Message from the Business Manager....

Brothers and Sisters,

It is hard to believe that we are almost half way through the year. So far 2014 has proven to be an active, busy and difficult year. Active because of the large volume of work starting in the Carolinas; busy because our agents and I have been traveling the two states meeting with general contractors, county, state and local politicians. We have been trying our best to find opportunities on projects in the Carolinas that will put our union brothers and sisters to work. Difficult because to this point, we have not had a lot of positive responses.

But as we all know, this is the world we live in; sometimes we have the work and sometimes we do not. We have been blessed for the past few years with enough work to keep the majority of our members working. Unfortunately, the forecast for work at home for our members in the near future does not look very good. However, this could all change tomorrow, and me being a “glass half full” kind of guy, I believe it will. With all of us working together we can change our future by being and becoming some of the best crafts people in the country. Just by taking a little more pride in our work, quality, quantity and being at work every day can help our contractors bid and get the work we need to put you, our members to work. Please remember and keep in your prayers, our Brothers and Sisters that are out of work at this time as well as those in poor health. I hope you have a great Memorial Day and a wonderful Independence Day.

Fraternally,

Skip Howard
Service Information

Service Training Steering Committee Update

The last service training meeting was held in January 2014/ Attendance was somewhat limited because of snow/ice in several areas. As a reminder, the length of the current service contract has been changed to coincide with the contract of the plumbers, pipefitters, welders which runs through June 2015. The period service techs to complete their required eight (8) hours of training will match the contract date (s). Classes for the training are scheduled from November-April and a few special training programs are offered during other months. The next Service Training Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, June 18th at the UA training center in Concord, NC.

Service Work
Service Contractors are busy with work that has been delayed by building owners because of the unusual and frequent changes of the weather from cold to warm. More apprentices are working now than last year at this same time and contractors are being encouraged to hire apprentices to build their employee base for the future.

UA District 3 Apprentice Contest
Service Tech winners of the Georgia/Carolina Apprentice contest will compete in the District 3 contest in New Orleans from June 10-12th. The other trades will also send the winners from the Carolinas plumbing, pipefitting, and welding contests. We wish all of the contestants well as they compete in New Orleans. First place winners will compete in the International Contest in Michigan. The results of the UA District 3 Contest will be announced in the next newsletter.

Submitted by: Harold “Rudy” Rudisill

Something to think about….  
Help your contractors procure more service business and if you have any items to present for consideration in the next newsletter, please email me at rudysill@windstream.net
The Leadburner's insurance with Aetna will renew July 1, 2014. This renewal will bring several changes to the plan. Some of these changes are mandated by the Affordable Care Act and some are the result of the Trustees efforts to improve our benefits. You will receive a notice and description of these changes from the Administrator and the Fund Counsel. After you receive notification and description of the new plan you may contact Rita Lynch, Bob Hughes or myself with any questions you have. I believe the plan has improved overall and will help each of us.

Submitted by:

Bill McNabb

Ten Ways to Kill a Union

1. Don’t come to the Union Meetings
2. But if you do— come late.
3. If the weather doesn’t suite you– Don’t come at all.
4. If you do attend a meeting-find fault with the work of the officers and other members.
5. Never accept an office– it’s easier to criticize than to do things.
6. Nevertheless, get sore if you are not appointed on a committee: but if you are appointed, Do not attend the committee meetings.
7. If asked by the president to give your opinion on an important matter, tell him you have nothing to say. After the meeting tell everyone how things should be done.
8. Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary: but when other members roll up their sleeves, willingly and unselfishly using their ability to help along, howl that the union is being run by a clique.
9. If your local is struggling from a financial standpoint to maintain offices in your behalf, be sure and muster all the help you can– to vote against a dues raise.
10. Don’t bother helping new members– Let everyone else do it.

Could this be me?

Submitted by: 
Local 421 member
Evelio Martinez
JATC News

**Check the website often**
(www.ualocal421.org) for new and updated classes that are listed for any required continuing education.

There will be more online courses in the months to come for UA members.

We have considered running a 4 hour welding class (practice only, no certs), one evening a week in Concord. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Concord Training Center at 704-721-0517 and let us know.

There will be Weld testing during the week at the Concord Training Center, except Wednesdays, when there will be no weld testing. Any requested testing in Charleston or Laurens will have to be scheduled.

**UPDATE on Wendell NC School:**
We have purchased a facility in Wake County at 350 East 4th Street Wendell, NC 27591. If anyone would like to volunteer their time to help with cleaning, painting, landscaping, etc., please let John Sciadini know by calling or emailing John@ualocal421.org.

**ATTENTION MEMBERS:**
If you know anyone that may be interested in joining Local 421, Please have them call the Charleston office to get a pre-employment application. They must have a valid NC or SC Driver License and a physical NC or SC address, PO Box will not be accepted. This procedure is done twice a year and the next set of interviews will be in July 2014.

**Do NOT** let your Certifications expire, check your certs, that includes Med Gas, Brazing and Welding. It is **YOUR** responsibility to keep them current!

**COL 3:23:** WHATEVER YOU DO, WORK AT IT WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AS WORKING FOR THE LORD, NOT FOR MEN.

**Our July 12th union meeting will be held at the**
Concord Training Center beginning at 10:00 a.m.
Local 421 recently took part in the Georgia Carolina Apprenticeship Competition in Augusta, Georgia. The following is a list of apprentices that will be moving on to the UA District 3 Competition in New Orleans on June 10, 2014. They represented us well and WE should be very proud of our winners, I know that I am personally proud of all the competitors from Local 421, they all did a GREAT job! If you are working with one of these apprentices thank them for doing the Local and Training program proud.

