



## THE 421 COMMUNICATOR

June 2013

Brothers and Sisters,

Over the past 7 years we have enjoyed work in our jurisdiction when Sister Locals have not. We were slow in 2012 and because we had a large project in Sumter, SC scheduled, I had thoughts that 2013 would begin another banner year for Local 421. However, because of developments out of our control, the Sumter project did not go as planned, causing a very large decrease in man-hours.

As most of you know, like all other Locals across the country, Local 421 operates off the working assessments received for man-hours worked in our jurisdiction. When work is up like it has been in the past, operating the local with our current working assessment is no problem, but when work is down man-hours are down and it makes it necessary to make adjustments. Some may think the \$48.00 we pay in monthly dues remain at Local 421, unfortunately this is not the case. Of the \$48.00 each Building Trades Journeyman pays, \$24.00 is per-capita paid to the UA, \$11.00 pays your Life Insurance policy and Local 421 keeps the remaining \$13.00.

I say all this for the following reason; The UA has introduced a new policy, when a Local Union operates in a deficit for 2 consecutive years, they will come into that Local and make the necessary changes to dues and assessment to stop the loss. We do not need the UA back in Local 421. In my time in office, with the exception of the first year, Local 421 has never had a year when it operated in the red and I'm not going to start now. I have made the following changes to stop the loss; I have laid off some of the administrative staff and reduced the hours on the rest, this includes the Dispatcher, Agents and Myself.

What does this mean to you as a member? You will now get an answering machine more than you have in the past and your calls will be returned as soon as possible. The Dispatcher will only be available for calls 3 days a week. However, you will be able to leave a message and he will return your call as soon as possible. I have reassigned the Agent to assist more with the day to day operations of the Local and this will slow down his solicitation for other contractors to look at work in our jurisdiction, North and South Carolina.

I regret to have to make these changes, but at this time they are all necessary. Be assured that the officers and staff of Local 421 are continuing to do everything we can to change this situation and along with all of you, I hope and pray that our jobs will return very soon and we can get back to normal.

Fraternally,

Skip Howard, Business Manager, Local 421

## Service Information

### Service Training Steering Committee Update

A Local 421 Service Training Steering Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Concord training center. The meeting was well attended by both technician members and management. Because there were new service supervision / management personnel attending the meeting, the purpose and progress of the committee was discussed. There were suggestions concerning advising the contractors the status of which employees have attended training sessions that count toward the mandatory eight (8) hours of training required by the bargaining agreement. A discussion about the benefits of having some of the training sessions being available "on-line" because of the wide area covered by the various contractor's employees. Progress about this option will be further discussed at the next committee meeting which will be held on Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, - 5:30 pm at the Concord training center.

The UA training department continues to place an emphasis on service training in the Carolinas and Joe Ellis is heading that initiative and communicating with the service training experts at UA headquarters to help them see what the needs are in the Carolinas.

### \*\*\*Important\*\*\*

Please contact Gay (704)721-0517 at the Concord training center to sign up for any of the classes. Please take advantage of classes scheduled earlier in the year to avoid missing your 2013 training requirement.

### HVAC Star Certification Preparation Class

The next HVAC Star Certification Preparation training classes are currently scheduled for June 18, 19, 25, and 26 at a location in Raleigh. These classes require a minimum of eight (8) participants. They are listed under the training tab of the Local 421 web site.

### Georgia / Carolinas HVAC/R Apprentice Contest

The apprentice contest between locals in Georgia and the Carolinas was a big success. Zachary Schaffer won the Carolinas HVAC contest and will represent Local 421 at the District 3 contest in New Orleans, June 12 and 13, 2013. We're all pulling for Zach to do well in that contest.

### 2013 Mandatory Training

A contractual requirement for all service technicians is the satisfactory completion of eight (8) hours of Local 421 provided training. During November 2012, there were many technicians who called the training center to request information about the location and training classes which would be held during November and December so they could meet their mandatory training.

For 2013, the training center will not schedule last minute classes to meet the hour requirements because it is virtually impossible to make training arrangements at such a late date. The training center is making every effort to provide a sufficient number of classes outlined on the classes, but it is obvious that many have waited until the last minute to begin looking for ways to satisfy their requirement.



## JATC Schedule

Current Training Schedule as listed on our website [WWW.UALOCAL421.ORG](http://WWW.UALOCAL421.ORG)

**\*\*Denotes HVAC Approved CE classes\*\***

### June 2013

**Tuesday & Wednesday, June 11 & 12**  
**\*R410A Certification** - Raleigh (Location TBD) / 5:30pm - 9:30pm

**Tuesday & Wednesday, June 18 & 19**  
**\*UA Star HVAC Prep** - Raleigh (Location TBD) / 5:30pm - 9:30pm - Need minimum of 10 participants w/5 yrs documented experience - **Must Pre-Register by May 14, 2013**  
**\*\* Note: \$133.00 Re-fundable deposit required at registration.**

**Tuesday & Wednesday, June 25 & 26**  
**\*UA Star HVAC Prep** - Raleigh (Location TBD) / 5:30pm - 9:30pm

**Saturday, June 29**  
**\*UA Star Test** - Raleigh (Location TBD) /  
**Time to be Determined**

**\*OSHA 10 Training\***  
**PLEASE REGISTER BY 10/01 TO DETERMINE DATE & LOCATION OF CLASS.**

Advancement time is here again for the Apprentices. Please make sure that all your classroom requirements are current and your OJT evaluations are submitted to the Concord Training Center. Make sure your name is legible on both sheets!

