



The 421 Communicator



December 2012

From the Business Manager....First let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for all your prayers, thoughts, calls and cards while I was out with knee surgery. I'm doing well, still going to therapy, and back to work on a limited basis. I should be back to 100% after Christmas. I also want to thank my staff for taking care of everything while I was out. I've got a staff that all the other Locals in the UA should be envious of. They're the best.

I would like to give a special thanks to all of our members and their families, who helped with the National Democratic Convention in Charlotte, went door-to-door, made phone calls during the National elections. Thanks to your efforts our Local has received Thank Yous from our General President Bill Hite, the UA Director of Political Affairs, Larry Bulman, and President Obama's Election Committee. I would also like to give a big thank you to Bob Hughes, Local 421's Director of Political Affairs, for his work with President Obama's Election Committee and coordinating all the political events in North and South Carolina.

As most of you know by now Reggie is semi-retired and no longer doing the dispatching. Ron May came on board to take over the dispatching duties October 1st. He has been a member of the UA for 38 years. Before the merger, he was a member of 785.

Ron has worked in local shops, small and large projects, and the Engineering Department at SRS. Local 421 has been blessed to have excellent dispatchers, and I think Ron has the education and experience required to make him another excellent dispatcher for Local 421.

I understand there are some concerns that we are closing our Raleigh office. We are not closing our Raleigh office. Most of you have seen our new state of the art facility in Concord, NC and our new goal is to have a bigger and much better facility in Raleigh. In order to accomplish this we will need to relocate to another Raleigh location. The first step in this process is to sell the current facility. It took some time to get what we have in Concord and it will take some time to accomplish our goal for Raleigh. There will be some growing pains, but we will make every effort to make the transition as painless as possible. Thank you all for understanding.

2012 was not a good year for work in Local 421 and most other UA Locals. I think this was mainly due to the national elections. Most companies and investors were waiting for the election results before spending their money. It appears 2013 is shaping up to be a good year for Local 421 and the UA.

(Continued on page 2.....)





(...from page 1) Local 421 has a large project just getting out of the ground in Sumter, SC. Another will begin outside the Charlotte area after the first of the year. We have also received information from contractors of other very good possibilities for projects within our jurisdiction for 2013.

Finally, most of you recall the required per-capita increase in dues. Therefore our dues will increase by \$1.00 January 1, 2013. You will be receiving Information of the increase and who it affects by letter and by ROBO call in the next few weeks.

And while I'm talking about ROBO calls, please listen to the ROBO call from Local 421. Don't assume they are all about dues, this is the cheapest way and the fastest way to get information to our members about upcoming work, special meetings, any change or event that affects our members. Please make sure we have all of your phone numbers and email address in our Local 421 Membertrak System.

Submitted by: Skip Howard, Business Manager
Local 421

Political Information ...

Thanks for voting and exercising your right and privilege as a citizen of this great country.

Oddly enough, both North and South Carolina voter turnout was approximately 68% of voters registered.

For those of you who participated in registering voters and worked a get out the vote campaign, a special thanks.

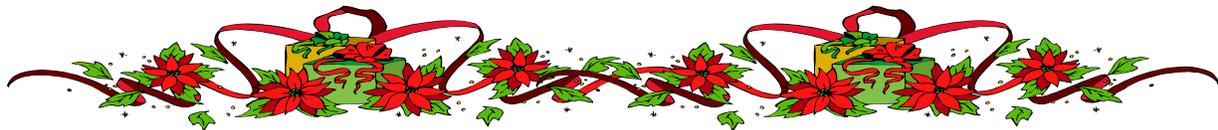
It was a special time for me to be able to spend a lot of time in North Carolina prior to the election. The early voting and registration process there is a great example of how it should work in all states.

Charlotte did a great job hosting the Democratic National Convention. For everyone who had any doubts that it should have been held there were pleasantly surprised.

I want to thank Tim Thurber for volunteering to help convention week. I also want to thank everyone who showed up Wednesday on such short notice to rally at the MSNBC stage. I am so proud that pictures of you were published in the UA journal.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Submitted by: Bob Hughes



Our Christmas Wish for you

May this Christmas season be a time of prayer for peace, for the preservation of principles, and for the protection of those who are far from us. Let it be a time of forgetting self and finding time for others. Let it be a time for discouraging the meaningless and for emphasizing true values. Let it be a time of peace, for we have found peace in his teachings and he is indeed "the way, the truth and the life". (John 14:6) There is no better time than the Christmas season, for all of us to rededicate ourselves to the principles taught by Jesus Christ. It is the time to love the lord with all our heart and our neighbors as ourselves. May this joyful season bring to each of us peace, happiness, love and prosperity.

