

DC 57 NEWS

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES

Happy Holidays, DC 57!



Pension Address Change Process

If you recently moved and need to change your address on your pension account, you must call the IUPAT pension office at 800-554-2479. They will provide you with the proper form. DC 57 is not able to process pension address changes.

Moving Towards Electronic Communications

We will continue to send all vital communications via the mail, but in 2025 we are going to begin shifting some communications to text and email. Please make sure your phone number and email address are up to date by calling the hall or your service representative!

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Holiday Thanks and Blessings

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As we head into the holiday season, let us give thanks to the blessings in our lives and remain thankful that we are Union. As I travel around our District Council attending Union meetings and talking to members, it is not lost on me that even in times of thanks, there are issues for the working men and women of our great organization that we must address, and we will. TOGETHER.

In the coming months, we will be initiating informational campaigns aimed at making sure our members understand what being in a Union means and how it all works. This will include, but not be limited to, the structure of our Union, how our benefits work, services that are offered, and the history of the labor movement. A lot of us think we simply have a job in the construction industry. Brothers and Sisters, it is much larger than that. We joined a Union. Our success can only be amplified by these measures.

So, let us find the joy in spending time with family, friends, and Union Brothers and Sisters. Let us shift our focus from the things that are holding us back and put a renewed emphasis on the things that bring us ALL together and make us stronger.

Look forward to great things in 2025.

One Union, One Family, One Fight!

In Solidarity,

Brian Herbinko

Brian Herbinko
IUPAT DC 57 BM/ST



Greetings, brothers and sisters! On behalf of the service department, I would like to wish everyone a warm holiday greeting. We hope everyone gets to spend some quality time with family, friends, and loved ones, reflect on the past year, and set goals for 2025. We are working on our own 2025 goals and how we can strengthen our union for the future. And as we all know, a union is only as strong as its membership. So, we look forward to seeing you all out on the jobsite and at union events and meetings. We are planning an engagement campaign to make sure members are aware of all the union has to offer, and we will be asking for feedback from membership on how they view the union that they joined and what changes they would like to see.

As always, please take advantage of the training that is offered here at the District Council, regardless of your craft. Be proactive in getting any updated certification or training; these skills can and will set us apart from the competition that our contractors bid against. Lastly (and perhaps most importantly): please keep the council up to date on any change of address or phone numbers so you can maximize your benefits and we can keep you informed.

In solidarity,

Steve Olash, Director of Service

33rd IUPAT General Convention

BM/ST Brian Herbinko, department directors, and delegates attended the 33rd IUPAT General Convention in August and weighed in on the proposed resolutions and constitutional changes. The most notable change is an increase to our per capita. Beginning January 1st, 2025, IU admin dues will absorb the current PAT contribution and also increase by \$.10 per hour for a total of \$.25 per hour. This increase was deemed necessary to fund a growing union and remain competitive in a world in which other trades try to take our work and non-union contractors find more and more ways to cheat the system. Monthly dues (sometimes referred to as window dues) will remain the same for the seventh straight year. Other measures passed included increased penalties for going dropped at least three times in a five year period, an additional \$1000 to the death benefit payout, and a requirement that all District Councils hold an annual membership meeting, among others. We thank all the delegates for their time and dedication to their union and look forward to carrying out the IUPAT vision of One Union, One Family, One Fight!



From left: David Lovelace, Jerry Ferilla, Steve Olash, and Christian Wetzel show their IUPAT pride.



The DC 57 delegation at the 33rd IUPAT General Convention

Employee Assistance Program Available

All DC 57 members and their households have access to our employee assistance plan (EAP) via Workpartners! If you or a loved one are struggling with substance or mental health issues, work-life balance, or financial or other life changes, consider accessing the EAP's 24/7 support services! The service, which comes at no additional cost to membership, will connect people with the resources they may need. Access the EAP via phone at **855-209-876x711** or at LifeSolutionsForYou.com with the login **IUPAT**. Stay safe and healthy this holiday season!

Employee Assistance Program:



Organizing for 2025

Season's Greetings to Our Union Family!

As we approach the holiday season, the Organizing Department wants to take a moment to express our deep appreciation for each of our DC57 brothers and sisters. The strength of our Union comes from the dedication and solidarity that every one of us contributes. While we've had a divisive year from a political standpoint, and 2025 will pose new challenges, I believe we will come together based on our common ground as working people and meet the challenges head-on.

I encourage everyone to reflect on what our Union cards mean to us. Talk to each other about why we became members of DC 57 and how life changed as a result. How can we protect and advance our interests? How will we strengthen our solidarity and grow? History shows that many labor victories came not because of politicians' good will, but because workers organized themselves and fought for their rights. Politicians may offer support or throw up roadblocks, but the real momentum for change comes from our grassroots efforts within the labor movement. If we are united as working people and members of DC 57, we hold the power to improve our working lives.

