

The Connector



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

August 2019

From the Business Manager:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Labor Day is upon us and it is a time to remember all the hard-working folks that came before us and paved the way for us to make a good living with a retirement and health Insurance. If you see older members you need to reach out and thank them for what they have done to maintain working conditions. **Line up for the parade is still 6th Ave. and 7th St. at 8:30 am. We are having a float in the parade this year which will be in line with the parade shirts.**

I would also like to thank all the people that took the time to write and submit their IRAP letter that I have been asking for on behalf of the International. Sometimes it is the little things we do that add up to the results we are looking for. I am very proud of all of you we made a great showing for our local compared to some locals. We should know by Labor Day whether the Construction Industry Apprentice Programs are exempt from IRAP. Remember this is an Administration decision not a Congressional one.

As most of you know, work has slowed down a bit over the last month. It does sound like the contractors have work coming. It appears that of the two casino's Rockford's is likely to start first. Deadline for proposals are the end of August with Rockford City Council deciding at end of September and then the State confirming their decision. They have moved a trailer on site at the Shine Project in Janesville. I am being told the end of October for the rods, but as you know, some of these start dates are moving targets.

There is a new app for your phone for the Tristate Health Insurance Plan. At the app store search for **gal 125**. You must sign up on there or if you already use the web portal just login with your credentials. It also has a feature for those using there Benefit Card to pay bills. If it is over \$500, you can take a picture with the app and directly send it so you won't receive a 1099 at the end of the year if you did not submit proof of the purchase as being medical. Let me know if you have any questions and I will help get you answers.

Hope to see you all at the Labor Day Parade and Pin Party on the 13th. If you have not RSVP'd please do so as soon as you can, we want to have plenty of food.

In Solidarity,

Mark Richeson

From the President/Organizer:

Dear Members,

Work has started picking up in the area as well as movement with the nonunion. The Tristar metals project in Freeport has been shut down for almost 2 weeks now as we continue to have talks with Stone Mill Construction in doing the right thing by using our membership for the building.

I have also been in talks with Nu Construction to get guys on at the Nutrient Ag Solution project in Beloit. As things pop up, I do everything I can to get you guys working. Having you guys on the ground letting me know of these projects helps out tremendously.

If you have any questions or see anything suspect going on, let me know as soon as possible. Thank you for all your help. Stay strong and work safe.

In Solidarity,

Ben Scroggins

From the Apprentice Coordinator:

To all Apprentices and JIW's:

Labor Day is just around the corner and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the parade. This year with the help of some of the apprentices we have made a float for the parade that I think turned out very well. I want to say thank you to all the apprentices that helped.

As for the apprentices we expect you to be at the parade to walk. It's a good time and its great to show the solidarity to the local community.

Ray Risch is looking for volunteers for help at the Janesville Labor Fest so if anyone is interested in helping out in Janesville, they can do that instead of walking in Rockford's parade.

As many of you may have heard the JATC has purchased a boom lift for training purpose so if there are any Journeymen that would like to get the Arial Lift Certification please let me know and we will try to set something up.

Paul Kauffman

The Labor Day Float - 2019



Local 498 Calendar

September 2nd – Labor Day Parade & Picnic

September 13th – Pin Party

September 17th – Regular Member Meeting

October 15th – Regular Member Meeting

October 19th – Health Screenings

November 19th – Regular Member Meeting

November 28th - Thanksgiving

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 Peterson – 815/234-8163.

Death of a Member:

We are saddened to report that James Jawoworski passed away on August 17, 2019. Jim was a member of the death benefit. Due to the wage increase on June 1st the new contribution rate is \$40.25.