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

From the Officers and Staff of Local 421.



Service Training Steering Committee Update ...

The fourth meeting of the Local 421 Service Training Steering Committee was held on Wednesday, November 7th. At the previous meeting, it was suggested that the meetings be moved to locations around Local 421's jurisdiction, so this meeting was held in the JCI office in Greensboro, NC. Represented at the meeting were supervisory personnel from JCI. Local 421 was represented by several Local 421 service technicians. Training committee members Doug Nichols, Joe Ellis, Harold "Rudy" Rudisill, and John Sciadini were also present. JCI provided plenty of pizza and soft drinks for all attendees. John Sciadini outlined some of the updates to training in general – especially as it applies to apprentices and also service technicians.

Joe Ellis explained how the UA training department has made a commitment to support the service training initiative by making proven specific training programs available as well as funds to assist with our local needs.

It was suggested that several additional classes for rigging and signaling be scheduled to be held in various areas. Those persons successfully completing the class will receive a card signifying their qualification.

Planning continues on how to bring service training to areas remote from any of the training centers.

HVAC Star Certification Preparation Class ...

The HVAC Star Certification Preparation training previously scheduled for Raleigh was cancelled due to an insufficient number of Technicians signing up for the class. Another class will be scheduled for the first quarter of 2013. You can consult the training section of the Local 421 web site to see when it is scheduled.

North Carolina HVAC/R Apprentice Contest ...

A Local 421 member (Zachary Schaffer) from Wilmington finished 4th in the 2012 North Carolina HVAC/R apprentice contest which was held on Friday, October 19th in Raleigh at the NC State Fair. Congratulations Zachary!

Signing up for 2012 Mandatory Training ...

A contractual requirement for all service technicians is the satisfactory completion of eight (8) hours of Local 421 provided training. During November there were many technicians who called the training center to request information about the location and training classes which will be held during November and December so they could meet their mandatory training. The training Center is making every effort to provide classes, but it is obvious that many have waited until the last minute to begin looking for ways to satisfy their requirement. Please go to the Local 421 web site to see which training sessions are still available for 2012.

Submitted by: Harold "Rudy" Rudisill



Leadburners....

I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving and enjoyed their time with their families. I would also like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. I want to thank the members that work at El Dorado Metals for completing the required training to receive retro-pay and the negotiated raise. As of November 27th only thirteen members employed by NELCO have completed all of the required training. It would be a positive step forward if those members that have not completed training would do so by January 1st.

Submitted by: Bill McNabb.



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

January 2012:

Richard J. Gundry (470),
Edgar L. Rasnick (227),
Douglas E. Miller (470),
Gary T. Haynie (391),
Charles M. Brown (823),
Thomas Still (470)

February 2012:

Bobby L. Shoemaker (96)

March 2012:

James P. Schoemann (96),
Carol W. Williams (391),
Nelson S. Jones (421),
Henry F. Duggan (96)

April 2012:

Tommy K. Moose (96),
Charles W. Hovater (391),
Bobby L. Albea (785)

August 2012:

Ralph L. Moore (227)

September 2012:

Thomas Dawson (227)

October 2012:

Bennie Stutts (96)
William Cameron (96)

November 2012:

Benjamin Wrenn (785)

JATC News

The Spring Semester is coming up, make sure to check at your school for the dates you are required to attend. Make sure to check with your Instructor for any required materials needed for your classes. Any questions regarding your status, Apprentice level or classes, you must call (704)721-0517 **ONLY**. Any questions regarding Dues or Benefits call (843)554-3655

Want to be an Instructor???

Anyone interested in having the JATC consider them as an Instructor should submit a resume' and letter to JATC@ualocal421.org. Remember: this is a huge commitment and will mean working on weeknights and weekends.



There will be a CWI Class held by the UA at the Concord Training Center on April 13th through the 20th. Please note that the deadline for registration is February 21, 2013, all paperwork must be received by Tracy O'Leary at the UA Training Department by this date. The cost for this class is \$1065.00 per Attendee (not a typo!). All other costs are defined on the UA website during the registration process.

