

## **JANUARY 1975**

### **ANN ARBOR LOCAL 190 BUSINESS MANAGER BECOMES REPRESENTATIVE**

President Notar reports that Jack Wheatley, Business Manager, Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 190, has been appointed by U.A. President Martin Ward to the position of International Representative for the states of Texas and Oklahoma. A special Local 190 election will be held in February. Mr. Wheatley has been Business Manager for the Local Union since 1959. President Notar also reports that the Annual Business Meeting of the Association will be held the later part of January at which time election of Officers and Directors and new Committees will be voted on.

Contract negotiations according to the last agreement may be opened in June to discuss Travel Pay only. A decision will be made by the membership at the February meeting.

## **FEBRUARY 1975**

### **WASHTENAW COUNTY**



**Louis Boone, President, Boone & Darr, Inc.,** in Ann Arbor was elected President of the Washtenaw County Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, Inc., for 1975 and 1976 -at the Annual Business Meeting of the Association held at Weber's on January 27, 1975. Mr. Boone emphasized the importance of Association involvement particularly at a time of economic instability. He further stated contractors can establish and maintain ethics in the public interest by subscribing to such ethics as implied through Association membership. The new President of the Association expressed a thought of optimism for 1975. He stated that although the economic growth in the Construction Industry has recently been at a snail's pace, unemployment rising and inflation still rampant -there are signs that the Construction Industry in Michigan will soon be revived by lower interest rates and release of State and Federal monies for public construction.

Also serving as Officers and Board members for 1975-76 are: Michael O'Neill, A. M. O'Neill Inc. in Ann Arbor, Vice President, William Romelhardt, Garvin Plumbing & Heating, Inc. in Ypsilanti, Secretary-Treasurer, Gerald Notar, Towler & Notar, Inc. in Ypsilanti, Past President, Kyle Fuller, Fuller Heating Company in Ann Arbor and John Montonye, Indoor Comfort Company in Ypsilanti will both serve as directors.

## **MARCH 1975**

### **WASHTENAW COUNTY**

President Boone reports that the Washtenaw Council of Construction Employers, consisting of the various contractor associations in the area made a recent appeal to the City Council of Ann Arbor to favorably hasten action on the proposed construction of the Federal Building in downtown Ann Arbor. Local Associations feel that construction of this building will begin new thinking on future planned growth in the area.

The Washtenaw Association reports that the original goal of nine percent minority employment in the Plumbing and Pipefitting Trade has been reached. Presently Plumbers and Pipefitters have thirty seven percent minority ratio or twenty six persons in the program. President Boone also reports that the Association established a Mechanical Interpretation Code Committee to discuss and review the new BOCA Mechanical Code now under State consideration. This Committee will make written and verbal presentations to the proper agencies as felt necessary.

## **JUNE 1975**

### **WASHTENAW COUNTY**



#### **BOCA Code Seminar**

President Boone reports that the Association sponsored a BOCA Plumbing Code Seminar in April. The Seminar was presented by Jack Keevan, Chief Plumbing Inspector for the State of Michigan. Another Seminar has been scheduled to finish their review of the new plumbing code that will be going into effect for the State in May. In attendance with Association members were Inspectors from all cities and townships in the Washtenaw County area.

#### **Cross Connection Program**

President Boone reports that the Washtenaw County Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors is sponsoring a series of three cross connection programs. The first was held in May. The programs are being presented by Larry Burkheiser, executive secretary of the Michigan Health and Safety Institute.



In attendance at the initial meeting along with the Association members were: Local inspectors from the Washtenaw County area, local owners, i.e., University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Ann Arbor

Schools, etc. and members from the various water departments throughout the county.

#### **Negotiations**

President Boone also reports that the 81 ¢ wage increase negotiated last year became effective June 1, 1975. A new service agreement has been negotiated which calls for a lesser rate for installers and more importantly giving the contractor a free hand in the number of installers he can hire with the usage and direction of these men at the contractors discretion.

#### **Code Committee**

John Montonye, Indoor Comfort Company, has been appointed to serve on the State Ad Hoc Committee for the review of the BOCA Mechanical Code. John is currently a member of the

Association's Board of Directors, Nominating Committee, Political Action and Legislative Committee, Ann Arbor Heating and Refrigeration Board and Code Committee, Joint Labor-Management Grievance Committee, Public Owners-Contractors Liaison Committee and Service Negotiation Committee.

