



PLUMBERS

LOCAL 130 U.A.

Summer 2017

Vol. 4, No. 3



Business Manager's Letter

From James F. Coyne

Summer is here and I hope you and your families are enjoying the warm weather, as well as a few baseball games. The majority of the second quarter was focused on negotiations. A special meeting was called on Thursday, May 25th where members ratified the new collective bargaining agreements. As Business Manager, I believe Local 130's plumbers and technical engineers have solid and fair contracts for all parties. Letters regarding the new agreements and wage package increases were mailed to all members earlier this month, but here are a few of the most important changes:

1. Defined Benefit Pension contribution rate increase results in two new retirement options for plumbing members. Retirement age reduced from 62 to 60 without early retirement reduction and Rule of 95. See Pension & Welfare Report by Joe Ohm for a detailed explanation on page 2.
2. Wage increased based on percentages for supervision (sub-foremen, foremen, inspectors, superintendents, and district foremen.)
3. Target Fund payroll deduction increased 20 cents to 45 cents per hour for the plumbing members and has started at 25 cents per hour for the technical engineering members. This fund com-

bats the nonunion through marketing, thereby protecting our work.

4. The Political Action Fund voluntary payroll deduction has increased from 5 to 10 cents per hour. This fund is used to support labor friendly state and local politicians and plumbing license laws.
5. New Residential Service Agreement helps contractors to be competitive with nonunion plumbers.

Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago was held on Saturday, April 29th. Our 178 volunteers repaired plumbing issues in residential homes of disadvantaged residents in Robbins and North Lawndale communities. This is a project that begins early in the year and our goals have been to make the homes safe and code compliant. Thank you to all the volunteers. I would like to acknowledge Business Agent Michael Shea and Executive Board member Paul Rodriguez for coordinating this worthwhile community project.

On May 1st, an incoming apprentice class of 131 men and women began their plumbing careers with signatory contractors. This makes 443 new plumbing apprentice members since April 2015 and a total of 629 apprentices in the JAC training program.

The new JAC Training Center is on schedule. By the time you receive this newsletter, W.E. O'Neil Construction Company will have turned the building over to Plumbers Local 130. There is still more

work to be done, such as getting the tools and materials out of storage and into the classrooms, moving the JAC office from the main building, and learning the new IT system. It is hard to believe in two years' time what has been accomplished. From selecting a General Contractor and Architect, getting the ideas incorporated into the design, pulling permits and then the construction of the building. The W.E. O'Neil and Gensler teams have done an outstanding job from beginning to end. On the back page there is an invitation for all members to attend our Grand Opening Open House on Tuesday, September 12 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Finally, mark your calendar for our 24th Annual Football Smoker, which will be held on Sunday, October 15th at Plumbers Hall. The doors will open at 11:00 am. The Chicago Bears vs. the Baltimore Ravens game will be televised on the jumbo screens at noon and dinner at halftime. See a Local 130 officer for tickets, which go on sale July 1st.

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.

Best wishes to you and your families for a happy and safe summer.

In Solidarity,

James F. Coyne

CONTRACTS RATIFIED!

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Fund Administrator's Office - p2
- Life Lessons Learned From a Plumber - p3
- Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago - p4-5
- A "Plumber" You Should Know (New Feature) - p6
- Scholarship Winners - p7
- 24th Annual Football Raffle - Political Fund - p7
- Open House Invitation - New JAC Training Center - p8

At a Glance . . .

Dates to Remember . . .

- September 1 - Plumbers Monthly Meeting
- September 12 - Training Center Open House
- September 14 - Tech Engineers Monthly Meeting
- September 22 - Autumn Begins

Pension and Welfare Benefit Office

By: JOSEPH OHM, FUND ADMINISTRATOR

The Plumbers Pension Fund Trustees have made the following benefit improvements for Local 130 Plumbers:

ELIMINATION OF REDUCED EARLY RETIREMENT BENEFIT AT AGE 60

In the case of a Participant whose first monthly retirement benefit is payable for a period beginning on or after June 1, 2017, a Participant may apply for a monthly retirement benefit **without** an Early Retirement Reduction if the individual is otherwise eligible for a monthly retirement benefit under the Pension Fund and has attained age 60. This also means that retirement benefits for surviving spouses and alternate payees will no longer be calculated factoring in the reduced early retirement benefit at age 60.

