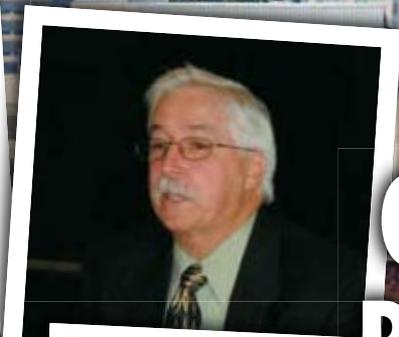


GMP *Horizons*

September/October 2010

Serving Workers in the Glass, Metal, Pottery and Plastics Industries



GMP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS IN PHILADELPHIA

Notice of Nominations and Elections
appear on page 12



Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastics & Allied Workers, AFL-CIO, CLC
608 East Baltimore Pike, P.O. Box 607, Media, Pa. 19063

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In this Issue:

In his Message on page 1, President Smith discusses the Labor Movement's vision for America and how after the election we must hold our leaders accountable.

The GMP featured employer of the month is Owens Corning. See page 6.

A former GMP Memorial Scholarship winner has been awarded a Ph.D. from Indiana University. See page 3.

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BRENDA SCOTLAND

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BRUCE R. SMITH
International President

“Everyone deserves an opportunity to achieve the American Dream - a secure job with fair pay and benefits, a safe home and a quality education.”

One Nation March, What It's All About . . .

On Saturday, October 2nd, more than 200,000 brother and sister union members and a large coalition of allies from across the country joined at the historic Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C., for the One Nation March. It was a massive gathering to call for jobs, justice and education.

The event was organized by a social movement of individuals and organizations committed to putting America back to work and pulling America back together. The march was about reordering our nation's priorities to invest in our most valuable resource – our people. Everyone deserves an opportunity to achieve the American Dream - a secure job with fair pay and benefits, a safe home, and a quality education. But the most important message was hope and optimism.

After arriving at the National Mall location, the mass of people from across the country that came out in attendance for this cause became more revealing. Union organizations were well represented along with a diverse showing of activist groups speaking out on behalf of people who have been thrown out – thrown out of their jobs, schools, houses, farms and small businesses – while Wall Street's wrongdoers got bailed out. They spoke on behalf of families who pray every day - for peace and prosperity; for deliverance from foreclosures; for good jobs to come back to urban and rural America. And they spoke for the unemployed workers – forced to watch their hopes for bold action dashed – because some Senators threaten filibusters, and other would-be champions fold in fear. They spoke on protecting Social Security and providing health care for all.

Ed Schultz of the “Ed Show” opened the One Nation March event followed by Reverend Al Sharpton, Harry Belafonte, NAACP President Ben Jealous, Reverend Jesse Jackson, Sr., Victoria Rowell, Congressman Luis V. Guitierrez, and AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka (find speaker clips: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DlupiJWeD0Q>) Speakers from the podium had one central message; don't allow the divisive voices to take us down the dark path of division by race, religion, nationality, gender age or sexual orientation. Those voices obstruct government efforts to give financial support to the unemployed and sick. They blame unions for our economic crisis. Their financial support comes from multinational corporations who want free rein and the dismantling of government regulation.

The labor movement and our allies have a profoundly different vision and dream for America. We promote a path of community, compassion and common humanity. We are the majority – fueled by hope, not hate. We have the pride, power and determination to keep ourselves – and our country – moving up and out of the valley greed created. And most importantly we have been victorious whenever we worked together. We have proven the only thing we need to succeed is each other.

On November 2, 2010, all of us must march again – into the VOTING BOOTHS. Bring your families, your friends, and your neighbors. And after the election, we must keep organizing, we must hold our leaders accountable, and we must keep making our dream real. You Have A Voice! Make it Heard!

GMP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS IN PHILADELPHIA



On September 15, 2010, the GMP Executive Board met at Penn's Landing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. International President Bruce Smith conducted the meeting and the "good and welfare" of the GMP was discussed. Smith and International Secretary-Treasurer Walter Thorn gave reports on the State of the Union. The Vice Presidents gave reports of activities in their respective areas. Director Brenda Scotland gave updates on organizing efforts.

