



PLUMBER'S LOCAL UNION 78 PRODUCTIVE, QUALITY CRAFTSMEN

BUILDING & MAINTAINING LOS ANGELES SINCE 1892

December 2014

Drips From The Faucet

News • Views • Gossip

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is hard to believe daylight savings is already here again bringing with it the holidays, colder weather and some much needed rain.

We are finally seeing some of the long promised work begin and some of the contractors have begun requesting manpower. With the request for manpower comes the reminder of the importance of maintaining your certifications and continuing to improve your skills. Recently when contractors have called in for a dispatch we have found that very few of our members on the out of work list had the necessary certifications that would qualify them for the dispatch. I cannot stress enough that if you are currently unemployed you must work to maintain your certifications. We have said it before and are experiencing the proof that most of the jobs today will require specific certifications in order for you to be employed.

I am currently working to fill a request for four (4) detailers to work at our service shops, last month the UA had a call for approximately two hundred welders for work all across the United States and within the last month the Local Union received a call for a journeyman, but unfortunately we only had two journeymen with the necessary certifications to receive a call. The Local is required by the contract to fulfill the request for a dispatch within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of the request. This means if we cannot produce a dispatch with the members on Book 1 then we will be forced to defer to

Book 2 which are the members traveling from other local unions. As we go forward and the new jobs begin there are guaranteed to be more calls for members with current Medical Gas 6010 with Brazing, California OSHA 30, Crane Signal Person, UA/EPRI Industrial Riggers and a variety of welders.

Local 78 is committed to your success and to getting you employed as quickly as we can. Not only are we finding huge successes in stopping non-union projects, we are also actively working on growing some of our own projects. Additionally, we are working closely with the A & J Training Center to make sure we are aware of all of the classes coming up so that we can inform you of new educational opportunities as they become available. If you are interested in being one of the first to know of the classes being offered please make sure that Local 78 has your current email address on file.

Do not forget that the locals within District Council 16 have through the A&J Training Center setup the Journeyman Training Incentive Program (JTIP). This program assists you with paying for your continued education. After successfully completing various classes members are reimbursed anywhere from \$75.00 to \$550.00 per class up to a maximum of \$550.00 annually. Enclosed in this Drips you will find an outline of the program.

Another area the Union and our membership are scoring success is in Long Beach. During the most recent Long Beach City Council Meeting the council voted four (4) to two (2) to negotiate a city wide Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with the Los

Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council. This is a monumental feat as in the past ten (10) years Long Beach has only had maybe three (3) PLA's. A special thanks goes out to our members David Sinclair, Danny Navarro, Alex Walker and many more that worked the recent elections and to those that attended this meeting your dedication is appreciated and certainly noticed by everyone including the City Council.

In closing, I want to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas, and as we head toward the New Year I want to ask each of you to recommit yourself to being the best craftsman in the industry. Take the pledge again to be ready to meet the needs of our signatory contractors, take classes at the A & J Training Center now so that as the requests for dispatches come in you will be ready to begin your employment. Brothers and Sisters I have faith that you are the best plumbers in the industry. I say this because Local 78 has always had the best craftsmen, we have been known as leaders in the plumbing industry. I am not interested in moving to be the second best local in the UA, and I know you aren't either. Enjoy your holidays and lets all be ready for a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Gary L. Cook
Business Manager



Drips From The Faucet

Organizer Jeremy Diaz

So much is happening at this time in our area. Here are just a few of the most important things you should know.

Service Plumbers

Local 78 has several signatory contractors looking for experienced service and repair plumbers to join their team. If you have any experience, or know of someone who does, please have them call me at the hall.

Election Results

This past November we had elections for various key seats. In the Long Beach area we had two candidates running, one for State Senate and one for State Assembly. Jose Solorio ran in a tight race all the way until the end. Unfortunately he lost the close race for the State Senate seat. Patrick O'Donnell is a current Long Beach City Council Member and a supporter of Local 78 for many years. Patrick was successful with his bid for State Assembly. We look forward to working with Patrick in his

new role. John Paul Drayer ran to retain his seat as a Cerritos College Board of Trustee Member. John Paul was also successful in his re-election campaign and we look forward to working with him on the Cerritos College PLA and future projects. I would like to personally thank Alex Walker for all his hard work during the past election cycle. He helped out on multiple campaigns and was a key player in the success.

