

# **BLOWTORCH UA Local #13 Plumbers, Steamfitters & Service Techs**

**Bill Kurtz**, Business Manager  
**Jim Caternolo**, Business Agent

**The Next Union Meeting is Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**ALL WORKING MEMBERS THAT GO BACK TO WORK OR CHANGE EMPLOYMENT STATUS MUST NOTIFY THE UNION HALL!!!! (Call Jim Caternolo)**

**At the February Meeting, we will review & discuss the raise & allocation; voting will be at the March Meeting.**

TO KEEP YOU INFORMED, we need your current **ADDRESS, CELL PHONE NUMBER & EMAIL ADDRESS**. Please call Alana at the Union Hall with updated information.

- If you are out of work or change employers, please call the Union Hall with updates.
- **Please make sure you are up to date with your dues. There will be a \$50 reinstatement fee for anyone who is (3) months behind. NO EXCEPTIONS! Note the 1<sup>st</sup> of the 4<sup>th</sup> overdue month is when the reinstatement fee is assessed to your account by the UA.**
- **UNION DUES FOR ACTIVE JOURNEYMEN, APPRENTICES & MES MEMBERS INCREASED \$2.00 PER MONTH STARTING JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2018. Retirees remain at \$20.00 per month.**
- Local #13's website is [www.ualocal13.org](http://www.ualocal13.org). There is quite a bit of information to be found on the site including agendas, activities and general updates. I encourage you all to check out the site now and throughout the year.
- We have a "Job Line" that is for out of town work. If anyone is interested in out of town work, please dial 338-2360 and press option #4 to hear more information.
- The Front office hours are 8:00AM-4:30PM. If you need to come to the hall after hours, please give us a call first!

## **SAVE THE DATE(S):**

- APPRENTICE GRADUATION BANQUET & SERVICE PIN AWARDS – Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Convention Center. More info soon.

## **CONGRATULATIONS:**

- To Colton & Taryn Mattle on the birth of their first baby, Ryder William, born on 2/5/18. Also congrats to Bob Mattle, the Grandfather, and to Kyle Mattle, an uncle!!

## **CONDOLENCES:**

- To Bill Amering & family on the passing of his mother; Rob's grandmother.

## **GET WELL SOON:**

- Please keep Brother Ken Schulz in your thoughts and prayers as he continues to tackle kidney cancer.
- Please keep Brother Rob Tweedie in your thoughts and prayers as he continues with his treatments.

## **NEW RETRIEES:**

- February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 – Michael Comella

## **NOTICES & REMINDERS:**

- Call Alana at the Union Office for any announcements that you may wish to have inserted into your labor news column. We would like to be made aware of all family events.
- IAP Scholarship application is available at the hall for all high school seniors with parents who are members of UA Local 13. Also available on the website. It needs to be turned in by Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- UA Scholarships will be available online February 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **Local 13 Members:** There is a golf league at **Genesee Valley Course** on Wednesday afternoons starting at 3:30pm. The league starts at the end of April every year, weather permitting. If anyone is interested in joining the 2018 season, please contact Carl Colotti at (585) 236-0374 or carlc271@hotmail.com. We need a \$10.00 deposit by March 30<sup>th</sup> to hold a spot for this year's league. There are a limited number of spaces open to us as there is a league after us. Please let Carl know if you are interested ASAP. Hope to see more of you out there!

### **BENEFITS OFFICE**

**Steve Ostrander—Fund Manager**

### **PENSIONERS**

Your March 1, 2018 Pension payment will reflect updates to the Federal Tax Withholding Tables which occur automatically every year and are mandated. You may notice a slight adjustment to your net payment due to this update. If you would like to make any changes to your tax withholdings, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106.

### **ACTIVE MEMBERS ON THE EXCELLUS HEALTH PLAN**

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that the Fund Office is notified if you have a baby. **You MUST complete an enrollment form within 30 days of the date of birth** to ensure your child has coverage. If you fail to enroll your child within 30 days, your child may be ineligible for coverage until the next Open Enrollment period. Please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106 regarding any enrollment issues.

