

The Connector



Iron Workers Local 498 - 5640 Sockness Dr., Rockford, IL 61109 - 815/873-9180

March 2019

From the Business Manager:

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Well it seems Spring is finally on its way in. The work picture has been pretty good this year so far. There was a bit of a slowdown but as I write this there are not too many on the out of work list. The work picture for this year still looks pretty good overall. Eva has been training Nada in the office, but Eva's time is limited here, she will be going back into retirement. Stop by and wish her well. Eva will be back during Nada's maternity leave because she rocks! She is a trooper.

They set the last Module down at Americold over the weekend. That job turned out very well for us at Local 498. We are working on trying to get more work out there, if we are successful it would mean 3-4 more months of work. So far, this job has generated several million dollars in wages and benefits for iron workers. It was a great job done by all and couldn't have been done without the help of a lot of people.

This year's work looks to be pretty good, according to the contractors. They tell me they have a good amount of work on the books.

Enclosed with the Newsletter is the Local 498 Golf Outing Flyer, I hope we have more attending this year than last. Although last turned out pretty good for our first year back doing the golf outing. Save the date, June 2nd 9am, at Prairieview Golf Club, Byron IL. The monies raised go to fund the Blais Family/Northwestern IL Building Trades Scholarship Fund to help tradesmen and women children with college costs.

If you haven't updated your beneficiary cards for Death Benefits, Health, and your Pensions, now would be a good time to take care of that.

Speaking of the Local 498 Death Benefit, the window for older members that would like to get back in to the program it is closing soon. If you want to get back into the Local 498 Death Benefit you need to come down and fill out the death benefit beneficiary paperwork and do your first prepay of one-hour JIW rate of 39.39.

Hopefully, the transition to Group Administrators is going smooth for all of you. If you are having any issues that you can't get it resolved, please call me and we will get an answer.

Reminder: April 16th Regular Meeting we will be allocating the last of our 3-year contract of \$2.50. Next year we will be negotiating.



**Americold
Storage
Rochelle, IL**



In Solidarity,
Mark

From the President/Organizer:

Dear Members,

I hope everyone is doing well. Things are starting to ramp back up after this deep freeze. Spring is around the corner and so are the non-union. There are a few jobs in our local that are currently either nonunion or not yet awarded. I am on top of all of them working to change their hearts and minds. Keeping a close eye on our territory is key, and I do appreciate all your help in keeping watch.

If you have any questions or concerns about a job going on, feel free to call. Thank you for all your hard work in the field. Stay safe out there.

In Solidarity
Ben

From the Apprentice Coordinator:

Dear Members,

We have a weld test coming up on April 13th. Any Journeyman that needs to renew their Wisconsin or International Certs that lapse just need to let Dean, Nada, or myself know so we can put them on the test roster.

I had to cancel the last test because we didn't have enough welders to justify the cost of it.

We have First Aid/CPR class on May 6th, and the 13th. If you are interested in taking these classes let us know.

On April 25th at 6:00pm we will be having Hilti here to do a power actuated certification course. It **will be mandatory for all Apprentices**. Journeyman that would like to get certified, please let us know so we count you in.

I am in the process of setting up a date to have a lift here so we can do a Lift Training class. I will let you know once we have a date set so that anybody that wants to sign up for it can

Paul Kauffman,
Apprentice Coordinator

From the Office Manager:

As you have read the Death Benefit has increased to JIW hourly rate (currently \$39.39). We have included beneficiary forms with the last newsletter. Please complete and return the forms at your earliest convenience. If you are a new participant, please note the \$39.39 prepay is necessary to start the program. Since the JIW hourly rate will change each year for those who made multiple pre-pays so as not to be in arrears we would request that you refrain from it for record keeping purposes.

Just a reminder that we are cashless office. Please pay by Check, Money Order, Credit Card or Pre-paid Visa/MC.

Local 498 Calendar

April 16th – Regular Member Meeting

May 21st – Regular Member Meeting

June 2nd – **Charity Golf Outing**

June 18th – Regular Member Meeting

July 16th – Regular Member Meeting

August 20th - Regular Member Meeting

September 17th - Regular Member Meeting

Reminder, the Executive Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month. The Retirees' meeting is the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the Alpine View Restaurant (Charles St. and Alpine) in Rockford. Contact Ralph Pedersen – 815/234-8163.

* * * OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION * * *

April 16th Regular Meeting at 6:00 pm, we will be allocating the last of our 3-year contract of \$2.50

Note: All eligible voting members must have current dues receipt to be able to vote

The opportunity to pay a full year (12 Month Dues) and receive the free wind shirt will expire on April 30th, 2019