

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

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## SHORT CUTS

### Another year for exorbitant CEO pay

Ever-escalating CEO pay is a bit like the weather. Everybody talks about it, but nobody ever does anything about it. Except, of course, corporation board members – who make the ever-escalating part possible.

“Corporate boards running America’s largest public firms are giving top executives outside compensation packages that have grown much faster than the stock market and the pay of typical workers, college graduates, and even the top 0.1 percent” the labor-backed Economic Policy Institute said in a report issued in October.

The report’s headline by Josh Bivens and Jori Kandra said CEO pay “has skyrocketed 1,460 percent since 1978,” and that “CEOs were paid 399 times as much as a typical worker in 2021.”

The annual report on the CEO/worker pay disparity by the EPI and the AFL-CIO have become an annual broken record – the gap keeps growing every year.

A few numbers from the report, which examined compensation from 2021:

- In 2021, the EPI researchers said they project that a CEO at one of the top 350 firms in the U.S. was paid \$27.8 million on average – an 11.1 percent increase from 2020.

- In 2021, the ratio of CEO-to-typical-worker compensation was 399-to-1; up from 366-to-1 in 2020, 59-1 in 1989 and 20-1 in 1965.

- From 1978 to 2021, CEO pay based on real compensation grew by 1,460 percent, far outpacing S&P stock market growth (1,063 percent). Real compensation of the typical worker grew by just 18.1 percent from 1978 to 2021.

### Major coffee break for Starbucks staff

Starbucks workers set a model for workers at chains across the country as they engaged in a labor action milestone on Nov. 17.

More than a thousand Starbucks employees went on strike across the country on what is one of the company’s busiest days.

Members of the Starbucks Workers Union picketed outside more than a hundred stores across the country on what they say is the group’s largest single-day strike. The walkout fell on what’s known as Red Cup Day, when the coffee giant hands out limited-edition holiday reusable cups. They’re considered collector’s items and customers line up at the crack of dawn to get their hands on a decorated cup. It’s one of the coffee giant’s most profitable days on the calendar.

Workers say they’re seeking better pay, more consistent schedules and higher staffing levels in busy stores. Stores in 25 states took part in the labor action, according to Starbucks Workers United, the group organizing the effort. Strikers are handing out their own red cups with union logos.

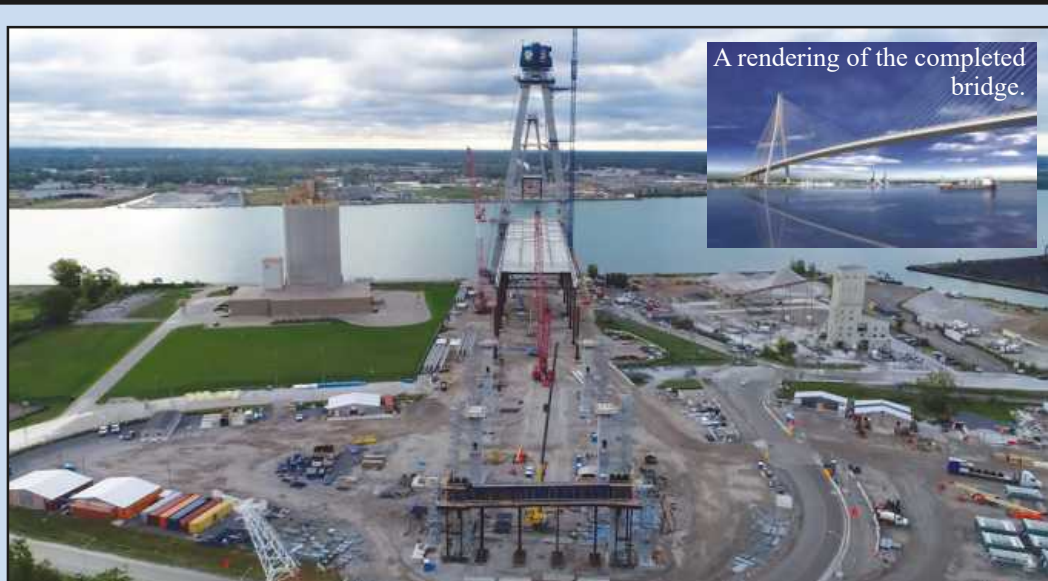
Starbucks, which opposes the unionization effort, said it is aware of the walkouts and respects its employees’ right to lawfully protest. The Seattle company noted that the protests are happening at a small number of its 9,000 company-run U.S. locations.

The union said the company has retaliated against union leaders, and Starbucks lawyers have developed a strategy of simply walking out of bargaining sessions.

### Quotable

“The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.”

–William James (1842-1910)



NOW ABOUT 500 FEET TALL, the Detroit legs of the wishbone-shaped support tower for the Gordie Howe Bridge have met, but this structure and its twin across the river in Windsor, Ontario, are still movin’ on up. Bridge deck placement is also starting.

## Gordie Howe Bridge reaches new heights

DETROIT – Tradespeople erecting the Gordie Howe Bridge’s cable stay towers on either side of the Detroit River are still looking up at the tallest building in Michigan, the nearby, 727-foot-tall Detroit Marriot Hotel at the Renaissance Center. But not for long.

The construction team has completed their work to connect the tower legs in both the US and in Canada with concrete transition areas that are nearly 500 feet tall, consisting of about 432 cubic yards of concrete.

“It’s an exciting time as we enter the final build phase, for the towers,” said Michael Hatchell, the CEO of Bridging North America, last month. BNA is the firm handling the design, construction, financing and operation of the new span

between Detroit and Windsor, Ontario. “With the transition area done, the project team is ready to bring the bridge towers to their final 722 feet height.”

There are three primary phases of construction to create the fi-

nal bridge towers. First was the underground work for leg support, which BNA completed in 2020. Each of the pair of legs is supported by six concrete-filled shafts drilled 118-feet

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CONSTRUCTION on the U.S. Port of Entry buildings behind the Gordie Howe Bridge in Detroit.



A MASSIVE 167-acre-swath of land in Southwest Detroit has been cleared, and construction is well under way on the new Detroit Point of Entry buildings. The Windsor-Detroit border crossing is the busiest in North America. The Gordie Howe bridge towers are in the background. Image credits: Bridging North America

## Jobless agency makes break with failed benefits system

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

LANSING – The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) announced Nov. 15 that it “has chosen Deloitte to design and install a modern, innovative, user-focused unemployment insurance computer system that prioritizes ease of access for workers and employers while also streamlining jobless claims processing.”

Re-stated, it’s a system that replaces one that has essentially done the opposite.

The new system will allow the Unemployment Insurance Agency and its claimants to move past a horrendous period in the state’s history, wherein the automated MiDAS system falsely accused thousands of jobless workers of fraudulently seeking benefits.

The new system will replace the Michigan Integrated Data Automated System (MiDAS) first put into use nearly a decade ago under Gov. Rick Snyder.

“The Unemployment Insurance Agency is working hard every day to improve all the ways

that Michigan workers interact with our unemployment system, and that starts with a new computer system that is human-centered and easy to use,” said UIA Director Julia Dale. “Already, the UIA is in better shape than at any time over the last decade – but that’s not good enough. Michigan workers should be able to apply for benefits with confidence, so they can support their families without worrying about when or if they’ll receive benefits.

“I am committed to developing a robust and secure system that

provides Michiganders with the help they need when they need it.”

The new system is expected to be fully operational in 2025. The total projected cost is more than \$78 million over a 10-year contract.

In October, Michigan agreed to pay \$20 million to settle with former jobless recipients whose case files were falsely flagged for fraud. Some 40,000 claimants were affected over the past decade, some of whom lost homes, cars or were forced into

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## U.S. construction industry retaining its muscle

Michigan’s construction employment dipped substantially from September to October – losing 2,500 jobs – but longer-term data is more encouraging.

Looking back 33 months to the time of BC – Before Covid – Michigan’s construction industry is since up by 300 jobs, or 0.2 percent. That ranks our state No. 37 in job gain percentage among the states, in a period in which only 12 states lost jobs.

Citing data showing a surge in construction job openings, the Associated General Contractors said Nov. 18 that many more contractors would have added employees if qualified applicants were available.

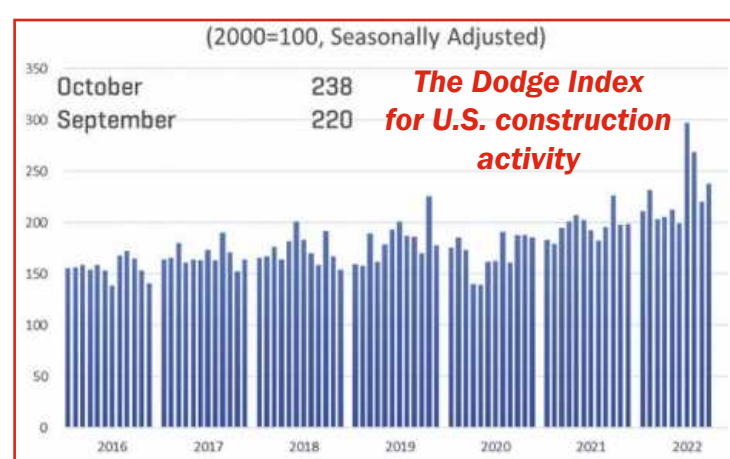
“Although barely half of states added workers in October, government data on job openings and hires show contractors were eager to add employees,” said Ken Simonson, the AGC’s chief economist. “The shortfall in available workers is undermining job gains and causing delays and higher costs for many projects.”

There were 412,000 job openings in U.S. construction at the end of September according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the most for any September since the series began in 2001, the AGC said. The group said this total exceeded the 348,000 employees hired in the entire month of September, implying

that there remains a significant worker demand-supply disparity for contractors.

Michigan’s construction

employment stood at 178,100 in October, above the pre-Covid number of 177,800 in February 2020.



Some states have struggled significantly returning to their February 2020 employment levels. New York is down 26,900 construction jobs; while Pennsylvania (-15,300) and Louisiana (-13,100) are also down.

Some major projects must be going on in top job creator Utah (by percentage) over the past 33 months (+23,200 jobs, +20.4 percent) followed by South Dakota and Tennessee, which has gained 18,600 jobs.

Meanwhile, total U.S. construction starts rose 8 percent in October to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.12 trillion, according to the Dodge Construction

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## ‘Stick up for Michigan’s workers’ You’re up, Dems: time to rescind Michigan’s right-to-work law

By Steven Greenhouse  
Century Foundation

Michigan Democrats scored historic victories in the mid-term elections, taking control of the state House, Senate, and the governor’s mansion for the first time since 1983. The wins were thanks, at least in part, to the Democrats’ pro-worker, pro-jobs agenda.

Now it’s time for Democrats to show that their pro-worker agenda isn’t just talk. One good way to do that would be for the Legislature, as a first order of business, to repeal Michigan’s decade-old right-to-work law. By getting rid of a law that weakened Michigan’s labor unions, Democratic lawmakers would make a powerful statement that they are ready and eager to help workers win higher wages and better benefits.

Residents of Michigan should welcome such a repeal because right-to-work laws hurt workers. According to a study by the Economic Policy Institute, workers’ wages in right-to-work states are 3.1 percent lower than in non-right-to-work states, after

adjusting for differences in the cost of living. Put another way: a worker’s wages are, on average, some \$1,600 lower per year.

When Michigan lawmakers were pushing right-to-work, they argued that the legislation would welcome business. What these GOP lawmakers did not say, however, was that right-to-work was in essence an official policy saying the state was anti-union. That understandably upset many Michiganders who were proud that their state was one of the cradles of organized labor and the birthplace of the UAW.

A decade ago, during the legislative fight over right-to-work, then-Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer battled hard against it, while then-Governor Snyder backed the measure, insisting that right-to-work laws aren’t anti-union even though the main effect of such laws is to weaken unions. Right-to-work laws sap unions’ treasuries and undercut unions’ power. They

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## Project labor agreements help workers, provide contractors competitive edge

(Editor’s note: Michigan is, geographically, one of the nation’s leading users of project labor agreements. While the private sector actively employs them, they were outlawed for publicly financed construction projects by the Republican-led state Legislature in 2011. Organized labor will be pushing for Democratic lawmakers to reinstate the use of PLAs in the coming legislative term.)

By Daniel Hogan, CEO,  
The Association of  
Union Constructors

In the last few years there have been a lot of mentions of project labor agreements (PLAs) in the news.

Executive orders, news articles, editorials, and endless pundits bringing to the forefront a practice older than the Industrial Revolution. This shouldn’t come as a surprise given that the president himself boasts that he has used the word “union” more times than his previous seven predecessors combined.

It also doesn’t hurt that between the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act, there will be just shy of \$1.2 trillion worth of new federal investment in everything ranging from traditional infrastructure construction to clean energy generation and industrial construction.

All of which the recently signed Executive Order on Use of Project Labor Agreements for Federal Construction Projects could come into play and require the use PLAs.

We all know that building trades unions are staunch advocates for PLAs and that building trades unions exist to protect and benefit their membership – the men and women who work with the tools. There is little debate about whether PLAs protect workers’ rights, save lives or provide middle-class careers for the millions of Americans who work under them: they undeniably do.

But what gets discussed significantly less is what contractors get out of working under PLAs. At their core PLAs standardize the market. They provide stability for construction projects by ensuring compliance with workplace safety, wage protections and equal opportunity requirements.

PLAs establish terms and conditions that contractors and their employees must adhere to. With parameters set up in advance to accommodate and navigate every contingency, PLAs protect the contractor with courses of action for the project curveballs they can anticipate and those they can’t. These agreements create an

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# Viewpoints



## Now it's labor's turn

The Nov. 8 general election created an historic, almost disorienting shift in the operations of our state government.

Democrats, surprisingly, won thin majorities in both the Michigan House and Senate – something very few observers were expecting. Combined with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's re-election, it's the first time in four decades that Dems have control over all the lawmaking levers in state government. Democrats Dana Nessel (attorney general) and Jocelyn Benson (secretary of state) won re-election to their seats as well.

Now what? The new lawmakers won't take their oaths of office until January, but it's not too soon for organized labor to start getting its ducks in a row and bending the ears of the new senators and House members who unions supported and help put into office, creating the new Dem majorities. Indeed, we are actively engaging with those re-elected and newly elected lawmakers, letting them know the policy priorities of organized labor for the coming term.

Getting the Legislature to eradicate the state's right-to-work law will be the top priority of every single union in the state.

And there will be other common goals among labor unions: state Republicans reduced unemployment benefits from 26 weeks to 20 weeks – getting that number back to 26, or higher, will be a priority. So will restoring a more generous minimum wage that the state GOP reduced, despite a successful statewide petition drive that raised it to a higher level. A 4.35 percent pension tax was imposed on the state's retirees – as a money grab to pay for a \$1.8 billion tax break for businesses. Let's restore some equity for our retirees.

But the building trades unions have our own pet priorities, and they are extremely important. Republican lawmakers during the Rick Snyder Administration simply eliminated the ability of state and local governments to enter into project labor agreements with unions and their contractors. The move made no sense from an economic standpoint: numerous big companies: GM, Ford, Stellantis, Toyota, and utilities – DTE Energy, Consumers Energy, seek out project labor agreements with labor unions and their contractors.

And numerous large contractors in Michigan: Barton Malow, Walbridge, Clark, Granger, just to name a few – actively use PLAs. The agreements provide owners and contractors with a skilled, trained, safety-conscious and drug-tested workforce.

But the GOP-led move to ban PLAs only made sense if you consider that that Republican lawmakers were making a payback to their friends and patrons in the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors, who hate PLAs.

While there are other issues that we will be pursuing – and other anti-union wrongs that we will seek to right – the other huge issue for us is reinstating Michigan's prevailing wage law. To her credit, Gov. Whitmer this year did use executive authority to reinstate a portion of the law, which was rescinded by the Republican legislature in 2018. But the major portion of the law still outlaws the payment of prevailing wages on taxpayer-funded construction projects on both the state and local levels. Numerous academic studies have shown that prevailing wage repeal eventually lowers worker wages – without any related savings to taxpayers.

Organized labor has a lot to do and not much time to do it in. The next two-year legislative term is held by a mere thread by controlling Democrats in both houses of government: their thin majorities are 56-54 in the Michigan House and 20-18 in the state Senate. Illness, incapacitation or even a drunk driving arrest can prevent lawmakers from voting and eliminate those majorities overnight.

So we're rejecting any calls for legislative compromise or for legislators to "take it slow" with further discussion or half-measures on labor issues. Michigan will not become a less business-friendly state if we remove right-to-work or reinstate prevailing wage. The GOP rammed through the right-to-work law in a lame duck session of the Legislature in 2012, without allowing public comment.

The GOP has similarly had zero qualms and little hesitation passing all of the other anti-worker laws they adopted over the years, when they have had complete control over state government.

So in January, the iron will be hot. We're going to strike it hard, and join the rest of the labor movement in Michigan to lobby Democratic lawmakers and Republicans to return Michigan to its rightful place as the cradle for the labor movement.

Michigan is a union state – and it's high time we had a Legislature that recognizes that good wages and health care benefits, secure retirements, and safe jobs are a right all that workers should enjoy.

**Patrick Devlin**  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and to shorten them. Please sign the letter and include a way to contact you.

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"They can do all because they think they can."  
– Virgil (70 BC - 19 BC)

"Only I can change my life. No one can do it for me."  
– Carol Burnett (1936 - )

"If women are expected to do the same work as men, we must teach them the same things."  
– Plato (427 BC - 347 BC)

# Gordie Howe Bridge reaches new heights

(Continued from Page 1)

down into bedrock. Footings are connected by 5,250 of post-tensioning cables. The second phase wrapped up last March, with the lower pylon work connecting the two legs. The third and ongoing final phase is construction of the 262-foot upper part of the concrete tower – "the pylon head" – which will be complete next year.

Critical to the cable-stayed installation works, anchor boxes within the pylon head will house the cables that will connect the towers to the bridge road deck segments – a portion of the bridge construction that has also begun.

"Completing the transition area is a momentous achievement in the construction sequence for the bridge towers," said Bryce Phillips, CEO of the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority, the project's private-sector partner. "The project team can now begin work on the third and final stage of the towers."

The towers will support the 1.5-mile total-length Gordie Howe Bridge, which will be among the five longest bridges in North America. Its 0.53-mile main-span length will be the longest of its type on the continent.

Work on the towers and the nascent work on the six-lane bridge deck is ongoing, as is the massive work behind the bridge in Southwest Detroit, which is being transformed by the construction of a new U.S. port of entry and I-75 connection to the bridge. Spanning some 167 acres, the site will contain inbound and outbound border inspection facilities.

The project also includes four new road bridges and five new pedestrian bridges, new ramps and the widening of intersections.

The \$5.7 billion project is expected to be complete in August 2025.



ANCHOR BOXES at the Gordie Howe Bridge site are among 35 that will be installed into the top of the Canadian and U.S. towers. These boxes will house the cables connecting the bridge deck to the towers. As of Nov. 22 five boxes have been installed in the Canadian tower and nine boxes are placed in the U.S. tower.

Image credits: Bridging North America



THE TOP OF THE TOWER leg on the U.S. side of the Gordie Howe Bridge, which will receive the anchor boxes, above.

## Construction industry retaining its muscle

(Continued from Page 1)

Network. In October, nonresidential building starts gained 9 percent, and nonbuilding (usually infrastructure) starts rose 26 percent; however, residential starts fell by 3 percent.

Year-to-date, total construction was 16 percent higher in the first ten months of 2022 compared to the same period of 2021. Nonresidential building starts rose 37 percent over the year, residential starts remained flat, and nonbuilding starts were up 17 percent.

"October's gain in construction starts is a further sign that the construction sector continues to weather the storm of higher interest rates," said Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge Construction Network. "While the residential sector is feeling the pain, the nonresidential building and infrastructure sectors are hitting their stride."

"Some weakness is to be expected as the Federal Reserve continues its battle with inflation; however, the damage should be isolated to a few verticals and not as widespread as what the industry witnessed during the Great Recession."

## What's killing local newspapers

By Jim Hightower

Throughout the country, newspaper subscribers are asking questions like: Hey, who took my Saturday paper? What happened to those political cartoons and columns that I liked? Why does it take two days to get elec-



tion results and sports scores? How did my local paper get filled with filler? Oh... and who doubled the price of the

damn thing? Of course – they're leaving in droves, but hedge fund profiteers don't care, for their plan is to strip-mine the business of every dime it has, take the profits, and leave town. For example, SoftBank, the Japanese owner of the Gannett chain, has pillaged hundreds of our local papers, and it's now making another round of deep cuts in its newsrooms, including dumping some 800 more journalists.

