



MINNEAPOLIS • ST CLOUD
**PLUMBERS
LOCAL 15**

October – November – December 2017

Union meetings are the 1st Thursday of the month
5:00 p.m. Executive Board / 7:00 p.m. General Membership meeting

Plumbers Local 15 Annual Kids/Grandkids Christmas Party
Saturday December 9th, 2017 Noon-3:00 at the Union Hall
Holiday meeting: Thursday December 7th, 2017
St Cloud Holiday Meeting: Monday Dec 11th, 5:00 pm
@ the St Cloud Labor Home

**Local 15 extends our
deepest sympathies to
the families of:**

James Epperson: age 95
on 7/29/17
Eugene Johnson: age 63
on 7/30/17
Gary Overson: age 70
on 8/26/17
Joseph Barthel: age 72
on 8/30/17

**CREDIT UNION
DEDUCTION**

On Nov 1st, 2017 \$32.00
will be deducted from
your Credit Union
account to cover deaths
#9-12

**Pipe Trades Services of
Minnesota:**

www.ptsmn.org
(651)645-4540

Wellness Centers:

(651)348-8851 Metro
(507)218-3095 Rochester

AARP

**(THE Active Attractive
Retired Plumbers)
Retired Brothers &
Sisters,**

Looks like another
summer is in the books. A
beautiful summer it was,
lots of sunshine, ample
rain, and good growth for
our yards, flowers and
trees.

Thank you to our
volunteers at the annual
picnic. I forgot to write
the names down when I
got home so I could list
them here, so with the
risk of omitting someone,
THANK YOU to all that
helped.

**REMINDER:
OBITUARIES.....**

I often find that our Local
#15 logo is missing from
some of the obituaries of
our brothers. Please
inform your family of that
option.
It is FREE, just inform the
funeral director or the
Star-Trib that you want
the Local 15 logo
included.

Remember to also check us out at:

www.plumberslocal15.com

 facebook.com/Plumbers15

 twitter.com/Plumbers15

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you to everyone that helped at the picnic
again this year. We had a good turn out with
about 550 members and their families coming
out to enjoy the event. It's a great chance for us
to see and talk with some of the members we
don't get a chance to visit with very often.

The work outlook continues to be strong. We
had a little slow down once some of the school
work finished but it appears we will be busy
again this fall and 2018 also.

I'm not sure how many of you read UA General
President Mark McManus' newsletter this
month but I think he is absolutely correct in
describing the "UA's three-legged stool".
Training, political action and organizing are
crucial to growing the UA. Politics is probably
my least favorite thing to do but it is essential
that our representatives know who we are and
what we demand out of them when it comes to
our members jobs. We recently attended our
annual Minnesota/Wisconsin Pipe Trades
meeting and one of the speakers was Wisconsin
Pipe Trades President Terry Hayden. Terry gave
an update on what the legislature is doing in
Wisconsin. Just a couple years ago they adopted
"Right to work" legislation and now they have
repealed prevailing wage language and barred
Project Labor Agreements on State funded
projects. These changes are directed specifically
at organized labor and if we don't elect folks
that understand that these issues are important
to us then Minnesota will be headed down that
same road. Whether it's a candidate for a city,
county, state or national position if they want
your support ask them where they stand on
those positions and organized labor in general.

Fall is here and I want to wish everyone a safe
and happy Thanksgiving and Christmas and for
those of you that hunt good luck and be safe.

Sincerely,
Rick Eilers, Business Manager

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I know it's been awhile since I've brought up
issues regarding some of our by-laws. Recently
there have been a couple issues that have been
coming up and in need of attention. First,
working for less than what the contract says is a
violation of the by-laws. It has come to our
attention that some people have been banking

hours. Don't do this. When you decide that you
want to work late one day and take off another
day, you are not collecting overtime or double
time like our contract says you should. After 8 is
overtime. When you don't take it, you're going
against the whole purpose of the contract.
Worse yet is apprentices new to our union don't
want to make waves or worry that they would
be retaliated against if they said anything or
they may think that is how it works. It's not. If
you have any questions or you are being told to
do it, let us at the hall know and we will work on
it.

Second, Tools. Article 9 Section 2 says "No
member of Local 15 shall be permitted to
furnish tools for any employer by loan, rental or
otherwise, except their own ruler". Supplying
your own tools is also a violation of the UA
Constitution Section 193. There has been a bit
more of this going on lately. If you find that
there is a certain tool that works well, talk to
your contractor about it and have them
purchase it. Once we start supplying tools, then
this will be expected of everyone. Again, don't
do it. If you're being told to bring your own
tools, let the hall know.

Finally, I would like to wish all a Happy
Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas since this
will be the last newsletter of 2017. Be safe at
work and play this autumn.

