

LOCAL 50

Plumbers, Steamfitters and Service Mechanics

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Union Meetings

August Union Meetings will be Tuesday, August 2nd and Tuesday, August 16th at 7:30 p.m. Please try to make one.

PITC Assistant Training Director

The PITC would like to announce the appointment of Chris Weaver to the Assistant Training Director's job. Chris brings with him 17 years of teaching experience along with 30 years of trade experience. His knowledge of the trade and service industry should really be an asset to the school.

News on the Political Front

Ohio's prevailing wage law has undergone some big changes. What's the big deal and why should I care?

Today, the prevailing wage is determined by union contracts; which simply put, means if a public project is bid in our jurisdiction our wage rate and benefits must be paid to all workers performing our type of work. This concept was actually proposed and started in 1929 by Republicans in the state of Kansas. The reality of the situation is to protect the local economy from fly by night contractors or out of area contractors who pay substantially less for their labor costs and undercut our standard of living. What's the big deal? Public dollars spent to improve our community should benefit the community. This balanced approach allows local contractors to have a level playing field when it comes to securing the work on public projects using our tax dollars, meaning when local workers get the job we pay taxes and spend our money here not somewhere else. It has been proven time and again by studies that \$1 spent in a community turns over 7 times before it leaves the community. If those dollars are sent out of the area that community wins and ours loses.

With the election of our Governor Kasich and the complete dominance of the state by one party, their agenda has been to end Prevailing Wage (PW). They have attempted to do this in many ways including raising the threshold to \$5 million dollars, limiting the projects where PW applies, eliminating penalties for violators, and shrinking the enforcement investigators to just 5 statewide and expanding their job duties. Through efforts from friends on both sides of the aisle, we have been able to push back a little and secure some protection. However, changes were made including raising the threshold from \$78,000 to \$125,000 this year, \$200,000 next year and \$250,000 the following year; meaning less projects will be subject to this protection. To make it a little clearer, in 2010, 29% of contracts will no longer be subject to PW at the \$125,000 threshold. At the \$250,000, 46% will no longer require PW. By chipping away a little at a time, we are on our way to possibly losing a large percentage of work we pay for through our tax dollars. It is more important than ever that we pay attention to how public policies and those who are elected shape our future. We can have the best contract in the world, but we can be legislated out of existence if we don't take an active role in the political arena.

Golf League Outing

This year's Local 50 Golf League Outing will be at Giant Oak Golf Course in Temperance, Michigan on Saturday, August 27th. Shot-gun start at 9 a.m. (Please be there no later than 8 a.m.) Local 50 members and UA invited guests only. The cost will be \$75 this year. To sign up, please call Scott Lopez, ext 118 or Don Lee, ext 113 — 419-662-5456.

PITC

The PITC would like to offer a one night Basic Geothermal heating and cooling class. We have a trainer from Owens Community College to use during the class. Call Corinne to save a place.

Everyone is encouraged to keep up on their continuities over the summer including the med gas brazing certification which need to be registered every 6 months. Continuities can be completed at the PITC during the weld tests held the 3rd Saturday of each month. Again call Corinne for a spot.

4th and 5th year apprentices take notice that the applications for city licenses are due in by August 15th to the PITC. You should receive a letter shortly with the applications and instruction.

Training at the school has wrapped up for the summer and won't begin again until after Labor Day. Hope everyone has a good summer and don't forget to call Corinne for training classes in the fall; such as journeyman welding, rigging, and crane signaling.

Cardio Turbo Exercise

Looking for participants to begin cardio turbo aerobic exercise classes in September every Monday and Wednesday from 5:30–6:30. p.m. Exercises are adaptable to any level of activity. Call the nurse at 419-662-1272 to enroll.

Free Vascular Screening

Bay Park Hospital **FREE** carotid, aortic, and peripheral arterial disease testing will be available on July 11th from 1-6 p.m. To qualify for the screening, you must be over the age of 65, or over the age of 50 with a history of one or more of the following risk factors: diabetes, high blood pressure, smoking, or family history of vascular disease. Call 419-690-7845 for more information and to schedule an appointment.

Cedar Point Tickets

Discounted tickets for Cedar Point are available through Local 50 Credit Union. Good Any Day tickets are \$37.00, saving you \$9.99. Junior/Senior tickets (age 3 & older, but under 48" tall and age 62 and older) are \$18.00. Cash or Local 50 Credit Union check is accepted. Local 14, located at 5411 Jackman Road, has Cedar Point and Toledo Zoo discounted tickets. Local 14's phone number is 419-473-2854 for more information.

Burial Benefits

The following are the possible burial benefits provided by United Association Local 50 and our associated organizations:

Local 50	\$3,000 death benefit
United Association	\$2,250 max. (based on years of service)
Health & Welfare Fund	\$2,000 for active worker, \$1,000 for retiree

Labor Day Parade & Picnic

Monday, September 5, 2011, is our Labor Day Parade and Picnic. Please note that we will be lining up at 8 a.m. near the Anthony Wayne Bridge on Ottawa Street. The parade will begin at 9 a.m.

The picnic is being held at the Hall, rain or shine, after the parade. We are having it catered by Michael's Gourmet Catering. They will be serving BBQ ribs, BBQ chicken, cheeseburgers and hotdogs. For entertainment, there will be a moonwalk and a rock wall, so bring the family.

Anyone interested in baking cookies to have available at the parade is encouraged to contact Basia (Barb) Lynn at 419-836-7489.

The Fremont Labor Day parade is also scheduled for Monday, September 5th. The parade will form at 9 a.m. on North Front Street, just north of State Street. The scheduled start time of this parade is 10 a.m.

Volunteers Needed

Labor Day is almost here.... As always, we would appreciate any help or support you could offer with the set-up and clean up on Monday. Please contact Scott Lopez or Don Lee at the Hall.

Yoga

Classes have been approved for yoga beginning on September 12th every Monday and Wednesday from 1:30–2:30 p.m. Call the nurse to enroll at 419-662-1272.

Apprentice Orientation

Apprentice Orientation will be Wednesday, August 24, 2011, at 5 p.m. at the Union Hall. Book fees are due by Tuesday, August 23, 2011.

Thought of the Day

"If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them will deprive the people of all property until their children wake up homeless on the continent their Fathers conquered... I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies... The issuing power should be taken from the banks and restored to the people, to whom it properly belongs." - Thomas Jefferson

Fraternally,

Eric Osborn,

Financial Secty-Treas

