

LOCAL 342 BLUEPRINT

DECEMBER 2017 ISSUE

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UNITED ASSOCIATION Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 342

Business Office

Derrick Kualapai
Business Manager
& Financial Secretary

Robbie Nash
Business Representative

Steve Eckley
Business Representative

George Kikes
Business Representative

Ché Timmons
Plumber Representative

Mat Hattich
Refrigeration Representative

Obray Van Buren
Special Representative

Marc Lopez
Organizer

From your Business Manager

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings from the Business Office! The next UA Local 342 Membership Meeting will be Thursday, December 14, 2017. Remember to bring your membership card. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.

At the November 2017 Membership Meeting, it was motioned, seconded, and approved to give donations to help provide relief to UA members who were affected by the recent wine country wildfires; in lieu of the Kids' Xmas party.

Required Refinery Safety Overview (RSO) Upgrade!

If you are currently working in the refineries, you must upgrade your RSO card to include the upgraded 8-hours of safety training to be eligible to work at refinery job sites! This must be done by January 1, 2018, or you will not be allowed inside of any of the refineries. Please contact OSCA to schedule an appointment or contact the UA Local 342 Training Center, as we are now approved to teach the required 8-hour upgrade course.

Temporary Special Needs Provision has been extended from December 31, 2017, to December 31, 2018

The Board of Trustees of the Northern California Pipe Trades Pension Plan ("Plan"), at the request of UA Local 342, has determined that there continues to be a serious shortage of skilled employees who possess valid credentials/certifications in Industrial Refinery Experience as required by certain Contributing Employers.

Based on the current employment situation, the Board of Trustees has determined that the continued shortage of skilled/credentialed employees with Industrial Refinery Experience in the jurisdiction of UA Local 342 should only exist through December 31, 2018 based on current information.

Due to this special need and unique circumstance, the Board of Trustees will continue to permit skilled Non-Disabled Retirees with Industrial Refinery Experience who retired at least 30 days prior to dispatch and who possess valid credentials/certifications (including possession of current RSO and TWIC cards) as required by Contributing Employers to be dispatched, for a limited duration, to jobs within the jurisdiction of UA Local 342 without incurring a suspension of their Retirement Benefits.

Interested qualified Non-Disabled Retirees should contact UA Local 342.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year, I remain

Fraternally Yours, *Derrick Kualapai* Business Manager & Financial Secretary



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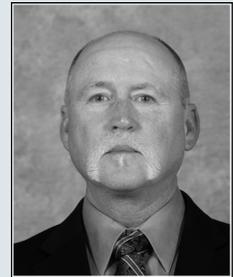
I'd like to give a little shout out to all our 342 Brothers and Sisters! 2018 is coming fast and I think it's going to be a great year.

To our Pipeline Brothers and Sisters:

If you have PG&E certs, please be sure to check your expiration date and if you are nearing expiration make sure to contact me so I can get you a Re-Qual Test. If your certs have lapsed, let me know if you're interested in Re-Testing before the work starts, I might be able to get you a test.

I hope Santa is good to you all and your families. Merry Christmas!

Pipeline Report



Steve Eckley
Business Representative

Industrial Report



George Kikes
Business Representative

We are about to sign a 5-year Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with Tesoro Refinery to have all turnarounds and maintenance done with UA members. This will go into effect as of April 1, 2018.

As of early December 2017, we will be starting to teach the RSO class in our Training Center at no cost to the membership. Please contact the Training Center for information on when these classes will be available.

Cherne and Harder are continuing to hire. Construction Turnaround Services is now starting to man up at Chevron for Pre-shutdown work.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me.

Monthly Membership Dues

We would like to alert you of upcoming changes to monthly membership dues obligations based on amendments to the UA Constitution adopted at the 39th Convention. The provisions of the new Constitution will take effect January 1, 2018.

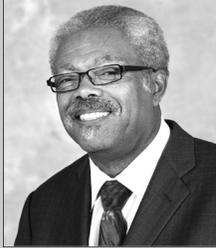
MEMBERS UNDER AGE 65: The following additional changes will take effect January 1, 2018, and will remain in effect through December 31, 2021.

- The monthly membership dues rate for members who have not reached the age of 65 will be \$31 per month effective January 1, 2018.

