



October * November * December 2016
Union meetings 1 st Thursday of every month 5:00 p.m. E-Board / 7:00 General membership
Thursday, December 1 st , 2016 Minneapolis Holiday meeting
Saturday, Dec 10 th , Children/Grand Children Christmas Party Noon – 3:00 Minneapolis Union Hall
Wednesday Dec 14 th St. Cloud Holiday meeting 5pm St. Cloud Union Home

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you to the Local 15 delegates that attended the UA Convention this year. Every one of our delegates did a great job representing Local 15. We had some good discussion on some of the resolutions and laws. One of the more controversial resolutions was giving the apprentices the right to vote. It was approved at the convention to give the right to voice and vote after completion of the apprentices 3rd year. The Local 15 officers believe it is the right thing to do. We allow organized members to vote as soon as they are initiated and we also allow retirees to vote. It only makes sense to allow those that are starting their career in the trade to be involved.

There was a nice tribute to General President Hite and the other UA officers that will be retiring at the end of the year. Mark McManus was elected as the new General President of the UA. Mark is the current Financial Secretary/Treasurer for the UA and past Business Manager from straight line Plumbers Local 24. Our work load continues to be strong, although the excessive rain that we had this summer has delayed some of the projects.

Good luck to Eric Oliverius who will be representing Local 15 at the PHCC apprenticeship contest in San Antonio at the end of October.

Another summer has come and gone. For those of us that hunt fall is the best time of the year. Be safe and send us some of your hunting pictures so we can post them on the web page.

Sincerely,
Rick Eilers, Business Manager

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you all have had a good summer, and many thanks to all of you who made it to the picnic. A special thank you to those who took some time to volunteer and help out. Without the help from many of our members, the picnic would not be the same success that it is. The U.A. Convention took place in August, and a new team of leaders were elected. "Team McManus" was unanimously elected, and by the tone of their voices, and the words in their address to the delegates, I believe that the U.A. will continue as a strong force working on behalf of organized labor and the Plumbers and Pipefitters that make up our organization. It was a very exciting time, and as usual it was filled with both the more normal items of business, and controversial resolutions. At the end of the day, the U.A. delegation was united, and I was very proud to be a part of it and there representing Local 15. Plumbing work has remained plentiful throughout most of this year as most of you already know, both here and in many parts of the country, and it looks like that will remain the case for a while yet. This past summer has been a little slower for our members on the Gas Distribution side

however, and we have had some unemployment among that group.

With fall now here, it makes me think about some of the activities that many of us enjoy. One of them most specific to this time of the year is hunting. It's not only a good opportunity to enjoy the outdoors of Minnesota while also being active, but it also brings great opportunity to build friendships, bond with our kids, and continue traditions. Local 15 has created a spot to share those moments and memories on our web page. Just go to www.plumberslocal15.com and then on the home page click the submissions link under the heading "Job Talk". We would love to hear from you and share your pictures from the job, hunting or fishing posts, or any other event or recreation experience you care to share. Thanks for doing what you do every day to keep Local 15 strong, and stay safe out there!

Fraternally yours,
Scott Gale, Business Agent

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

If you happened to read the latest UA Journal (August 2016), there was an article highlighting Local 136 out of Evansville Indiana. I am glad to see that other locals are getting involved with their residential markets, however, the article points out that the "schedule A" is what created the success in the new home and residential service sector for them. Reading this, I can't be thankful enough that our local doesn't have a "schedule A". The Residential Rebate Program that we use keeps everyone's wage equal, the way it should be. Our members did the right thing and we've benefited since. In June 2012, our new home and residential service were 9889 hours worked. For July 2016, that same group worked 24,896 hours! If the "schedule A" was \$10 an hour less, that equates to over \$150,000 a month difference our fellow plumbers wouldn't be making. Again, I'm glad to see that other locals are seeing the benefit of the residential markets but by standing together I feel we are taking care of our own. Thank You!

With that, be sure to get out into the woods or out on the early ice (if there is any) and enjoy your Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and don't forget about the kids Christmas party December 10th. We'll see you in 2017.

Sincerely,
Joe Lane, Business Agent

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Here we are getting ready to start another autumn/winter season. Where did the summer go? Work is still busy in the Minneapolis metro area, as well as our St. Cloud counties. Housing and single family home construction is doing very well. Small and large commercial jobs are keeping many of our contractors and our members busy. There are also quite a few new projects coming out of the ground. The work load continues to look very good. The United Association national convention in San Diego was very well attended. Over 3400 delegates from across

the country participated. Our new general president, Mark McManus was elected along with his team of UA officers. The convention took care of a lot of business and many good discussions were held in the five days of the convention. In the December issue of the UA Journal will be a copy of all the proceedings that took place during the convention. I encourage you to take some time and read the minutes of those meetings.

