

Building Your Tomorrow

Vol 18: No 4 Published Quarterly by the Trustees of the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund 4th Quarter 2009

“Foundations for Your Future” seminar coming in February

Participants ages 35 - 50 are invited to the annual “Foundations for Your Future” seminar on February 11, 2010, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This seminar is designed to help make sure this age group will be financially prepared for retirement. Snacks are provided. Invitations will be mailed in early January.

This seminar does not specifically address your pension or health benefits; its focus is on financial planning. No products are promoted or sold. The presenter is a fee-based financial planner hired by the Pension Fund to help educate its Participants.

This newsletter contains important information regarding recent changes in Trustees and Investment Managers (page 3). After reviewing, please place this inside your Summary Plan Description, as this publication also serves as a formal
SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS.

Know your pension benefits

Your pension is designed to provide income in three main situations: your retirement years, your disability, or your premature death. You probably already know that your pension is a key part of a secure retirement, providing guaranteed monthly benefits as long as you live. You may not have given much thought to what happens if you die before retirement or become disabled. In either event, your Building Trades Pension Fund may be there for you or your survivor(s).

To qualify for **Retirement Benefits**, you must earn at least five years of Continuous Service. After this, you will be vested and qualify for retirement benefits at your normal retirement age (either 63, 64, or 65). If you earn at least ten years of Continuous Service without interruption, you would qualify for an early retirement benefit at age 55 or later, payable at a reduced rate.

To qualify for **Disability Benefits** from the Pension Fund, you need

Centenarian Club

Michael Rozman recently joined the Centenarian Club, reaching his 100th birthday on August 14! Congratulations and best wishes to Michael, a retired Roofer.

at least ten years of uninterrupted Continuous Service immediately before your disability occurred. However, if your disability was a result of an on-the-job injury that occurred while working for a contributing employer, you only need *five* years of uninterrupted Continuous Service, not ten. Either way, your doctor must verify that you will be disabled from your regular occupation for at least eight months. If you are disabled from your regular occupation, but can perform other types of work, you may receive disability benefits for up to two years. If you are totally and permanently disabled from doing any type of work that would earn you a reasonable living, you could qualify for Total and Permanent Disability Benefits.

If you die before retirement, your beneficiaries might qualify for **Death Benefits**, and will qualify for **Pre-retirement Survivor Benefits** if you were vested at the time of your death, and you had earned hours with the Pension Fund after August 1984.

INSIDE

<i>Meet your Trustees</i>	2
<i>SEU protection</i>	2
<i>Changes in Trustees and Investment Managers</i>	3
<i>Planning to retire?</i>	4

Meet your Trustees



Pete Schraufnagel
Management Trustee

Pete Schraufnagel first began working for Super Excavators, Inc., in 1990 during his college years. From 1995 to 1998, he worked for Albuquerque Underground, an affiliated company in New Mexico, as a project manager. In 1998, Pete moved back to Wisconsin to work with his dad and two brothers at Super Excavators, Inc. Pete currently oversees three companies: Super Excavators, Inc., Super Western, and SX Blasting. He estimates and manages projects for Super Excavators, Inc., and does strategic planning for all three companies.

Super Excavators, Inc., was started in 1950 and is currently in its third generation of ownership.

Pete's brother Steve is the controller there, and his brother Ken is the fleet manager. The company's focus is on heavy civil projects nationwide, constructing tunnels, open cut pipeline, sliplining or rehab of sewers, and development.

Pete was appointed to the Pension Fund Board of Trustees in November 2008. He is a past President of Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association, and a member of ASCE, WTBA, and Associated General Contractors Milwaukee.

Pete and Lisa have been married for 13 years, and are blessed with three children: Lauren, 7; Christopher, 5; and Megan, 2. Pete is a fan of the outdoors and enjoys hunting, fishing, biking, running, hiking and skiing.