Director of Research and Education Donald Seal reported on activities in his department which includes making preparations for the upcoming Western Hemispheric Conference.

The Executive Board participated in two seminars - one on Health Care Legislation and another on Pension Funding Relief.

Attorney Fred Greenberg reported on legal matters of concern for the Union.

The GMP Executive Board meets twice a year as required by the Constitution.



International President Bruce Smith conducted the meeting.



At the recent Executive Board meeting held in Philadelphia, International Secretary-Treasurer Walter Thorn gave the State of the Union report.



(L-R) International Vice Presidents Frank J. Brandao, Sr., and Randy Gould.



Executive Director Canada David Doyle.



(L-R): Executive Officers Bennett Sallemi and Charles Boultinghouse.



Executive Officer Bruno Cyr.



(L-R): Controller Fred Neibauer and International Representative Pete Jacks.

GMP 1997 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER AWARDED PH.D. FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Thirteen years ago, in his senior year of high school, John F. Duncan was awarded a GMP Memorial Scholarship. His award was announced in the July 1997 issue of *Horizons*, where his biographical information stated that he would enter Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, in the fall. At that time, John planned a career in genetic engineering.

Duncan did indeed graduate from Washington and Lee University and went on to obtain a Master's Degree and Ph.D. from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. He achieved all of this before reaching his 30th birthday. Dr. Duncan is now a Visiting Lecturer in the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University in Bloomington.

John's parents, Daniel T. and Nin D. Garrett of Bloomington, Indiana, stated in their recent letter to *Horizons* that, "Our family is most appreciative of this award, which was the largest of several scholarships our son received, because it allowed a very bright young man to realize his full potential when we lacked the financial ability to help him on our own". Daniel and Nin Garrett also said in their letter that, "We can *all* be proud of our part in helping him achieve this milestone in his life".

John's stepfather, Daniel T. Garrett, is a Local 63 (Atlanta, GA) retiree who worked at Owens-Brockway for forty-three years.



Dr. John Duncan is seen here with his proud parents, Daniel and Nin Garrett, on the day he received his Ph.D.



HOW YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT THE GMP SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Donations to the GMP Memorial Scholarship can be sent to:

**Walter Thorn, International
Secretary-Treasurer**

Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastics &
Allied Workers International Union
608 E. Baltimore Pike, PO Box 607
Media, PA 19063-0607

LOOK FOR THE LABEL
BUY UNION
BUY AMERICAN ➔
BUY CANADIAN



Go Union and Save \$50 on Annual HVAC Maintenance Contracts

Tired of paying through the roof to heat and air condition your home? One way to lower your home energy costs is with an annual maintenance contract from your local union HVAC service provider. A highly trained union maintenance technician will carefully inspect your heating and air conditioning (HVAC) system to keep it running at peak efficiency and save you money and energy.

When you sign a new maintenance contract with a union HVAC contractor and pay with your Union Plus Credit Card, GMP members can save even more with a \$50 Union Heating and Cooling Maintenance Rebate.

EARNING YOUR REBATE IS FAST AND EASY

Visit UnionPlus.org/HVAC to find out whether there is a unionized contractor in your area, and to apply for a rebate.

If you don't have a Union Plus Credit Card, and you'd like to learn more or apply, please visit UnionPlusCard.com

The Union Plus Credit Card is designed especially for union members and families, with features no other credit card offers like special financial hardship protections and all calls are answered in the United States.

YOUR SAVINGS DON'T STOP THERE

Home energy costs have increased by more than 30% over the last ten years. The average family spends more than \$2,000 on home energy each year—mostly on heating and air conditioning costs.

An HVAC maintenance contract, like the one provided by members of the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association (SMWIA) in your area, can improve the energy efficiency of your systems up to 30%, saving you money month after month. A typical HVAC maintenance contract may cost between \$150 and \$250 annually.

