

BLOWTORCH UA Local #13 Plumbers, Steamfitters & Service Techs

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

Next Union Meeting: Tuesday, February 25th at 5:00pm

The election for (1) Examining Board seat will be at the February 25th meeting. Voting open from 3:00-6:00pm.

We are heartbroken to report that five UA brothers were among the victims of the American Airlines Flight 5342 tragedy: Jesse Pitcher, UA Local 5; and Charles McDaniel, Jonathan Boyd, Michael Stovall & Alexander Huffman, all from Local 602.

**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.

2024-2025 IAP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: The application form is now available at the union hall or on our website at www.ualocal13.org. The deadline is Friday, March 14th, 2025. This is available to high school seniors graduating in 2025 with a parent or guardian that is an active member of Local 13.

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):

- Saturday, June 21st, 2025 – Annual Seabreeze picnic!
- Saturday, July 19th, 2025 – Apprentice Graduation & “Years of Service” Pin Banquet at the Convention Center!
- Thursday, July 24th, 2025 – Benefits Fair at UA Local 13!
- Saturday, September 27th, 2025 – Clambake at Minett Hall!

NEW RETIREES:

Congratulations to our February 1st retirees: Nicholas Fedorkiv, Kenneth Johns, William Mayo, Jr., Mitchell Roselli & Steve Smith!

CONGRATULATIONS:

- To Seamus Mykins on the birth of his daughter, Meira McKenzie, born on 1/29!!

GET WELL SOON:

CONDOLENCES:

- To Mark Fisher, Sr. on the recent passing of his wife, Mary Jane.
- To Brandon & Justin McGrain on the recent passing of their father, Michael (and Ryan's grandfather).
- To Jake Eisenhower & family on the recent passing of his mother, Helen.
- To Dave Steier & family on the recent passing of his mother, Shirley.

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

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
 - Debbi Edizel: Ext 107 / dedizel@ualocal13.org
 - Nate Burdick: Ext 104 / nateb@ualocal13.org / Cell (585) 402-1474
-

UA LOCAL 13 BENEFITS FAIR – Thursday, July 24th, 2025, at 1850 Mt. Read Blvd!!!

Come join us and our vendors for a complete overview of your entire benefit package:

- Health Care, Hour Bank Claims, Supplemental Medical, Employee Assistance Programs
- Financial and Retirement planning, Annuity/Roth Investment options
- Blood screening offered by appointment

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.

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

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 **January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 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.

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.

BLUE BOOK MONITOR DATES:

Tuesday, March 4th, 2025

Wednesday, March 5th, 2025

Monday, March 10th, 2025

Thursday, March 13th, 2025

You will meet with our rep from the NYS DOL on one of your school nights. This MUST be completed!!

WELDING/CONTINUITY: 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!!***

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.

FIRST AID/CPR: ALL 1st and 5th year apprentices must attend **BOTH DAYS** of training. Wednesday, April 30th and Thursday, May 1st.

RETIREE NEWS

Garbage plates catered by Papa G's for our January lunch! **Jim Badura** and **Mike Smock** won the \$25 Wegmans gift cards! Our next lunch will be **Tuesday, February 11th, 2025**. We will be having pasta & meatballs. Feel free to bring a dish to pass. – Terry Moore