The fluff from the cottonwoods and the forest fire smoke in the air can only mean one thing, it’s picnic time in Fairbanks! Time to fire up the barbeque pits made from sections of the 48” TransAlaskan pipeline and grill some salmon. Our Carpenters annual summer picnic was held on Saturday, June 24th. We used to hold the picnic later in the year, but we found that we were less prone to getting rained out if we held it at the end of June. The picnic is a highly anticipated event every summer as it gives our members and their families the opportunity to get together, eat some great barbeque food, play some games and catch up on the latest news.

This year the weather co-operated and we enjoyed a beautiful sunny day. My wife Linda and I, along with our two oldest children Iris and Phillip did the cooking. Wade Stark and Laird Grantham from the Training Center provided support by keeping the cooks stocked and the grounds cleaned. Thanks to Debbie Grantham for coordinating the kids’ games just as she has done for the past several years. Steve Kreinheder rounded up contestants and kept things rolling for the Ray Kokrine Memorial Horseshoe Tournament. Steve has been the perennial volunteer for this effort and we always appreciate the great job he does. Laird Grantham and Will Baker partnered up to win this years’ tournament. The first year apprentices not only helped with set up, but they were also there on Sunday along with second year apprentice, Amy Shaw, to help clean up. If I have neglected to mention anyone that helped, I apologize and offer my thanks here.

Fraternally, Jeff Pruss
Carpenters Local 1243

Carpenters Local 1243’s Annual Picnic a Success!

Retiree Sig Bredlie visits with the Barnette family.

Local 1243’s Executive Administrator, Penny Fairbanks, or as the staff knows her...“The Boss”!

The kids’ games are always a hit! Thanks again to Debbie Grantham for coordinating the games.

The littlest Grantham, Corbin, celebrated his second birthday at the picnic.
A Message From Your Executive Secretary Treasurer

ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION ENCLOSED

Enclosed in this edition of the ARCC Newsletter is an Absentee Ballot Application. This is good for all State elections. By filling out the enclosed application and sending it in to the Alaska Division of Elections at least ten days before an election, you will receive a ballot in the mail. You do not need to be out of State to receive the ballot in the mail. By receiving your ballot early you will have all the election options in front of you to research as well as being able to vote at your leisure rather than finding the time on Election Day. There will be the Governor’s race, US House seat, 10 State Senate seats, 40 State House seats, and several initiatives to be decided on. Other issues of importance is the development of one of the largest gas reserves in the United States and the concerns of utilizing the Alaskan workforce with area standard wages (not Louisiana wages). Elections are often very close in Alaska and every vote counts. These forms may be copied or are available on the web at www.lt.gov.state.us.ak/elections. ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR VOTING FAMILY MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO FILL OUT AND RETURN THE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION. All Locals have access to Voter Registrars and a Notary for the member’s convenience.

“EXTREME MAKEOVER” IN FAIRBANKS

ABC’s national television series “Extreme Makeover” has made their way to Fairbanks. This July Extreme Makeover took the Fairbanks home of Betsy Rogers and her nine children and destroyed it. 106 hours later a brand new home stood ready for occupancy. Carpenters Local 1243 and other ARCC members volunteered their time and efforts. This project is scheduled to be the special premier episode of the new season airing September 24, 2006.

MEDICAL AND RETIREMENT TRUST MERGERS

If you have not done it already, you can sign up to open your Defined Contribution (DC) account at http://masterplan.dpanet.com where you can access your account information and change your options. The member id # is your social security #. Your password, which must be changed after signing in, is the last four digits of your S.S.#.

All UBC Locals in Alaska now belong to the same DC and Health & Welfare plans. The increased savings by merging have resulted in better overall benefits and more options in both plans. As with any changes, there will be a few bumps as this comes together. Everyone should have received their packets from the new Trust office which explains the plans changes and gives contact information.

