

Plumbers, Pipefitters and Service Journeymen



UA Local #58



Newsletter **November & December 2023**

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Brothers and Sisters,

As another year is coming to an end, we are looking forward to the new year and all it has to bring. Our members will be seeing one big difference in the New Year which is a change to our current health care provider. Many of you have heard by now that the Trustees on the fund have made the decision to change health care providers from Cigna to United Health Care. This decision was not taken lightly and a lot of time and research went into it. Proposals from many providers were reviewed by the Trustees and the final decision was made based on what would be the least amount of disruption to our members, along with projected savings to the members and the fund. This change will take effect on January 1, 2024 and will impact Local 58 members who participate in the Pipe Industry Health and Welfare Plan of Colorado. The Trustees decided to continue the partnership with Cigna to provide dental benefits and VSP for vision benefits for our members and their families.

Informational mailers from the Pipe Industry Administration Company and new insurance cards from United Health Care should be mailed out soon, please keep an eye on your mailboxes and/or email. If your address has recently changed make sure that you contact the Local 58 office soon to make sure we have your current address on file. A representative from United Health Care and from our third-party administrator PIAC will attend the next regular scheduled member meeting on Wednesday the 15th of November at 6PM to answer questions you may have.

We have also been told by our contractors that work is expected to pick up in our jurisdiction in the new year. With as much work that is projected, we should have all of our members busy, we will be relying on travelers from around the country for additional support as needed.

As previously mentioned, back in July the UA had a regional blitz in Colorado. There were about 140 Organizers as well as Business Managers and Agents from around the country that covered the Front range from Ft. Collins to the North and Pueblo to the South. Teams were also dispatched to the Grand Junction and Cheyenne, Wyoming. The Blitz went well. Some of the initial numbers were, 97 Contractors were approached, 298 jobsites were visited and 980 workers filled out contact cards and they are being followed up with one-by-one. The UA is focused on these blitz's because even though the membership is at its highest ever at over 367,000 there is \$1.3 trillion in mega projects that are projected in the near future coming to UA locals around the country. The United Associations focus is heavy on these regional organizing blitzes' around the entire country because if we want to control the work, we need to build our numbers to man all of the projected jobs in the near future.

Just a reminder, member holiday parties are coming up soon. I am looking forward to seeing everyone there.

In solidarity,
Dale



Brothers and Sisters,

Summer has come and gone with fall being in the air this year is coming to an end. Work has been holding steady for the last few months, but at this point we are hearing that work will be picking up after the New Year. Some of the work coming up will require special certifications. Now would be a good time to start looking at Orbital, Rigging and Signaling and Stainless Certifications.

Alberto Herrera has just finished completing the Train the Trainer course for Orbital Welding. Stay connected with the JATC for the new class schedules & signup sheets.

You will notice that we are in the process of doing some work to the hall. We must remove the tree to the west of the entry door due to the roots growing under the concrete walkway causing it to lift and causing problems with the door not opening all the way. We also have to replace the concrete in front of the door.

Work on the road is starting to pick up if there is anywhere you would like me to check on work availability please do not hesitate to call. I will get all the information I can for you.

Safe Travels and Happy Holidays
Adam



Local #58's web page is – local58.org – there is a lot of information on this page.

- ✚ Important Phone Numbers, calendars for the Hall and JATC, upcoming events, benefits (including dental) information, helpful links and photos of events and newsletters.



Dues Payment Reminder

Keeping track of your union dues is as simple as marking a calendar and it prevents a lot of needless trouble for members and the union office staff alike.

All too often, members fall into dues delinquency and incur additional costs upon themselves – not because of long term financial difficulties but simply through poor record keeping.

UA DELINQUENCY

But whatever the reason, falling behind on your monthly dues is bad news; and members have to follow the rules of the United Association to return to good standing.

Any member who falls more than three months behind in dues payments automatically becomes delinquent. No notification is required. Delinquent members are not entitled to any union rights, privileges or monetary benefits. (See [UA constitution booklet page 103, SEC. 157](#)).