## **Association Annual Dinner Dance**

The Social Committee (consisting of Donald Noffsinger, Johnson & Lillard Plumbing & Heating, Chairman, Lloyd Zill, Hutzel Plumbing & Heating and Michael O'Neill, A.M. O'Neill, Inc.) is now working on plans for the Annual Dinner Dance. The Dance is being planned for the 20th of June, 1975 at Weber's Inn in the Ballroom.

## **MPMCA Director**

Donald Noffsinger, Vice President of Johnson & Lillard Plumbing & Heating Company, Inc., has been appointed to serve as the Washtenaw County Association's Director to the Michigan Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association. Don has been a member of the Association since 1951 and is the only active member of the original Association.

## **New Members**

The Membership would like to welcome two new members in the Associate Membership classification. They are: The Stanley-Carter Company located at 13540 Linwood Avenue in Detroit. Their representative to the Association is Robert Petrillo; and Mechanical Heat & Cold located at 12300 Bellevue Avenue, Detroit. Their representative is Jack Wilson.

## **AUGUST 1975**

### **WASHTENAW COUNTY Association Activities Update**

The next issue of the Affirmative Action Newsletter which gives up-to-date information on the progress of the Program and spotlights various apprentices will be sponsored by the PHCC Association. The newsletter is produced by students in the Washtenaw County Black Economic Development League Multi-Media Program as part of their on-the-job training. Bruce Towler, Business Manager, Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 190, spoke to members at the last membership meeting. The new contract agreements and various items of mutual concern were discussed at great length.

The Public Owners-Contractors Liaison Committee luncheon for July was sponsored by the Association. The Committee is made up of various owners, i.e., local educational institutions, city, county and township representatives and contractor representatives from throughout the county. Participants meet monthly to discuss problems in construction and to open up better communications.

The local Association's appreciation for the fine work accomplished by our State Association office was shown recently by sponsorship of a full page ad "A Salute To The Michigan Plumbing And Mechanical Contractors Association." The Ad appeared in the Michigan Mechanical Contractor/Master Plumber Magazine.

Members are reminded to send in their final suggestions on the booklet recently sent to them on separate contracts so the information can be compiled for publication as soon as possible.

**DECEMBER 1975**

## **WASHTENAW COUNTY Louis Boone**

The Affirmative Action Program has done its job and done it well, but with current financial problems, it may be time to evaluate whether the program is being extended beyond its usefulness.

This is the opinion of Louis Boone of Boone and Darr Plumbing Contractors and President of the Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Association. Speaking both as a representative of the P-H-C industry and as an employer, Boone recently shared his experiences and thoughts on the Affirmative Action Program with the Affirmative Action Reporter.

Boone has only positive recollections of his contact with Norm Kennedy and official representatives of the program. One incident in particular stands out in his mind. A young black man was placed in Boone's firm through the Affirmative Action Program, and problems developed. The youth kept missing work, and, in Boone's estimation, was shy and afraid although he showed good potential. Boone had frequent contact with Kennedy who in turn had frequent contact with the young man. Now, says Boone, he is really coming around and turning into a fine worker, really helped by their persistence.

Out of an economy-reduced workforce of 50, Boone has five minority workmen, meeting the overall 9% goal of the Affirmative Action Program.

Boone places great emphasis on the necessity of his employees to work and to apply their skills. He said he has fired two minority workers because their skill level was not up to par; yet these two were quickly replaced by other minority plumbing apprentices who, he feels, have a good grasp of the plumbing skills.

Boone remarked that the pressure of the Federal Government in the late sixties and early seventies made employers afraid to fire minority workers, for any reason. Now, he says, there are very well-trained minority workers ready and able to perform well on the job. The Plumber's Union Local is the source of all his minority manpower now says Boone, and he has had little contact with Norm Kennedy or the Program itself in recent months. The job of recruiting and training workers rightfully belongs to the unions, he continues, and feels that perhaps they should begin to shoulder the full responsibility. He pointed out that the Plumber's Local has a good apprenticeship program -one of the best in the state. If there is any kind of a problem with a trainee, he is brought before the Joint Apprenticeship Council to work out a solution. An important difference, Boone repeated, is that now the unions and employers have no reservations about being selective in accepting and hiring workers to produce the best trained workers.