



# PLUMBERS

## LOCAL 130 U.A.

Summer 2016

Vol. 3, No. 2

36



## Business Manager's Letter

From James F. Coyne

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As the warmer weather continues, I hope you and your family are enjoying fresh air and a few baseball games. It was an incredible second quarter for Local 130 politically, in the community and in house.

As I had stated in the previous newsletter, I believed it was necessary for Local 130 to fight against those who were attempting to weaken the Plumbers License Law. I am proud to say, Governor Rauner signed House Bill 5913 on April 25, 2016. This is a huge win for Local 130. The Bill guarantees that Plumbers will provide proof of completing four hours of continuing education to renew his or her annual license. These classes will be overseen and approved by the Board of Plumbing Examiners and the Plumbing Code Advisory Council. It also states that instruction will **only** be given by or supervised directly by an Illinois licensed Plumber. Again, my sincere thanks to State Representative John D'Amico who sponsored the Bill and our Political Director Mike Tierney who fought for it in Springfield.

It is because of this accomplishment that I emphasize the importance of voting for political candidates who are advocates for the Union workers. The future of Plumbers Local 130's members and all

union workers are affected by candidates who are not pro-labor. With the General Election set for November 1, 2016, I am asking that all members support Illinois Senators and Representatives who will protect union jobs and benefits.

For the past 25 years, on the last Saturday in April, Plumbers Local 130 has participated in and implemented a volunteer program called "Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago" which has focused on plumbing repairs needed by specific low-income homeowners. This is a project that begins early in the year and our goals have been to make the homes safe and code compliant. I would like to acknowledge coordinators Mike Shea and Paul Rodriguez for their preparation and groundwork for another successful year.

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, Local 130's officers hosted and sponsored a Patio Party at the hall with more than 600 guests. This event was geared towards forming camaraderie among our brothers and sisters and their Plumbers Local 130 Officers. I am proud to announce that 102 new apprentices went to work on May 9, 2016 for signatory contractors.

Four years ago when I became the Business Manager and Chairman of the Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC), I envisioned a new training facility that would replace our 85-year old building. On June

28, 2016, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, House Speaker Michael Madigan, Senate President John Cullerton and more than 230 other supporters joined me at the groundbreaking ceremony. We are raising a green building within the City of Chicago which is creating jobs by using local contractors. This state-of-the-art Plumbers Training Center insures the future of skilled labor in a 50,000 square foot, three-story building. This facility looks to the future by showcasing rainwater harvesting, solar energy and grey water systems. We foresee training thousands of Apprentices and Journeymen who will continue to honor and practice our motto "The Plumber Protects the Health of the Nation." See pages 10-11 with more details.

Finally, mark your calendars for our 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Football Smoker, which will be held on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at Plumbers Hall. The doors will open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will begin at 6:00 pm. The Chicago Bears vs. the Green Bay Packers game will be televised on the jumbo screens at 7:25 pm.

Please continue to read through the newsletter for more detailed current news and information concerning Local 130. As always, I wish you good health and prosperity, steady employment and happiness.

In Solidarity,

*James F. Coyne*

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## At a Glance . . .

## Dates to Remember . . .

- Monthly Membership Meeting, Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> (Location TBA)
- Annual Football Smoker - Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

# June 1, 2016 Wage Increases

## PLUMBERS

Plumbers Local 130 UA members received their annual pay raise on June 1, 2016. The increase depends on which signatory contractor's group represents your employer (see tables below). For the plumbers, 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 journeyman plumber wage rate (on the check) is \$48.25 per hour if working for a PCA or WSA employer and \$46.51 if working in Kankakee/Iroquois Counties (K&ICPPA)

<b>PCA and WSA Contractors:</b>		<b>K&amp;ICPPA Contractors:</b>	
Wages (Journeymen)	\$1.00	Wages (Journeymen)	\$0.75
Welfare Fund	\$0.20	Welfare Fund	\$0.20
Retiree Welfare Fund	\$0.10	Retiree Welfare Fund	\$0.10
Pension Fund	\$0.35	Pension Fund	\$0.35
Pension DC Plan	\$0.25	Pension DC Plan	\$0.25
JAC	\$0.10	JAC	\$0.10
<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>	<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$1.75</b>