Most contracts include two professional service calls, one in the spring to prepare for air conditioning season, and one in the fall to prepare for furnace season. These visits can help prevent breakdowns and avoid costly repairs. And it could also extend the life of your furnace and air conditioner, which could save you thousands of dollars in replacement costs.

In addition, many service companies provide preferred scheduling and discounted rates on labor for service calls to their contracted customers.

UNION QUALITY, UNION REBATE — FOR UNION MEMBERS AND RETIREES

SMWIA contractors are members of an international association that represents 147,000 union members in over 150 local chapters in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Their union certification guarantees quality work that exceeds industry standards.

Visit UnionPlus.org/HVAC to search for union HVAC contractors and to apply for a rebate. Union HVAC contractors not available in all areas.



UNION SERVICE. UNION SAVINGS.

3 EASY WAYS TO SAVE MONEY AND ENERGY

Having your heating and air conditioning systems checked annually by a union contractor is one good way to save on your energy costs. Here are some others:

1. Do you use oil to heat your home? You may qualify for a \$100 rebate with the Union Plus Home Heating Oil Program. And your contracted oil price and service agreement may save you \$200-\$300 annually. Find out more at UnionPlus.org/HeatingOil
2. Qualify for up to \$500 in rebates on home improvement purchases when you use your Union Plus Credit Card. Receive \$100 for every \$400 spent, up to the lifetime limit of \$500. Visit UnionPlus.org/Green for more information.
3. Aside from your home, your car is probably your most expensive user of energy. If you've been thinking of buying a hybrid vehicle, make sure you go union for the best in quality. And when you purchase a new union-made EPA Green Car through the Union Plus Auto Buying Service, you can receive a \$200 rebate. Learn more at UnionPlus.org/Auto or by calling **1-866-437-2336**.



Support Legislation to Protect the Safety and Health of America's Workers (H.R. 5663)

In 2008, more than 5,200 workers were killed on the job and millions more were injured or diseased because of their jobs. Every day, an average of 14 workers die from job injuries, never to return home to their loved ones and families.

The nation's job safety laws were enacted 40 years ago. The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act) has never been updated. Penalties are weak even in cases where workers are killed, the government's enforcement tools are limited and protections for workers who raise job safety concerns are woefully inadequate.

Legislation has been introduced in the Congress to prevent future disasters and protect the safety and health of miners and other workers. H.R. 5663 strengthens the Mine Safety and Health Act and Occupational Safety and Health Act, the nation's primary job safety laws. The bill - the "Miner Safety and Health Act of 2010" - provides for stepped up enforcement and tougher penalties for employers who flagrantly violate the law and enhances the protection of miners and workers who speak out about job hazards, report injuries and exercise their rights. The mine safety provisions address problems identified after the Upper Big Branch disaster, including increased oversight, enforcement and penalties for mines with a pattern of violations. The provisions to strengthen the OSH Act come from H.R. 2067 - the Protecting America's Workers Act - legislation introduced last year and the subject of numerous Congressional hearings. Specifically, H.R. 5663 would:

- **Increase OSHA and MSHA Civil and Criminal Penalties for Serious Job Safety Violations.** The bill would raise penalties for OSHA violations to \$12,000 for serious violations and \$120,000 for willful and repeat violations. An employer's history of violations under both federal and state OSHA plans would be the basis for repeat violations. For violations resulting in worker deaths, new higher penalties would be set and include a mandatory minimum, so fines could not be reduced to a slap on the wrist, as too often is the case now. The current median OSHA penalty assessed for worker fatalities is only \$5,000. Criminal violations of the OSH Act would be made a felony, instead of a misdemeanor, and be expanded to cover cases that involve serious bodily injuries, not just worker deaths. Individual corporate officers and directors could be held criminally liable for knowing violations of the law.



- **Require Correction of Hazards While Employer Contests of Serious OSHA Violations are Pending.** H.R. 5663 would require that employers fix serious violations, even if they are challenging OSHA citations, to make sure that workers are protected. This is already required under MSHA. Employers could seek a stay of this abatement requirement on an expedited basis if they can demonstrate that workers' safety and health will not be adversely affected.