NEW EARLY RETIREMENT OPTION – RULE OF 95

In the case of a Participant whose first monthly retirement benefit is payable for a period beginning on or after June 1, 2017, a Participant may apply for a monthly retirement benefit **without** an Early Retirement Reduction if the individual is otherwise eligible for a monthly retirement benefit under the Pension Fund and the combination of his age and pension credits equal or exceed 95.

For example, a Participant who is 58 and has 37 pension credits would be eligible to retire and receive an unreduced monthly pension credit because his age and pension credits equal 95. Your total pension credits, which count towards the 95 amount, include any partial pension credits earned as a result of the Hours Bank.

The Plumbers Welfare Fund Trustees have made the following benefit improvements for Local 130 plumbers and technical engineers:

The following benefit improvements pertain to the...

ACTIVE MEDICAL PLAN OF BENEFITS:

1. Increased Weekly Accident or Sickness Benefit:

Effective January 1, 2018, the weekly amount is increased to \$400. The Schedule of Benefits and Section 4.3 of the Summary Plan Description currently provides eligible employees to re-

ceive \$300 per week for up to 52 weeks during a period of being unable to work in Covered Employment due to an accident or sickness.

2. Increased Health Reimbursement Account Contribution:

Effective June 1, 2017, contributions to your HRA increased from \$0.50 to \$0.65 per hour.

The following benefit improvements pertain to the...

RETIREE MEDICAL PLAN OF BENEFITS:

1. New Hearing Aid Benefit:

Effective January 1, 2018, the Retiree Medical Fund will provide the following hearing care benefit:

Hearing Examinations - Up to \$125.00 with a limit of one examination in any 12-month period.

Hearing Aids - Up to \$1,500.00 with a limit of one hearing aid instrument in any 60-month period, (unless Bilateral Hearing aids are determined to be Medically Necessary by the Fund's Medical Advisor, in which case the benefit is \$3,000.00.)

2. Increased Initial Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Coverage:

Effective January 1, 2018, the Retiree Medical Fund will cover 100% up to \$1,500 (up from \$500) for Medically Necessary DME, plus 80% of the Reasonable and Customary Charges or Fees of a PPO provider exceeding \$1,500.00. If the cost of any equipment or device exceeds \$1,500.00, the acquisition must be approved in advance by the Trustees (or the Plan's Medical Advisor). The Plan will pay 70% of the Reasonable and Customary Charges or Fees of a non-network provider.

3. New Erectile Dysfunction Medication Coverage:

Effective January 1, 2018, the Retiree Medical Fund will cover up to six (6) pills per month to treat erectile dysfunction, subject to a 50% coinsurance payment.

For more details on these benefits or if you have any questions regarding the improvements outlined above, do not hesitate to contact the Fund office at 312-226-4200.

PLUMBERS #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

WARRENVILLE OFFICE:

28600 Bella Vista Pkwy., Ste. 2110, Warrenville, Illinois 60555
(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

Life Lessons Learned from a Plumber



John Gornick.

John Gornick is a proud 66-year member of Plumbers Local 130 and retiree from the Chicago Park District. John lost his wife, Evie of 56 years, in 2014. They raised six children in the Southwest side of Chicago and have 12 grandchildren. Two sons, John and Mike, followed in their father's footsteps and are Local 130 Plumbers.

John's son, Joe, stated "I'd like to share some of my Dad's words of wisdom and guidelines he has used in his life that have made a huge impact on me in my professional career and personal life:"

1. Measure twice, cut once - That last extra check before moving forward (or pushing the send key!) has saved me more time than I'd like to admit, and I'm so grateful every time I've remembered to do it.

2. Draw out your plans in detail, so you can better plan your projects and accurately estimate your time and resources - My Dad is a classic example of someone who has operated in his trade knowing that "Failing to plan is planning to fail." He's a

visual guy and I'm amazed at the quality and detail of the schematics he draws out on paper before tackling a job, like re-piping a house – and how spot-on he is in estimating time and materials required to complete a project.

3. If you use the right tool, the job is much easier - There's a reason there are dozens of different kinds of pipe wrenches, tube cutters, and faucet stem and cartridge pullers. Regardless of what industry, profession or trade you're in, if you attack a task or a problem equipped with the right tool, you'll save lots of time and effort and avoid extra headaches and frustration.

4. Give it your best effort, every time - If you're going to fall short, don't let it be because you didn't give it your best shot. We all make mistakes and miss the mark sometimes, but if you put forth your best effort each time, you can sleep well at night. My Dad has an amazing work ethic. He's like the Superman of plumbers. I can't tell you how many times when he has helped me with projects around my home that he has absolutely worn me out. I have had to request that we take a break, sometimes after working 5-6 hours straight. If I didn't ask for a break, he'd just keep going!

