

Trowel Talk

The Official Newsletter of
Plasterers' Local No 200

Editor: DAVID FRITCHEL

SERVING ALL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

FALL 2006

**It's an amazing coincidence,
just a few months before the
November election for Governor;**

Arnold Schwarzenegger claims he's had a **Change of Heart**

He says he's changed his mind on the minimum wage increase, even though he vetoed it twice. The same goes for health care, even though he has vetoed nearly a dozen health care reform bills.

Schwarzenegger claims he's changed his corporate ways, but his campaign's finance reports prove otherwise. The Governor operates by a pay-to-play system, in which only the rich, big business campaign donors are consulted when making decisions for the state. On any given issue, his stance reflects the massive sums of money he has received.

Schwarzenegger's corporateing is most commonly seen in the form of a veto. Time after time, a bill will soar through the assembly and the senate reaching his desk with a mandate from the people. Big business donors know that if they've contributed to Schwarzenegger's campaign, they've bought his loyalty.

Most notable is the case of Wal-Mart, the Legislature passed a bill to investigate the amount of money taxpayers are forced to spend to cover health insurance that isn't provided by employers. This would especially condemn Wal-Mart since their health care program is so expensive that most employees are forced to do without. However, the night that bill passed, Wal-Mart executives slept well having given a \$104,000 contribution to Schwarzenegger that day. The bill never became law.

And the favors for money keep coming.

Big Oil — Schwarzenegger has received over \$2.3 Million from the oil industry, making him the second largest recipient of oil money in the United States – second only to George Bush. It should come as no surprise that the governor is currently opposing a bill that would prevent price gouging by the oil industry.

Pensions – Schwarzenegger proposed privatizing the public employee pension system, while taking

contributions from Investment companies totaling over \$1.5 million.

Lunch Breaks – Schwarzenegger tried to take away guaranteed lunch breaks for workers by creating a legal loophole for companies like Wal-Mart to deny workers meal breaks. The Waltons, owners of Wal-Mart are major donors to the Governor.

Prescription Drugs – Schwarzenegger vetoed legislation that would have reduced prescription drug costs after accepting hundreds of thousands of dollars in contributions from pharmaceutical companies like PFIZER, GlaxoSmithKline, and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Though the Governor desperately wants voters to believe he's changed, the money trail that follows him tells you everything you need to know.

ANGELIDES VERSES SCHWARZENEGGER

Union Members are working hard to defeat Arnold Schwarzenegger because of his record of take-a-ways and broken promises to working families.

Schwarzenegger was elected into office only after Gov. Gray Davis was Railroaded out of office by a handful of corrupt politicians and Ken Lay's ENRON CORP.

PENSIONS: Schwarzenegger attempted to cut pensions for one million workers in California. His proposal even dropped death benefit coverage for the widows and orphans of firefighters and police.

WAGES: Schwarzenegger has been connected to an attempt to abolish overtime pay for work over eight hours a day.

LUNCH BREAKS: Schwarzenegger tried to take away guaranteed lunch breaks for workers by creating loopholes for his corporate buddies.

WORKERS COMP: Schwarzenegger cut workers compensation benefits to permanently disabled workers by 50%.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS: Schwarzenegger vetoed legislation that would have reduced the price of prescription drugs for Californians after accepting huge campaign contributions from big pharmaceutical companies.

ANGELIDES SUPPORTS CRACKING DOWN ON CORPORATE FRAUD: As Treasurer, Phil cracked down on corporate tax cheats that located offshore to avoid paying U.S. taxes. He also led efforts to recover taxpayers and pensioners money from corporate fraud by Enron and World Com.

ANGELIDES SUPPORTS MORE FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS, HEALTH CARE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Angelides favors closing corporate tax loopholes in order to raise revenues and improve public education, public safety, and public health programs.

UNLIKE GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER: Angelides strongly supports prevailing wage requirements for companies doing publicly financed projects.

