



# LOCAL LINE Newsletter

Iron Workers Union Local 378

Oakland, CA Volume 21 No. 4

February 2012

## Business Manager's Report

By Jeff McEuen

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope all of you and your families had a wonderful holiday season. If you missed the December membership meeting, it was one of our best, with lots of good food and raffle prizes to bring a close to the year 2011.

**All our membership meetings offer good information and always something to eat.** If you would like to support your Local and get involved with union activities, you can start by doing the minimum and attending your membership meetings.

It only takes up a couple of hours of your free time one night a month. It's a great way to get the answers to your questions firsthand instead of hearing what went on by the one member on your jobsite who did attend the meeting.

The Local 378 **Children's Christmas Party is one of the highlights of our year.** Everyone who could attend had a great time, and all the children received a stocking, a gift and a picture with Santa. We still have family pictures that were taken with Santa at the party here at the union hall that no one has picked up. So if you have time, stop by and pick up your family pictures.

Another new year is upon us, and with it brings more challenges for us to secure work for the members of Local 378.

You are probably aware that **Congress has done nothing to help working-class Americans** by moving forward and passing the "Jobs Act."

While they sit comfortably in their offices debating which party has the best ideas for America's future, thousands of Americans look for work and can't find it, wondering how to make ends meet. Some even struggle to

feed their families, with no relief in sight.

Now is the time to stand together to fight for the rights that so many before us fought for and made possible for us to have.

There is a measure to be voted on in November called the "Stop Special Interest Money Now Act." Essentially, it's **another paycheck deception initiative** to try and stifle our voice in the political arena.

This initiative wants to **make it very difficult for us as union members to make voluntary political contributions through payroll deductions.** These deductions help fund the measures that protect our livelihood, back the candidates who believe in our way of life and defeat those who try and take it from us.

It's very similar to Proposition 75, which was defeated in 2005 and primarily targeted public sector unions, and Proposition 226, which was defeated in 1998 and was directly aimed at private sector unions such as ours.

This new initiative is being bankrolled by big corporations, millionaires and billionaires who would like nothing more than to silence our voice, but that's just the point. They will never be able to do it because **we are the people who have the VOTES that count.**

We turned out in big numbers before to defeat those similar initiatives and we'll do it again.

Remember, we have the **POWER** – all we have to do is exercise it. Mark your calendars **Nov. 6 is ELECTION DAY.**

Don't let this day go by without **exercising your right to VOTE.**

– Always fighting for you and your union.

"Now is the time to stand together to fight for the rights that so many before us fought for and made possible for us to have."

# President / Business Agent's Report

By Robert Lux

Happy New Year!

I hope this "Local Line" finds you and your family in good spirits and good health.

As we enter into 2012, it is important to reflect on the positive outcomes of 2011. Local 378 continued to help **get labor-friendly politicians elected**, and to speak out in favor of prevailing wage laws and Project Labor Agreements.

Also, our Local accomplished milestones by offloading and **erecting the last deck section of the Bay Bridge** and completing the 340-foot Federal Aviation Administration Control Tower at the Oakland International Airport. We also started on the Oakland Airport Connector Project and the retrofit and modernization of University of California, Berkeley's (UCB) Memorial Stadium.

I would like to keep you up-to-date on a few projects you can expect in 2012:

- BART has the E-BART extension from Bailey Road in Pittsburg to Hillcrest Avenue in Antioch.
- BART parking garage and transit village at the MacArthur Station in Oakland
- The SMART TRAIN, which is a light rail train from Cloverdale in Sonoma County to Larkspur in Marin County
- UCB's second campus at Richmond Field Station
- Infrastructure projects on Interstates 80, 880 and 580
- A new, 250,000-square foot FedEx building at the Oakland International Airport
- Highland Hospital in Oakland, Expansion Phases II and III
- And, we are waiting on final approval of the 2 million-square-foot cargo-handling facility to be built at the Port of Oakland.

In closing, let's all stand by each other as we enter 2012 and work hard at making it a safe and prosperous new year.

Good luck, work safe.



# Business Agent's Report

By Jason Gallia

I hope everyone had a great holiday and is having a good new year.

Union labor had another Project Labor Agreement victory. In June 2006, The Contra Costa Community College District passed Measure A bond.

This is a \$285-million bond that will be used to make improvements to the college district. It's been a long battle with the Associated Builders and Contractors, which is against PLAs, but union labor wants a PLA in place for the future projects.

Union labor, along with people from the community, showed their support by attending the meetings and speaking out.

The final vote came on Dec. 14, 2011, with 15 ironworkers showing their support. The PLA passed with a strong 3-to-1 vote.

I would like to thank everyone who showed their support.

