

860

CLEVELAND

EXPRESS

DEDICATED TO ENSURING LABOR MAINTAINS ITS PROPER PLACE IN THE WORLD

LOCAL 860 WINS COVETED
NATIONAL TRUST AWARD

MAKING WORKZONE
SAFETY A PRIORITY

NEW CLASSES OFFERED
AT OUR MODERNIZED
TRAINING CENTER

MEMBER KEITH KIST
INTRODUCES VP BIDEN

CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY



U.S. AIR FORCE THUNDERBIRDS
SOAR OVER A LOCAL 860 BILLBOARD
AT THE CLEVELAND AIR SHOW

Slow In Work Zones laborers860.com



“WHAT HAS YOUR UNION DONE LATELY?”

“A LOT!”

A Message from Anthony D. Liberatore, Jr.



RECENTLY THE UNITED STATES has been plunged into a deep economic recession. That has translated into a discouraging employment picture.

Across America, the unemployment has reached almost 10 percent, which is one of the highest levels of joblessness since the Great Depression.

But Local 860 has not taken such bad news sitting down. If anything, we have stepped up our efforts over the last year to keep as many of our members as possible employed. At the same time, we have focused on maintaining the excellent wages and benefits that have been part of our Local for many years.

We also have been engaged in other key areas that benefit our members. These include job development, political activism, training, safety and health and family events.

JOB DEVELOPMENT: In late spring we invited Ohio Department of Transportation Director Jolene M. Molitoris to make an announcement from our beautiful union hall, Southworth House, about new highway work in our jurisdiction coming through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. She called us the “best local in America.” The media gave the event wide coverage. We did not stop there. We met with various employers about future work, including Dominion East Ohio Gas about the company’s plans for a statewide overhaul of its pipeline. We also put up a giant billboard on Chester Avenue that reads: “Stimulate Infrastructure. Laborers860.com.”

POLITICAL ACTIVISM: Local 860 pushed for increased state support for highways and the infrastructure and held a fundraiser at Southworth House for Governor Ted Strickland. He brought with him Lt. Governor Lee Fisher and other officeholders.

TRAINING/UPDATING: I cannot emphasize enough how important continuous training is to preserving and even increasing employment for Local 860 members. New technologies and methods demand such up-to-date skills. Beyond urging members to attend classes at our Laborers’ statewide Drexel Thrash Center in Central Ohio, we modernized Local 860’s training facilities in the building adjacent to our union hall. Please contact Recording Secretary David Pasqualone for a winter training schedule. Meanwhile, to deliver timely information to members in the best way possible, we have updated the Local 860 Website, www.laborers860.com, and made it interactive. So please let us know your opinion and make sure that Diane in the main office has your email address.

HEALTH: To assure that members and retirees are getting the best value in our insurance benefits, the Ohio Laborers’ District Council/Ohio Contractors’ Association Insurance Fund convened a bidders’ conference at Southworth to review the self-funded statewide medical insurance plan. More immediately, we continue to hold annual healthcare screenings during the union Holiday Gift Distribution, which includes a \$50 grocery gift card.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES: Our Local 860 Night at Progressive Field in August was a huge success, as was the Family Weekend at Kalahari Indoor Water Park in Sandusky. Space goes rapidly, so do not delay. Register now for the 2010 Family Weekend.

continued on page 4



860 EXPRESS

WINTER 2009/2010 • VOLUME 6 • ISSUE 4

CONTENTS

5 *On the Cover*
U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds
Highlight Workzone Safety

