

# Building Your Tomorrow

Vol 16: No 4 Published Quarterly by the Trustees of the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund 4th Quarter 2007

*This newsletter contains important information regarding recent Plan amendments. After reviewing, please place this inside your Summary Plan Description, as this publication also serves as a formal*  
**SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS.**

## Notice of 2008 Benefit Rates

Following are the benefit rates for the 2008 Plan Year (June 2007 through May 2008). These rates apply to credit earned during the 2008 Plan Year **only**. Please refer to pages 102 through 112 of the 2006 Summary Plan Description and previous newsletters for benefit rates in effect for prior Plan Years. To calculate your Normal Retirement Lifetime Only benefit, take the number of hours credited in a particular Plan Year, divide it by 1,000, and

multiply it by the benefit rate in effect for that particular Plan Year. Do this for each Plan Year, and add the results of each year together for your total Lifetime Only benefit at Normal Retirement Age.

Feel free to contact the Pension Fund Office at (262) 784-7880 or (800) 433-8570 if you have any questions concerning your individual benefit rates, or for a personalized letter regarding your benefit status.

The rates listed here do not represent each and every contract your union may have with individual employers. There are many exceptions, and if your rate is not listed here, please contact the Pension Fund Office to find out your contribution rate and benefit multiplier.

In addition, if hours have been transferred to this Fund on your behalf from another pension fund, a different benefit rate may apply to you for the transferred hours. Please call the Pension Fund Office with any questions.

Finally, the rates listed here apply **ONLY** to the hours worked on or after June 1, 2007. They do **NOT** apply to hours worked in earlier Plan Years.

Trade	Contribution rate per hour worked	Multiplier per 1000 hours credited
Bricklayers	\$5.55	\$149.13
Carpenters	\$5.68	\$148.55
Cement Masons - 558	\$5.73	\$151.05
Cement Masons - 845	\$6.07	\$163.46
Heat & Frost	\$5.37	\$127.30
Ironworkers	\$5.37	\$124.72
Laborers	\$4.70	\$143.57
OPEIU	*	*
Painters	\$4.95	\$123.90
Plasterers	\$6.33	\$172.99
Plumbers	\$5.33	\$120.18
Roofers	\$4.07	\$ 87.21
Steamfitters	\$5.33	\$116.03
Tile Finishers	\$5.41	\$146.97
Tile Layers	\$5.41	\$145.58

\* *OPEIU members:* Due to the various contribution rates negotiated with individual employers, a variety of rates apply for Office & Professional Employee International Union members. Please contact the Pension Fund Office for the rates that apply to you.

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## Kenosha Laborers Local 237 Pension Fund merges with BTUPTF

Effective September 1, 2007, the Kenosha Laborers Local 237 Pension Fund merged into the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund. Separate notices have been sent to Participants and Retirees in the Kenosha Laborers Local 237 Pension Fund explaining the merger. The merger does not change the benefits of the

Participants in the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund, and it does not change the benefits already earned by Participants in the Kenosha Laborers Local 237 Pension Fund. Approximately 130 retirees and 440 non-retired Participants joined the Building Trades Pension Fund as a result of the merger.

## Annual Funding notice to be included with next newsletter

Federal law now requires multi-employer pension plans such as BTUPTF to send an annual funding notice to all Retirees, Active Participants, and Inactive Vested Participants. In 2007, we sent this notice in a separate mailing. Beginning in 2008, we will include the annual funding notice in our 1st quarter Building Your Tomorrow newsletter, which is

published in January. The first quarter newsletter will be six pages instead of the usual four, in order to accommodate the funding notice.

The funding notice is intended to notify Plan Participants of the funding level of the Plan compared to the future liabilities of the Plan.

## Moving to a warmer climate for the winter? Please let us know

If you are moving, please take a moment to call or write the Pension Fund and let us know your new address. We want to keep you informed about your benefits, and there are several mailings throughout the year that federal law requires we send you.

The U.S. Postal Service may advise us of your new address if you have moved, but at times,

especially if your move is temporary, we might not receive your current address from the post office when your mail is returned to us.

If your mail is returned to us and our attempts to locate you fail, we will stop issuing payments to you until you contact us.

A quick phone call, note, or e-mail to our office is all it takes.

### ***Building Your Tomorrow***

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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. An updated SPD is being mailed in October 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](http://www.thepensionfund.com)**

## Changes in Trustees

**S**teve *Breitlow* was appointed as a union Trustee effective January 24, 2007, replacing Harry Kreuser. Steve Breitlow, Business Manager, Plumbers Union Local 75, 11175 W. Parkland Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53224.

**Bruce Ash** was appointed as a management Trustee effective June 21, 2007, replacing William

Burczyk. Bruce Ash, Secretary, Porta-Painting, Inc., 313 Travis Lane, Waukesha, WI 53189.

**Steve Bako** was appointed as a union Trustee effective June 29, 2007, replacing John Krauss. Steve Bako, Business Agent, Laborers Union Local 113, 6310 W. Appleton Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53210.

## 710 hour rules for working after retirement when your union declares full employment

Recent years have brought historically high employment levels to the commercial construction industry in southeastern Wisconsin. Many unions have needed to use retirees to bolster their ranks of available workers. To that end, a number of unions have declared a period of full employment in 2007.

When your local union declares a period of full employment for your trade, the Pension Plan's normal suspension of benefit provisions for working after retirement are temporarily modified. Those retirees who want to work under the modified suspension of benefit provisions must sign up at their local union during the period of declared full employment. The modified provisions apply only to retired workers who sign the required form at their union local during the period of declared full employment. After

retirees sign the required form, they may then work 710 hours in that calendar year before being limited to 39 hours per month during the declared period of full employment. After working 710 hours, those retirees are then limited to 39 hours per month for the rest of the calendar year.

Every December 31, the declared periods of full employment end. Each union must re-declare its next period of full employment, and each retiree who wishes to work under these provisions must sign up again after the new period of full employment is declared.

Retirees working out of the area should note that the 710 hour provisions do not apply to work outside of this Pension Fund's jurisdiction. In other words, this provision does not apply to hours that are worked somewhere else and then transferred in to this Pension Fund.

## Transferring pension hours

**I**f you work outside this Pension Fund's jurisdiction, and you want your pension fund contributions transferred back to this Pension Fund, you need to complete a pension transfer form *as soon as possible* after you begin working in the other jurisdiction. If you work too many hours before completing a transfer request, the other pension fund may be unable to transfer any hours you worked before you made the request.

The same is true if you are temporarily working in this Pension Fund's jurisdiction and you want hours transferred out. You need to complete your pension transfer request before working 750 hours in this jurisdiction.

You might assume that if your health fund contributions are being transferred, your pension fund contributions will also automatically be transferred. However, completing a health fund transfer form does *not* mean Pension Fund contributions will be transferred. You need to complete a separate Pension Fund transfer request form and send it to this Pension Fund. Please contact our office for forms or with any questions.

# 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, 2008	October 1, 2007 & November 30, 2007	November 30, 2007
February 1, 2008	November 1, 2007 & December 28, 2007	December 28, 2007
March 1, 2008	December 3, 2007 & January 31, 2008	January 31, 2008
April 1, 2008	January 2, 2008 & February 29, 2008	February 29, 2008

**☞ The Pension Fund Office will be closed on the following dates:**  
**November 22 and 23, 2007**  
**December 24 and 25, 2007**  
**December 31, 2007 and January 1, 2008**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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