What You Can Do?

Workplace disasters and serious workplace hazards are claiming the lives, limbs and health of too many workers. The job safety and health laws must be strengthened to hold employers accountable, to give OSHA and MSHA stronger enforcement tools and to protect workers who exercise their rights. Contact your members of Congress and urge them to support and co-sponsor H.R. 5663 to provide all workers the safety and health protections they need and deserve.

OWENS CORNING, WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF FIBERGLASS:

COMMITTED TO IMPROVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY



Owens Corning World Headquarters in Toledo, Ohio.

Owens Corning manufactures building materials that save energy, reduce reliance on fossil fuels and decrease greenhouse gas emissions all over the world. For example, fiberglass insulation saves 12 times the energy used to produce it in its first year installed alone. The company's insulation products continue to help conserve energy year after year without consuming any additional resources. Owens Corning is committed to making products that meet the needs of the "green" marketplace.

Owens Corning was founded in 1935 as a partnership between two major American glassworks, Corning Glass Works and Owens-Illinois. The company was spun off as a separate entity in 1938, and on November 1 of that year Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation was announced. Owens Corning became publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange in 1952.

Since 1956, the company's insulation has been dyed

pink to provide visual contrast and in 1987 made legal history as the first company to trademark a color. The Pink Panther, a much-loved cartoon character, became the Owens Corning mascot in 1980 to promote the sales of PINK Fiberglas insulation.

In 1996, Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation officially changed its name to Owens Corning to reflect the company's growth and technology expansion. The company operates within two segments: building materials and composites. Owens Corning is a market-leading producer of building materials that include insulation and roofing materials. Their products meet the demand for longer lasting and aesthetically attractive shingle and roofing accessories.

Owens Corning leads the market in producing glass fiber reinforcement materials for composites. (An estimated 95 percent of composite materials use glass reinforcement fibers.) For example, Owens Corning is the

leading provider of glass fiber reinforcements for wind turbine blades that generate electricity from a renewable resource.

Approximately 1,700 GMP members (from seven Local Unions) employed at Owens Corning facilities in California, Georgia, New York, Ohio, South Carolina and Texas, produce such products as fiberglass insulation, roofing materials, shingles, chopped glass, milled glass fibers and glass marbles.

“Our employees take great pride in making quality products for our customers, and as we combine our employees’ talent with OC’s new customer-focused innovations, the future is exciting”, said Jeff Wilke, Owens Corning Vice President of Labor Relations.

For more information on Owens Corning visit their website at owenscorning.com



Examples of OC insulation

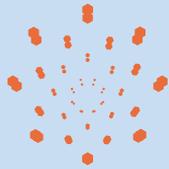


Example of OC roofing materials



Owens Corning is the leading provider of glass fiber reinforcements for wind turbine blades.

FIBER GLASS PIONEERS RECOGNIZED AT INVENTORS HALL OF FAME



invent now®

National Inventors Hall of Fame® Foundation

Three men, Dale Kleist, Dr. Russell Games Slayter and John H. Thomas, who invented the process for making glass fiber insulation in commercial quantities, were inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2006.

Their work resulted in a new type of mass-produced, affordable insulation that is now used by millions of people around the world. Their innovations also led to the formation of Owens Corning in 1938. The National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation website (invent.org) and museum in Akron, Ohio, are both worth a visit.



GMP members at work



Organized Labor in Northeast Indiana Holds Picnic: Over 8,000 in Attendance



(L-R): Mickey Hicks (retired LU 262, Kendallville, IN), Leonard Hicks (retired, former Pres. LU 262), GMP Executive Officer Rick Vitaoe, Tom Lewandowski (Pres, NE IN Central Labor Council) and Tom Hart (Pres., LU 84802 of the IUE-CWA, Bluffton, IN).



Seen here are union members and their families enjoying the food and playing bingo.