### **CHECK RECIPIENTS**

If you receive a check from the Benefit Office for any reason, a Pension payment, a Disability Payment, an hour bank reimbursement, or a recently issued Health Screening incentive check and it is not cashed within 6 months, it will no longer be honored by the Bank and another check WILL NOT be reissued. We encourage you to cash your checks promptly.

### **HEALTH INSURANCE RE-ENROLLMENT: URGENT NOTICE**

If you become ineligible for health insurance, then you return to work, IT IS YOUR responsibility to contact the benefit office and re-enroll on the Health Plan. If you would like to re-enroll on the Insurance Plan, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106 for details.

### **PENSIONERS**

We have received phone calls that members have not received their Pension Check on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. The Benefit Office mails all checks in a timely fashion, yet the only way to ensure a 1<sup>st</sup> of the month payment is to enroll for Direct Deposit. If you would like to enroll in direct deposit, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106.

### **ANNUITY**

The Guaranteed Income Fund has a guaranteed interest rate of 1.70% **effective January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018.** The interest rate will not fluctuate during this time.

### **ANNUITY - MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN THE LOAN PROGRAM**

If you are participating in the loan program and receive a letter from Prudential, it is imperative that you read all notices as it may be regarding a potential default on your loan. You need to adhere to all

dates and instructions in the letter to avoid default. Prudential automatically defaults members if you are more than 90 days behind your payment date, yet you will receive 3 notices prior to default. It is extremely important you stay timely with payments. Once your loan is automatically defaulted, it is difficult to reverse. If you make payments after default, they will not be returned, as they are considered Plan Assets. If you have questions regarding your loan, please contact Prudential at 1-877-778-2100 and refer to Plan number 767002. You will need to reference your social security number and loan number or contact Melissa Del Prete in the Local 13 Benefit Office at 585-338-2310 x107.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

According to Federal Law, if you terminate your Health Insurance Policy with Local 13, you may be subject to a penalty if you don't enroll in another Health Care Plan that provides minimum value. Please consult a Tax Advisor if you plan on terminating your health insurance. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Ostrander at 585-338-2310 x104.

### **APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING NEWS** **TRAINING COORDINATOR – JOHN CARPENTER**

**APPRENTICES:** Reminder to fill out your **BLUE BOOKS** daily and to have your Foreman sign them. **We need a copy of your blue book MONTHLY**, due by the end of each month. Blue Books are a NYS DOL requirement and are YOUR responsibility.

**WELDING:** Open welding is Monday and Wednesday nights from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Continuity is the WELDER'S responsibility;** if you lapse, you must re-test. We have continuity on the odd numbered months before the Union Meetings. There will be a weld test scheduled for Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018. You must receive approval and sign up for the weld test prior to the test date.

**COURSE REIMBURSEMENT FOR OUTSIDE TRAINING:** Course Reimbursement Applications must be submitted by member two (2) weeks prior to course date and must be approved by the JATC Board prior to reimbursement. Applications are available on our website: [www.ualocal13.org](http://www.ualocal13.org). All applications must have back up paper work explaining the courses, fees, etc.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES:** Anyone interested in signing up for a class must do so before July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**MED GAS RECERTIFICATION:** Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM. You must sign up and put a \$25 refundable deposit down 30 days in advance. CASH/CHECK ONLY.

**HVAC TECHNICIANS:** Anyone interested in teaching for the HVAC program, please call John Carpenter. Even (4) weeks on a certain aspect of the trade could help!

### **RETIREE NEWS**

#### **FREE LUNCH!!! Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month!!**

A small turnout for our January luncheon. A big thanks to all who helped with the preparing and cleaning, and to those that brought a dish to pass. **Carl Colotti** won the free dues and **Charlie Yatteau** won the \$25 Wegmans gift card. Next lunch is **Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**. PASTA, SAUCE & MEATBALLS!! Feel free to bring a dish to pass. – Larry Tschetter