The financializers are also requiring other employees to take

unpaid leave and are suspending payments to their pensions. SoftBank bosses simply said, "we need to ensure our balance sheet remains strong."

Sure, take care of Number One! But what about ensuring that local journalism remains strong, providing the information and connections that communities must have for strong democracies?

But don't be silly – that's not part of the hedge fund business model.

## Just joking

Maid: "I want a raise!"  
Lady of the House: "Why do you think you deserve a raise? You have only worked here for a month."

Maid: "I have three reasons, the first being that I cook better than you."  
Lady: "And who told you that?"

Maid: "Your husband!"  
Lady: "Go on..."  
Maid: "He also told me that I iron his clothes better than you."

Lady: "And what's the third reason?"  
Maid: "I'm told that I'm a better lover than you!"  
Lady, taken aback: "Wait, did my husband tell you that?"  
Maid: "No, the chauffeur told me!"  
Lady: "Hmmm..."  
Lady: "OK. I see. how much do you want?"



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DETROIT

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Elevator Constructor Apprentices are responsible for assisting in the installation, maintenance, and repair of passenger and freight elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, and moving sidewalks under the direction of a Mechanic.

All applications must be completed online by visiting:

[www.neieprecruitment.org](http://www.neieprecruitment.org)

Select the Local 36 DETROIT MI recruitment  
(After applying, check your spam, clutter, etc. to avoid missing any emails.)

For more info email the Local Area Coordinator at: [JLMiller@neiep.org](mailto:JLMiller@neiep.org)

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age to apply, possess and upload an original copy of your H.S. Diploma, or H.S. Transcript, or GED, pass an entrance exam and tool assessment and sit for an interview.

Note: There is a \$25 fee for applicant at time of Exam Testing.  
(ONLY A MONEY ORDER OR BANK CERTIFIED CHECK WILL BE ACCEPTED, NO CASH, NO PERSONAL CHECKS.)  
Fee waivers may be requested upon showing verifiable proof of financial need prior to test date.

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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: Grand Trunk's depot legacy HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



Grand Trunk RR map, circa 1930s

REFURBISHED INTO THE Thomas Edison Depot Museum two decades ago, this former Grand Trunk Railroad depot under the Blue Water bridges in Port Huron used to be surrounded by railyards. "Built in 1858 by the Grand Trunk Railway," says Port Huron Museums, this "is the actual depot that Thomas Edison worked out of as a news reporter between 1859 and 1863. Trains connecting here carried people and freight between Port Huron and Detroit, Point Edward/Sarnia (Ontario), and other destinations, linking Port Huron to the rest of the world."

Michigan's geographical makeup as a pair of peninsulas has naturally led to our state being bypassed by major domestic automotive highways. Yes, we do have I-75 going north and south, but major freeways like I-80 and I-90 cross the nation just south of our southern border – and frankly, Ohio and Indiana can have them.

But since the first railroad lines were laid in North America in the 1830s, anyone reading even a rudimentary map of the era could see that Michigan would become an obstacle – but perhaps eventually a throughway – for the movement of goods and people from ports in Canada and the United States on the northern Atlantic seaboard, to points west into the U.S. interior.

Enter the Grand Trunk Railway – a corporate name which is still survives, sort of, and is at least vaguely familiar to Michiganders who might still see some of the few remaining red, white and blue locomotives with "GT" painted on them passing at railway crossings.

More importantly, Grand Trunk left behind an impressive array of wonderful, century-old passenger depots that still exist in a number of Michigan communities. They also left behind freight depot facilities. The buildings, usually re-purposed, help tell the story of a railroad that moved products and people in and through Michigan's Lower Peninsula before cars and trucks came into their own.

"On Nov. 10, 1852 the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada (GTR) was incorporated with intentions of connecting Portland, Maine with Detroit, Michigan via Montreal and Toronto," writes Adam Burns in an article for American Rails titled "Grand Trunk Western Railroad, 'The Good Track Road.'"

"Once this task had been completed, routes to both Chicago and New York City were eyed. The latter initiative was never accomplished although a Windy City connection carried more success. Grand Trunk Western's immediate heritage begins when the Chicago, Detroit & Canada Grand Trunk Junction Railroad was formed on March 16, 1858 to connect Detroit with Port Huron, a distance of 60 miles. It opened a little over a year later on Nov. 21, 1859."

Two decades later, Grand Trunk got serious about moving their rolling stock – they abandoned their boxcar ferry system over the St. Clair River in favor of a 6,000-foot-long rail



THE GRAND TRUNK RAILROAD'S legacy in Lansing is this train station, erected in 1903. The Lansing Board of Water and Light renovated it a decade ago for public use.

tunnel. With portals in Sarnia, Ontario and Port Huron, it was the first underwater rail tunnel in North America. Thus Grand Trunk also became a serious player in the burgeoning railway industry – an often cut-throat business that saw scores of mergers, takeovers and bankruptcies over the years.

Trackage use disputes and fare wars with railroad titan Cornelius Vanderbilt, who owned the Michigan Central Lines (roughly along the I-94 corridor today between Detroit and Chicago) prompted Grand Trunk to seek to build its own lines from Port Huron to Chicago. In 1879 came the Sarnia, Ontario/Port Huron to Flint segment, followed by a new line from Flint to Lansing, which was built by a subsidiary railroad.

But Vanderbuilt, a brutal protector of his rail interests, stealthily purchased the Flint to Lansing line, putting Grand Trunk in a bind. Soon after, Grand Trunk and its subsidiary opted to build a different line from Flint to Lansing, swinging a bit to the north and passing through Corunna and Owosso, tapping coal fields east of Corunna to supply fuel for the railroad's locomotives. The rest of the railway line, from Lansing to the Indiana state line to a connection with Chicago, was completed soon after.

The Grand Trunk was one of five rail companies with connections to Chicago, others were the Michigan Central, the Lake Shore and Michigan Central, the Wabash, and the Pere Marquette. But the Grand Trunk also branched off into lines terminating at ports in Muskegon and Grand Haven, where rail ferries bypassed the busy Chicago region, moving freight cars across Lake Michigan to Milwaukee and other Wisconsin ports.

"The Grand Trunk provided service between Port Hu-

ron and Chicago, with through train service available to Toronto and Montreal," writes David Mrozek in *Railroad Depots of Michigan: 1910-1920*. "In addition, Detroit connections were available at Durand. Impressive depots were built at Port Huron, Flint, Durand, Lansing and Battle Creek."

Grand Trunk also built nice but more modest depots in Bellevue (31 miles west of Lansing) Lapeer, Davison, Scotts (15 miles west of Battle Creek), Schoolcraft, Marcellus (northwest of Three Rivers) and Edwardsburg (just north of the Indiana State Line) among others.

The well-financed and "premier carrier" Michigan Central Railroad had depots in Ann Arbor, Grass Lake, Battle Creek, Kalaamzoo, and Niles – "all buildings of unique and outstanding design," says *Rail Depots of Michigan*.

As railroads grew and prospered, "they put in place more elaborate station buildings in the communities they served. By the end of the 19th Century, some of the larger railroad stations being built in Michigan were works of art in their own right," said *Rail Depots of Michigan*. "But whatever size and form they took, railroad stations were uniquely styled buildings, and there was generally no mistaking them for anything else."

Canadian National Railways retained the Grand Trunk name after it absorbed GT in the 1920s. With a total trackage of less than 300 miles in Michigan, GT lines had primarily served as a mover of automotive goods locally, and still as a key conduit from Canadian rail lines to Chicago and beyond. During the early 1990s, Canadian National restructured, resulting in the loss of Grand Trunk corporate image. Today, it remains a paper corporation only of CN's American holdings.



BUILT IN 1870, this former rail depot in Grand Haven was the western terminus of the Detroit, Grand Haven and Milwaukee Railroad. It was later owned by the Grand Trunk Western Railroad. The station served Grand Haven as a passenger depot until passenger service between Detroit and Grand Haven ended in 1955. The last freight train left in 1958. The building is now a museum. Grand Trunk Western was one of three Michigan railroads that operated separate railcar ferry service across Lake Michigan between Michigan and Wisconsin. Loading rail cars onto ships that had rails mounted to their decks, and ferrying the cars east and west across Lake Michigan, allowed railroads to bypass the congested rail interchanges in Chicago and move time-sensitive freight more quickly.

# Project labor agreements help workers, provide contractors competitive edge

(Continued from Page 1)  
apples-to-apples opportunity for all involved.

However, what needs to be brought to the forefront of the conversation are the ways PLAs increase a contractor's competitiveness. The construction market tends to fluctuate, and the labor requirements of its contractors and the employment opportunities for those that work within it are no different.

After all, all construction jobs are temporary. During normal operation, the labor requirements of a contractor often mirror a typical bell curve. Starting small at the onset of a project and growing to peak employment, before decreasing as critical path subsides, and the project is ultimately completed. This "labor curve" presents contractors with a series of important choices that all can affect their bottom line.

For starters, where does a contractor obtain the workforce that it needs? The construction industry is cyclical, and all projects must be completed. It does not make sense to have employees sitting around like cordwood waiting for your company to land its next project.

The overhead cost of employing an idle workforce would be prohibitive. Then how do you ensure that a prospective workforce has the experience and skills necessary to complete the work safely and on-time that you, as a contractor, have been contracted to perform?

How do you evaluate tens, if not hundreds, or thousands of candidates effectively and efficiently?

Enter Project Labor Agreements.

PLAs establish a formal relationship between contractors and organized labor. Organized labor, in turn, provides access to its hiring halls, which consist of millions of highly trained, skilled and experienced construction workers who are the safest in the industry. In fact, most of these individuals have all completed

the equivalent of a bachelor's degree in their respective craft's discipline.

They have completed four or more years of a Department of Labor-registered apprenticeship program that is funded and paid by the industry as a whole and not by an individual contractor (or the federal taxpayer).

Consider the effect that has on a contractor's bottom line. PLAs provide access to an on-demand, highly skilled workforce. Professionals who have completed standardized training, collectively paid for by all participants in the industry.

When your project is complete, they return to their union hall until needed again. These are tangible benefits that cut

contractor overhead and reduce costs, putting them in a more competitive position for their next bid proposal and potential winning contract.

The voracious demand in the construction and maintenance markets makes these advantages exponentially more important.

PLAs protect contractors from countless unforeseeable events that can happen on a jobsite, but they also drive efficiencies and create economies of scale that ensure a contractor's competitiveness and contribute to a healthy construction industry for the future.

(From *The Construction User*, a publication of The Association of Union Constructors, Fall 2022)



## Platform plans

LOOKING OVER platform plans for a project destined for Illinois are Shouldice employees Jason Noga and Ty Stine of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7. They're working at the company's shop in Battle Creek.

# You're up, Dems: time to rescind Michigan's right-to-work law

(Continued from Page 1)  
allow employees at unionized workplaces to opt out of paying any dues or fees to the unions that bargain on their behalf and win better pay and benefits for them.

Proponents of right-to-work tell workers that they can save, say, \$700 a year by opting out of paying any dues, enabling them to receive all the benefits of being in a union without paying for it. One study found that the portion of workers who opt out of paying union dues or fees ranges from 9 percent to 39 percent. When that many workers stop paying union dues, it undercuts the power of unions. Many Republican lawmakers are happy to weaken labor unions, because unions mean higher pay for workers and occasional strikes, two things that GOP corporate donors dislike.

But the truth is that union members earn 10.2 percent more than comparable non-union workers, while Black union members earn 13.1 percent more on average than non-union Black workers. Unions also help narrow the gender wage gap. Nonunion women workers earn, on average, 78 percent of what men earn, while unionized women workers earn 94 percent of what men earn.

Although Republican lawmakers won't admit this, another reason they like right-to-work laws is that these laws help to reduce organized labor's voice in politics, and that in turn hurts Democrats. Three political scientists who did an extensive study on these laws found that "when right-to-work laws are in place, Democrats up and down the ballot do worse."

These scholars found that in right-to-work counties, Democrats perform about 3.5 percentage points worse in presidential elections, with "similar effects in senate, house, and gubernatorial races, as well as on state legislative control." They also found a 2 percent decline in turnout in right-to-work counties.

Many supporters of right-to-work laws insist that they're not being anti-union – they insist it's all about helping workers by giving them the freedom to stop paying union dues. It's odd, however, that these right-to-work supporters who say they're eager to help workers are rarely or ever seen doing anything else to help workers. They typically oppose raising the minimum wage; they oppose legislation to give workers paid sick days and paid parental leave; they oppose strengthening regulations to improve job safety. It seems that the only time these lawmakers want to help workers is when it weakens unions.

If the incoming Legislature and Gov. Whitmer together repeal the state's right-to-work law, they will send a loud and unmistakable message that they are eager to deliver on their campaign promises and stick up for Michigan's workers.

(Steven Greenhouse is a senior fellow at the Century Foundation, a think tank, and covered labor and workplace issues for the *New York Times* for 19 years. He is author of "Beaten Down, Worked Up: The Past, Present, and Future of American Labor.")

## The Building Tradesman

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Steve Claywell  
President

Visit our website: [www.michiganbuildingtrades.com](http://www.michiganbuildingtrades.com)

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**Local 370**  
Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters  
and HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022 at 7 pm. Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, Local 370 will host our annual Service Award banquet and Holiday celebration.** Location will be at our Hall and Training Center at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. Cocktail hour will begin at 5 pm. The service award ceremony will begin at 6 pm with dinner following. Please call Karla at the Hall to reserve your seat for a night of dinner, dancing and celebrating members years of service and the Christmas Holiday.

Resumes are being accepted for full and part time instructional staff. Anyone interested in applying for a full time position with the JATC as an instructor please submit a resume to the union office with Karla. The JATC committee is planning to fill the position by the first of the year. Resumes need to be submitted on or before Dec. 2. Resumes can be submitted in person or emailed to [ulocal370@comcast.net](mailto:ulocal370@comcast.net)

**Weld Test.** Dec. 17 at 8 am. Anyone interested, sign up with Kaytlin.

**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**

**CSD-1** Jan. 17 & 19 5-9 pm  
**Med Gas** Jan. 16 thru Feb. 27. Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:30

**Night Welding:** Oct. 24 thru Nov. 23. Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:30pm

All classes can be signed up with Kaytlin, 810-720-5243 ext 15

Per our **By-Laws Article XV, The Building Tradesman** is hereby adopted and subscribed to as our Labor paper for all members of local 370. Said paper to be used for all official notification of membership.

**Committee and Board meetings are as follows:**

Examining Board – Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022, at 4pm  
FMR Committee – Tuesday Dec. 13, 2022, at 4pm  
PAC committee – Tuesday Dec. 13, 2022, at 5pm  
Executive Board – Tuesday December 13, 2022, at 5pm  
Building Committee – Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022, at 6:00pm  
Finance Committee - Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022, at 6:15pm  
JATC Committee – TBD

**ALL GM Worksites and others require Must Safety and Drug Testing:** MUST safety modules are only valid for 4 years. Call the hall to sign up for the MUSTSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form

Local 370 office hours 7:30am – 4:30pm.

Sub/Sick checks will be processed 8:00am – 11:30 am and 1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.

**Attendance award** drawing for membership meeting information. Member's present must have dues paid to date to claim award. Monthly award is \$150.

**Attention All Active Members in Good Standing.** The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.

**Mobile App.** Our mobile app. is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search **UA Local 370.** Download the app and sign (Continued next column)



**Local 357**  
Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters &  
HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357

**KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 13th** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be Finance Committee at 4:30 and Executive Board at 5:30.

**UNION DUES REMINDERS:** Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is now accepted at the Union Hall for any payments. You also have the option to pay your union dues through the Local 357 website @ [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com). Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site.... so, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00... you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or calling Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.

**RETIREE MEETINGS:** Retiree lunch meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month. The lunches will commence at 11:30 am at Travelers Café located at 5225 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 775-1775.

**MEDICAL CLAIMS ISSUES:** As a member, TIC International and Labor First provide a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at (888) 281-3461. For Medicare Retirees – Contact Labor First at (269) 218-3533 or (833) 933-0036.

**WEBSITE INFORMATION – FRINGES – TIC:** Check out the website at [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com) and the **FACEBOOK** Page @ [www.facebook.com/UALocal357/](https://www.facebook.com/UALocal357/). You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Member Resources, then click on MRA / TIC Intl Information and then Register.

This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and create your own password. Once you have completed all the information – click on the **LARGE REGISTER** button that is surrounded by a Blue Box.

Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. **This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.**

**CHANGE OF STATUS:** If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date.

**There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents.** (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Lucas Parter on his recent marriage.

Congratulations to Troy Wiggins, and family, on the birth of a daughter, Tory.



**Local 671**  
Plumbers, Pipefitters, HVAC & Welders

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671 MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for **Dec. 15, 2022.** There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on Dec. 15. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

**ATTENTION:** This paper is to serve as official notice to the membership.

**Also, please refer to our website <https://www.unitedassociationlocal671.com/> and its calendar for the latest updates.**

**Health & Welfare:** You may have received a notice from Express Scripts, our RX provider regarding Kroger pharmacies and that there is no longer prescription coverage. This is not a change made by the Trustees of Local 671. Currently, Express Scripts and Kroger Pharmacies are in contract negotiations and they have not been able to come to an agreement. Therefore, you may need to use another pharmacy until further notice.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please feel free to contact the Union Hall for direction. I highly recommend signing up for mail order prescriptions for your monthly medicines through Express Scripts. It will save your family money as well as the plan.

**Retirees:** Per usual practice, we will not be holding a Retiree Luncheon for the months of November and December. We will look forward to seeing you in January! Have a safe and Happy Holidays.

**Notice:** In observance of the Christmas holiday, the Hall will be closed at noon on Friday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday, Dec. 26.

**Mobile App:** Our Mobile App titled "UA Local 671" is available in the App Store for iPhone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card No.). The Password is just your book number.

**2018 Michigan Plumbing Code Update:** We held a Michigan Plumbing Code update course on Saturday, Sept. 17 at the Union Hall. If you were unable to attend, we do have information available for an online update. Contact the Hall for details. In order to maintain your plumbing license, you must do a code update by **March 31, 2023.**

**Journeyman Training:** There are always several Journeyman Training opportunities available that are FREE to the membership. Take advantage of these opportunities to hone your skills or learn new ones! Contact Justin for details.

**Local 671 Kid's Christmas Party:** The Kid's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10 starting at 12:30pm with lunch at 1pm. The letter was mailed out to all active members with children under 12 years of age. **Please RSVP by Wednesday, Dec. 7** so we can get the list to Santa!

**In Closing:** I would personally would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Please enjoy this time with your friends and family and take the time to help those that may be less fortunate than we are. God bless Local 671 and Union Labor. Merry Christmas!

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)

Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: [vinnie@ualocal671.com](mailto:vinnie@ualocal671.com)

Carly Neely: Insurance Line (734) 241-6180 email: [carly@ualocal671.com](mailto:carly@ualocal671.com)

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692



**Local 190**  
Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190 ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.** Normal monthly business will be discussed. At this meeting election results will be announced.

**UNION HALL CLOSED FOR AN UP COMING HOLIDAY:** For the Christmas holiday the office will be closing at Noon on Friday, Dec. 23 and will be closed all day, Monday, Dec. 26. Merry Christmas to all of you and your family members.

For the News Year's Eve holiday, the office will be closing at Noon on Friday, Dec. 30. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

**APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITY:** Applications will be available for the Plumber/Pipefitter Apprenticeship Programs for Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC. Applicants may apply online, starting Jan. 2, 2023, or in-person, at the Training Center, starting Jan. 3, 2023. Applications will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 27, 2023.

Qualifications required to apply:

Applicant must be at least 18 years of age, at the time of acceptance into the program

Applicant must have a high school diploma or GED

Applicant must have a valid, unrestricted Michigan driver's license

Applicant must be a resident of the County of Washtenaw or the Townships of Green Oak or Hamburg in Livingston County, or the Townships of Clinton, Tecumseh or Macon in Lenawee County.

Must be able to pass a drug test.

The Training Center is located at 8040 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Applications are available at 8040 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI during office hours. Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Online applications are available at [www.ua190.org](http://www.ua190.org).

To be assigned a test date, all required documents and a \$50 testing fee must be at the Training Center before the close of the applications, on Friday, Jan. 27, 2023.

**Required Documents:**

Valid, unrestricted Michigan driver's license

High school diploma or GED or college/university degree

High school or college transcripts

Social Security Card, Birth Certificate or valid UA Passport Copy of DD-214 form (if from the military)

Documentation of any work experience.

Applications are available to all who are interested without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, age (18 and above), height, weight, marital status, genetic information or disability.

