

BLOWTORCH UA Local #13 Plumbers, Steamfitters & Service Techs

John Carpenter, Business Manager | **Jim Caternolo**, Business Agent

Next Union Meeting: Thursday, December 8th, 2022

SPECIAL MEETING AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION! NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER.

**IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING TEXT MESSAGES FROM LU13:
TEXT THE WORD "UNSTOP" TO THIS NUMBER: 877-515-8799**

To keep you informed, we need your current **ADDRESS, CELL PHONE NUMBER & EMAIL ADDRESS**. Please call the Union Hall with updated information. Please remember to update your **Beneficiary** info (with both the Union & Benefit Office) after any major life change, such as marriage, divorce, new children, etc.

2022 GENERAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The election will be on Thursday, December 8th from 6:00am-6:00pm at the Union Hall. In the event of a tie – a runoff election will be the following week, Thursday, December 15th from 8:00am – 6:00pm.

OFFICER NOMINEES:

- ✚ President – Rob Amering – UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Vice President – Jerry Sullivan – UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Recording Secretary – Frank DeCarlo – UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Inside Guard – Colton Mattle – UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Business Manager – John Carpenter – UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Business Agent – Vote for ONE – Nate Burdick, Dan O’Neil, Kevin Peri**
- ✚ Treasurer – Clint Byer – UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Executive Board – Jamie Arena, Kevin Coleman, Ted Harris, Steve Youngman – ALL UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Finance Board – Sean Gorevski, Todd Mitchell, Matt Tyma – ALL UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Examining Board – Jake Eisenhauer, Jay Landers, Steve Mallaber, Tim Meehan – ALL UNOPPOSED**
- ✚ Conference Board – Nate Burdick, Clint Byer, Jake Eisenhauer – ALL UNOPPOSED**

SAVE THE DATE(S):

Saturday, December 3rd, 2022 – Local 13 Family Christmas Party! 10:00am – 12:00pm with the MAGIC GUY at 10:30am!

UNEMPLOYMENT LIST: If you get laid off, please CALL Jim Caternolo at (585) 355-2244 or the main line, (585) 338-2360 ext. 113. Jim will then put your name on the list & the date that you informed him.

The best way to contact anyone in the office is through **EMAIL:**

- John Carpenter: johnc@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 114
- Jim Caternolo: jimc@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 113
- Bill Blaschek: billb@ualocal13.org
- Alana Colotti Allen: alanac@ualocal13.org
- Bette Kwiatkowski: bettek@ualocal13.org

CONGRATULATIONS:

- To Ben & Andi Eadie on the birth of their fourth child, Crosby Cate, born on 10/16!!

GET WELL SOON:

- To any member that has tested positive for COVID-19. Get some rest & we hope you feel better soon!
- To Jeff Currier as he recovers from a recent shoulder surgery.
- To Dan Richmond as he recovers from a recent lung cancer procedure.

CONDOLENCES:

- To Tom Fisher & family on the recent passing of his father, Tom, Sr. Brother to Ken & Carl Fisher.
- To the Moranz family on the recent passing of lifetime member, Howie, on 10/23.

NEW RETIREES: November 1st – Russell Johnson & Frank Seeburg

BENEFITS OFFICE **FUND ADMINISTRATOR – STEVE OSTRANDER**

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE BENEFIT OFFICE WORKS DAILY WITH YOUR PERSONAL & SENSITIVE INFORMATION. NO WALK IN TRAFFIC IS PERMITTED. ALL MEMBERS WISHING TO PERSONALLY MEET WITH BENEFIT OFFICE STAFF MUST CALL AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT IN ADVANCE. – THANK YOU

GENERAL NEWS

If you have information or documents that you are dropping off without an appointment, there is a stainless cabinet mailbox in the vestibule area of the building with labels for the Union Office (top slot) & Benefit Office (bottom slot). You may drop off any paperwork to us via this method. There is also a mail slot to the right of the main Benefit Office entrance door. Please call or e-mail us prior to your visit so we know that your items are here.

THE BENEFIT OFFICE STAFF ARE AVAILABLE M-TH: 8:00am-4:30pm & FRIDAY: 8:00am-3:30pm. PLEASE CALL: 585-338-2310

- Tricia Marciano: Ext 106 / triciam@ualocal13.org
 - Debbi Edizel: Ext 107 / dedizel@ualocal13.org
 - Steve Ostrander: Cell Only - (585) 354-6158. If it is a 911 matter, please call him anytime 24/7. Otherwise, please respect his business hours of availability.
-

PENSIONERS

- Your pension payment arrives on the 1st of every month. Please note we have updated our schedule for any month where the 1st falls on a weekend.
- Effective immediately, all payments shall arrive on the 1st, **or the next business day AFTER the 1st.**
- If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106 or email at triciam@ualocal13.org.

