Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The trees are bare and the days shorter as the winter months are upon us. By the time you receive this letter, Thanksgiving and Christmas will be over and a new year begun. In the spirit of the holiday season, I hope you enjoyed family and friends with good food, plenty of conversation, and of course a football game or two.

It has been a busy 4th quarter for Plumbers Local 130. Construction is increasing in the Chicagoland area, which means more work for Local 130 Plumbers. We would do well to remember that even though more jobs are coming out of the ground and more plumbers are being called back to work, we all need to protect our trade jurisdiction. Local 130 has once again successfully won a decision and award from an independent arbitrator against the Carpenters for a decision and award from an independent arbitrator against the Carpenters for the backing or accessories, contact your business agent or the Local Union office so that we can continue to protect our trade! I, and all the officers, will continue to be vigilant to ensure our union plumbers are gainfully employed.

While we keep our eyes on our current work, we also look towards our future. Plumbers Local 130 is preparing our apprentices for projects that are green and innovative for the 21st century's needs. Our apprentice program's tradition of excellence will keep Plumbers Local 130 secure and progressing. In 2015, 170 new apprentices started their careers with the Local and 2016’s outlook is even more promising. Contractor requests for apprentices are coming in and sign-ups for the new class will be held 1/26/16-2/25/16 at the Chicago, Joliet and Volo locations. Please visit the JAC 130 website or call the office 312-421-1028 for details.

As 2016 begins, Local 130 is strong. I give credit to our retirees whose steadfast loyalty, commitment, and work ethics built a stable foundation for future union plumbers. We can thank these retirees for the fringe benefit plans, like our pension and welfare plans that we enjoy today. These benefits that organized labor brings to us as union members are constantly under attack by politicians who don’t believe we have earned them. To secure these assets, it is imperative that all members remain politically active with the Hall and continue to endorse representatives in political positions who are advocates of union workers. With your vote, these compensations, and as equally important, our plumber’s license law will be preserved. Plumbers Local 130 Political Action Task Force will be conducting two campaign walks to support the political allies who support our members. They will be Saturday 2/27/16 and Saturday 3/5/16. More information will be shared at the February 9th Union Meeting or look to the Plumbers Local 130 website for more details.

Please continue to read through the newsletter for current news and information concerning Local 130 UA. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. As always, I wish you good health and prosperity, steady employment and happiness.

In Solidarity,

Business Manager’s Letter

From James F. Coyne

Winter 2015
Vol. 2, No. 5

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STATE OF OUR UNION - 2016

At a Glance . . .

Dates to Remember . . .

- Feb. 9 - 7:00 pm Monthly Plumbers Meeting in Chicago
- Announcement of St. Patrick Day’s Queen & Court
- Refreshments will be served
- Feb. 27 - PATF - Campaign walk
- Mar. 5 - PATF - Campaign walk
- Mar. 8 - 7:00 pm Monthly Plumbers Meeting in Chicago
- Nominations of delegates for UA Convention
- Mar. 12 - St. Patrick’s Day Parade
- Apr. 12 - 7:00 pm Monthly Plumbers Meeting in Chicago
- Election of delegates for UA Convention
The Shannon Rovers hosted their 89th Anniversary Dinner Dance at the Soldier Field United Club on October 17, 2015. As a 2015 Honoree, Business Manager James Coyne accepted the award shown on behalf of Plumbers Local 130 and said, “It was a privilege for Plumbers Local 150 to be part of the honorees awarded at The Shannon Rovers’ fundraiser.”

The evening was a celebration and a dedication to union construction in Chicago. The guests included members of the construction industry and the unions of Chicago. The strong ties that have connected union labor to The Shannon Rovers have been present since the band was formed in the early 1920’s.

Tribute to...

Brother Joe Middona

On the morning of October 23rd, there was a terrible job site accident in the South Loop that killed Brother Joseph Middona. Joe, only 38 years old, was a 16-year Member of Local 130/Local 501 but more importantly was a husband and father. Joe is survived by his wife Miranda and three young sons.

Friends of the Joseph Middona Family have set up a GoFundMe account to help his family. If you wish to make a donation, you can go through the GoFundMe account or send a check to “The Middona Boys Scholarship Fund” at Fifth Third Bank. The Local Union has purchased 20,000 hard hat stickers, pictured above. If you don’t have one, stop by any of the Local 130 locations to get yours.

Honoring Union Construction in Chicago

Plumbers’ Union Local 130, U.A.

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Michael T. Tierney . . . mtierney@ualocal130.org . . . 312-841-9708

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Soldiers of the 353rd Infantry near a church at Stenay, Meuse, France waited for the end of the hostilities. Finally, the armistice ending World War I became effective at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, 1918.

President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words:

“To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us . . .”

Did You Know...