\$50.00 REINSTATEMENT

A delinquent member returns to good standing by paying all back-dues through the current month, plus a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. The reinstatement fee cannot be paid until the back dues are paid in full.

A reinstated member is immediately entitled to full participation in local union meetings but must wait 90 days after paying the reinstatement fee before being entitled to monetary benefits.

So, keep careful track of your dues payments. It helps keep the union's books up to date, and it maintains your status as a good union member.

Please note, you can now pay your dues over the phone with credit or debit card, by calling the hall at (719) 633-4052, ext. 10

Updates to school classes and Union events will be posted on the Union Strong App. Scan the App below.



Remaining 2023 Union Meeting Schedule

Meeting

Schedule - 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 6PM!

November 15,

December 20 (also the Christmas Party is this night), **Retirees Christmas Lunch is December 21 at noon at the Union Hall.**

JATC NEWS

Hello Everyone,

As you may have heard we are now a degree granting institution, it has been a long but fast road to get us here. The next step to implement these new courses into our program is to hire a full-time instructor through the WSCC. Any journey person with a minimum of two years of experience, and with a degree (AA, BA) or is pursuing a degree please feel free to contact me here at the JATC for more details.

We are still doing Plumbing CE classes on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Our 2023 cycle will be done in February 2024.

Also we need six more journey persons to sign up for the Foreman class. There will be a \$150.00 deposit requirement and it will be returned upon completion of the class.

- Orbital Welding classes will begin next month with a UA 18A welding test at the conclusion of the class.
- You can now sign up for OSHA 30 (Spring 2024 class) at the JATC!!

URGENT: INFORMATION

401K-Annuity is through Principal their phone number is 1-800-547-7754, or go to Principal.com and download the app.

As you know, PIAC now administers the HRA benefits via the WEX Health platform. Any HRA inquires/issues are to be handled by PIAC, but utilizing the self-help tools is where we would like to guide participants first. Participants can check account balances, review activity (contributions and expenses), upload substantiation documents, remit manual reimbursement requests, and even request a new WEX Health HRA card via the WEX Health HRA portal or app at, <https://pipeindustrybr.lh1ondemand.com/login.aspx> or App Name: Pipe Industry H&W of CO HRA. The best part about both websites/apps is that no card information is required (only name, SSN, birthday and address are needed) and these services are available 24/7! **These self-help tools are the fastest and best way to get participants what they need, when they need it.**



If you are retired and you chose the pension option that your spouse would receive part of your pension (if you pass away) and your spouse passes away you need to call the Pension at 1-800-638-7442 right away. Your pension amount will increase according to the retirement paperwork you received at the time of your retirement. There is a time limit to how far the pension will go back for this benefit, so notify them ASAP.

2024 UNION SPORTSMANS ALLIANCE

CALENDARS

The Calendars are NOW available at the Union Hall. Stop in and pick one up. The first 50 members who stop by the Hall can pick one up. **One per member and the member must sign for it.**

2024 Event Schedule

Important dates to remember for 2024, clip this section and keep it for future reference!

2024 Old Timers and Apprenticeship Banquet

The 2024 Old Timers and Apprenticeship Dinner will be held on April 13, 2024 at the Double Tree by Hilton 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80906. The dinner will start at 6:00 pm. Please call the hall to make reservations, 719-633-4052, ext. 10.



Local #58's 2024 Annual Picnic

*Local #58's Annual Picnic will be held on June 22, 2024 at the Pueblo Zoo, 3455 Nuckolls Ave., Pueblo, CO 81005. The picnic starts at 11:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm. **Please keep in mind that the Zoo has a very strict no smoking and no pet policy with the exception of service animals.***



Members who have passed away

- ❖ James Kuehne passed away 7/5/2023
- ❖ Michael Chavez passed away 8/20/2023
- ❖ Delmar Davisson passed away 8/22/2023
- ❖ Jed Patton passed away 10/27/2023