

Iron Workers  
Union Local  
378



3120 Bayshore Rd.  
Benicia, CA 94510  
707-746-6100



# LOCAL LINE NEWSLETTER

Oakland, CA • Vol 20 No. 1 • January 2011

## Business Manager's Report

*by Emilio Rivera*, Business Manager, Financial Secretary-Treasurer

I hope everyone had a nice holiday and all is well with you and your family.

Reflecting back on 2010, we experienced a challenging year due to the lack of work, although there were numerous projects in our area. In 2011, we expect to recover, as there are several large projects, which are going to begin. New projects such as the power plants, windmills (performed by contractors Mortensen and Michaels) and work at the Berkeley Stadium are just a few that will launch. Of course, there are always the rod jobs that keep us afloat.

We have received many calls in our office in reference to potential modifications to the "Golden 85 Pension." Please note that the eligibility rules for the "Golden 85 Pension" remain the same and no modifications to this type of pension were addressed at the Board of Trustees meeting in December 2010.

At the membership meeting in December 2010, we were fortunate to have Glen Cline; Executive Director & Secretary of the California Trust Fund speak to our membership. He addressed all questions and concerns from the membership for over two hours. Glen shared with me that he was impressed by our member's conduct and the excellent questions asked.

Throughout the year, we receive several calls from members requesting us to contact the Trust Fund on their behalf. If you have been speaking with the Trust Fund office and wish for us to follow up on a certain matter, it is important that you provide us with the name of the representative that you spoke with.

This year, the trustees will be implementing a funding plan that would tentatively get the Health & Welfare plan back in the green. The Trust Fund has mailed out notifications to the membership, which address the modifications in the subsidy program. The Board of Trustees has considered a retiree subsidy based upon the number of pension credits a participant has earned with the California Ironworkers Field Pension Trust over their working career. For all participants retiring on or after January 1, 2011, there will be a new 4-tier premium structure in place, as well as a new age requirement to be eligible for the Retiree Self Pay Health and Welfare through the California Ironworkers Field Welfare Plan. A participant retiring on or after January 1, 2011, must meet the minimum number of Pension Credits required and be at least age 55 in order to qualify for Retiree Self Pay subsidized coverage under the California Ironworkers Field Welfare Plan.

Your Brother Iron Worker, Emilio Rivera

### Visit Your Local 378 Website

Please visit our new 2011 website at [www.ironworkers378.org](http://www.ironworkers378.org)

We are constantly changing and adding new information on our website. Our site contains useful information that you should read and items for your entertainment, as well as the Guestbook, where you can submit comments and a 'hello' to the membership and read what the members have posted. At 'The Ironworker Office' tab on the website, you see a slideshow of jobsites and fellow ironworkers at work. We included an additional tab that is the 2010 Pin Ceremony pictures on a slide show for your enjoyment.

Phone numbers and addresses for our Signatory Contractors are available at the 'Forms' tab. On the 'Help for Laid off Worker' tab you can get useful information that might help you and your family during these hard times.

You can also find us on Facebook; search for us as Ironworkers Union Local 378. Every week, we post reminders, notes and a weekly report from the agent who is dispatching. **Don't miss out, start following us on Facebook today.**

## **President/Business Agent's Report** *By Bobby Lux*

Happy New Year!

I hope you and your family had a good and safe holiday.

As we enter into 2011, it is important to reflect on the positive outcomes of 2010.

Politically our local, because of its hard work and dedication, was able to elect our labor friendly endorsed candidates, Jerry Brown and Barbara Boxer. Our opponents were able to outspend us but not out work us.

Additionally because of our local's support, we were successful in finalizing the Oakland Airport Connector project, a five hundred million dollar project. The highlight of this project is that it was negotiated as a PLA.

Finally, in 2010, the Kaiser Hospital project, eight hundred million dollars, and the long awaited UC Berkeley Stadium project, three hundred million dollars, kicked off. The outcome of both projects will bring continued work for many of our members into 2012.

As President/Business Agent, I would like to offer a few 2011 New Year's resolutions to our members:

1. If you are not working, make the best of your time off by getting your welding certificates, your CPR card and/or your First Aid certification and Qualified-rigging card.
2. When you see a retiree, take a moment to thank them for all they have done and enjoy their stories from the past.
3. Finally, commit yourself to follow the Iron Workers' Standards of Excellence, which reflects the pride of every Ironworker.