1. How many wars against foreign nations has the USA actually declared through Congress?

2. In 1951, Communist North Korea, supported by China, invaded noncommunist South Korea. This is referred to as ____________

3. In 1961 the USA orchestrated an unsuccessful invasion into Cuba. It is often referred to as ____________

4. The average infantry soldier in the South Pacific during World War II saw about 40 days of combat in 4 years. The average infantry soldier in Vietnam saw about 240 days of combat in one year. Why?

5. Operation Desert Storm began in August, 1990. President Bush stated, “This will not stand.” Why?

6. On September 11, 2001, four passenger airliners were hijacked by al-Qaeda terrorists. The United States launched a War on Terror and invaded ____________

Answers... (Answers can be found below.)

1. 11 a.m. War of 1812 against United Kingdom

2. Mexican-American War (1846)

3. Spanish-American War (1898)

4. World War I (1917)

5. World War II (1941)

6. Afghanistan to overthrow the Taliban

For Retirees Only - Effective 1-1-16:

It was a pleasure seeing and hosting over 450 retirees at the December luncheons in Aurora, Chicago, Joliet and Volo. As mentioned, Plumbers’ Welfare Fund Local 130 U.A. has provided for retirees currently enrolled in the Welfare Fund, free access to the SilverSneakers Fitness wellness program.

All you have to do is find a fitness location that is convenient, request your SilverSneakers ID number, and enroll in FLEX classes. You can get additional details at silverSneakers.com or call SilverSneakers Customer Service at 1-888-423-4632. Their supportive and trained staff will guide you through an easy enrollment.

Please take advantage of this Wellness Program and the resources offered on nutrition and fitness.
On October 18, 2015 Plumbers Local 130 hosted their annual "Bears Football Smoker Political Action Fundraiser" at the Stephen M. Bailey Auditorium. There were 1,200 tickets available and all were sold. Although the Bears didn’t win, no one minded. It was a day full of laughter, meeting old and new friends, and enjoying good food.

For the 22nd consecutive year, Speaker of the House Michael Madigan pulled the winning $10,000.00 ticket. Our own Mike Mannion of Garces Contractors LLC was the lucky recipient.

Plumbers Local 130 would like to thank the following political representatives who attended our fundraiser. These men and women are Plumbers Local 130’s cornerstones. They have in the past and will continue to fight for what I believe is “fair and equitable” for our retirees and members.

- Illinois Speaker of the House Michael Madigan
- City Clerk & Candidate for State Comptroller Susana Mendoza
- States Attorney Anita Alvarez
- State Senators: Tom Cullerton, Pat McGuire, Julie Morrison, John Mulroe and Laura Murphy
- State Representatives: John D’Amico Local 130 member, Fran Hurley and Marty Moylan
- President Mariyana Spyropoulos, MWRD
- Commissioner Cynthia M. Santos, Cook County
- Commissioner Michael Cabonargi, Board of Appeals
- And, over 30 Cook County Judges

Kudos to...

All those who attended the fundraiser and contributed to the “passing of the hat” for three (3) plumbers recently injured due to a gas explosion while working in New York. The money was sent to our fellow brothers at Local 1 in New York for their families.
Professional Plumbing, Inc. Supports “Folds of Honor”

For these four plumbers, Saturday was not a day off. They donated their time and skills roughing in the plumbing at a house that will benefit Folds of Honor. Bill Schey, President of Professional Plumbing, Inc. in Barrington, IL, who spent the day working with them said, “These men deserve special recognition for their work and dedication.”

Folds of Honor is an organization that was created to help the spouses and children of those killed or disabled while in service. Donations are used to help their spouses and children achieve their academic goals. Bill’s wife Connie discovered Folds of Honor and truly believes in their mission statement which says, “Honoring Their Sacrifice, Educating Their Legacy.”

Bill, a Marine Corps Veteran commented, “This is possible because of support from generous monetary donors, along with at least 90% of the building supplies being donated, as well as volunteer craftsmen from various other union contractors working on the house. The appreciation and support for these Veteran families, from so many directions, has been truly overwhelming.”

Volunteer Plumbers: (right to left) Matt Smith, Brian Ford, Dan Mugnai and from Professional Plumbing, Bill Schey

PCA - Plumbing Contractors Association

The PCA membership meeting was held on November 19, 2015 at the Erie Cafe in Chicago with over seventy contractors, associated members and guests. Among others, speakers included UA General President Bill Hite and our own Business Manager Jim Coyne.

“It was certainly an honor to be asked to speak to our union contractors about the future employment outlook for our expanded 17 county jurisdiction. As you know, the recent consolidation of UA Locals 501 and 93 have made a positive impact, and the total number of Local 130 man-hours has steadily increased.” Jim also went on to inform the Contractors that Local 130 will embark on building a “state-of-the-art” training facility at its Chicago campus in 2016.