Organized Labor in Northeast Indiana held their 3rd Annual Picnic (hog roast) at Headwaters Park in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The picnic was open to anyone who is a worker and/or friend of labor. There were over 100 volunteers

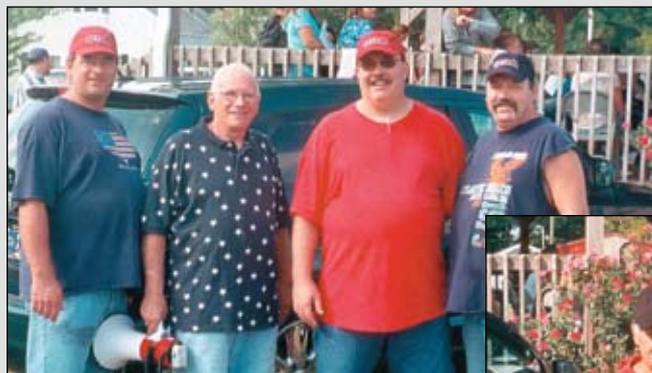
from different unions working at this event and an estimated crowd of 8,000. The food included hot dogs, chili, chips, ethnic food, ice cream and plenty of beverages. Activities included - face painting, balloon artists, bingo and games.

Everyone had a great time celebrating Labor Day.

A special thanks to Tom Lewandowski (President, NE IN Central Labor Council) who is instrumental in putting this event together every year.

Local 32 (Knauf Insulation) Holds Annual Picnic In Shelbyville, IN: Nearly 600 in Attendance

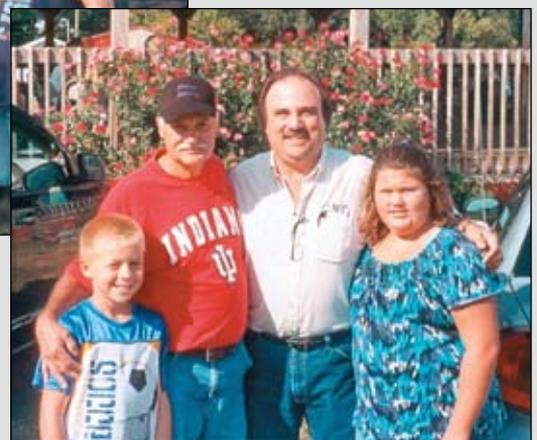
Local 32 (Shelbyville, IN) held their 3rd annual picnic on Sunday, September 11, 2010, at the Fair Grounds in Shelbyville. The food included a hog roast, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, macaroni, chips, cotton candy, snow cones, watermelon and plenty of drinks. There were lots of games and prizes for the children. Activities included wall climbing, face painting, cake walks and clowns. Everyone enjoyed celebrating in solidarity.



(L-R): LU 32 Recording Secretary Matt Hamblen, Committeeman & Picnic Coordinator Lou Posz, Committeeman Danny Greene and LU 32 Vice President Roger Greene.



(L-R, cooking biscuits): Greene, Committeeperson Rhonda Lovett, Jimmy Lovett and Keith Johnson.



(L-R): Logan Theobald, grandson of LU 32 President Mike Theobald, Executive Officer Rick Vitaoe and his daughter, Amy Vitaoe.

Local 226 Member Fred Koehnke Retires with 39 Years of Service



Current Local 226 President Steve Clark congratulates former President Fred Koehnke (L) on his retirement from Saint-Gobain, on May 1, 2010, after 39 years of service. Fred helped negotiate nine contracts during the years he served as Local President (1975-1999). Members of Local 226, Burlington, WI, presented Koehnke with a clock in honor of his service to his local and fellow Brothers and Sisters.

Northeast Protective League Meets; New Officers Sworn In

The Northeast Protective League (NEPL), formerly known as the New Jersey State Council, met on September 17, 2010.



Executive Officer Richard Baumcraz is seen here swearing in the new officers: (L-R): Baumcraz, NEPL Recording Secretary Tracy Green (LU 54, Port Allegany, PA), NEPL Vice President Dennis Moses (LU 54), NEPL Treasurer Darlene Lewis (LU 21, Salem, NJ) and NEPL President Edison Williams (LU 157, Salem, NJ).