6 Innerbelt Reconstruction
to Proceed in 2010

7 ODOT Holds
Opportunity Corridor Meetings

8 Local 860 Wins
Prestigious National Trust Award

11 Mike Charlton: Not Finished Yet!

12 Local 860's Keith Kist
Introduces Vice President Biden

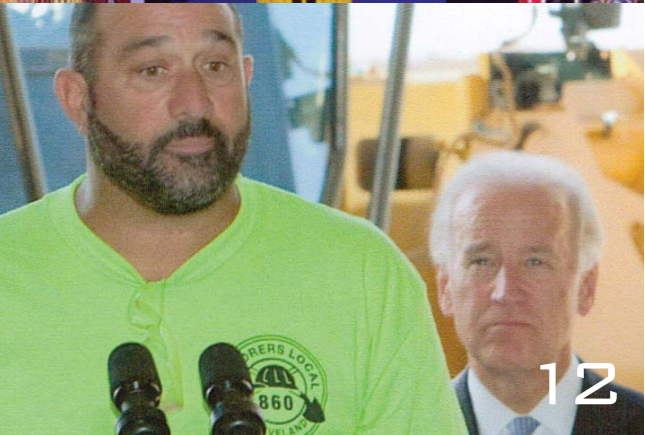
14 Training: Vital to our Success

15 Pervious Concrete Upgrades
Our Training Center

16 860 Scrapbook /
Santa Comes to Southworth

24 News Bits
• Retirement Council Convened
• 50- and 25-Year Members Honored
• Contact Us

28 Upcoming Events:
Kalahari Weekend
February 19-21, 2010



COVER AND
OTHER PHOTOS BY
WILLIAM RIETER.

HOLIDAY PHOTOS
BY ROSE
COSTANZO
AND BILL RIETER

“WHAT HAS YOUR UNION DONE LATELY?”
“A LOT!”

*A Message from Anthony D. Liberatore, Jr.
continued from page 2*

SAFETY: On the cover of this newsletter is a stunning photo taken by photographer Bill Rieter. It shows the Thunderbirds, the elite Air Force demonstration squadron, soaring over our sign on a warehouse near Burke Lakefront Airport during the annual Cleveland Air Show on Labor Day weekend. Even those pilots, among the world’s best, could read: “Slow In Work Zones laborers860.com.”

We wanted to show the world how seriously we consider the safety of our members, and this complemented the 35 safety signs we put up at highway workzones at the start of the construction season. Our big, bold, black and orange message warns drivers: “Road Work Season. Caution in Work Zones,” while Bud the Barrel stares down at them. We are one of the few unions partnering with a university in seeking better workzone safety, and I am on the Advisory Board of the University Transportation Center (UTC) at Cleveland State University, which is focused on improving highway safety.



* * *



You will see in this issue that we were chosen from more than 130 nominations across America to receive an Award this fall from the prestigious National Trust for Historic Preservation for our restoration of Southworth House into the superb Local 860 headquarters.

Local 860 officials received a standing ovation from the more than one thousand preservationists at the National Trust’s annual conference in Nashville, because, as someone said later, “You guys not only did the planning, you did much of the actual work yourselves.”

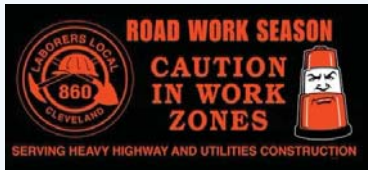
We were nominated by the Cleveland Restoration Society, which held its fall meeting at Southworth and showed the awards ceremony video.

Time flies, but as we publish this final newsletter of 2009, I want to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and continued prosperity, safety and good health in 2010.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Anthony D. Liberatore, Jr.".

Work Zone Safety is Sacred at Local 860



NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT to Laborers' Local 860 than protecting the safety of our members.

We are unrelenting in our effort to find better ways of improving work-zone safety because we know that each year 1,000 Americans, including Laborers, are killed and another 37,000 are injured in heavy-highway work zones.

In recent years, Local 860 has engaged in various creative activities aimed at better work-zone safety.

These include producing television commercials with the help from the Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust (LECET), a statewide joint effort of Laborers and Contractors.

Moreover, each spring at the outset of the construction season, we erect some 35 highly visible orange and black billboards at critical highway workzones, reminding drivers to slow down. This year, we put up a special attention-getting billboard near Burke Lakefront Airport during the annual Cleveland National Air Show: "Slow In Work Zones laborers860.com."

We are one of the few unions partnering with a university in seeking better workzone safety. In fact, Business Manager Tony Liberatore sits on the Advisory Board of the University Transportation Center (UTC) at Cleveland State University, which is headed by Dr. Stephen F. Duffy, chairman of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Dr. Duffy has raised more than \$1.5 million to support the UTC, which is conducting studies of the impact of safety signage at highway work sites. The UTC also has a simulator that replicates natural driving conditions, allowing researchers to collect data on drivers in near-crashes and other roadway incidents.