APPRENTICES:

If you are not currently attending/enrolled in a class, contact the Concord Training Center at (704) 721-0517 to avoid **expulsion!!!**

We are looking for retirees

in the Raleigh, NC area beginning February 2013 for a short term project. If you are interested please call the training center at 704-721-0517.

JATC News continued...

GA/Carolinas Pipe Trades and Local 421 will be hosting the competition this year in April 2013. We are looking for any Retirees that may be interested in coming out to help set-up for the contest. Join us for the camaraderie, food & fun!! Please call 704-721-0517 if interested. Thank you for your continued support.



Training Schedule

Make sure to check website **often** (www.ualocal421.org) for Weld Testing Events and new and/or cancelled Journeyman & HVAC classes. (Pre-registration required for all of the above) We are working on the 2013 Training Schedule, if there are any requests for special classes, please let us know.

December

Tuesday, Dec 18

*Pump Alignment - Concord / 5:30pm - 9:30pm - **Sign-up by December 11**

January 2013

***Foreman Training - Concord - PLEASE REGISTER BY 01/01 TO DETERMINE DATE OF CLASS**

***VFD Training - Concord - PLEASE REGISTER BY 01/01 TO DETERMINE DATE OF CLASS**

Tuesday & Wednesday, Jan 8 & 9

*UA Star Prep - Raleigh / 5:30pm - 9:30pm - Need minimum of 10 participants w/5 yrs documented experience - **Must Pre-Register by December 17, 2012**

Tuesday & Wednesday, Jan 15 & 16

*UA Star Prep - Raleigh / 5:30pm - 9:30pm

Saturday, Jan 19

*UA Star Test - Raleigh / **Time to be Determined**

*****Your dues must be current to sign up for any class*****

Weld Testing Dates

****MUST CALL TO SCHEDULE****

Concord - Donald Bean, September through January - Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 8am to 5pm

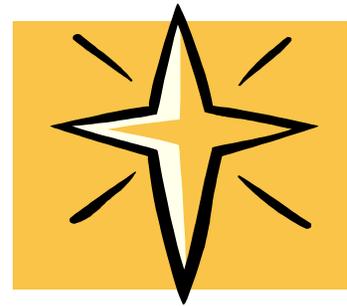
Concord - Billy Boulware, September through January - Saturdays - 12/8, 12/22, 1/5/13, 1/19/13

Raleigh - John Freeman, September through January - Wednesdays & Saturdays - 12/8, 12/22, 1/2/13, 1/12/13

Other times, dates and locations may be available.

Make sure to check your weld certs...DON'T LET THEM EXPIRE!!

The Training Department would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and hopes that we all remember the *TRUE* meaning of The Holiday!!



Holiday Office Hours:

Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

December 26th - open at 10:00 a.m.

Closed New Years Eve and New Years Day.

Union Meetings

are held on the second Saturday of every *other* month starting at 10:00a.m.

The first one is:

January 12,2013

Raleigh, NC

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

Directory

Charleston Business Office

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

Raleigh Office

4510 Old Poole Rd
Raleigh, NC 27627
919-231-8005
919-231-8054 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.

Email Addresses

Skip- skip@ualocal421.org

Bob- bob@ualocal421.org

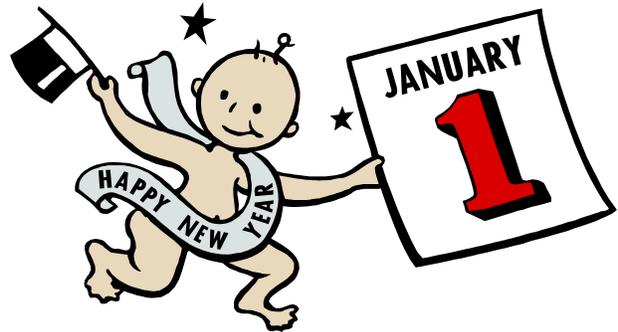
John- john@ualocal421.org

Joe- joe@ualocal421.org

Ron- ron@ualocal421.org

Please put 421 member in subject line.

2013



Reminder— Dues increase by \$1.00 beginning January 1, 2013. This excludes retirees that are age 65 or older. If you are retired but have not yet reached age 65, your dues will increase.

All members need to return their signed 2013 Standard For Excellence / Work referrals. They need to be dated 1/1/13 or after.