In closing, let us all stand by each other as we enter 2011 and work hard at making it a safe and prosperous New Year.

GOOD LUCK, WORK SAFE

Bobby Lux

## **Business Agent's Report** *By Jason Gallia*

HAPPY NEW YEAR, I hope everyone enjoyed their Holidays.

Good things are coming to Alameda County. Alameda County had 705 million dollars in school bonds pass in Berkeley, Emeryville, San Leandro and the Ohlone College District.

Ohlone College District alone has a 350 million dollar bond. This work has great potential for a Project Labor Agreement for the building trades. The delegates for the Alameda Building Trades are setting up meetings with the Board Members and College President to hammer out an agreement.

Berkeley Unified School District has 210 million dollars in School Bonds. The Alameda Building Trades are working hard for the work to go under a Project Labor Agreement. The City of Berkeley is considering a Project Labor Agreement for Public Works.

There is opposition on this work, it is the ABC. On January 18, 2011, Iron Worker volunteers and myself (wearing our Union Colors) will be attending the Berkeley City Council Meeting along with the Building Trades to help the City Council better understand how much Project Labor Agreements benefit the community.

Remember, work safe; always carry your dues receipt with you.

I will see you on the job.

Jason

## **Business Agent's Report** *By Jeff McEuen*

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope the holidays were joyful and pleasant for you and your families.

Since my last report, we had an election in California. From what I see, we showed the rest of the country just how strong UNION labor is and what we can accomplish when we flex that strength. We kept the people in office that are good for us and our livelihood and TERMINATED the ones that did not hold our best interest to heart.

Now as our new Governor takes office and inherits a tough job to get California back on track and working again, I have confidence he will do a good job. Let us remember not too long ago another Democratic leader took over a job and was handed a huge mess, which he is trying to fix and get America working again. In my opinion, he is doing the best he can with what he has to work with.

I can see the job future turning for the better and see some good jobs for our area starting soon. I say when things start happening in the Bay Area, things start happening in California and then things start happening all over the country.

Some of the jobs I am talking about are "Russell City Energy Center" to be constructed in Hayward. Bechtel is the general contractor on this project and it is under way with driving pile right now, and the job will be getting the reinforcing started in the next couple of months. Two other power plants in our jurisdiction are under way, the "Marsh Landing Generation Station" in Antioch and the "Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant" in Tracy. Both of these jobs are in site work and survey stages and we will be seeing Iron Workers out there very soon.

Stay safe, keep your skills sharp and make yourself available for all types of work.

Always fighting for you and your union,

Jeff McEuen

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

There are scholarships available to the dependents of Iron Worker members from the offices of the International Headquarters and District Council. The deadline to request an application from the International is January 31, 2011 and you must submit the completed application on or before March 31, 2011. Please note that the deadlines for completed applications may be extended. You may review the scholarship rules and request an application on their website at [www.ironworkers.org](http://www.ironworkers.org) or contact 1-800-368-0105 and ask for Cheri.

The deadline to submit an application from the District Council office is June 30, 2011. You may request an application by contacting 510-724-9277.

## **Apprenticeship Coordinator's Report** *By Brian Colombo*

Greetings Brother and Sister Ironworkers,

The spring 2011 schedule is complete. Most apprentices have already received their books. All apprentices will soon be receiving a letter with the dates of their upcoming classes. Those apprentices who have not picked up their books, should do so immediately. Books can be picked up Monday through Saturday morning. All classes are in Benicia and begin at 6:30 AM unless noted otherwise. All classes require participants to be in work clothes. Please be prompt and prepared. This schedule and other important information are also posted on our website: [universityofiron.org](http://universityofiron.org)

### **FORKLIFT TRAINING**

2/15

5/17

### **SCAFFOLD USER**

4/26

### **SCAFFOLD ERECTOR DISMANTLER**

5/17

### **OSHA 30 & COMET**

2/07-11

2/14-18 (Santa Clara)

3/07-11

3/14-18 (San Francisco)

3/28-4/01

4/18-22

5/09-13

5/23-27

6/06-10 (San Francisco)

6/13-17

8/08-12

### **RIGGING**

#### **(40 HOUR APPRENTICE COURSE)**

2/28-3/04

5/20-06

### **STRUCTURAL II/CRANES (40 HOUR APPRENTICE COURSE)**

3/21-25

4/11-15

5/16-20

6/06-10

### **SUB PART R**

2/05

4/02

6/04

8/06

### **QUALIFIED RIGGER\***

2/05 & 2/12 (SAN FRANCISCO)

4/02 & 4/09 (BENICIA)

5/07 & 5/14 (SAN FRANCISCO)

### **FOREMAN TRAINING**

2/14-15

2/22-23

6/20-21

\*Completion of the 40 hour Rigging course and the 40 hour Structural II/Cranes course are required in order to receive the Qualified Rigger/Signal person 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.