Serious and Extended Unemployment protection for several trades in 2009 Plan Year

In the Plan Year ending May 31, 2009, the Board of Trustees determined that several trades experienced a decline in employment levels greater than 10% when compared to the previous five

year average of employment levels for their trade. Those trades were: Bricklayers, Plumbers, Tile Layers, Cement Masons, and Plasterers. Participants in those

(Continued on page 3)

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This newsletter is intended for your general information and not as a complete description of the Fund's legal documents. The Trust Agreement and Pension Plan document are the only instruments governing the legal rights, privileges and obligations under the Fund.

Michael Gantert
Fund Director

Lois Mathis-Gleason
Editor

Ramona Garrity
Assistant Editor

We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have for future issues of **Building Your Tomorrow**.

Due to limited newsletter space, it is important that you are also familiar with your Summary Plan Description (SPD). It contains detailed information about all areas of the Pension Plan. The most recent SPD was mailed in December 2006. If you would like an additional copy of the SPD, feel free to contact us at
(262) 784-7880
or toll free at
(800) 433-8570.

Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

website address:

www.thepensionfund.com

Changes in Trustees and Investment Managers

Trustees

Peter Schraufnagel was appointed as a management Trustee effective November 20, 2008, replacing Otto Deffner. Peter Schraufnagel, Vice President, Super Excavators, Inc., N59W14601 Bobolink Avenue, Menomonee Falls, WI, 53051.

Licia Streich was appointed as a management Trustee effective November 20, 2008, replacing Tom Lorenz. Licia Streich, Chief Operating Officer, Total Mechanical, Inc., W234N2830 Paul Road, Pewaukee, WI, 53072.

Richard L. Schmidt, Jr. was appointed as a management Trustee effective January 29, 2009, replacing Anthony Gabrysiak. Richard L. Schmidt, Jr., President, C.G. Schmidt, Inc., 11777 W. Lake Park Drive, Milwaukee, WI, 53224.

Anthony Mayrhofer was appointed as a union Trustee effective May 12, 2009, replacing Brent Emons. Anthony Mayrhofer, Business Agent, Ironworkers Local 8, 12034 W. Adler Lane, Milwaukee, WI, 53214.

Andrew Buschmann was appointed as a union Trustee effective May 15, 2009, replacing David Gorzalski. Andrew Buschmann, President, Tile Layers Local 5, 17125 W. Cleveland Avenue, PO Box 510617, New Berlin, WI, 53151.

Investment Managers

Builders Fixed Income Fund, liquidated September 28, 2008. Builders Fixed Income Fund, 218 Henry Road, Manchester, MO, 63011.

Eaton Vance Management, hired December 2008. Eaton Vance Management, The Eaton Vance Building, 255 State Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA, 02109.

AllianceBernstein, terminated January 2009. AllianceBernstein, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY, 10105.



Serious and Extended Unemployment protection declared for several trades in 2009 Plan Year *(continued from page 2)*

trades who worked from 100 to 299 hours between June 1, 2008, and May 31, 2009, automatically received protection of Continuous Service for that Plan Year. The regular 300 hour minimum applied to all other trades in the 2009 Plan Year.

This protection of Continuous Service does not mean these hours will actually be credited toward the Participant's pension. Instead, it means the year will not count towards the three years it

takes to incur an interruption in service. Normally, when three Plan Years in a row pass with less than 300 hours earned in each of the three years, an interruption in service occurs at the end of the third Plan Year.

Anyone entitled to this protection has received it automatically. Please refer to the 2nd Quarter 2009 issue of the "Building Your Tomorrow" newsletter for more detailed information about Serious and Extended Unemployment protection.

Planning to Retire?



If you would like to receive your first benefit payment:	you must receive a Benefit Illustration Sheet between:	and return your completed Application for Benefits and all necessary supporting documents no later than:
January 1, 2010	October 1, 2009 & November 30, 2009	November 30, 2009
February 1, 2010	November 2, 2009 & December 30, 2009	December 30, 2009
March 1, 2010	December 1, 2009 & January 29, 2010	January 29, 2010
April 1, 2010	January 4, 2010 & February 26, 2010	February 26, 2010

☞ The Pension Fund Office will be closed on the following dates:
November 26 and 27, 2009
December 24 and 25, 2009
December 31, 2009 and January 1, 2010

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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