The June 1, 2016 wages and benefits for the Residential Schedule A Agreement were recently modified during negotiations between the United Association and the Plumbing Contractors Association, the West Suburban Association of Plumbing Contractors and the Kankakee and Iroquois Counties Plumbing and Piping Contractors Association. The journeymen and apprentices who have worked under this Agreement have not had a wage increase in three years. The negotiations resulted in a \$6.00 per hour increase (from \$36.00 to \$42.00 per hour) for the Journeyman Residential Plumbers. The residential apprentice rates have

increased to be the same as JAC apprentice rates. The employers will be given a stipend from the Target Fund to reduce their cost of employing apprentices who are currently employed under this Agreement. Future apprentices hired by employers for work covered by this Agreement will need to contact the Union Office for possible incentive rates.

Because of your Target Fund payroll deductions, it is possible for the members working under this Agreement to receive a long overdue increase.

## TECHNICAL ENGINEERS

For the Technical Engineers who work in Indiana, the four-year agreement with the Mid-America Regional Bargaining Association (MARBA) will end on May 31, 2017. The Journeyman's rate for those members working in Illinois has increased to \$43.75 per hour. For the Technical Engineers who work in Indiana, the recently negotiated one year agreement with Northwest Indiana Contractors Association (NWICA) will also end on May 31, 2017. The Journeyman's rate for those working in Indiana has increased to \$39.50 per hour. A newly negotiated Defined Contribution Pension has been added for the Technical Engineers working under the NWICA Agreement.

<b>MARBA Contractors</b>	<b>NWICA Contractors</b>		
Wages (Journeymen)	\$0.75	Wages (Journeymen)	\$0.70
Welfare Fund	\$0.20	Welfare Fund	\$0.20
Retiree Welfare Fund	\$0.10	Retiree Welfare Fund	\$0.10
Pension Fund	\$1.00	Pension Fund	- \$2.00
Education	\$0.17	Pension DC Plan	\$1.00
<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$2.22</b>	<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

## Kudos to our own...

### Wade Blocker, Local 130 Apprentice

Congratulations to Birk Plumbing, Inc.'s apprentice Wade Blocker, who has won the District 4 Apprentice Contest and will go on to compete in the UA International Apprentice Contest in August 2016.

Back on June 2, 2015, Wade competed and won our annual in-house Local 130 Apprentice Competition. There were a total of seven (7) - 3<sup>rd</sup> year apprentices and it was a single day competition.

Wade then went on to compete in the state of Illinois Apprentice Plumber Competition on March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 against six (6) other apprentices. The competition consisted of some of the following events: general knowledge and math, isometric drawing, welding, soldering, PVC project, copper rolled offset project, and a cast-iron project.

*"Many thanks to our instructors who spent endless hours in preparing Wade for the apprentice competitions. I am proud of Wade's accomplishments and am looking forward to the national contest in Ann Arbor."*

*Jim Coyne*

On June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, Wade competed and **won** against five (5) other apprentices in the Regional Competition of District 4. Wade will compete at the international competition in Ann Arbor Michigan in August 2016.

Frank Borkowski, Instructor in Chicago said, "Wade's victory is Local 130's third consecutive win at the state of Illinois level, as well as District 4 Regional Competition. This win is due to Wade's competency and focus. I look forward to supporting him at the international level."

# Benefit Improvements

## ***Welfare Benefit Improvements***

The Plumbers' Welfare Fund Trustees recently announced the following benefit improvements that took effect June 1, 2016.

### **Active Plan Changes**

The Plumbers' Welfare Fund which governs benefits for "active employees" has been changed in the following ways:

- Substance Abuse: Eligible inpatient and outpatient substance abuse services, including residential treatment have been added. Additional details may be provided in subsequent Plan Documents.
- Increased Dental Benefits: The Dental Benefit's annual maximum has increased from \$3,500 to \$4,000.
- Increased Vision Benefits: The Vision Benefit allowance for eyeglasses and contacts has increased from \$300 to \$350.
- Increased Chiropractic Benefits: The amount of the annual chiropractic benefit maximum has increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000.
- Increased Durable Medical Equipment (DME): The DME allowance is increased from \$500 to \$1,500 and will now include TENS Units.

