



# LOCAL LINE Newsletter

Iron Workers Union Local 378

Oakland, CA Volume 25 No. 3

June 2013

## Business Manager's Report

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I have recently attended many meetings where we discussed the allocation of the \$1 increase that becomes effective July 1. There are a few factors to consider on where to allocate this dollar. We discussed how it would best serve our membership in detail at our executive board meeting. From this dollar, we are required to allocate 37 cents into the Pension Fund to meet the requirements of our "Funding Improvement Plan" (FIP).

This is a plan that we entered into to bring our Pension Fund from "endangered status," or yellow zone, back to the green zone or "funded status." The executive board decided to send our delegates to the District Council meetings to allocate 50 cents to the pension and 50 cents to wages.

Delegates from the locals of the District Council of California and Vicinity would then vote on where this dollar should be allocated. After hearing a presentation from our pension actuaries, we learned that if we continued with our present course of action with the FIP, we would not reach our goal of a funded status. We're going to have to make some changes to the plan and put more money into the plan to achieve this goal. We discussed at great length putting money in wages, which we haven't seen in four years, but District Council delegates with a majority vote decided to allocate the full dollar into the Pension Fund.

This decision was not reached very easily. Your local 378 delegates would like nothing better than to come back from these meetings, where the allocation of funds take place, and

tell you that you're going to be receiving more money in your check. I know that things are not easy, and the economic recovery isn't getting everyone back to work as quickly as we would like.

### Looking out for your future

The allocation that was made to Health and Welfare on January 1 was very much needed, and this allocation to the Pension Fund also is needed to help get us on the right track of becoming sustainable and fully funded. The two main things

that I think about when I'm in these meetings are having members able to use health and welfare benefits and have a pension at the end of their Iron Worker career. That's not to say that I'm not advocating for better wages. But now, after the complete economic meltdown

we're still trying to recover from, wages that we do have are still very good and competitive, which is where we want to be.

Having a competitive wage and benefit package and being the best trained workforce in the industry are the only things that we have that keep us just that competitive. This keeps the work coming in our direction, even in a very hostile market where every other trade is taking work from wherever they can get it. Sadly, they don't care who they step on to get it. Competitive wages and benefits put us in a better position. The wages and benefits will eventually get better, but we need to get out there and show everyone that hiring the Iron Workers is the right choice.

Always fighting for you and your union.

By Jeff McEuen



## President/Business Agent's Report

I've recently attended two legislative conferences: one in Sacramento, Calif., and one in Washington, D.C.

The Sacramento conference focused on State Bill SB776. This bill is designed to close a loophole that allows anti-union contractors, including the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) and others, to take earnings from workers' paychecks to fund their sham labor compliance committees. The bill does so by clarifying the requirements of bona fide fringe benefits for workers on public works projects.

The D.C. conference focused on "Delivering Value...Creating Opportunities." In short, how Local 378 creates value and opportunities, such as constructing and expanding pathways to good jobs and lifetime careers, promoting and extending the practice of collective bargaining, and utilizing CWAs (Community



Workforce Agreements) as an effective instrument to optimize the social compact between labor and community.

On another note, with the improving economy, two weeks ago Governor Brown and the City of Oakland announced securing funding for the \$1.5 billion Oakland Waterfront Brooklyn Basin Project. This project sits along the Oakland Estuary, adjacent to Jack London Square, and will feature five high-rise buildings of up to 240 stories, six buildings of up to eight stories, and 200,000 square feet

of retail and commercial space. This massive project is under a PLA and will offer our Local the opportunity to employ a significant number of Iron Workers.

In closing, let's remember Memorial Day

as an opportunity to honor the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces who fought and gave their lives to ensure that as Americans we have freedom.

Good luck, work safe.

*By Robert Lux President/BA*

## Apprenticeship Coordinator's Report

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Our March advancements have passed. Along with them, we have seen another group of high achievers ascend to journeyman status. This biannual event leads me to reflect on our apprenticeship program, the progress it has made in the last four years, and the reasons for its improvement. If success in our training can be measured, it must be measured by the apprentice advancement rate, which reached 74 percent in March. To fully appreciate what this represents, one must know that our advancement rate was 34 percent in March 2009.

