

Plumbers Local Union No. 68



ISSUE NO. 215

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2018

LOCAL No. 68 UNION MEETINGS

The next Union meeting in Houston will be held on **October 11, 2018 at 6:00 pm** at 502 Link Road in Houston, Texas. The quarterly meeting in Corpus Christi will be on **October 22, 2018 at 6:00 pm**.

Please remember to turn cell phones off or on vibrate during Union meetings.

CONTRACT CHANGES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2018

The Houston Area Wage Opener was voted on and passed by the membership to accept the following:

ARTICLE IV – ECONOMIC PACKAGE

JOURNEYMAN:

- \$.60 per hour Cash Wage increase
- \$.10 per hour to the Working Assessment
- \$.40 per hour to Insurance (\$.20 for provisional classification)
- \$.10 per hour Apprentice Training

The Beaumont Area Contract was voted on and passed by the membership to accept the following:

ARTICLE V – ECONOMIC PACKAGE

JOURNEYMAN:

- Effective 10/1/2018 \$ 1.00 per hour increase to Economic Package
- \$.40 per hour Cash Wage increase
- \$.03 per hour to Vacation Savings
- \$.10 per hour to the Working Assessment (*3.5% of Cash Wage)
- \$.40 per hour to Insurance (\$.20 for provisional classification)
- \$.07 per hour Apprentice Training (*2.5% of Cash Wage)

**Apprentice increases to work assessment will be the same monetary increase as Journeymen.*

WAGE OPENER Effective 10/1/2019 and 10/1/2020

ARTICLE X CONTRIBUTIONS

Paragraph (b) At such time an Employer increases their workforce over and above the amount previously established for their bond, the Employer shall provide an additional bond, ~~letter of credit~~ or cashier's check, as determined by the Joint Trust Committee, to sufficiently cover three (3) months fringe benefits for the additional employees.

ARTICLE XI HOURS, REPORTING TIME, TERMINATIONS, INSURANCE AND HOLIDAYS

Add paragraph (n) Should the employee be unable to work due to inclement weather, or other matters beyond the employer's control, employer may use scheduled days off as make-up days. Scheduled days off shall not be used to make-up negotiated holidays. Attendance for make-up days is voluntary.

TERMS

Three-year agreement effective October 1, 2018 and continuing until September 30, 2021.

UA GRADUATION CEREMONY

Congratulations to Business Agent, Brother **Jeffrey LaBroski** for receiving the UA Certified Coordinator of Journeyworkers and Apprentices in the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry and Director of Marketing and Recruiting for Corpus Christi, Brother **Glen Kirkham** for receiving the UA Certified Instructor of Journeyworkers and Apprentices in the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry. Thank you to both Jeff and Glen for their hard work and dedication to help further the Plumbing Industry and help with training the future workforce of Plumbers Local Union 68.



NEW INITIATES



Congratulations to Plumbers Local Union 68 newest initiates from September 2018. Those initiates are Journeymen: **Beau Conn**
Apprentices: **David Adams, Marcos Castillo, Tesla Celarie-Rubio, Anton Delchev, Devon Farmer, Richey Farrell II, Victor Flores, Miguel Garcia, Rolando Garza Jr., Justin Gill, Bryana Gregory, Zach Grove, Eric Guzman, Roderick Harris, Gabriel Hernandez, Nicholas Hill, Garian Jordan, Jacye Kemp, James Kone, William Maldonado, Yoani Martinez Gomez, John Mata, Cameron Mauzey, Randall Milota, Coleman Muth, Ben Newsum, Thao Nguyen, Hugo Ortiz Jr., Raymond Perez, Brian Phipps, Ty Ponzio, Dylan Pugh, Henry Ramirez-Ruiz, Andrew Rey, Justin Riojas, Colton Robinson, Noel Rodriguez-Espino, Victor Rodriguez II, Tyler Sanchez, Zane Shelley, Luis Silva, Kyle Sims, Robert Siry, Neil Smith, Stanley Sobbing, Dawson Staley, James Stone III, Chasteen Tall, Enid Thomas, Julio Torres-Sierra, Dillon Tribble, Joshua Vasquez Jr., Justin Vera, Aaron Villfana-Gutierrez, and Cole Weaver.**

RAFFLE WINNERS



Congratulations to those members who won a Plumbers Local Union 68 Knife, Corpus Christi Hooks Tickets, or a PLU 68 Hat at the July Corpus Christi Meeting: **John Briones, Frank Wilcox, Michael Barreto, Michael G. Miller, Irene Talmage, Edgar Chavez, Joseph Anderson, Joe R. Contreras, Isaac Rodriguez, Gasper Felan, Andrew Hinojosa, James McMinn, Joe Garcia, and Jacob Lopez.**



