



PLUMBER'S LOCAL UNION 78 PRODUCTIVE, QUALITY CRAFTSMEN

BUILDING & MAINTAINING LOS ANGELES SINCE 1892

September 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As we head into September the weather is still hot, and once again the kids are heading back to school.

The employment picture is beginning to show signs of improvement in most areas, except for construction. That being said we have started to see some improvement for our membership, and Local Union 78 is continuing to work with City Hall to help move projects forward. Significant proof of this effort can be seen by all the new projects coming up that are listed in the Building Trades News. I am sure Brothers Doug and Jeremiah will be happy to tell you about the projects that are under way in their areas.

In an attempt to rein in some of the rumors surrounding the potential consolation of UA Local 494, I would like to take a moment to bring you up to date. At the current time the UA Hearing Officer is working to finalize his report to our General Present, Bill Hite. Once prepared General President Hite will review the report and finalize a decision. We hope to hear from the UA General Office on this matter before the end of the year.

If you have an email address listed with the Local Union you may have noticed that we have started emailing the Drips to the membership. Additionally, we are also sending an email entitled Coalition for a Better Los Angeles. This email is being sent to local and state elected officials, contractors both union and non-union, developers and commu-

nity leaders. We hope the Coalition for a Better Los Angeles emails will be a positive influence in showing how developers, the city, state, and organized labor can work better together. We hope also to show how financing from the AFL-CIO can help move potential projects from a design idea to a concrete object, thus increasing work for our members.

Finally, Local Union 78 is happy to inform you that we will be hosting the Annual Holiday Open House on December 6, 2013 here at Local 78, we look forward to seeing you there.

Fraternally,
Gary L. Cook
Business Manager

Victory For Workers

Special points of interest:

- Victory for Workers
- Work In Our Area

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Business Representative Update

By the time this letter gets out our State Legislative session will be over, and we are proud to say we have gained a great number of victories this year. One such example is when Governor Brown signed our Bill to defund sham labor compliance committees on August 27, 2013. This was a big defeat for ABC and a great victory for workers.

When Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 776 into law, he legally ended the dishonest practice of using workers' wages to fund sham labor compliance committees that actually work against workers' best interests. The SBCTC-sponsored bill, authored by Senate Majority Leader Ellen Corbett, D-San Leandro, won approval from both the Senate and Assembly.

The bill was designed to close an unfair loophole that allows anti-union contractors to deduct funds from workers' wages to fund committees to "monitor and enforce" worker protection laws, and to define those contributions as "fringe benefits" that can be applied to prevailing wage requirements. In fact, those committees have no worker representation

at all, and are actually used to fund anti-worker, anti-union causes. SB 776 stops this dishonest practice by clarifying that the payments may be applied to the prevailing wage only if they are made to a joint program or committee established by the Federal Labor Management Cooperation Act of 1978.

State Building Trades President Robbie Hunter commented: "The governor's signature is a major defeat for anti-union lobbying groups such as Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), whose leader repeatedly complained in communications to members about how it would weaken those anti-union committees. But it is a clear victory for workers, who are now protected from having their wages deducted and used against them by sham committees that don't represent their interests."

Thanks to the Governor, Senate Majority Leader Ellen Corbett, all the legislators who voted for the bill, and to all councils, affiliates and workers who offered their support for this important legislation.

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

As we head into the last quarter of the year we are still waiting for some significant projects to takeoff.

Signs of improvement are evident by the cranes seen in the downtown skyline, and even better is the fact that we have recently signed a new contractor on one of those projects. We are pleased that they are expecting to start hiring soon. Although there are positive signs of improvement many of the projects we've written about in the past are still in the beginning stages. If things continue to improve as expected they may start hiring this quarter.

Currently, one of the major issues we are dealing with

that directly impacts our scope of work is the changes in materials and prefabrication. We have several high rise structures that are now using CPVC plastic pipe for the domestic water systems. The prefabrication I'm referring to is the complete fabrication of bathrooms. Basically, a box is shipped to the jobsite and within that box is a complete bathroom that includes the studs, drywall, tile, plumbing fixtures, lights, switches and the rough plumbing in the walls, just set in place and plugin.

An area we are actively working to expand for our membership and contractor base is service and repair. We at Local 78 along with the many UA Plumbing locals across the country are striving to grow and create opportunities for our membership by aggressively endeavoring to attain the

work in that market. If you are interested in service and repair or are currently working as a service plumber or class helper, and you want to expand your knowledge of service we are offering some new courses at the A&J. This past July we held the first of many such courses and met with great success. We are offering these Plumbing Service Technician courses at the Compton and Van Nuys schools for residential service. The courses are set at three (3) levels, starting at residential and continuing into commercial. If you need more information please go online and use the link to the training center for details and scheduling.

Fraternally,
Douglas A. Marian

Apprenticeship Update:

School is in full swing, this semester we started a new class with thirty (30) new apprentices, welcome each of you, we invite you to contact our office at any time if you have questions. I also want to remind you that you must make every effort to attend all classes failure to do so can have negative consequences. Do not forget, this is your career, and you will only get out

of it what you put into it.