There are many reasons for this dramatic improvement, but in my opinion there are two that stand out. The first one is the dedication and excellence of the apprenticeship staff. Second is the determination that the Local has holding all apprentices accountable for their performance on the job and in school.

Neither of these groups ever receives recognition for

all that they do. I, as the apprenticeship coordinator and beneficiary of the collective excellence of this group of dedicated professionals, would like to thank the apprenticeship staff. They are office manager Sylvia Gutierrez, assistant office manager Dulce Jimenez, and instructors Mitch Kettle, Jorge Esparza, Alan Paulsen, Joe Medina, Jason Lindsey, Bill Sarris, Ron Morris, Jim Papas, Fred Kaddu, Bob Kana and Steven Thang.

These men and women work daily to positively impact the lives of our apprentices and journeymen. I also would like to thank the members of our JATC: Jeff McEuen, Bobby Lux, Jason Gallia, Larry Rushing, Rick Lee and Mike Briggs.

These men volunteer their time to assist and guide our apprentices through their four years of instruction. The patience all these people show daily is commendable. We all owe them our gratitude.

Fraternally,  
*Brian Colombo*  
Apprenticeship Coordinator



# Business Agent's Report

Greetings Fellow Ironworkers!

I am pleased to report that things are looking up. Many of our members are currently employed on jobs such as the Amazon warehouse in Patterson, Calif., with Innovative Steel Erectors/J.D. 2. At the time of the last report, there were more than 80 ironworkers on this job.

We're also looking forward to additional work in Lodi, Calif., with the Trincherro Family Estates Bottling Plant. J.D.2 also will be the contractor on this job.



## Fishing trip July 7

The time has come for the Annual Ironworkers Fishing Trip. Once again, fellow ironworker Joe Gallia, Captain of the New Easy Rider, has arranged for this enjoyable trip. We shove off on Sunday, July 7, 2013, out of the Berkeley Marina.

The cost is \$75 per person. There are only 25 spots. Last year, Jimmy Ashcroft caught the biggest fish, a 25-pound salmon. Jimmy also took home the \$200 prize.



Get out your sunscreen, make sure you have a current fishing license, and join your friends out on the bay!

Questions: [jasong@iwlocal378.org](mailto:jasong@iwlocal378.org).

## Staying current

Always remember to keep your dues current and carry your receipt with you. Practice safe working habits, and attend your union meetings.

Until next time!

By Jason Gallia  
Business Agent

## Upcoming Events: Fishing, Picnic & More

Check out some fun events this summer. For additional information, contact the union hall or check out our website and/or Facebook page. We will provide you with more details as they come!

**7th Annual Fishing Trip** - It is now the seventh year that JIW Joe Gallia, captain of the New Easy Rider, organizes this trip. It takes place July 7, 2013, at Berkeley Marina. Tickets are \$75 per person and can be purchased at the union hall. Please come by the dues window to reserve your spot, as space is limited. Cash and checks are the only acceptable methods of payment.

**Relay for Life** - Ironworkers Local 378 will be participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life on Aug. 3, 2013, at St. Patrick/St. Vincent High School in Vallejo, Calif. The event helps our community celebrate the lives of those who battle cancer. It also helps

us fight against the disease and remember our lost loved ones. You also can participate and raise awareness in this life-changing event by making a donation at the union hall. Please remember, no donation is too small and each dollar raised will help save lives. Inquire at the union hall to learn more.

**Annual Picnic** - Have you been to the Ironworker's Picnic? We hold this event every year and most recently at the Waterfront Park in Martinez. Our event date is scheduled for Sept. 21, 2013. The picnic is a time to enjoy a day in the sun, play games, eat tasty food and, most importantly, spend time with family and friends. Tickets will be sold at the union hall starting in August.

**Open Enrollment** - Local 378 will have Trust Fund representatives available at the union hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 19, 2013. They will answer questions regarding your medical coverage. Figure out if you are eligible for a different plan, obtain information about other providers and their benefits, learn what it takes to make changes, and much more! Remember, this is the only time you can make changes to your medical provider. Don't miss out!

# Alere Toxicology is Our New TPA for IMPACT

This notice is to inform you that Mobile Medical Corporation (MMC) is no longer in contract with IMPACT.

Effective May 1, 2013, Alere Toxicology is our new third party administrator for the IMPACT substance abuse program. The office staff at the union hall will coordinate your appointments so that you may test for your annual and/or random drug test.

