



# PLUMBERS

## LOCAL 130 U.A.

Summer 2015

Vol. 2, No. 3



## Business Manager's Letter

From James F. Coyne

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am grateful to all members who participated in our June 9<sup>th</sup> Business Manager Election. I am honored and humbled that I received 98% of your votes. Thank you for your support and confidence in me and in your officers of Plumbers Local 130, U.A. I want to congratulate all the new and current officers who will join me in leading this great Local Union. You will notice that we have some changes to officer positions. **Tom Gavin** has been assigned a new role of Special Representative. Former Business Agent **Patrick McCarthy** has been elected Recording Secretary. **Michael Shea** was appointed Business Agent for the downtown Chicago area. Three new officers, **Stephen Geraghty**, **John P. Hosty** and **William Wilkens**, have joined the Examining Board. **Anthony DeKlerk** and **Kevin Phipps** are two new Finance Committee members, and **Steve James** joins us as Trustee. All elected officers were installed at the July 14<sup>th</sup> union meeting and Patio Party. I was pleased to see everyone who attended, and want to send a special thank you to **UA General President William Hite** for joining us and officiating the oath of office.

See Bus. Mgr. continued on Page 7

## Plumbers Re-Elect Business Manager at June Meeting

Plumbers Local 130, UA members selected their leader for the next three years at the June 9 meeting and election. They overwhelmingly voted to return Business Manager James F. Coyne; the remaining officers and business agents were unopposed at the May nominations. The new leadership team, which was installed at the July 14 meeting, is listed here.



### Business Manager

James F. Coyne

### Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth A. Turnquist

### Recording Secretary

Patrick F. McCarthy

### Special Representative

Thomas E. Gavin

### Director of Political and Municipal Affairs

Michael T. Tierney

### President

Heinz (Chip) J. Schelhammer

### Vice President

Kevin C. Sherlock

### Business Representatives

Scott C. Spangle

J. Scott Byrne

William E. Matthies

Jones L. Richmond

James A. Mansfield

Joseph W. Strong

Peter C. Olson

Charles A. Seibert

Paul Hinterlong

Michael E. Shea

Brian M. Dunn

### Executive Board

Patrick A. Thornton

James M. Majerowicz

Anthony M. Rottman

Paul M. Rodriguez

### Sergeant-at-Arms

Patrick C. Brooks

### Finance Committee

Paul B. Tucker

Anthony DeKlerk

Kevin Phipps

### Examining Board

Ciro J. Gaimari

Robert C. Farrell

Christopher S. Anish

Stephen Geraghty

John P. Hosty

Bill Wilkens

### Trustee

Steve James

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# New Fund to Target Market Recovery

Following one of the worst recessions seen by any active plumber, Local 130 finally finds itself in a recovery mode. While the number of out-of-work members has shrunk dramatically, there is more to be done to recover not only lost work but also union members lost during recent hard times.

A new **Target Fund** was first proposed at the May union meeting by Business Manager James Coyne to help union plumbing contractors bid more competitively on new residential and commercial work. The Fund, which will be financed by a new \$.25-per-hour deduction from wages, will

be used to subsidize plumbing jobs won back by competitive bidding against non-union contractors.

Reports by Business Agents of more and more lost work compelled the Business Manager to take action. At the May meeting, when it came time for the BAs to talk about union jobs underway, he instructed them to instead discuss all the non-union work they have witnessed going on in their area. It was a tactic that got immediate attention, as the room turned suddenly very quiet.

“We needed to paint a picture of reality, of how this recession has affected our workforce and our market share,” Business

Manager Coyne said. The members working in the downtown Chicago hi-rises may not notice it, but everywhere else it is obvious. “We lost a lot of members to the non-union side, and now they are taking this work with them,” he added.

The Target Fund will invest in the near and long-term future of Local 130. It will make our contractors more competitive now to gain more work in the near term. By bringing lost members back into the fold, it can also have a positive impact on our long-term success.

## Plumber Pay Increased June 1

Plumbers Local 130, UA members received annual pay raises on June 1, 2015. Depending on which signatory contractor group represents your employer your paycheck should reflect an hourly increase of \$1.75 - \$2.00. The amounts were negotiated as part of a three-year agreement between Local 130 and three employer groups. The current agreements will expire on June 1, 2017.