Recently, the UTC agreed to commit at least \$15,000 from the U.S. Department of Transportation to help us fund our billboard safety program.

Apart from these initiatives, we also conduct safety classes at our new Training Center on Prospect Avenue coordinated by Local 860 Business Representative David Pasqualone. In addition, the statewide Laborers' Drexel J. Thrash Training Center in Millwood, Ohio, regularly holds hazardous waste and OSHA-certified safety classes.

In short, Local 860 is always thinking of new ways to promote construction zone safety. ■





ODOT Receives Approval to Proceed with the Innerbelt Reconstruction

THIS FALL, THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA) approved the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Innerbelt Plan of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT).

The Record of Decision by FHWA, which will fund most of the cost of the new bridge, completes the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and allows ODOT to move forward with the modernization of the Innerbelt.

This includes the \$400-million construction of a new westbound I-90 Innerbelt Bridge, as well as flattening of the Innerbelt Curve and consolidation of ramps within the Innerbelt Trench.

Preconstruction of the new bridge will begin late next year. It will move forward in the spring of 2011 and be completed in 2013. After the new bridge is fully operational, ODOT is slated to demolish the old bridge and build a new eastbound bridge.

“This is good news for Local 860,” says Tony Liberatore. “This project will provide us with us with a tremendous number of manhours.”

Meanwhile, ODOT is completing a \$10-million structural repair of the existing Innerbelt Bridge. This will allow for the reopening of the W. 14th Street ramp to I-90 eastbound – it has been closed since May of 2008 – and the Ontario Street ramp to I-90 westbound. ■

Above: The original Innerbelt construction began in 1959. The new construction will begin a half-century later.

860

EXPRESS

LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF NORTH AMERICA, LOCAL 860



Large Public Meetings Held for the Opportunity Corridor

IN 2004, ODOT BEGAN PLANNING the much-proclaimed Opportunity Corridor, but postponed the project because of the lack of funding.

This fall, with new funding, the Steering Committee held public meetings at the Cleveland Play House and Mt. Sinai Baptist Church on Woodland Avenue.

The Corridor – planned as a boulevard – will connect Interstate 490 at East 55th Street into University Circle. Not only will this open University Circle to the Interstate system, it will encourage economic development in this area often called the Forgotten Triangle.

While construction will not start until 2014 or 2015, the meetings provided the opportunity, if you will, for ODOT to explain the Corridor’s purpose and projected route.

Because most of the Corridor construction will be done by Local 860, we salute Terri Hamilton Brown, the Project Coordinator for the Greater Cleveland Partnership, and ODOT District 12 Deputy Director Bonnie Teeuwen, for continuing to pursue this important project. ■



Opportunity Corridor Project Coordinator Terri Hamilton Brown answers questions at recent public meetings.



Standing Ovation Greets Local 860 at the National Preservation Awards for Rehabilitating our Historic Mansion

LOCAL 860 REPRESENTATIVES, LED BY BUSINESS MANAGER TONY LIBERATORE, received a standing ovation this fall while crossing the stage of the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville to receive the prestigious National Preservation Award.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation gave Local 860 the award for restoring the 19th century mansion on Prospect Avenue, Southworth House, into our headquarters. Local 860 is the first union in the United States to win this award.

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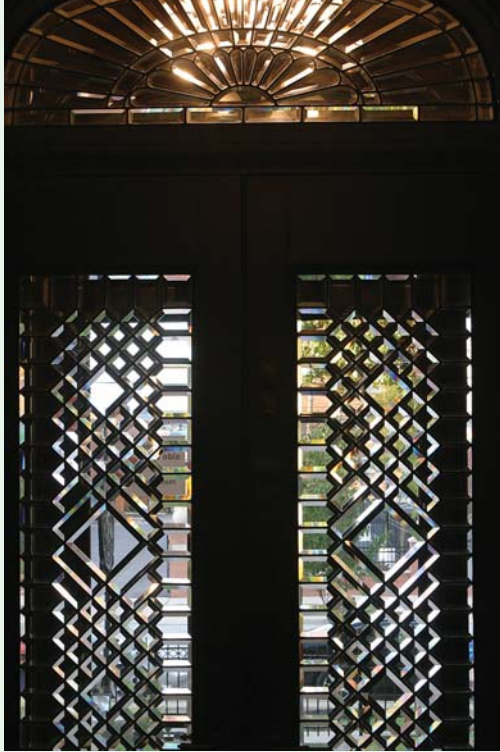
Tony Liberatore headed the Local 860 delegation at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Awards. Second row: from left, Kathleen Crowther, Executive Director, Cleveland Restoration Society; Lenny Rizzo, Field Representative; and Daniel Jordan, National Trust Board member. Third row: Richard Moe, President, National Trust; Frank Rini, Rinello Builders; Mark Olivo, Field Representative; Ned Whelan, Consultant; and Mallory Jackson, Field Representative. Back row: Jay Reeths, Rinello Builders; and David Pasqualone, Recording Secretary