Always carry your dues receipt, practice good safe working habits and have a great year.



## Attend a member meeting!

Next meeting: March 8 at 7 p.m. Member meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and meetings begin promptly at 7 p.m.

# Business Agent's Report

By Ken Miller

Greetings brothers and sisters,  
Let me begin by asking, **have you updated your personal information with the union hall lately?**

I am still having problems reaching members who haven't updated their contact information. Please, take a moment and update your information with the hall.

I hope everybody had a **great holiday season** and got to spend some quality time with the friends and family. Have you made any New Year's resolutions? Have you broken them yet?

Here is one that we should all make. **I resolve to be a better union member.** This will be an easy one to keep by doing small things.

Pay your dues on time. Carry your dues receipt with you. **Attend your local union meetings.** You don't have to attend all of them; I know some of you live out in the valley.

But if you attended two or three last year, try to make four or five this year. You receive a lot of vital information when you attend.

With winter comes a slowdown in work due to inclement weather. Now is a great time to **get some training at the training center.** Renew your welding papers, take that OSHA 30, and/or subpart R class. The more training you have, the more employable you become.

In closing, let me say I hope everybody has a safe and prosperous new year.



## Retirees Korner

By Dick Zampa, Sr.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Let's hope that the new year brings new opportunities and more work for the ironworkers. 2011 was a rough year for many of our ironworkers, and it's reflected on our medical costs and pensions.

You should already have received your calendar for 2012 from the local union. Refer to it to find out when both our local and retirees' meetings take place.

Additionally, our Retirees' Association dues for 2012 are now due – \$24 for the year. You should have received notice in the mail from Secretary Fred Burton.

Please follow up and support us. If you are not presently a 378 Retirees' Association member, consider joining us now. The meetings are casual and informative, and attendance is approximately 50 members.

Our last draw for the award jackets, paid for by the Local, was Feb. 1, 2012. We drew for the year and recipients had to be able to attend a regular union meeting to receive it and also make a short report of their history as an ironworker, either verbally or in writing.

Stay healthy. See you at the April meeting on Wednesday, April 4, 2012.

### CHANGE OF MEETING DATE ANNOUNCEMENT

Retirees meeting scheduled to meet on  
June 6, 2012 has been rescheduled to  
meet on June 15, 2012.

# Apprenticeship Coordinator's Report

By Brian Colombo

Brothers and Sisters,

The spring 2012 journeymen retraining schedule is out, and with the work situation improving, no one should take the chance of missing out on a good job because they are lacking a training certificate.

Registration for all classes will be taken at the apprenticeship office only. If you would like to be enrolled in a class, please call ahead of time and get on the list. Space is limited, so call as soon as possible.

The number for the apprenticeship office is 707.746.7666. All classes require participants to be in work clothes. Please be prompt and prepared.

All classes in Benicia start at 6:30 a.m., while classes held at the SF Union Hall begin at 7 a.m. This schedule and other important information is also posted on our website: [universityofiron.org](http://universityofiron.org).

Completion of the 40-hour rigging course and the 40-hour Structural II/Cranes course is required in order to receive the qualified rigger/signalperson card.

If a person has completed the apprenticeship program, then these requirements have been met. For the qualified rigger course, the materials needed are pencil, notepad and calculator. Please be prompt and prepared.



## Journeymen Upgrade Classes for the Spring 2012 Semester

### Signups taken at the Apprenticeship ONLY

Qualified Rigger	Start Time	Location	Subpart R	Start Time	Location
2/25 and 3/03	6:30 am.	Benicia	3/09	7 a.m.	SF Hall
4/21 and 4/28	7 a.m.	SF Hall	3/24	6:30 am.	Benicia
<u>Rigging</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	5/18	7 a.m.	SF Hall
3/19-23	6:30 am.	Benicia	5/19	6:30 am.	Benicia
4/09-13	6:30 am.	Benicia	<u>Forklift</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
4/30-5/04	6:30 am.	Benicia	3/13	6:30 am.	Benicia
6/04-08	6:30 am.	Benicia	5/01	6:30 am.	Benicia
7/09-13	6:30 am.	Benicia	6/19	6:30 am.	Benicia
<u>Cranes</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Scaffold Erector/Dismantler</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
3/12-16	6:30 am.	Benicia	4/05	6:30 am.	Benicia
4/16-20	6:30 am.	Benicia	6/14	6:30 am.	Benicia
6/11-15	6:30 am.	Benicia	<u>Foreman Training</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>OSHA 30</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	4/09-11	6:30 am.	Benicia
3/05-08	7 a.m.	SF Hall	7/30-8/01	6:30 am.	Benicia
3/19-22	6:30 am.	Benicia	<u>Lead</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
5/14-17	7 a.m.	SF Hall	4/02-04	6:30 am.	Benicia
5/21-24	6:30 am.	Benicia	6/11-13	6:30 am.	Benicia
6/18-21	6:30 am.	Benicia	<u>Scaffold User</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
8/06-09	6:30 am.	Benicia	4/17	6:30 am.	Benicia
<u>Comet</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	7/24	6:30 am.	Benicia
3/23	6:30 am.	Benicia			
5/25	6:30 am.	Benicia			
6/22	6:30 am.	Benicia			
8/10	6:30 am.	Benicia			