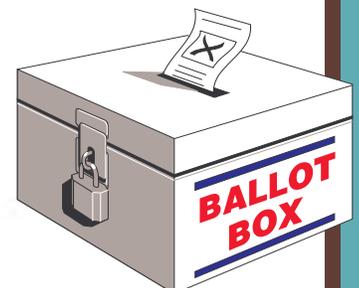
Ballot Measures

1A - Transportation Funding Protection, Legislative Constitution Amendment	YES
1B - Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006	YES
1C - Housing and Emergency shelter Trust Fund act of 2006	YES
1D - Kindergarten - University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006	YES
1E - Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond act of 2006	YES
83 - Sex Offenders, Sexually Violent Predators, Punishment, Residence Restrictions and Monitoring, Initiative Statute.	NO RECOMMENDATION
84 - Water Quality, Safety and Supply, Flood Control, Natural Resource Protection, Park Improvements, Bonds Initiative Statute	YES
85 - Waiting Period and Parental Notification before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy, Initiative Constitutional amendment	NO
86 - Tax on Cigarettes, Initiative Constitutional Amendment, and Statute.	YES
87 - Alternative Energy, Research, Production, Incentive, Constitutional Amendment and Statute.	YES
88 - Education Funding, Real Property Parcel Tax, Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute	NO
89 - Political Campaigns, Public Financing, Corporate Tax Increase, Contribution and Expenditure Limits Initiative Statute.	NO RECOMMENDATION
90 - Government Acquisition, Regulation of Private Property, Initiative Constitutional Amendment.	NO

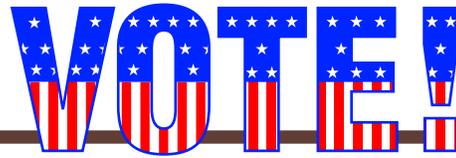
For Local Municipal races please contact your Local #200-area agent if you need information concerning Mayor, City Councils, School and Water District Councils, etc...

Each Plasterers' Local #200 Agent is familiar with Labor issues and P.L.A. friends who need our support in each geographical area.

San Diego County	~	Tom Castleman	~	951-609-3103
San Bernardino and Riverside Counties		David Fritchel	~	909-625-0944
Orange County	~	Russ Nicholson	~	714-554-1865
Northern Counties	~	Bob Pullen	~	805-529-7636
L.A. County	~	Tom Warren	~	909-548-0404



**Labor 2006 General Election
San Bernardino - Riverside CLC
General Election Endorsement**



State Constitutional Offices

Governor	Phil Angelides (D)
Lieutenant Governor	John Garamendi (D)
Attorney General	Jerry Brown (D)
Secretary of State	Debra Bowen (D)
Treasurer	Bill Lockyer (D)
Controller	John Chang (D)
Insurance Commissioner	Cruz Bustamante (D)

Board of Equalization

District 1	Betty Yee (D)
District 2	No Endorsement
District 3	No Endorsement
District 4	Judy Chu (D)

California State Senate

District Candidates	
32 nd	Gloria Negrete-McLeod (D)
36 th	Mark Hanson (D)
40 th	Denise Ducheny (D)

California State Assembly

District Candidates	
36 th	Bo Bynum (D)
59 th	Elliott Barkan (D)
60 th	Van Tamon (D)
61 st	Nell Soto (D)
62 nd	Wilmer Amina Carter (D)
64 th	Paul Rasso (D)
65 th	Rita Ramirez-Dean (D)
66 th	Laurel Nicholson (D)
71 st	Charlie LaChance (D)
80 th	Steve Clute (D)

California Congressional Candidates

25 th	Roberto Rodriguez (D)
26 th	Cynthia Rodriguez-Matthews (D)
41 st	Open
43 rd	Joe Baca (D)
44 th	Louis Vandenburg (D)
45 th	David Roth (D)



Say Cheese!



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Apprenticeship Contest

By Clyde Ingram



Ezequiel Mendez and Bob Pullen.



Clyde Ingram, Brandon Lee and Bob.



Robert Montgomery, Jose Villarreal, Abraham Rodriguez, Ezequiel Mendez, Patrick Finley, John Dougherty, Brian Carrillo, Dante Biacan, Jose Lopez and Brandon Lee.

On August 25th 2006, the 30th annual statewide apprenticeship contest was held in conjunction with the annual California state conference of Plasterers', Cement Masons', and Shop Hands.

The best and the brightest apprentices from California's Locals 200, 300, 66 and Hawaii's Local 630, all came together to compete and show their talents. Three apprentices from the San Francisco Bay area represented Local 66, Brian Carrillo, Robert Montgomery, and Jose Villarreal. Two apprentices from the San Jose area represented Local 300, Abraham Rodriguez and Jose Lopez. Branden Lee and Ezequiel Mendez represented Local 200, and last but not least, Dante Biacan traveled from Waipahu Hawaii to represent Local 630.

The 8-hour competition consisted of setting up and running a cornice mold with lime and casting, mitering the intersection, and finishing a booth ceiling smooth with lime and gauging plaster. The eight apprentice contestants were also given the task of 'sticking' E.P.S. boards, installing base and mesh, applying swirl and sand blast E.I.F.S. finishes, and application of an interior veneer plaster in smooth, and semi smooth textures.

