

NEWSLETTER –SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

“All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.”

Since the last newsletter we have had instructors graduate from the Instructor Training Program and an apprentice compete in the National Apprenticeship Contest in Ann Arbor, Michigan and a motorcycle run. I would like to congratulate instructors John Holmes, Joe Shook, and Bob Unruh on their accomplishment of becoming UA Certified Instructors. I would also like to thank Josh Cooper for his participation in the National Apprenticeship Contest. Although Josh did not win, he made Local 709 proud by being a team player and having a great outlook. Josh helped out his fellow competitors by cleaning both his and others work areas. He thoroughly enjoyed his time spent in all the competitions. Again, “Thanks Josh for a job well done. You did us proud!” And finally, fun was had by all that participated in Local 709’s Motorcycle ride to Green Valley Lake.

If any member has encountered a problem with the Wells Fargo SIS Retirement Services call center, please contact me at the hall with your name, the problem and when your problem occurred (day & approx. time). I was informed awhile back by a couple of members that they were experiencing some difficulties, when I brought it up at the recent trustees meeting I was told that there was no change in who was handling our calls. It is the same call center back from when Comerica had the account. The trustees are in the process of negotiating with a new custodian and record keeper. More to come at a later date.

With the new wage rate that went into effect on September 1st and the down economy, we are beginning to see a lot of Target Rate requests coming in, which we are approving. If the project is awarded, then we will notify all members at the company of the project and its approved wage rate. Only projects that have been approved prior to bidding and the contractor has notified the Union that they were the successful bidder before the start of the project, will be considered legitimate. Should you work on a project and receive a targeted rate but were not notified of the project, please contact me or one of the agents at the hall, so that we may investigate the matter.

With the work situation looking as though it will stay flat for some time, I must remind everyone that it is very important that you keep your information current. If you are out of work, you need to come in and sign the proper Out-of-Work book, because if EDD should ever call to verify that you are on the current Out-of-Work list, there will be no issues. This office will not cover for someone collecting unemployment and not signed on the Out-of-Work list. Also for all Journeymen, should you solicit your own job and are successful; you must notify the hall immediately for a dispatch. Remember, you can be brought up on charges for working without a dispatch. We are beginning to find members that are working, yet are still on the Out-of-Work list. So let’s all work together and do the right thing, so that we may focus our resources on the non-union and not the policing of our own members.

For those members that have been out of work for some time now and are experiencing financial difficulties or if you are experiencing financial difficulties period, please call me at the office so that I may inform you of some of your options.

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)

Irwindale Speedway vouchers are still available. Vouchers are on a first come, first served basis. Now with a limit of five (5) tickets per member. Please see Maribel or Judy at the hall.

Retirees Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, October 7th, 2009 at the Royal Vista Country Club in Walnut. If you are interested in a day of camaraderie and all-around fun, call the hall for a registration form or give one of the Retiree Committee Members a call: Jim Duffy (626) 331-7946; Rick Guyer (626) 810-8349; Tom Collister (909) 861-4915; or Dan Calnan (626) 962-5987. Hurry, because the deadline for registration is Monday, September 28th, 2009.

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 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

Fraternally yours,



Michael P. Huerta
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dates to Remember:

- September 21, 2009 – Joint Apprenticeship Committee Meeting*
- September 22, 2009 – Executive Board Meeting*
- September 28, 2009 – Finance Committee Meeting*
- October 5, 2009 – Regular Union Meeting*
- October 7, 2009 – Retiree Golf Tournament @ Royal Vista GC*
- October 13, 2009 – Retiree Fishing Trip*

Reminder Check payable to: LOCAL 709

Check/Money Order No. _____

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| 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