

BLOWTORCH

MAY 4TH, 2007 Issue

I want to thank everyone who attended Rosie's retirement party. We all wish her a very happy retirement.

Everyone at Local 13 extends their congratulations to the fifth year apprenticeship class who attended their last classes the week of April 23rd. Good luck to all of you & remember to stay involved with the Union. It has been a long road for you, but it will be well worth the effort.

Keep in touch with the hall regarding any job opportunities. There will be new projects starting soon & remember that we need to be sure to staff our jurisdiction.

A reminder to make sure to contact the Union Hall if you change job locations for any length of time. Be sure that you call the Union Hall when you go to work and to keep in touch with Bill Kurtz on the latest opportunities.

I cannot stress enough the importance of signing the unemployment book at the hall when you are out of work. This helps us know when you are unemployed and when you become eligible for the Security Benefit Funds. Again, please remember to sign the unemployment book.

Our deepest sympathy to Robert & Geoffrey Pettifer and their family on the loss of their father. Our deepest sympathy to Merton Page and his family on the loss of his wife.

Save the Date: Local 13 Picnic Saturday July 7th, 2007, 11:00 A.M. till.

Clambake: Saturday September 29th, 2007.

Children Christmas Party: Saturday December 8, 2007 from 10:00 A.M. Till 12:00 P.M.

BENEFIT OFFICE: Please make sure all your beneficiaries are current especially if you have recently become married, divorced or you have recently had a child. You must fill out paper work in order to change your beneficiary. Please call the benefit office if you have any questions or concerns regarding your current beneficiary.

INSURANCE FUND: Looks like heartburn is the #1 drug utilized by Local 13. Please consider a generic prescription for heartburn to help cut costs.

Very Important: Please notify the Benefit Office immediately if your families' status changes, married, divorced birth of a child or you lose your coverage (spouses coverage). **New regulations only give us 30 days to make any enrollment changes.**

You must contact the Benefit Office Immediately once you have become divorced. It is very important to provide a QDRO in order to protect your Pension & Annuity. Also it is illegal to keep ex-spouses on our insurance plan after your divorce. If this happens you will be billed for the additional cost.

Starting May 1st, 2007 the Board of Trustees has required that all members have four (4) quarters coverage in their Hour Bank prior to receiving any reimbursements.

Starting January 1st, 2007 the Board of Trustees has hired a new EAP (Employee Assistant Program) Provider. The new company is ESI; they offer a very wide range of services from counseling to debt and legal advice. You can call **ESI** at **1-800-252-4555** or visit the web site www.theEAP.com.

PENSION FUND: Anyone interested in retirement should contact John, in the Benefit Office, at least a few months before they want to retire. There are several documents you will need to bring in so we can process your application. During this time we can estimate your pension options and answer any questions about the retirement program. This will allow you to turn in all completed paper work before the deadline of one month prior to the date you want to retire.

ANNUITY FUND: If you have any questions call the prudential help line toll free (877) 778-2100. Also you can call us at the Fund Office at 338-2310 or (800) 884-7977. Remember if you default on a loan you cannot take another loan.

Please remember you cannot complete an online transaction for a period of 5 business days once a password is reset!!!

Guaranteed Income Fund will be at 3.90%. Annual Rate of return for the next six months (Jan 1, 2007 until June 31, 2007). **Fraternally Yours, John Tschetter**

Training News: Carl Colotti, Coordinator

All course reimbursements must have **two weeks** prior approval from the J.A.T.C. The J.A.T.C. **must** receive a Certificate of Completion within 90 days from the date of the course in order for the member to be reimbursed.

The date for the Apprentice banquet is Thursday July 12th at Shadow Lake Country Club. All 5th year Apprentices please save this date.

We are trying to put together an HVAC Star refresher class. If anyone is interested please call the JATC office. We are also planning one more Med gas class before the end of the school year. Anyone interested please call the JATC office to sign up.

Safety classes such as; OSHA 10 hr., 2 Asbestos Awareness & NFPA 70E training dates have been set. Please call the JATC Office to sign up. They are as follows:

10Hr. Class

~Saturday June 2nd 2007 7 A.M.

Safety Training: There is now a \$10.00 fee to replace a lost OSHA card payable to C Y Concepts. Please keep track of your card.

Kodak Weld Representative will be here for continuity Tuesday, May 22, 2007 @ 3:30 PM. All UA certs. can be updated on this date. Please remember to check your continuity card.

Open Welding: Journeyman welding has started on Saturdays from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM & Mondays from 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM. We will continue to have Journeyman welding on Mondays & Saturdays as long as there is interest at least until the end of June.

Special Note: The JATC Board has decided that we will need to collect a \$ 25.00 deposit for any testing event in order to hold a spot for you on test day.

All 5th year Apprentices: Please remember Thursday July 12th, is the graduation banquet at Shadow Lake County Club.

Attention all welding instructors: There will be a meeting on Thursday May 10th @ 5:00 P.M. for all instructors

Retiree's Club

We had a great turnout for our annual pasta lunch. Thanks to all who brought a dish to pass and to **Carl Colotti** for making the sauce, everyone enjoyed it. I also want to thank **Charlie Yatteau, Zeek, Dave Farrell, Dick Preston and Bruce Jacobs** for their help; we couldn't pull it off without them. **Zeek** won the \$25 gift certificate and **Bob Bowes** won the free dues. Our next meeting is on May 8th and we'll be cooking out. We hope to see you there. If you would like to bring a dish to pass feel free to do so. We have a stove hooked up for your convenience in case you bring something that needs cooking or warming up. You can e-mail me at jerryattricks@frontiernet.net with comments or suggestions for future meetings.

Fraternally Yours, Larry Tschetter

The next Regular Union Meeting is Tuesday May 22, 2007 at 5:00 P.M. please stay informed and come to the union meeting.

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