**ATTENTION GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES:** Gas Distribution apprentices that are planning on taking the journeyman upgrade test need to get their Letter of Intent sent to Roy Musgrove, Pat Duffy or the Gas Distribution Examining Board members which are Arnie Krause, Dennis Zielinski or Kevin Duffy. The letters are due by Thursday, Dec. 1. Please mail to Local 190, 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48106 Attn: Pat Duffy.

**REQUALIFICATION WELDING TEST FOR CONSUMERS ENERGY AND SEMCO ENGERY:** The following dates there will be a requalification weld test for Consumers Energy and Semco Energy at Local 190's Training Center located at 8040 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor MI. Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>

**Local 190**  
Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

through Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

This will be limited to six (6) welders per day. Also please be aware there is a policy change with Consumers Energy and Semco. Welders must not exceed two (2) calendar years between performing initial qualification requirements for all qualifications held.

Please contact Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432 to schedule your test date, first-come first-serve!

**GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES DOWN HILL WELDING SCHOOL & HELPER SCHOOL:** Will begin Tuesday, Jan. 3 and run for 2 months. This class will be held at the training center Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. *In order to take the journeyman gas distribution weld test, you must attend this school as a prerequisite. Please note that 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year gas apprentices have preference to sign up for this welding school.* Limited space is available so please contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423, Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at 734-369-1432.

**FUSING CLASS:** Anyone interested in registering for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432.

**MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION - E-Mail address:** Please contact the union hall 734-424-0962 or Pat Duffy 734-368-4423 to make sure we have a current e-mail address.

**MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL:** Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: [www.michigan.gov/bcc](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc). Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

**CREDIT CARD MACHINE:** You now have the ability to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit card or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A surcharge of 3.99% is added to your card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

**LAI D OFF OR BACK TO WORK – IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS:** All members who get laid off or report back to work *please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

**INFORMATION – FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP FOR YOUR SMART DEVICE:** Attention all members, you can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation of benefits and much more. **Download: BCBSM**

**A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE will be at the union hall each month on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.** Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

**MEDICARE:** When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-390-7473.

The Training Center is open

to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MD-HHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

**Please submit all certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date.**

**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs):** 2023 Schedule – Mondays – Jan 16<sup>th</sup>, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, July 17<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs):** 2023 Schedule – Mondays – Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup>, July 24<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.

**Welding Lab:** The welding lab is open. The schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm-8:30pm, until Thursday, Dec. 15. The welding lab will be closed for Union Meetings and Holidays. Weld tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors.

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110).

**2023 Schedule:** First course starts on Jan 10. Second course starts Sept 12. Courses run on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

**ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs):** ASSE PRICE INCREASE ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2023 Schedule:** First course starts Feb 14. Second course starts Oct 17. Course is on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. The course is limited to 8. Call Retha to sign up for one of these courses.

**Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry.

**2023 Schedule:** First course starts March 14. Second course starts Aug 22. Course will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call Retha to sign up for the course.

**Med Gas Installer Update (8hrs):** This is a two-day course. **2023 Schedule:** First course starts April 18. Second course starts Sept 26. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call Retha to be put on the list for the next class.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be late spring. Class size is limited to 8.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs):** This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Class will be 2 days. This class will be scheduled for mid-to-late March 2023. Call Retha to register for this class.

**RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US:** Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Jan. 5, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries and a warm cup of coffee.

**NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER:** Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

*"Seize opportunity by the beard, for it is bald behind."*

– Bulgarian Proverb

*"Getting caught is the mother of invention."*

– Robert Byrne

*"Money doesn't always bring happiness. People with ten million dollars are no happier than people with nine million dollars."*

–Hobart Brown

*"I like living. I have sometimes been wildly, despairingly, acutely miserable, racked with sorrow, but through it all I still know quite certainly that just to be alive is a grand thing."*

–Agatha Christie (1890 - 1976)

**UA Local 370, continued**

in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.

**Our web site is up and running.** Check it out at [ualocal370.org](http://ualocal370.org)

We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a

\$1.00 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

Plumbing, Mechanical and Residential Code Books are now available at the hall. The books are \$75.00 each.

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee.

Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our by-laws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test contact business agent, Zack Desrochers for application and testing dates.

Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10 and fleece caps \$5. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 dollars each. Hooded sweat shirts

and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are available. The sweat shirts are \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.

If you shop on the internet, SHOP UNION MADE, log on to [www.shopunionmade.com](http://www.shopunionmade.com).

T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.

*"Underpromise; overdeliver."*

–Tom Peters



## Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,  
Refrigeration &  
Air Conditioning Service

### Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT – Our next union meeting is Local 636's Awards Banquet which will be held Dec. 20, 2022 at 7p.m. at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, MI, doors will open at 6 p.m. If any member is unable to attend the awards banquet and receiving a pin and award, we will send your award and pin to you, with the address that is on file with the Local 636 hall.

There will be a Stewards meeting at the union hall on Dec. 12, at 5 p.m. This is for current Stewards and those that attended the stewards training earlier this year. Please R.S.V.P. by Dec. 10, 2022.

There will be a special-called union meeting and nominations, on Jan. 17, 2023, for the open Trustee Position due to the passing of Trustee Brother Arie Moskovitz. The election will take place on Feb. 21, 2023 with the polls open from 3-7p.m. prior to the union meeting. Both events will take place at St. George Romanian Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48075.

It is INSURANCE open enrollment time-PLEASE look out for your open enrollment package in the mail soon. With Local 636 changing insurance companies, it is very important to make sure all your pertinent information is correct and updated.

Also, when you have a life changing event (example-marriage/divorce/birth of children), make sure you contact the hall and/or Benesys to update your beneficiaries and complete the proper paperwork to make these necessary changes. Make sure you inform the union hall when you have a change of address, phone number and/or email address. Thank you in advance for your help with these matters.

Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment again. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall if you wish to set up auto-pay, she will be more than happy to help you with this method of payment.

**CALLING ALL RETIREES!** The Retiree Association is looking to recruit more retirees to their meetings. The meetings are a great place to catch up, find out helpful information and enjoy very informative guest speakers. The Retirees will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. Remember there is not a retiree's meeting in December due to the awards banquet. The next retiree meeting will be held, Jan. 19, 2023.

**PLDF update-** We are getting closer to all our membership paying the PLDF but for the members who have not paid their PLDF see the information below:

\$140 for Journeymen/\$70 apprentice, Service Graduates and MES members

There is a separate email address for the PLDF, pldf@pipefitters636.org, to send a copy of your paystubs. For those claiming vacation, it is necessary to send the week before and after paystubs for verification.

If you wish to send in a check or money order directly to the hall-Please send to: Pipefitters Local 636, 30100 Northwestern Hwy., Farmington Hills, MI 48334. Please make the Checks/Money orders out to Pipefitters Local 636 PLDF or see below on how to set up withdrawal from your bank account or credit card.

<https://portal.icheckgateway.com/Gen/Default.aspx?P=579a6c64395e4ceaaa5d>

Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall if you wish to pay the PLDF assessment by phone, she will be more than happy to help you with this method of payment.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Lifetime Member, Retiree Charles Knott, on the passing of his wife, Dorothy, whom passed away on Nov. 22, 2022. Also, to the family of deceased Lifetime Member Retiree Terry McCaffrey family, on the passing of his widow/wife, Sally, whom passed away on Nov. 4, 2022. May they rest in peace.

Members continue to ask about the status and recovery of Brother Brian Mierendorf, Brian is doing therapy 5 days a week and will be undergoing several more surgeries on each hand. He still has a long road ahead of him. If anyone wishes to send donations to the hall for Brian, you can make checks out to Brian or Heather Mierendorf and we will make sure that Brian and Heather Mierendorf receive your donations. They are very grateful for all the support that they have been receiving, but their road is far from over.

**BeneSys** has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters 636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call #248-641-4936 or #888-646-8920.

Any member that is Retiring contact BeneSys at those numbers as well for your Retirement paperwork or if you want to meet with, Theresa Danko, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, please give her a 7-to-10-day notice so that she can get all of your paperwork in order.

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan:** For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new number for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526.

You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution website is [www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys](http://www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys).

**Worker Assistance Program:** Work Life Strategies, LLC are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed, referral to other professionals. CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences. You can contact her @ 313-580-6887.

**Training Center News.** Construction Night Class 2023

GMAW Saturday Mike Wall

DOWNHILL Saturday with Kurt Moran

HDPE/Fusion Saturday with Doug Leslie

ORBITAL Saturday with John Verran

Service Night Classes starting the week of Jan.9, 2023 5-week classes

CSD Classes Wednesday Nov.10. Kevin Burns Limit 12

CSD 1 (Basic)-First 5 weeks

MET/MES 1 Mon/Thurs Derek Commins/Alex Boyd 120 Hours

Fuel Gas for the service industry Monday Jan 9<sup>th</sup> --Jason Blouin

Refrigeration piping for the service industry Thursday Jan 12<sup>th</sup> : Jason Blouin

Ammonia Safety Thursdays : Ryan Lietert

•Burner Class : starting Thursday Jan. 12

•Chiller Basic: starting Wed. Jan. 11

•Tube Bending Class: Thursdays, Jan 12

Call Kim at the Training Center to sign up for all classes

All classes \$50 for journeyman

**PIPEFITTER APPRENTICESHIP.** The JATC for the Pipefitting Industry and Pipefitters, Steamfitters, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Service Local Union #636 of the United Association will be accepting applications for our Construction Apprenticeship beginning Dec. 5-22, 2022: Monday – Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. with Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 17, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Qualifications necessary for an applicant to be considered are:

1. Must be 18 years or older.

2. Complete the application and return to the Pipefitting Industry Training Center with:

a. A valid driver's license.

b. High School diploma or high school equivalency (GED) certificate.

c. There is a \$45 testing fee that will be collected when turning in the application.

This is a drug free Program. An individual tentatively selected for entrance into the Program after testing and interview will be required to submit to a drug test, which will include testing for marijuana.

**The Pipefitting Industry Training Center is located at 636 Executive Drive in Troy, MI between John R. and Dequindre, north of E. 14 Mile Road. PH: 248-585-0636.**

**No resumes please.** For more information, please visit our website at: [www.pipefitters636tc.org](http://www.pipefitters636tc.org).



## Local 174

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

**COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. This meeting will be our **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY.** Please bring an unwrapped toy for our Toys for Tots donation collection. The front office will remain open until 7pm.

**ATTENTION:** This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.

**CHANGE OF THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR:** (SOLXSYS): The Boards of Trustees of the West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters, and Service Trades Local Union 174 Pension Plan, Health and Welfare Plan, and 401(K) Retirement Savings Plan (collectively, "Plans") are pleased to announce that Solxsys Administrative Solutions is now the Plans' **NEW Third Party Administrator effective Nov. 1, 2022.**

**WEX DEBIT CARD:** Due to the TPA transition, **NEW WEX** cards were mailed out in October. If you did not receive yours please contact **SOLXSYS at 855-407-5862.**

**Labor Rings The Bell:** Local 174 would like to thank the people who stepped up to ring the bell for the Salvation Army on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>: Jason Finch, Nicole Hines, Kevin Giles, Stephen Stepp, Clint Fowler, Al Fowler, and Zeb Fialek.

**TOYS FOR TOTS:** The 2022 Toys For Tots drive has begun. Please drop off any new, unwrapped toys for donation collection until December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Website: [www.ua174.org](http://www.ua174.org)**  
We have recently changed our website vendor and will no longer be utilizing the Member Info section of our website. If you are unable to find what you are looking for please call Cami @ ext. 10 and she will help you. You are still able to pay dues online.

**Contract Ratification:** At the special-called meeting in July the members voted to accept the bargaining committee's recommendation and ratify the new three-year collective bargaining agreement.

**The new agreement is as follows:** 1st year \$2.75/ 2nd year \$2.23 /3rd year \$2.22 \$7.20 over 3years. The only language change is adding essential workers to the 10% hazard pay language. Thank you to the bargaining committee for their work on negotiations and to the members of Local #174 for continuing to prove their value day in and day out.

**Hiring Rule Reminder:** As per section 5.8 of the CBA, the 50/50 hiring provision applies only to jobs working under the Local CBA. Any national agreement jobs calling for manpower are not eligible for the 50/50 provision.

**Retiree Breakfast:** The retiree breakfast will be held on Thursday, Dec. 8th at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**Contact Information:** If you need to change or verify your contact information, PLEASE CONTACT CAMI so we can keep our system up to date.

**Organizing Update:** Brothers and Sisters I hope everyone had an amazing Thanksgiving! Just a reminder, always treat the non-union workers with dignity and respect. In almost every case it's their employer that speaks bad about unions and has special meetings to sway them, they're called captive audience meetings.

The owners of these companies know the benefits and wages we get so they'll do whatever they can to keep their workers. When I speak to the workers, I tell them "We're all doing the same work, but we're not all getting the same wages and benefits!" It seems everyone is catching on...Union is the way to go for the best wages and benefits!

If you run into a non-union worker on the job site, an eye-opening fact is that when a member retires, he/she gets the same insurance coverage at a discounted rate which is almost cut in half! Just another benefit of being a Union member! If you're working on a job site that has non-union employees/contractors, shoot me a text, 616-307-8551, I'd love to speak to them about union benefits. Our biggest voice is our workers in the field, **Thank you Brother Johnny Ortiz LU 174 Organizer**

**PAC Cards:** Since the

elimination of prevailing wage, the race to the bottom on wages and benefits for publicly funded projects has begun. Our political focus over the years to come will be electing people who support prevailing wage and wage standards in general. To do that we need to raise our PAC card participation.

We currently have less than half of the local contributing to our PAC. Your PAC contribution DOES NOT COME OFF YOUR CHECK. When you sign the PAC card it allows us to move money from your working dues over to our PAC. Please call Cami today and find out if you have current PAC card on file.

**Health Insurance Contact Info: Active and NON-Medicare Retirees**  
Aetna: (888)290-7241  
Save-Rx: (800)228-3108  
Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616) 345-0788

**Health insurance premium decrease:** Effective Jan. 1, 2023 the Local 174 health insurance premiums will be as follows:

•Active Member/Working Retiree: \$1,233.70 (current); \$1,110.33 (1/1/23)

•Non-working Pre Medicare Retiree: \$879(current); \$791.10 (1/1/23)

• Medicare Single \$262.55 (current); \$123.63 (1/1/23)

•Medicare Couple \$525.09 (current); \$247.26 (1/1/23)

•Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse: \$677.55 (current); \$497.13 (1/1/23)

•Medicare Surviving Spouse: \$269 (current); \$126.67 (1/1/23).

**Solxsys, Aetna, Labor First:** If you have issues with any of our fund service providers please contact Ryan Bennett at [rbennett@ua174.org](mailto:rbennett@ua174.org). Please try to remember who you spoke with, this will help the company fix the problem.

**Dues:** Please keep your monthly window dues current. You can find your dues balance on the website or by calling the Union office. Remember that if you are expelled from the UA that you are no longer eligible to attend Local Union events, such as meetings, picnics, awards banquets, and Christmas parties.

**Dispatch:** We will be splitting up the dispatch responsibilities between the business agent and the assistant business manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email: [dispatch@ua174.org](mailto:dispatch@ua174.org) which both offices have access to. There is a dispatch phone extension that will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

**Jurisdiction:** Remember to always call into the local you are traveling to. Do not rely on anyone else to call in for you. They will not get into trouble. It is the member who is working in another local who has not checked in that gets into trouble. Please contact Ryan Bennett if you see another local's contractors/members working in our jurisdiction.

**Metal Trades, Helpers, and Trainees:** Please remember that if you are working as a Metal Trades, Helper, or Trainee your raises are based on the day you were first dispatched to work at that classification. If you are not sure of your dispatch date, please contact the Union office. **It is up to you to let the Union office know that you are due for a raise.**

**Labor Councils:** - Kent Ionia - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location

Lakeshore - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details. \*The Kent Ionia Labor Council has recently moved from the building on Benjamin and will be rotating meeting locations monthly.

**FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR:** (SOLXSYS). West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098 (517) 321-7502 Phone (855) 40-PLUMB Toll Free

**BENEFITS WEBSITE:** Soon after the transition to SOLXSYS is complete, we will be rolling out a Participant Portal. The easy to use portal will allow you to see your personal benefits information, access Plan information and forms, view all contributions made to Plans on your behalf, and contact the Ben-

efits Office after hours, and much more. Members will be notified when access to Participant Portal is available.

**Contract Requirements:** Please remember Section 5.7 of our collective bargaining agreement states, "Persons called from the unemployed list will report to work with a UA/WMMCA issued drug card." Section 18.5 states, "...employees... shall be required to maintain the following Safety Training Certifications: First Aid/CPR, Blood-borne Pathogens and OSHA 10." Please make sure you follow our agreement.

**Out Of Work List:** Please remember to call the out of work list when you are laid off. You will be placed on the list based off the date you call in your layoff. When you leave a message, please speak clearly. Any member who goes to work without a referral is in violation of our Collective Bargaining Agreement and Article XXXI of our Constitution and By-Laws. Please contact the Union Hall to find out your position on the out of work list.

**Training News:**

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next class will be held Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022.

**PLUMBING CODE UPDATE:** Class is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023 @ 5p-8p in the assembly hall. The last class that will be offered will be on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023 @ 5p-8p, also in the assembly hall. Please bring your plumbing license or license # with you to class. The deadline to complete the code update is March 31, 2023.

If you have a certification that has expired in the last few months and have questions regarding recertification, please contact the Training Office. Many certifications have extended grace periods on expiration dates. Please contact Jeff Rumsey or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Jeff) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30. Or via text Jeff (231)923-8140 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

**Union Hall Extension Numbers:** Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext:12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext.14, Johnny Ortiz Organizer ext.15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager ext.11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Schumaker ext. 30.



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, December 14, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

**Reminder:** Article V, Section 13 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order. Any project that falls into the jurisdiction of Local 704 shall be manned by not less than two (2) members. Any member violating this By-Law shall be brought before the Executive Board for a trial and be subject to a fine.

Article IX, Section 4 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order states: Members shall report all job starts to its local union office.

It is the members responsibility to notify the Union Hall when they return to work.

**Phone numbers to remember:** NASI is 1-800-638-2603 for information regarding Health and Welfare or Pension fund questions.

**TIC International:** 248-645-6550 for D.C. Fund distribution questions.

**Jason May (Merrill Lynch):** 248-655-4048 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

A reminder to please update any change of address or phone number changes with the Local Union Hall.

Please mark your calendars for Local 704's children's Christmas Party being held **December 17<sup>th</sup>** from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. at the hall. Please R.S.V.P. to the hall with your child's name and age so Santa's helpers know who is coming.

A speedy recovery to all of our sick and injured members.

*"Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment."*  
–Barry LePatner

*"Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous patience."*  
–Hyman Rickover (1900 - 1986)

*"Do not employ handsome servants."*  
–Chinese Proverb

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 35 YEARS BIESKE & ASSOCIATES

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.



Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 55 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to only case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and your fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. They maintains offices in Sterling Heights, Livonia, Southgate and Novi. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

- ONLY SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY CASES
- WE WILL PERSONALLY REPRESENT YOU
- OUR FEE PAID AFTER YOU WIN

[www.ssdfighter.com](http://www.ssdfighter.com)





Plumbers and Steamfitters 85  
SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be on Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022 at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Rd. starting at 7 PM and serve as our Christmas Meeting.

The next Northern Informational Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022 at 7 PM at the Gray Rock Pub & Grub, 2123 Industrial St. Grayling, MI 49738 and serve as the Christmas meeting.

Please note: Our new mailing address for all correspondences has changed to 3535 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603.

**Contact Information:**

Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513 jpomerville@ualocal85.org

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 jbadour@ualocal85.org

Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514 tdanielak@ualocal85.org

Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330 csteale@ualocal85.org

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 rjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 ktuthill@ualocal85.org

Please check the ualocal85.org or our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

The new website is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card No. If you have difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

The new Facebook page is live. If you are currently on the Local Eighty-Five Facebook account, invites were sent to have you join the new site. UA Local 85 page is our public Facebook account. UA Local 85 Members Group is our new members only Facebook. On this page, we will have important messages and reminders specific to our membership. Please like both and let us know what you think.

**SUB Fund: Print Unemployment Payment History** located underneath the Certification Tab when logged into your MiWAM account. Deadline for submittals is Noon on Thursday in order to receive a check that Friday. Checks will be mailed out on Friday. No in-person pickups allowed. If a holiday falls on a Friday, checks will be issued on Thursday and deadline will be moved up to Wednesday by noon.