Tony Liberatore proudly holds the National Trust Award.



LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION
LABORERS LOCAL
860
CLEVELAND
of North America



The original leaded glass doors of the Southworth House front entrance

Why did Local 860 merit such applause?

“These men did the work themselves, and the National Trust has become more diverse and has greater appreciation of the craftsmanship, not just the owner,” said one National Trust director.

“It was a thrill for us and a credit to the entire membership who supported restoring this historic treasure,” adds Liberatore.

Our union hall is only the fifth structure in Northeast Ohio – and the first union local in America – to receive the coveted award. The others are Severance Hall, home of the Cleveland Orchestra; the Old Arcade, downtown; Playhouse Square Foundation, for historic rehabilitation of its 1920s theaters, and the City of Cleveland and the Famicos Foundation, for the rehabilitation of the former Notre Dame

Academy on Superior Avenue into low-income housing.

The National Trust has bestowed its Awards annually since 1981. Local 860 in 2009 joined 14 other sites and individuals across America chosen by a national panel of judges from more than 130 nominations.

Union laborers, under the direction of Frank Rini and Jay Reeths of Rinello Builders of Independence, worked from a design by Cleveland restoration architect Scott Dimit.

They spent over 18 labor-intensive months in 2007 and 2008 rehabilitating the mansion built in 1879 by William Palmer Southworth, an entrepreneur and early president of National City Bank.

Almost 130 years later, William Palmer Southworth’s own bank, National City (now a part of PNC), partnered with Local 860 to obtain tax credits that resulted in significant savings for the \$2.8-million project.

“What a success story,” says Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “The rehabilitation of the Southworth Mansion created jobs and spurred new interest in additional preservation projects, while demonstrating there’s no building that’s greener or more sustainable than a historic building given new life.”

“We are flattered by this prestigious award,” adds Anthony D. Liberatore, Jr. “The cost for preserving this magnificent building was funded by prudent investment returns and was far less costly than a new headquarters. Moreover, we wanted to preserve an important part of Cleveland history while making use of this grand mansion for the benefit of our union and community.”

“The renewal is stunning,” says Kathleen H. Crowther, executive director of the Cleveland Restoration Society, who nominated Local 860 for the Award. “It sets the standard for adaptive office space in a large historic home. The project is a showcase for craftsmanship and, of course, economic development.”

Established in 1949 by Congressional Charter and based in Washington, D.C., the National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America’s communities. Steven Litt, the Arts and Architecture critic of *The Plain Dealer*, elaborated on the Award in his electronic blog, http://blog.cleveland.com/architecture/2009/10/laborers_union_local_860_wins.html ■



Local 860's Mike Charlton: Story Not Done Yet!

LOCAL 860'S MIKE CHARLTON FELL SHORT on his attempt this fall to break the jet-powered motorcycle land speed record at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. The mark was 362 miles per hour.

Charlton took two passes in the jetbike to get a feel for the 12-mile-long salt track, pushing the machine up to 170 miles per hour. The next day, he tried to reach 200 miles per hour, but the motor caught fire and had to be replaced with another used jet engine. He took three more runs, pushing his speed to 208, but couldn't get the substitute engine to go faster.

Charlton said the experience was emotional, especially being there with his four brothers, who helped him ready and repair the jet bike.

Most important, he promises a comeback.

"We learned so much," Charlton told the union membership at the Local 860 meeting in October. "We're coming back next year. This story is not done yet."