Sign-ups 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.

Fraternally,  
Brian Colombo  
Apprenticeship Coordinator

## **RETIREES KORNER** *by Dick Zampa Sr.*

Hi Guys,

Well, the New Year is here and we are hoping the work picture picks up for our working Iron Workers. Last year has been very tough for our out-of-work Iron Workers, and remember, when they are not working the benefits of health, welfare and pension all suffer.

At our last regular membership meeting, Glen Cline, our Trust Fund Administrator was present at the request of our Business Manager, Trustee Emilio Rivera. Mr. Cline explained the problem the Trust Fund is having with the downturn in work for the last 18 months and how it affects all of our benefits. His presentation lasted over two hours, which included all questions from the floor. If you missed it, you missed a very educational meeting. In the California District Council of Iron Workers, working Iron Workers, presently being reported are less than 7,000 workers per month in California, Nevada, and Arizona. This is 50% less than normal.

Our next retiree meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 2, 2011. As you are aware, the Local Union 378 donates a Carhart jacket fully embroidered with the logo on the back for each membership meeting of the 2011 year. We will be pulling names for this award at our February Retirees meeting. You must be a paid up 2011, 378 Retiree member to be eligible. So come on down and join or pay up the \$24.00 annual dues. If you are a drawn participant, the local union requests that you show up at a membership meeting, to receive the presentation and give a short story of your Iron Working career.

Additionally, we will be discussing a boat trip to the new Bay Bridge. President Bob Lux is working with us on that. Local 378 supports our Retirees organization well, so when you see one of our elected officers, be sure to tell them thanks.

Your 2011 dues of \$24.00 are now due and payable. If you are not a member yet, join us now. You don't have to be a local resident, in fact quite a few of our Retiree members are from out of the area or out of State. Join now, and wives are always welcome.

See you at the meeting.

Dick Zampa, Sr.

### **IMPORTANT:**

Whenever you make calls to the Trust Fund, please make the effort to write down the name of the person you spoke with, the department this person is in, and the date and time of the call. There are approximately 150 employees at the Trust Fund.

We have received several calls from members that are upset with information that was provided to them by the Trust Fund. If we are to assist you with the matter, we need to have the name of the person to whom you spoke with at the Trust Fund. It is expected that you receive the most professional and knowledgeable service from the Trust, however, if we do not know whom you spoke with, we will be unable to identify who may need additional training.

We sincerely wish to assist you; however, you must also do your part.

## **10TH ANNUAL WOMEN BUILDING CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE**

This year marks the 10th Annual Women Building California Conference put together by Tradeswomen, Inc. This statewide conference is for women who are part of a trade that is primarily male dominated, like the construction industry. The conference gives women in the industry an opportunity to network and to develop new skills and strategies. Leadership of women is encouraged both on the jobsite and in labor unions. More than 20 workshops are set up that are facilitated by politicians, union leaders, apprenticeship coordinators, contractors and tradeswomen.

In 2010, we had the pleasure of sending seven out of sixteen active female Iron Workers to this event. This year we would like to send more of our female membership. If you are an active female Iron Worker member of local 378; please contact Gaby at 707-746-6100 and asked to get signed up for the 10th Annual Women Building California Conference which will be held in Oakland from April 30 thru May 1.

**Remember, there is a registration form that must be completed before March 31, so call as soon as possible.**

### ***RELAY FOR LIFE***

*AUGUST 6-7*

**The Iron Workers Walk to find a cure for Cancer!**

**Please join Local 378 in the fight against Cancer by participating in the 2011 Relay for Life held August.**

According to the American Cancer Society, about 569,490 Americans are expected to die of cancer, more than 1,500 people a day. Cancer is the second most common cause of death in the U.S. exceeded only by heart disease. In the U.S., cancer accounts for nearly one of every four deaths.