PUBLIC SECTOR MEMBERS: There may be an increase in your Monthly Membership Dues payment; however, we will notify you in our December newsletter.

There are no further changes to the monthly membership dues scheduled for calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021.

Special Representative Report



Obray Van Buren
Business Representative

Political

We are fast approaching our political season. We are looking at a number of political races that will determine our ability to create hours to sustain our members when the boom we are having goes away. We will always have to be diligent when it involves planning our future. We have critical races in Oakland, Hayward, San Leandro, Fremont, and Union City, to name a few. We will need to be active in our efforts to get labor-friendly candidates elected.

Projects

We have been working on a number of projects that we feel will bring in revenue for our members. Our developer agreement is now in the second stage. We have a term sheet that was worked on by both the developers and our building trades team. Now we are beginning to set up the final document. We have sent a redline agreement to the City of Oakland for review. Also in Oakland, we are trying to get a Public Lands Policy (formerly known as the PLA Policy) put through the committees that it must go through before it goes to Council. In San Leandro, we are working with a private developer to get a project through the Planning Commission and City Council. I will be calling members from San Leandro to attend meetings to help move this project. We are lobbying Oakland councilmembers to approve the Oakland A's Project. The A1 Bond PLA is in the second stage. The Bond PLA

went to the Alameda County Supervisors and they approved us moving forward to negotiate a Community Benefits Agreement. The agreement we are trying to work on with the Affordable Housing Developers is tied to the Community Benefits Agreement.

Public Sector

I am happy to report that after many months, we have just about finished the contract negotiations with the University of California Berkeley and the UC Berkeley Laboratory. I hope that by my next report I am able to reveal the terms that have been ratified by our members. I am still working to finish the Alameda Health System Contract negotiations. We are close to an agreement and I hope to be able to report at a later date of our progress.

Holiday Wishes

I hope that we have a safe and happy holiday season. I hope you are surrounded by family and friends.

Supplemental Disability

Active members who are receiving State Disability or Workers' Compensation benefits for over 30 days may be eligible for the UA Local 342 Supplemental Disability Benefit.

In the last (3) years, you must have had at least 1,000 hours reported on your behalf under an agreement that provides for the Supplemental Disability Benefit (such as the Master Labor Agreement). You must not have owed, been charged, or paid a reinstatement fee within the three months prior to your claim effective date. Also, you must not be receiving pension benefits from the Northern California Pipe Trades Pension Trust Fund. Other conditions and restrictions apply.

Note: Local 342's Supplemental Disability claims must be filed in this office within 90 days of the date of injury or illness.

Please contact the Business Office at (925) 686-5880 for additional information.

New Retirees

Congratulations to the newly retired member(s)
of Local 342!

John Hager, Retired Steamfitter Refrigeration effective
July 1, 2017, with 36 years of service.

Seth Fortunate, Retired Steamfitter effective
October 1, 2017, with 34 years of service.

CONDOLENCES

UA Local 342 would like to extend their deepest sympathy
to the family and friends
of the following members who recently passed away.

John W. Julson,
Steamfitter & Retired Life Member
passed away October 31, 2017,
with 56 years of Membership.

Lawrence D. Ladra,
Retired Steamfitter
passed away October 16, 2017,
with 42 years of Membership.

Condolence Notifications

Some members have expressed interest in receiving an email notification each time a member passes away. If you would like to be included in our e-mailing list, please call the Business Office to sign up. Please note, our notifications email is for informational purposes only and does not receive replies. Any/ All information available to share will be provided; however, please note that we do not always receive information regarding scheduled services and sometimes the services are kept private per the family's request.

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution was re-introduced and had its second reading at the November 2017 Membership Meeting and was passed.

The new By-Laws reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 17-02: EXPENSES FOR MEMBERS PERFORMING OFFICIAL BUSINESS

That Section 19-B be amended to read:

1. With the approval of the membership, any member losing time to perform official business as designated by the Local Union, the Business Manager/ Financial Secretary or the Executive Board, shall be reimbursed at his regular rate of pay.
2. Such reimbursement shall include the amount of all regular wages and fringes, but shall not include any overtime hours or night shift premium, nor shall this Section be used to compensate any officer for performing the regular duties of the non-paid office.
3. Members shall be compensated at the Building Trades Journeyman rate of pay.
4. Members being compensated under this section that put in ten (10) or more hours, shall be compensated for those ten hours. Under no circumstances, shall the compensation exceed ten (10) hours of pay in a 24 hour period.
5. In lieu of pay, members may elect to receive union dues equal to the number of hours worked multiplied times the total Building Trades Journeyman wage and fringe package.