PHOTO ROUNDUP

Local 98 Officers Visit Brewton Iron Works and Grede



The officers of Local 98, Midland, Georgia, recently toured two of plants that are of part of their local union. Seen here at **Brewton Iron Works** in Brewton, Alabama, are (L-R): Local 98 Financial Secretary Eugene DeBrabant, Local 98 members Charles Land (tool & die maker), Manuel Hall (shipping & receiving),



Ronald Smith (grinder) and Local 98 President Darwin Lipscomb.

Local 98 officers also toured the **Grede Brewton** facility in Selma, Alabama. Seen here are (L-R): Local 98 Vice President Hileary Culliver, DeBrabant, Lipscomb, and International Representative Larry Harris.

*"After I was **laid off**,
money got tight in a hurry. "*



\$250 When You Need it Most

Union SAFE Job Loss Grant for laid off GMP Union Plus Credit Card holders

If you've been laid off during this economic downturn, you're absolutely not alone: unemployment is at its highest level since 1982. Union Plus knows it's a challenge making ends meet on a restricted income, so we created the GMP Union SAFE Job Loss Grant. It's \$250, credited directly to your GMP Union Plus Credit Card account.* The GMP Union Plus Credit Card is the only credit card to offer a job loss grant. Visit UnionPlus.org/JobLoss to learn more about eligibility, and to complete the grant application.

*The Union SAFE Job Loss Grant is designed for union members who have involuntarily lost their permanent jobs, and who are Union Plus Credit Card holders in good standing. Restrictions apply.



UnionPlus.org



UNION-MADE Entertainment, Information, Journalism and Sports

It's all available with a union label...



AE: Actors' Equity

The union representing live stage actors and stage managers, for Broadway shows, touring companies and in theaters across the country. (www.actorsequity.org)



AGVA: American Guild of Variety Artists

Represents performers in variety shows, including Las Vegas shows, magicians, circus performers and performers in theme parks.



AFTRA: Members of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists

The actors and actresses in television entertainment, the disc jockeys and other voices on your radio, the journalists who present your television news, weather and sports. They make commercials, documentaries, narrate sporting events, appear on cable and digital video and audio presentations. They're union members and proud of it. (www.aftra.org)



AFM: American Federation of Musicians

Represents the full range of musical artistry—orchestras, bands, individuals, vocalists, back up singers and studio musicians. Every major music star is a member of the AFM. Concert orchestras in many U.S. cities are represented by AFM. (www.afm.org)



IATSE: International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts

From lighting experts and stage hands, craftpersons, artisans—animators, cartoonists, illustrators, camera operators, makeup artists—IATSE members do the heavy lifting and create the illusions that bring an entertainment experience to life. (www.iatse-intl.org)



IBEW: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Radio and television engineers, sound and light technicians and other broadcast personnel. (ibew.org)



NABET: National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians (A Sector of Communications Workers of America)

Broadcasting personnel who photograph, film, record, distribute, telecast, transmit for network, cable, public television stations and independent studios nationwide. NABET technicians work in studios and in the field as vital links in the broadcast chain. (www.nabetcwa.org)



WGAE: Writer's Guild of America East

Write stage and screen plays and creative works for the entertainment industry, including new media (digital presentations). (www.wgaeast.org)



Don't forget sports...

NFLPA: National Football League Players Association & the Federation of Professional Athletes

Represents NFL players and other professional athletes.

Arts, entertainment and sports industries employ millions of union members, from catering and service personnel who serve refreshments to ushers, custodial and grounds workers in stadiums and arenas to performers in places such as Disney World and Disneyland. Next time you attend an event, tip your hat when you see the union button and let those workers know you appreciate what they do.

You will find many of these listings on the Union Label Website www.unionlabel.org

The National Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is the basis on which our Cost of Living clauses are calculated. Thus, changes in the CPI-W are the basis for wage increases as required by many GMP contracts.