**\*UA Star HVAC Prep\***

Offered in October.  
Please visit our website for more information!

"I am thankful to all those who said NO to me, It's because of them I did it myself"

## News from Dispatch

Brothers & Sisters,

Unfortunately, our work in the Carolina's is very slow, but I am confident that our manpower requests will increase and we will be back at our normal pace in no time.

At this time, two of our contractors (BKI & McKenneys) are at the Google Site in Moncks Corner, SC and they are starting to bring in manpower. This is a new project consisting of two buildings - one for each of the contractors. BKI is currently hiring Plumbers and Apprentices, and McKenneys will begin hiring Plumbers and Apprentices in June. In order to work at the Google Site, you must pass a background check, a drug screen, and at the minimum, have OSHA 10 training.

McKenneys has a new project starting soon in Davidson, NC at Davidson College. They also have three on-going projects (Cardinal @ Kings Mtn, NC, Facebook @ Forest City, NC and Sentinel @ Durham, NC) They are not hiring at this time.

Morgan Mechanical currently has three on-going projects (Sky Condo @ Charlotte, NCO Academy at Ft. Bragg, and SJAFB @ Goldsboro, NC). I am expecting them to increase their manpower soon.

I am hoping that Kinetics & TFS will be requesting manpower in their Fab Shops soon. There is the possibility of getting Fab work in the near future.

If you are interested in any of the jobs listed above, please contact me.

In addition to work being slow locally, we have also had a decrease in road work. A few locals have indicated that work should be getting better by June / July.

When you call the office to inquire about jobs, I will let you know about open calls at that time. If you are inquiring about jobs on the road, please give me an ample amount of time to make a call for you. It is impossible for me to get back to you within an hour with accurate information regarding a possible job available for you locally and/or on the road.

Please remember that we have over 200 members on our OUT OF WORK LIST and I am attempting to find a job for each and every one of those members. If you call the office to speak with me, and I am unable to take your call at that time, leave me a message, and I will call you AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If I have returned your call and I have to leave you a message to return my call, I expect you to respect me as I do you and return my call AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If you do not return my call in a timely manner, it may cost you an opportunity for a job.

Contractors are beginning to request manpower with specific skills such as: UA-51 Brazing Cert., UA-71 Pulse Mig, OSHA 10 (taken w/in 3 years), and TWIC Card. All of these skills can be acquired through the Concord Training Center except for the TWIC Card - You will need to set this up on your own. If you need any of the above skills and/or any additional training/classes, you can contact John Sciadini to schedule training at (704)721-0517. Please remember that the skills and qualifications you possess will make you more marketable.

**If you have not turned in your 2013 Standard For Excellence, and you are currently out of work, you are NOT on the Out of Work List**

Submitted By: Ron May



**DIRECTORY**

**Charleston  
Business Office**

2556 Oscar Johnson Drive  
N. Charleston, SC 29405  
843-554-3655  
843-529-1226 Fax

**Charlotte Office**

285 Litaker Lane  
Concord, NC 28025  
704-721-0517  
704-721-0518 Fax

**Laurens Office**

1476 Fleming St. Ext.  
Laurens, SC 29360  
864-984-9702  
864-984-1951 Fax

**\*Please send all mail including  
payments to the Charleston  
Office.\***

**Health/Welfare, Pension,  
Annuity, & Vacation checks—call  
NEBA @ 1-800-842-5899**

**Email Addresses**

Skip- skip@ualocal421.org  
Bob- bob@ualocal421.org  
John- john@ualocal421.org  
Ron- ron@ualocal421.org  
Joe- joe@ualocal421.org

**\*Please put 421 member on  
subject line.\***

**Websites**

[www.ualocal421.org](http://www.ualocal421.org)  
[www.ua.org](http://www.ua.org)

**Union Meetings** are held on the second  
Saturday of the following months at  
10:00am:

July 13th—Laurens, NC

September 14th—TBD

November 9th—Concord, NC

**\*\*Locations are subject to change\*\***

It is with our deepest regret  
that we must inform you of  
the passing of the  
following Brothers and/or  
Sisters:

**January 2013:**

Herbert W. Dillard (96)  
C.W. Quate (96)

**February 2013:**

No passings

**March 2013:**

No passings

**April 2013:**

Robert L. Worley (96)

**May 2013:**

Gerald R. Craven (470)  
Dalmer V. Summerlin (785)  
Howard C. Tucker (391)

Plumbers & Pipefitters  
Local Union 421  
2556 Oscar Johnson Dr  
North Charleston, SC

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
CHARLESTON,  
SC  
PERMIT NO 119

**Or Current Resident**



Remembering those lost,  
thanking those present,  
and honoring all!

Look at the birds of the air; they  
do not sow or reap or store away  
in barns, and yet your heavenly  
Father feeds them. Are you not  
much more valuable than they?  
Matthew 6:26 (NIV)