Building Trades Members Seek Five Elected Offices

Three members of the Building Trades also serve in the House of Delegates, and two more are trying to get there.

Dan Poling (D-Wood) is Business Manager of Painters District Council 53 having been a painter and member for 40 years. In the legislature he represents Wood County residents and serves in a number of positions. Poling is Chairman of the House Energy Industry and Labor Committee and a member of the House Finance, Energy and Transportation Committees.

Poling was first appointed to a vacant position in 2007 and has since won re-election three times.

Phil Diserio (D-Brooke) is President of Electricians Local 246 based in Steubenville. Diserio has been a member of the IBEW since 1979. In the legislature he represents Brooke and part of Ohio County and serves as Vice-Chair of the House Industry and Labor Committee as well as on the House Government Organization, Energy, Agriculture and Health Committees.

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$1.4 Million Already Spent Against Rahall

Anti-Union Billionaire Koch Brothers Descend on West Virginia Political Scene

“Paid for by Americans for Prosperity.”

Election season is here and political ads are to be expected.

Should you care who is behind all the ads paid for by groups like “Americans for Prosperity?”

Anti-union billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch spent $122 million on elections in 2012 through their tax-exempt Americans for Prosperity organization.

Now they are setting their sights on Congressman Nick Joe Rahall, friend of working families, and possibly others in West Virginia during the 2014 elections.

According to a March 11 story in the Washington Post, “conservative groups, led by the Chamber of Commerce, the Koch brothers-backed Americans for Prosperity and the American Energy Alliance, have spent about $1.4 million since late 2013 -- the vast majority of it attacking Rahall.”

AFP started a West Virginia chapter in February and hired Wendy McCuskey, former president of the anti-union West Virginia Associated Builders and Contractors and wife of Delegate J.B. McCuskey, R-Kanawha.

J.B. McCuskey won his race for the House of Delegates in 2012 by a narrow margin of 41 votes.

Political observers credit McCuskey’s win to another business front group “Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse” (CALA) for running attack

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Painters District Council 53 held its 2nd Annual Coating and Corrosion Expo on February 19 at their training facility in Weston, WV.

The purpose of the event was to offer state-of-the-art training and products in the coating industry. There were six exhibitors on hand to answer questions and demonstrate the latest products and training.

Live demonstrations included surface preparation and applications with “hands on” virtual reality sandblasting and spray painting booths.

Attendees were offered the opportunity to try their sandblasting and painting skills using the virtual reality booths at the training facility where they also received instruction.

More than 110 people attended, representing 43 different organizations. The expo was offered free and was intended for anyone who deals with corrosion.

According to DC 53 Marketing Representative Brian Stanley the event was a success.

“We targeted energy companies for attendance and with eight energy related companies attending we feel it was a success,” said Stanley. “We also had good representation from the West Virginia Division of Highways.”

Council Business Manager Dan Poling also points out that corrosion is getting a lot of focus since the water tank leak in Charleston which led to drinking water contamination has been attributed to a corroded tank.

Insulators Local 80 Apprenticeship Open

The Heat & Frost Insulators Local 80 JATC announced applications for apprenticeship will be taken April 21-25, 2014.

Applicants can go to the Charleston, Huntington or Parkersburg WorkForce offices Monday thru Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, possess a High School Diploma or equivalent, have a current valid driver's license, be physically able to perform the work and pass a drug test.

An aptitude test will be administered by WorkForce.

In addition applicants must reside in one of the following counties for the last 12 months.

In Ohio the counties of Gallia, Meigs, Washington, Jackson, Pike, Lawrence, or Scioto.


In Kentucky – Bath, Carter, Floyd, Knott, Letcher, Martin, Owsley, Rowan, Boyd, Elliott, Greenup, Lawrence, Lewis, Menifee, Pike, Wolfe, Breathitt, Estill, Johnson, Lee, Magoffin, Morgan or Powell.


The four year program teaches a variety of work tasks including the insulation of both industrial and commercial mechanical systems (i.e. piping, boilers, duct work, storage tanks) for the purpose of energy savings; burn protection; and to control system heat transfer and condensation.

All applicants will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, national and ethnic origin or sex.

For more information visit www.awlu80.com or contact 740-843-1017.

Building Trades Members

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Dizerio also was appointed to a vacated position, in early 2012, and was elected in 2012 in a close election.

Dave Walker (D-Clay), a retired member of Operating Engineers Local 132, served on the executive board and as a steward for many years.

Walker represents Calhoun and parts of Clay and Gilmer Counties. He is Chair of the Agriculture Committee and serves on the House Education, Labor, Energy and Transportation Committees.

“These guys not only serve their districts well, they are a great benefit to the construction industry because they understand it where most Delegates simply do not,” said Steve White, ACT Director and a lobbyist for the Trades for more than 20 years.

“We have lots of friends in the legislature but when a committee is meeting or the full session is underway a lobbyist can’t do a thing, having members as delegates who can speak to our issues is why we get successes each year.”