PROBLEM SOLVED

Contractors need workers? People need training that provides the skills to secure a good job? Carpenters, Millwrights, Piledrivers and Divers looking for fair treatment, good wages, and medical and retirement benefits? “Problem Solved” is the message of the new ARCC commercials airing across the state. Two different commercials are already on television with a third on the way. The television commercials target contractors looking for skilled labor as well as encouraging people to join our apprenticeship program and luring skilled workers to Union.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.ubcalaska.org

The ARCC has updated their webpage. Besides being loaded with lots of information, the new site offers links to the various Locals, Apprenticeships, and UBC pages. Millwrights Local 1501 has elected to offer online paying of dues through PayPal. Although this is currently available only for Local 1501 members, if successful it could easily be expanded to all Locals. I would like to thank all those who assisted in updating the ARCC website and making it so impressive. Special mention goes to Mark Crutchfield who dedicatedly followed through, solved all the little problems, and came up with many of the ideas we now have incorporated.

CONTRACT RAISES

Surpassing last year as the largest one year increase in the last twenty years for Carpenters, Millwrights, Piledrivers and Divers with next year’s even larger, the 2006 wage increase placement has been decided on. The increases have been determined as follows (increases are based on Journeyman rates):

- Carpenters Local 1243 with a $1.39 increase will have $1.09 go to retirement and $.30 to Medical.
- Carpenters Local 1281 and 2247 with a $1.78 increase will have $.75 go to wages, $.78 to Defined Benefit, and $.25 to Medical.
- Piledrivers and Divers Local 2520 with a $1.78 increase will have $.75 go to wages, $.73 to Retirement, and $.30 to Medical.
- Millwrights Local 1501 with a $1.00 increase will have $.70 go to wages and $.30 to Medical.

All Locals will now have the same $5.80 per hour rate for medical coverage which is down from the previous estimates of needing between $6.00 and $6.80 per hour. Cost savings can be attributed to measures taken last year by the Trustees and the current merging of the Northern and Southern Health & Welfare Trusts.
ALASKA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS
SPECIAL DISCOUNTS FOR UNION MEMBERS

Bush Order Furniture-10% Discount
3005 Spenard Rd - 569-2874
www.bushorderfurniture.com

Superior Coatings Company-10% Discount
Toughen Anything With a Powder Coating
Fairbanks Location
Contact Allan Snider - (907) 452-6969
Member Owned and Operated

Prism Optical, Inc.-20% Discount After Insurance
Discount Eye Services - (907) 770-7747

Happy Valley Bed & Breakfast-20% Discount
Ninilchik & Anchor Point Areas - Lodging & Charter
Referrals / Website: www.happvalleybb.com
Contact Robert or Teresa Sullivan - (907) 567-3648
Member Owned and Operated

Sunrise Mountain Lodge & Cabins-15% Discount
Anchor Point Area - Lodging & Charters
Contact Steve Adams - (877) 425-KING
1/2 and Full Day Rates Available
Member Owned and Operated

Alaskan Rivers & Seas Fishing Guide-10% Discount
Kenai Peninsula Area
Contact Melvin Forsyth - (907) 262-4015
Member Owned and Operated

Last Frontier Adventures-10% Discount (Charters)
Seward Area - Fishing/Sightseeing
Lodging Available
Contact Shane Voliva - (907) 240-8318

Vehicle Insurance
GMAC - (800) 847-2886
Give the Representative at GMAC the Savings Code of
CU25 to receive your special rate

Fish Alaska Magazine-10% Discount
Alaskan Made Fishing Magazine
Contact Melissa Norris - (907) 345-4337

Army Navy Store-10% Discount (Excludes Sale Items)
320 W. 4th Avenue, Anchorage Location

Alaska Industrial Hardware (AIH)-10% Discount
Anchorage’s Old Seward Highway
and Mt. View Locations

Goldenview Picture Framing, LLC-10% Discount
11700 Old Seward Hwy., Anchorage, AK 99515
Contact June Abel - 349-1836

Jason G. Pepperd, D.C.-Discounted Chiropractic Services
For ARCC Members and Their Families
Alpine Chiropractic
833 Commercial Drive, Wasilla Location
Contact Alpine/Jason Peperd - (907) 376-2475
Offer: $47.00 Initial Visit. Includes Complete Medical
History, Examination, X-rays (if necessary) and Report of
Findings
Jasen Peperd is the only doctor at Alpine honoring this
discunt. Please mention his name and your affiliation when
scheduling to receive discount