The additional money will result in higher take-home pay for hours worked as well as cover increases in member benefit fund contributions. Here is how the additional pay has been allocated:

### If Working for PCA - PAMCANI and WSA Contractors:

Wages (Journeymen)	\$ .60
Welfare Fund	\$ .14
Retiree Welfare Fund	\$ .47
Pension Fund	\$ .09
Pension DC Plan	\$ .50
JAC	\$ .20
<b>Total Hourly Increase:</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>

### If Working for K&ICP&PCA Contractors:

Wages (Journeymen)	\$ .35
Welfare Fund	\$ .14
Welfare Retiree Fund	\$ .47
Pension Fund	\$ .09
Pension DC Plan	\$ .50
JAC	\$ .20
<b>Total Hourly Increase:</b>	<b>\$1.75</b>

### Welfare Fund Improvements

The Plumbers' Welfare Fund trustees recently announced a number of improvements to the Active and Retiree Plans. The Active Plan changes, which went into effect June 1, 2015, are:

*Increased Dental Benefits* — annual maximum dental benefit increased from \$2,500 to \$3,500.

*Increased Vision Benefits* — the annual allowance for eyeglasses and contact lenses increased from \$250 to \$300.

*Increased Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) Benefits* — the amount credited to your HRA account increased by \$.05 per hour to \$.50 per hour.

*Increased Chiropractor Benefits* — annual chiropractor maximum increased from \$1,200 to \$1,500.

*New Debit Card for HRA-Eligible Expenses* — debit cards reflecting your HRA account balances were issued in June to all eligible Plan participants along with the instructions for the use of the cards. The debit cards are administered through TASC DirectPay system.

# Retiree Luncheon Welcomes Jeff Joniak

The union hall was the place to be for lunch on May 7th, especially if you were a retired Local 130 plumber. Some 300 retirees were welcomed that afternoon for some great food and fun at the annual Retirees Luncheon. There was time to mingle with friends and former coworkers before sitting down to a hot lunch of ham and turkey.

Jeff Joniak, WBBM Newsradio's award-winning sportscaster and Director of Sports Operations, entertained everyone with plenty of tales from on and off the field from his nearly 15 years as the play-by-play announcer for the Chicago Bears. Both interesting and funny, he was also generous with his time and warm and personable to every guest he spoke with, singling out many he thought looked like former football players at some time in their past and then offering his best guess where they lined up on the field. More times than not he was correct!

Local 130, UA leaders used the occasion to discuss some recent improvements to the Welfare Fund Retiree Medical Plan. A summary of these changes:

*Expanded Self-Pay Retiree Benefit* — former participants may now be eligible for up to 10 years (120 months) of Self-Pay Retiree coverage prior to Medicare eligibility or reaching 65 (up from 5 years or 60 months).

*Increased Prescription Drug Benefit* — The Retiree Plan currently pays 75% of costs of the Prescription Drug Benefit

until you reach the coverage gap (i.e., Donut Hole). Effective June 1, 2015, it will help fill this "Donut Hole" and continue to pay 75% during the coverage gap to offset the previous rate increase.

*Lower Dental Benefit Premium* — a 25% decrease in premium.

*Longer Election Period for Medicare-Eligible and Surviving Spouses for Medicare Supplement Benefit* — Retirees are automatically enrolled in the Medicare Supplement Benefit. However, spouses and surviving spouses who are Medicare-Eligible may now elect to enroll in the Medicare Supplement Benefit; however, they must do so at the time they reach age 65 or waive the opportunity for this coverage (unless they were covered as a dependent under the Health and Welfare Plan). A monthly premium will be charged, which may be deducted from the monthly pension or paid directly.

*Longer Election Period for Medicare Part D Drug Benefit* — Now Medicare-Eligible Former Participants, Spouses and Surviving Spouses may elect to enroll in this before the individual turns 65 (instead of within 30 days of the retiree's retirement date). Failing to do so may prevent any future opportunity to enroll (unless the spouse or surviving spouse were covered as a dependent under the Health and Welfare Plan and this coverage ended when they became eligible for Medicare Part A).

For additional information, contact Terry Musto, Fund Administrator, 312-226-5000.

