



October * November * December - 2015

Union meetings 1st Thursday of every month
5:00 p.m. E-Board / 7:00 general membership

**Saturday, Dec 12, 2015
Kids Christmas Party @ Union hall**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thanks to all those that helped out with the picnic this year. We had a great turnout almost 200 more than the prior year. The bike giveaways are always a big hit with the kids and our contractors donated dozens of gift cards. Thanks to Tom Culshaw and the retirees group for taking care of the kids games again this year and Tom Daugherty for taking care of the races.

Work is still fairly good, we do have some unemployment but there are quite a few projects in the planning and permitting stages.

Residential Market is still strong we continue to grow our market share in the single family home market. We had over 16,000 hours last month compared to 5,000 at the start of the rebate program and over 8,000 in residential service compared to about 4,000.

Have a great fall and be safe.

**Sincerely, Rick Eilers
Business Manager**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope all of you and your families have had a great summer. In part, it is sad to see the summer pass, but for many of us fall is a much anticipated time of the year. As the temperatures begin to cool down, fishing can become a new and exciting game, and the fields and woods become second homes for all of us who love to hunt. Taking time to enjoy these or any other type of activity that brings you a little balance and happiness is an important part in maintaining a healthy life, so please get out and enjoy the fruit of your labor.

2015 has brought us a very busy summer, and even though the construction outlook is positive for our area, we are entering fall with a little bit of unemployment. We do however see work opportunities picking up again in the near future. With every fluctuation in work, we experience a common issue here at Local 15 and that is the accuracy of the information we have. Many of our members forget or fail to report change. Whether it's a layoff or new employment, address or phone number, or change in beneficiary, it is very important that you communicate it to us. You won't receive a call for work if you're not on the list or if we have an old number, and worse yet your unemployment could be held up or delayed if you did not report in and the State performs a verification request. Also your monthly dues are not automatically adjusted without notifying Local 15 that you are out of work. It is very important that you let us know if you are returning to

work as well. Please remember that you must have a referral slip when starting work or changing employers. You could also be sitting on the list in front of others who still need employment. I know that you have heard this before, and a lot of you are very good about keeping us updated so thank you for that! Have great fall, be safe and enjoy your time outdoors.

**Fraternaly yours,
Scott Gale, Business Agent**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With summer coming to a close, summer was fairly busy. The big projects continued, yet the multi-family market slowed down a little. However, there are a lot of multi-family projects just getting started. They will be busy. Our housing market is still going strong and we continue to press the non-union in that market. The rebate is still keeping our rate competitive but the housing market continues grow and we need to keep after non-union.

Just a reminder, core drilling, backing, grab bars and accessories, and fire calking of our piping is the work of the plumber. I've had some issues on some projects. Please let us know well in advanced if you believe that this is going to be done by someone else.

Be safe afield and on the water this fall and hope you have a happy holiday season!

**Respectfully
Joe Lane, Business Agent**

**Credit Union Deduction
November 2nd, 2015 \$16.00 will be deducted
from your account to cover death # 8 - 9**
Please note the death assessment fee has been increased from \$5.00 to \$8.00

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

Rodney Olson August 5th at age 81
Don LaCoursiere Sept 13th, at age 84

**Mark your calendars for the
Annual Kids (grandkids too)
Christmas Party
Saturday December 12th, 2015 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.**

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Over the past few months, we have received questions about overtime rates of pay for both the Minneapolis and St. Cloud areas. If you are working overtime, weekends, or holidays and are not quite sure what the pay should be, please call the hall for proper overtime pay information.

For the Minneapolis/Metro area the following rates apply:

Monday – Friday: First 8 hours worked = straight time
First 2 hours after schedule workday = time & one half
After the first 2 hours of overtime its double time.

(Service and emergency would be at time & one half)
Saturday – First 8 hours is time and one half.
After the first 8 hours its double time.

Sunday is double time.
(Emergency work on Sunday is time & one half.)
Holidays are at the double time rate.

Any hours worked after 50 hours in one work week shall be double time.

For the St. Cloud area and its counties, the following rates apply:

All work performed before and after the regularly scheduled eight hour work day shall be time and half.

Saturday shall be time and one half. Sundays and holidays shall be at double time.

Any hours worked after 50 hours in one work week shall be double time.

I hope this clears up any questions about overtime pay. As always, any questions, please call the hall.

Thank you to everyone who came out to the picnic. There were over 500 in attendance – great turnout! Also, a big thank you to those who volunteered and helped out.

I would wish all a great fall and holiday season. To all you hunters out there, good luck and be safe!

Fraternally yours,
Scott Lichliter, Business Agent

News From The Apprenticeship Office

ASSE (RPZ) Update Class: The last class before the end of the year will start on 11/17/15 for 7 consecutive Tuesday & Thursday except union meeting night. Registration ends on 10/8/15. The fee that ASSE charges is \$175.00. Classes will begin again on 1/12/16. ASSE's new fee will be \$190.00 effective 1/1/16.

Med Gas Installer: The next test date will be on 1/21/16 with the update class on 1/14/16. The fee that NITC charges for the test is \$120.00.

Continuing Education Classes: Classes are ongoing every Thursday from 5 – 9 pm except on union meeting nights which are from 2 – 6 pm. You can

register online at www.training15.com or calling the office at 612-374-5262.

We will be offering a Saturday class on 12/5/15 from 8 am – 12 pm & 1 – 5 pm. Journeyman plumbers must complete their continuing education, 12 hours of code & 4 hours of technical credits, by the end of 2015 to be able to renew their license at yearend. Master plumbers have until the end of 2016.

Plumber apprenticeship applications:

Applications will be taken March 7 – 18, 2016 at the apprenticeship office. If you know of anyone that may be interested in a plumbing career please pass this information on to them or have them call the office for additional information.

NEWZ FROM THE **AARP - Active Attractive Retired Plumbers**

Dear Retired Brothers and Sisters,

This is the first time for this column, and hopefully, it will appear in all future newsletters (Remembering to write it each quarter, could be a challenge!!)

We meet every 3rd Tuesday at Elsie's Bar/Restaurant, located at 729 Marshall St. NE., Minneapolis (corner of Marshall and 8th Av NE about 1 block east of the River)

The meetings start promptly at 1:00, with Happy Hour starting whenever you choose!!

Meeting dates for this quarter are: October 20th, November 17th, December 15th. At the November meeting our guest speaker will be Steve Pettersen, Executive VP of the MMCA. The December meeting is with spouse or guest, and the by-laws state that you must attend at least one meeting in that calendar year to receive an invitation to the Christmas party meeting (as space is very limited)

THANK YOU!

A big Thank You to the retiree's whom volunteered at the annual picnic.

Fred Benkusky, Tom Daugherty, Ernie Erickson, Don Pyles, Les Ripka, John Sydloski, Dick Swenson, Ernesto Tapiz, George Tollefson, Curt Vreeman (if I missed someone, I'm sorry, & Thank you too !!)

Some "milestone" birthdays for this quarter (that I'm aware of)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Oct 1st—Bob Munsinger-70,
Oct, 26th-Roger Miller-75
Nov 18th—Earl Grave-90
Dec 1st—Bill Simertz—85
Dec 25th—Ernie Erickson-70

Get Well to...

Bob Hansen, Tom Woodfill, Dick Smebak
I will be looking for help (articles) for this column, so please E mail me at:
tculshaw@comcast.net

Fraternally, Tom Culshaw, President, Local 15 Retiree's
And officers Tom Woodfill, Tom Daugherty, and Ken Friendshuh.

PS... Hey Al, have you shut your car off yet? :)