The winners to represent North and South Carolina:

- Mike Owens- HVAC (McKenney's)
- Jacob Miller– Welding (CB&I)
- Mike Wood– Pipefitting (BKI)
- Charles Putz Plumbing (John E Green)
- Adam Smith received the Copper Development "Best Brazing Project" award. Great job Adam!

- John Sciadini
  Local 421 Training Director

"If you don’t go after what you want, you’ll never have it. If you don’t ask, the answer is always no. If you don’t step forward, you’re always in the same place." –Nora Roberts

Local 421 website log in:
Username: Card number with two zeroes in front.
Password: Date of birth in mmddyyyy
NO dashes or slash marks.

Happy 4th of July!!

 WWW.UALOCAL421.ORG
Brothers and Sisters,

We are in the second quarter of 2014, work in the Carolinas continues to be very slow. The MNK project (BKI and McKenney’s) is near completion. McKenney’s has a few small projects, Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, NC is near completion. And NCDOC in Raleigh, NC. McKenney’s also has Mount Holly Hospital in Mount Holly, NC will need Med Gas and UA-51 braze certs and the VA clinic in Charlotte, NC area. I am hoping McKenney’s will be requesting manpower at the VA clinic soon. BKI has a new project coming up in Lenoir, NC I do not have an exact start date for this project. TFS will be requesting high purity fitters and welders at their fab shop in Burlington, NC soon. Kinetics has a few small projects scheduled for this year, their manpower requests will be as needed throughout the year. Work in other jurisdictions is beginning to get under way, Local 72 Atlanta, GA (Baxter Pharmaceutical), Local 248 Ashland, KY (Marathon Refinery requires TWIC card), Local 452 Lexington, KY (Toyota Auto and a hospital), Local 502 Louisville, KY (Ford Motor Plant) and Local 74 in Wilmington,chimp in Wilmington, DE (Dover City Refinery). As these jobs become available for manpower I will contact the members that have previously inquired about these projects. My goal is to get all members of Local 421 working, if you are interested in these jobs, please let me know I reach out to local contractors and jurisdictions daily via phone or email in an effort to find available jobs. All contractors now require that you are OSHA 10 certified and welders must have current weld certs. Contact the training center in Concord (Gay or John) to schedule training. There is a demand for welders at this time, if you can weld or would like to learn, get in our training centers! Our future is in your hands, we must protect our job opportunities through training and certifications, reporting to work on time, with a good attitude, fit for duty and working together to complete these jobs on time, under budget and making sure it is done right the first time. If we conduct ourselves as professional craft persons and follow these simple objectives. We will continue to have contractors bid and WIN jobs in our jurisdiction. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! Hope to see you at our regular meetings.

Submitted by: Ron May

Effective July 1, 2014 if a member of Local 421 is required to take a drug screen and fails, there will be a fine of $300.00 and you will be immediately removed from the out of work list until further review. If an apprentice fails they will remain off the out of work list until reviewed by JATC.

If you have not turned in your 2014 Standard For Excellence, and you are currently out of work, you are NOT on the Out of Work List!
DIRECTORY

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

Concord 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

Wendell Office
350 East 4th Street
Wendell, NC 27591
919-231-8005

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

Email Addresses
Skip– skip@ualocal421.org
Bob– bob@ualocal421.org
Ron– ron@ualocal421.org
John– john@ualocal421.org
Joe– joe@ualocal421.org

*Please put 421 member on subject line.*

Websites
www.ualocal421.org
www.ua.org

Health /Welfare, Pension, Annuity and Vacation Checks call NEBA at:
1-800-842-5899
(only speak with Melinda or Toni)

Please notify us at either the Charleston or Concord office if you have a change of address or phone number. It is very important for us to have current information for mail outs and automated phone calls.

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

January 2014
Jack Poulsen(227)

February 2014
Willard G. Forrister(416)
Lewis D. Cox(227)

March 2014
Fritz Lowe(470)
Garland A. Adams(487)
Joseph B. Ligon(391)

April 2014
James Fabian (470)

May 2014
Robert Wells (227)

2014 Local Union 421 Union Meeting Schedule:
All meetings begin at 10:00 a.m.
July 12th– Concord, NC, 285 Litaker Lane, 28025

September 13th– Laurens, SC., 1476 Fleming St Ext., 29360.

November 8th– Concord, NC., 285 Litaker Ln 28025.

*You will be notified of any changes*
As every member should know by now, we have a lottery drawing at each union meeting. The lottery grows by $100.00 at each meeting, it is currently up to $300.00. If you are present at the meeting and your name is drawn you will win the money. If no one has won the money after it reaches $500.00 then the money will be donated to the Benevolence Fund to help distressed members of the Local. Then the lottery will start over again at $100.00 per meeting, another purpose for this lottery is to encourage new members to attend the union meetings so they can be more educated about organized labor.

As the Benevolence Fund Committee Chairman, I would like to personally ask each member to find it in their heart to donate a few extra dollars to the fund each month when paying dues. We need to build up the fund financially, so we can start helping members in need sooner. This is strictly voluntary, if you can't afford to help out, it is okay we understand. When you donate extra money for the Fund, please write a separate check to the LU 421 Benevolence Fund. We will do our best to announce the names of each member that donates in the newsletter. If you use debit or credit cards to pay your dues, just tell the secretary collecting how much and she will take care of it.

Thank You,

Ray Smith
Benevolence Fund Committee Chairman