Residential Mortgage LLC
100 Calais Drive, Anchorage Location
Contact J.D. Mecem - (907) 222-8827
or toll free worldwide at 1-866-880-8827
Discounts include a free credit report, waive local
processing fees, and 25% off the loan origination fee

Countrywide Home Loans
500 E Benson #103, Anchorage
Contact Doug Van Etten - (907) 343-3624
Discounts include a free credit report and waive local
processing fees

Arctic Shell Union Special
Corner of Arctic & Tudor, Anchorage - 562-2573
10% off all parts and labor
Member Owned

Sun Solution-10% Discount On Minutes Pkgs & Lotion
5011 Arctic Blvd. - (907) 349-2659

**Please show your UBC membership card and I.D. to the above vendors as proof of Union affiliation**
On May 4, 2006, the 24th Alaska State Legislature recognized Brother Gene Horner for his dedication to his fellow veterans.

For the past 20 years he has honored his fellow veterans by playing taps at their funerals. He plays taps at an average of 120 funerals and events per year to make sure our veterans are given the proper respect they have earned.

Brother Horner began playing taps at funerals in 1986. However, December 28, 1999, is the day Gene became the veterans’ bugler who is so appreciated today. On this date, Gene attended a veteran’s funeral where taps was to be played from a tape. Gene, who had coincidentally just bought a horn that day, stepped up to the task.

Not once has he taken any monetary compensation for his time; he plays simply out of love and patriotism. Rick Caswell of Mortuary Affairs commented, “Gene supports the military wonderfully. Whenever we need something he is there for us”. When a bugler is needed and Gene cannot make it, he makes certain that someone else is there through the organization Buglers Across America. Gene is the current state director for Buglers Across America.

Along with the Alaska State Legislature, the Alaska Regional Council of Carpenters wants to say thank you to Brother Horner for his enduring patriotism and service to our veterans, our state, and our country. Brother Horner is a perfect example of what a true hero is!

On April 24, 2006, the Alaska State Community Service Commission recognized Brother Tony Unsderfer for the “First Lady Volunteer of the Year Awards”. There were a total of 10 awards given out by First Lady Nancy Murkowski.

Brother Unsderfer worked actively as a union Piledriver from 1964 to 1984, until he was injured. Since then he has been doing lots of community service work for such organizations as The Lions Club, VFW, Elks Clubs, Boy Scouts, and the Pioneers of Alaska, just to name a few! In spite of health problems he does this as well as help organize our own Local 2520’s “Ol’ Timers” retiree party every July.

Tony is an inspiration to us all and is very deserving of our respect and appreciation for everything he does not only for the brotherhood but for the community as well. Congratulations Tony, we couldn’t be prouder!
(Pictured Right) Bragaw Extension Bridges being built by Wilder Construction. 

Brother Terrence Weathers poses for the camera at the Bragaw Extension jobsite.

(Pictured Left) Brother Earl Lancaster positioning the hammer for Johnson Construction on the parking garage near the airport.

(Pictured Right) Kenai River bridge located in Soldotna being built by Wilder Construction.

Bragaw Extension Bridges being built by Wilder Construction.

Tom Pope along with co-workers at the Abbott Loop Project, being done by Wilder Construction, enjoys a retirement celebration! Congratulations Tom!

(Pictured Right) The Colville River Delta Crossing bridge being built by Swalling Construction.


Piledrivers & Divers Local 2520—Jobs & More
Alaska Pacific Pier being built by North Pacific Erectors.

Bartlett Hospital being built by Coogan Construction.

Forest Service being built by McGraw Custom Construction.

Spickler Egan Financial Services being built by North Pacific Erectors.