**Where to submit documents:** Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org  
**SUB Application for Benefits:** Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at the Hall.  
**90 Day Rule:** The weeks you are claiming must be submitted within 90 days of the first Monday following the week in which you are eligible to receive a State benefit per the Plan Documents.  
**Taxes:** There are no taxes taken out of SUB Fund Checks, however they are taxable wages and you will receive a W-2 at the end of the year. If you want taxes withheld from your SUB Fund Check, please indicate the dollar amount for Federal and State on each SUB submittal.

**NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:**  
**Address & Phone Update:** Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone number changes at (989) 799-5261.

**Beneficiary Cards:** Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261.

**Website Address:** Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

**Insurance:** When you are working out of another Local's jurisdiction it may take up to 90 days for your Insurance and Pension to be reciprocated back to Local 85, which may cause problems with your Health Insurance. ALWAYS SAVE YOUR CHECK STUBS and fax them in to the hall at 989-791-3468 with the local you are working out of indicated. We will fax them to BeneSys to keep your insurance up to date.

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** All retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up-to-date information.

**Fraternaly,** Justin M. Pomerville Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Local Union 85



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333  
LANSING – December's union meeting will be held Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911. Christmas dinner will be served at 6:30pm.

January's union meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2023, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911. 7:30pm.

Dues: As of Jan. 1, 2023 dues will not increase. Active Members will pay \$28, Retired Members will continue to pay \$10. Members will be receiving their new membership card in the mail.

All Local 333 apprentices need their Worker Bee Hours completed by Dec. 31, 2022. We have scheduled a Worker Bee day on Dec. 3, 2022 at the Lansing Training Center. Please contact Jeff Thom at jeff@local333.com to sign up.

**Plumbing Code Update Classes:**

Dec. 7, at 4:30 (sign in) KCC/RMTC Building, room 120A. 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Dec. 13, at 4:30pm at the Lansing Training Center. 16180 National Pkwy, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Dec. 15, 2022, at 4:30pm at the Jackson Training Center, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr., Jackson, MI. 49201.

Please go to our website or call the Lansing Training Center to sign up (517) 323-0333.

**WELD CLASSES:** Winter weld classes will start in January 2023. Please go online to sign up at www.ua333.org. There is a \$25 fee, please call your respective hall to join the class.

**Lansing:** (Tuesday's & Thursday's) Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

**Jackson:** (Tuesday's & Thursday's) 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

**Battle Creek:** (Monday's & Thursday's) (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Weld Tests are the second Tuesday of each month at the Lansing Training Center.

If you are interested in signing up for classes please go to our website at www.ua333.org or call the Training Center (517) 323-0333.

**PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the UA, as of Jan. 2019, all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired please contact Diana at 517.323.0333. Though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed; between changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it's the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.

**Retiree's Breakfast in Jackson:** The next breakfast will be Tuesday, Dec. 20 at 10 am at the Alpha Coney Island, 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. PLEASE NOTE: The restaurant is at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center. If you have questions or need directions contact Joni at 517-784-1106 ext#4. Please pass the word to fellow retired members.

**Lansing Retirees' Breakfast** will be held at the Lansing Hall, Friday, Dec. 16 at 9am. Please call Debra if you are able to attend so that we can plan the food quantities accurately. The breakfast is for all of our retirees, so we hope to see you there.

**Attention:** If you have made changes with your address, email address, phone no., or there is a birth, death, married, divorce, remarried or to change your beneficiaries, please contact the Lansing office to give the update and have the necessary documents processed to make the changes.

The new GM plant work is requiring MUST MODS completed and a current drug test. Make sure you are current.

Deepest sympathies to Diana Lake and her son Bryce on the loss of her father, and Bryce's grandfather, Robert VanVlette Jr., who passed away Nov. 22, 2022. We are so very sorry for your loss.

**Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 333 Holiday Party,** FireKeepers Casino, 11177 E. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI. 49014. Dec. 23, 5pm-9pm. Please call one of the three halls to RSVP by Dec. 8. Battle Creek (269) 968-0993, Jackson (517) 784-1106, (517) 393-5480.



AT THE SHOULDICE piping shop in Battle Creek are (l-r) Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333 Assistant Business Manager Joe Michilizzi, Piping Div. Manager Jeff Warren and Local 333 journeyman Todd Stuckey. The shop was working on stainless steel piping for a methane project.



## Plumbers Local 98



Plumbers Local 98  
DETROIT – **Membership of Plumbers Local 98,**

*On behalf of the officers and staff we hope you and your families have a safe and wonderful holiday this season.*

Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits, the Training Center, and more can be found here. Go to UALOCAL98.COM.

**Meetings & Union Hall.** The next Union Meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 7 pm at the Union Hall.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship, Learn more at Plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship

Awards Night went off without a hitch – congrats to all the honorees and a thank you to Jon and the officers for setting this up as usual.

The Christmas Gift Wrapping Party will be held on Monday, Dec. 5 at 4 pm at the Union Hall.

The Kid's Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at the Union Hall. This event is for all members and their children or grandchildren. Gifts will be handed out to those ages birth thru 16 years old. Santa will be there from 5pm -8pm.

**Retiree Meetings.** The next Retiree Meeting is Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 12 – 2 pm.

**SUB Apps/OOW.** SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App.

It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. Make sure your contact information is up to date as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702.

**Benefits.** We now have a dedicated BeneSys employee at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. His name is Andrew Hill and he is the Local 98 Health Insurance Specialist. Andrew will be receiving the calls coming into Local 98. In order for us to best track all issues please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 and select option #2 for Andrew. If Andrew is on the other line, please leave him a message and he will get back to you promptly.

Please select option #4 for Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo for all Pension issues. If you are looking to retire, please set a meeting up with him. We recommend doing this at least 6 months from retirement.

Congratulations to those who have hung up their bibs: Richard Little and Steven Smalridge.

**Dues.** You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto payments. If you have questions or want to pay your dues by phone, please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 ext. 3.

The following members are delinquent on dues and are working for our contractors. If you are working with these **EXPELLED MEMBERS** please push them to get with the hall and get caught up. Brandon Foy, Derek Hardoin, Mike Hofer, James Moore, Justin Willard, Adam Atkinson, Irvin Tyson, Ken Stone, Jesse Nowak. If you know they have left 98 please let us know. Thank you.

**Good/Welfare.** In an effort to raise money for our PAC fund, we are raffling off a Savage Arms 2 XP 6.5 Creedmoore Bolt Action Rifle with a 3x9 Bushnell Scope. Tickets will be drawn Feb. 9, you do not need to be present.

Contact your area rep or get them at the hall.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. This is a great opportunity to expand and grow, as many members are looking to retire. If you know anyone working Non-Union or is a past member that may be interested, have them call Organizer Rob Moses at 248-763-2187.

*In solidarity I remain, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98*

**TRAINING CENTER NEWS.** Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org.

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, Dec. 23, 2022. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have questions.

**\*\*STATE OF MICHIGAN PLUMBING LICENSE\*\***

**2018 Michigan Plumbing Code Update-** Please call the Training Center, 248-585-1435 to sign up for one of our in-person classes. There are also several classes offered online. To find the online classes, go to cebrocker.com and select "Find CE/CME", then choose Michigan and Plumbing Journey to see a list of approved courses. There is also an online course put together by UA Local 370 that can be found at cetsource.com.

**CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2023.** All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class.

**Monthly Code Class** – Next class is Dec. 21 at 4:30 pm. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

**Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber-** 40 hour class- \$100 fee

**Spring:** March 6 to May 8. Deadline to register February 24

**Fall:** Sept. 18 to Nov. 20. Deadline to register Sept. 1

**Hydronic Heating and Cooling** – 40 hour class - \$100 fee

**Spring:** March 9 to May 11. Deadline to register February 24

**Fall:** Sept. 18 to Nov. 20. Deadline to register Sept. 1.

**ASSE Backflow Tester Certification:** Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$100

**4 hour recert class** January 24 & 25 Deadline is December 16

**4 hour recert class** April 18 & 19 Deadline is March 17

**4 hour recert class** July 25 & 26 Deadline is June 23

**4 hour recert class** October 24 & 25 Deadline is September 22

**ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):**

**Spring:** March 6 – May 15 Deadline is February 3 - \$200

**Fall:** Sept. 18 – November 27 Deadline is August 11- \$200

**ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification**

**Spring:** March 9 – April 13,

Deadline is February 10 - \$100

**Fall:** September 21 - October 26, Deadline is August 11 - \$100

**ICRA and Water Quality: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30**

**Spring:** March 7 to May 9. Deadline is February 3 - \$200

**Fall:** Sept. 19 to Oct. 28, Deadline is August 11 - \$200

**6010 Medical Gas Installer Recertification- \*All current Med Gas certification holders are required to take this update. Final class Feb.28 & March 2 - Deadline to register is Feb. 2 - \$200**

**Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour):**

**Spring:** March 8 – May 17 Deadline is February 24 - \$200

**Fall:** Sept. 20 – Nov. 29 Deadline to register Sept. 1 - \$200

**OPEN WELDING – Winter is coming, it is a great time to get into a booth and upgrade some welding skills!**

Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext. 146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can't find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth.

**\*\*2023 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month.** If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next Welding and Brazing session will be Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

**2022 Course Hour reimbursement forms** are available at the Training Center. You must have 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2022 to be eligible for the \$100.00 reimbursement.

**OSHA Training** - OSHA 10, available as an online class for \$59 at www.careersafeonline.com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to www.mustonline.org. \*\*Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

**It is each member's individual responsibility to keep all their Certifications current.**

If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your call. We attempt to return all messages by the end of the business day.

*"The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom."*

–H. L. Mencken (1880 - 1956)

*"You cannot acquire experience by making experiments. You cannot create experience. You must undergo it."*

– Albert Camus (1913 - 1960)

*"As I grow older, I regret to say that a detestable habit of thinking seems to be getting a hold of me."*

– H. Rider Haggard (1856 - 1925),

*"Observe your enemies, for they first find out your faults."*

– Antisthenes (445 BC - 365 BC)

*"People who ask our advice almost never take it. Yet we should never refuse to give it, upon request, for it often helps us to see our own way more clearly."*

– Brendan Francis

*"The advantage of a bad memory is that one enjoys several times the same good things for the first time."*

–Friedrich Nietzsche (1844 - 1900)

*You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I have lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along. 'You must do the thing you think you cannot do.'*

–Eleanor Roosevelt (1884 - 1962)



## Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111  
UPPER PENINSULA –

MARQUETTE – The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette Dec. 8, 2022 @ 7:30 p.m.

UA News: The 2023-2025 membership cards are currently being produced and will be shipped to your local by year's end.

**Condolences:** To the family of Greg Dellangelo who passed away on 11-15-2022.

Anyone interested in 1 day shutdowns, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba office.

**MRA CARD:** Please note, after using your MRA card, you will still need to "substantiate" your claim by sending in your Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or an itemized bill with receipt of payment. Remember, when using your MRA card, your date of service must be within a year of the date you use your card. If you are having trouble, please call Zenith American at (866) 823-4730 ext. 1 and they will assist you.

**Reminder:** Check your records and contact the hall with any changes to the following: **E-Mail, home address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death.** Please call April or Ann to have your information updated.

**Training news:** Open welding class with David Pedersen is occurring on Tuesdays at 5 pm, on a week to week basis pending interest. To be added to the notification list or to register, contact John Antoncew. A spot in the class is not confirmed until you receive a response.

**Reminder:** It is your responsibility to call the hall as soon as you get laid off, the day you call in is the date that you are placed on the **Out of Work List**, if you do not call in you will not be referred to work.

Reminder to all apprentices, you must attend 4 union meetings per year.

**Reminder to Welders/ Welding Forms:** The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the hall. Certifications expire every 6 months and it is YOUR responsibility to get your welding forms turned in on time.

Please update all non-UA certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA etc.) by sending a copy of your certification to the Union Hall

**Check your dues records!** You are assessed a \$50 reinstatement once you become 3 months behind. You are automatically expelled once you are over 6 months behind.

**Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site:** When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site **ua111.com** and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

**MSHA Training:** The 2022 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. To register for an MSHA class please go to **Upconstruction.org** and go to the **MSHA calendar** to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also.





**Michigan Painters  
District Council**

Painters DC 1M  
WARREN - Dear Members,  
**DC1M WEBSITE:** [www.iupat1michigan.org](http://www.iupat1michigan.org)  
**DC1M FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/iupat1m](http://www.facebook.com/iupat1m)  
**DC 1M UNION CARDS\***

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or if you have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:  
Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100  
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

**\*VACTION CHECKS-LOCAL 514, 2352, 2353\***

It that time of the year again! Please make sure your Member/Dues status is current to avoid any disruptions in the Vacation Check distribution.

**SICKNESS and DEATH.** It is with a heavy heart we announce the passing of Local 357 retiree Terry Lee Harmon. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

**FTI of the GREAT LAKES.** FTI of the Great Lakes is looking for a part time Glazing instructor at our Lansing Training Center. Anyone interested should submit their resume to Shawn O'Neill dot@iupatdclm.org

FTI of the Great Lakes will be offering SSPC C3 class 01/09 through 01/12/2023 and C5 class on 01/13/23 at our Warren Training Center. The deadline to Register for these classes is 11/21/22.

FTI of the Great Lakes will be offering a SSPC CAS class on 01/16 through 01/20/23 at our Warren Training Center. The deadline to turn in CAS applications is 12/5/22



**Glaziers &  
Glassworkers  
Local 357**

Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357

WARREN - Our next scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, December 5th, 2022 at 6pm. Please attend.

We hope that everyone had a happy, and healthy Thanksgiving. We have just received the unfortunate news that local 357 long time member, and retiree brother Terry Harmon has passed away. Please keep Terry, and his family in your thoughts, and prayers.

Apprentice School has resumed for the fall semester. Keep up on your classes, and your paperwork.

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal. You can find this in the app store, and it is a free app. Once you download this app, you will need your union member id to log in. You can find your member id printed on your quarterly union card. Once you log into this app it's a helpful tool to track your hours worked, and it all has a digital copy of your union card.

Keep your working status current; this helps protect your benefits. If you have a mailing address and/or telephone number change, please notify the Union and Fund Offices of the changes.

Dues payments may be mailed to the Union Office at 14587 Barber Avenue, Warren, MI 48088. Make checks payable to: DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M in care of Glassworkers #357.

When traveling to work out of town, all members are reminded that they must check in with the local that you are working in as per the International Constitution and our local C.B.A.

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

If you are in need of safety modules, please contact your employer if you are employed or the union office @ 586-552-4478, if you're not. Any questions call the hall or call the Council @ 586-552-4474. Participation is very important to keep our union strong, so try to make it to a meeting.

**Business Rep- Don Stepp**  
"We learn something every day, and lots of times it's that what we learned the day before was wrong."  
-Bill Vaughan

**\*DISTRICT COUNCIL  
1M CHRISTMAS PARTY\***

Members our Christmas Party is at MGM Hotel and Casino on December 17, 2022.  
Flyers for the party were mailed this week. To accommodate our Membership, RSVP's are limited to Member and one guest. You **MUST RSVP** to receive your tickets for admission to the party. Tickets will be mailed to you after the cutoff date of November 28th. Any questions contact the Union Office.

**PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP.** Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its all new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store.

For ANDROID go to Google Playstore. Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP

Username: your member id#  
Password: painters

With this APP you can access training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.

**GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!**

**OUT OF WORK/ BACK TO WORK:** To keep work placement efficient, please notify the office when you are laid off or going back to work.

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888.

New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



**District Council 1M  
Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez**

**Meeting date:** 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m.

**Place:** 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933

**Local Union 312**  
**Business Rep:** Tim Schwerin  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

**Local Union 514**  
**Business Rep:** Scott Mikulen  
**Meeting dates:** 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.  
**Web site:** [www.iupat-local514.org](http://www.iupat-local514.org).

**Local Union 826**  
**Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

**Place:** 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

**Local Union 845**  
**Business Rep - Fred Frederickson**  
**Meeting date:** 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

**Place:** 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

**Local Union 1052**  
**Business Rep - Jake Fluty**  
**Meeting date:** The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m

**Place:** 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

**Local Union 1803**  
**Business Rep:** Josh Ovall  
**Meeting date:** 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

**Place:** 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

**Local Union 2352**  
**Business Rep:** Jeremy Haviland  
**Meeting Date:** 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.

**Local Union 2353**  
**Business Rep:** Keith Anderson  
**Meeting date:** 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.

"Anything that is of value in life only multiplies when it is given."  
-Deepak Chopra (1946-)

"A gift in season is a double favor to the needy."  
-Publius Syrus (~100 BC),



**Local 149  
Roofers &  
Waterproofers**

Roofers 149

DETROIT - Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.

**Regular Membership Meeting.** The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, Dec. 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled for Tues., Dec. 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

**Mid-Michigan.** The membership meeting is scheduled for Tue., Jan 10, 2023 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

**2022 Vacation and Holiday Fund Surplus Payout.** This only applies to Detroit participants who received a vacation check in July 2022. This year the Vacation and Holiday Surplus Payout will be in the amount \$0.034 per worked hour from 6/1/21 through 5/31/22. Checks to be mailed out to Detroit participants on Dec. 1. Those who have their vacation pay **Direct Deposited;** will have their money deposited in their bank on Dec. 1, 2022.

**Thank you to the members who have paid their Union Dues a year in advance.** By paying your Union Dues a year in advance, you are saving our union money. To pass these saving along to our members, we will be giving a "I paid my Dues" t-shirt to anyone who's dues are paid up to 12/31/2023 and beyond. In order to be eligible, members must pay their 2023 dues in full by Jan. 31, 2023. To receive your 2023 "I paid my Dues" t-shirt, please contact the Union Hall (313.961.6093 ext. 0).

**Retirees' Association.** Mark your calendar, the annual Retirees' Christmas and Holiday luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 10. The luncheon will be held at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall from 10 am through 3:30pm. The IBEW Local No. 58 is located at 1366 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48226. One block east of our Union Hall.

Being part of this association, you will be eligible to participate in several different events. Including but not limited to, our annual Christmas party, fall picnic outing, card games, and the camaraderie of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood, to name a few. Being part of this association, it is required for you to pay a yearly fee. The yearly dues will cost you (\$30/yr.), in addition to your monthly Union dues. The Association does not require the surviving spouse of a member to pay the yearly dues. The Members of the Retirees Association vote to set the amount of the yearly dues.

Will you be joining us? Calling us will give our Hall a count of the food we will need for the catered lunch. Please let us know if your spouse or a date will be joining us.

If you are a retired 149 member and you would like to receive any additional information about the Association or would like to join, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0.

**2022 Commencement Ceremony.** 2022 Commencement Ceremony is as follows:

**65 years-** Brother Casimer Zomerfeld

**60 years-** Brother Emil S. Camaio, Brother David Pirl

**55 years-** Brother Stanley Cyrkiel, Brother Bobby Kirk

**50 years-** Brother William Betts, Brother Raymond Cagle, Jr., Brother Dallas Dunn, Brother Michael Green, Brother William Leon, Brother Bruce O'Kronley, Brother John Silvani, Jr., Brother Eugenio Vegaulla, Brother George Wettlaufer, Jr.

**45 years-** Brother George Burcar, Brother Thomas Camill, Brother James Christy, Brother Eskle Collier, Brother Philip Dial, Brother Russell Hasel-huhn, Brother Millard Lundy, Sr., Brother David Meyer, Sr., Brother Robert Peterson, Brother Greg Schimmel, Brother Waldo Todd, Brother Mark Willhite, Brother Richard Zollner

**40 years-** Brother Chris Boyce, Brother David Bronner, Brother Mark Gilliam, Brother Robert Harris, Brother David Johnson, Brother Richard Just, Brother Mark Rogowski, Brother Dennis Smith

**35 years-** Brother Mark Beernaert, Brother Marc Bilodeau, Brother Michael Curran, Brother Gary Douglas, Brother Kelly Fagan, Brother Ernie Gonzales, Brother Robert Grix, Brother Terry Jacobs, Brother Robert Laba, Brother Frank McCurry, Brother James Micovich, Brother Ronald Swindlehurst, Brother David Tebbe, Brother Howard Tucker, Brother George West, Brother Bruce Wlock

**30 years-** Brother Samuel Blevins, Brother Gregory Dorman, Brother Francisco Galvan, Brother Curtis Hay, Brother Richard Horon, Brother James Hughes, Brother Steve Marentette, Brother Mark Neumann, Brother Francisco Pina, Brother John Rodriguez, Brother Jorge Toral, Brother Randy Willis, Brother William Zaorski

**25 years-** Brother Roy Abemathy, Brother William Altz, II, Brother Tyler Amman, Brother Ronald Benson, Brother Lushes Benson, Sr., Brother Mark Callicoa, Brother Johnny Casanova, Brother William Coppy, Brother Demetrio Hernandez, Brother Emilio Hernandez, Brother Jose Hernandez, Brother Timothy Koon, Brother Leo Langlois, Brother Leland McLeod, Brother Rick Moore, Brother Robin Owens, Jr., Brother Henry G. Smith, Brother Victor Toral, Brother Porfirio Vazquez, Brother Dana Walker, Brother Troy Walker, Brother Richard Wallace

**20 years-** Brother William Alexander, Brother Jose Alvarez, Brother William Brinkman, Brother Ronald Byrd, Brother Dion Collier, Brother Everardo Garcia, Brother Ronald Leszczynski, Brother Michael Sova, II, Brother Daniel VanDeventer, Brother Charles Walker, Brother Jeremy Willis, Brother Duane Wilson

Union Brothers, on behalf of the Members and Officers of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, & Allied Workers Local 149, I would like to congratulate and thank you all for your decades of services in our great Union.