PENSIONERS OVER 65—Medicare Open Enrollment

You should have received in the mail the information regarding our Medicare Open Enrollment and rate changes. If you are currently on our Medicare plan this is your opportunity to switch to one of our other plans. If you are not currently on our Medicare plans, this is your opportunity to enroll.

Any changes or new enrollment forms will need to be returned by November 23rd. If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106.

INSURANCE FUND NEWS—Active Members

Active Members on our Health Insurance plan are eligible for no-cost COVID tests. You can acquire up to eight over-the-counter tests at no cost per 30-day period from your pharmacy. If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106 or email at triciam@ualocal13.org.

ANNUITY FUND NEWS

Prudential Retirement has been acquired by Empower. The transitional period is ongoing. See the latest updates by logging in (or registering your account) at www.retirement.prudential.com.

Also, the Empower, Prudential Retirement app is available to download through the App store or through Google play. The Prudential app has been changed to Empower Prudential Retirement (red stripes, blue background). You can enroll from the app as well.

Empower's Service Center is available to assist members with questions regarding their Annuity accounts. Their phone number is 1-877-778-2100.

Please be advised that the Prudential Guaranteed Fund interest rate for the period **July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 will be set at 1.70%**.

ALL FUNDS

NEW!!! LOCAL 13 MEMBER BENEFITS PORTAL

We are excited to provide you with direct access (via your cell phone or computer) to your personal benefit information. To register, simply use the **Benefit Office** tab on the UA Local 13 website and click on the **"Member Benefits Portal"** tab.

On your portal, you will have access to:

- Contributions / Work History
- Pension Calculations & Estimates
- Health Insurance Eligibility
- Annuity Balances
- Regulatory Notices
- Forms and much more

Address Changes—All Members

Please remember to update the Benefit Office of any address and phone number changes.

Beneficiary Forms—All Members

We can't emphasize enough how critically important it is to have current beneficiary forms on file with this office.

Your accounts, Pension, Annuity Balance, Life Insurance, Hour Bank Balance, or any other Benefit account **WILL NOT** be transferred to anyone without a current Beneficiary Form on file.

If you die, your spouse & family will be forced to begin legal proceedings to liquidate your accounts. Your loved ones will not receive any funds belonging to you without all legal measures being satisfied.

Please update your beneficiary forms. DO NOT PUT IT OFF!! It is imperative when life changing events occur (i.e.: marriage, children, divorce). These forms are on our website in the Benefits Office section.

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING NEWS
TRAINING COORDINATOR – BILL BLASCHEK

APPLICATIONS: 1st Tuesday of every month from 9:00am-11:00am & 1:00pm-3:00pm. Please view our website for more guidance.

BLUE BOOKS: Reminder to fill out your **BLUE BOOKS** daily and to have your Foreman sign them. Blue Books are a NYS DOL requirement and are YOUR responsibility.

WELDING/CONTINUITY: There will be a weld test on **Saturday, December 3rd**. Contact Bill Blaschek to sign up. Open welding is Monday evenings 5:00-8:00pm and Saturday mornings 7:00am-11:00am. Continuity will be held on the 4th Tuesday in the ODD numbered months from 3:30pm – 5:00pm. ***Please stay up to date with continuity so your certs don't lapse!!*** Continuity is still planned for Tuesday, November 22nd.

COURSE REIMBURSEMENT FOR OUTSIDE TRAINING: Course Reimbursement Applications must be submitted by the 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 paperwork explaining the course, fees, etc.

TEACHING: Anyone interested in teaching or helping with teaching, please reach out to Bill Blaschek.

VETERANS: The Veterans Club will be having more gatherings, stay tuned for upcoming dates.

RETIREE NEWS

Delicious soups & chili for our November luncheon! **Pete Witkowicz & Scott Ranieri** won the \$25 Wegmans gift cards. Our next lunch will be **Tuesday, December 13th**. We will be having our annual Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings! Reach out to Terry Moore if you'd like to bring a dish. Pies from *Special Touch Bakery* will be raffled off! – Terry Moore