With my newsletter articles, I like to throw in a little of our working language. This time it will be the hours of work. Eight consecutive hours of work between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., with one half hour for lunch shall constitute a work day. If required by the general contractor or owner, and approved by the union and employee, the work day may start as early as 6:00 a.m. five working days, Monday through Friday inclusive, totaling forty hours, shall constitute a work week. Ten consecutive hours of work between the hours 6:00 a.m. and 6:30 pm., four consecutive working days, Monday through Friday, totaling forty hours shall constitute a work week by mutual agreement between the union and employer. When an employee is required to work in excess of a ten hour day, he shall receive a thirty minute meal break without the loss of pay. For each two hours of work thereafter, he shall receive a break period of fifteen minutes without the loss of pay.

Thank you to all who came to the Local 15 picnic, and a big thank you to those of you who helped out. Enjoy your friends and families during the upcoming holiday season. To all you hunters out there, good luck and please be SAFE.

Respectfully yours,
Scott Lichliter, Business Agent

News From The Apprenticeship Office
612-374-5262, www.training15.com

The Minneapolis Plumbers JAC is offering the following classes:

ASSE: Effective January 1, 2017 anyone with a RPZ license, who has not updated to the ASSE standard, will not be able to renew their license & will then need to take a full certification class consisting of 60 hours of training. There is 1 class left to update an RPZ license prior to yearend. The class is on Tues. & Thurs. evenings starting on November 17th. Call the office at 612-374-5262 to register. Class size limited to 20. ASSE charges \$190.00 which need to be paid prior to October 7th.

Members who have updated to the ASSE standard will need to take a renewal class within 3 years of the update. This class will give you 4 technical continuing ed. credits. The 1st class is offered January 17 & 19 with the test on the 24th. ASSE charges \$75.00. Another class will be offered in April.

Continuing Ed: Additional classes have been added prior to yearend along with the classes offered every Thursday. Two evening classes are available on Tuesday November 8 & 15 along with 2 daytime classes on Saturday, December 3rd. Go to training15.com or call the office.

St Cloud Classes: 2 continuing ed. classes will be offered in March. Watch for the winter newsletter.

Med Gas Update Class: The continuing ed. class is February 9th with the med gas installer update test on the 16th. The cost NITC charges is \$120.00 & must be paid prior to January 26, 2017. Class size is limited to 20 for the test.

Annual Kids (Grandkids too)
Christmas Party
Saturday December 10th, 2016 Noon – 3:00
Plumbers Local 15 union hall.
Hot dog lunch, goodie bags for all the kids, visit with Santa, face painting, balloon clown artist.

Credit Union Deduction
November 1, 2016 \$64.00 will be deducted from your
account to cover deaths # 10 -17

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

Steven Anderson age 52 on July 7 th ,
Jerome Kirpach age 78 on July 24 th
Keith Nelson age 95 on July 27 th ,
LeRoy Brown age 87 on July 26 th
Elmer Roos age 84 on Aug 4 th
Michael Soderlund age 55 on Sept 5 th
Brandon Snare age 32 on Sept 14 th
Gary Jerde age 49 on Sept 22 nd

NEWZ FROM AARP
THE Active Atttractive Retired Plumbers

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
WOW, where did THAT summer go, seemed to go by awfully fast, hope you enjoyed it!

THANK YOU to the following retirees and spouses who helped out at the annual picnic:
Fred Benkusky, Jim and Kathy Clemens, Carl Crimmins, Tom Daugherty, Ernie Erickson, Ken Friendshuh, Ron Hukriede, Gary Lichliter, Roger Peterson, Les Ripka, Larry and Marney Stuve, Dick Swenson, John Sydloski, Tom Sydloski, Ernesto Tapiz, George Tollefson, Curt Vreeman.
Hope I didn't miss anyone, if so, I apologize.
It was nice to see so many step up and volunteer their time and talent.

Our meeting dates for this quarter:
October 18th November 15th & *December 6th.
*The December meeting will be our annual Christmas party with spouse or guest.
Attendance at a regular monthly meeting in the past year is required for an invitation to this meeting.

Get Well wishes to the following brothers who are dealing with, or recovering from various health issues: Scott Denzer, Tony Marchand, and Tom Woodfill.
GET WELL SOON BROTHERS!!
Hope all have a wonderful Christmas season with family and friends, GOD BLESS!

Some Retiree MILESTONE birthdays for this quarter!
October
2nd, Bill Savage – 70
8th, Gary Johns – 80
28th, Randy Oestreich - 65
December
2nd, Harlan Larson - 85
19th, Dick Kalow – 80
19th, Dave McFarlane – 70
30th Norris Hanson - 95
November
21st, Mike Solberg - 70
Happy Birthday Guys!!!
Hope you all have a wonderful birthday!

Fraternally, Local 15 retired officers,
Tom Culshaw, Tom Daugherty, Ken Friendshuh and Tom Woodfill