Because of publicity generated by *The Plain Dealer* and the increasing popularity of his exploits on YouTube, Charlton and his jet bike have been invited to the Autorama from March 19 to 21 at the I-X Center. Look for his booth and the Local 860 signage. ■

Mike Charlton, left, and his jetbike team at the Bonneville Flats



Local 860 Member Keith Kist Introduces Vice President Joe Biden

WHEN KEITH KIST, A 14-YEAR MEMBER of Local 860, was told by Kevin DiGeronimo of Independence Excavating that he might get a call from the White House to introduce Vice President Joe Biden at Hopkins Airport, he was not nervous.

“But as the day grew closer, I suddenly realized I was introducing one of the most important men in the world,” says Kist, who lives in Euclid.

How was Kist chosen in late October for such an honor?

This fall, Independence Excavating was laying a 1,100-foot-long foundation for a giant blast fence in preparation for a taxiway expansion next spring. The blast fence will prevent jet exhaust from spreading to nearby FedEx loading docks.

Kist was one of the four Local 860 members on the job. He had been working on the East Flats project and returned to work after a week’s furlough to help at Hopkins.

U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown observes Keith Kist introducing Vice President Joe Biden.

860

EXPRESS

LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF NORTH AMERICA, LOCAL 860



U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, Vice President Biden and Keith Kist



Mayor Jackson, Keith Kist and Rick DiGeronimo

The White House told Kist that the Vice President wanted a laborer to introduce him before the announcement of the \$16-million Hopkins expansion.

Kist joined 150 people, including Congressman Dennis Kucinich, various Cleveland city councilmen, and Ricky Mazzacco, a Local 860 member and job superintendent, along with Independence Excavating executives, who crowded into the fire station at Hopkins to hear the Vice President.

Mayor Frank Jackson introduced U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, who in turn introduced Kist.

After mentioning that his return to work would “help crank up the economy,” Kist called Local 860 “a wonderful Labor organization.” He then made a brief introduction of Biden, who observed that had the 6-foot-3, 250-pound Kist “been blocking for me in college, I would have been an All-American.”

Kist appeared on national network television proudly wearing a Laborers’ Local 860 t-shirt. “It was a great thrill,” he says, “but a bigger thrill will be next spring when the airport job starts and my Local 860 brothers and sisters are working with me.” ■



Keith Kist, Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and Vice President Biden



Training is Vital for Future Success

LAST YEAR AT LOCAL 860 we trained a total of 1,385 people with a total of 21,878 hours. Some of these were members of other unions, who grasped the benefits of ongoing training.

The classes were Craft Orientation-Apprentices, Safety Training Passport (STP), 30-hour OSHA Awareness, Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Traffic Control Supervisor and Plastic Pipe Fusion.

If you want to hold on to a job or be considered for a better one in the future, the man or woman with the best training will have the best opportunity.

There is no excuse for someone this winter not to take a training class at Local 860. We have made it easy with the construction of exceptional new training facilities.

Not only have we transformed the 19th century carriage house into space for special training meetings, we have converted the building immediately west of the union hall on Prospect Avenue into a state-of-the-art training center. Classroom space is in the front section, while an enormous modernized service center in the rear serves for hands-on training.

Business Representative David Pasqualone has the information about the training schedule, which will be augmented with new classes, such as construction blueprints. You can also check with John Perri, who keeps the schedule for the Safety Training Passport.

Local 860 offers great opportunities for members. Take advantage of them. ■



Local 860's state-of-the-art training facilities



Pervious Concrete: Local 860 Rain Drain

THIS FALL, WE UPGRADED TRAINING FACILITIES next to our main union hall. Such an upgrade included new Local 860 signage on the front façade, as well as an oversized union medallion on the roof.

Workers also installed pervious concrete in various parts of the spacious garage behind the training classrooms. Such concrete will allow water, including melting ice from cars, to drain freely into the ground below.

“Pervious concrete pavement is a unique and effective means to address important environmental issues,” says Tony Liberatore. “By allowing storm water to seep into the ground, pervious certainly reflects our union’s commitment to sustainability.” ■

Top: Local 860’s John Perri, right, assists with Mike Kern and Karl Welms of Arrow Construction to install pervious concrete at the Local 860 Training Center.
Center: Pervious concrete class at the Training Center
Lower: Michele Davis of the Ohio Laborers’ Training Center learns about the innovations of pervious concrete

Santa Comes to Local 860



THE WEEKEND BEFORE THANKSGIVING, more than 1,400 Local 860 members and their families came to our large new Training Center, adjacent to the festively decorated Union Hall, Southworth House, for the annual Holiday Giveaway and service exposition.