An invitation has been sent to the Brothers listed above regarding the 2022 Commencement Ceremony luncheon. The annual Commencement Ceremony luncheon will be held at the IBEW Local No. 58 Union Hall on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 10 am to 3:30pm.

This is to remind you that you have come a long way and your contributions have continued to inspire our Local. We wish you a very Happy Work Anniversary!

**Outdoor Life.** If you have any hunting and fishing pictures that you would like to see in the Journeyman Roofing & Waterproofing magazine, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0, for additional information.

**Detroit Training Center Information.** Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski or Dean Kucharski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, to make arrangements.

**MID-MICHIGAN AREA - Clio Office.** The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., Jan. 10, 2023 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SITTING ON THE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE?** Are you a strong advocate for yourself and your fellow Mid-Michigan 149 members? Have you ever considered being a part of your Union's collective-bargaining negotiating committee? The search for a collective-bargaining negotiating committee is coming. Nominations are being taken Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023.

In order to stand for election, you need to be a Journeyworker in good standing and you must be nominated by another member in good standing at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023, or in writing via a nomination acceptance letter addressed to the Recording Secretary Tom Jaranowski by Monday, Jan. 9, 2023, at 5 pm.

For the collective-bargaining negotiating committee description, please contact Business Manager Brian Gregg, 313.961.6093.

**Mid-Michigan Training Center Information.** Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368, or midmichroofer149@gmail.com to make arrangements.

**Notice.** All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work list.

The publication above is as 11/28/2022, 2:00p.m.

**In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local No.149**



**Laborers 1191**

**DETROIT - Monthly Membership Meetings:** Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays), next membership meeting will on the January, 6 2023.

**Retirees: Retirees' meetings for the month of December 2022 will be suspended.** Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, 2161 W. Grand Blvd. in Detroit starting in January 2023.

**Union Dues For 2023:** Effective Jan. 1, 2023 regular monthly dues are \$35 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.

**Reminder: Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.**

**Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org!** Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instructions. Also check out our website and "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

**NOTICE: The Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4.** The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member shall be deemed suspended by the International Union without notice.

**Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union.** Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you. Members who sign up for Vacation monthly dues deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate! We are accepting credit & debit payments.

**Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction Authorization:** Members may revoke vacation monthly dues authorization at any time by signing a vacation deduction cancellation form. This cancellation form must be sent to the Local Union 1191 office, however understand that Local 1191 needs to have this form on file at least (60) days before the next vacation checks are distributed for the months of May or November.

**Vacation Check Direct Deposit:** If your mail delivery is slow or your mail is getting lost, then it is highly recommended to get your vacation check direct deposited into your bank checkings or savings account. A Payee Deposit Agreement must be completed and signed, and the member must return the payee deposit agreement at least (60) days before the following vacation distribution for the month of May, or November.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.must-safe.com](http://www.must-safe.com) to see how many modules you have.

**Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules.** You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling (517) 625-4919 or visit the training school website [www.mltai.org](http://www.mltai.org) to schedule appointments for modules.

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeyman and apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include: Asbestos

Awareness-Silica Awareness-Infectious Disease Awareness-Respirator Awareness-Hazard Communication-Blood borne Pathogens Awareness-Covid-19 Awareness-Lead Awareness.

**NOTE: Classes & Certifications contractors have been asking for are: OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety, Class A Cdl License, Asbestos Removal Supervisors Licence, Confined Space Permit Required, Grade Checking Blueprint Reading & Measuring Tools, Gps Location.** The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not! FYI: By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1-4 pm and put their name on the out-of-work list. You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. Also be sure to Check & Update your Skills regularly.

**Roll Call:** All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first five days of the following months March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list.

Members are urged to report new project starts to the local union.

**Vacation Fund.** WPAS 7525 SE 24th Street, Suite 200, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Telephone: (833) 389-0025  
Ext. 3359 -Direct No.

Fax: (206) 505 9727  
Website: [www.wpas-inc.com](http://www.wpas-inc.com)

**CONTACT NUMBERS.** Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Healthcare & Pension)

\* Telephone: (877) 645-2267

\* Fax: (517) 321-7508

\*Website: [www.michiganlaborers.org](http://www.michiganlaborers.org)

\*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Detroit and Vicinity Pension Fund, Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

\*Telephone: (248) 641-4942

\*Fax: (248) 813-9898

\*Website: [www.ourbenefitoffice.com](http://www.ourbenefitoffice.com)

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (877) 645 2267

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

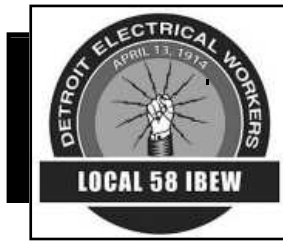
**Scholarships. LIUNA members can apply for scholarships for university, college, trade school and technical trainings through Union Plus.** Learn more information about Union Plus scholarships at [www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships](http://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships) [www.mi-laborers.org](http://www.mi-laborers.org)

**MICHIGAN LABORERS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND 2023 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.** The Michigan Laborers' Scholarship Fund is pleased to announce the 2022-2023 Scholarship Program, which provides scholarships for the continued and further education of eligible individuals who have been admitted or are already enrolled as a student in an accredited post-secondary institution.

**Applications must be received by the fund office on or before May 1st, 2023 to receive full consideration.**

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# IBEW LOCAL 58

## IBEW Local 58

**DETROIT – The next General Membership Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

**Electrical Industry Training Center** is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at <http://www.detroit-etc.org/continuing-education/>. We will start to cancel classes if they don't meet the minimum enrollment requirements, or more hopefully we will order books for those of you who've signed up. Members on the Storm Book must secure their training through the Continuing Education Program offered by the school. If you need assistance in registering for a class, please call the Training Center at 586-751-6600.

**Disbursement from the Vacation Fund** is anticipated to be transferred to your PNC Bank Stored Value Card or if you elected, direct deposited into your checking or savings accounts, on or around **Nov. 21, 2022**. Please check the listed contributions from your employers with your pay records for accuracy. A list of contributions may be obtained from the Benefit Office Website, [www.evwjbt.org](http://www.evwjbt.org) by logging into your personal information and clicking **My Benefits** then **Vacation Benefits**. If you require a paper statement, please contact the Benefit Office for a printout. If there is an error, contact the Benefit Office, (586) 575-9200 ext. 212.

**ATTENTION –** You may check your Stored Value utilization history by logging on to [www.pncpaycard.com](http://www.pncpaycard.com) and by entering your 16-digit card number listed on the front of the card and the last four digits of your Social Security No., also referred to as your Account Access Code (or AAC for short). Customer Service can be reached by telephone at (866) 453-5071.

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE for DUES DEPARTMENT:** The Dues Department will be Closed Dec. 23 & 26, 2022 and Jan. 2, 2023. If you would like to pay on the APP/Website, the last day to pay is **Dec. 28**. If you would like to pay in person the last day is **Dec. 30 by 12 noon** as the office will be closed at that time. Please remember when calling on the last couple days to pay your dues the phone lines will be very busy – please leave one message and we will return your call as soon as we can. Have a Great Holiday Season and Stay Safe!

**Local 58 Motorcycle Group:** Group meetings have moved to Sundays at different restaurants before a ride. Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. For more information, please visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Anthony Anderanin @ [aanderanin@gmail.com](mailto:aanderanin@gmail.com) or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join us at our upcoming meetings to plan for next year's events and rides.

**Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund:** The next meeting will be on Dec. 6 at 5:30pm at the Union Hall. Our next event will be Ken Fitzhenry Super Bowl Event, Sunday, Feb. 12. We look forward to getting back together after a 2-year absence! Super Bowl Raffle Tickets are now available at the Union Hall. All prizes from the Super Bowl event are provided by ABC Warehouse in Canton. For a discounted price call Ryan Heinrich at (734) 981-7780. All Tradesmen and families are welcome to receive this Building Trade discount.

The Local 58 Commemorative Quilt Raffle tickets are now available at the Hall, \$10 each or 3 for \$20, please contact Kelly Lynch to purchase. There will be an Ugly Sweater Contest at the Membership Meeting on Dec. 20, \$5 entry fee, all proceeds donated to the Benevolent Fund. \$100 to the Winner! Hope to see you all there!

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 5:30 pm. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) is every 2nd and 4th Sunday, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 am to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local

58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information to volunteer or participate.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 13 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 PM. The annual Family Christmas Party is on Dec. 4 at 11 AM. We are back to an inside party with food, DynaMike, and an increased amount of raffle prizes.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI-** The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 19 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. We will be creating more tie-dye t-shirts in the coming weeks. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with this fundraiser and the Lottery Raffle. Stay tuned for more information. Solidarity Forever

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, Dec. 12, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

**The Veterans Committee** will now be meeting monthly immediately after the Safety committee meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month.

**The Political Action Committee (PAC)-** If you have questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting you can reach out to our registrars at [registrar@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:registrar@ibewlocal58.org). Political Action Committee Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the hall at 5:30 PM.

**Local 58's Women's Committee-** Our next regular meeting is Thursday, Dec. 22, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the hall and on zoom. Please watch for emails with further updates and zoom info. This meeting will be hosted on Zoom ONLY. Information will be emailed out closer to the meeting date. If you have any questions, please contact committee chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski. Email at [58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org)

**IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association:** Our Board meetings have resumed, on the second Wednesday of the month, at the union hall. Due to the Christmas Party, we have cancelled the December meeting. The next board meeting is Jan. 11, 2023. We gather in the lower level in the "Bill Rushford Room," our meeting begins at 10 a.m. All members are welcome to attend our monthly Meetings. Our Annual Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at the Union Hall. Be sure to put the date on your calendar.

We are looking forward to a big turnout. It's a great way to kick off the holiday season, and a great chance to see all your friends for the first time in more than a year. The luncheon will be \$20 per person. Please send checks, payable to The Retirees Association, to IBEW #58, Attention Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756. For reservation questions call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885. We will have a 50/50 drawing, a wonderful luncheon and also our holiday giving baskets to benefit five of our favorite charities, that benefit children and their families.

If you haven't paid your dues for 2022 or are ready to pay your 2023 dues which are \$8 per person, per year, associate members are \$4 per year, per person, Send your check payable to the Retirees Association: IBEW local 58, Attn: Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit, MI 48232-0756. Stay in touch with one another, and enjoy the Season here in Michigan.

**The Retirees Annual Florida Luncheon** will be on Feb. 15, 2023 (Wednesday). Arrival time is 11:30 and Lunch will be served at 12:00. The location (Continued next column)



# IBEW Local 445

## IBEW Local 445

**BATTLE CREEK –** The Executive Board has a vacancy. If you would like to participate in the running of your Local, please submit a letter to the Hall in c/o Derick Boyette, Chairman. E-Board meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m.

**Battle Creek Christmas Parade.** We have entered a float into the BC Christmas Parade again this year. The Parade is going to be on Dec. 10. Contact the Chairman, Jake Westfall or call the Hall for more information.

**Christmas at the Hall:** The date has been set for the Christmas at the Hall. It will be held on Dec. 10 at 9:30am at the Hall. Please RSVP by Dec. 2, 2022 to give Grandma's Toys in Marshall time to get the appropriate toy for your child.

**First Aid/CPR class** There is a class scheduled for Monday, March 13, 2023 after the Union Meeting. We will be providing food at the meeting. Please add this to your phone's calendar. We plan on having an annual class in March of each year, so if your card is going to expire after March 2023, you will want to plan on attending this class.

**Dues Increases.** Over the next four and a half years, the dues increase voted on at the International Convention in 2022 are as follows: "A" and "BA" membership dues will increase \$2.00 per month effective Jan. 1, 2023, \$1.00 per month effective July 1, 2024, and \$1.00 per month effective July 1, 2025.

Also "A" Member Pension Benefit Fund dues will increase \$2.00 per month effective January 1, 2023, and \$2.00 per month effective January 1, 2025. The PBF increases are to ensure the I.O. retirement remains strong for our members and our members of the future and to assist in a larger premium at retirement for our Members.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, JIW rate is \$57.00/month and \$171.00/quarter, AP rate is \$46.00/month and \$138.00/quarter. If you have already paid dues past January 2023, you will be able to make up your Difference In Dues when you make your next payment in 2023.

**General Membership Meeting** is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall.

**Retiree Breakfast:** The Retiree monthly breakfast at 9am at Lux Café at 2587 Capital Ave SW. Mark your calendar for the third Thursday of each month to attend.

**Local Website -** Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is [IBEW445.com](http://IBEW445.com).

## IBEW 58, con't

tion is at Austin's Olde World Restaurant, 14415 Tamiami Trail, North Port, FL 34287. The Menu is: Caesar salad w/ rolls, Chicken Cordon Bleu w/ baked potato; Broiled Cod w/ baked potato or Pot Roast w/ mashed potatoes. Ice tea, coffee and dessert are included. The cost is \$27.00. Please make your selection and mail with a check to: Syl Ludwic, 3491 Capland Ave, Clermont, FL 34711. For Reservations or questions please call or email Syl Ludwic at cell 352-250-1178 or [sludwic@gmail.com](mailto:sludwic@gmail.com).

**Electrical Workers Credit Union -** Not A Member? Stop by Monday-Friday 9am-4pm or give us a call at (313) 963-6060 and we can mail you an application to join packet. You can also check us out at [WWW.EWCU.NET](http://WWW.EWCU.NET). We are located right across the street from the union hall.

**Be sure to keep the Union Hall** updated with any changes to your phone no., address, and email.

**Members who have Passed Away:** Kenneth Collins, Pension member, 44 year IBEW membership, Brother to the late JIW, Pension members Charles & George Collins, Brother to JIW, Pension members Edward, Glen, John, Robert Collins, Father to JIW Nicholas Collins, Brother-in-law to Pension member Paul Ouellette; Albert Crockett, Father to JIW Albert Crockett Jr.; Russell Vanderhill, Journeyman Inside Wireman.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



# IBEW Local 665

## IBEW Local 665 LANSING – WE HAVE MOVED!

Local 665 has moved locations. We are currently located at 5710 Ivan Dr. Lansing, MI 48917 Google maps had been updated. Google search IBEW Local 665 if you are looking for directions.

**WORK OUTLOOK:** Local 665 is expecting good employment for our local members and needing help from our traveling brothers. The GM Ultium 3 battery Plant will be adding additional manpower this winter and early next spring. General Motors Delta Township Plant will have a shutdown around Christmas.

Work is looking steady this winter and beyond.

**EVITP TRAINING PROGRAM:** Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program. If you are interested in helping our local secure more work in the Lansing area it is critical we sign up for this training. This program is looking to be required by the federal government to work on any large-scale electric vehicle charger stations. The program is online on your blended learning platform. Please email [Dale@lejtc.org](mailto:Dale@lejtc.org) or contact the apprenticeship office with questions or how to sign up.

**HARASSMENT TRAINING:** Harassment training has been adopted as part of our new contract. It is required for all our members to complete it. Please reach out to the JATC to sign up for it. You can email [Dale@lejtc.org](mailto:Dale@lejtc.org) to receive instructions on how to complete it.

**RETIREE DINNER:** Save the date for the next retiree dinner scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023! More details to follow.

**APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS:** We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program. To apply, go to [www.lejtc.org](http://www.lejtc.org) and navigate to the application page on the website.

Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

**DRUG TEST / MUST MODS:** If you are planning on working the shutdowns or at the Ultium Battery plant, please make sure you are current on your must mods/ OSHA 30 and your drug test. Contact the hall if you need your annual drug test or your 18 must mods.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Our general membership meeting is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS:** The Executive Board meets the second and third Monday of each month starting at 5:00 p.m.

**DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS:** 4<sup>th</sup> quarter dues should be paid at this time. We are currently at death benefit #331. Please check your dues receipt to ensure that you are current.

**BENEFICIARIES:** If you have recently gotten married, divorced, had children, etc., please make sure you update your beneficiaries. Forms are available at the hall.

**IN REMEMBRANCE:** In remembrance of local 665 members who have passed away this year.

May their memory be eternal. Larry Wisner 11/09/2022, John Freshwater 7/26/2022, Dale Cole 09/07/2021, Keith Reimel 05/04/2022, Elden Rockafellow 02/11/2022, Victor St Clair 03/09/2022

*"Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn't know you left open."*

– John Barrymore (1882 - 1942)

*"Don't waste yourself in rejection, nor bark against the bad, but chant the beauty of the good."*

– Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

*"Keep five yards from a carriage, ten yards from a horse, and a hundred yards from an elephant; but the distance one should keep from a wicked man cannot be measured."*

–Indian Proverb

*"It is easier to forgive an enemy than to forgive a friend."*

–William Blake (1757 - 1827)



# IBEW Local 131

## IBEW Local 131

**KALAMAZOO –** The next General Membership Meeting will be held on December 5, at 6 p.m.

The second reading and vote for the Bylaw changes that were submitted in November.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on December 19, at 5 p.m.

**Book 1 Resign** will be yearly on ANY normal business day during the month of December.

The Union Office will be closed Monday, December 26 for the Christmas Holiday.

Starting January 1, 2023, monthly dues will be \$44.00 per month. For those who have paid ahead, you will have to make up the difference. The website has been adjusted.

**Retiree Lunches at the following locations:**

December 21, Martell's, 3501 Greenleaf Blvd, Kalamazoo, MI. 49008 @11:30

January 18, 2023, Fletchers Pub. 3013 Oakland Drive Kalamazoo, MI. @11:00

Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m.

On the last Friday of each month a group of retirees meet at Brewster, 5135 Portage Road, Kalamazoo, MI. 49009 @11:30.

**The retirees Christmas Luncheon will be at Martell's on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 @ 11:30. Please call the Union Hall and RSVP by December 9, 2022.**

**Charlie Roberts,** a 48-year member for the local passed away on November 25, 2022. Charlie you will be missed.

**RETIREMENT:** NEBF and IBEW PBF application takes at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications.

**Toys for Tots** campaign has started. Please bring a toy to the Union Hall by December 9, 2022. Thank you for helping.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in counter dues payments: Nicholas Blaskie, Christopher Conforti, Easton Lovell, Marty Maher, Nic McKenna, Mark Melching, Thomas Pickett, Christopher Shell, Justin Sowash, Jason Streit, and William Wolgast.

**Training:** State Exam Prep class will be held from Tuesday, January 3, 2023 to February 28, 2023. Class will run from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. The class will be held at the Union Hall. Call the hall to put your name on the list.

Life events happen, and we'd always like to make sure you have updated beneficiary forms. If you're questioning whether yours is up to date, stop on down to the Hall to get new documents. If you're interested in receiving updates from the Hall, please email Christine at [cbohms@ibew131.com](mailto:cbohms@ibew131.com) to get your email address added.

Have you received a letter from TIC concerning a recent data security incident? The Member data was compromised on March 30, 2022. Please sign up for identity monitoring services with KROLL. In your letter there is a membership number. If you misplaced your letter Call TIC at 517-321-7502.

**Morris Applebey Business Manager**

*"Next to trying and winning, the best thing is trying and failing."*

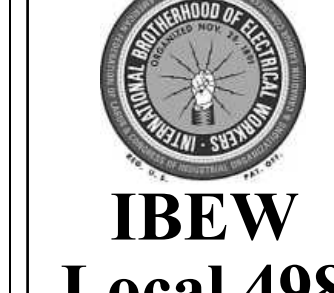
–L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

*"Never try to reason the prejudice out of a man. It was not reasoned into him, and cannot be reasoned out."*

–Sydney Smith (1771 - 1845)

*"The world stands aside to let anyone pass who knows where he is going."*

–David Starr Jordan (1851 - 1931)



# IBEW Local 498

## IBEW Local 498

**TRVERSE CITY –** Meetings.

**Regular E Board-** The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Friday, December 9th, 2022 @ 6pm.

**Regular Meeting –** The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm Friday, December 9th, 2022.

**Christmas Party's –** There is a Christmas party slated for the December 9<sup>th</sup> regular membership meeting, as usual we will have a steak fry, also bring a dish to pass for sides and or deserts. Refreshments will be provided as well. The meeting day for December was moved to Friday the 9th to accommodate for the holiday celebration.