Fraternaly,

Don Gosney Card #1030976

RESOLUTIONS continued

The following resolutions had their first reading at the November 2017 Membership Meeting and will have their second reading at the December 2017 Membership Meeting followed by a vote.

Resolution 17-09:**Update By-Laws After UA Convention**

Whereas: Section 12 K of the UA Local 342 By-Laws define the duties and responsibilities of the By-Laws Committee; and

Whereas: The By-Laws Committee is allowed the latitude to reformat the By-Laws to allow ease of access, free flowing readability and continuity; and

Whereas: After each UA Convention there may be a need to incorporate changes to the By-Laws that are affected by changes, additions or deletions to the Constitution of the United Association; and

Whereas: These changes, additions or deletions were approved by duly elected delegates to the UA Convention; therefore, be it

Resolved: That the By-Laws Committee shall be called up to review the changes, additions and deletions to the Constitution of the United Association ; and be it further

Resolved: That should the By-Laws Committee find any current By-Laws that are affected and require changes, additions or deletions, then the Committee shall present such by Resolution at the next regular Membership meeting; and be it finally

Resolved: That the Local Union By-Laws be amended to read as follows "Notwithstanding Section 12.K.6 above, the Local Union By-Laws Committee shall convene upon receipt of the revised Constitution of the United Association to incorporate any changes that directly affect the By-Laws of UA Local 342. In that duly elected delegates of UA Local 342 adopted the changes to the Constitution of the United Association, the changes to affected sections may be presented as one resolution and shall only require a simple majority for final approval by the membership.

Fraternally submitted,

Robert L. "Robbie" Nash, Card Number 1032626

Resolution 17-10:**Board of Trust Alternate**

Whereas: Section 12 D of the UA Local 342 By-Laws define the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Trust; and

Whereas: The referenced section of the By-Laws stipulates that the Business Manager/Financial Secretary and the four (4) candidates for Trustee receiving the highest number of votes shall be Trustees representing this Local Union; and

Whereas: The Trust Agreement permits an Alternate Trustee to attend meetings and take action when a regular Trustee is not available; and

Whereas: The position of Alternate Trustee shall carry the same Fiduciary responsibilities of a regular Trustee; therefore, be it

Resolved: That Section 12 D of the UA Local 342 By-Laws be amended as follows: "The candidate receiving the fifth highest number of votes shall be seated as the Alternate Trustee for the Local Union's delegation"; and be it further

Resolved: That the Alternate Trustee shall attend all Trust Fund meetings and functions in the event that any regular Trustee is not in attendance; and be it further

Resolved: That the Alternate Trustee, if not a full time officer of UA Local 342, shall be compensated for attending any Trust Fund meeting or function, if required to miss work from a dispatched job, for wages only for the hours lost at the rate of pay to which the Alternate Trustee is receiving per the dispatch classification; and be it finally

Resolved: Upon approval of the membership of this resolution, this position shall be filled at the next regular membership meeting by appointment per Section 15 F of the UA Local 342 By-Laws for such time until the next General Election is held in December of 2018.

Fraternally submitted,

Derrick Kualapai, Card Number 1134743

Steve Eckley, Card Number 1031395

George Kikes, Card Number 1057653

Robbie Nash, Card Number 1032626

Training Center News

by Al Garcia, Training Director
(925) 686-0730

Auto Cad/Journeyman Detailing: (CLASS SIZE IS DOWN!!) Due to the fact that most of the students have taken Auto CAD jobs with contractors, our class size is down. Over the past 7 semesters we have placed 20 members from the class into full-time CAD positions. Auto CAD is not an easy thing to learn. The members that we have placed into the workplace were dedicated and attended classes 1-2 nights a week, for a year. We currently have 9 remaining seats available for the classes starting January 2018.

Revit Classes: It has come to our attention that Revit is becoming more and more of a requirement in the construction design process. The first session of Revit Classes was so popular we are going to be starting another session of classes starting January 2018. Please email agarcia@ua342.com if you are interested.