“Each year, we strive to improve the services and activities at the Holiday event,” says Tony Liberatore. “Our priority is serving our membership. Just ask those who

belong to other labor organizations.”

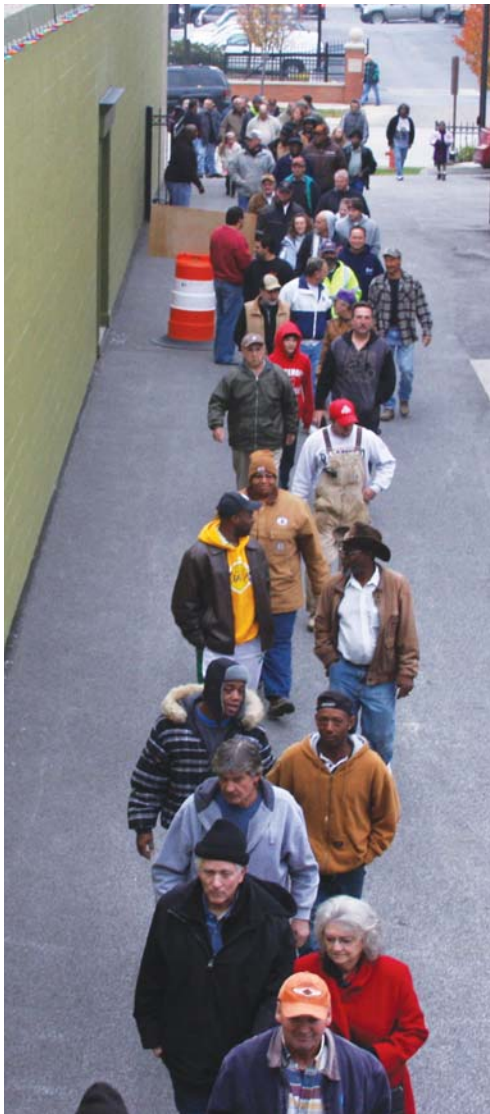
While Santa was greeting the children, members and spouses visited such offerings as the legal clinic, life insurance and, of course, our health clinic, where nurses checked blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol.

At the same time, watches and certificates were presented to 25-year members. ■



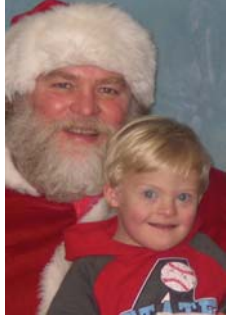
WELCOMING ...





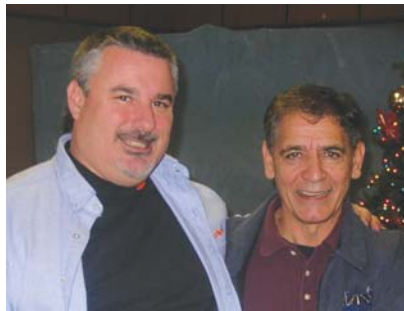
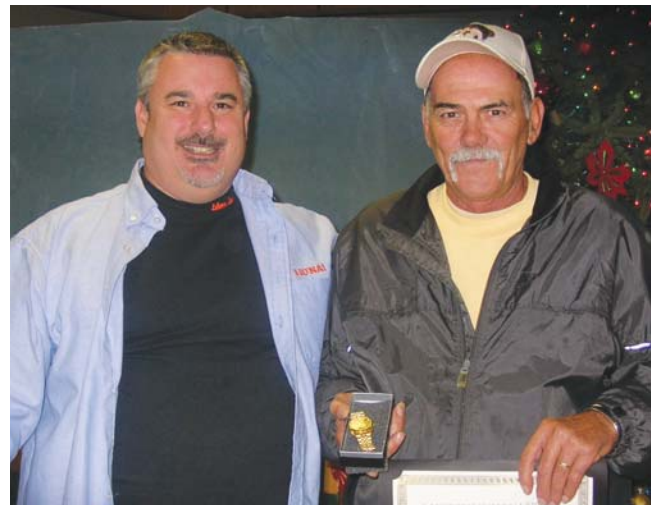
OUR SPECIAL
SANTA ...