STATEWIDE CONSTRUCTION PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: October 1, 2006
Open to: Any Alaska construction trade union member
Mail or bring to: AATCA Construction Photo Contest
1413 Hyder Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
Categories: Work Activities and Leisure Activities
Prizes (for each category):
$500 1st Place
$300 2nd Place
$200 Third Place
$25 for Honorable Mentions

This statewide Construction Photo Contest is open to all union construction workers. Action orientated photos are encouraged. The Leisure Activities photos must show members engaging in recreational activities while the Work Activities photos must be shot in Alaska. There is no limit on the number of photos that can be entered in either or both categories. Photos will appear in new promotional videos and TV commercials, Union journals, Alaska Works’ monthly newsletter, and other publications.

Technical Specifications:
Images must be LANDSCAPE format. Digital pictures are preferable at 300 dpi and 800x600 pixels or higher. 35mm film or slides are acceptable. If prints are entered, the maximum size is 8x10.
Millwrights Local 1501 would like to say THANK YOU to Wade Stark, Dawn Holt, Jim Gattenby, and Louis Katzenberger with the Fairbanks Training Center for all their hard work putting together the first Millwright Training Center ever in Alaska.

(Pictured Left) Louis Katzenberger (left) and Jim Gattenby stand next to our new Solar Gas Combustion Turbine at the Soldotna training facility, courtesy of the Kenai Peninsula College and Jim Gattenby. Thanks again Gat!

(Pictured Right) A big “Thanks” to Barbara Mize for donating her time in designing our sign.

A huge “Thanks” to Agrium, Rick Main, and Gary Morris for all their help.

YOU GOT A RAISE!

At the May 16, 2006 membership meeting we voted to allocate our $1.00 as follows for all jobs bid after June 1, 2006 on new construction and maintenance classifications:

$ .30 towards Health & Welfare and $ .70 towards wages

We Have a New Website!

Our new website is finally up and running. Make sure to check it out!

www.alaskamillwrights.org

A great new feature in the website is being able to pay for your monthly dues online. Go to our website and sign in under “member login”. Enter your last name as the “User name” and your UBC # as your password. You can only pay for your monthly dues, starting with one month up to 12 months. We use the Paypal method for your protection and if you’ve been on E-Bay you are probably familiar with it. It’s a great way to pay online without having to repeatedly give your personal information over the internet.

If you have problems with trying to use this method of paying your dues, go to “Contact Us” on the website and email our office with your problem.
McKay Building, being built by Unit Company, is nearing completion with the removal of the external elevator.

Brothers Harley Gehman (right) and Jim Kerkove go over plans at the TLO MOB/Condos being built by Neeser Construction.

Look for our sign at Mulcahy Stadium, home of the Anchorage Bucs Baseball Club and Anchorage Glacier Pilots. Above is a picture of our ad board from last year.

BABYSITTING MAY BE PROVIDED FOR MEETINGS

Carpenters Local 1281, in order to make it easier to attend the monthly regular membership meetings, is considering offering babysitting services during the meetings.

If you would like to take advantage of this service, if offered, please contact Carpenters Local 1281 at 276-3533. We look forward to your input.

Carpenters Local 1281 meets the first Tuesday of every month.

LOCAL 1281 MEMBER, KATHLEEN BUGBEE, SELECTED NAWIC REGIONAL WINNER


“It was really cool,” commented Kathleen, “There were many good candidates and I am honored that they selected me.”

The award was based on involvement in construction activities as well as community service. Kathleen currently serves on the Alaska Community Service Board, Vice President of the Anchorage Building Trades, Delegate and Trustee to the ARCC, and Warden of Carpenters Local 1281. Congratulations Kathleen, what a great accomplishment!
Local 1243 carpenters get to test their roof framing skills on Dr. Pendergrast’s new clinic being built by Ghemm Company.

The Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC) nears completion. When finished, this will be the premier sub-arctic housing research facility in the world. There are plans to share some of what the CCHRC has to offer with the Fairbanks Carpenters Training Center.

The forms go in for the Ft. Wainwright Aircraft Maintenance Hangar. Bristol Environmental and Engineering Services is building the hangar to replace the one lost to fire last year.

Neeser Construction’s Whole Barracks Renewal on Ft. Wainwright nears completion.