General President Bill Hite voiced his concern about the “state-of-the-union” on both a local and national scale. He stated, “Without union contractors, our members don’t work and we must continue to view ourselves in a partnership.” Hite proudly explained the UA “Veterans in Piping” program that has trained over 400 active military men and women this year (and over 500 next year). This is possible through the efforts and funding of the International Training Fund contributions.

Membership Meeting “Turkey Raffle”

At the Chicago monthly membership meeting on November 17, 2015 the hall was full of laughter and anticipation with nearly 600 members in attendance. After business was concluded, the raffle began! 100 Jewel gift cards were raffled and there were 100 grateful recipients. However, no one went home empty handed. All attendees received a gift bag.
Local 130 Target Fund: “Plumbers 911”

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, there is a definite concern for Local 130 members as non-union plumbers are hired and willingly accept lower wages. Local 130 Target Fund is designed to be used for the exclusive purpose of combating the non-union plumbing industry within the jurisdiction of Local 130. This innovative plan is part of the UA’s and Plumbers Local 130’s long term vision to recover lost residential service and to regain union market share in our area.

UA Director of Plumbing, Tom Bigley will be in Chicago in February to give a presentation to Local 130 contractors about the Plumbers 911 Program. Service contractors who respond to Plumber’s 911 guarantee a 24/7 response to service calls with the best-trained, most skilled, state licensed, insured, and bonded professional service plumbers. Our members adhere to both the UA Standard for Safety and the UA Standard for Excellence, which ensure that they are safe, respectful, drug-free, and committed to productivity. Our plumbers will arrive in a professional company vehicle on time, dressed in uniform with boot covers, and ready to fix any plumbing problem.

It is our hope that retirees, members, and contractors will promote, publicize and encourage Plumbers 911. The advantages are clearly in our favor.

2016-2017 Educational Scholarships

If a family member is interested in applying for either of these scholarships, please spend time reviewing the requirements. This will help ensure that your application is properly filled out and considered. If you have questions regarding any of these scholarships, please contact the organization offering the award.

**STEPHEN M. BAILEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

It is time of the year again when applications for the Stephen M. Bailey Memorial Scholarship Awards will become available for the sons and daughters of Local 130 U.A. members graduating from High School in the spring of 2016. Deserving members of our Local 130 family will win valuable scholarships this year.

If you are interested in applying for the Stephen M. Bailey Scholarship, go to our website, www.plumberslu130ua.org to download, complete, and mail the completed form with any necessary documents to:

Stephen M. Bailey Memorial Scholarship Committee
1340 West Washington Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60607

March 31, 2016 is the deadline for this year’s applications. Applications will not be accepted after this date.

**WILLIAM A. LEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This year, the Chicago Federation of Labor will award 10 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarships, valued at $2,000 each, to five winners of the Academic Competition and five winners of the Random Drawing. The funds may be used at any accredited college or university in the United States.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- The applicant must be a senior in high school and graduating in the spring of 2016.
- Either the applicant or the applicant’s parent must be a member in good standing of a CFL-affiliated union. To confirm a union’s affiliation status, please call 312-222-1000.
- The applicant must choose to enter either the Academic Competition or Random Drawing for the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship. Applicants attempting to enter both categories will be disqualified.
- This application can be found on our website at: www.plumberslu130ua.org.

Completed applications must be received by the Chicago Federation of Labor by Tuesday, March 1, 2016. The Chicago Federation of Labor is located at 130 E. Randolph Street, Suite 2600, Chicago, IL 60601. Applications can be dropped off at the office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Mailed applications must be postmarked by Monday, February 29, 2016.

PLUMBERS #130 OFFICE INFORMATION

**CHICAGO OFFICE:**
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7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Thursday

**JOLIET OFFICE:**
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Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

**AURORA OFFICE:**
1295 Butterfield Road, Aurora, Illinois 60502
(630) 692-7342 • Fax (630) 978-9240
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Wednesday and Friday
7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Thursday

**VOLO OFFICE:**
31855 North U.S. Highway 12, Volo, Illinois 60073
(815) 759-5900 • Fax (815) 759-5978
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Wednesday and Friday
7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Thursday
A Parade Invitation To Retirees & Members:

*Plumbers Local 130 is the proud sponsor of Chicago’s 61st Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade. It is OUR Parade! Please join us!*

On **Saturday, March 12, 2016** the Parade will kick off from Columbus Drive at Balbo North at 12:00 noon. All members and their families can ride in a coach bus from the hall to the parade, coffee and donuts will be at the hall in the morning, and food and refreshments will be at the hall upon our return. Call Marilyn at 312-421-1010, Ext.122 and put your name on the list. At that time you will receive more information.

For retirees, “Trollies” will take you from the hall to the Parade. You will stay on your trolley through the Parade, and at the end, the trolley will return you to the hall again. Please contact Marilyn at the number listed above to reserve your seat.