

BLOWTORCH UA Local #13 Plumbers, Steamfitters & Service Techs

Bill Kurtz, Business Manager
Jim Caternolo, Business Agent

The Next Union Meeting is Tuesday, March 27th, 2018

ALL WORKING MEMBERS THAT GO BACK TO WORK OR CHANGE EMPLOYMENT STATUS MUST NOTIFY THE UNION HALL!!!! IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP US UPDATED; NOT THE CONTRACTORS! (Call Jim Caternolo)

Any member who is planning to travel out of our jurisdiction; you must let Jim Caternolo know and you MUST check-in AND check-out with the out-of-town local that you travel to.

**At the March Meeting, we will VOTE on the raise & allocation.
At the March Meeting, there will be nominations for (1) Building Corp. seat; the election will be in April, if needed.**

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 1st of the 4th 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 1ST, 2018. Retirees remain at \$20.00 per month.**
- Local #13's website is 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):

- SEABREEZE FAMILY PICNIC – Saturday, July 7th, 2018. 12:00pm-4:00pm. More info soon.
- APPRENTICE GRADUATION BANQUET & SERVICE PIN AWARDS – Friday, July 20th, 2018 at the Convention Center. More info soon.
- LABOR DAY PARADE – Monday, September 3rd, 2018. More info soon.
- HEATS ON – Saturday, September 15th. More info soon.
- CLAMBAKE – Saturday, September 22nd, 2018 at Camp Eastman. More info soon.

CONGRATULATIONS:

- Congrats to Vince Presciutti & Pete Homa on successfully passing the City of Rochester Master Plumber's Exam back in December 2017!!

CONDOLENCES:

- To Mike Boillat & family on the recent passing of his mother.

- To Chad Ribstein & family on the recent passing of his father & Local 13 retiree, Joe Ribstein.
- To Jeff Spaker & family on the recent passing of his father & Local 13 retiree, Scott Spaker.
- To the Bartlett family on the recent passing of Local 13 retiree, David.

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:

- March 1st, 2018 – Toby Malone

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.
- UA Scholarships will be available online February 9th. Visit: www.uanet.org for more info.
- **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 30th 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

ANNUITY PLAN ROTH ELECTIONS

If you would like to elect to contribute to the Roth Plan, you must elect to change by **April 16, 2018**. Please contact Melissa Del Prete at 585-338-2310 x107 for information. You must sign an election form.

HOOR BANK REIMBURSEMENTS

If you would like to submit for claims back to May 1, 2016, **YOU MUST submit the claims no later than April 16, 2018. If you do not submit claims by that date, you will NOT be reimbursed for claims paid after May 1, 2016.** You will only be reimbursed for claims paid after May 1, 2017 when the new Health Insurance Plan Year begins.

SIMPLY BLUE HEALTH PLAN - HEALTH SCREENINGS SAVE THE DATES

The Local 13 Benefit Office is pleased to announce that the Health Screenings will be offered again **Friday, April 20, 2018 from 5:30AM – 10:30AM and Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 7:00AM – 12:00PM** at the Union Hall. You will receive a flyer soon which discusses how to schedule your screening. In the flyer there is a plan sponsored incentive for participants and spouses who are active on the Health Insurance Plan. Yet, if you are NOT on the Excellus Simply Blue Health Care Plan, you can still schedule a screening and your hour bank will be deducted to cover the cost. We look forward to seeing all of you at this important event that enables you to take preventative measures to ensure long term health.

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 1st of the month. The Benefit Office mails all checks in a timely fashion, yet the only way to ensure a 1st 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. There may also be booths available on Tuesdays & Wednesdays also. **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 is a weld test

scheduled for Saturday, March 31st, 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. 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 1st.

MEDICAL GAS CERTIFICATION: Monday-Thursday & Saturdays, April 30th-May 12th. You must sign up and put a \$25 refundable deposit down (30) days in advance (Friday, March 30th). 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!

SAFETY TRAINING: The April 2nd "Drug & Alcohol Awareness" class has been postponed until the Fall. The OSHA 10 course has been rescheduled to Friday, May 4th from 4:30pm – 7:30pm and continuing Saturday, May 5th from 7:30am – 3:30pm. Open to ALL.

RETIREE NEWS

FREE LUNCH!!! Every 2nd Tuesday of the month!!

March was our delicious St. Patrick's Day corned beef & cabbage lunch! A big thanks to all who helped with the preparing and cleaning, and to those that brought a dish to pass. **Al Derthick** won the free dues and **Andy Catalina** won the \$25 Wegmans gift card. Next lunch is **Tuesday, April 10th**. Feel free to bring a dish to pass. – Larry Tschetter