

**CONTRACTORS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND
"CONTRACTOR DAY" AT THE IUPAT CONVENTION
IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON AUGUST 25th...CALL JIM
WILLIAMS AT 202/637-0767 FOR INFORMATION!**

News from Chicago PDCA/FCA/IAF

JULY-AUGUST, 2004

monitor:

3s530 Mignin Drive • Warrenville, IL 60555 • 630/393-1313 • FAX 630/393-1393

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WELFARE FUND REPORT

Marty reported for the Health and Welfare Fund for the month of June, 2004, that Ordinary Income of \$2,924,448.68 plus Investment Income of \$1,275,480.77 minus Expenses of \$2,600,803.21 yielded a Net Income of \$1,599,126.24.

For the fiscal year-to-date, Ordinary Income of \$5,338,489.59 plus Total Investment Income of \$1,304,929.19 minus Expenses of \$5,291,834.87 yielded a Net Income of \$1,351,583.91. As of 6/30/04, the Fund Value was \$55,804,471.08.

PENSION FUND REPORT

Trustee Miles Beatty reported for the Pension Fund that for the month of May, 2004, Ordinary Income of \$1,930,205.28 plus Investment Income of \$1,137,158.13 minus Expenses of \$1,985,247.37 yielded a Net Income of \$1,082,116.09.

For the fiscal year-to-date, Ordinary Income of \$3,877,905.26 plus Investment Income of (\$4,160,400.21) minus Expenses of \$3,684,236.05 yielded a Net Income of (\$3,966,731.00). As of 05/31/04, the Fund Value was \$370,193,345.00.



PDCA/FCA/IAF

CALENDAR

Of Meetings & Events

Contractor Day August 25, 2004
IUPAT Convention, Washington, D.C.
Joint Membership Meeting September 9, 2004
Maggiano's Little Italy, Oak Brook
FCA Convention September 30-October 1, 2004
Capital Hilton, Washington, D.C.
Associate's Christmas Lunch December 3, 2004
Edelweiss, Norridge
Contractor's Christmas Lunch December 8, 2004
Maggiano's Little Italy, Oak Brook
President's Night January 14, 2005
Rosewood Restaurant, Rosemont
PDCA National Convention January 23-26, 2005
MGM Grand Hotel, Las Vegas



A Few Words From **MARTY TEW** President, Chicago PDCA/FCA

"MORE THAN JUST A JOB"

Greetings to all, and I hope this issue of the *Monitor* finds you enjoying these fabulous Summer months making time

for your family, friends, and hobby interests...swimming, boating, golfing, fishing, camping, baseball, etc.

If you are a subscriber to *Crain's Chicago Business*, you have no doubt noticed a series of print ads sponsored by Chicago PDCA/FCA to coincide with the real-estate special issues. Respondents to our ads receive a directory of our 86 members, which we hope will generate job leads and requests for proposals for our members.

In the future, I want to market the superiority of Union Contractors to the public through more advertising and public relations initiatives so all signatory contractors may enjoy some benefit.

When we, as a Union industry, claim to be "better because we are better-trained," it follows that continuing education is an absolute necessity. Our employees must keep up with all current technology, skills, and safety training in order to provide the professionalism associated with Union workmanship.

As contractors who employ Union painters and tapers, we consider ourselves "the best at what we do," because the Union worker is so well trained and skilled. Our men and women go through a three-year highly structured apprenticeship curriculum involving extensive classroom work coupled with real life on-the-job training. However, once he or she completes the apprenticeship program, that worker may never see the inside of the classroom again.

We have a world-class training facility with vast resources available to us to achieve the goal of ongoing "Journeyman Upgrade" training, and I personally would love to see a program that allows our employees to stay at the top of their career game. Shouldn't we also make this ongoing workforce education program mandatory prior to paying out the bargained-for wage increases?

Over the years, there have been numerous Journeyman Upgrading programs offered at the Apprentice School. Unfortunately, both interest and attendance have been minimal. However, if pay raises were tied to classroom attendance, there might be some renewed interest in an OSHA 10-hour class, learning new paperhanging tricks, studying proper lifting techniques and ladder safety, and gaining the latest information on Stage 4 HVLP sprayers.

CALL THE JATC SCHOOL TODAY AT 708/449-5282 TO DONATE 54" VINYL FOR APPRENTICE TRAINING!

Knowledge is power, and no one can take away your skills once you have earned them. The more saleable the skills that one possesses, the more employable he or she becomes...it's that simple.

In addition to keeping our workforce current with skills and safety practices, we must give some thought to replacing those employees who are retiring or leaving the work force for other reasons.

Nationally speaking, careers in construction face a "negative image perception" problem. This may be a public relations/marketing battle for us in the future. Looking over the "Jobs Rated Almanac" listing the 250 best work opportunities, painters came in at 221st and drywall tapers at 225th. Generally, tradesman ranked in the lowest 20% of the list, with carpet installers at 204th, electricians at 212th, welders at 227th, carpenters at 237th, sheet metal at 244th, and construction workers at 247th.

To me, being Union-trained equals a more skilled, more professional, and more productive worker.

Perhaps in the future there will be enhanced demand for the "people product" that we help develop, market, and eventually sell...Union painting and taping services.

According to the Department of Labor, job prospects should be good in the future. The need to replace today's experienced workers will create new jobs. Employment will reportedly continue growing through the year 2112, reflecting increases in the level of new construction.

In closing, I should also note the standings of some other professions in the work opportunity rankings. You may be interested to learn that the career of oil field

worker finished dead last at 250, whereas the cutting-edge calling of web site manager finished number 1.

Computer programmer was 6th, parole officer was 12th, Catholic priest was 102nd, stockbroker was 124th, waiter or waitress was 136th, rabbi was 140th, janitor was 154th. Finally, sewage plant operator was 163rd.

Personally, I'd rather be painting than working in a sewage treatment plant, but, then again, I *do* have paint in my blood. At this point, I can't help but recall those famous words of advice rendered by Judge Smails, who told Danny Noonan in the movie, *Caddyshack*, "Well, the world needs ditch diggers too."

Closing on a sadder note, I would like to extend my sincerest condolences to the Sniegowski family on the passing of Ben on July 14th. Ben was Painters' District Council 14 Secretary-Treasurer from 1965 until 1974. Look for more information about Ben's life in the next issue of the *Dropcloth*. My father, Lee Tew, recalls a contract negotiation in the spring of 1965 that was held in his family room with Ben and Frank Bryant representing the Union and Al Van Santen, Brandt Oosterban Sr., and Lee representing the contractors. They went back and forth like all negotiations do, and were able to hammer out a deal that evening. Now here is the best part of the story...there were no lawyers present for either side during the process that evening. I ask you now, "Can history ever repeat itself?"

Masty

CHICAGO PDCA/FGA & NIPDI/PDCA/FGAI

FIRST-EVER JOINT MEMBERSHIP MEETING/DINNER

5:30 PM — COCKTAILS

6:30 PM — DINNER

7:30 PM — PROGRAM

September 9, 2004
Maggiano's Little Italy

***240 Oakbrook Center
Oak Brook, Illinois
630/368-0314***

BIGGEST MEETING OF THE YEAR...

Contractor Members of the Chicago and Suburban Associations will gather for fun, fellowship, and information with Union representatives from PDC No. 14 and PDC No. 30 invited to enhance labor-management relations. By all means, don't miss this historic gathering of top Contractors and Union Officials from all across Northern Illinois... all together in the same room for the first time!

***CALL TODAY AT
630/393-1313 FOR
RESERVATIONS!***



Come prepared to discuss and debate the coming elections...candidates have been invited to join us!