Backflow Tester Certification Classes: We currently have half the members we need to run a Backflow Tester Certification Class. We would like to hear from anyone who may be interested in obtaining this certification! This class is extensive and will require you to come in eight (8) Saturdays, between the 40 hours of required training, practicing on the devices, and the test sessions. Once we have a full roster, we will schedule for next semester. This class is expected to start around February/early March 2018.

Medical Gas Class: There will be a new Med Gas Certification class starting in January 2018. Also, please be sure to keep up with your Braze Continuities!

Medical Gas Brazing: If you need to update your Brazing, please contact the Training Center for the next available Braze Session!

Application to become an Apprentice: We will be taking Apprentice applications the week of February 5-9, 2018, from 8am-12noon. Please be reminded that documentation is required!

- Education Documents: High School Diploma, GED, Sealed Transcripts
- Identification Documents: (Photo ID) State issued Drivers License, State issued ID, Passport

Refinery Safety Overview (RSO): We are currently taking sign-ups for future RSO classes. If your RSO certification is expired or you need to certify for the first time, please contact our office to get on the waiting list for this class.

HVACR Training: Last month Mike Afonso and Mat Hattich held a Service Managers meeting allowing our signatory contractors to give us input to help align our training efforts with the contractors targeted market shares. The Training Center has reviewed the information gathered and plans to update our training accordingly. Areas we will be adding to our program will include: Soldering and Brazing, Customer Service, Arc Flash Safety, and much more. By adding these items to our curriculum, we will be able to prepare our members to be more effective in the field and meet the needs of our contractors, while also giving our contractors the ability to drive the non-signatory companies out of our markets.

Thank you
UA Local 342 Training Center

REIMBURSEMENT FOR STEEL-TOED BOOTS

Effective with the July 1, 2015, contract changes to the Master Labor Agreement, on any job where steel-toed boots are required by owner or employer, the employer will reimburse each employee up to \$100 per 12-month period.

Remaining MLA 2017 Holidays

Christmas Eve - December 24

Christmas Day - December 25

New Year's Eve - December 31

Article IX, Section 80, Page 26: If any of said holidays fall on Sunday, the Monday following shall be considered a legal holiday. When a holiday falls on Saturday, the Friday before shall be considered a holiday and when a holiday falls on Thursday, the following Friday shall also be considered a legal holiday. When a holiday falls on a Friday, the following Saturday shall be paid at the holiday rate. When a holiday falls on a Monday, the preceding Saturday shall be paid at the holiday rate.

Please Note: If you are working under a special project agreement or any other agreement, other than the Master Labor Agreement, you will need to check the holiday schedule within that agreement

Enrollment Application Period - CLOSED Supplemental 401(k) Retirement & HRA

The enrollment application period for the 2018 Supplemental 401(k) Retirement Plan & Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) is closed. Applications were accepted through the scheduled due date of November 30, 2017, and will take effect with January 2018 hours.

We encourage you to review your January 2018 paystubs to ensure the deductions you applied for are correctly reflected. If you should see a discrepancy, please first contact your payroll department to verify whether their payroll records were updated to reflect your January 1, 2018, dispatch. If you are unable to resolve this matter with your payroll department, then contact the Business Office for further assistance.

Supplemental 401(k) Retirement Plan

\$18,500 and \$24,500 Contribution Limits Required by the IRS. As a reminder, pursuant to IRS guidelines, the maximum amount that can be deferred to a 401(k) Plan is \$18,500 each calendar year; however, for Employees who are age 50 or older, the IRS permits an additional catch-up contribution of \$6,000 each year. Thus, the maximum amount that a person age 50 or older can defer is \$24,500. Based on recent IRS guidance, these limits apply in 2018.

The Plan will monitor deferrals to ensure that the maximum deferral amounts are not exceeded during a calendar year; however, you will need to monitor your own deferrals to prevent possible headaches come tax time inasmuch as you are the only one who knows your total deferred amounts. Any amounts received in excess of the IRS guidelines will be reversed by your Employer or refunded by your Plan Administrator and you will be issued a 1099R for that amount. When determining deferral maximums, this will not include any "mandatory" Employer contributions required by your Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Northern California Pipe Trades Trust Funds for UA Local 342



www.ncpttf.com
(925) 356-8921
(925) 356-8938 fax
935 Detroit Avenue, Suite 242A
Concord, CA 94518-2501
tfo@ncpttf.com
Kim Biagi – Administrator

Is Your Current Address on File with the Trust Fund Office?