When the dust settled and the judging was over the results were as follows:

- 1st PLACE Robert Montgomery**
Pleasanton, CA - Local 66
- 2nd PLACE Jose Villarreal**
Oakland, CA - Local 66
- 3rd PLACE Branden Lee**
Covina, CA - Local 200

The other five contestants all tied for 4th place. This 30th annual contest was considered to be one of the closest contest in judging in many years, with only 1 point separating 1st and 2nd place, and only a couple of points separating 1st through 4th. All of the contestants truly did a fantastic job!

Both the contest and the apprenticeship awards banquet went as usual, like clockwork, and that can be directly attributed to the hard work and expertise of Local 200's apprenticeship administrator, Mrs. Rosie Borziliari. We at Local 200 want to thank Rosie again for her dedication!

If you, or an apprentice you know, is interested in competing in the future, please contact the apprenticeship office for more information at (909) 865-1773.

America FOR SALE

By: Dave Fritchel

The Bush administration is still at it; America continues to be sold out from under us. Bush's spin-doctors explain it away with catch phrases or they sneak in special deals to their corporate buddies while our attention is on other political matters, like our failed foreign policies in the Middle East. It is almost as if the president doesn't care that America is quickly approaching a state of bankruptcy for lack of a better term, can the only super power left in the world claim *bankruptcy*?

Case in point; while the public's attention is being focused overseas; the Bush administration is quietly building an NAFTA super highway for México. It starts at the Texas Mexico border in Laredo and will end at the Canadian border in Michigan. This new super highway's only purpose is to circumvent American unions and workers and allow all shipping from Asia to be off loaded at Mexican ports and shipped to the United States by way of Mexican trucks. The only customs office regulating these trucks will be in Kansas City. The office, now under construction is costing U.S. citizens 3 million dollars to build and these trucks will cross our borders un-inspected.

NAFTA has a provision that allows Foreign trucks controlled by Foreign shipping firms to come into our country without the same safety requirements and regulations as American shippers, so as an added bonus we Americans will get highways that are more dangerous and increased automobile insurance costs. Now here is the best part: a Spanish consortium (Spain) will own the new super highway and operate it as a toll road, sending the monies back to Spain. The road will not even be American owned and all revenues will go overseas!

Our government borrows \$2 billion a day from foreign countries to pay the interest on our federal trade deficit borrowed from Japan, China, Saudi Arabia, and a few other countries who have everything to gain by our government's mishandling of the foreign trade policies, that's on top of the record national debit racked up by Bush and Company. Combine these things with the Bush plan to have Arabs control our ports and the Chinese our import security and what other conclusion can you reach, but that America is being sold out. Good American jobs just keep disappearing; jobs Americans will do if paid fair wages.



Just another casualty of the Bush administration's plain old mindless stupid greed.

Thoughts From the Most Honored General of World War II

"Should any political party attempt to abolish Social Security, Unemployment Insurance, and eliminate Labor Laws and farm programs, you would not hear of that party again in our political history. There is a tiny splinter group, of course, that believes that you can do these things. Among them are a few Texas oil millionaires, and an occasional politician or businessman from other areas. Their number is negligible and they are stupid."

— President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1952



Thoughts From Our President

"I fixed Iraq and now I'm gonna fix Social Security."

— President George W. Bush, 2006

We the People



PLASTERERS' LOCAL NO. 200

*Operative Plasterers', Cement Masons' and Shop Hands'
International Association, AFL-CIO*

1610 W. Holt Avenue
Pomona, CA 91768



**Happy
Halloween**



O F F I C E R S A N D S T A F F
PLASTERERS' UNION LOCAL 200

Bill Muffley
President

Phil Pastor
Vice President

Robert Pullen, Jr.
Bus. Mgr./Sec'y Tr.

Dave Fritchel
Business Agent

Thomas Castleman
Business Agent

Russ Nicholson
Business Agent

Thomas Warren
Business Agent

Scott Barkelew
Executive Board

Gabriel Gamboa
Executive Board

Ron Holcomb
Executive Board

Carlos Ponce
Executive Board

Jimmy Rodgers
Executive Board

Evelyn Boniche
Office Administrator

Jovita Penunuri
Administrative Assistant

George Allen
President Emeritus

David Fritchel
Editor

800-559-2701 • www.plastererslocal200.org



**Show Your Pride
on Your Ride!!**

Do you have a Local 200 member on your gift list?

**To order your OPCMA
Trailer Hitch Receiver
Cover send \$25.00 +
\$3.95 shipping and
handling to Local #200
with the following
information:**

Name _____

Mailing
Address _____

City,
State,
Zip _____