### **Retiree Plan Changes**

The Retiree Plan which governs benefits provided to Retirees and their Spouses and Surviving Spouses has been changed in the following way:

- Retiree Out-of-Pocket Limit – There will be a \$5,000 Out of Pocket maximum for individuals covered under this Plan. Prior to June 1, 2016 there was no Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Any questions concerning the benefit improvements may be directed to the Welfare Fund Office at (312) 226-5000.

## ***Pension Benefit Improvements***

The Pension Trustees have announced the following pension benefit improvements for Participants now working in Covered Employment.

- Pension Accrual Rate increased to \$125.00 for each Pension Credit Year earned beginning June 1, 2016.
- Additional Bonus Credit – A Participant now working in Covered Employment whose Retirement Date is after May 1987 has been earning a Bonus Credit, up to a maximum of three in a Fiscal Year, for each 300 hours of work in Covered Employment in excess of 1,200 hours. The Pension Trustees have added a 4<sup>th</sup> Bonus Credit for Participants who work 2,200 hours in a fiscal year. This improvement will be made retroactive back to June 1, 2012.

Any questions concerning the Pension Benefit Improvements may be directed to the Pension Fund Office at (312) 226-5000.

# Upcoming Events

## **AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL ACTIVE CHICAGO AREA PLUMBERS**

### **City of Chicago Plumbing License Test**

Upcoming City of Chicago Plumbing License and Plumbing Practical Tests:

Exam Title	Exam Date	Deadline
Written	October 8, 2016	September 9, 2016
Practical	August 20, 2016	July 21, 2016
Practical	December 3, 2016	November 4, 2016

# Professional Plumbing, Inc. Supports "Folds of Honor" & Salutes Memorial Day...

In the winter, 2015 newsletter, Bill Schey, President of Professional Plumbing, Inc. in Barrington, IL recognized four plumbers who helped rough in a house that would be sold with all proceeds going to Folds of Honor. That was before Labor Day. After months of work, the house was completed before the Memorial Day celebration. Bill, a Marine Corps Veteran stated, "These four plumbers, shown below, dedicated their Saturday to trimming in the house and deserve special recognition for their work and dedication."

The entire house has been built through donations. The sale price of the house, along with additional donations raised will go to benefit families of fallen and severely wounded servicemen. For additional information regarding Folds of Honor see [www.foldsofhonor.org](http://www.foldsofhonor.org).

*"This project was completed with the support from generous donors, as well as volunteer craftsmen from various other union contractors. The appreciation has been truly overwhelming from the Veteran families."*

*Bill Schey*



Pictured are from L to R: Dwain Keltner, Mike Siedlecki, Tyler Robinson and Eric Gudmundson.

## PLUMBERS LOCAL 130 OFFICE INFORMATION

### CHICAGO OFFICE:

1340 W. Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60607  
(312) 421-1010 • Fax (312) 421-9633

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Wednesday and Friday  
7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Thursday

### 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 – Friday

### JOLIET OFFICE:

2114 I-80 South Frontage Road, Joliet, Illinois 60436  
(815) 725-0278 • Fax (815) 725-0594  
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

### 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 – Friday

# Women Build Nations Conference 2016

Congratulations to Sarah Stigler and Cristina Barillas for their contribution and participation with "Women Build Nations" conference held in Chicago on April 28<sup>th</sup>. It is an annual event sponsored by the North American Building Trades Unions (NABTU) and many national and local unions. Over 1,600 tradeswomen (and many brothers as well) gathered from across the country for a weekend jam packed with educational workshops, labor history and political activism. Sixteen of our own members represented Local 130 with great pride joining 91 UA brothers and sisters.