## Iron Café

### Easy Flan Recipe

- Prep Time: 20 minutes • Cook Time: 1 hour
- Total Time: 1 hour, 20 minutes

#### Ingredients:

- 1 cup and 1/2 cup sugar
- 6 large eggs
- 1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 13-ounce cans evaporated milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

#### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees. You will need six ramekins or other specialty flan cookware and a large baking pan to put them in.
2. Pour one cup sugar in a warm pan over medium heat.
3. Constantly stir the sugar until it browns and becomes caramel.
4. Quickly pour approximately two or three tablespoons of caramel into each ramekin, tilting it to swirl the caramel around the sides.
5. Reheat caramel if it starts to harden.
6. Blend the eggs together in a mixer or with a whisk. Mix in both milks, and then slowly mix in the half cup of sugar, then the vanilla. Blend smooth after each ingredient is added.
7. Pour custard into caramel-lined ramekins. Place ramekins in a large glass or ceramic baking dish and fill with about one or two inches of hot water.
8. Bake for 45 minutes in the water bath and check with a knife just to the side of the center. If the knife comes out clean, it's ready.
9. Remove and let cool. Let each ramekin cool in the refrigerator for one hour. Invert each ramekin onto a small plate; the caramel sauce will flow over the custard.



## Iron Café

### Baked Cheese and Mushroom Chicken

#### Ingredients

- 4 Chicken breasts (skinless and boneless)
- 1 egg
- 1 cup of bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons of parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon Knorr chicken bouillon
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1/2 onion, sliced and halved
- 5-7 mushrooms, sliced

#### Sauce

- 1/2 cup of water
- 2 tablespoons of soy sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon Knorr chicken bouillon
- 4 slices of mozzarella cheese

#### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Rinse the chicken breasts thoroughly.
2. Beat the egg until fluffy and dip one chicken breast into the egg.
3. Cover the chicken with a mixture of breadcrumbs, parmesan cheese, chicken bouillon and salt and pepper, if desired.
4. Place the chicken on an oiled skillet and lightly brown. Repeat the process with the remaining chicken breasts.
5. Place the chicken, once lightly browned, on a foil-covered baking dish.
6. Sauté the bell pepper, onion, and mushrooms in a skillet.
7. Add water, soy sauce, and chicken bouillon until the sauce and vegetables lightly boil. Then, pour the mixture around the chicken in the foiled tray.
8. Bake lightly, covered with foil for approximately 40 minutes.
9. Remove the tray and place one slice of cheese on each chicken breast.
10. Bake for an additional five minutes.
11. Serve with vegetables and sauce poured on the top.

# By-laws Update Notice

Dear Membership,

A meeting of all Local 378 officers was scheduled for Saturday, Nov.19, 2011 and Wednesday Jan. 11, 2012 to review the by-laws and recommend any changes.

Those officers in attendance established the by-laws committee. In attendance were President/Business Agent Bobby Lux, Vice President Gary Johnson, Business Manager/Financial Secretary Jeff McEuen, Business Agent Jason Gallia, Business Agent Ken Miller, Recording Secretary Doug Boyum, executive board members Emilio Rivera Jr., Gilbert Peralta, Chris Derrico, John Spinola and William Holdman, along with Trustees Richard E. Zampa, Bruce Swanson and Ron McCurry.

After a thorough page-by-page review of the by-laws adopted as of June 9, 2005, the committee recommended that the membership adopt the following changes.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

The third reading and vote on the below mentioned by-laws amendment will take place during the regularly scheduled membership meeting on Thursday, April 12, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the Union Hall, located on 3120 Bayshore Rd., Benicia, CA 94510.

In order to be eligible to vote, your dues must be paid through at least March 2012. Apprentices are not eligible to vote.

Fraternally,

Robert Lux

President/Business Agent

## COMMITTEE PROPOSES AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL 378 BY-LAWS

Change the inside cover of the by-laws booklet to reflect the current by-laws committee.

Add under the **preamble** the Standard of Excellence.

Under **Article I**, add **paragraph D**, all bills will be read in their entirety, at every membership meeting.

