

BLOWTORCH UA Local #13 Plumbers, Steamfitters & Service Techs

Bill Kurtz, Business Manager
Jim Caternolo, Business Agent

The Next Union Meeting is Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019 (NO MEETING IN DECEMBER)

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 Bill Kurtz or 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.

ATTN ALL DUES PAYING MEMBERS: We will NO LONGER be waiving the \$50 reinstatement fees if you are late!!!! IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP UP ON YOUR DUES!! Please do not wait until the last minute to call or stop in to the hall, because we may not be available when you get here!

There are NO EXCUSES anymore; now that you can pay your dues ONLINE, AT ANY GIVEN TIME!! If you do not yet have that information; PLEASE CALL ALANA ASAP!!!! (585) 338-2360. She will gladly get you setup, so you can pay online.

The 2019 IAP Scholarship application is now available on www.ualocal13.org or at the Union Hall. Please contact Alana for more information.

At the February 26th Union Meeting, we will discuss the raise allocation. Voting will be at the March 26th Union 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 1st of the 4th overdue month is when the reinstatement fee is assessed to your account by the UA.**
- **YOU CAN NOW PAY YOUR DUES ONLINE OR THROUGH THE MOBILE APP!! Contact Alana to find out how!!**
- **DUES CREDIT CARD FEE; AFFECTIVE JULY 2018: \$3.00 PER TRANSACTION.**
- 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 PICNIC – Saturday, July 6th, 2019. More info soon!

- APPRENTICE GRADUATION & SERVICE PIN BANQUET – Friday, July 19th, 2018 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. More info soon!

CONGRATULATIONS:

- To Fred LaJuett Jr. on the birth of his grandson, Brodin John, born on New Year's Eve!! Also congrats to Great Grandpa, Fred LaJuett Sr.!!
- To Andy & Ashley Kurtz on the birth of their 2nd son, Gavin, born on January 3rd!! Also congrats to Grandpa Bill Kurtz!!

CONDOLENCES:

- To Matt Temple & family on the recent passing of his wife, Lisa.
- To Travis Lawrence & family on the recent passing of his father.
- To Mark S. Bertolani & family on the recent passing of his father. (Mark J.'s grandfather)

GET WELL SOON:

- Get well soon to Ed Gorall as he fights lung cancer.
- Please keep Brother Ken Schulz in your thoughts and prayers as he continues to tackle kidney cancer.

NEW RETRIEES:

- January 1st, 2019 – Jeff Beard, Ken Cooke & Mike Madlen

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.

BENEFITS OFFICE **Steve Ostrander—Fund Manager**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM FUNDS MANAGER

The Benefit Office is open beginning at 6:00am M-F. Please call or stop in prior to beginning your work day for any regular or urgent needs. **During regular business hours (8am-5pm) it is highly recommended that you call ahead to make an appointment with myself or the staff.** If you choose to walk-in, it is likely that you will experience a wait time. If ever you have a concern that requires an urgent response, please call my cell phone at (585) 354-6158. Leave a voicemail message and I will return your call as soon as possible. – Steve Ostrander

CHANGES IN MEDICAL COVERAGE/MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Please remember that ANY and ALL changes, terminations or enrollments with a qualifying event pertaining in any way with your medical coverage must be performed in writing and within 30 days of the actual event.

NEW EXCELLUS DENTAL ID CARDS

Excellus will be upgrading their Dental system and as a result of this **you will be receiving new Dental ID Cards effective 1/1/19.** Please update your Dental provider of the new ID card and discard the old one.

HOURLY BANK REIMBURSEMENTS CLAIMS

When submitting claims for Health Insurance Premiums we will now be requiring both items as follows: 1. A clear billing statement from the Insurance Company; 2. Your proof of payment. If both items are not submitted with your claim form these items will be returned to you.

ANNUITY

The Guaranteed Income Fund has a guaranteed interest rate of **2.00% effective January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019**. 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 Debbi Edizel 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 on Monday and Wednesday nights from 5:00pm-8:30pm, and Saturday mornings from 7:00am-11:00am. There will be a **weld test** on Saturday, January 26th, 2019. You must be approved by a CWI prior to taking the test.

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 course, fees, etc.

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!

CLASS SIGN-UPS: Class sign-up sheet is posted at the hall. To enroll in regularly scheduled classes, you need to sign-up in the month of June.

MEDICAL GAS COURSE: Beginning May 2019. You must sign up for this class at least ONE MONTH prior to the class start date.

RETIREE NEWS

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

Smaller turnout for our January lunch. A big thanks to all who helped with the cooking, preparing and cleaning, and to those that brought a dish to pass. **Al Derthick** won the free dues and **Dick Maxwell** won the \$25 Wegmans gift card. Next lunch is **Tuesday, February 12th**. We will be having our annual Italian lunch – sauce, meatballs & pasta! Feel free to bring a dish to pass! – Larry Tschetter/Terry Moore