**Cristina Barillas stated, "The last weekend of April certainly was a busy one for the members of Local 130. Not only did we have a strong presence at Rebuilding Together, but there was also another noteworthy opportunity for some of our sisters to represent our local with pride at the Women Build Nations Conference!"**



Local 130 had great representation from the stage with five of our own members giving presentations and speeches on a variety of topics from success in apprenticeship to mentorship in the trades. The weekend concluded on May 1st with a march and demonstration downtown. There we joined our brothers and sisters in the Chicago Federation of Labor (and many other pro-labor groups) in protest of "right-to-work" laws and the attacks on workers everywhere. It showed solidarity.

As women's participation in the union trades is growing, we strengthen our unions by making sure our sisters are strong, confident and competent. This conference was a great opportunity for our members to access the kind of networking and skills that produce an educated and active membership, skilled mechanics and mobilized union activists.



## 2016 Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to our four recent high school graduates who are this year's recipients of the annual Stephen M. Bailey Memorial Scholarships. They were announced at our Chicago Local 130 May 2016 meeting.



### PAIGE KURCZEK - 1<sup>st</sup> Place

- Daughter of Douglas Kurczek
- Graduating from York Community High School
- Will attend – Purdue University

### WILLIAM DOHERTY - 1<sup>st</sup> Place

- Son of William J. Doherty, Jr.
- Graduating from Prospect High School
- Will attend – Purdue University

### JULIA GALLAGHER - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

- Daughter of Patrick Gallagher
- Graduating from Lincolnway East
- Will attend – Loyola University Chicago

### HUNTER CLANCY - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

- Son of Daniel Clancy
- Graduating from Fenwick High School
- Will attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison

# CELEBRATING 25 YEARS - REBUILDING TOGETHER METRO CHICAGO

25 years ago, Business Manager Gerald Sullivan began our affiliation with Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago. Due to his insight and foresight, Plumbers Local 130 is still a major contributor to the renovations of homes of disadvantaged residents. We are grateful to our volunteers for their genuine sincerity, reliability and work demonstrated year after year and we will continue to promote and support this worthwhile tradition. Our work keeps these residential homeowners safe, warm and with water.

Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago (formerly Christmas in April) was formed in 1991 to improve declining, but occupied homes in Chicago and Cook County. This year, on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> skilled workers from Plumbers Local 130 and other trades provided plumbing and necessary repairs to homes in low-income communities.

Plumbers Local 130 focuses on the needs of each individual home and occupants. The process begins in February when Mike Shea, Paul Rodriguez and their Local 130 foremen met to look at homes to assess time and create material lists. This began many hours spent behind the scene preparing and organizing for that one Saturday's work. Volunteers gathered at the union hall for pizza on the Thursday evening before the event to pick up their work assignments. Congratulations to Brad Scarpelli, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year apprentice for Mechanical, Inc. who won the \$500.00 Visa Gift Card donated by Country Financial as a raffle prize that evening.

Mike Shea commented, "There were many instances where plumbers worked late to finish a job or to handle an extra problem that developed. However, I would like to emphasize that **without our volunteers, this program would not exist**. When I leave each site, the needed work has been completed, and in code. I also feel fortunate to give back."

Paul Rodriguez stated, "It is an intense day. Our Plumbers are working against time on every job site and it is not unusual to hear that a needed part was purchased so the job could be finished. I believe this day celebrates the **spirit of volunteerism** and calls attention to the ever-increasing need for our services in the community.

All the Officers agreed that at the end of that hectic day, home owners were smiling, as well as our own Plumbers Local 130 Volunteers. Again, we would like to thank everyone who participated and made this day happen.



# DING TOGETHER METRO CHICAGO



## Generosity of Contractors

Thank you to the following Contractors who generously supplied vans/trucks and materials during the 2016 Rebuilding Together project:

AMS Mechanical Services  
(6 Trucks/Vans)

Abbott Industries, Inc.  
(2 Vans)

D.A.M. Plumbing, Inc.  
(2 Trucks)

Great Lakes Plumbing & Heating, Inc.  
(2 Trucks)

Aggressive Plumbing Systems, Inc.  
(1 Truck)

Canyon Plumbing, Inc.  
(1 Truck)

Fettes, Love & Sieben, Inc.  
(1 Van)

Norman Mechanical, Inc.  
(4 Trucks)

Sheridan Plumbing Co.  
(1 Van)

Warren F. Thomas Plumbing Co.  
(1 Truck)

Weinberg Plumbing Co.  
(1 Van)



# PATIO

Local 130's officers hosted and sponsored a Patio Party following their monthly business meeting on Tuesday, of food and good conversation. Speaker of the Illinois House Michael Madigan spoke to the membership as an



# PARTY

June 14<sup>th</sup>. There were more than 600 members and guests at the hall, and all enjoyed a great evening with plenty advocate of union labor.