Congratulations to those members who won a Plumbers Local Union 68 knife, Astros or Dynamo tickets, or a PLU 68 Bucket at the August Union Meeting: The winners were: **Julian Rivera, Carlos Rodriguez, Eddie Martinez, Robert Featherstone, Broderick Grissett, Robert Jackowski, Charles Barbee, Jonathan Moore, Augustin Ibarra, Othon Guillen IV, Hildario Gonzales, John Arrisola, Dario Garza, Brandon Jenkins, Jose Garza, Daniel Ontiveros, Manuel Gutierrez, Tommy Ballard, Danny Parrott, Tommy Gray, and Alex Guerra.**

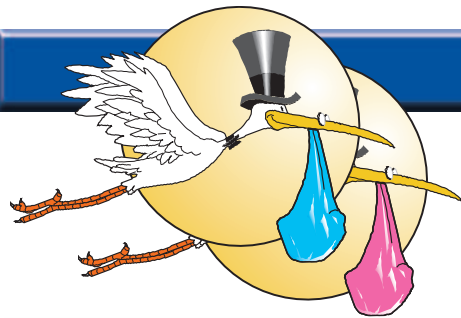
RAFFLE WINNERS



Congratulations to those members who won a U of H or Rice Football, Astros, Dynamo, or Texans tickets, and Plumbers Local Union 68 knife, ballcap, or a bucket at the September Union Meeting were: **Cameron Mauzey, Kyle Sims, Raymond Perez, Justin Riojos, Rodney Spell, Tommy Gray, Matt Roberts, Christopher Bean, Angel Perez, Phillip Key, Lionel Green, Daniel Ramirez, Martin Cerna, Edward Garcia, Ivan Shalamanov, Freddy Lopez, Robert Acosta, Edgar De La Garza, Chasteen Tall, Dillon Tribble, Justin Vera, Stanley Sobbing, Tesla Celarie-Rubio, Jason Norsworthy, Moises Castro, Daniel Ontiveros, Andy Martinez, Eugenio Guzman, Justin Gill, Ricardo Molina, John Andrado Sr., and Rolando Garza.**



Congratulations to those members who won Texans Tickets, ballcaps, beanies or a knife at the September Beaumont Meeting were: **Blake Lopez, Ben Newsum, Darrin Lee, Phillip Jones, Steven Stidvent, Alen Rosenthal, Shadrak Lisenby, Chris Guidry, and Neal Smith.**



STORK CLUB

Congratulations to Brother **John Wakefield** and his wife **Samantha** on the birth of their son, **Logan** (right). Logan was born on April 18, 2018, weighing 9 pounds and measured 22" long. Also, Congratulations to the proud Grandpa, Brother **Keith Benson**.



Congratulations to Brother **Rodolfo Cantu** and his wife **Alma** on the birth of their son **Adrian** (left). Adrian was born on July 26, 2018, weighing 8 pounds and measured 21" long.

Congratulations to Brother **George Flores** and his wife **Cynthia Ochoa** on the birth of their daughter **Emma Olivia** (right). Emma was born on May 22, 2018 weighing 7 pounds 15 oz and measured 20.7" long.



2018 Plumbers Local Union 68 Labor Day Cook Off

Saturday, September 1, 2018 at Pasadena Fair Grounds was our annual Labor Day BBQ Cook Off. Many local unions from the Houston and Surrounding areas were in attendance. As always, our Smokin' 68's Cook Team did a great job feeding the brothers, sisters, and their families. Everyone in attendance had a great time. The children were able to go to the petting zoo, rock wall, moon walks, and had a chance to participate in the Kids Q. All in all, it was a great time. A special thanks to

Brother **Phillip White** for organizing the festivities. Also, we would like to thank all the volunteers and Officers who helped out serving food, restocking coolers, and helping with clean up. Congratulations to Brothers **Andy Martinez** and **Noe Zuniga** for winning 8th Place in Ribs and Brother **Brad Saunders** for 1st Place in the Margarita Competition. Brad made a batch of 'Spicy Rita's' and Andy & Noe's ribs were very tasty. Great Job Brothers!!



2018 Plumbers Local Union 68 Labor Day Cook Off



FUNDS OFFICE

***UPCOMING* 2nd ANNUAL HEALTH & BENEFITS FAIR**

Join us OCTOBER 20th from 10am-1pm for our annual health and benefits fair. Free Flu shots, various health screenings, door prizes, giveaways, and more. Keep an eye out in the mail for more info.

***REMINDER* Change in Vision Benefits**

Effective July 1st, 2018 Plumbers Local Union 68 joined the VSP Network for Vision Benefits. To find a Vision Provider you can go to www.VSP.com or call 800-877-7195. If you have any questions regarding this change in benefits contact the Fund Office at (713) 869-2592.

Website

Don't forget... You have 24/7 access to all your benefits, EOBs, work hours, online forms and so much more through the **FUND OFFICE** website. www.PLU68benefitfunds.com Featuring easier navigation on mobile platforms and the ability to fill out and submit your **Annual Claim Forms** electronically online. For Log In information or Help contact the Fund Office at (713) 869-2592.