Every retiree at the Luncheon seemed to enjoy himself, and no one went home empty handed as goody bags with hats, seat cushions and other Local 130 merchandise were passed out to everyone. A very special thank you goes out to Mr. Joniak and everyone who shared this special afternoon with us at Plumbers Local 130.



Jeff Joniak listens to comments from one of the many Bears fans at the luncheon.



Retired plumber and 36-year member James Hector with Charles Colquitt.



Retiree and 59-year member John B. Hunt with guest Willie Casey.



Retired plumber and 52-year member Theodore Vickers.



*UA General President Bill Hite.*

# Installation of Officers & Pat Local 130, UA Union H Tuesday, July 14, 201

An already special union meeting was made even more special when William Hite conducted the installation of Local 130's newly elected officers by Curt Cade, International Representative for Illinois & Indiana.

Following the business meeting, leaders, members and guests moved out for food, refreshments and fun at the traditional Patio Party. A very good time was had by all, as seen in the photos here.



*Bill Hite conducts installation ceremony beginning a new term for Local 130, UA officers and business agents.*



*Ken Turnquist with Tim Gallagher, Business Agent and Brian Dunne, Local 130 Division.*



*Business Manager James Coyne and Financial Secretary/Treasurer Ken Turnquist renew their pledge.*



*Justice James Smith, Mike Tierney and Jim Piezonka.*



*Marty Woulfe, Gerald Sullivan, Local 130; plumber Thomas Reidy; and...*



*Curt Cade, International Representative; James Coyne, Business Manager; Bill Hite, UA General President; and Tom Villanova, president, Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council.*



*Brian Lundy (center), 4th year apprentice plumber; receives a plaque recognizing his 1st place finish in the UA District 4 Apprentice Contest. He is joined by (from left) James Majerwicz, instructor; Jim Coyne, Bill Hite and Frank Borkowski, instructor.*



*Lynn Karner, Executive Director, Business Manager, Pipe Fitters; Governmental Chief of Staff, MA; Ken Turnquist, Local 130 Director Pol...*

# atio Party all 5

UA General President  
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e seemed to be had by



Bill Hite and Jim Mansfield, Local 130 Business Agent.



Business Manager Jim Coyne with granddaughter Kilee, father and retired plumber James Coyne, and wife Michele.



ther, Pipe Fitters Local 597, UA  
, Business Agent, Tech Engineer



Grill master Bob Farrell wears the chef hat.



Larry Howard, Jorge Salas, Charlie Himes and Randy Swanson.



retired Business Manager, Local  
and Pete King.



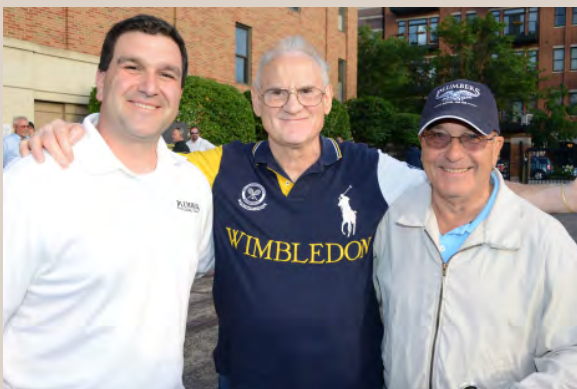
Plumber Dan Shelley and grandson get ready to dig in.



Plumbers John Morzy, Don "Charlie" Brown, Larry Wagner and Steve Morzy.



IL Pipe Trades; James Buchanon,  
s Local 597, UA; Mike Rendina,  
ayor Emanuel's Office; and Mike  
itical and Municipal Affairs.



Tony Rottman, Executive Board; Bob Milovancevic, retired Local  
130 employee; and retired Plumber Tom Rottman.



Paul Tucker, Finance Committee and plumber Mike DeLaurentis.

# Plumbers, Contractors Volunteer Day's Work Rebuilding Together

Plumbers Local 130, UA answered the call for help once more from **Rebuilding Together Metro Chicagoland** on the designated day. The annual event, which occurred on Saturday, April 25, gathered volunteer plumbers who, supported by our sponsoring contractors and suppliers, provided vital repairs to homes in low-income communities. Some 180 volunteers signed up to handle plumbing repair projects in more than 60 homes in Chicago's Austin neighborhood and suburban Maywood. They fixed problem faucets, sinks, toilets and pipes to protect the health and safety of residents who lived in the homes.

