

# Plumbers, Pipefitters and Service Journeymen

UA Local #58

Newsletter - November/December 2020



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Brothers & Sisters,

Work has slowed a little with Covid-19 outbreaks on a few job sites, but we are still maintaining more man hours worked per month than previously expected. We have been told the Evraz steel mill rail expansion is a go, but we have not been able to get the inside on the contractors now that Barton Mallow is not connected with the project. There are several union contractors going after the work, and a few non-signatories. We are told work packages will be issued so there may be several contractors sharing the scope. Work in Pueblo is expected to take off with the passing of a ballot measure for school projects and renovations and the notion of a new jail is starting to look more realistic now that they are locating funding without sales tax increases to the Pueblo community. We are getting some calls from out of town contractors for wage rates for other projects bidding but are not aware of what projects they are looking at. ICM has secured the chilled water piping replacement inside NORAD that Apollo National had previously started we are told from an ICM source.

There have been State and Federal mandates issued requiring paid sick leave that are to come into play after the first of the year. State mandate will cover up to 48 hours of sick leave and Federal mandate will cover up to 56 hours of sick leave. With Local 58 in the center of the most military bases and the most federal man hours worked, separating private and Federal man hours would require additional complicated tracking. In a conversation at our last labor management meeting a resolution was proposed for our membership to consider to resolve the tracking dilemma. The last contract extension proposed was a 6-year extension with \$1.58, \$1.63, \$1.68, \$1.73, \$1.78 and \$1.83 consecutively over the duration of the 6 years. The contractor group has combined an offer to assist in the sick leave and the contract extension. This offer of \$1.80 per hour increase each year for all 6 years and applying the 56 hours of paid

sick leave to all members dispatched from Local 58 regardless of the work being performed.

Dale is monitoring the state requirements for member gatherings to see how we can meet to get member input and discussion on this proposal.

**The membership sponsored a fundraiser for the Union Sportsman Alliance in the form of a Sporting Clay Shoot in November but the COVID restrictions forced the gathering to be canceled. We rolled the Sponsorship into a calendar sponsorship with a 104-gun raffle sweepstakes. We have 50 tickets that Dale has on a first come first serve give away. We also have 20 spots for the annual Union Sportsman alliance Raffle and \*Virtual Event\*. Feel free to call with your thoughts on the contract proposal and to sign up for the Union Sportsman events.**

If we can figure out how to hold a membership meeting safely within the state guidelines notice will be sent out to all the membership.

Stay warm and stay informed.

Ron Lenz

## TEMPORARY HIRING HALL PROCEDURES

Due to the recent recommendations from the UA and CDC on limited access and social distancing we are temporarily suspending the requirement to come into the office and physically sign the out of work list. Effective immediately any member whose employment status changes for any reason will be able to phone the office to be put on the out of work list in the order the calls were received. If you are in a situation that you need to sign the out of work list you will need to call (719) 633-4052 Ext.14 and leave a voice mail if no one answers. All calls to be put on the out of work list must be to ext. 14 to be put on the out of work list. We will be on normal hours of operation with limited access to the office. Local 58 office hours are 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm Monday thru Friday. If anyone has any questions please feel free to call the office at (719) 633-4052 Ext. 0 this will ring the front desk and someone will answer your questions.



Brothers and Sisters,

With three quarters of 2020 in the books we still are trying to navigate the safety of our members as well as adhere to the guidelines set forth by the state of Colorado and the CDC. That being said, due to recent positive Covid-19 cases at our JATC we did cancel the regular scheduled October union meeting but the committees did meet as scheduled. In November we will assess the situation and make the call to proceed with the meeting or cancel it. If the meeting is canceled we will send a text message to all members who we have current cell numbers for. **We would like to notify all members at this time we feel it would be best to cancel the Christmas parties that are held for the members after the December union meeting as well as the retirees party the following day.** We are hoping that we can get back to business as usual soon. The Oldtimers dinner and the annual picnic that were scheduled earlier this year were both canceled by the venues they were scheduled at. They have been rescheduled for next year. The Oldtimers dinner is scheduled to be held Saturday April 10, 2021 at the Hotel Elegante and the Picnic is scheduled at the Pueblo Zoo on Saturday June 26, 2021.

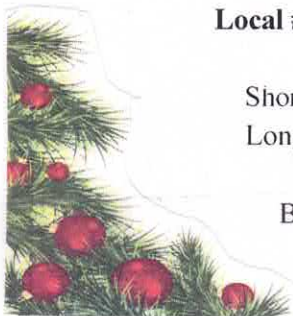
As far as work in our jurisdiction goes things have been a little slow lately. We have been told by our local contractors that they are expecting to need quite a few hands in the near future and they are projecting to be busy in Pueblo and Colorado Springs in the first quarter of 2021. There have been calls from local 58 members and members from around the country with questions about the Evraz rail mill expansion. The contractors have told us they are planning to pursue that project and are still waiting on bid packages. We have also had contractors calling for our current wage rates for work other than the mill that they are looking at in our area. The first half of 2021 sounds like it will be pretty busy in our jurisdiction. Happy Holidays and be safe.

Dale



**Local #58 Merchandise**

- Hoodies
- Short sleeve t shirts
- Long sleeve t shirts
- Beenies
- Baseball caps



**JATC NEWS**

**473-9690**

- All Members that carry a Colorado Plumbing License need to contact the JATC as soon as possible, there have been changes to the requirements to keep your Plumbing license current.
- Welding Test Sessions are still currently the third Saturday of every month unless it falls on a Holiday or unforeseen circumstances, contact the JATC with questions. A \$100.00 deposit (checks only) is still required to hold your spot and will be returned upon completion of the session.
- We are still seeking volunteers to help complete ongoing projects at the school, we really could use the extra hands if you have a spare minute.



**URGENT: H&W and HRA INFORMATION**

Cigna should be contacted for Medical/Rx/Dental ID cards (digital cards are available on the MyCigna mobile app or <https://my.cigna.com/web/public/guest>). Cigna should also be contacted for any health, prescription, dental, or vision benefit questions. Cigna can provide the most accurate benefit information as well as track and estimate card arrival.

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://pipeindustrymbr.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 the need, when they need it.



**Members who have passed away**

- ❖ **John Miller** passed away on 6/21/2020, John was re - initiated 5/13/2020.
- ❖ **Robert Ragan** passed away on 6/30/2020, Robert was initiated 12/15/1952.
- ❖ **Ed Patton** passed away on 7/19/2020, Ed was initiated 12/2/1960.