

Building Your Tomorrow

Vol 17: No 2 Published Quarterly by the Trustees of the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund 2nd Quarter 2008

Reminder to retirees who received an annual employment questionnaire

If you are a retiree age 70 or younger, you probably received an annual employment questionnaire at the end of March or beginning of April. *Please note that you must complete it and return it to the Pension Fund Office before we can send your May 1 payment.* If you already returned the questionnaire, we thank you.

In order to continue uninterrupted direct deposit of your pension benefits, return the form (if you received one) by April 15.

NOTE:

Disregard this notice if: you are a retiree over age 70, or you are receiving survivor benefits (for example, widows) or Disability Benefits, or you are an Alternate Payee (receiving benefits through a divorce order). If any of the above apply to you, we did not send you a questionnaire, and you do not need to complete one.

Participants must Retire in order to receive retirement benefits earlier than Normal Retirement Age

If you plan to apply for your Building Trades Pension Fund retirement benefits before you reach Normal Retirement Age, you need to Retire, as defined by the Pension Plan. The current Normal Retirement Age for Active Participants in this pension plan is age

63. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulates qualified pension plans, and requires that a plan's Participants actually retire in

order to receive early retirement benefits. If you wait until your Normal Retirement Age to apply for pension benefits, you do not have to prove you intend to Retire. (However, there are still rules regarding going back to work after retirement benefits begin.)

What does it mean to Retire?

First, you need to terminate your employment with any and all Employers who contribute to the Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund for any of their

employees. You will have to sign a form at the time you apply for early retirement benefits, stating you understand you must Retire and you do intend to Retire. This applies even if you are working for a contributing Employer in sales, estimating, management, or another non-covered position.

If a Participant began receiving Early Retirement Benefits, but did not actually Retire, the Trustees must rescind the Participant's Early Retirement Benefits, and the Participant must repay all Early Retirement Benefits received so far, before receiving any future benefits.

Second, you will have to make sure you do not work for a contributing Employer for at least sixty (60)

days, or two months, after your Effective Date of Benefits. Your Effective Date of Benefits is the first day of the month for which you are receiving your benefit payments. Depending upon the date you submit your application for benefits, you might not receive your first benefit payment on your Effective Date of Benefits. Make sure you understand what your Effective Date of Benefits is. *(Continued on page 2)*

INSIDE

Meet your Trustees	3
Planning to retire?	4

Rules for Retiring early *(continued from page 1)*

Third, no other facts may indicate you intend to continue significant work in the construction industry or any other industry involved in the same type of business activities in which covered Employees are working. For example, if the Pension Fund Trustees become aware that prior to your Effective Date of Benefits, you have requested or accepted significant job assignments to begin after your Effective Date of Benefits, this would be inconsistent with an intent to Retire, even if the work was to begin later than 60 days after your Effective Date of Benefits.

If more than 60 days pass following your Effective Date for Early Retirement Benefits, and you then return to work for a contributing Employer, the Trustees would look at your case individually to determine whether you had a genuine intent to Retire.

It is very important to note that if you return to work less than 60 days after your Effective Date of Benefits, and contributions are received by the Pension Fund on your behalf, the Trustees would assume you had not Retired. The Trustees would then rescind approval of your benefits, and you would have to repay all the retirement benefits you had received so far. You would then have to file a new application for retirement benefits at some future date when

you have stopped working. You would have to repay all the retirement benefits you had received previously before you would receive future retirement benefits from the Pension Fund.

The Trustees understand that even genuinely Retired people occasionally have opportunities to earn extra income by doing some work in the construction industry. If you have already established that you intended to and definitely did Retire, you may return to work for contributing Employers.

Retirees who return to work in Plan-related employment, whether for contributing Employers or non-contributing Employers, are limited to how many hours they may work while continuing to receive monthly pension benefits. These rules are separate from the "Intent to Retire" rules described above, and these separate rules apply to all retirees, not just those who retired early.

Please make sure you understand all the rules regarding Retiring and returning to work after retirement before you make any decisions about beginning your retirement benefits or going back to work after retirement. We urge you to call the Pension Fund office to discuss any questions you have regarding these complex rules.

Building Your Tomorrow
Published quarterly © 2008 by
the Trustees of the
Building Trades United Pension
Trust Fund

All Rights Reserved

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

Meet your Trustees



Steve Breitlow
Labor Trustee

After working five years as an Organizer and three as a Business Agent, Steve Breitlow is now in his second year as Business Manager of Plumbers Union Local 75. Before becoming an Organizer, he worked as a plumber for about 18 years on projects ranging from single-family homes to large hospitals, a railroad

tunnel, and a water park. Steve's father, Marvin, and grandfather, Fred, were union plumbers and contractors.

As Business Manager, Steve oversees and directs daily union business, with the constant goal of obtaining more work for his union's members and contractors. Local 75 received its International Charter from the U.A. in 1891. It is the only straight line Plumbers Local in Wisconsin. Its original jurisdiction included Milwaukee, Waukesha, and Ozaukee Counties, but recent mergers have expanded its jurisdiction to 14 counties in southern Wisconsin.

Steve was appointed to the Pension Fund's Board of Trustees in January 2007. He serves on the Eligibility and Executive Committees. In addition, Steve is a Trustee for the Milwaukee and Madison Health Funds, the Plumbers Education Fund, 401(k), and the Professional Plumbers and Contractors Laborer Management Fund. He sits on the Milwaukee Joint Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee, the Madison Area Joint Apprenticeship Committee, and the State Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee.

Steve is also a member of the Dodge Jefferson Healthier Community Partnership, the Big Step Board, the Wisconsin Pipe Trades Association Executive Committee, the State Building Trades Conference Executive Committee, the Metropolitan Builders Association, the Madison Area Builders Association Careers in Construction Task Force, the Plumbing Heating and Cooling Contractors Association, the Plumbing Contractors Association of Southeastern Wisconsin, and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials.

Steve and Cheryl have been married 24 years, and have four daughters; Kathryn, 20; Christina, 18; Elizabeth, 16; and Rebecca, 15. The girls' school and club activities keep Steve and Cheryl busy attending games and concerts. Steve also enjoys hunting, fishing, and working around the house.

Steve reflected on serving as a Pension Fund Trustee:

"We should take a look at our state of accomplishment to date and appreciate the individual efforts that have built this great pension plan. As a participant and new Trustee on our Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund (BTUPTF), I would like to share with my fellow participants how impressed I am with our Trustees, administrator and staff at BTUPTF. It is obvious to me this plan is no accident but rather the product of vision, dedication and discipline. I would encourage each participant to express their appreciation to their respective past and present Trustees and administrators for building, managing and maintaining one of the best defined benefit plans in existence. I am honored by the privilege to serve as your Trustee."

Planning to Retire?



If you want to apply for benefits, and 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:
July 1, 2008	April 1, 2008 & May 30, 2008	May 30, 2008
August 1, 2008	May 1, 2008 & June 30, 2008	June 30, 2008
September 1, 2008	June 2, 2008 & July 31, 2008	July 31, 2008
October 1, 2008	July 1, 2008 & August 29, 2008	August 29, 2008

**☞ The Pension Fund Office will be closed on:
 Monday, May 26, 2008
 Friday, July 4, 2008**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

BUILDING YOUR TOMORROW 2nd Quarter 2008
 A Quarterly Publication of the Trustees of
The Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund
 500 Elm Grove Road, Suite 300
 P.O. Box 530
 Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122-0530

PRESORTED
 FIRST CLASS MAIL
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Milwaukee, WI
 Permit No. 3223