

Plumbers Local 15 Newsletter – April * May * June 2014

Union Meetings - First Thursday of every month

April 3rd – May 1st – June 5th -

5:00 p.m. - Executive Board - 7:00 p.m. Membership

Attending union meetings are a great way to stay informed on

What's happening in your Local Union

Date & Time	Event	Place
April 3 rd , 7:00	Minneapolis Allocation of Monies	Local 15 Union Hall
April 5 th 6:30	Water's Off	Radisson - Roseville
April 7 th , 5:00	St Cloud Allocation of Monies	St. Cloud Union Home
April 26 th	Pipe Trade Service MN/Health Fare	Mpls Convention Ctr

New location and date change for the 2014 Picnic

This year's picnic we will be back at Wabun Park – Minnehaha

Sunday AUGUST 24th, 2014 Noon – 4:00

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I want to remind everyone that,

Waters off is Saturday April 5th, 6:30 a.m. registration 7:00 a.m. breakfast.

Radisson Hotel Roseville- 2540 Cleveland Ave N, 55113 (651) 636-4567

We always need help especially if you have a service truck. You can call or stop by the hall for more information or to sign up. We have always had good support from our contractors but if you are working for a contractor that does not want you to use their truck please call and let me know. It would be nice to see some new faces volunteering this year. After you have finished your service call(s) we ask that you drop off your paper at the Union Hall and also stay for lunch!

All indications are we are going to have at least a couple years of good work opportunity. The weather has set us back somewhat but it appears that spring is getting closer. It's up to all of us to make sure the work of the plumber is being done with our members whether it's core drilling or installing fireplaces and gas dryers. If you have a question on jurisdiction call the hall.

Reminder: We have continuing education at the hall every Thursday call Jack or Ann at 612-374-5262 to sign up. Masters have to have their continuing education hours completed by the end of this year. Work safe and work smart.

Fraternally, Rick Eilers, Business Manager

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this article, we are rapidly approaching spring. I believe we are looking forward to a season of opportunity. With large scale projects like a football stadium that is already underway, a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Mall of America expansion Phase 1C that is taking place the week this article was written, a pre-job conference being held for the Downtown East Project, along with the consistent news from our contractors in all sectors of our market of the projects on their books, the members of Local #15 should have every chance to find gainful employment if willing and able.

With that said, I think it's appropriate to remind us of a procedure that many times is overlooked. This pertains to every member going to work, whether new employment or returning to an employer, you must have a referral from the Hall. From Article 9, Section 6 of the Local #15 Bylaws, *Any member changing employers, or anyone referred to a shop shall be required to have an introductory slip from the office of Local No. 15, signed by a full time officer. Any member not following this procedure shall be subject to a minimum fine of two hundred dollars (\$200.00).* It's a simple phone call, and we take care of the rest. Hope to see you at Waters Off on Saturday April 5th, and have a great spring!

Fraternally yours, Scott Gale, Business Agent

* Allocation of monies for Minneapolis and St. Cloud*

We will have allocation of monies for Minneapolis area @ 7:00 p.m. @ our Thursday, April 3rd union mtg.

We are in our last year of our Minneapolis contract and have a raise of \$1.15 to be distributed.

The allocation for St. Cloud will be @ 5:00 p.m. Monday April 7th @ the St. Cloud Labor Home.

Dear Members:

It's been a brutal winter. Hopefully the worst is behind us. The weather men say it's the 6th worst winter on record since 1900. Because of the weather many projects were shut down and are behind schedule, but of course the completion dates have not been pushed back. Now with the spring season upon us and the heavy work load that comes with it, the rush will be on and with that, there may be temptations by some to ask you to take short-cuts which can result in poor workmanship or code violations.

Just because projects were delayed does not mean we take short cuts or do sloppy work. We are paid and trained way better, than the non-union competition. Clients hire us for that reason. We do better work. Yes we get paid more, but when we can do the job smarter, faster and with no call-backs, that's why clients and general contractor's hire our union contractors.

Yes you may be pushed to hurry-it-up, but that does not mean we cut corners doing illegal or sloppy work. I once worked with an old timer who would tell me that "plumb every job as if it was your own home or business". That way there is never a doubt that you aren't doing it right. He would also tell me that "if you can't hang your name on the job you did and be proud of it you'd had better do it over".

Remember every job you do, is not just a reflection of you, but of all of us, as union plumbers.

Reminder: With the amount of work coming up, remember to keep your all certifications and training up to date. Contractors when hiring, want members with up to date training such as: Safety Training OSHA 10, Med Gas, and RPZ Certifications.

Tom Martin, Business Agent

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This winter can't get over with fast enough for me or the construction industry! With spring on the horizon, the work will be coming fast. The stadium has started, the 400 million dollar Ryan / Wells Fargo project starting soon, apartments continuing, and a lot of school work on the books that will be starting as the school year ends. The need for city comp cards will be in demand. Be sure to check with us that your records here are accurate. We may not know if you have your city comp card.

When it comes to jurisdiction, make sure we are doing our work. I recently resolved an issue over setting under-mount stainless steel and porcelain sinks to granite. The granite counter top company was doing this and I've found out that it is happening more frequently. This is setting of a fixture. If we continue to give that away, then what will be next? Drop in lavs and sinks? Setting tubs? It needs to stop now. Once gone, we'll never get it back. If you have any problems or questions about jurisdiction, please call right away. Just because you are busy or the company you work for says "We typically don't do those" does not make it OK. With the large amount of work coming up, now is not the time to give away anything. When it is slow will be when you wished it never happened!

Enjoy the weather once it gets here, good luck on fishing opener and have a happy Easter!

Sincerely - Joe Lane, Business Agent

Plumbers' Local 15 members and staff extend their deepest sympathies to the families of...

<u>Member name</u>	<u>Date & age of death</u>
Joseph Fish	February 28 @ age 94
Robert Bjur	March 7 th @ age 87

Credit Union Deduction

\$10.00 will be deducted from your credit union account on May 1, 2014 for deaths #1 – 2

News from the Minneapolis Plumbers J.J.A.T.C. Office:

New med gas fees: Braze continuity letters are now \$26.15 if remitted by this office or \$37.65 if you mail it in. Vertical upflows are now \$47.65.

Continuing Education will continue throughout the year every Thursday from 5-9pm, expect on union meeting nights (1st Thursday of the month) they are from 2-6 pm. Be sure to call the office at 612-374-5262 to register for classes. Classes can be found on our website: www.training15.com

ASSE Tester/Rebuilder Recertification classes will start May 14, 2014: a 7 week class on Wednesdays. These classes will run continuously throughout the year restarting every 8 weeks. You must register with the apprenticeship office. Class size is limited to 20 members & costs \$175.00.

We are working on setting up classes in the St. Cloud area over the next couple of months. Watch our website at www.training15.com for upcoming classes. Master plumbers must have their continuing education completed by the end of this year while journeymen have until the end of 2015.

This newsletter is also available for electronic delivery,
Please visit www.plumberslocal15.com to subscribe.

Please keep your information up to date: Call the hall at 612-333-8601 to verify we have your correct contact information, mailing address, phone number(s), certifications, e-mail address, etc.