Long Beach PLA Update

On Tuesday, November 11th, several Local 78 members attended a City Council meeting in Long Beach regarding the potential city-wide project labor agreement. The meeting was very positive, even though the opposition put up a fight. Luckily, as a result of the hard work by Local 78 members in past elections, we have several current council members serving that agree with our vision, expertise and work ethic. The motion to negotiate with Building

Trades passed with a 6 to 2 vote in our favor. This means the city council gave permission to the Long Beach City Attorney to negotiate a project labor agreement with Building Trades. The City Council is expecting a draft within 30 calendar days. I would like to thank Guy Bremmer, David Grody, David Sinclair, Alex Walker and Danny Navarro for their support in attending the meeting. Member support is a vital key in securing work and making sure our voice is heard.

I hope you all have a happy and safe holiday.

Fraternally,

Jeremy Diaz



Next Membership Meeting will be held:

Date: January 8, 2015

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Place: LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council
1626 Beverly Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90026

REMINDER • REMINDER • REMINDER

During the January regular membership meeting nominations will be accepted for the Delegates to the 2015 California State Pipe Trades Convention.

Plumbers Local 78 Cordially Invites You to Our

ANNUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

December 5, 2014

9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Please join us at the Union Hall for Light Refreshments



Congratulations Local 78 Retirees

None to Report

In Memoriam

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

Leo F. Montgomery

Charles A. Riha

Ben Torres





Drips From The Faucet

Business Agent Douglas Marian

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Wow, the holiday season is here and as we head towards the end of the year and into the New Year, all indications show the job prospects increasing. Many projects have started but they haven't reached the stage where they start hiring yet. We should see these projects starting to hire around the first of the year. With that there are also many projects getting ready to start and still many more just finishing up in the planning and permitting stages. We are still fighting the battle trying to get as many projects and Municipalities as possible under a PLA. Again a PLA is one of the best tools to help our signatory contractors be competitive while bidding these projects. As these projects take off make sure your certifications are current. We as members of the UA pride ourselves as being the best trained craft person in the plumbing and mechanical industry. The certifications we obtain with our training is a selling point, so in saying that please keep your certs current. The TWIC is only one of the certifications that is being required we still get requests for brazing certified, med gas, crane signal, trimble and LA City licenses so again please keep up you certifications.

LAUSD, District employees (Unit E): We are currently still in negotiations with the district. I believe we have made some progress but it's an uphill battle all the way. Proposals and dialog are going back and forth with baby steps moving forward and I believe we have moved forward. Brother Danny Navarro is doing an excellent job in representing the district plumbers during these negotiations. These negotiations are somewhat complicated as our strategy and approach is completely different but still beneficial to both parties. The negotiations have the potential to last somewhat longer than we would all like but we are all hoping it will be worth it. I will try to keep you as informed as possible.

LA City employees under MOU 2 & MOU 13: The negotiations for MOU 2 & MOU 13 continues. For the most part the City has been very unresponsive. We have given several proposals with very little responses. I believe this is going to change soon as some of the litigation has been settled. Sometimes it can be very difficult to negotiate as a group but it can also be very advantageous as well. There is strength in numbers but also varying opinions and this becomes the chal-

lenge. The negotiations may take much longer to settle on an agreement but the possibilities of a better contract outweigh the time and aggravation factor in working a coalition. Brother Brad Torres is doing an excellent job at both tables and I appreciate his help with representing the City plumbers. I will try to keep you as informed as possible.

LA City Housing Authority: We had a meeting with Housing concerning budget short falls and the possible changes to, mostly one classification, Gardner. The plumbers should not be affected. We are also trying to get some language for contracting out. I will try to keep you as informed as possible.

To all Brothers & Sisters, I wish you Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Douglas Marian



Business Agent Jeremiah Ashmore

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Moving into winter, I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and I hope everyone has a great holiday season. We held our Bi-Annual Apprenticeship Graduation on September 27, 2014 at the Globe Theater at Universal Studios. Between Local 78's classes from 2012-2014 and the 494 Apprentices from 2010-2014 we had a total of 76 graduates. In attendance we had the Mayor of Los Angeles Eric Garcetti, Ron Miller from the Building Trades, Mike Massey and Jaime Valdivia from P.I.P.E., and several Local 78 Offic-

ers. There were also Instructors from the A & J Training Center as well as several Contractors. Thank you to everyone who came out and showed support for the next generation of Local 78 Plumbers and congratulations to all of our new Journeyman.

County

We are still moving forward with the Apprenticeship program for the County, we are hoping to start implementing apprentices into the program around the first of the year.

LACCD

The Building Trades Council and Lo-

cal 78 met with LACCD regarding the 2014-2017 contract negotiation, we came to a tentative agreement, and with your support we hope to ratify the new contract by the end of this year.

Fraternally,

Jeremiah Ashmore