Please note: You will no longer be able to test with an authorization code; you will now be required to take a test authorization form to the clinic that will be conducting your test. You may pick up the authorization form at the union hall or you may have it emailed to you.

If you have received a notification from MMC, please

do not disregard the notice and contact the union hall immediately so that you do not miss your deadline. However, please remember, you are no longer able to test at the clinics used by MMC.

## Warning Notice

The local union does not mail warning letters to those who are behind in union dues. It is the responsibility of the member to maintain his/her membership. After six months of union dues non-payment, a member is suspended. The following actions are results of the suspension:

- Ineligibility of employment.
- Interruption of continuous membership.
- Discontinuation of health coverage.
- No disbursement of death benefit to beneficiaries.

## Apply for Scholarships!

This year, children of Ironworkers Local 378 have the option to apply for various scholarships. Find some information on each scholarship below. For a complete description, please pick up an application at the union hall or request it to be mailed to you. Scholarships info also is online at [www.ironworkers378.org](http://www.ironworkers378.org). Please carefully review each application for eligibility requirements.

### **The District Council of Ironworkers**

Offered as a one-time \$2,500 educational scholarship. The scholarship fund will award eight of these, and at least one will be awarded to a dependent of a member in each of the eight outside locals. Applicants must be a dependent of a member and in good standing with Ironworkers Local 378. They must be either presently enrolled in their senior year of high school; attending a college, university or accredited trade school; or scheduled to receive a General Education Diploma (GED) by the end of the 2013 spring semester. The original application, an essay, and an official certified transcript must be postmarked on or before June 30, 2013. All scholarship winners will be selected by August 1, 2013.

### **Charles and David Pettigrew**

This one-time educational scholarship of \$1,000 is funded by Brie Pettigrew, daughter of Charles Pettigrew. Applicants must be a dependent of a member in good

standing with Ironworkers Local 378. They must be either presently enrolled in their senior year of high school, at a college, university, accredited trade school, or scheduled to receive a GED by the end of the 2013 spring semester. The original application, essay, and an official certified transcript must be received by July 31, 2013. Scholarship winners will be selected by August 9, 2013.

### **AFL-CIO/Union Plus**

Offered as a one-time \$5,000 educational scholarship by AFL-CIO in conjunction with Union Plus. Fifty scholarships will be awarded to applicants who are dependent children/grandchildren of current or retired members of AFL-CIO unions, union members themselves or a spouse of an eligible member who meets the requirement of at least one year of continuous union membership by July 1, 2013. The applicant must be accepted into a U.S. accredited college or university, community college, or technical trade school. The award must be used for the 2013-2014 school year. Applicants are required to submit an online application, a letter of reference from a teacher or an adult familiar with his/her achievements/abilities, and a 500-word essay along with union information about the member. The deadline for applications is July 1, 2013. The winners will be selected by August 28, 2013.

# Attend a Membership Meeting

We urge you to attend Local 378's monthly membership meetings and participate in your local union. As officers, we are proud of our accomplishments and want you to have the same pride.

Learn about current and future work, get to know your president, business manager and business agents, and offer

your input on all matters at the meetings. Your local union is only as strong as you make it. So make it stronger by being an active participant.

Let's make Local 378 the strongest one in the International Association. **Please join us at the next membership meeting at 7 p.m. on June 13, 2013.**

Remember, doors open at 6 p.m. You must bring a current dues receipt!

# Build Influence Via IPAL

Are you familiar with the Ironworkers Political Action League (IPAL) and the purpose it serves the Ironworker membership? IPAL's objective is to increase the political and legislative influence of our Ironworkers.

Electing pro-union and pro-worker candidates to public office that advocate on behalf of Ironworkers depends on your actions. Your contributions also affect successful lobbying legislation, which is critical to the livelihood of members and their families.

To excel in the 21st century, Ironworkers must continue to build political power by increasing membership, raising funds via the IPAL contribution, and becoming politically active. Anti-union politics must be recognized as a serious threat. By building power among ourselves, we can surpass this critical challenge.

Consider how, as a member of this union, you can significantly help us achieve our goals. By contributing

\$200

annually, you are an active participant in solidifying our presence in the political arena and in securing our union accomplishments. You have the opportunity to take a stand and make a difference for yourself and your brother and sister ironworkers.

