

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

**John Carpenter**, Business Manager | **Dan O'Neil**, Business Agent

**Next Union Meeting: Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**

**There will be an Election for (1) Annuity seat and (1) Executive Board seat at the June 25<sup>th</sup> Union Meeting. Voting will be open from 3:00pm-6:00pm.**

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

**\*\*\*THE UNION OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-4:00PM.\*\*\***

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.

**UNEMPLOYMENT LIST:** If you get laid off, please CALL Dan O'Neil at (585) 455-5798 or the main line, (585) 338-2360 ext. 113. Dan 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
- Dan O'Neil: doneil@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 113
- Dan Pollock: danp@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 115
- Bill Blaschek: billb@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 109
- Shawn Schell: shawns@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 112
- Alana Colotti Allen: alanac@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 108
- Bette Kwiatkowski: bettek@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 103

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

- Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – MENTAL HEALTH & SUICIDE PREVENTION SEMINAR. 4:00pm-5:30pm. Keynote speaker: Brandon Anderson. Open to ALL.
- Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Seabreeze Picnic & Scholarship Recipients. TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!
- Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Apprentice Graduation & "Years of Service" Pin Banquet at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. Contact Alana for the group discount code if you wish to stay the night at the Hyatt Regency Hotel! TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!
- Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Benefit for Brother Rob Dixon as he goes through cancer treatments. Mendon Ponds Park, Canfieldwoods Shelter, 12:00pm.
- Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Labor Day Parade (& picnic at the hall afterwards).
- Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – CLAMBAKE! At Minett Hall at the Dome (**NEW LOCATION!!**)

**NEW RETIREES:** Congratulations to the June 1<sup>st</sup> retiree: Robert Averill

### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

- To Mark & Carol Bertolani on the birth of their first child, Mark, born on 5/5!!

### **GET WELL SOON:**

- To Travis Lawrence as he recovers from a recent heart surgery.

### **CONDOLENCES:**

- To Dan Donalds & family on the recent passing of his father (& former member), Richard.
- To Wayne Davis & family on the recent passing of his cousin, Mike.

### **BENEFITS OFFICE** **FUND ADMINISTRATOR – STEVE OSTRANDER**

*ALL MEMBERS WISHING TO PERSONALLY MEET WITH BENEFIT OFFICE STAFF MUST CALL AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT IN ADVANCE - Thank You*

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

- Tricia Marciano: Ext 106 / [triciam@ualocal13.org](mailto:triciam@ualocal13.org)
  - Debbi Edizel: Ext 107 / [dedizel@ualocal13.org](mailto: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.
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### **INSURANCE FUND NEWS**

#### **Hour Bank Reimbursement**

For plan year (dates of service) May 1, 2023-April 30, 2024, you have until October 31, 2024 to submit your claim to Lifetime Benefit Solutions. If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106 or at [triciam@ualocal13.org](mailto:triciam@ualocal13.org).

### **ANNUITY FUND NEWS**

Please contact the Benefit Office with any questions about the new Loan Application and Rollover details administrative changes with Empower. You can call Debbi at (585) 338-2310 x107.

Participants can call the **Empower Service Center** regarding their account at 1-833-569-2433. The hours are Weekdays: 8:00am-10:00pm EST and Saturday: 9:00am-5:30pm EST.

#### **The new Participant Website URL: [empowermyretirement.com](https://empowermyretirement.com)**

To login to your account, you will need to establish a new username and password for Empower. You can register on Empower's website or on the Empower App. If you are using the Empower-Prudential app, you need to replace it by downloading the Empower app (Red & White Stripes).

#### **To Register:**

- Click on *Register*.
- Choose *I do not have a PIN*.
- Follow the prompts to create a username and password. You will need to enter all of the following:
  - Your social security number
  - Your ZIP code
  - Your last name (if your name has a suffix such as Jr. or III, please include)
  - Your date of birth
- The next time you access your account, simply choose **Sign in**.

#### **Statements**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter statements are now available on the Empower website. Over several weeks following the upgrade, historical statements will be loaded in reverse chronological order and will be available under *Statements and Documents*.

Please be advised that the Prudential Guaranteed Fund interest rate for the period **January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 will be set at 2.05%**.

**Effective January 1, 2023**, the Annuity Joint Board of Trustees has voted to allow an “In Service Distribution/Withdrawal” to any active participant aged 59 1/2 or older.

### **LOCAL 13 ACTIVE & RETIREE MEMBER BENEFITS PORTAL**

Please use this portal for 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 page 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

### **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.

### **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 decease, 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:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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:** Open welding continues on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings until further notice. Continuity will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the ODD numbered months from 3:30pm – 5:00pm. ***Please stay up to date with continuity so your certs don't lapse!!***

**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](http://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.

**MED GAS:** We would like to schedule a Med Gas certification class for July 2024. Any journey person interested in getting their cert, please contact the hall by the end of May.

**Congratulations to Alex Campion on winning the Welding competition for New York State!!  
On to District 1 competition in June!! Thank you to Nathan Davey (HVAC), Dan Guererri (Plumber) and Shane Faller (Pipefitter) for competing in the contest as well!**

**REMINDER: Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Educational Seminar – Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at the Union Hall.**

#### **RETIREE NEWS**

We had our first cookout of the year at our May lunch! **Art Givens & Joe Gensler** won the \$25 Wegmans gift cards! Our next lunch will be **Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**. We will be having cookouts for the remainder of the summer! Bring a dish to pass. – Terry Moore