

NEWSLETTER –MAY 13, 2009

“Tough times never last but tough people do.”

The Special Election process is complete and I would like to thank both Kathy Reyes and Todd Golden for stepping up for the task to serve the membership and this Local Union. It is my pleasure to announce our new Vice-President, Todd Golden. Congratulations, good luck, and welcome to the team. I look forward to working with Todd in his new capacity. With the election complete, your new Union Officers for the remainder of the year – President Chris Hannan, Vice-President Todd Golden, and Business Manager Michael Huerta, will be sworn into office at the beginning of the June 1st, 2009 meeting by friend and U.A. Special Representative, Bob Lamb.

I want to thank Josh Cooper and Guillermo Fernandez for representing Local 709 at the State Sprinkler Fitter Apprentice Competition in San Jose very well. I am very proud to announce that Josh won the contest while Guillermo took 2nd Runner-up. Congratulations Gentlemen and Good Luck to you, Josh at the Regional Contest, the final step towards the National Contest in Michigan.

Now on to other business, a Special Called Meeting to vote on the \$1 increase to the hourly contribution rate for the Pension Plan will be held on June 1, 2009 at the Local 709 James J. Duffy III Meeting Hall at 12140 Rivera Road, Whittier, CA 90606. We will vote on where to take the additional \$1.00 per hour contribution from. Should there be a tie vote, we will have a run-off that same evening. The choices which were offered from the floor, discussed and will be voted on are as follows:

- 1) \$1.00 from vacation (Negotiating Committee recommendation)
- 2) \$0.33 from SIS, \$0.34 from vacation, \$0.33 from the check
- 3) \$1.00 from SIS
- 4) \$0.50 from vacation and \$0.50 from check
- 5) \$1.00 from check

We need to remember that this change will only be for two months, July 1st through August 31st, and then our September 1st wage increase will apply. Speaking of our September 1st wage increase, we will have another Special Called Meeting on Monday, July 6th, 2009 to discuss how the wage increase of \$2.55 will be distributed amongst wages, SIS, and/or vacation, then yet another on Monday July 27th, 2009 to vote on where the raise will go. Please be in attendance of these very important meetings to help determine where our raise will go.

Special Called Meetings at the Local 709 James J. Duffy III Meeting Hall at 12140 Rivera Road, Whittier, CA 90606 at 5:30pm:

- Monday, June 1st, 2009 – To Vote on the \$1 Increase to the Pension Hourly Contribution Rate.
Monday, July 6th, 2009 - To Discuss How the September 1st Wage Increase should be Distributed amongst wages, SIS and vacation.
Monday, July 27th, 2009 – To Vote on How the September 1st Wage Increase should be Distributed.

The Union Picnic is rapidly approaching on Saturday, June 20th, 2009 @ 11a. The picnic will be held at Gemmrig Park in Long Beach. We will need lots of volunteers to help with all aspects of set-up, clean-up, and running the many events. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Maribel, Judy, or myself with your name and contact information and what you would like to help with. I thank you in advance.

Journeyman Training Update Classes: Thursday, May 21st @ 6:00pm - Viking Sprinkler Company's Technical Representative will be presenting a class on Pre-Action Systems. Thursday, May 28th, 2009 @ 6:00pm – Orientation Class for Journeyman members interested in taking the U.A. Star Mastery Exam for Sprinkler Fitters. Call the JAC @ (562) 907-7622 for more details.

Please remember to Get Out and Vote on May 19th on the Ballot Initiatives 1A – 1F.

Reminder for those that have Automatic Payment of Monthly Base Dues through Union Yes Federal Credit Union. Please be advised that your account must have a minimum balance, at the beginning of each month, equal to that of \$25 plus the amount which you have requested to be paid to Local 709. If not, no payment will be sent to Local 709 and that month's dues will not be paid. Your authorization of payment is for a set amount only each month. You will not receive a notice either from the Credit Union nor Local 709 regarding there being no dues payment. Please contact Maribel or Judy to check on your current charges due.

Another Reminder to always keep your contact information current. If we do not have your correct and current contact information, then we will be unable to contact you should there be a need. This means either through mailings or phone calls. Just because you put a new phone number in the out-of-work book, this does not mean that the computers have been updated. You must notify Maribel or Judy of all changes immediately.

Reminder that Monday, May 25th, 2009 is a Union Holiday, any work performed on this day is at the Double-Time rate.

Irwindale Speedway vouchers are available. Vouchers are very limited and are on a first come, first served basis with a limit of only two (2) per member. Please see Maribel or Judy at the hall.

Anglers interested in a day of Sport fishing, should contact Local 709 member Robin Hillis at (562) 531-8636 or (562) 818-4628.

Welcome aboard to a New Contractor – Southland Industries. We wish them the best and look forward to a long working relationship.

"You have to have confidence in your ability, and then be tough enough to follow through."

Fraternally yours,



Michael P. Huerta
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dates to Remember:

- May 25, 2009 – Memorial Day Holiday (Double-time rate)*
- May 27, 2009 – Retiree Potluck / Bingo @ Union Hall*
- June 1, 2009 – Special Called Union Meeting (see above)*
- June 5, 2009 – Local 709 Dodger Game Night Out*
- June 9, 2009 – Retiree Fishing Trip*
- June 16, 2009 – Retiree Meeting @ Union Hall*
- June 20, 2009 – Union Picnic @ Gemmrig Park*
- July 3, 2009 – Fourth of July Holiday Recognized (Double-time rate)*
- July 4, 2009 – Fourth of July Holiday (Double-time rate)*
- July 6, 2009 – Special Called Meeting (see above)*
- July 14, 2009 – Retiree Fishing Trip*
- July 21, 2009 – Retiree Meeting @ Union Hall*
- July 27, 2009 – Special Called Meeting (see above)*

Reminder Check payable to: LOCAL 709

Check/Money Order No. _____

Journeyman \$26; Apprentice \$26; Residential \$24; Retired (65 B4 12/31/01) \$15; Retired (65 B4 12/31/06) \$19; Retired (All Other) \$20 Mail to: 12140 Rivera Road., Whittier, CA 90606 Amount \$	
Month(s) Paying:	
Initiation Due:	
Death Assessment:	\$21 for 2008
Reinstatement Fee:	

The Newsletter is also available online at www.sprinklerfitters709.org