The best way to protect our Union's vitality into the future is Organizing. As we look forward to the new year, we are setting goals to expand our market share across the industry. Let's commit to growing by being the best we can be in our crafts, showing the value we bring to the work we do, and welcoming any new member that wants to be part of our collective mission for dignity in the workplace.

In solidarity,

Claire Cawley

Director of Organizing

ccawley@iupatdc57.org | (412) 526-0141

Local 549 Celebrates

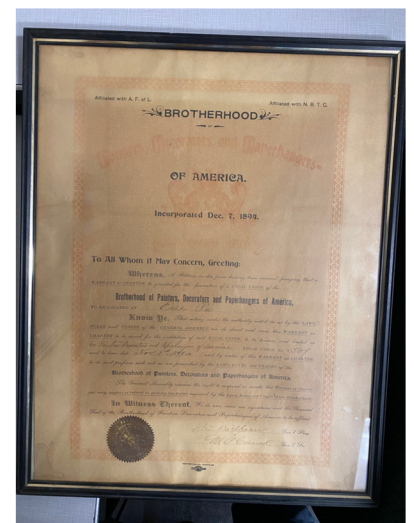
125 Years

This November marked 125 years since our Erie painters and tapers Local 549 was chartered. To celebrate this remarkable milestone, BM/ST Brian Herbinko, Local 549 service representative Jerry Ferilla, and members of Local 549 gathered at Erie's Bicentennial Tower (painted by IUPAT members) with the local's original charter. Our Local 549 members have a proud legacy to build off of, and the growth and leadership out of that local is a real strength for our entire District Council. We congratulate our brothers and sisters of Local 549 and look forward to another 125 years of growth and strong unionism!



Left: Brian Herbinko, Jerry Ferilla, and members of Local 549, including: Chris Goss, Matt Sutton, President Jim Randolph, retired rep Mike Hornyak, John Testi, delegate Scott Morton, financial secretary Dan Martin, trustee Brian Smith, Joshua Buck, retired rep Mike Nesterick, and assistant FTI instructor Jeremy Mahoney.

Local 549's original charter.



Training to be the Best in 2025

Fellow Members,

The FTI staff would like to wish all members and their families a happy holiday season and a healthy, prosperous 2025. As 2024 comes to an end, we can look forward to another training season beginning in January 2025. Local projects like the Pittsburgh Airport terminal modernization required our members to have up to date certifications to work on those specific sites. We experienced members who missed ample opportunities to take advantage of the training classes offered, then found out too late that they needed them to gain employment. We are here to help, but sometimes on-demand training is not an option when a schedule is built and instructors are committed to other classes. The last thing the FTI staff wants to see is a member losing a chance for employment due to not having an updated credential. Not attending an 8-hour training class could potentially cost you months of work, the FTI staff does NOT want that to happen.

2025 will see some exciting changes for all DC 57 members. First, commercial paint and drywall apprentice numbers have increased in 2024, which is great for those members and DC 57. To keep our training standards high and accommodate our growing numbers, we had to move those programs to block training. Moving forward, Saturday apprenticeship training will no longer be offered. Second, Saturday physicals in 2025 will offer different awareness trainings. This training will provide safety, knowledge and the skills that separate DC 57 from our competition. If your CBA or contractor requires you to get a physical, please read it over carefully, pick your physical date or any training you will need for 2025.

Training will be available to view on the website once the schedule is finalized. Just click the link in the training section on our website www.iupatdc57.org. If you prefer, you can still register by calling Deena at 412-276-6061. We will also be offering online registrations for 2025. As always, if you have any questions pertaining to apprenticeship or training, please contact the Training Department at 412-276-6877.

In Solidarity,

Thaddeus R. Szymkowiak, Director of Apprenticeship and Training

Deena Bodnar, Executive Apprenticeship Administrator | **Monica Dunn**, Drywall Coordinator

Ryan Kent, Industrial Paint Coordinator | **Brandon Zieger**, Commercial Paint Coordinator



Build On Career Fair 2024 A Success

FTI staff took part in the third annual Build On Career Fair, showing nearly 3000 high school students from schools throughout western PA the opportunities available to them in the trades. Our hands-on exhibit allowed kids to get a better idea of what work they'd be doing in each of our crafts, and school administrators were able to see the value in partnering with our Finishing Trades Institute. Our five FTI staff members were joined by apprentices Jacob Hogan, David Jones, and Blaise Krizner, and we thank them for giving their time to promote the Union!



