



A Word from the Coordinator

by Frank Benish
 Coordinator/Training Director



We're happy to see work finally picking up. This has been the worst recession that I've seen in my 38 years in construction. But there is hope on the horizon. We're continuing to train and advancing our role in the polishing industry in preparation for future job openings.

We're at the conclusion of spring classes, and have 10 or more apprentices who have completed their required classroom training. We had several people who were unable to attend classes for various reasons, and it's holding them back from getting their raise. Make sure that you stay current on your Work Progress Reports and attend all of your classes so you can get your raises on time.

I've noticed people are getting better about getting in their Work Progress Reports in a timely manner, thank you.



**Tips from Matt Markham,
 Plasterers Education
 Director**

Remember, it's not what we can't do, it's what can we do. Please return phone calls promptly, and stay in touch to let us know if you have moved or have a new phone number. Hope all is well. Peace.

Local Matters

by John Kearns
 Business Manager
 OPCMIA Local 528



Election of Union Officers and Vote for New Contract

To all Apprentices:

Please keep informed on all issues in the upcoming Officer Elections and Contract Vote. Apprentices are not allowed to run for a Union office, but are allowed to participate in both the officer's election and contract vote. You must be current on your dues as of June 1, 2012 in order to vote. (This means you must be paid through May, 2012.) I strongly encourage every Apprentice to vote. The choices you make today could affect your livelihood for the rest of your working life.

Why Work Progress Reports?

Currently Cement Mason apprentices are required to turn in a monthly report that shows the hours and work processes they worked. Apprentices who fall six or more months behind on their Work Progress Reports will become ineligible for dispatch and/or work until they catch up. You could be removed from the job until you are caught up.

PLASTERER APPRENTICES: The Plasterers JATC Board has approved a change to the standards to require Plasterer apprentices to begin turning in monthly Work Progress Reports. This rule will most likely go into effect in October, 2012.

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Work Progress Reports continued from page 1

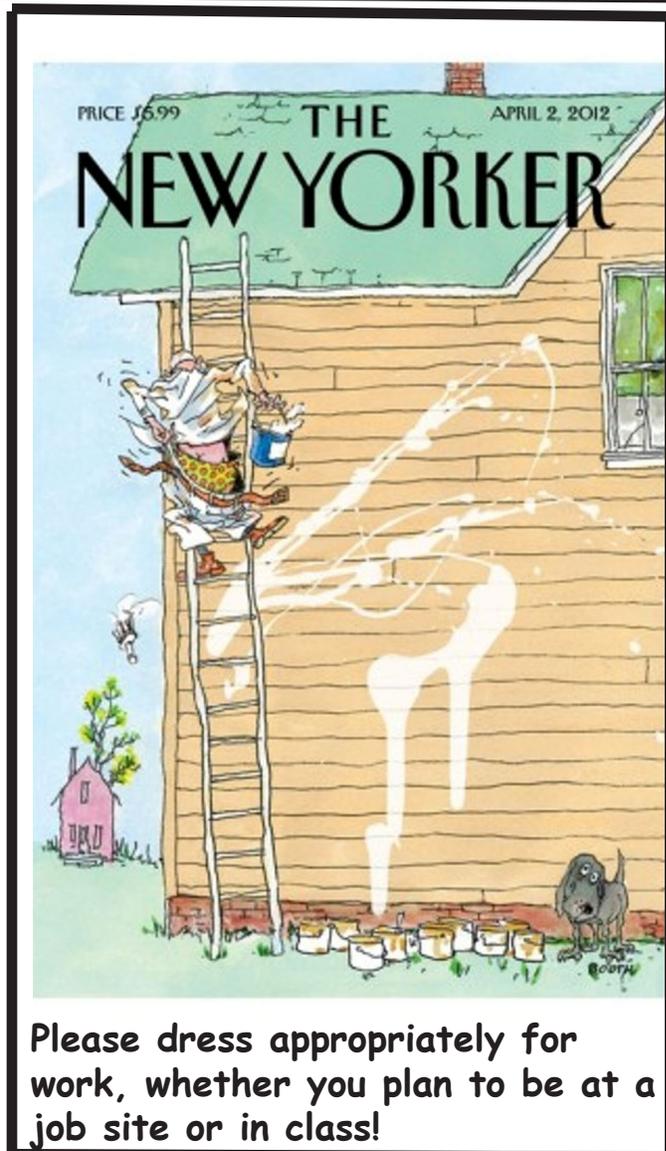
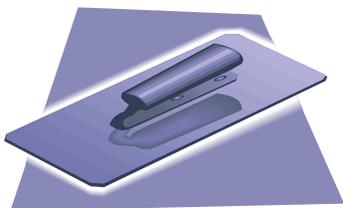
Why do we require Work Progress Reports? Here are the reasons:

1. We are trying to teach good habits. It's always a good idea to keep track of your hours, especially if you are working for more than one employer. That way, you can make sure you get paid for the hours you worked. If you don't write down your hours, you will not be able to contest potential errors on your paycheck. Your written record of hours worked is considered a legal document. Be sure to save all your check stubs!
2. We need to make sure that you are getting on-the-job experience in all of the different processes of your trade. This also benefits you because more contractors will be interested in employing you.
3. We prefer that your foreman sign and rate you on your timesheet. This way we can get feedback about what areas you need to work on in class.

As you can see, Work Progress Reports are for your benefit.



The Apprenticeship is seeking a few good women. Please refer women interested in applying to either the Cement Masons or Plasterers Apprenticeships.



Journeyman Upgrade Class

Whether you are unemployed or underemployed, we strongly recommend that you take advantage of the Journeyman Upgrade Classes offered at the Training Centers. You can upgrade your skills and make yourself attractive to more employers. Best of all, they're FREE!

June 23 First Aid/CPR

(This is the last opportunity for Plasterers to take this required course before the July 1st deadline.)