You can make your contribution at the union hall or by mailing in a check to our international headquarters in Washington D.C. Should you submit your contribution to our headquarters, please inform our union staff so that your name may be reflected in the newsletter and on our website. It is that simple!



2013

IPAL

## Iron Workers Political Action League President's Club

Call the Union Hall to inquire about joining the President's Club.



Herbert Brabant  
Bob Bremer  
Henry Brown  
Deryl Lee Dambiose  
Chris Derrico  
Anthony Doria  
Jesse Esquivel Jr.  
Jason Gallia  
Ironworkers Local 378 Women's Club  
James Hetzel  
Fredrick Kaddu  
Steve Kaspar

Robert Lux  
Carl Lynn  
Iron Workers Retiree's Association #378  
Ronald McCurry  
Jeff McEuen  
Joe Medina  
Gilbert Peralta  
James K. Pruett  
Emilio Rivera  
Larry Rostron  
Bruce Scott  
John Spinola

Bruce Swanson  
Ray Trujillo  
Joy Vaughn  
Robert Wright  
Timothy Wright  
Richard Wagner  
Lynn Yost  
Donald Zampa  
Richard E. Zampa  
Richard L. Zampa



# Biometric Screening Deadline Has Been Extended to July 31

The Trust Fund has informed our office that the deadline for the biometric screening has been extended to July 31, 2013. This screening applies to all active, retirees, non-Medicare members and their spouses. If you are on Medicare and your spouse is not, your spouse must complete the screening by the date mentioned above.

Reductions of benefits are effective September 1, 2013,

for those members who do not comply.

If you have not received your information packet from the Trust Fund, you may contact their office directly at 1-800-527-4613 to request another packet. Below are the numbers you can call to set up an appointment for completion of your screening. Please note, Kaiser members are required to fill out a referral form to bring in the day of their screening. Blue Cross members may or may not be required to fill out a form. If necessary, the form will be mailed to you by Quest Diagnostics. Quest Diagnostics (Blue Cross members): 1-866-908-9440 Kaiser: 818-557-3964

# Confirm Your Pension Checks ASAP

Attention all retirees!

In June, you will start receiving the "annual confirmation letter" from the Trust Fund to assure trustees that you are receiving your pension checks. This confirmation letter needs to be returned so you continue to be eligible for this benefit.

After receiving the form, you have up to thirty (30) days to complete and return it to the Trust Fund. If the form is not received in 30 days, your pension payments will be discontinued. You must certify that you are

receiving your pension checks by mail or through direct deposit. You also must confirm whether you worked for wages during the plan year of June 1, 2012, through May 31, 2013.

Please note that you must have your signature notarized in order to validate the annual confirmation. Local 378 Business Manager Jeff McEuen also is authorized to sign off on the annual confirmation form. You may bring this form to the union hall for his signature, and we can forward it to the Trust Fund for you. We will keep a copy in your personal file and will mail you a copy for your records.

# Retirees' Korner

I want to thank our business manager, Jeff McEuen, for his support getting this newsletter out. We want to make sure it gets to you before our next Retirees Association meeting, which always falls the first Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October and December.

If you have not signed up for the meeting, please do. We get about 45 to 60 members in attendance. Meetings last one to two hours, and we always have our business representatives present to give us updates.

Business agent Bob Lux has arranged a bay bridge tour for a TBD day in June. If you are interested in going on

this trip, please attend the retirees meeting on June 5 for details. In the past, capacity was capped at 30 people. To hold your attendance reservation, you must pay \$20 and be a paid member of the Retirees Association. The \$20 is refunded on the trip. If you don't make it, the money is raffled as a door prize. The trip is usually followed by lunch at Brennan's in Berkeley and is hosted by our Retirees Association.

In closing, I want to personally thank the out-of-town and out-of-state ironworkers who belong to the organization and who financially help us out. See you in June.