Coordinators **Mike Shea** and **Paul Rodriguez** organized the work assignments and material shipments far in advance, visiting each selected home before and during the project date to make sure everything went as planned. They were assisted by Officers: **Pat McCarthy, Paul Tucker, Chris Anish, Pat Brooks, Pat Thornton, Bill Wilkens** and **Stephen Geraghty**. Also plumbers: **Kevin Chambers, Sam Grey, Steve Joyce, Jr., Carlos Quinones** and **Juan Salazar**.

Mike said that not only did he see a lot of happy homeowners that day but also some smiles among those performing the work. There are always positives that come from helping someone out who really needs it, he said. "We got everything done that we set out to do," he said. Mike knew of more than one instance where plumbers went beyond the planned 4 p.m. quit time, staying late to finish a job or to handle an extra problem discovered during the visit. "It's not that rare for guys to go the extra mile to ensure a good job or do more work," Mike said. "It was an intense, very involved day with a lot going on at one time," Paul Rodriguez added.

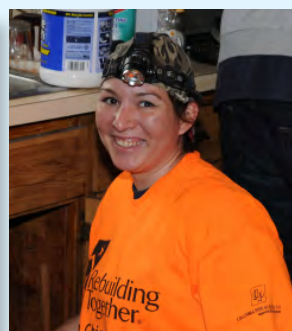
Behind the volunteers' hard work was more great support from our plumbing contractors, who made sure that needed materials arrived at each home on the list beforehand and also handled special needs on the day of the event. Volunteers gathered at the union hall for pizza on the Thursday evening before the event where they picked up their work assignments. Thanks to everyone who did their part to ensure another successful effort by Local 130 volunteers.



Patrick McCarthy, Recording Secretary; Thomas Gavin, Special Representative; James Coyne, Business Manager; Jones Richmond, Business Agent; Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, City of Chicago; Paul Rodriguez, Executive Board; Emma Mitts, 37th Ward Alderwoman; William Matthies, Business Agent; and Michael Tierney, Director, Political and Municipal Affairs.



(Left) Robert Farrell, Examining Board; Jones Richmond, Business Agent; Toni Preckwinkle, Cook County Board President; and Thomas Gavin, Local 130 Special Representative.



On June 1st, the second-year increase contained in the current three-year agreements with the Plumbing Contractors Association of Chicago & Cook County/PAMCANI, the West Suburban Alliance and the Kankakee & Iroquois County Plumbing & Piping Contractors Association became effective. The agreements call for wage increases of \$1.75 - \$2.00 per hour. The allocation of this increase between wages and benefits is included on page 2 of this newsletter. The \$0.20 per hour JAC Fund increase will help us build the new Chicago training center. Look for work to begin on this project soon. There is a new payroll deduction of \$0.25 per hour for the **Target Fund**, a market recovery program established to recapture lost market share. More information regarding the Target Fund can be found on page 2.

Saturday, April 25th, was National Rebuilding Day and **Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago** sent out more than 3,000 volunteers to repair over 80 homes and community centers in Chicago and suburban Maywood. It is with pride and gratitude that I recognize the 180 Local 130 plumbers who gave up their Saturday to give many elderly and needy homeowners their desperately needed help. Once more our generous contractors and suppliers helped with equipment, materials and trucks required to get the job done. My special thanks go to **Michael Shea** and **Paul Rodriguez** for their expertise and long hours put in coordinating Local 130's work inside more than 60 homes. Read more and see photos on page 6.

The JAC's 23rd Annual Apprentice Contest was held on June 2nd at the Chicago school. Congratulations to our 1st Place winner, **Wade Blocker, Birk Plumbing, Inc.** Wade will go on to compete in higher levels of the UA Apprentice Contest next year, following in the footsteps of 4th year apprentice **Brian Lundy, B. Bruce Plumbing**, our current contestant. I am pleased to report that Brian won the UA District 4 competition, held June 11th at the Pipe Fitters Local 597 Training Center in Mokena, IL. Brian has advanced to the UA Final Apprentice Contest being held in August during the UA Instructor Training Program in Ann Arbor, MI. There the best from UA Locals around the U.S. and Canada will compete for the top prize. Best of luck, Brian!

