

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

**Bill Kurtz**, Business Manager | **Jim Caternolo**, Business Agent

**Next Union Meeting: Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021**  
**(Officers meeting on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>)**

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

To keep you informed, we need your current **ADDRESS, CELL PHONE NUMBER & EMAIL ADDRESS**. Please call the Union Hall with updated information.

**At the February 23<sup>rd</sup> Union Meeting, there will be nominations for delegates to go to the UA Convention. The election will be at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> union meeting from 3:00pm-6:00pm. We will update the meeting guidelines per NYS and the CDC as they may change.**

\*\*\*Local 13 is now using the **UNION STRONG APP** to communicate instantly and directly with all our members. The app is FREE and will be used to send updates, notifications & important information. To get the app, text **UALOCAL13** to 47177 to download & you will automatically be following our local!\*\*\*

**UNEMPLOYMENT LIST:** If you get laid off, DO NOT COME TO THE HALL TO SIGN THE BOOK. Please CALL Jim Caternolo at (585) 355-2244 or the main line, (585) 338-2360 ext. 113. Jim will then write your name on the list for you.

**VISITING THE HALL:** The front door will be **LOCKED** until further notice. The Union Hall will be open from 8:00am – 4:30pm. No visitors will be allowed in. Please do your best to complete your business via phone/email. **\*\*We have an INTERCOM system** – if you absolutely need to enter the building. First, you must sanitize, put on a mask & sign in. Then, press the button on the opposite wall to alert someone at the front desk that you are ready to have your temperature taken. If you are over 100°F, you will NOT be allowed to enter the building. **NO MASK = NO ENTRY!!!!**

The best way to contact anyone in the office is through **EMAIL:**

- Bill Kurtz: billk@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 114
- Jim Caternolo: jimc@ualocal13.org / (585) 338-2360 ext. 113
- Steve Ostrander: sostrander@ualocal13.org
- Jamie Arena: jarena@ualocal13.org
- John Carpenter: johnc@ualocal13.org
- Alana Colotti: alanac@ualocal13.org
- Tricia Marciano: triciam@ualocal13.org
- Debbi Edizel: dedizel@ualocal13.org
- Bette Kwiatkowski: bettek@ualocal13.org

## **GET WELL SOON:**

- To any member that has tested positive for COVID-19. Get some rest & we hope you feel better soon!
- To Tom Drexler as he recovers at home from a mild heart attack.
- To Tony Vicari's daughter as she fights breast cancer and Covid-19 in the ICU at RGH.
- To Steve Trobia's wife, Kimberly, as she was recently diagnosed with breast cancer.

## **CONDOLENCES:**

- To Tim Flanagan & family on the recent passing of his wife, Sharon.
- To the Lang family, on the recent passing of Dave Sr.'s father & Dave Jr.'s grandfather.
- To Todd Northrop & family on the recent passing of his father, Byron.

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

- To Josh & Leah Hubbard on the birth of their first child, Owen John, born on 11/6!
- To Mo Shaw on the birth of his new granddaughter, Aria, born on 1/4!
- To Tim & Alex Jones on the birth of their second daughter, Gabriella Grace, born on 1/15!
- To Coty & Chelsea White on the birth of their first child, Charlee Rose, born on 1/16!

**NEW RETRIEES:**

- January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – Dave Bouquin, Dan Lathrop, Brian Oatman, Dave Olin & Augie Tucciarello

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

***PLEASE BE ADVISED OF THE FOLLOWING MANDATORY DIRECTIVE REGARDING COVID-19 VIRUS & PERSONAL VISITS TO THE BENEFIT OFFICE.***

***PLEASE BE ADVISED:*** UNTIL ALL PUBLIC CONTACT RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SOCIAL DISTANCING ARE LIFTED WITHIN NEW YORK STATE, WE SHALL ALLOW NO PERSONAL CONTACT WITH THE FUND OFFICE STAFF UNLESS AN APPOINTMENT IS MADE IN ADVANCE AND THE FACE TO FACE BE CONDUCTED IN THE MAIN MEETING HALL WITH MASKING AND DISTANCING PROTOCOLS IN PLACE.

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. Please call or e-mail us prior to your visit so we know that your items are here.

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

- Steve Ostrander: Ext 104 / sostrander@ualocal13.org
- Tricia Marciano: Ext 106 / triciam@ualocal13.org
- Debbi Edizel: Ext 107 / dedizel@ualocal13.org

***STEVE OSTRANDER IS ALSO AVAILABLE VIA CELL PHONE (585) 354-6158. If it is a 911 matter, please call him anytime 24/7. Otherwise, please respect his business hours of availability.***

**INSURANCE FUND NEWS**

**HOUR BANK CLAIMS---Lifetime Benefit Solutions**

All Hour Bank Claims are no longer processed at the Local 13 Fund Office. Any claims must be submitted to Lifetime Benefit Solutions. The claim form can be found on our website at [ualocal13.org](http://ualocal13.org) in the Benefits Office Sections under Health & Welfare Forms/Hour Bank Reimbursement/LBS Reimbursement Form Eff 5/1/20. There is also an LBS On-Line Portal which allows you to submit your claim electronically. The information is in the Benefit Office Section under Health & Welfare/Hour Bank Reimbursement/LBS Online Portal. Please do not mail in or drop off your claims to us as they will be returned to you.

**ANNUITY NEWS**

Please be advised that the Prudential Guaranteed Fund interest rate for the period Jan 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 will be set at 1.75%.

## **ALL FUNDS**

### **Address Changes—All Members**

Please remember to update the Benefit Office of any address and phone number changes.

### **Beneficiary Forms—All Members**

Please remember to update your beneficiary forms. It is imperative when life changing events occur (ie: marriage, children, divorce). These forms are on our website in the Benefits Office section.

## **APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING NEWS** **TRAINING COORDINATOR – JOHN CARPENTER**

**APPLICATIONS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month from 9:00am-11:00am & 1:00pm-3:00pm. Enter through side overhead door. MUST WEAR A MASK!! 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. Open welding is available on Saturday mornings from 7:00am-11:00am and on Thursdays from 5:00pm-8:00pm. There will be a weld test towards the end of January, if needed.

**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.

**CLASSES:** Spring semester is underway. **STAY SAFE OUT THERE!**

## **RETIREE NEWS**

**The retiree lunches are cancelled until further notice**, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. We will monitor the situation and keep you up to date on when the next lunch will be. Stay healthy! – Larry Tschetter/Terry Moore