**Resale Items –** Local 498 Challenge Coins are in the hall for your purchase. They are \$10 each. We also have Local 498 t-shirt, and Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

**EVITP –** Please call the JATC and get signed up for your EVITP training. There are state and federal requirements for all workers that are on Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure projects to have this training. Tim will get you set up if you call him, it is an online class and a proctored exam at the hall when completing the class. There is \$100 deposit for the class refunded on completion. So far we have two Journeyman that have completed the training. Please consider getting this important training if you want to be eligible to work on these projects when they are available.

**JATC Instructor-** Congratulations to Neil Carey for being picked to be the new part-time instructor.

**Scholarship –** Past charter member Brother Bob Dost has a scholarship 'Robert Paul Dost Scholarship Endowment' for High School seniors in the 5-county area around Traverse City. To access it go to [www.gtref.org/scholarships/](http://www.gtref.org/scholarships/). Local 498 Union members' children get preference to the endowment. A huge thank you in Memory of Bob Dost for his generosity and being a great union member.

**Service Pins –** Service Pins are still available at the union hall for those members who have not received them. Stop by and get yours today!

**Made in America Websites –** [www.theunionbootpro.com](http://www.theunionbootpro.com) - 100% American made/union made. Union member discounts 27% off. Use this code when ordering. Be0498mD or order toll free 1-800-723-5384.

**Email Addresses -** Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communication to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at [ibew@local498.net](mailto:ibew@local498.net) Thank you!

**Important numbers for you to write in your address book:**

**MEEHP (Health)** 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508

**MEPPP (MI Pension)** 1-517-321-7502

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917

NEBF 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300

IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES

Jan 1, 2022 - \$140.10/Quarter

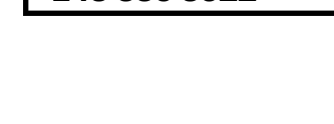
Jan 1, 2023 – Dues increase to \$152.10/Quarter.

**Info Updates –** Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time.

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#

**BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON** Real Estate Training Inc. 901 Tower Drive, Suite 120 Troy, MI 48068 [www.middletontraining.com](http://www.middletontraining.com) 248-885-8311





**IBEW Local 252**

ANN ARBOR – ELECTRICAL VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE TRAINING PROGRAM (EVITP): The \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment Act passed last year will provide millions of labor hours for the IBEW! We need to be ready for the installation of upcoming electric vehicle charging stations. This training is critical to securing this work. Please call the JATC and get on the list to get the EVITP training.

**BE SURE TO KEEP BENEFICIARY FORM UPDATED:** A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office AND at the hall for anyone that may need to update beneficiary information. If your information needs to be updated, it needs to be updated at **BOTH TRAINING CLASSES 2022: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM**

- 1. CPR/FIRST AID:** Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>
- 2. BICSI IN101 Installer:** Mondays, August 29<sup>th</sup> thru December 5<sup>th</sup>. GOOD FOR 35 BICSI CEU's!
- 3. Instrumentation Part A:** Mondays, October 3<sup>rd</sup> thru December 19<sup>th</sup>

There will not be a code update required in 2022. We will offer classes as soon as the state adopts a new NEC 2020 or 2023. There is a \$50 fee to hold a spot in all classes except First Aid/CPR. You must register one week prior to class start date. Call the Training Center at (734) 475-1180 to register. Masks must be worn at all times in school.

**Residential Apprenticeship Committee:** The Residential Apprenticeship Committee has an opening. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact the Union Hall at (734) 424-0978.

**Retirees' Card Game:** The first Thursday of every month Local 252 and UA 190 retirees meet at the Union Hall for card games and donuts. The games start at 9 a.m. Please come join the fun.

**Retirees' Breakfast:** The Retirees' Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant.

**Annual Christmas Party:** This year's Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2022, at the Union Hall. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 7:30 p.m.

**Union 4 Life Gun Calendar:** Purchase your 2023 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2023 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2022! Beginning Monday, January 3, 2023, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win!

Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2023. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, at the Training Center, or online at [www.union4lifecharity.com](http://www.union4lifecharity.com).

**M.U.S.T DRUG TESTING:** Please make sure your MUST drug testing is current as you cannot work on a U-M project or several other projects in the jurisdiction without being current. Local 252 has a zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use.

**ERTS:** Please make sure that you are signed up in the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up in ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back.

**Aflac Insurance:** Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate. Contact Representative Lisa Enerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone number: (517) 306-0144.

**AT&T Discount:** Union members can save up to 15% (Continued next column)



## IBEW LOCAL 948

**IBEW Local 948**

FLINT – Our December Union Meeting will be held on Monday, Dec. 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Our December Executive Board Meeting will be held TBD, at 4:30 pm.

The Next Retiree Club Meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 9:00am then Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022, at 9:00am.

**Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content.** [www.local948.com](http://www.local948.com).

You can pay over the phone with debit or credit card. You can also stop by the Hall during business hours (7am-noon/ 1-4pm) and pay by cash, check, debit or credit card. **Do not wait till you owe a reinstatement fee (4 months behind).**

**2023 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$47.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$44.70 a month**

**2022 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month**

If you are unfamiliar with our referral procedure, please refer to our website @ [http://local948.org/job\\_referrals/](http://local948.org/job_referrals/)

**Gregory Remington, Business Manager**

**E-mail and Re-signs:** If the Hall does not have your e-mail address it would be a good idea to send us an e-mail to [jwallace@local948.org](mailto:jwallace@local948.org) so we can add you to the e-mail list. This is a great way to keep up with the latest information on job calls and other information sent from the Hall.

## IBEW 252, con't

on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans, or unlimited calling for \$15/mo. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit [UnionPlus.org/ATT](http://UnionPlus.org/ATT) with discount code 4924966.

**Condolences:** The Local sends our condolences to the Schultz family of the passing of Louise Schultz, wife of former retiree Donald, mother to Eugene and former member Dale, and sister to John Briston who passed away on November 11, 2022.

**RETIREMENT:** NEBF and applications take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. IBEW PBF applications usually take 3 months to process but are running a couple months behind.

IBEW PBF applications can be filled out 6 months before your planned retirement date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork at least 3-6 months before your planned retirement date. You will be asked to submit copies of social security cards, birth certificates, marriage certificate, divorce decrees, etc. for you and your spouse with your applications. For a full list of required documents please contact the Union Hall.

**NOTICE TO RETIREES:** If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the hall.

**CREDIT CARDS:** The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3.5% to use your card.

**UNION DUES FOR 2023:** Effective Jan. 1, 2023, union dues for "A" members will increase to \$131.25 per quarter. Union dues for "BA" members will remain \$61.80 per quarter for 2023.

**DUES PAYMENTS –** Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 9/2022, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2022. "BA" members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2022. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Your fourth quarter dues (October through December) are due now. **Payments for fourth quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, December 30, 2022.**

**Monday December 26<sup>th</sup> and Monday January 2<sup>nd</sup> will be observed as the holidays per all collective bargaining agreements. The office also will close at noon on December 23, 2022.**



## IBEW Local 692

**IBEW Local 692**

BAY CITY – **Union Meeting.** The December monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Dec. 5, 2022.** Hopefully we will see everyone there.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The December Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Dec. 19, 2022.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** Recently it was proposed and overwhelmingly approved by the membership to raise the death benefit from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per death of a member. Last week, I received notification from International Vice President Paul Noble that the International Office has also approved this By-Laws change.

There are some software updates that will be needed in order to make this change possible. There will also need to be some record keeping updated in order to facilitate this change. For these reasons, effective Jan. 1, 2023 the death benefit increase from \$5 to \$10 will take place.

**Work Report.** The first and most important thing I am going to say about the work outlook is supply issues continue to slow or stall projects. This is our work outlook to the best of my knowledge.

Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction that may require additional manpower include:

Nelson Electric – GM Powertrain work started on Oct. 3 and will run through the end of the year. Swan Electric – Multiple DTE natural gas pumping stations throughout Zones 1 and 2. This project just as many others have seen delays due to supply issues.

J.Ranck Electric – continuing work on phase 1 of the SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility, the second phase of which is valued at over \$300 million and slated to kick off in Jan. 2023. Ranck Electric has also secured the balance of system work on a Solar Farm in Gladwin Co.. Goyette Mechanical continues PFAS filtration and mitigation work in Oscoda.

Countyline Power has secured upcoming wastewater treatment facility work at Saginaw Eagles Landing in Standish, multiple pump stations in the Mt. Pleasant and Clare areas, MDOT Welcome Center remodel in Clare, and runway lighting at Gladwin Airport.

Bay City's Kam 3 & 4 seems to be remaining operational until 2031, which will likely lead to multiple electrical projects this Fall. Robinson Industries in Coleman plans to rebuild facilities damaged in their recent fire, our contractors are expected to secure that work and hire late this year. Northpointe Distribution Center (Frito Lay) has been secured by Clements Electric. You have been seeing dirt being moved on this project with steel to follow in the next couple weeks.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Detroit, Traverse City and Lansing may soon have calls getting into Book II if you are looking to travel. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

**In Solidarity, Ryan Charney, Business Manager / Financial Secretary**

**Organizers Report.** Labor-endorsed candidates were very successful in gaining the electorates' trust through the ballot box. Although we may like to take a break from politics and enjoy the victory, the real work starts now. Democrats will control the Governorship, the Secretary of State, Attorney General's office, represent a majority on the Michigan Supreme Court, and for the first time in nearly 40 years both branches of the state legislature. This is a big deal.

Rest assured that union officials will demand action on legislation that matters most to organized labor, the building trades, and working families. Right-to-Work will be repealed. An unequivocal reinstatement of Prevailing Wage on all state funded projects over \$50k is expected, as is a repeal of the pension tax (all union-killing measures enacted by past Republican legislatures and administrations). (Continued on Page 10)



## IBEW Local 275

**IBEW Local 275**

COOPERSVILLE – Dear Brothers and Sisters, We hope that you all are enjoying the holiday season. Work remains the same as it has been with some recent layoffs and jobs that are looking to start soon. We are seeing signs for a potentially busy winter and spring if all projects start at their projected time.

As you may have heard from the election season Michigan flipped both the house and senate for the first time in 40 years. This is a huge win for Labor as repealing right to work and prevailing wage improvements remain at the top of their lists. We would like to thank all of those that helped during this cycle to make this happen.

As a reminder, December's meeting will include a full dinner, so please join us if you are able.

(Continued next column)



## IBEW LOCAL 906

**IBEW Local 906**

UPPER PENINSULA – MEETINGS.

MARQUETTE UNIT–First Tuesday

IRON MOUNTAIN UNIT–Second Tuesday

ESCANABA UNIT–Second Wednesday

IBEW 906 presented the following members with service pins:

**5 Year Pins:** Daniel Bal, Robert D. Carlson, Jamie Collins, John DuBuis, Patrick Gimse, Sean Harris, Jacob Heidtman, Cole Kositzky, Jay Lori, Jeffery Sanderson, Alexander Mumm and Kyle Teneyck.

**30 Year Pin:** Anthony Zar.

**35 Year Pins:** Patrick Alworden, Aaron Dupuydt, Bret Fisher and Gerald Girard.

**40 Year Pins:** Steve Ross, Robert Koerschner and Thomas Nagy.

**45 Year Pins:** James McClelland and Elvin Hixon

We congratulate these members and thank them for their service.

A reminder to all that beginning Jan. 1 the monthly dues will increase to \$45. This increase was acted upon and passed at the International Convention in May. Please make sure you inform the service or person paying the dues of this change.

IBEW 906 will start an Apprentice class on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. The individuals have been notified and we are awaiting their acceptance to the program.

Billrud negotiations have wrapped up with a Tentative 5 year Agreement. The members will vote on this agreement on Nov. 28. Details of the vote will be announced in the next newsletter.

IBEW 906 will participate in an Industry night event on Jan. 5 at the Ramada Inn in Marquette. This event will include Industry leaders from this area along with a panel discussion hosted by our good friend and Brother Sean Egan, Deputy Director, Labor and Economic Opportunity.

We are into the Holiday Season with everyone on the move. Please take care on the roads and watch out for the other guy. Let's be extra safe this year.

Reminder, monthly dues are now \$45.00. Please make timely dues payments to avoid any lapse in death benefits.

Please remember that address changes and phone changes along with new additions to the families need to be passed on to the Hall and the Pension and Health Plans.

If you have any information you would like to see noted in this article or something you believe should be published please email the Hall with your request. [lbw906@gmail.com](mailto:lbw906@gmail.com)

December is also the last month to redeem any volunteer reward points you may have gotten this year, as they do not carry over.

As of January 2023, Dues increase \$4 to \$46.90 per month. Please adjust your autopay if you have it set up.

As of this writing the following members are 3 or more

months behind in dues: Gary Bloyce, Ramon Diaz, Kenneth Krawczak, and Dan Weirs. Please make every effort to get caught up.

Please remember that re-sign is the 10th through the 16th of each month. If your re-sign is not in by the 16th, you will be rolled off the Book. You may contact Geoff at the Hall if you need assistance.



## IBEW LOCAL 557

**IBEW Local 557**

SAGINAW – **Union News-** Good afternoon brothers and sisters! Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and you had to add an extra notch to your belts. Just a gentle reminder to get your electrical licenses renewed. Get on it guys!

Recently, you may have received a notice from our third-party administrator, TIC, regarding a cyber security breach and some sensitive information being hacked. Please do not disregard this notice. If you are unsure your information was affected you can call the Hall and see if you are on the list that has been shared with IBEW Business Managers. Please take the time to complete the free credit monitoring services that are detailed in the mailing. If you do not sign up for the credit monitoring before the end of November, you may not be able to take advantage of this.

EVITP classes are now available through the apprenticeship program. If you need a computer to complete the course, we now have a system up and running for members to utilize. Exams to pass the course will be offered at the Local 557 Union Hall on the third Monday of each month. A \$50 deposit is required to take the course and will be returned to you upon completion of the course. If you'd like to enroll contact the apprenticeship office at 810-720-0583.

At the IBEW Convention in May, a resolution was passed by the delegates to increase International dues. Effective January 1, member's I.O. dues portion will increase by \$4 per month. This will also include an increase to each member's PBF pension benefit going forward from January 1, 2023. Members will now see a bump to \$5.50 per year of service until retirement.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS-** Our next meeting is December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. To keep with our Christmas tradition, a catered meal will be available after the meeting and years of service pins will be distributed during the meeting.

This year's recipients of pins for 50 years and above of service include: James Darling, Larry Carter, David Lednicki, James Macmillan, James Mendel, James Neuhaus, Dale Hoepfner, John Traverse, and Kenneth Schramke. Congrats to those retirees and we hope to see you make it out to accept your pin!

**MICHIGAN INITIATIVE-** Please contact Brother Gus Voisine for any organizing issues you see or have. If our members have any questions or work tips they can reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046.

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS-** We're back to our regularly scheduled program. If you have any questions or issues, our Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm.

**BOOK SIGNING-** If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off, please come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-town Books, please call the hall to arrange this.

**WORK OUTLOOK-** Same as last week ya'll. It's layoff season, so grab your pocket books and save for Christmas. Future HSC work should start in the first quarter of 2023. Esccon is working at Michigan Sugar in Caro. Master Electric is catching up at the Caro Mental Hospital. Maybe someday they'll be done. J. Ranck will do some preliminary work on the 2 Solar Farms this fall. Slow going projects include-everything (haha) The new Saginaw United High School, Handley school, and Animal Shelter

**ELECTIONS-** Ok guys, I know you're tired of it, but please, let's hold our newly elected politicians accountable and make sure they're working for US! Read those silly posts on Facebook they make and listen when they do interviews. There's lots we can learn and if they're doing something you're not a fan of-reach out! That's why they have office staff. Don't be afraid to contact your congressman or representative with concerns.

**HEALTH CARE-** The completion of the Optum pharmacy services transition is now taking place. Members who did not receive a new Blue Cross card last year will get one this year. Keep an eye out for these new cards in the mail don't throw them away. If you used Express-scripts for your RX needs, BCBS has opted to use Optum Rx in its place. The main changes apply to members who have their Rx delivered to their homes. Action is necessary to not see a break in your service.

Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and also help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit [www.bcbsm.com](http://www.bcbsm.com). Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

**BLUE CROSS APP-**Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for BCBSM on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include: instant access to EOB's, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOB's can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt requests.

**WEX APP-** Search for the "TIC HRA" app in Google or Apple and download it today. Utilization of this app will give you access to account balances, receipt reviews and submittals, barcode scanning for covered items, other helpful services. This is a great tool to accompany your Health Care benefits.

**JOB CALLS-** Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. **All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK dont forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3.**

**STAY CURRENT ON DUES:** Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

**CONTACT NUMBERS-** Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website [mielectricalhealth.org](http://mielectricalhealth.org)

In Solidarity,  
**Breanna DePottay, Press Secretary/Registrar**

### CASH FOR SCRAP METAL

**Aluminum - Copper - Brass  
Nickel - Alloys - Carbide  
Radiators - Lead - Batteries**

<p style="margin: 0;"><b>McNichols</b> Scrap Iron &amp; Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) <a href="http://mcnicholsscrap.com">mcnicholsscrap.com</a> <b>(313) 365-6100</b></p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Detroit</b> Iron &amp; Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) <a href="http://detroitironandmetal.com">detroitironandmetal.com</a> <b>(313) 841-5100</b></p>
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## IBEW Local 692

(Continued from Page 9)

Holding our political leaders accountable on these legislative priorities will allow our contractors to secure more work and put money in our members' pockets.

That is the sole reason we are so involved in the political arena, to secure the financial security of working men and women and strengthen our communities. We also expect our elected officials to deal with issues such as combatting inflation, increasing unemployment compensation, continued investments with infrastructure improvements, supporting our public schools, and population retention by providing jobs that pay a livable wage. We must ensure our political leaders deliver for Michigan workers. If you voted in the midterms or volunteered for candidates, thank you.

If you'd like to register on any other IBEW Local out-of-work lists, please reach out to the hall for details on which locals accept fax or email registration. There are currently nearly 250 open calls throughout the Sixth District (Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin) and an additional 1,300 unfilled calls for manpower elsewhere nationwide.

692 Organizers continue to visit jobsites within our jurisdiction to speak with unrepresented electricians, building relationships and discussing the opportunities that exist by joining our Brotherhood. We should never lose sight of the organizing mission that guided the birth and growth of the IBEW. Our founders built a strong union by organizing all qualified workers, which allows us to build a higher union density and ultimately increases our bargaining power during negotiations.

Brian Klele 989.252.9225  
Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131

**Union Dues.** PLEASE NOTE: The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May approved a per capita increase of \$2.00 as well as a \$2.00 increase paid into the Pension Benefit Fund (PBF).

Therefore, effective January 1, 2023, monthly dues will increase to \$45.20 per month.

**If you have automatic bill pay from your bank or credit union, please make sure to notify them of the increase.**

Dues can be paid via phone, on-line, by mail or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. Please note when using a credit card for payments there will be a 2% charge applied.

**2023 Dues**  
Monthly \$45.20  
Quarterly \$135.60  
6 months \$271.20  
Yearly \$542.40

To avoid a reinstatement fee, please remember to keep your dues current.

**Death Benefits.** Recently it was proposed and overwhelmingly approved by the membership to raise the death benefit from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per death of a member. Last week, we received notification that the International Office has also approved this By-Laws change.

There are some software updates that will be needed in order to make this change possible. There will also need to be some record keeping updated in order to facilitate this change. For these reasons, effective January 1st, 2023 the death benefit increase from \$5.00 to \$10.00 will take place.

**Retirees Lunch.** The next retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 PM on Thursday, December 15 at Barney's Bar, located at 800 Michigan Avenue in Bay City.

**RENEW.** It is the goal of the RENEW committee to increase younger members' involvement in their local union. If you are a member in good standing, 35 years old or younger and would like to participate in 692's RENEW committee, please contact Cody (989.600.4643) for more information. RENEW meetings are held once a month following our general membership meeting.

**REMINDER:** If you contact the Health Plan Office about going on short term disability, it is important for you to notify the Hall as well. A copy of your paperwork will need to be submitted to the Hall for your file. This will also freeze your position on the out of work list.



## Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

**Heat & Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 25**  
SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING - The next Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, Dec. 8, at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield. This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED for elections. Apprentice attendance is MANDATORY.