Finally, please note that the date of our 22nd annual **Football Smoker** is Sunday, Oct. 18th. We hope you'll join us to watch the Bears take on the Detroit Lions and enjoy unlimited refreshments, a great food buffet and lots of wonderful raffle prizes, including a \$10,000 grand prize! It could be yours, so buy a ticket to this great event. Full details are contained on the back page. Tickets are currently on sale at the Plumbers Hall office window or from any officer. See you there!

Enjoy your summer and all that it has to offer. Among its blessings, I hope, are steady employment, prosperity, safety and good health for all Local 130, UA members and their families.

*Attend Your Union Meetings!*

## AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL ACTIVE CHICAGO AREA PLUMBERS

### City of Chicago Plumbing License Test

The next plumbing Written Exam is **Saturday, October 17, 2015**

- **Application Deadline:** *September 18, 2015*
- **Location:**  
Best Western Chicago Hillside Hotel  
4400 Frontage Rd., Hillside, IL

The next plumbing Practical License Test is **Saturday, December 5, 2015**

- **Application Deadline:** *November 6, 2015*
- **Location:**  
1400 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL

**For more information contact:**  
**Cheryl Stavropoulos**

Email: [cstavro@continentaltesting.net](mailto:cstavro@continentaltesting.net)  
Phone: 800-359-1313 Ext: 105

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |           |         |  |
|-----------|---------|--|
| Aug. 9-15 |         | 61 <sup>st</sup> Annual UA Instructor Training Program |
| Sept. 8   | 7 p.m.  | Union Membership & Tech Engineers Union Mtg.           |
| Oct. 6    | 7 p.m.  | Union Membership Mtg.                                  |
| Oct. 8    | 7 p.m.  | Tech Engineers Union Mtg.                              |
| Oct. 18   | 11 a.m. | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Football Raffle                |

## 2015 Scholarship Recipients Named

Four recent high school graduates became this year's recipients of the annual Stephen M. Bailey Memorial Scholarships at the July 11 meeting of Plumbers Local 130, UA. Pictured below, between Business Manager James Coyne and UA General President William Hite, they are: (from left) Drew Reborn (son of plumber Roger Reborn, Ewing Doherty); Walter Lindwall (son of plumber Daniel Lindwall, State of Illinois); Paige Schedin (daughter of plumber Scott Schedin, Kara Plumbing); and Katherine Scheidt (daughter of plumber Andrew Scheidt, Advance Mechanical, Inc.). Each will receive a share of the annual \$8,000 award given in memory of the former L.U. 130 business manager. All four plan to attend college in the fall.



## Contact Numbers for Members of Plumbers Local 130 UA



While you may ask to be connected to any of the following offices when calling the union hall, it might save you time to call the office you want directly. Here are the telephone numbers. Please keep them for your future reference.

- Union Hall - Chicago ..... 312.421.1010
- Apprentice School - Chicago..... 312.421.1028
- Pension Fund ..... 312.226.5000
- Welfare Fund ..... 312.226.5000
- Aurora Office ..... 630.692.7342
- Joliet Office ..... 815.725.0278
- Volo Office ..... 815.759.5900

# Plumber's Union Local 130 U.A.

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Chicago, Illinois 60607



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## *Plumbers Local 130 Political Fund* **22nd Annual Football Raffle** **Sunday, October 18, 2015**

Game time: NOON    Doors open: 11am



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**TICKETS ON SALE STARTING JUNE 11, 2015**

**@PLUMBERS' HALL, 1340 W. WASHINGTON BLVD., 2<sup>nd</sup> fl. window**

**PRICE: \$130.00 per ticket (2 ADMISSIONS PER TICKET)**

- **GRAND PRIZE:**        \$10,000.00
- **2<sup>nd</sup> PRIZE:**            \$ 2,500.00
- **(2) – 3<sup>rd</sup> PRIZES:**    Flat Screen Color TV's
- **(15) – 4<sup>th</sup> PRIZES:**   \$130.00 each