

PHCC: WHY WE NEED STATE AND NATIONAL

Friedrich Gustav Emil Martin Niemoller (14 January 1892-6 March 1984) was a Protestant pastor and social activist.

In Nazi Germany Martin Niemoller said ...they came first for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist,

when they locked up the social democrats, I remained silent; I was not a social democrat,

then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak up because I wasn't a Jew,

when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out.

Hebrews 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as you see the day approaching". The Word works on many levels.

We are losing our foothold in this industry; others are taking our work away from us.

There has always been a need for the chain of command: in our case, a chain of information, inspiration and influence. A "rubbing of elbows", as it were with the "big guys" in our industry. An access to the "bigger picture", the overall view of what is going on around us. We should always be aware of our surroundings. We should always have unity. Stay vigilant. If we are not strong, the thieves will break in and take our livelihoods.

NATIONAL leaders usually come from larger contractors all over the country. They are willing to



donate their time, share their insight and experience with the State Associations. They have our backs on the National Level. National deals with our trade issues on a "Washington DC" level on our behalf, giving us a "heads up" before we are caught by surprise.

STATE leaders usually come from statewide successful contractors. They are willing to



donate their time, share their insight and experience with the Local Associations. They have our backs on the State Level. They also take the information provided by National and interpret and share it with us on the county level. State deals with our trade issues on a "Tallahassee" level on our behalf.

COUNTY leaders usually come from local successful contractors. They are willing to



donate their time, share their insight and experience with the Local Associations. They have our backs on the Local Level. County deals with our trade issues on a County by County level on our behalf.

There is a proverb that says "A man left to himself will bring his family to shame." Is this not also true about businesses? We should choose our counselors wisely. With a multitude of counselors, we make our war. Listen to those who say "We get our information from the counter area at the supply houses." What kind of information are they getting: idle gossip, complaints and grumbings? There is no better established platform for good information than the PLUMBING HEATING COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION.

Never underestimate the value of your presence in another person's life; never underestimate the value of their presence in yours. SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING. Right now, I'm going fishing. Because, thanks to my membership in the PAPHCC, I can. *George Haseltine, PAPHCC Past President*