TONY LIBERATORE
PRESENTS 25-YEAR
CERTIFICATES AND
WATCHES ...





KEEPING MEMBERS HEALTHY ...



RETIRED YET
ACTIVE





Recent Meeting Welcomes New Retiree Council

Cleveland City Councilman Michael Polensek addressed our November meeting where the new Retiree Council was introduced.



Retiree Council, from left: Trustees Mike Giordano, Goffredo Piciacchia, and Michael Little; Vice President Rafael Chajon; President Dominic Olivo; Secretary-Treasurer Albert Bindokas, and Recording Secretary Samuel Francazio



Local 860 Executive Board

Long-time Members Congratulated



Above: Tony Liberatore congratulates 50-year members Umberto Montoni, Howard L. Durant, and Antonio Carriero and, right, Ernest Jordan



50-Year Members

Hubert Baker, Sr.

Leo Biggs, Sr.

Antonio D. Carriero

L. A. Chandler

Howard L. Durant

Richard P. Hanrahan

Robert M. Hill

Harry J. Hotchkiss

Ernest Jordan

Umberto Montoni

Eldridge Neal

Lawrence Sponaugle

25-Year Members

Enzino Aceto
 Steven J. Brucks
 Rafael Chajon
 Rodger W. Clevenger
 Emiddio M. Colombo
 Bernard F. Ehlert
 Alan T. Emshoff
 David M. Ferris
 Penny L. Garten
 Franco Gianfagna
 Robert D. Griffith
 Kimberly Hall
 Ronald Hartman
 Dale E. Hayes
 Bruno G. Iannetta
 Nicola Magistro
 David T. Majka
 Arnold J. Mathis
 Benny Oust
 Reginald D. Palmer
 Giorgio Paolucci
 Pasquale A. Paolucci
 Ricky Price
 Robert A. Ranells
 Wade E. Ringler
 Robert A. Simon
 Alois Stempfer
 Louis Szentes
 Pasquale Velotta
 William J. Wagner
 Terry A. Welms
 Gregory Winstead
 Terry J. Woods

Contact Us

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Business Manager /
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Anthony D. Liberatore, Jr.
(ext. 110)



Recording Secretary

David Pasqualone
(ext. 103)

FIELD REPRESENTATIVES



Mallory Jackson
(ext. 105)



Mark Olivo
(ext. 106)



Lenny Rizzo
(ext. 107)

Secretaries
(ext. 0)



Kalahari Getaway Weekend

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS for our 4th Annual Kalahari Getaway Weekend. Space is limited, so reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be processed in the order they are received. Your reservation is not complete until we receive the registration form (below) and full payment. We will not accept reservations over the telephone. Only one room per active member please. If we run out of rooms, you will have top priority for the 2011 trip. You may indicate your interest in an additional room, and if space is available, you will be contacted in the order your registration was received.

DATE: February 19-21, 2010

RESERVATION DEADLINE: First come, first served, but not later than January 15, 2010.

PRICE: \$200 (includes 2 nights for 4 people with full access to the waterpark)

You may add up to two people for \$20.00 per night/per person. Please include them in your number of guests, but you will pay the additional money when you check in at Kalahari.



Kalahari Registration Form

February 19-21, 2010

Member's Name: _____

SSN or Membership No.: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Cell: _____

Number of Adults: _____ Number of Children: _____

I have enclosed \$200 for one room.

Yes, if space allows, I am interested in an additional room. I understand that the deadline is January 15th, and I will be contacted after that date if space is available. I also understand that once I have been contacted for an additional room, I must accept and send additional money within 24 hours of being contacted.

Please mail registration form and check made payable to Laborers' Local 860 to:

Nadine Morana
Laborers' Local 860
3334 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

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OF NORTH AMERICA, LOCAL 860

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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS



FEBRUARY 19-21, 2010

FAMILY WEEKEND AT KALAHARI INDOOR WATER PARK

Registration forms are inside this newsletter.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

The new 2009-2010 training schedule is now posted at the Union Hall.

Please contact David Pasqualone to sign up for a class.