

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009

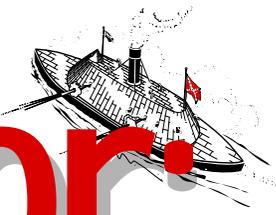
monitor

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Monitor vs. Merrimack
March 9, 1862, Hampton Roads, Virginia



A Word from
NORB SOLTYSIAK
President,
FCA of Chicago

NEW LEAD RULES & CERTIFICATION ON THE WAY..

I call your attention to the EPA story on page 2 of this edition of the Monitor, which urges all contractors engaged in renovation work to undertake new lead removal training and company certification.

We are now planning a winter seminar to help FCAC Contractors comply with the new rule, which takes effect in April. Watch this space for more news on our training effort and certification procedures.

On another topic, we all know these are real tough economic times. Most of our Contractor members are scratching hard just to get by and endure the long drought in order to just be around when conditions improve. We sharpen our pencils, hit the bidding, and hope for the best. No one I know has a very good batting average right now...there's just too many players seemingly willing to give away the store just to get a job.

Too often, the same set of players has been making off with work at prices that make no sense...if they're playing by the rules. Of course, those folks don't play by the rules at all, they cheat like thieves, which is what they are. They steal jobs from the rest of us.

It really frosts me to see this on a daily basis. The good news is that two real chronic offenders now face trouble with the Joint Trade Board if they don't gain

More... →

WELFARE FUND REPORT

Trustee Marty Tew reports for the Health & Welfare Fund for July, 2009, that Ordinary Income of \$3,016,826.94 plus Investment Income of \$2,036,081.67 minus Expenses of \$3,420,387.68 yielded a Net Income of \$1,632,520.93.

For the Fiscal Year to Date, Ordinary Income of \$8,968,962.32 plus Investment Income of \$4,198,214.06 minus Expenses of \$10,297,196.17 yielded a Net Income of \$2,869,980.21. The Fund Value as of 7/31/09 was \$85,419,899.77.

PENSION FUND REPORT

Trustee Miles Beatty reports for the Pension Fund for July, 2009, that Ordinary Income of \$3,015,833.50 plus Investment Income of \$12,752,986.36 minus Expenses of \$2,421,730.81 yielded a Net Income of \$13,347,089.14.

For the Fiscal Year to Date, Ordinary Income of \$11,670,774.59 plus Investment Income of \$36,592,097.62 minus Expenses of \$10,418,511.40 yielded a Net Income of \$37,844,360.81. The Fund Value as of 7/31/09 was \$453,179,653.01.



2009-2010 FCAC Meetings & Events

Finishing Industry Forum
November 15-19, 2009
Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas

**PDCA Associates
Christmas Luncheon**
December 4, 2009
Finley's Grill, Lombard

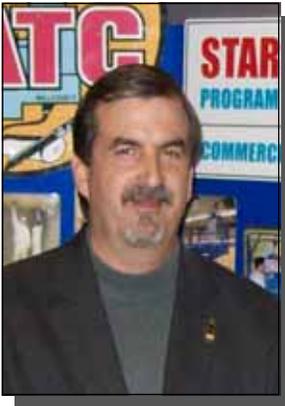
FCAC Christmas Luncheon
December 9, 2009
Maggiano's Little Italy, Schaumburg

Chicago Bears football great Steve McMichael entertained a full house at the September 9, 2009 FCAC General Membership Meeting held at Maggiano's Little Italy in Chicago, including a long line of autograph seekers like Associate Members Diane Meyer (J.C. Licht's), Tom Moore (EPCO Paint), and Doug Lyjak (Sherwin-Williams).

FCAC President's Night
January 22, 2010
Rosewood Restaurant, Rosemont

PDCA Associates Night
February or March, 2010
Date & Location To Be Determined

PDCA PACE Convention
February 7-10, 2010
Phoenix, Arizona



News From The Apprentice School...

By ED BOGDAN, Apprentice Training Coordinator

Financial reports for the JATC Committee for July, 2009, indicate that Ordinary Income of \$160,696.13 plus Investment Income of \$95,272.12 minus Expenses of \$318,474.75 yielded a Net Income of (\$62,506.50).

For the Fiscal Year to Date, Ordinary Income of \$1,054,194.23 plus Investment Income of \$194,518.85 minus Expenses of \$1,177,231.60

yielded a Net Income of \$71,481.48. The Fund Value as of 7/31/09 was \$4,378,621.05.

The third annual STAR Awards Breakfast was held on 9/19/09 at the Fountain Blue in Des Plaines and the Graduation Ceremony/Dinner was held on 10/9/09 at the Rosewood Restaurant.

As always, call us (708/449-5282) to donate your surplus materials! All donated materials can be written off, and they help our education program.

We can always use...

- 54" COMMERCIAL VINYL
- WALLPAPER & WALLCOVERINGS
- WHITE & OFF-WHITE PAINT
- TOOLS & EQUIPMENT
- FAUX FINISH PRODUCTS
- PORCELAIN BATHTUBS & SINKS
- DRYWALL BOARD
- DRYWALL COMPOUNDS
- DRYWALL TOOLS

EPA CERTIFICATION FOR LEAD REMOVAL UNDERWAY

Hundreds of contractors have already become EPA Certified Renovators in anticipation of the Agency's Lead-Safe Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule, which will take effect in April, 2010.

The Environmental Protection Agency is urging all contractors who perform renovation work and are affected by this rule to get trained as soon as possible.

By April, 2010, all companies who disturb lead paint as part of their renovation work in pre-1978 homes, schools, and other buildings must be EPA-certified. These jobs must be supervised by a certified renovator who has completed an EPA-accredited one-day training course. Furthermore, it will also be necessary for employees to receive on-the-job training.

Even contractors with previous training and certification must be trained and certified under this new program. In some cases, a shorter "refresher" course may be adequate for certification.

All contractors must be trained and certified by April, 2010. Certification training courses are available now. The EPA warns that contractors may have difficulty finding an accredited training course as the deadline date nears.

Finding an accredited course is easy. The EPA's website lists over 50 accredited trainers at <http://epa.gov/lead/pubs/trainingproviders.htm>.

The EPA advises checking the website regularly, as providers will be added. Onsite training is available from selected trainers.

Individual certification as a "certified renovator" is awarded upon completion of the required training. This certification is valid anywhere in the country.

As state and tribal programs are authorized, the Agency will work closely with the certified renovators and authorized state or tribe to ensure a smooth transition in enforcing this new rule.

Both individuals and contracting firms must be certified. Firm certification is simple: Complete a short application and submit it with a fee to the EPA. The application is available on <http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/firma pp.pdf>.

The EPA will start processing applications in October, in the order they have been received.

compliance immediately and follow the rules going forward.

Other trades have encroached on our work as well, which adds insult to injury. Most notorious are the Local #399 Operating Engineers, who some time ago decided to branch out from painting pipes in the boiler room to take on repaint work upstairs...clearly our domain. They were actually found this year painting in Trump Tower before the building was even

finished, and with a Project Labor Agreement still in place. We're resolving that issue now.

Of course, the cheating must come to a screeching halt for the good guys end up survivors. Toward that end, we've been working this year with PDC14 to correct problems by stringently policing the industry. Rampant abuses of the system by shady operators and encroaching unions simply must be curbed.

No longer can we tolerate the

failing to report jobs, submitting inadequate bonds, doing night work at day rates, paying for less hours than actually worked, or operating "double breasted" shops blatantly.

We're enclosing an FCAC Job Complaint Form for you to use if you see problems like these, and will promptly investigate any allegations that arise.

All the Best...

Norb