More dorms are ready for occupancy at Ft. Wainwright thanks to Davis Constructors Whole Barracks Renewal project.

Bristol Environmental’s Battalion Headquarters building on Ft. Wainwright stands ready to receive its exterior metal panels.

(Pictured Left) We can see why The Army Corps of Engineers deemed the Bassett Army Hospital (shown here) built by Dick Pacific/Ghemm JV a MEGA project.

(Pictured Below) As with most training facilities, the IBEW Kornfend Training Center, being built by G.B.C. Inc., is expanding to meet the growing need for skilled tradesmen.

(Pictured Left) Here we have the architecturally pleasing glass front of Neeser Construction’s Fort Wainwright Company Operations Facility.
HELP US HELP YOU...

Please provide your Local and Trust office with a good phone number and address. That next great job you’ve been waiting for may be dependent on whether or not your Local can reach you!

HAVE YOU BEEN CALLED BACK TO ACTIVE DUTY?

If so, there may be several benefits available to you that you might not be aware of. Be sure to contact your Local Union office as well as your Trust office if you are currently on “Active Duty”, or will be in the future.

Also, if you know a fellow brother or sister who is in this situation and is unable to acknowledge this notification, please bring this to your Local Union office’s attention.

ARCC UNVEILS NEW WEBPAGE

(www.ubcalaska.org)

The Alaska Regional Council of Carpenters has developed a new webpage! The page gives contact information for all the Locals and Training Centers in our state. Members can access past newsletters as well as keep up on the latest news. Be sure to check it out and keep coming back as we add new features.

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT TO HAVE NEW INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Members across the state will have a revised menu of investment options to invest their defined contribution retirement into. The Trustees selected the best performers of those being used by the old Northern and Southern programs plus added some others. One of the new options is a series of asset allocation funds, the Schwab Managed Retirement Trusts, for those members that prefer the ease of having professionals create a blend of different investment categories. In addition to these Schwab funds, members will be able to select from the SEI Stable Value Fund, Dodge and Cox Income (DODIX), Dodge and Cox Balanced (DODBX), Dodge and Cox Stock (DODGX), Schwab 1000 Index Fund (SNFSX), American Funds Growth Fund R4 (RGAEX), Dodge and Cox International (DODFX), Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Admiral (VIMAX), and Columbia Small Cap Growth (CMSCX).

Every member should have received information in the mail from DPA Master-Plan about the new funds, how funds are being transferred, contact information, webpage, etc. Members can access their account at http://masterplan.dpanet.com, your SSN is the member id and the last four digits in your SSN is the password, you will be prompted to change your id and password after you first sign on. Educational meetings were held during the week of June 26th and will again be held in the winter time.
ARCC OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

On July 21, 2006, the Delegates to the Alaska Regional Council of Carpenters elected the new officers of the ARCC. The new terms expire August 1, 2010.

Executive Secretary Treasurer (EST) – John Palmatier
President – Dave Robinson
Vice President – Jeff Pruss
Warden – Jonathan Smith
Conductor – Keith Montgomery
1243 E-Board Member – Laird Grantham
1281 E-Board Member – Bill Scoville
1501 E-Board Member – Mark Crutchfield
2247 E-Board Member – Karl Vandor
2520 E-Board Member – Steve Abel
Trustee – Kathleen Bugbee
Trustee – Ace Dube
Trustee – Ed Pugliese

It was announced that Dave Robinson would be taking over as Director of Organizing and that Steve Abel would be replacing him as Business Manager of Piledrivers and Divers Local 2520. All other Business Managers will remain the same.
Alaska Regional Council of Carpenters
410 Denali Street, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99501

Local Union Meetings
Carpenters Local 1243 - 4th Tuesday of the month
Carpenters Local 1281 - 1st Tuesday of the month
Carpenters Local 2247 - 1st Tuesday of the month
Millwrights Local 1501-3rd Tuesday of the month
Piledrivers Local 2520 - 3rd Tuesday of the month

THIS IS YOUR UNION!
ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS!

Members Address
Label Goes Here
place saver, place saver 02464+4+