If you have a change of address, in addition to notifying UA Local 342, you are also responsible for notifying the Trust Fund Office so that we may provide you with the required Form to complete in order to update our records. Please be aware that we are unable to update our records until the fully completed Form has been received at the Trust Fund Office.

Important Information for Retirees:

- If mail is returned by the United States Postal Service to the Trust Fund Office, your monthly Retirement Benefit, as well as your Retiree Health and Welfare Coverage (if applicable), may be suspended until you contact us and/or provide your new address.
- If mail is returned by the United States Postal Service to the Trust Fund Office indicating that you are “Temporarily Away”, the Trust Fund Office will forward a letter to you asking you to clarify whether you have moved, asking you to confirm if you are temporarily away, the date you plan to return, etc. Please be aware that if you do not respond within 90 days of our inquiry, your monthly Retirement Benefit, as well as your Retiree Health and Welfare Coverage (if applicable), may be suspended until you contact us and/or provide your new address.

If you have any questions, please contact the Trust Fund Office at (925) 356-8921 ext. 510.

Change in Life Circumstances

When you have a change in life circumstance (e.g. marriage, separation, divorce, Medicare entitlement, receipt of a Social Security Disability Award [SSDA], change of address, etc.), you must complete a new Enrollment/Change Form and submit any/all required documents (e.g. copy of your Certified Marriage Certificate, Petition for Dissolution, Final Divorce Decree, Medicare Card, or SSDA Letter) to the Trust Fund Office. Please be aware that failure to submit required documentation timely may impact benefits.

If you are unsure whether a change in life circumstance requires completion of a new Enrollment/Change Form and/or any other action on your part, you should contact the Trust Fund Office at (925) 356-8921 ext. 510 for assistance.

Northern California Pipe Trades Trust Funds for UA Local 342

Health Plan Changes

Be aware that there is no specified open enrollment period. Eligible Participants are allowed to change their Health Plan option once in any 12-month period (Plan rules and certain restrictions may apply). For information on the Health Plan options (Northern California Kaiser Permanente HMO Health Plan, Blue Shield of California HMO Health Plan, and Blue Shield of California PPO Health Plan), please refer to the Summaries of Benefits and Coverage (“SBC”) which was mailed to Non-Medicare Plan Participants in June 2017.

Please note the following:

- The Blue Shield HMO/PPO Plan options are not available to certain job classifications and/or contracts that permit Kaiser only enrollment.
- The Kaiser Permanente HMO Plan and Blue Shield HMO Plan are only available if the Participant and all enrolled Dependents reside within the Plan’s Service Area.
- The Blue Shield HMO Plan is not available to Retired Participants who have Medicare coverage and/or have an enrolled Dependent who has Medicare Coverage.

Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits - REMINDER

If you are eligible and enrolled in the Retiree Health and Welfare Plan, you are entitled to the following Benefits:

Benefit	Carrier
Medical and Prescription Drugs	Blue Shield of California (PPO/HMO*) or Kaiser Permanente*
Dental	Delta Dental of California
Vision	Vision Service Plan (VSP)
Hearing Aid	Blue Shield of California (PPO/HMO*) or Kaiser Permanente*

*Limited service area and other restrictions may apply.

If you have questions regarding your eligibility or benefits, refer to the “General Contact Information” sheet on the Trust Fund website (www.ncpttf.com).

If you have any questions, please contact the Trust Fund Office at (925)356-8921 ext. 510.

United Association Local 342
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Concord, CA 94518-2501

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Wishing you and your family safe and happy holidays! 🐦

UNITED ASSOCIATION CREDIT UNION

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(925) 686-1044 • www.unitedassociationcu.org

GREETINGS FROM UACU!

Need some extra cash?

The Credit Union offers competitive rates with a free and easy application process!

HOME LOANS

The Credit Union is partnered with CU Lending Group to offer mortgage products to our members.

Now may be the best time to refinance, with interest rates at historical lows!

For information and assistance call: Gail Sasser (925) 437-3271.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday – Thursday 9am to 4:30pm

Friday 9am to 3pm

Closed for lunch from - 12 to 1pm

For your convenience we are also open union meeting night from 6pm to 7pm.