**Best Regards,
Joe Lane, Business Agent**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We have been experiencing the challenge of a
high demand for Plumbers over this past year to
meet the needs of the construction market in
the Twin Cities, and those of our contractors as
well. Local 15 has done this largely with the help
from traveling U.A. members, new Apprentices,
and Plumber Helpers. The one area of our
market where we still have need is for service
and jobbing Plumbers. Local 15 currently has
calls for Plumbers in both our residential and
commercial **service markets**, some of which
have been open all summer. Employers are
needing Plumbers with city Competency Cards,
and current Backflow Tester/Rebuilder
Certification for these positions. This work can
offer a variety of opportunity, and often times a
bit more stability than the construction market.
Call the hall if interested or with questions.

On another note, we are heading into the final
months of our Gas Distribution/Pipeline season.
This winter we will begin negotiating a successor
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It is the best way of letting the "plumbing family" know of the passing.

Meeting dates for this quarter:

October 17
November 21
December 12
(special invite only !!)
Same venue
Elsie's

729 Marshall St. NE Mpls
starting at 1:00 (happy
hour(s) anytime prior.!!!!

Some Retiree
MILESTONE birthdays
this quarter:

OCTOBER:
4th - Dale Hanks 70
19th - Milton
(Poncho)Bancroft 90
20th - Leonard Neilsen 85
23rd - Cy Webster 85
27th - Klaus Nieder 80
28th - Dick Welshons 75
29th - Joe Muller 65

NOVEMBER:
3rd - Bill Brust 75
3rd - Ed Bancroft 65
8th - Ralph Rumble 85
16th - David Berg 75
18th - Mike Gavern 85
18th - Tim Michaelson 70
21st - Dennis Edwards 70
22nd - Dale(Whitey)
Johnson 80

DECEMBER:
13th - Richard(Red)
Nordstrom 75
17th - Ernie Borchardt 90
19th - Dave McFarlane 70
29th - Dennis Nelson 75

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL
celebrating a birthday this
quarter!

Have a great fall
season...be careful
hunting this season, and
Happy Thanksgiving and
Merry Christmas to all !!

Fraternally, ,Local #15
retired officers,

T.Culshaw,
K.Friendshuh,
T.Daugherty,
T.Woodfill

agreement with our Distribution contractors, and as many of you are aware we have a few areas we have been working to improve. It is our intention to negotiate with those contractors to reinstitute a training fund allocation and open up the doors for training new and existing Gas Distribution division members. We are also working to bring this group into the Retiree Health Trust as well. We have undertaken many efforts to strengthen the U.A.'s share in the Distribution/Pipeline industry here in Minnesota, and these two steps would help this fight tremendously.

I hope you enjoy our Minnesota fall, and please stay safe on the job and while in our great outdoors.

Fraternally yours,
Scott Gale, Business Agent

Hello Brothers and Sisters,
Hope everyone had a great summer. The summer months always fly by so quickly! Work is still plentiful out there from housing to commercial, and gas distribution projects are still going strong. New job sites are still popping up across the metro and St. Cloud counties. It's been a great year in the construction industry.

When work is this busy, we still want to keep an eye open and lay claim to the work that belongs to the plumbers. Make sure that all holes and penetrations for the plumbing system along with the fire caulking are being done by our members. Gas mains and branches feeding plumbing equipment such as water heaters, cooking equipment, decorative equipment (fire places), clothes dryers, research and teaching labs belongs to the plumber. Any questions about work jurisdiction, I encourage you to call the hall.

November 11th is Veterans Day. I would like to thank all our members, and their families who are veterans. Thank you so much for your service! I recently received some information from the MN. Dept of Veteran's Affairs. As of August 1, 2017 veterans can have their license and certification fees reimbursed by the vets office. Any veteran should call 1-888-LinkVet to get an application and to learn about the process for reimbursement.

Respectfully yours
Scott Lichliter, Business Agent

News from the Apprenticeship Office:

We are now mobile! Get our app, Local 15 Training, at the Google or App Store. You can register for classes, check your continuing ed. credits and much more with just a click. The Minneapolis Plumbers JAC is offering the following classes:

Continuing Ed: Journeyman plumbers must have their continuing education completed prior to yearend to renew their license. Classes are running every Thursday through the end of the year. You can register online at training15.com. Master plumbers have until the end of 2018

Med Gas Recertification Exam: A Med Gas Continuing Ed. class is offered on December 14 with the installer test on the 21st and one March 22 with the installer test on the 29th. NITC charges \$120.00 that must be paid 35 days prior to the test.

ASSE Renewal: Classes for your backflow renewal are being offered. This class is a 3 night class that will give you 4 technical credits. Classes are January 23, 25, 30, February 20, 22 & 27 & March 20, 22 & 27. ASSE charges \$75.00 that must be paid 35 days prior to the start of class.

City Test Prep Class: The Minneapolis Plumbers JAC is offering a 3 night review/prep class for those interested in obtaining their Minneapolis/St Paul comp card on March 19, 20 & 22. Call the office to register at 612-374-5262.

Remember to check out the
Available Local 15 Merchandise



T Shirts: \$17



Polos: \$37



Knit Hats: \$7 Ball Caps: \$12