Brothers & Sisters,

Our dry spell is over, St. Francis hospital has about 55 plumbers and pipefitters on site and piping is being worked on all floors. UC Health and Children’s hospitals are working underground and layout with some above ground work getting started. A new to the area contractor, WMC Inc. surprised us with a 100 + room hotel they were able to negotiate on Ft. Carson and they have already called for some manpower. The rest of the area contractors have been calling for enough manpower to pretty much deplete our plumber out of work list and drastically reduce our fitter out of work list. We normally employ around 60 apprentices but with the surge in manpower we are nearing a record number with near 80 apprentices currently registered in the program. We are working on a long-term strategy also, staying focused on the future when the current work slows. With the early decommissioning of Comanche units 1 & 2, our goal is to try to secure replacement power in the form of gas generation on the same site as the current coal units. The power generation loss to the City of Pueblo is more of an impact than the loss of the facility, it’s the loss of jobs and revenue from the taxable value for the sale of that power. We also have the Pueblo steel mill proposing a $500 million upgrade to their facility if they have assurances of the availability of low electricity prices. This expansion alone has the potential to add 200 jobs to the Pueblo community. The only way to offset that loss is an attempt to keep the new power generation in the area and we have friends in high places already working this issue. We have been told B&W has another project at the Nixon power Station for March but have not been notified of a pre-job meeting yet to work out the details and we hear Custom Arc is headed back to the Chemical Depot for a replacement piping project that is expected to require around 300 welds to be made. We are pleased to announce, Cigna and Centura Health have come to an agreement and there will be no change to the network partnership at this time. The politics are starting to ramp up with candidates entering primaries to win a spot on the November ballot. We will keep you informed on the candidates most committed to supporting organized labor and the rights of union workers. Just an early heads up, there is a negotiated $1.30 increase to be applied July 1, 2018 to the collective bargaining agreement package. This increase will be voted on by the membership for placement of funds at the May 16th membership meeting, to give contractors plenty of time to get the new wage rates loaded in their systems and applied by July 1. A special notice will be sent out 30 days prior to the meeting but we want you to be aware of this meeting agenda item. This letter also contains details for the Old Timers Banquet and Apprentice completion dinner, so we hope to see you there.

Ron Lenz  BM Local 58

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2018 Union Meeting Schedule

The 2018 Union Meeting schedule is as follows: March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21 & Dec. 19 (which will be the Christmas Party) at 6:00 PM.
Brothers and Sisters,

It's hard to believe the new year has come and gone and we are already in the month of February. I would like to take a moment to thank the entertainment committee for the great job they did making the Christmas party a success. Everyone I spoke to has said that they had a great time.

Work in our area has been steadily picking up. With hospital work being what most of our calls are for, we have been noticing a shortage of licensed Plumbers, Med-Gas installers and brazers with current certs. Most of the calls we have been dispatching for have been for the hospitals. We have been told they will be needing quite a few more in the near future. With three hospitals going at the same time you can imagine the amount of manpower that will be needed. To date we have been keeping up with the calls that we have been getting with help from our instate locals as well as the locals in our 5 states. Elsewhere in our jurisdiction we have been getting a few calls for our local contractors. Our contractors have been categorized about other jobs they have coming up in the future. It looks as though we will remain busy for the foreseeable future. A lot of the calls that have been coming in have been for journeymen with certs. If you are interested in acquiring more certs give the training center a call and see what upgrade classes are available. Respectfully, Dale

St Patrick's Day Parade

The apprentices of Local #58 have constructed a float to be in the Parade on March 17th in Old Colorado City. If you are interested in participating in the parade contact

Local #58's Annual Picnic

The Picnic will be at the Pueblo Zoo on July 14, 2018 from 11am to 4pm. The address is 3455 Nuckolls Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81005. Free admission to the zoo is included! Burgers, Brats and Dogs are on the menu this year.

JATC News and Information

I am happy to announce Local #58's Apprenticeship competition will be on April 19th and 20th at Local #58's JATC. The state (April 26th & 27th) and regional (June dates not yet determined) level competitions will be in Denver.

All continuities need to be sent directly to me at beto@local58.org or faxed to (719) 477-9556.

Fraternally,
Beto

2018 Old Timers and Apprenticeship Banquet

The 2018 Dinner will be on April 14, 2018 at 6:00 pm, at the Hotel Elegante, 2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. Discount Room rates are available. Please call the Union Hall at 633-4052 ext. 10 to make reservations.

2018 - JATC Class Schedule

Backflow Class – We need 6 more members to sign up and pay $150.00 (non refundable) before the class can be scheduled.

Med-Gas – We need 10 members to sign up and pay $250.00 (non refundable) before the class can be scheduled.

Journeyman Plumbing Code Class – We need 4 more members to sign up and pay $150.00 (non refundable).

Weld Testing – is held the 3rd Saturday of every month starting at 8am. The deposit for this class is $100.00 this will be returned when you complete the weld test. There needs to be at least four (4) people signed up to test.

Call Alberto "Beto" at 473-9690 for details.

Attend the UNION MEETINGS - It's your business!!!