5. Share what you have and what you know with others - My Dad is the most generous person I know. Even though he raised six children on a plumber's income, he always gave to charities and shared his time, talents and knowledge with others – and still does today! He's a great teacher, because he loves what he does and he loves to help others and share with others what he knows.

6. Study and work hard in school and don't stop learning, so you don't have to work as hard as I have had to in my life - Even though my Dad didn't go to college and struggled at times in school, he has always been very curious about a lot of different things and has committed himself to continuous learning throughout his life – and he always encouraged us to focus on our studies. My Dad has constantly re-educated himself. His regular reading includes Discover Magazine, National Geographic and Popular Mechanics – and his interests range from history and space exploration to music and machinery. Whether on a construction site and talking to the electricians to understand how or why they performed a task a certain way, buying himself a computer and mastering how to use a sophisticated music writing software package in his 60s, or watching the television show, "How It's Made," my Dad has had an instinctive drive to broaden his knowledge base. The biggest payoff is the sharp mind he has today at almost 85 years old.

7. If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all - Geez, if I heard this one once, I heard it a million times! How true and how important...but how hard it can be at times to bite your tongue!

8. If you say you're going to do something, then do it - Credibility comes from following through on your commitments. Everyone knows they can count on my Dad. He's not just willing to help others, but he follows through and does what he says he's going to do.

9. Be humble and don't "toot your own horn" - My Dad is humble and self-effacing. (I think I saw his picture in the dictionary next to the word "humility"!) One of my sisters, Christine, recently reflected on our Dad and how his accolades and acknowledgments over the years came his way because of what he has done – not because he bragged about them. In fact, he has been very much the opposite his whole life, being his own harshest critic and pushing himself to improve and learn new things.

10. Don't concern yourself about what someone else has or what they got - Christine also reminded me about a story from years ago, when my Dad and one of his apprentices learned that their supervisor got a sizable year-end bonus – as a result of the great work that my Dad and the apprentice had done all year long. My Dad and the apprentice either got no bonus or a very small one that year. When the apprentice started ranting about this injustice, my Dad asked him, "Did you get paid what you agreed to get paid?" to which the apprentice reluctantly replied, "Yes." So my Dad told him, "Then, stop your complaining!" Life is not always fair – and remembering that truth can be great medicine for reducing your blood pressure.

26th Year - Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago

GENEROSITY OF CONTRACTORS - Thank you to the following Contractors who generously supplied vans, trucks and materials during the 2017 Rebuilding Together project:

AMS Mechanical Systems, Inc.
Norman Mechanical, Inc.
D.A.M. Plumbing, Inc.
Fettes, Love & Sieben Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Abbott Industries, Inc.
Sheridan Plumbing Company
Warren F. Thomas Plumbing Company
Ewing-Doherty Mechanical, Inc.
Great Lakes Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Canyon Plumbing, Inc.

Aggressive Plumbing Systems, Inc.
R. Carrozza Plumbing Company
VJ Killian Company
Weinberg Plumbing Company

A special mention to:

- Dinner sponsors:
 - o The Corned Beef Factory Sandwich Shop, Chicago
 - o Donald Courtright, William Blair Funds
- Victaulic Pipe Company, Bensenville, donated all the T-shirts for our volunteer plumbers.

On Saturday, April 29th, 178 skilled plumbers from Local 130 volunteered in the North Lawndale, Chicago area and the south-west suburb of Robbins. This is our 26th consecutive year as a major contributor to the renovations of homes for disadvantaged, low-income residents. Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago was formed in 1991 to improve declining, but occupied homes in Chicago and Cook County.

The process begins in February when Mike Shea, Paul Rodriguez and their Local 130 foremen assess homes and create material lists. Many hours are spent behind the scene preparing and organizing for that one Saturday. Mike stated, "The foremen are key to our success. It is crucial that the materials needed are on the jobsite so our plumbers can begin work immediately." Volunteers gathered at the union hall on the Thursday evening before the event to pick up their work assignments, T-shirts, and enjoy a corned beef sandwich. White Sox tickets and power tools were raffled. Congratulations to those who won!

Every volunteer was committed to their assignment, and handled any extra problems that developed. However, Mike Shea and Paul Rodriguez would like to acknowledge two plumbers who went over and above and were the last to leave for the day:

- Adrian Novak, AMS
- Steven Rogers, AMS

Adrian Novak did more than the agreed upon scope of work for the homeowners and Steve Rogers worked on rodding houses. However, as the day progressed, many more problems were added to the list. One of the houses even required Steve to crawl under the home to do the work.