According to the American Cancer Society the five-year relative survival rate for cancers, diagnosed between 1999 to 2005 is 68%, up from 50% in 1975 -1977. The improvement in survival reflects progress in diagnosing certain cancers at an earlier stage and improvements in treatment.

Since 2004, Local 378 has participated in Relay for Life. We would like to extend an invitation to all of our members and their families to participate in the 2011 event held at the Vallejo St. Patrick School Track field from August 6-7.

If you are an Active 378 member, who is a Cancer Survivor or a Cancer Patient and would like to submit your photograph for the 2011 Relay for Life Iron Worker Poster, please contact Gaby at 707-746-6100.

## **IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Did you know that when you send a Certificate of Disability to the Trust Fund or to us, that this does not lower your membership dues?

It is not automatic, and you must make an application to lower your dues rate. To qualify you must have been injured while working in the trade.

Did you know that when you make an application for pension through the Trust Fund, we are not notified immediately, nor are your dues automatically lowered?

There are qualifications that you must meet in order to lower your dues rate. Please contact the hall to see if you are eligible to lower your dues rate if you are disabled or have applied for your pension recently.

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

***Have you supplied the Local Union with your personal information?***

***Do we have your current email address and phone numbers?***

Occasionally, we email information to the membership that requires an immediate response. If we do not have your email address, please provide it to us at your earliest convenience. You will start receiving this newsletter via email and a hard copy will no longer be mailed.

From time to time, we receive requests for manpower from Employers after dispatch hours. Usually, they request that the member arrive at the jobsite early the following day. Unfortunately, many of you have missed out on these requests due to a disconnected or old phone number. Please make it a point to give us your most recent phone numbers. We want to give everyone an equal opportunity.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**THIS LOCAL UNION DOES NOT SHARE OR SELL ANY OF YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION TO ANYONE.**

We process mailers for several companies during the year. The companies that we have processed mailers for in the past are listed below:

- American Income Life Insurance
- Union Estate Planning
- Union Dental

If you received mailers from any of these companies, they have been mailed from our office. We do not allow these companies to mail the letters directly to our membership.

We have found that in some of the letters that were mailed to our membership, the companies have placed a postcard for your response. This postcard is returned directly to their company and this is how they receive your personal data. If you do not want them to receive your information, please do not return the postcards unless you are interested in conducting further business with their organization.

**ROLL CALL SYSTEM**  
**NEW PROCEDURES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2011**

Phone calls for Roll Call are accepted from 7:00 AM to 9:30 AM. We will NOT accept any phone calls after 9:30 AM.

We will no longer accept doctors' appointments or phone records as verification for not calling in during the above listed times. If you should have a routine doctor's appointment, you must call prior to or after the appointment, providing it is during the hours of roll call. If you have tried to call in and the line is busy, you must continue to make the effort to reach us. Our lines are not busy all morning long. Spouses will not be permitted to call in and you MUST call in yourself.

Stating that you were unable to call for roll call because you were in surgery that morning will no longer be accepted as an excuse.

**The out of work list is for members that are available for work. If you are disabled, then you are not available for work.**

Each call will be kept short and concise to give everyone the opportunity to contact the office during roll call hours.



**Iron Workers Political Action League  
PRESIDENT'S CLUB**

James Ashcroft  
Troy Christensen  
Thelbert Frisby

Jason Gallia  
Robert Lux  
Jeff McEuen

James K. Pruett  
Emilio Rivera  
Emilio Rivera Jr.

John Spinola  
Richard Wagner

IN MEMORIAM

We were notified of the following deaths since our last Local Line. Our fellow Iron Workers will be sorely missed.

Jack Pineo	Book# 655217	Passed 8/23/10	Age 80
Thomas Fleming	Book# 559867	Passed 9/16/10	Age 85
Kenneth Jones	Book# 604792	Passed 9/27/10	Age 76
Michael Parslow	Book# 799878	Passed 10/14/10	Age 65
Kenneth Brown	Book# 859893	Passed 10/16/10	Age 59
Dennis Chilton	Book# 609853	Passed 10/31/10	Age 73
Edward Willes	Book# 1044741	Passed 11/6/10	Age 75
Ernest Agua	Book# 822959	Passed 11/19/10	Age 70
Ben Jackson	Book# 393868	Passed 12/10/10	Age 83
William Sonnenberg	Book# 473614	Passed 1/1/11	Age 87
Thomas Hout	Book# 688946	Passed 1/13/11	Age 77