Government Relations

Election 2024 Debrief and 2025 Legislative Priorities

With the 2024 election behind us, I'd like to look ahead to the victories we achieved this year and the legislative priorities we have in 2025 and beyond. Our endorsed Harris/Walz ticket was unsuccessful, and we will remain vigilant against any upcoming threats to organized labor (as we do with any state or federal administration), but we also want to highlight a few downballot victories by our endorsed pro-labor candidates on both sides of the aisle. **Chris Deluzio** easily won re-election to Congress with a pro-worker message and a stellar constituent service record. Chris has been a champion of labor since his first campaign in 2022, and we're thrilled he's still representing Southwestern PA in Washington. **Devlin Robinson** won re-election to the State Senate, where he will be joined by **Nick Pisciotano**. Both men have a record of working across party lines in Harrisburg, and Nick has helped dozens of our members access their unemployment benefits. We expect that **John Inglis**, his successor in the State House, will continue to prioritize workers. Elsewhere, we were one of the only trades to support **Dave Sunday** for Attorney General, because we believed he was the best person for the job and would go after bad contractors and wage theft cases. We look forward to seeing how he holds contractors accountable when they break the law.



Democrats retained control of the State House, and we expect one of their priorities in the new legislative session to be unemployment compensation reform. It's no secret the current system is unpopular and unfair to our members, who at times need the unemployment system, and we're excited to help in that fight. Other priorities include passing legislation at the state and local levels to make sure Pennsylvania taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and go to PA contractors and companies that play by the rules. Local 549 service representative Jerry Ferilla helped pass a responsible contractor ordinance in Erie this year, and we'll build off that success in other communities in our jurisdiction.



Finally, we'd like to thank everyone we talked to at meetings, on the doors, or at jobsites. Whether you agreed or disagreed with our endorsed slate, every DC 57 member we talked to was respectful, patient, and kind. We learned a lot and genuinely enjoyed talking about the issues that affect us. That will continue, as the very nature of our work is political, but we are grateful for everyone who gave their time to talk with us.

In solidarity,

Joseph Hughes, Director of Government Relations

A busy political season with lots of visitors. Left, clockwise from top left: GP Jimmy Williams and GVP Paul Canning after meeting with a group of Local 751 glaziers. AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler speaks with DC 57 release staffer Marc Caputo. DC 57 communications specialist Aaron Joseph Director of Service Steve Olash hand out leaflets at the Shippingport nuclear plant with Congressman Chris Deluzio and the Western PA Building Trades. Above: NABTU President (and IUPAT member) Sean McGarvey and Local 751 service rep David Lovelace speak about the issues facing organized labor. GP Williams speaking to DC 57 painters.

In Memoriam

Local 6

James Brugh	2/12/1965 - 10/31/2024
Howard Delaney	10/14/1979 - 5/29/2024
Victor Mongelluzzo	6/23/1928 - 7/5/2024

Local 409

James Bainey	4/11/1931 - 9/26/2024
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Local 479

John E. “Jack” Barrett	12/16/1933 - 1/18/2024
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Local 530

Michael Gable	6/12/1964 - 12/4/2023
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Local 751

Joseph Burke	10/4/1936 - 7/4/2024
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Local 2006

Ronald Whitney	10/1/1951 - 12/15/2023
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101 Ewing Road
Carnegie, PA 15106
Phone: 412-276-5758
Fax: 412-276-6740



No More Newport: Annuity Custodian Changing

Newport, the current recordkeeper of our annuity funds, is moving away from the Taft-Hartley fund world in March, and we will soon be selecting a new firm to replace them. We will have more information for members in the coming weeks, but most importantly **this will have no effect on your current or future annuity balances and earnings.** The biggest change you will see is that your account statements will soon be mailed from a new firm instead of Newport. Please keep an eye out for future communications on this subject.

Holiday Parties

S.W.O.R.D.: December 5th, 10:00am (lunch at 11:00am) at IUPAT DC 57 (101 Ewing Rd, Carnegie, PA 15106)

Local 6, 479, 751, 2006 Combined Party: December 10th, 7:00pm at White Oak Athletic Association (1798 Lower Heckman Rd, White Oak, PA 15131)

Local 409: December 12th, 7:00pm at the Castle Pub (122 N Center St, Ebensburg, PA 15931)

Local 530: December 13th, 7:00pm at IBEW Local 712 (217 Sassafras Ln, Beaver, PA 15009)

Local 549: December 21st, 12:00-3:00pm at Lefty's Tavern (1248 Brown Ave, Erie, PA 16502)

Local 1968: December 7th, 4:00-8:00pm at the Huzars Club (1122 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16503)