Paul said, "I believe this day celebrates the spirit of volunteerism, team work and collaboration and calls attention to the ever-increasing need for our services in communities." Mike and Paul stated that Local 130's plumbers responded with a positive attitude, they were fast with a 100% completion, not one complaint - and no leaks. Year after year, our volunteers make this day happen!





(L to R) Jim Coyne, Ryan Turnquist & Ken Turnquist.



(L to R) Dave Thompson, Johnreal Wright & Jesus Cantero.



Steve Rogers.



(L to R) Chuck Pachec & John Schaffer.



Mike Rodriguez.



(L to R) Philip George, Sean Gibbons, Stephen Schweizer & Andrew Formas.



(L to R) Pat Cunningham, Pat McCarthy, John Hosty, Paul Gonzalez & Jeremy Runner.



(L to R) Mike Burns, Sebastian Papeo, Vito Papeo & Javier Robles.



Jeremy Runner, O'Sullivan Plumbing.



A "Plumber" You Should Know

If you know a plumber who should be recognized for something or has an interesting story to tell, please contact Carol Giesler, Executive Assistant to Jim Coyne at cgiesler@ualocal130.org or (312) 421-1010 ex. 112.

Dick Morin, a WWII Air Force Veteran, and 53-year member of the American Legion Post 651, was asked to participate in this year's "Honor Flight." Honor Flight is a non-profit organization created to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. On April 12, 2017 at 4:00 a.m., Dick departed from Chicago's Midway Airport to view for the

first time the World War II Memorials in Washington D.C. Dick stated, "The recognition, care, and kindness shown to the veterans were unforgettable."

Waiting to welcome Dick home from Washington D.C. was his wife Lil of 65 years, as well as his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, friends, fellow veterans and their families.

Once discharged from the Air Force, Dick returned to Chicago and began his apprenticeship. When asked, "What are your memories of Plumbers Local 130?" Dick answered, "I am a proud Local 130 member, and past officer, for nearly 71 years. I followed Business Manager Steve Bailey's advice many years ago: Work hard and be on time! I was an Apprentice with the best class, which included past Business Manager Ed Brabec and long-time friend Jim Coyne (senior)."



Dick Morin - 76th Honor Flight to Washington - April 12, 2017.



Local 130 Retirees, Ray Erlich, Dick Morin and John Bojan.



(Daughter) Judy, Lil, Dick, (Son) Jerry, (Granddaughter) Katie.



Retired four-star General Colin Powell thanks Dick Morin for his services.

2017 Scholarship Recipients



Jim Coyne, Elena Sgarbossa, Kamila Kazimierczuk, Max Mitchell and Benjamin Bexson.

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 2017 meeting.

KAMILA KAZIMIERCZUK

- Daughter of Adam Kazimierczuk (Norman Mechanical)

MAX E. MITCHELL

- Son of Dennis Mitchell (Great Lakes Plumbing & Heating)

ELENA SGARBOSSA

- Daughter of Dale Sgarbossa (Lino & Poli Plumbing)

BENJAMIN E. BEXSON

- Son of Jeff Bexson (Mechanical Plumbing & Heating)

Upcoming Events



CHICAGO BEARS

~VS~



BALTIMORE RAVENS

Plumbers Local 130 Political Fund

24th Annual Football Raffle

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Game Time: 12:00 noon Doors Open: 11:00 am

TICKETS ON SALE STARTING JULY 1, 2017

@ PLUMBERS' HALL, 1340 W. WASHINGTON BLVD., 2ND FLR WINDOW

PRICE: \$130/PER TICKET (2 ADMISSIONS PER TICKET)

GRAND PRIZE:	\$10,000.00
2ND PRIZE:	\$ 2,500.00
(20) – 3RD PRIZES:	\$ 130.00/Each

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	Sign-up Deadline
WRITTEN	October 18, 2017	September 15, 2017
PRACTICAL	August 19, 2017	July 21, 2017
PRACTICAL	December 2, 2017	November 3, 2017

Plumber's Union Local 130 U.A.

1340 W. Washington Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois 60607



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Local 130 UA Training Center Grand Opening September 12, 2017

Invitation to all Members

6:00 PM - Members Meeting
Brief Meeting followed by Patio Party

6:30 - 8:00 PM—Open House
Training Center open to members.

**Come out and meet
UA General President Mark McManus
and tour your new Training Center.**