

NEWSLETTER –OCTOBER 12, 2009

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matter compared to what lies within us.”

Well here it is already October which means the return of fall weather, the World Series, football, basketball, hockey, the PGA Fall Tour and the Chase for the Cup. This year at this time also brings with it a couple of other things: first, a change to our pension plan; and second, the return of our Local nominations and elections for all offices, committees and boards; more on the nominations and elections later.

First, with the end of the year rapidly coming upon us, I must remind anyone who is thinking of retiring, that beginning January 1st, 2010, the early pension reduction rate will be increased from 1/12th% to 1/6th% per month prior to the age of 61. In other words, the early pension reduction rate will double from a max of 6% to 12%. So, if you are of retirement age or will be in December and are contemplating retirement, you must call NASI for your paperwork ASAP and have it returned to them by mid November. FYI – the last day to retire this year and be eligible for the lower reduction rate is December 1st, with a final working date of November 25th, since the 26th and 27th are holidays. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me or NASI.

Please mark your calendars for next month’s Union meeting on November 2nd, as it will be a Special Called Meeting for the purpose of nominations for all Local offices, committees and boards. Each office/committee/board has a term of three (3) years. The offices, committees and boards are as follows: President (elect one (1)); Vice-President (elect one (1)); Business Manager/ Financial-Recording Secretary/Treasurer (elect one (1)); Inside Guard (elect one (1)); Executive Board (elect four (4)); District Council #16 Delegate (elect two (2)); Negotiation Committee (elect three (3)); Examining Board (elect three (3)); and Finance Committee (elect three (3)). According to the Constitution of the United Association, Section 121, Eligibility for Office in Local Unions; “No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union.” After nominations have been completed, the President shall appoint an election judge and four (4) tellers and said appointees shall be ratified by the members present. All members will be mailed notification of all names put in nomination.

There shall be a Special Called Meeting for the election of offices, committees and boards to be held on Saturday, December 12th, 2009 at Local 709’s James J Duffy III Hall, at 12140 Rivera Road, Whittier, CA 90606. The polls will be open at 8:00 am and close at 6:00 pm. According to the Constitution of the United Association, Section 124(a), Eligibility to vote at Local Union Election; “No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to vote in any Local Union election.

In the event of a tie, a Run-off Election will be held on Saturday, December 19th, 2009 at Local 709's James J Duffy III Hall, at 12140 Rivera Road, Whittier, CA 90606. The polls will be open at 8:00 am and close at 6:00 pm, with the same voting rules and eligibility as the previous election being applied.

The Semi-Annual Retirees Golf Tournament was held on October 7th. A good time was had by all who attended. Thank you to all who played in and sponsored the tournament. Your donations will help the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. Also, if anyone lost a black neoprene #6 iron cover, please contact the hall.

Congratulations to retired member, Tom McNamara for being featured in "The Heart of the UA" article on the inside front cover of the UA Journal. Way to go Tom!

Monthly Dues Reminder - \$19.00 - 26.00 Monthly Dues (Dependent on classification)
3 Months + 1 Day = \$50 Reinstatement Fee + Dues
6 Months + 1 Day = Expulsion (Must call Business Manager for amount)

The Irwindale Speedway racing season is coming to an end in November. There are vouchers still available, with a limit of five (5) per member, on a first come, first served basis. Please see Maribel or Judy at the hall.

The Service Pin Awards Luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 5th, 2009 at 11:00 am at Local 709's Hall, at 12140 Rivera Road, Whittier, CA 90606. Service Pins will be awarded in recognition of 25 year members and for those every five (5) years plus (30, 35, 40, etc.). Notices will be mailed out in the near future.

The Local 709 Christmas Party will be held on Monday, December 7th, 2009 before the Union meeting. Food, beverages and dessert will be served at 4:00 pm. This will be Local 709's Sixth Annual Toy Drive for the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. Please bring a toy or child's gift valued at \$10.00 or more. Thank you in advance for making a sick child a little happier for the holidays. Don't miss out on the food and fellowship before the meeting at 5:30 pm.

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.

Reminder to please read your dues receipts. After you pay your dues, you are sent a dues receipt which states what was paid and through when it is paid. If when you receive it, you do not understand it, please call the office and speak to either Judy or Maribel.

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 - HIPAA Rules require a Signed NASI Medical Privacy Authorization Form to allow others access to your health records. The same is true for your spouse and any other dependents over the age of 18. If forms are needed, please contact Maribel or Judy at the hall or visit www.nasifund.org/PDFs/Welfare_Fund/authorizationForm.pdf

We are Saddened to Report the passing of Lifetime Member Otto F. Fesgen, and Brothers Thomas L. Dalton Sr., Martin A. Rackliffe and David C. Daniels. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and friends during this time of loss. They will surely be missed.

Fraternally yours,



Michael P. Huerta
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dates to Remember:

- October 12, 2009 – Joint Apprenticeship Committee Meeting*
- October 13, 2009 – Retiree Fishing Trip*
- October 20, 2009 – Executive Board Meeting*
- October 20, 2009 – Retiree Meeting*
- October 26, 2009 – Finance Committee Meeting*
- November 2, 2009 – Special Called Union Meeting for Nominations for all Offices, Committees & Boards*
- November 11, 2009 – Veteran’s Day Holiday*
- November 18, 2009 – Retiree Potluck / Bingo*
- November 26 & 27, 2009 – Thanksgiving Day & the Day after Thanksgiving Holidays*
- December 5, 2009 – Pin Awards Ceremony*
- December 7, 2009 – Union Toy Drive / Christmas Party Meeting*
- December 12, 2009 – Special Called Meeting for Elections for all Offices, Committees & Boards*
- December 19, 2009- Run-off Election (If Needed)*
- December 25, 2009 – Christmas Day Holiday*
- January 1, 2010 – New Year’s Day Holiday*
- January 4, 2010 – Swearing-in of Officers @ Union Meeting*

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