Denzil “Buddy” Malone is trying to join Poling, Dizerio and Walker as the newest trades’ member in the House. He is running in the 8th District which covers part of Wood County. Malone is Business Representative for Millwrights Local 1755, a position he has held since 2006. Malone ran in 2012 but was unsuccessful against an incumbent who has held the seat for many years.

Gary McCallister is not new to politics having been elected to the Lincoln County Board of Education.

He is now seeking one of two House seats from the 22nd district which covers most of Lincoln and parts of Putnam, Boone and Logan Counties.

McCallister is a member of the Carpenters and works as a service representative for the newly formed Keystone, Mountain, Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters.
$18 Million Wayne School Bond Will Bring $42 Million in New Construction

Elections are not always just about candidates but at times issues.
Wayne County residents who go to the polls this May will be asked to approve a bond measure aimed at building new schools.
The bond measure is for $18 million but if passed will be matched by another $18 million from the State School Building Authority.
Add in another $4.2 million from the Wayne County Schools Permanent Improvement fund and $2 million from Federal interest free bonds to make a $42.2 million building program.
The funds will build a new $20.4 million Ceredo-Kenova Elementary and a $17 million Crum PreK-8, along with $4.7 million in renovations at Wayne High School that include new classrooms and restrooms.
A bond measure in 2012 that was twice as large failed so school leaders went back to the drawing board and proposed a smaller measure.
"Schools like Crum Elementary are long overdue to be replaced, " said Mark Johnson, Business Manager of the Tri-State Building Trades Council. "Kids deserve up-to-date facilities."

WV State Building Trades Endorse

U.S. Senate
Natalie Tennant

U.S. Congress
1st David McKinley
2nd Nick Casey
3rd Nick Joe Rahall

State Senate
1st Rocky Fitzsimmons
2nd Larry John Edgell
3rd Robert "Robin" Wilson Jr.
5th Mike Woelfel
7th Ron Stollings
8th Erik P. Wells
9th Mike Green
10th Ronald R. "Ron" Miller
11th Gregory A. Tucker
12th Mike Romano
13th Bob Beach
14th Stan Shaver
15th Donald H. Cookman
16th John Unger
17th Doug Skaff Jr.

House of Delegates
1st Randy Swartzmiller, Ronnie D. Jones
2nd Phil Diserio
3rd Eriekka Storch
4th Mike Ferro
5th Dave Pethel
8th Denzil “Buddy” Malone
9th Jim Marion
10th Dan Poling
12th Michael “Mike” Bright
13th Joshua Martin, Josh McGrath
14th Johnny Roach
16th Jim Morgan,
Sean Hornbuckle
17th Doug Reynolds, Dale Stephens
18th Joe Hutchinson
19th Don Perdue, Ken Hicks
20th Justin J. Marcum
21st Harry Keith White
22nd Jeff Eldridge, Gary McCallister
(Also Steve Wedge - Jackson County Board of Education)

Voting Dates to Remember
Last day to register to vote – Tuesday, April 22, 2014
Early Voting - Wednesday April 30 through Saturday May 10
Early Voting is open during regular business hours at each county courthouse or annex. Saturday’s from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Election Day – Tuesday, March 13
Polls open 6:30 a.m. through 7:30 p.m.
Pipe Trades Apprentice Competition

The West Virginia State Pipe Trades held their annual apprenticeship contest during the week of April 7 in Wheeling.

Wheeling Local 83 hosted the event which tests apprentices in four areas; welding, pipefitting, HVAC and plumbing.

Eleven contestants from five local unions participated.

Winning the welding event was Keith Kidd, Local 83 Wheeling; Morgan Morgan, Local 83 Wheeling won pipefitting; HVAC was Roger Harris, Local 625 Charleston; and plumbing Kenneth Raulston Jr., Local 152 Morgantown.

The winners in each category will go on to the regional competition in Pittsburgh later this year. A national event will be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Workers Memorial Day

Monday, April 28, 6:00pm
Benwood City Park
4th Street, Benwood

Workers Memorial Day is a nationwide event to honor all workers who died on the job.

The event also promotes workplace safety.

For more information contact the WV AFL-CIO 304-344-3557

Billionaires Descend

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ads against his opponent.

Even before recent rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court, groups like CALA and AFP have been funneling millions of dollars into political campaigns while avoiding or ignoring election laws that require disclosure of where the money comes from.

The Supreme Court has now eliminated many limits and disclosure requirements leaving big donors, foreign governments, and multinational corporations free to spend whatever they want without the public having any knowledge of where the money comes from or how it is spent.

The Koch brothers and the groups that contribute millions to their organization fight any legislative measures to curb corporate campaign spending or make the names of their donors known.

In West Virginia, both the McCuskeys – one as a lobbyist and the other as a member of the House of Delegates – worked to defeat a labor-backed bill designed to bring accountability to the campaign donation process.

The Koch brothers have been described as quiet but they’re making big noise with big money in elections. Their web of organizations, which includes AFP, is designed to take advantage of tax loopholes and anonymity for its donors while it spends millions to elect officials who side with corporations at the expense of working families.