# Plumbers Local 130 Training Center's Groundbreaking Ceremony

The Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) held the Groundbreaking for the new Plumbers Training Center on June 28, 2016. The ceremony was attended by more than 230 elected officials, service professionals, associates and apprentices and covered by several of the Chicago television stations. Speakers during the event included Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Speaker Michael J. Madigan, Senate President John Cullerton, UA Assistant Training Director Jim Pavesic to name a few.

In his welcoming address, Business Manager Jim Coyne said "I believe, this new training center will preserve our craft, offer security and standards that only a licensed plumber can provide, and assure growth and development while preserving our Plumbing License Law."

Mayor Emanuel said, "Skilled workers are a part of the fabric of Chicago. From the success that comes with advanced training to the values that come from vital work, this new center is building a strong foundation for the City of Chicago."

In his remarks, Senate President John Cullerton added that the facility will continue the union's proud heritage of providing world-class training, and developing a highly trained and skilled workforce.

Jim Pavesic, UA Assistant Director of Training commented, "I am 100% behind this project and believe in spending money to educate apprentices and journeymen. I am proud that Jim Coyne and the membership of Local 130 have the foresight to train the workforce of the future with current technology."

Sarah Stigler, Local 130 member and Board Chair of Chicago Women in Trades stated, "In this facility, the next generation will be equipped with the training and technology to solve the problems of tomorrow. However, our job is not done in the building of a structure. Not only must we recruit the best and brightest to fill the new seats, but we must all take the job of mentorship to heart. It's on all of us, as a community, to ensure an equitable environment that truly reflects the values of Local 130."

Craig Thomas, Warren Thomas Plumbing and Co-Chairman of JAC also commented, "This training center will be a great resource not only to the industry, but to our apprentices, journeymen and contractors as well."

Dan Allen, Executive Director of Cisco Construction Industry wrote in their news release positive feedback. He praised, "The privately funded, labor/management model for training workers whose skills are the envy of the nation. Their expertise creates taxpayer value by reducing injuries and completing the job safely, on time and on-budget. The facility will continue the union's proud heritage of providing world-class training."

Again, the JAC thanks everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to attend the occasion. It was a historic day for Local 130.



**Michael J. Madigan**  
*Illinois Speaker of the House*



**James F. Coyne**  
*Business Mgr., Plumbers Local 130  
Chairman, Plumbers Local 130 JAC*



**James Pavesic**  
*UA Asst. Director of Training*



**Rahm Emanuel**  
*Mayor, City of Chicago*



**Craig W. Thomas**  
*Pres., Warren F. Thomas Plumbing  
Co-Chairman, Plumbers 130 JAC*



**Sarah Stigler**  
*Board Chair, Chicago Women in Trade  
Local 130 Member*



Pictured from left to right: Senator John Cullerton, House Speaker Michael J. Madigan, Business Manager James F. Coyne, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Member James J. Coyne, W.E. O'Neil Construction President John Russell.



Pictured from left to right: Representative and Local 130 member John D'Amico, Alderman Matt O'Shea, Senator John G. Mulroe, Representative Frances Ann Hurley, Senator Don Harmon, Senator Patricia Van Pelt, MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos.

# Plumber's Union Local 130 U.A.

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## *Plumbers Local 130 Political Fund* **23rd Annual Football Raffle** **Thursday, October 20, 2016**

Game time: 7:25pm – Doors open: 5pm – Dinner @ 6pm



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**TICKETS ON SALE STARTING JUNE 1, 2016**

**@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
- (20) - 3<sup>rd</sup> PRIZES: \$130.00 each