our Unionized Painting Industry in Chicago. If we just stand by, without doing the right thing, it will die....

All the Best...

Tom