

BLOWTORCH UA Local #13 Plumbers, Steamfitters & Service Techs

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

Next Union Meeting: Tuesday, February 23rd, 2021 via ZOOM
Link will be available on the Union Strong app

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. 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.

At the February 23rd ZOOM Union Meeting, there will be nominations for delegates to go to the UA Convention & discussion on the upcoming pay raise allocation. ZOOM link will be texted to all before the meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting and wish to nominate yourself, please email: ua13nominations@gmail.com

The election will be through the mail, in March. Ballots will be mailed out to all eligible members.

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 888-403-4140 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 Rich Pitt as he recovers from a recent snowplow truck accident.
- To Augie Tucciarello as he recovers from a recent surgery.

- To Harold Smith as he battles cancer in the ICU.

CONDOLENCES:

- To the Romano family on the recent passing of Gary, lifetime member.
- To Bob Crowell & family on the recent passing of his wife, Dolores.
- To George Moore & family on the recent passing of his son & LU13 member, Josh (Terry's nephew).

CONGRATULATIONS:

- To Kyle & Kaitlin Mattle on the birth of their 3rd child (first daughter), Sophia Marie, born on 2/2!

BENEFITS OFFICE **FUND ADMINISTRATOR - STEVE OSTRANDER**

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

AS WE ARE MAKING GREAT HEADWAY WITH OUR FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19 AND AS IMMUNIZATIONS ARE BEGINNING TO BE ADMINISTERED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, WE ARE REMAINING IN A NO PERSONAL CONTACT MANDATE UNTIL ALL PUBLIC CONTACT RESTRICTIONS REGARDING SOCIAL DISTANCING ARE LIFTED WITHIN NEW YORK STATE. APPOINTMENTS WILL REMAIN A REQUIREMENT WITH ANY FACE-TO-FACE DISCUSSIONS DETERMINED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.

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: 8am-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

ANNUAL SUMMARY/PENSION STATEMENT

Your Annual Summary & Pension Statements are anticipated to be mailed out this week. Please be on the lookout and review this document for accuracy. If you see any irregularities or have any questions, please contact Tricia Marciano at x106.

HOURLY 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 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: 1st 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 4th 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 on Saturday, February 27th.

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.

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