

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

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

**Next Union Meeting: Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**  
**NO MEETING IN DECEMBER!**

**There will be nominations for (1) Examining Board seat and (1) Building Corp. seat at the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Election will be at the February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting from 3:00-6:00pm.**

**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-4:30PM.\*\*\***

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.

### **CONTACT INFO:**

- 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
- Jessenia Davis: Jdavis@ualocal13.org/ (585) 338-2360 ext. 103

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

### **NEW RETIREES:**

Congratulations to our December 1<sup>st</sup> retiree: Jeffery Snelling

### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

- To Nick & Courtney Grevell on the birth of their first child, Vanessa Renee, born on 11/17!!
- To Anthony & Jasmine Tondryk on the birth of their first child, Anthony Michael "AJ", born on 12/6!! AJ was born at just 29 weeks – please keep him & the family in your thoughts for well wishes & that he can come home soon!

### **GET WELL SOON:**

- To Rob Dixon as he recovers from a recent procedure to remove a cancerous tumor in his lung.

### **CONDOLENCES:**

- To Jim Ziegler & family on the recent passing of his father, Gene.

**BENEFITS OFFICE**  
**FUND ADMINISTRATOR – NATE BURDICK – (585) 402-1474 CELL**

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-4:30pm & 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)
  - Nate Burdick: Ext 104 / [nateb@ualocal13.org](mailto:nateb@ualocal13.org) / Cell (585) 402-1474
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**INSURANCE NEWS**

**Hour Bank Reimbursement—Lifetime Benefit Solutions**

If you are eligible for Hour Bank Reimbursement, did you know that you can submit your claims through the Lifetime Benefit Solutions Portal? Once you have registered via their Portal you can begin using the Lifetime Benefit Solutions App. Please contact Tricia Marciano at (585) 338-2310 x106 for more information.

**Newborns—Adding to Insurance**

You only have 30 days from the date of birth to add your baby to our Insurance Plan. This is handled through the Benefit Office, not your Employer. Please contact Tricia Marciano at (585) 338-2310 x106.

**ANNUITY FUND NEWS**

When logging into the Empower website to access your account, please make sure you are using a valid email address. If you need to change your address or have any questions, please contact Debbi Edizel in the Benefit Office for assistance at (585) 338-2310 x107.

Please contact the Benefit Office with any questions about the new Loan Application and Rollover 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](http://empowermyretirement.com)**

To login to your account, you will need to establish a new username and password for Empower. You can register on the Empower website or on 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**.

Please be advised that the Guaranteed Fund interest rate for the period **July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 will be set at 2.10%**.

## **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 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 on their way or already here.

## **ALL FUNDS**

### **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.**

**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:** 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.

**LAST DAY OF THE FALL SEMESTER IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>.**

**Classes will resume on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

**RETIREE NEWS**

A delicious Thanksgiving meal for our December lunch! Thank you to everyone who brought a dish to pass! **Larry Tschetter** and **George Satter** won the \$25 Wegmans gift cards! We raffled off pies from Leo's Bakery. Our next lunch will be **Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. We will be having a BBQ style lunch – pulled pork, mac-n-cheese, baked beans, etc. Feel free to bring a dish to pass. – Terry Moore