**Article II, section 1, paragraph A**, Shall be updated to read- Regular monthly dues for journeymen shall be \$39.50 per month.

**Article II, section 1, paragraph B**, Shall be updated to read- Regular monthly dues for apprentice members shall be \$39.00 per month.

**Article II, section 1, paragraph C**, Shall be updated to read- Allocation of monthly dues:

- (1) \$31.50 goes to the International.
- (2) \$2.00 per month goes to Defense Fund
- (3) \$0.50 per month goes to the Sick/Accident Fund.
- (4) \$5.50 per month goes to the General Fund.

**Article II, paragraph F**, add language- The 11 for 12 must be paid between the months of November 15-February 15. Change monetary condition from \$750,000.00 to \$3,000,000.00.

**Article II, section 3, paragraph C**- Should the Business Manager/Financial Secretary report during a regularly scheduled meeting that the total combined finances of Local 378's General Fund have depreciated to \$3 million or below, a mandatory rise in Local membership dues of \$2.50, totaling in the amount of \$42.00 for Journeymen, and the amount of \$41.50 for Apprentices, will take effect the first day of the next calendar month. Local membership dues will be raised \$1.50 for each \$500,000.00 the General Fund falls thereafter.

**Article III, section 1, paragraph A**, add sub-paragraph (1)- If the combined total finances of Local 378's General Fund fall below \$2 million, and remain below \$2 million, the position of Business Agent Slot 2 will be eliminated from the next regular election.

**Article III, section 1, paragraph C1**, Shall read as- Following the conclusion of the nomination of Delegates of Convention, at least three (3) but no more than five (5) Judges of Election shall be elected, none of whom shall be a candidate for Delegate of Convention. Those elected as "Judges of Election" shall conduct the election in accordance with the provisions of Article XXVI, Section 15 of the International Constitution. The Judges of Election shall receive for their duties two (2) hours of Journeyman Iron Worker's rate of pay, computed at straight time rate.

- (1) Provided the Election of Delegates does not fall on the same year as Election of Officers.

**Article III, section 2- paragraph A**, add sub-paragraph (1) -Election of Delegates for International Convention may be held at regular membership meeting when the election does not coincide with the election of local union

officers. The nomination of Delegates may be made by the membership, at a regular membership meeting 4 months prior to the convention and election 3 months prior to convention.

**Article V, section 1, change-** Section 25 to section 27

Add language that says Steward shall be Local member.

Add language that says Steward must be qualified to do the work, with accordance to section 27 of Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Article VI, section 1, add paragraph D-** The Vacation Log for the paid Officers of Local 378 shall be available for review on a quarterly basis to the Executive Board and Trustees.

**Article VI, section 6, paragraph B, language change-** Business Agents are delegates for Building Trades and Central Labor Council meetings. If a Business Agent cannot attend, an Executive Board member or alternate may go in his/her place and be paid \$25.00 for each meeting attended.

**Article VII, section 1, add paragraph D-** A special meeting of all officers shall be called to establish an action plan when the total of all counts drops below \$3,000,000.00.

**Article X, section 1, add -** "Standards of Excellence" right after "International Constitution."

**Article X, section 3, add -** "Standards of Excellence" right after "International Constitution."

## Asbestos compensation meeting

Attention! If before 1983, you worked as an ironworker or in any other trade or craft, and have never been screened for asbestos exposure or were screened previously but found to be negative and are not presently employing an attorney for any asbestos claim, **you may be eligible for compensation.**

**Attend an informational meeting:** Date: Thursday, March 8, 2012

Time: 3 p.m. until end of membership meeting (Stop by anytime during these hours to meet with attorney's staff)

Where: Iron Workers Local 378 Union Hall • 3120 Bayshore Drive, Benicia, CA 94510

**Work History Required** – If you have any work history information (i.e. Social Security records, pension records or union book, please bring them with you).

If you are unable to attend, please contact our office to process your claim over the phone. Toll Free: 855.868.7800



## Iron Workers Political Action League PRESIDENT'S CLUB



Jason Gallia	Jeff McEuen	Emilio Rivera	Timothy Wright
Steve Kaspar	Kenneth Miller	James Ray Trujillo	Lynn Yost
Robert Lux	James Pruett	Robert Wright	

## Tribute Announcements

Fran England	1279895	05/05/1937-12/09/2011
Scott Vanfossan	1332063	01/11/1970-12/15/2011
Larry Reyes	683220	03/19/1937-12/23/2011

When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight. -Kahlil Gibran

# e-mail



**378@ironworkers378.org**

We would like to hear from you!

Please email us your suggestions, comments and general inquiries.



*We're on the web!  
www.ironworkers378.org  
Find us on Facebook!*

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