**ELECTIONS:** Elections will take place Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022. The polls will be opened 1 to 6 p.m. The following members are running for the following positions:

**Executive Board-3 positions-2 year terms:** Scott Nolan, Ed Howard, Randy Rowell  
**Pension Fund Trustee-1 position-3 year term, 1 position-remaining 1 year term:** Scott Nolan, Ed Howard

**Welfare Fund Trustee-1 position-3 year term, 1 position-remaining 2 year term:** Jim Boyd, Ed Howard, Randy Rowell, Connie Vincent

**S.U.B. Fund Trustee-1 position-3 year term:** Micah Vincent, Randy Rowell

**J.A.T.C. Trustee-1 position-3 year term:** David Chudzinski, Jr., Dave Kottke

**Union Trustee-1 position-3 year term:** Connie Vincent, Randy Rowell

**Entertainment Committee-2 positions-1 year terms:** Tami Ducker, Robert Ducker

**Sgt-At-Arms-1 position-1 year term:** Micah Vincent, Connie Vincent, Robert Ducker

**Recording Secretary-1 position-remaining 1 year term:** Micah Vincent

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS:** For absentee ballot procedures and information refer to Article XX, Section 13 and 14 of the International Constitution and Bylaws.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The Annual Local 25 Christmas Party will be held Saturday, December 17, 2022. The event will take place at Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia. Invitations and R.S.V.P. cards are being mailed. Please be reminded, the only way to reserve your spot at the party is to return the R.S.V.P. card. No verbal R.S.V.P. will be taken.

**PANCAKES WITH SANTA:** The Union will be hosting Pancakes with Santa at the Union Hall on Dec. 3, 2022 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. We'll be serving breakfast, kids can roast s'mores, have some hot cocoa, visit with Santa and enjoy other Christmas activities. **STILL NEEDED** – volunteers to help make it happen. Please contact Jim Boyd, David Chudzinski, Jr. or B.J. Claxton if you can provide some help.

**APPAREL.** New Local 25 apparel is available at the Union Hall. New items include: knit hats and beanies, new hi-vis short and long sleeved t-shirts and hi-vis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

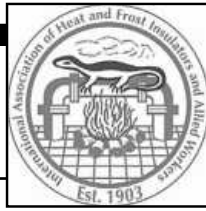
**MUST SAFETY MODULES:** It is important to keep your MUST Safety Modules up to date. If you have Modules expiring and needing to be completed, give the Union Office a call to have the testing authorization turned on.

**EMPLOYMENTCHANGES:** All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct.

**LAY OFF/HIRE:** Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within forty-eight hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine.

**SUB FUND:** Please be reminded, in order to receive a SUB Fund check on Friday, all paperwork must be submitted to the Office no later than 2 p.m. Thursday.

**SUB FUND TIME LIMITATION:** Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within thirty (30) days of receipt of (Continued next column)



## Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

**Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47**

LANSING – \*The next Notified Union Meeting will be held Friday, Dec. 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the JATC Training center located at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48933. Please note that this is a Mandatory Meeting for all Local 47 Apprentices. The purpose of this meeting is for the Election of Officers.

To combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members to continue to work safe, and if you feel sick contact a doctor immediately.

All members should have received a letter from our International regarding the Asbestos Exposure Scientific Study. For more information on how to participate in this study, please contact Business Manager Patrick Welch at the main Local 47 Office number: 517-708-0665.

**Per the Rules and Procedures:** Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed, you can do so by calling or texting the office at (517) 708-0665 with your layoff date and the name of the Contractor you were laid off from.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

**OSHA 10:** Local 47 will be offering OSHA 10 to any Active Member who is not current with the program. The course is done online, so if you wish to take the course, please contact the Local Union office with your email address and we will be more than happy to set it up for you. If you do not have a computer at home, you are welcome to come to the Local Union Office to take the course.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. There are several members who have the number blocked and therefore are not receiving the Robo Calls. These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

Local 47 has been receiving a lot of returned mail from our members. We ask that if you have a change of address or phone number to please call the Local Union Office right away so we can update your information throughout our system, TIC's,

## Local 25 cont'd

said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the (30) days will be denied per the Plan Document.

**NOTICE TO ALL:** When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a

charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

**BENESYS:** When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information. Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members. In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

**SICK AND INJURED:** Please keep all our sick and injured members in your thoughts and prayers.

and the with the International. It is very important to make sure your contact information is always update with Local 47.

Local 47 has mailed out our Election Ballots for this years Election to all Active Journeyman. Please cast your vote and mail it in. If you have not received your ballot please contact the Local Union Office so we can mail you a new ballot. You can also contact the Union Office if you have any questions. Don't wait to the last minute to mail your ballot in!

**Pension and Health Welfare:** Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671. Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds

6525 Centurion Drive Lansing, MI 48917-9275

Toll Free: (800) 323-8079

Telephone: (517) 321-7502

Fax: (517) 321-7508

Joshua Kroell will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Joshua is the Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be reached by phone at (989) 385-2671, or by mail at: P.O. Box 1498, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804.

To all active members, if you have not sent in your Coordination of Benefits Form, your Spousal Form, or your Birth Certificates for your Children, no one will be covered on our insurance until these items are sent to TIC. Please call TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and get the above-mentioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively

Remember that Auto and Motorcycle accidents are not covered by our plan. Auto and Motorcycle accidents should be covered by your personal Auto Insurance policy.

Members having questions regarding Pension and Welfare Fund please contact TIC International at the numbers below or log onto their Website: www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org

**Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.**

**JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)**

Applications are open for the Apprenticeship Program. Call the Union Office.

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 part L, page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states, "According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are required to accurately fill out the online work report for NO later than ten (10) days from the end of the current work week."

**Good and Welfare:** Get well to all our sick and/or injured members.



## Local 25 Iron Workers

**Iron Workers Local 25**

NOVI – All Union Halls will be closed for Christmas & New Years on the following days: Friday, Dec. 23, Monday, Dec. 26, Friday, Dec. 30 and Monday, Jan. 2, 2023. We wish all our union members and their families a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

**December vacation checks:** Refer any issue(s) with vacation checks, to Dennis Aguirre.

**The December Union meeting is cancelled due to the Holidays.**

January's Union meeting will be Monday, Jan. 30, 2023 at 7 pm.

BYLAW(S) Proposals will be due in the Novi Union Hall ON OR BEFORE 4:00 pm Jan. 30, 2023. This meeting will be the first Reading of any proposed by law(s). If you plan to mail in a proposal, please make sure it arrives several days earlier than Monday 1/30/2023. We've noticed mail has been slow in Michigan, so please be aware!

February's Union meeting will be Monday, Feb. 27, 2023 at 7:00 pm. This union meeting will be the second Reading of any proposed by law(s). The third Reading will be during March's Union meeting Monday March 27, 2023, with the Vote date TBD.

**Steward meeting(s):** The Lansing Steward Christmas open house meeting will be Monday Dec. 12 at 6:30 pm. The Flint Steward Christmas open house meeting will be Wednesday Dec. 21 at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Steward Christmas open house meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 29 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

**Stewards' Notes:** 1) The link for Online Steward Report forms is found in the upper right-hand corner of our website www.ironworkers25.org LOG-IN DIRECTIONS will follow once you click the link that reads "Electronic Steward Reports." These forms are much easier than the paper forms, we encourage you to give it a try if you have not yet done so. 2) PLEASE be sure to check dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH THE RECIPROCAL AND THE ASSESSMENT-TARGETING. 3) All members please be sure to keep your Union dues paid up to date as it is criteria for working. You can be asked to leave the jobsite if your dues are not current. 4) Doby/Travel Service Dues are \$10.00 per week.

**The Iron Workers Annual Saturday's Christmas Party is SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 2022 (9:30 - 1 PM)** at the Novi Union Hall. Bring the kids for the magic show, crafts, pictures, hot dogs, pop & chips, cotton candy, popcorn, raffles, and of course Santa Claus and gifts for kids to age 10.

**The 2023 Dennis O'Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available.** All COMPLETED applications must be turned in by March 15, 2023. Call the Novi Union Hall 248-344-9494 to get one mailed or E-mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible.

**New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org, print the application, gather documentation then phone the school for an appointment; no walk-in foot traffic.** The Wixom Training Center – Phone: 248-960-2130

Apprentices: Fill out your

monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In," this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also located under the apprenticeship tab you will find "Evaluation Form" Journeyman/Supervision can use this to submit apprentice evaluations using computer/cell phone and submit electronically. Please also note, you must check your email for your pay raise slips.

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule. The 2022 Raising Gang Training schedule is one the website. Please call the school to make up days .... Do not just show up and expect to be allowed to stay.

**The Ironworkers Local 25 APP & Website:** Members are able to access the log-in section and can sign up for our Alerts & E-mails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the push notifications.

**FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:** 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The mailing address for member BENEFIT related matters is: Iron Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue Cross Health Claims and Customer Service 877-790-2583. Delta Dental Claims and Customer Service 800-482-8915.

**BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD:** Any member who has a newborn child, or a new dependent child through marriage MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).

**BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE:** Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).

**The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club:** The Novi Chapter Board of Directors will meet (updated) Wednesday Dec. 7, at 9 am. The Retirees meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday Dec. 20 at 10 am in Novi. All are welcome.

**The West Michigan Chapter Retirees** breakfast will meet Tuesday Dec. 6 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI 49330. Future meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

**The Bay City Chapter:** The next quarterly meeting will be in January 2023 (TBD) at the Bay City American Legion Post 18, 700 Adams St., Bay City, MI 48708. All are welcome.

**The Downriver Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet in January 2023 (TBD) at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. Future meetings scheduled every quarter going forward. All are welcome.

**(NEW) Dial 988 for help in a Time of Crisis.** Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. 988 connects cell phones & land lines to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 24/7. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential. Alternately 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255).

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (November 28, 2022 12:00 pm E.S.T.)-



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## BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING – DECEMBER 2022 CHAPTER MEETINGS

**METRO DETROIT CHAPTER:** Tuesday, December 06, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, December 06, 2022 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

**FLINT CHAPTER:** Wednesday, December 07, 2022 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

**K A L A - M A Z O O CHAPTER:** Thursday, December 08, 2022 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

**LANSING CHAPTER:** Monday, December 12, 2022 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

**MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, December 19, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, December 27, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

**TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

**DEATHS REPORTED:** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother John Vandekerckhove** (Bricklayer) who passed away on November 20, 2022. Brother Vandekerckhove had been a member for 4 years.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** BAC Local 2 and Motor City Cruise have partnered up to offer a discount on their upcoming games. Tickets are \$5 each but the first is free. Members can purchase up to 4 tickets total. Use the link below and be sure to use BAC as the discount code.

**WEBSITE UPDATES:** Be sure to check out our new website at <https://www.bricklayers.org> and our app, which can be found in the IOS and Android app stores by searching for Bricklayers Local 2.

**CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED:** We need Skilled Bricklayers, Restoration workers and Caulkers in Metro Detroit. If you are available for work, or know anyone who is skilled in our crafts, contact your Field Representative on their cell phone. You can also have those who are interested call either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781.

**SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS:** Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get the same amount as a **Finders Referral Bonus** for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781. You can view the full Signing Bonus policy on our website.

**A SPEEDY RECOVERY:** A speedy recovery is wished to all those who have been sick or injured. Let's keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

**\*IMPORTANT CHANGE Regarding Union Dues\*** All Local 2 Members are now eligible for a Union Dues discount, regardless of what month you are paid through currently. This offer is a great way to catch up on your monthly window dues by taking advantage of this annual dues discount.

**We are making available to ALL Local 2 members the opportunity to pay for 6 months of union dues and receive credit for 12 months. An entire year (Continued next column)**



## Local 36 Elevator Constructors

**Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED** that our next regular **MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOR DECEMBER 26, 2022 WILL BE CANCELLED DUE TO THE HOLIDAY. Our next scheduled Membership meeting will be held on Monday, January 23, 2023 at 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI.** Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

**ATTENTION,** Applications for the International Union of Elevator Constructors Local #36 Joint Apprenticeship Training Program for Detroit will be accepted from 1/2/23 at 12am through 1/16/23 at 11:59 pm. All applications must be completed online by visiting: [www.neieprecruitment.com](http://www.neieprecruitment.com). For more information email the Local Area Coordinator at [JLMiller@neiep.org](mailto:JLMiller@neiep.org).

**Attention all Members,** Dues cards, 2023 wages and 2023 zone pay were mailed out

### Local 2 cont'd

**for half the price!!**  
**BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS:** Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2022 online training classes.

**DETROIT IMI TRAINING CENTER:** To schedule appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

**APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS:** Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice Worksheets **MUST** be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/member-resources>. For more information on the Training Centers visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

**MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE:** During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday – Friday 8 am – 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

**FACEBOOK:** "Like" Local 2 on Facebook "Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 of Michigan."

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via e-mail. Please submit your address by sending an e-mail to [information@bricklayers.org](mailto:information@bricklayers.org) and in the subject line place "Local #2 e-mail address" then type your name, phone number and e-mail address in the body of the communication. We appreciate your time and effort in helping us accomplish this task.

**BAC 2 MI TEXTING PROGRAM:** We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership lately. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our text messages by texting 2MI to 877877. You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#). Respond with your six-digit IU number and you will receive Local 2 Text Messages going forward!

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION.** BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000 Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (800) 531-2244 Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension & Vacation Fund – (248) 813-9800 Cement Pension & Holiday Funds – (248) 645-6550 CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362 International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 ([bacbenefits.org](http://bacbenefits.org))

and should have been received by now, if you didn't receive them, please contact the hall. Effective December 1, 2022 a Twenty Five Dollar (\$25) assessment will be collected on dues paid by 12/31/22 for the IUEC Death Benefit Fund Policy. An explanation of this will also be mailed out with dues cards. Any questions contact the hall.

**Attention all City of Detroit and State of Michigan Licenses holders,** if a car is **RED TAGGED** by an inspector **DO NOT** remove that tag and work on an elevator without contacting the inspector first. The City and State will be coming after your license and the person holding the Contractor's License, not the boss that told you to take it off.

I can't stress enough how important it is to have your licenses once you are eligible to take the test. The more you educate yourself, the more valuable you are as an Elevator Constructor.

Local 36 is working with Local 85, Lansing and the EIWP on holding Code Outreach classes on Monday nights, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes. Contact the Hall if you are interested and the link will be sent for online or phone participation. We are also holding code book layout sessions monthly, this is a great class for all members so you can reference the codes easily for testing, maintenance, construction or studying/taking the State/City tests.

If anyone is interested in QEI training, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list, we need a few more guys to host it locally. Call the hall if you need more information.

Anyone interested in getting certified in Welding, you can sign up with [NEIEP@Local85.org](mailto:NEIEP@Local85.org) or call Mike Janca.

**ATTENTION ALL RETIREES,** if you requested an Honorary Card in the past year, please contact the Hall. We have multiple cards at the Hall, but we don't have updated numbers or emails to be able to contact you. We can make arrangements to get it to you if you can't make it to a meeting.

**ATTENTION ALL MECHANICS,** if you are working with a Probationary Apprentice, fill out their OJTs honestly so the JAC can address any issues with them if needed.

**Attention All Apprentices,** Check your NEIEP emails frequently for additional information. OJT forms need to be completed by the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!**

**Attention All Temporary Mechanics,** your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement **MUST** be signed by the end of each month. If you can't make the union meeting to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the next day.

**Attention All Members,** all testing must be done according to Michigan State Code and your company's MCP, remember YOUR license is being put on these forms so do the test correctly no matter how long it takes!!

**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can get you on the email list.** Holiday seasons have arrived, stay focused on the job at hand so we can all have a safe and happy holiday season. If you need anything or are having hard times reach out to the Hall.

We would like to extend get well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!

*"Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from a religious conviction."*

—Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

*"It's amazing how quickly nature consumes human places after we turn our backs on them. Life is a hungry thing."*

—Scott Westerfeld,

*"There is hardly any personal defect which an agreeable manner might not gradually reconcile one to."*

—Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)

*"Courage is saying, 'Maybe what I'm doing isn't working; maybe I should try something else.'"*

—Anna Lappe,

*"One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar."*

—Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

**Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514**

DETROIT – The next membership meeting has been cancelled due to the Annual membership Christmas Party.

**On Saturday, Dec. 10, we will be having our annual Christmas Party for our members starting at 11 am-4 pm.**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the retirees that you all are safe and well.

**Deaths Reported.** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Earl Burnette who passed away Nov. 12, 2022. Brother Burnette had been a member for 57 years.

**Membership gold cards- Congratulations!**

**Mario Moreno – 25 Years  
Tyron Parks – 50 Years  
Dero Timms Jr. – 50 Years  
Spencer Junior – 60 Years**

Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account. To activate your Blue Cross member account online go to [bcbsm.com/register](http://bcbsm.com/register) and select register now.

It is important for all members to keep the Local updated on addresses, email and phone numbers. If you need to change an address or add an email and phone number, please call the Local at (248) 548-0800.

Lawrence Nemeth is the Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313) 350-0389.

Attention all Apprentices now you will need to go to the website: [www.micementplasterertraining.com](http://www.micementplasterertraining.com) to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions". You will be able to put in your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please feel free to contact Larry with any questions you might have.

If you are a Military Veteran, please contact the Local so we can update our records. Please call (248) 548-0800.

**The Local's website is: [www.opcmiami.org](http://www.opcmiami.org).**

**Please refer to website for updated information.**

**O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a satellite office in Flint, Michigan. We welcome Member and**

**Contractors in the Flint area to handle their business transactions at: 2630 Grand Traverse, Flint, MI 48503. Appointments may be made by contacting Business Agent Mike Stanfield at (517) 719-2316, or the Business Manager Henry Williams at (313) 215-5063.**

Members working for non-signatory commercial contractors are having a negative impact on our market share. The work forecast this year looks better than last. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fines will be enforced. Let's work together to secure our future!!

Please make sure your modules and drug test are up to date, there are some plant jobs that do require the MUST modules. You can go online at: [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) Call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

Please make sure that we have all of your current contact information, address and phone number so we can keep the fund offices updated for your health care and pension and also if you are having your vacation checks mailed out. If you have moved, please contact the Local and we will change your addresses with all of the fund offices.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PLASTERERS AND DETROIT COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS:** You are able to find out more about Fund investments, change your investments, obtain your balances, and during regular business hours, speak to a representative by contacting Principal either via its website, [www.Principal.com](http://www.Principal.com) or by telephone, 800-547-7754.

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

- Go online: [Principal.com](http://Principal.com)
- If you are a first time user, go to [Principal.com/Welcome](http://Principal.com/Welcome)
- Select Get Started.
- Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identity), and your ID number (this is either your Social Security number or a specific ID provided by your employer) or Zip code.
- Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

- If you don't provide your mobile phone number you'll need to answer a few personal questions as an alternative way to confirm it's really you.
- Create a unique username, set a secure password and add your email address.
- Select and answer three security questions to use if you need to call us.

You now have access to your online account and you'll get a confirmation email within a few minutes.

The first time you log in, you'll need to choose where we send you verification codes (text message, voice call or authentication app) and how often you want to use them.

Feel free to call Principal at 1-800-547-7754 and speak with someone between 7 am – 9pm CT Monday – Friday with any questions regarding online access.

As always, if you have any questions or need help on any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office for assistance at (248)645-6550 or stop by the office located at 30700 Telegraph Rd., Ste 2400 Bingham Farms, MI 48025

The fund business hours are 8:15 – 4:30pm Monday – Friday.

**PLASTERERS AND CEMENT MASONS** It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the Local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local.

**Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local.** If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **ROAD BUILDERS** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. **PLASTERERS' AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield.



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**For More Information and to Register**

Follow the QR code or register directly at [go.wayne.edu/LaborSchoolreg](http://go.wayne.edu/LaborSchoolreg). Call the Labor Studies Center office for more information 313-577-2191.



**I WARRIOR STRONG**  
[labor.wayne.edu](http://labor.wayne.edu)





ASSEMBLING A FRAME in the Battle Creek Shouldice shop for an American Axle project in Three Rivers is Dave Campbell of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7.



## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **December 14, 2022**.

Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com) for the location and date.

There will be no E-Board/Stewards meeting in December.

**ATTENTION DEER HUNTERS:** Please submit your successful Deer Hunting pictures. We would like to post them on our Facebook page to share with the membership! Good Luck to everyone for a safe and successful hunt!

**SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:** Applications are being accepted for the Sheet Metal Scholarship program. Eligibility requires that an applicant be an active member, a covered employee, or a dependent spouse or child under the age of 25 of a member or covered employee. The applicant must also be a full-time student or be accepted to be a full-time student at an accredited college or university. Obtain an "Application Request Form" by visiting <https://smart-union.org/why-join-smart/scholarships/sheet-metal-scholarship-programs/> click on the "Sheet Metal Scholarships" tab to download the form or call 202-662-0858 to request the application form by mail.

**LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE:** Check out the online store to purchase Local 292 shirts and jackets. Purchased items will be shipped directly to you. Access through [Sheetmetal292.com](http://Sheetmetal292.com) at the online store tab or <https://sheetmetalworkers292.itemorder.com/sale>. Contact Paul or Tony if you have any suggestions for new items or artwork changes.

**ADDRESS UPDATES:** If you move, please contact the union hall to update your address.

**RETIREE NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The final Local 292 Retiree luncheon for 2022 will be held on **Dec. 8 (originally scheduled Dec. 1)** at: Tavern on the Main @ 12:30 p.m., 235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017; (248) 588-1696. It is located 3 blocks south of 14 Mile on the east side of the street. Please contact the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the **retiree email list**. Please join us for lunch, great conversations and story telling. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old!!

**CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL:** The Constitution and Ritual of the 2<sup>nd</sup> SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will also has hard copies for members who want one.

**SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS:** To access your MUST account, please go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) or access it through the "links" tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com). Remember that your Username is your full S.S. number and your Password is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

**MEMBER ASSISTANCE:** Please remember, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an employee assistance program designed to assist active members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member feel this may benefit you, contact Ulliance at **1-800-448-8326** or [www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com) for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Services are of no cost to active members and their dependents.

**SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST:** Many members have been receiving Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation be returned to the Fund office in a timely manner. By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

**DUES:** Membership dues are required to be **paid in advance of the month for which they are due**. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are **60 days late**. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by **4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month**. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you **WILL** go suspended. **All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).**

**UNION HALL HOURS:** Hall office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Monday through Friday.**

**OUT OF WORK:** If you become laid off, you **Must** complete an Out of Work List Registration /SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and also through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

**TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION:** We have recently updated the text blast contact list. All members have been added. If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please contact the Union Hall and we will make the change.

**FACEBOOK & TWITTER:** Be sure to check our website – [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com); Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 and Twitter - @SMW292, for updates and information.

**THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM:** The "4-plus" member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four certs) with the 4 Plus logo, along with hard hat stickers and bragging rights. If you would like to be a "4-plus" member contact your Local 292 Training Center at: **313-623-9390 (Dave)** or **Quintin 248.495.6764**.

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class, on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>. These classes would be for members that are ready to try and obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or just need to practice welding.

**Note:** Anyone that signs up for a class, must pay a \$40.00 registration fee that will be refunded on the completion of the class. These deposits are **NON-Refundable** if you do not show up for the classes. You can drop off the deposit between the hours of 7:00 and 3:00 at the Apprentice school.

Call the Apprentice School at 248-589-3237, Dave's cell 313-623-9390 or Quintin's cell 248-495-6764 to reserve a spot. Remember we must have the deposit before you will be scheduled in the class.



## Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers 7

LANSING – NOTICE. This Newspaper Article shall serve as Official Notice of ALL meetings for Local 7!

The next Statewide Meeting will be, Dec. 8, 2022, at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 1 December 15<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 December 13<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 December 7<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

\*Zone 3 March 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 December 6<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 December 2<sup>nd</sup> -6:00 p.m.

**NEWS:** Local No. 7 –Union Hoodies available through the Lansing office for \$44.00/each (While Supplies last). Hoodies are Red with White logo. *Payment via check, cash or credit card. Payment must be received before shipping.*

**Please register on our website at [www.sheetmetal7.org](http://www.sheetmetal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2022. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.**

**SMART Union Labels:** Make the union label work for you! The new and modernized SMART

Labels are an essential part to wage equalization, which means more money and work for you. Make sure that you are scanning labels in order to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at [www.labelitscantireport.com](http://www.labelitscantireport.com) and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

**SMART Members Assistance Program** provides counselors to speak with members experiencing crisis. Call (877) 884-6227 for 24/7 assistance with Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

**ZONE 1 Info:** Work has been steady throughout the fall and looks to remain this way as we go through the winter months. The Zone 1 Christmas Party is on Thursday, Dec. 15 (6pm) at the Training Center in Marshall Michigan, hope to see you there. If you become unemployed, please update your status with James or Eric (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or James for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

#### ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:

1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49014 (Retirees, please notify James or Eric of any changes or additions you would like) **In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.**

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work is steady and looks to remain that way for the rest of the fall and into the winter months. If your employment status changes please let me know. Congratulations to all the successful deer hunters, I have seen some very nice pictures from some members. Zone 2 Christmas party is December 13th at 6:00 pm VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores, MI. It should be a great time and I hope to see you there. **Work safe and Thank You, Mike Adams**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Hope everybody had a good Thanksgiving. The Christmas meeting is December 7 at the Freeland Hall. Hope to see you there. There is some travel work coming up around the state if you are interested, please contact me. If you need OSHA 30 or needs to update your Mine Safety contact me and we will get that set up for anyone that needs it. Have a great and safe holiday season. **Thank you, Joe Dotson**

**Zone 3 Retiree meetings – (Saginaw) Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at Ponderosa located at 2861 Wilder Rd, Bay City. Retirees and spouses welcome to join.**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City).** Work outlook is still positive with smaller jobs than large ones at the present time. Anyone who is interested in taking an MSHA class refresher let me know. Please call the hall with any address changes or phone numbers and then call the H&W office too, as they do not communicate with each other. Also, check to make sure your dues are up to date. If anyone needs any assistance, please contact me or go to: [www.ourbenefitoffice/smw7-3.com](http://www.ourbenefitoffice/smw7-3.com). With all the work in the area please contact me if you see any out of town companies. Have a safe and Merry Christmas! **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** Happy Thanksgiving, I hope everyone had a great day with all their loved ones. Please don't forget about the Local Zone 4 Christmas party December 6 @6:00 pm. Work is staying steady in our zone. **Your Brother, Scott Brotherton**

**ZONE 5 Info:** The next Retirees meeting will be held May 2023 time and place to be announced at a later date. Work around the U.P. is busy and will be getting even busier as new projects will be starting up between now and the end of the year so if you are laid off please contact me to add your name to the out of work list. Our next scheduled meeting is December 2, 2022 at 6PM in Gwinn. **Respectfully, Greg Faust**

**SASMI Information – Zone 3 and 5:** SASMI benefits for period 2022A – Hours are from Jan. 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022. You must have worked under 600 hours in that time and have been a member in good standing to qualify. Please contact your Business Agent to apply.

**Dues Department: \*Online dues payment is now available\*** Dues of all members of local unions shall be paid monthly or quarterly, but always in advance. To better serve our membership, we accept Credit Card Payments in lieu of your monthly dues. If you would like to take advantage of the Credit Card Service, a finance charge will be applied – Please call the Lansing office during regular business hours at 517-882-4064 to make your payment.

**Address/Telephone Changes: Article 8, Section 1** of Local 7 Work Rules: *Address Changes:* All members are required to keep the Financial Secretary informed of their correct address. A notice mailed to the last address shall be sufficient and legal. If you have moved or changed your telephone number, please contact the union hall to update your records.

**BENEFITS:** For Benefit questions please contact the area office. Zone 1 – BeneSys 866-822-7037, Zone 2 – TIC 866-887-4338, Zone 3 – BeneSys 800-451-5733, Zone 4 – BeneSys 800-842-2690 and Zone 5 – Wisconsin H & B Fund 800-654-2329.

**DEATH CERTIFICATES:** Please submit to the Union Hall a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased members. Additional benefits from the International may be available.

**CONTACT US:** 4931 Contec Drive, Lansing, MI 48910– 517-882-4064

**Local 7 Officers:**  
**Samuel Fuller** (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) 517-882-4064

**Eric Farrington** (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223

**James Callahan** (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200

**Mike Adams** (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752

**Joe Dotson** (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

**John Amalfitano** (Traverse City) 231-590-1112

**Scott Brotherton** (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552

**Greg Faust** (Agent-Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 SOUTHFIELD – This paper serves as official notice for all meetings and elections.**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next general membership meeting is scheduled for December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 20, 2022, at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield.



**TIM MULLIGAN**  
H A L L  
R E G U L A R  
M o n d a y  
t h r o u g h  
F r i d a y  
7 : 3 0 - 4

unless otherwise indicated in holiday hours.

**TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS: OFFICIAL NOTICE:** At the December 2022 meeting, nominations will be taken for the position of Fund Trustees. Elections will be held in January of 2023. You will vote on 4 positions: Health and Welfare, Pension and Annuity, Sub Fund and JATC. Trustees will serve a 3 year term from January 2023 through January 2026. Your dues must be current if you would like to be nominated.

**RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE:** The 2022/2023 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: December 19, 2022, February 20, 2023, April 17, 2023, June 19, 2023, August 21, 2023, October 16, 2023 (Holiday Party) and December 18, 2023. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

**RETIREE NEWS:** Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

**Effective immediately** you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to [smw-80subfund@gmail.com](mailto:smw-80subfund@gmail.com) or fax it to 248-557-0297. Your unemployment proof needs to be in by 2pm on Tuesdays to be paid on that Friday. Local 80 will be handling all of your proof now. If you have any questions, please call us at 248-557-7575.

**BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL:** There will now be a representative from Benesys at the union hall to help our members with anything related to benefits or funds. She will be available all day on Tuesdays from 9-4pm. If you are interested in setting up an appointment, please contact LaShone at 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Richard Manzo, Ronald Wagner, Carl McRorie, Ronald Kramer, Brian Fields, Dante Valente, George Gurney, Talt Huffman, James Smith, Mike Miller, Michael Neuman II, Nick Koppinger, Nathan Bourcier, John Sajewski, Thomas Davey, Wayne Kerr, Attilio Lucci, Stephen Morgan, Raymond Cordovado, John Heggie & Jason Grunenwald.

**DUES PAYMENTS: YOUR DUES PAYMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR TO THE FIRST OF THE MONTH.** The books will close at the end of the business day on the last day of the month. **Payments made on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month are considered late for that month. There will be no exception, once the books are closed it cannot be undone.** Members will receive a text message dues reminder prior to the end of the month. If you are not receiving our text messaging, please call the hall.

**REMINDER:** We ONLY take Visa, Master Card & Discover and **do not accept** American Express.

**READY TO WORK 2022 STIPEND:** Eligible Local 80 Journeypersons are responsible to complete stipend requirements by the January 31, 2023 deadline

which include: current MUST 18 Safety Modules, current MUST Drug Test, OSHA 30, and FA CPR training. Stipend checks will be issued through the months of December and January.

In addition, 2022 stipend recipients will be required to complete a 10 question quiz located on the RTW site which highlights the joint SMART and SMACNA program BE4ALL. Local 80 workers should be familiar with the BE4ALL program through current promotion from SMART. <https://smart-union.org/our-priorities/diversity-equity-and-inclusion/be4all/>.

If you need RTW log in assistance please contact readytowork@smacnad.org or 248-649-5450

**A NOTE ON OSHA 30...** You may not be aware; OSHA 30 can count as a one-time four (4) year reciprocal credit toward the MUST 18 safety modules ... AND Local 80 workers can take OSHA 30 online through the Local 80 Training Center. Contact MUST to get your workers OSHA 30 counted 248-352-9810. Contact the Training Center for OSHA 30 sign up 586-979-5190.

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your Local 80 and international benefits. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your spouse first and if there is no spouse to your children UNLESS you designate otherwise in writing with each specific benefit. Depending on your classification you could have benefits due to your heirs from Local 80 pension, insurance, annuity and from international and SASMI. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary unless you want it to go to your spouse or children. As always seek the advice of an attorney.

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well. That is not done through the hall.

**ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION:** Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500.00. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

**WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS:** Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each members name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall **prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.**

**WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Everyone must obtain a work assignment prior to starting work.** If you fail to do so you could be written up on charges.

**LAYOFFS:** All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon layoff, even if you only work one day. These are the Bylaw rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list 14 days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

**LAYOFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES: Layoff slips must accompany all applications for sub pay.** Without lay off slips you cannot collect sub pay. It is the member's responsibility to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue one in accordance with our contract.

**S.U.B. BENEFITS:** Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven (7) days from your layoff date or you will





## Local 169 Boilermakers

### Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **December 9 at 8:00 pm.** It will be in Area 1 at the Boilermakers Union Hall, 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI 48101.



**BOB HUTSELL**

Current Union dues for 2022 are \$52.35 in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – [www.boilermakerslocal169.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com)

com- for more information.

**Retirees:** Retiree luncheons have resumed.

**Area 1** Retiree luncheon is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 West Jefferson, River Rouge, MI.

**Area 2** Retirees are holding luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant located at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

**Area 3** Retirees luncheon lunch is returning to the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We will be meeting at Green Spot Pub on December 21, 2022, at 11am. Green Spot Pub is located at 808 N. Mission Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

**Area 4** retirees' lunches are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks Restaurant 7898 S. Main Street,

Rapid River, MI. Area 4 retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County Road 480.

Hoodies have been restocked and are available in sizes ranging from medium through 3XL. The cost is \$40.00. Payments can be made with cash, check, or credit. If you live out of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

In accordance with our International Constitution and by order of our International President,

monthly union dues will increase by \$3.50 beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The total for monthly union dues beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 will be \$55.85.

Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

I encourage ALL MEMBERS to attend this month's Union Meeting. This is our Annual Christmas Meeting which will be followed by dinner and beverages. Come spend some quality time with your union brothers and sisters. This is a great opportunity to catch up with those members you haven't seen in a while and enjoy some Holiday Cheer. Let's make this event bigger than last year. I look forward to seeing you there.

Union Sister Cammie Van-Brocklin has been struggling with health issues and is unable to work. Please keep her in your thoughts during the Christmas holidays.

Condolences to Don Williams and his family on the recent passing of his mother. Please keep them in your thoughts during this difficult time.

*"It is a sign of a creeping inner death when we no longer can praise the living."*  
– Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)



### Planning for pipe work

PLUMBERS and Pipe Fitters Local 333 member Jeff "Goon" Kiss looks up from plans while working at the Shouldice piping shop in Battle Creek.

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## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 12)

forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

**OUT-OF-WORK LIST:** You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. benefits or SASMI. Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and September 1 through September 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

**SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY:** If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work week due to weather you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the **beginning or the end of a layoff.** You may NOT collect if you are not laid

off. You must complete a sub application at the hall, provide a pay stub for that week and the hall will submit it to the fund office. If you are not laid off and it is due to weather the company MUST provide written documentation that it was weather related.

**MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. **Ulliance** is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or [www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com). **Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.**

**NOTARY:** We have a notary public available at the hall at no charge. Please call to confirm

availability.

### Training Center News.

**Apprenticeship Entrance Exam.** The Entrance Exam for the April 2023 Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Building Trades Apprenticeship class is scheduled for the fourth week of January, 2023. The deadline to apply is Jan. 20. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver's license and applicants must be 18 years old by April 3, 2023. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center @ (586) 979-5190.

**First Aid Classes.** Local 80 Journeymen must have a current 8-hour, hands-on First Aid certification to receive the Ready-To-Work stipend checks at the end of the year. Saturday First Aid classes can be scheduled if there is an adequate demand. Please call the Training Center to inquire about Saturday classes if you would like to be certified.

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By Tom Tucker  
Parks and Recreation Division  
Michigan Department of  
Natural Resources



## Outdoors Sowing seeds in state parks



Native seed planting has been used by the stewardship unit of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division as a tool to repair degraded landscapes.

This planting can help fill in gaps where there is not a native seed bank available or nearby native plants to naturally seed areas.

**Historical losses.** Over the past couple hundred years, American settlers have greatly reduced prairie with modern agriculture and urban development, introduced invasive species, eliminated large herbivores and reduced wildfire on the landscape that depended on it.

Consequently, native grasslands have been reduced, by some estimates, to as little as 1 percent of their former abundance in the United States. There is less than 1 percent remaining of oak and pine savanna communities, which is transitional between forest and prairie.

Although these communities were more dominant in states west of Michigan, they have been an important part of our landscape and have supported a high degree of biological diversity in Michigan since the end of the last ice age.

Grasslands and savannas are targets for restoration, through seed planting by the DNR and other conservation partners in Michigan, in efforts to recreate grasslands that are beneficial ecologically and recreationally.

These important places can provide habitat for rare grassland bird species, create a home for uncommon native prairie plants and support declining pollinator populations.

Furthermore, they provide natural vegetation that takes up carbon from the atmosphere and can help protect waterways by reducing runoff pollution. In addition, grasslands provide important areas for the public to enjoy wildflowers, birdwatch and hunt species like the ring-necked pheasant.

Several sites have been planted in Michigan state parks to realize these benefits.

The sites planted include old agricultural fields, former



A SEED STRIPPER machine is shown at work at Fort Custer Recreation Area in Kalamazoo County. The strippers harvests a wide variety of seeds to be sown in places where terrain is void of traditionally native plants, such as native grasslands.

MDNR photos

gravel mines and other degraded places.

Parks where plantings have occurred include Fort Custer Recreation Area in Kalamazoo County, Lake Hudson Recreation Area in Lenawee County, Highland Recreation Area in Oakland County, Sterling State Park in Monroe County, Algonac State Park in St. Clair County and Bay City State Park in Bay County.

New efforts are underway to restore portions of the Fort Custer Recreation Area, Waterloo Recreation Area in Jackson and Washtenaw counties, Coldwater Lake State Park in Branch County and Island Lake Recreation Area in Livingston County.

**Selecting and collecting.** When deciding which seed to plant, what is most ecologically appropriate and best adapted for the site are very important considerations. Local seed from plants already growing in the park, or somewhere nearby, are preferred over non-local sources of seed.

One reason is that local plants have already adapted to grow in similar soils and in the same climate for thousands of years. Seeds from local sources also represent a unique set of

genes that are on their own evolutionary trajectory. Preserving that unique variety is important for the goal of protecting biodiversity in Michigan.

Unfortunately, not much local seed is available for purchase, so it must be collected by a team

of state park stewards. Native seed is collected by several DNR staff members and dedicated volunteers.

This team possesses a specialized skill set for acquiring seed from a diverse group of species. Seed is collected from



VOLUNTEERS discuss seed collection.

remnant populations, from areas planted in the parks with local seed, and from seed propagation plots.

A DNR stewardship wildlife technician collects large quantities of native, warm-season grass seed by pulling a seed-sweeper behind an all-terrain vehicle. Volunteers and members of the Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps harvest various species of wildflowers, native grasses and grass-like species called sedges and rushes.

Native seed collection starts as early as late May, continues through the growing season and peaks in the fall. Harvesters maintain genetic diversity by collecting from multiple local populations and plants from the same species with different traits.

Most importantly, existing plant populations are conserved by collecting no more than half of the available seed each year.

**Prepping and planting.** After seed has been collected, it must be prepared for planting by the Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps crew at a facility within the Brighton Recreation Area in Livingston County.

Much of the seed throughout the season gets collected quickly and crudely before it drops, and therefore is not in a state that is ready to plant. In preparing the seed for planting, the first step is drying seed material to make sure that it does not mold and lose its

viability.

Some of the seed collected needs to be dislodged from seed heads to make it easier to disperse. Also, materials such as stems, leaves and other parts of plants need to be sifted out so that the seeds can go through planting equipment.

Breaking up and sifting material, known as seed cleaning, requires specialized machines and hand equipment.

Furthermore, this process is important for the staff to gain a truer sense of how much seed will be planted. They can use this information to monitor results and refine future restoration practices.

After seed has been cleaned, weighed, inventoried and mixed, it is ready to be planted. Most of the seed will be planted using a specialized machine called a seed drill, which is pulled behind a tractor. This method provides good coverage and protects the seed from bird predation.

Some areas will be broadcast by hand because of the small seed size, steep topography or slight amounts of seed to be planted. Planting occurs either in the spring or in the late fall.

**Joining the team.** If you are interested in helping the DNR plant areas in these state parks, there are many ways to be a part of the team.

One way is to attend a seed collection workday at one of our state parks. Please refer to the DNR volunteer calendar at Michigan.gov/DNRVolunteers for more information.

If you have good plant identification skills, you can volunteer to collect seeds as an individual. It's very important to properly maintain areas where seed is collected by joining volunteer efforts to remove invasive species. Please join our other volunteer efforts to remove invasive plants throughout the season. These opportunities can also be found listed on the DNR volunteer calendar.

Looking at the historical record of centuries-old negative impacts on native plant communities, the efforts to revitalize these places through the aid of seed-planting will likely continue for the foreseeable future.

Planting seeds today can invest in important ecological and recreation areas for today, tomorrow and years to come.

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