By *Dick Zampa Sr.*

# Tribute Announcements

Steven Parrish	08/22/43 – 04/16/13
Frank Shockley	05/14/42 – 03/21/13
Raymond Burciaga	08/28/49 – 05/01/13

"Grief does not change you...it reveals you." ~John Greene

# Iron Café



## Fried Chicken

### Ingredients:

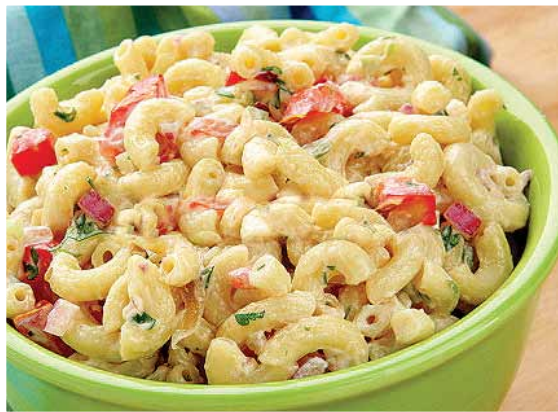
- 1 quart of buttermilk, and 2 cups (set the 2 cups aside)
- Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
- 2 teaspoons of chile de arbol powder or hot sauce, plus 2 teaspoons of chile de arbol powder or cayenne pepper set aside
- 2 chickens (cut into 8 pieces each)
- 4 cups of flour
- 1 tablespoon of garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon of onion powder
- 1 tablespoon of sweet paprika
- Peanut oil, for deep frying

### Directions:

1. In a large bowl or baking dish, whisk 1 quart of the buttermilk, 2 tablespoons of salt, 2 teaspoons of chile de arbol powder/hot sauce, and a little bit of pepper, if desired.
2. Add the chicken pieces, turn to coat, cover, and refrigerate for at least 4 hours or overnight.
3. Place the remaining 2 cups of buttermilk in a bowl.
4. In another bowl, stir together the flour, garlic and onion powders, paprika, and 2 teaspoons of chile de arbol powder/cayenne pepper.
5. Drain the chicken in a colander and pat it dry. Dredge the pieces a few at a time in the flour mixture and pat off excess.

Dip in the buttermilk and allow excess to drain off. Dredge in the second plate of flour and pat off the excess. Put the chicken pieces on a piece of waxed paper or on a clean platter while you heat the oil.

6. Pour about 3 inches of oil into a deep cast iron skillet. The oil should not come more than halfway up the sides of the pot. Put the pot over medium-high heat and heat the oil to 350 degrees F on a deep-fry thermometer.
7. Working in batches, add the chicken pieces to the hot oil, 3 or 4 at a time. Fry, turning the pieces occasionally, until evenly golden brown and cooked through. About 20 minutes or so.
8. Remove from the oil with a slotted spoon and transfer to a rack to drain. Repeat to cook the remaining pieces. Serve hot.



## Macaroni Salad

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups of cooked elbow macaroni
- 3 hard-boiled eggs, chopped
- 1 cup of diced celery
- ¼ cup of diced green bell pepper
- 2 tablespoons of diced green onions
- 1 tablespoon of chopped pimientos
- 1 cup of mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon of lemon pepper
- 1 tablespoon yellow mustard
- Salt and freshly cracked black pepper, to taste
- 1 teaspoon of House Seasoning (made with 1 cup of salt, ¼ cup of garlic powder, and ¼ cup of black pepper-mixed)

### Directions:

1. Bring a pot of water to a boil, add salt for taste.
2. Cook elbow macaroni for 8-10 minutes and drain.
3. Mix all ingredients in a bowl and refrigerate.

**378@ironworkers378.org**

We would like to hear from you! Please email us your suggestions, comments and general inquiries.

# Ironworkers Local 378 7th Annual Fishing Trip



Time: 6 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Date: July 7, 2013

**Do you like fishing: If so, join in on the fun and spend the day with your fellow Ironworkers!  
Hop aboard the New Easy Rider and test your skills at reeling in some bait!  
Space is limited, so buy your ticket to reserve your spot today!**

**Location: Berkeley Marina, New Easy Rider • RSVP: Union Hall (707) 746-6100**  
\$75/person, cash or check. Please make checks payable to New Easy Rider.  
For more information, contact Jason Gallia: [jasong@iwlocal378.org](mailto:jasong@iwlocal378.org)



*We're on the web!  
[www.ironworkers378.org](http://www.ironworkers378.org)  
Find us on Facebook!*

Ironworkers Union Local 378  
3120 Baysshore Road Benicia, CA 94510  
Phone: 707.746.6100  
Fax: 707.746.0979  
Email: [378@ironworkers378.org](mailto:378@ironworkers378.org)

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