I am pleased to say that this year both apprenticeship fundraisers were successful. As we go forward please consider attending our future events, your participation is the key ingredient to the success of each fundraiser. We are already planning next year's events, we hope that you can attend at least one of the events, it's a great time and really helps to defray the cost of our

apprentice graduation.

As a kind reminder, all apprentices are required to submit hours books regardless of how many hours you have, this includes submitting a report even if you haven't worked at all. Please make every effort to turn in the hours book so you don't miss an upgrade. Missing this deadline it's not worth the money you would lose.

LAUSD and City of Los Angeles Status

LAUSD, District employees (Unit E): The District has been quiet for a while, but we will soon be heading into negotiations. We are delighted that many of our brothers have been rehired by the District, and we expect more to be hired soon. We are, however concerned to hear that one of the results of the layoffs has been an astronomical backlog of service calls, and even worse it has come to our attention that maintenance workers have been seen taking apart the

plumbing systems to service them! That is not in their job description, nor is this acceptable so please contact your steward or my office immediately if you see this happening.

LA City employees under MOU 2 & MOU 13: Some bad news, it seems that the LA Convention Center is now going to be under AEG management this includes the maintenance. The Local 78 plumbers currently working there will not be laid off, instead they will be relocated to other locations within the city.

At this point we do not foresee any changes at the zoo.

LA City Housing Authority: In the beginning of September we finalized negotiations for a successor MOU. The vote for the new agreement will be held September 23, at 9:00 A.M. at the LA/OC Build and Construction Trades Council. You should be receiving notification from your supervisors shortly. This vote is only for permanent employees that are members of Local 78.

Reminder: Hours Books Will Be Due December 16, 2013

Jeremiah Ashmore

Business Agent

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

As summer is coming to an end, work is still a little on the slow side. We do know that there are several large projects coming in the near future. In fact, the Wilshire Grand is scheduled to start in the next couple months. Once the old rubble is cleared, crews will be left with a city block-size hole, ranging from 85 ft. to 100 ft. deep. They will then prepare for one of the largest single concrete pours in Los Angeles history – a three-day convoy of trucks shooting 24,000 cubic yards of concrete into the structure's 20 foot thick mat foundation.

Local 78 had their bi-annual picnic on September 14, 2013. This years turn-out was good. The day included games, good food, fun and lots of time to visit with your union brothers and

sisters. I personally enjoyed getting to meet new friends and catch up with some old friends. I want to thank all of the volunteers for their assistance, things would not have gone as smooth without you, so Thank You. If you were unable to make it to the picnic this year, I hope to see you at the next one.

County of Los Angeles Update

Local 78 has had five meetings with the County regarding negotiations for MOU 411 & 412. We are moving forward at this time, and at this stage the outlook appears positive. We are aiming to solidify an agreement by October, so please keep an eye out for the voting ballot in the mail.

Studio Update

At this time there isn't much going on at the Studios.

Universal is getting ready to start construction on the new Harry Potter ride, and we expect to begin receiving requests for dispatches in the near future.

LACCD

The LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council and Local Union 78 recently met with LACCD regarding the 2013-2014 wage re-opener. We came to a tentative agreement, and I sent out the vote for ratification. I will be looking for your support, if you have questions when you receive your ballot please call. You must have your vote to me by Wednesday, September 25, 2013.

Faternally,
Jeremiah Ashmore



Congratulations Local 78 Retirees

None to report at this time.

REMINDER • REMINDER • REMINDER

- ◆ Call the Hall as soon as you get laid-off. Your sign in date may qualify you for unemployment dues.
- ◆ We are continuing to make improvements to the Local's website. Did you know that you can pay your dues, view your dispatch history and make changes to your address and phone numbers all on-line.

In Memoriam

Please take a moment to pray and remember the following Brothers and Sisters who have passed away.

Robert G. Bailey
Paul Kessinger
Walter L. Moore
Jerome E. Mulcahy

Brother Robert (Bob) Bailey

As a general rule I do not normally comment on the passing of one of our Brothers in the Drips, but when it comes to Brother Robert (Bob) Bailey I have made an exception.

Brother Bob was initiated into Local Union 78 in 1948, he retired in 1984, and became a Life Member in 2009. He started teaching for the A&J in the 1950's and continued until 2005.

During his time with Local Union 78 Brother Bob made a great number of contributions to plumbing education and plumbing code. While working as a detailer Brother Bob became interned into the UPPA. After retiring from the Union, Brother Bob began playing an active role in the Uniform Plumbing Code organization IAPMO. For many years he travelled around the county promoting the uniform plumbing code body.

We will always appreciate Brother Bob and all the hard work he did for Local 78, the UA Apprenticeship Program, and his avid promotion of IAPMO and UPPA. Brother Bob will no doubt be missed.

Gary L. Cook, Business Manager



Next Membership Meeting will be held:

Date: October 10, 2013
Time: 5:00 PM
Place: LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council
1626 Beverly Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90026