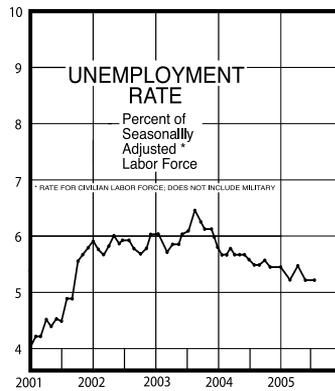
The Bureau of Labor Statistics which publishes the Consumer Price Index has re-formulated the CPI-W, and discontinued the old index in July, 1985 when it published the June, 1985 Index. The new CPI-W reflects a change from home ownership costs to rental equivalent costs.

GMP HORIZONS will continue to publish the CPI-W for the benefit of GMP members.

Although most contracts call for a COL increase based on an increase in points, some have provisions for increases based on percentages. Therefore, both the percentage increase and point increase are shown below.

Effective dates and terms of the contract clauses vary. Consequently, an interested member should consult his current Union Contract for effective dates and provisions. He then can judge from the changes noted in the table if the agreement provisions call for an increase.

For purposes of gauging changes, the base index will remain 1967 = 100.



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.A. for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

	(1967 = 100) Index	Percent Increase	Point Increase
October 2009	630.1	0.1%	0.7
November 2009	631.5	0.2%	1.4
December 2009	630.6	-0.1%	-0.9
January 2010	633.1	0.4%	2.5
February 2010	633.1	0.0%	0.0
March 2010	636.0	0.5%	2.9
April 2010	637.3	0.2%	1.3
May 2010	637.8	0.1%	0.5
June 2010	636.9	-0.1%	-0.9
July 2010	637.1	0.0%	0.2
August 2010	638.0	0.1%	0.9
September 2010	638.3	0.0%	0.3

12 Month Index Increase = 9.1 • Year-to-Date Inflation Rate Increased by Approximately 0.3%

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL CANADA

	(1986=100)		(1992=100)	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
January	166.9	171.3	130.3	133.7
February	168.1	171.8	131.2	134.1
March	169.5	172.4	132.2	134.6
April	170.1	173.8	132.8	135.7
May	170.8	176.3	133.4	137.6
June	171.3	176.6	133.8	137.9
July	171.5	177.3	133.9	138.4
August	171.0	177.0	133.5	138.2
September	171.3	177.2	133.7	138.3
October	170.8	175.4	133.4	136.9
November	171.4	173.9	133.8	135.8
December	171.7	172.8	134.0	134.9
Annual Average		173.9		135.8
Average Annual Increase		2.3%		2.3%
March 2007 to March 2008	1.2%		1.2%	
	(1971=100)		(1981=100)	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
January	533.29	536.9	221.2	227.0
February	526.9	538.5	222.8	227.7
March	531.3	540.6	224.6	228.5
April	533.3	544.9	225.5	230.4
May	535.7	552.6	226.5	233.6
June	537.3	553.8	227.2	234.1
July	537.8	555.8	227.3	235.0
August	536.1	555.0	226.7	234.6
September	536.9	555.4	227.1	234.8
October	535.7	549.9	226.5	232.4
November	537.3	545.4	227.2	230.5
December	538.1	541.8	227.5	229.0

Notice of Nomination and Elections

Local 236, Fairburn, GA

The nomination of officers for Local 236, Fairburn, Georgia, will take place at the regular union meeting on Wednesday, December 22, 2010, at 6:00 P.M.

Nominations will be accepted orally. All officer positions are open for nomination.

The election of the officers for Local 236 will be held on the 26th and 27th of January 2011. The polls will open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 9:00 P.M. both days.

Results of the votes will be announced immediately following the tally on the night of the 27th. Both the nomination meeting, along with the voting, will take place at the Local's hall at the GMP/OC Education Center, located at 7000 McLarin Road, Fairburn, GA.

Local Union Presidents, by virtue of their office and in accordance with Article 20, Section 2, of the GMP Constitution, shall represent the Local Union at the International Quadrennial Convention as one of its delegates.