If you are laid off or ever get laid off and we don't have a 2013 SFE you WILL NOT be put on the out of work list until we have one on file.

2013 membership cards are coming out. You will receive yours once you have paid 9 January 2013 dues.

Web Site Instructions:

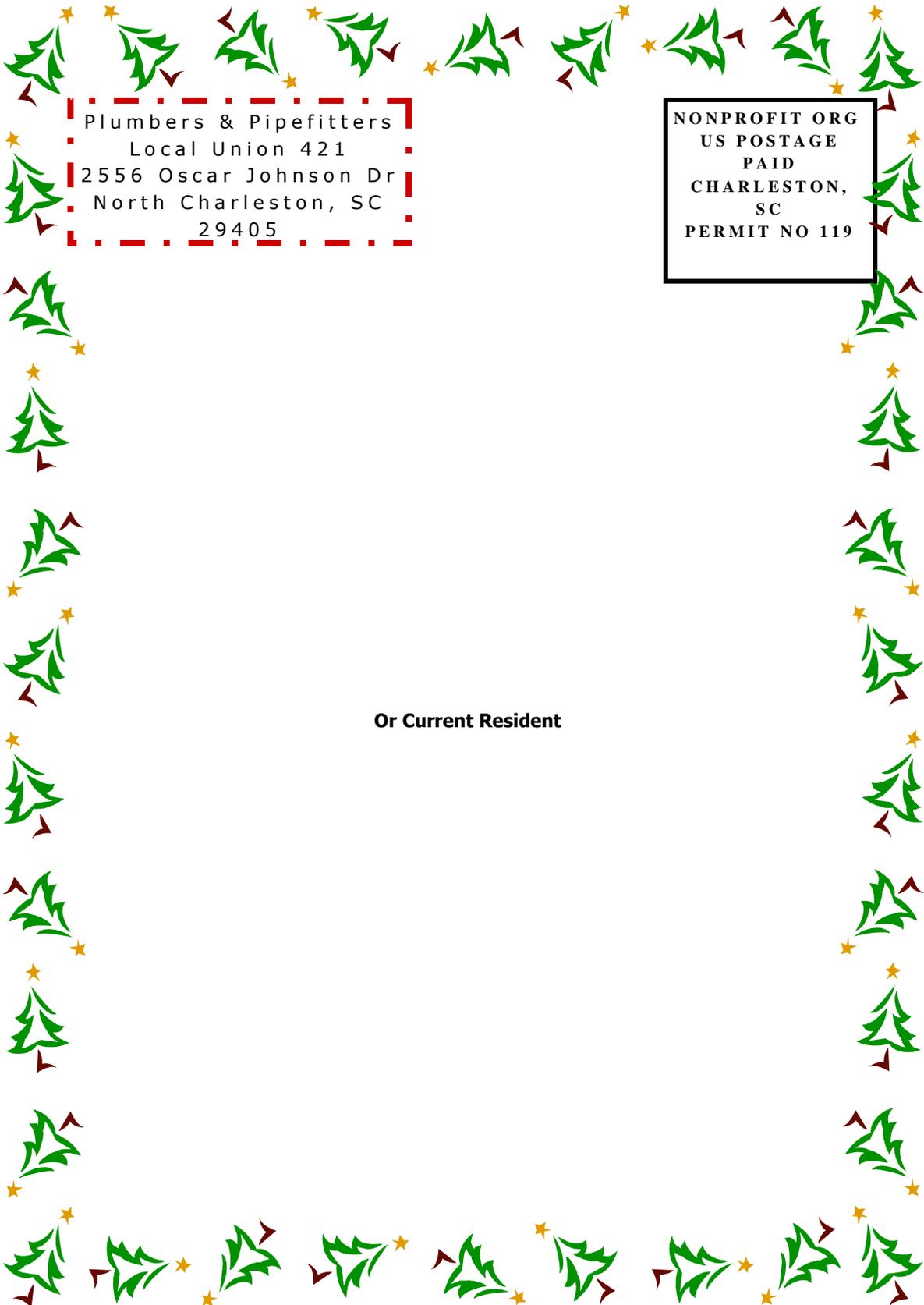
www.ualocal421.org

Username: card number/member number

(may need to put two zeros in front

of # if it doesn't work)

Password: date of birth - mmddyyyy NO SLASH MARKS



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Local Union 421
2556 Oscar Johnson Dr
North Charleston, SC
29405

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