Change of Address or Beneficiary

Please remember to change your address with the Fund Office when moving.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 11, 2018 – Union Meeting Houston, 6 pm

October 26, 2018 – Local Union 68 Golf Tournament

October 22, 2018 - Union Meeting Corpus Christi, 6 pm

November 8, 2018 – Union Meeting Houston, 6 pm

November 22, 2018 – Thanksgiving (Contract Holiday)

November 23, 2018 – Contract Holiday

December 1, 2018 – Family Christmas Party
Houston, 9 am

December 8, 2018 – Family Christmas Party
Corpus Christi, 9 am

December 25, 2018 – Christmas Day (Contract Holiday)

January 1, 2019 – New Year's Day (Contract Holiday)

UA APPRENTICE CONTEST ANN ARBOR MICHIGAN



Congratulations to the District 3 Champion!! Brother **Matthew Hollobaugh** competed with the best of the best from the United States, Canada, and Australia. Matthew's hard work and dedication paid off. A special thanks to Matthew for doing his best and to the HAPJAC Instructors that educate all the apprentices.



HAPJAC – CONTINUING EDUCATION & JOURNEYMAN CLASSES

Texas Pipe Trades Association in cooperation with Texas State Joint Apprenticeship and Journeyman Training/Education Committee of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry is offering the 2018-2019 six-hour (6) Continuing Education Course to licensed plumbers. This course meets the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners requirements for license renewals. The following classes will be held at the location and time indicated for those licenses that expires September 30, 2018 - August 31, 2019. Contact the **Training Center** at **713-861-3202** or **800-891-8900** or email **KLhapjac@att.net**.

Continuing Education Upcoming CE classes will be held:

Houston - 454 Link Road

October 23 & 255:30 pm – 9:00 pm
 October 278:00 am – 3:00 pm
 November 108:00 am – 3:00 pm
 November 15 (Med Gas).....6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
 November 27 & 295:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Corpus Christi – 4841 Leopard Street

November 108:00 am – 3:00 pm
 November 10 (Med Gas).....3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Richmond – 727 Pitts Road

November 10 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Harlingen – 1202 Ed Carey Drive

November 108:00 am – 3:00 pm

Texas City – 2010 5th Ave North

November 3 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Journeyman Classes:

HAPJAC will establish a pre-registering list for the following Journeyman training classes. If enough interest is generated, the classes will proceed in Spring 2019. Contact **Kristi LaBroski** at the Training Center for all registration and pre-registration at **713-861-3202** or **800-891-8900** or email **KLhapjac@att.net**.

- Certified ASSE Service Plumber - 48 hours
- Backflow Continuing Education - 24 hours
- Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Certification (Meets the requirements for TCEQ Examination and Licensing and ASSE Certification) - 48 hours
- Medical Gas Piping Installation (Meets Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners requirements for Endorsement Examination and ASSE 6010 Certification requirements.) - 48 hours
- Introduction to HVAC – Beaumont and Corpus Christi

A Plumber welder instructor is needed. If you are interested, please contact **Robert Cross** at 713.861.3202.

SPORTSMANS CORNER

Retired Life Member Brother **Ed Bettencourt III** and his son, 22-year member Brother **Darrell Bettencourt** caught this 37” Black Drum in the Galveston Ship Channel between the North and South Jetties in March 2018. It took them both 30 minutes to boat this monster. Nice one Brothers!!



Congratulations to Brother **Michael White** and his son **Hunter**, Brother **Daniel Morris** and his son **Hunter**, and Brother **William “Bill” Venable II** and his son **Will** on the Teal they harvested in Eagle Lake, Texas on September 15, 2018. They had a blast!

CLIP HERE AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE 

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

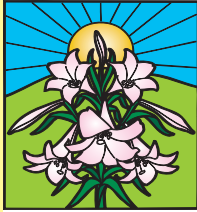
Union Hall (713) 869-3592
 (800) 798-1074
Fund Office (713) 869-2592
 (800) 833-2980
Training Center (713) 861-3202
 (800) 891-8900
Credit Union (713) 869-9053
Website www.plu68.com

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Robert "Wayne" Lord..... Business Manager
 William "Bill" Venable, II..... Financial Secretary / Treasurer
 Rick Lord Business Agent
 Jeff LaBroski..... Business Agent
 Phillip White Business Agent
 Brian Granger President/Organizer
 Chato Woodard Vice President/Organizer
 Glen Kirkham Organizer
 Jeremy Pavlich Organizer
 Robert L. Cross..... Director of Training

SOFTBALL

Congratulations to the Home Run Kings, Brothers **Michael Pfeifer** and **David Mossor**. Their Men's Softball Team "Benchwarmers" are the City of Pasadena Summer League Softball CHAMPS!! Good Luck to you brothers during the next season!




In Memoriam

Brother **John Nabors** (30) of Conroe, Texas passed away on July 28, 2018. John was a UA Journeyman member of 6 months being initiated on February 8, 2018.

Brother **Joseph Daleo** (96) of LaPorte, Texas passed away on August 16, 2018. Joseph was a UA Retired Life Member of 72 years, being initiated on April 12, 1946.




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