NOTICE: Any Local Union advertising its nominations and elections in Horizons must submit 120 days prior to the nominations date, an up-to-date corrected mailing list along with other details.

DEATH BENEFIT DUES - In the event you leave employment seeking permanent and total disability, YOU MUST CONTINUE PAYING YOUR DEATH BENEFIT DUES until such time as permanent and total disability status is established. As a general rule, disability determination routinely takes from 6 to 8 months. Any overpayments will be refunded.

Do not permit your DEATH BENEFIT DUES to become delinquent over 90 days. All GMP members are responsible for making payments to maintain death benefit eligibility. Persons wishing to report a death or discuss the death benefit may call the Death Benefit Department at 1-610-565-5051 ext. 221. Remember to check your official beneficiary information. The beneficiary of record is solely entitled to the Death Benefit. Submit beneficiary changes immediately.

All claims must be filed within five (5) years of death.

Early retirees are also responsible for payment up to age 65. If you are self-paying, indicate your local union number and forward your check to:

Walter Thorn
GMP Int'l. Secretary-Treasurer
PO Box 607
608 E. Baltimore Pike
Media, PA 19063

WAKE UP CALL TO AMERICA

In today's world, everything is expected to be instantaneous. Cell phone and computer companies are constantly "upgrading" to faster and faster services. As a country, we have fallen into the habit of expecting immediate results in almost every facet of our lives, and that apparently, includes our political process.

Just two short years after a groundbreaking election that saw the first African-American elected to the highest office in the land, Americans appear to be disenchanted and impatient with the progress of the new administration in guiding America out of the worst economic crisis since the great depression.

We tend to forget that the housing "bubble" was growing for more than twenty years through four years of President George H. Bush, eight years of President Bill Clinton and eight years of President George W. Bush. We tend to forget too that the "bubble" burst and Wall Street nearly collapsed during 2007 and 2008, prior to the election of the current President.

And what has happened since? Instead of Republicans joining with Democrats in our hour of need, they have elected to become the party of "no". Republicans have developed a strategy that is purely political and completely ignores the needs of the American people. Let's look at just three pieces of legislation that are intended to help guide America back to our former position in the world.

Legislation was introduced (H.R. 2847) and passed the House in 2009 that will take \$75 billion dollars of unused TARP funds (Troubled Asset Relief Program) and direct it toward the rebuilding of American infrastructure and the creation of thousands of jobs that come with such a project. Not one Republican voted for this legislation!

House Bill 3269 was passed last year by a vote of 237 for and 185 against. This legislation forces reforms to executive pay and compensation for

publicly traded companies, including banks that have received TARP money. Intended to put an end to the outrageous bonuses and other "golden parachute" benefits afforded the top executives, only two Republicans supported this legislation.

Finally, House Bill 4213 passed the House by a vote of 215 to 214 with only one Republican voting for the legislation. H.R. 4213 will invest in American jobs, cut taxes for employers who create American jobs, and close loopholes in current law that affords companies who outsource American jobs overseas to take huge tax deductions for the "costs" of moving American jobs to foreign countries.

The votes just mentioned can only be categorized as amazing. The party of "no" apparently has said; the rebuilding of the infrastructure and the thousands of jobs it would create are not needed; there is no need to safeguard against corporate piracy at a time when American taxpayers are bailing out these corporations; and investing in American jobs while taking away "incentives" to move jobs overseas is not a good idea!

In 2004, America was still reeling from the effects of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. Republicans supported George W. Bush's bid for reelection with the theme that we should not change captains in the midst of turmoil. Now, with the country slowly crawling out of the worst financial downturn in years, Republicans are campaigning on wholesale change!

What the Republican Party is counting on is that Americans are impatient, and in today's America slow progress is no progress at all. It is said that Nero played the fiddle while Rome burned. In America, the Republican Party just played politics.

Wake up, America! Don't get fooled again.

DON SEAL
Editor

"Republicans have developed a strategy that is purely political and completely ignores the needs of the American people."

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