

The Connector



Iron Workers Local 498 - 5640 Sockness Dr., Rockford, IL 61109 – 815/873-9180 July 2020

From the Business Manager:



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family safe and healthy during these crazy times we are living through. As most of you know the work for us has continued to be slow. There are short calls coming in and are getting filled with the ones that are coming in daily to the hall. If you are not on the texting service, we provide and would like to be let me know and I will send you the link. There is not much new to report on jobs. SHINE project is moving slow, Findorff has steel, Nelson Power Plant is delayed, the Mill is delayed due to lack of orders for wire, the I43 fly over is ahead of schedule and there will likely be about 1000' of deck to tie later this year, Casino in Rockford is waiting for downstate to approve, Casino in Beloit is planning for fall to start moving dirt if all goes as planned. Work in neighboring locals has been picking up, Local 393,444, and 112 seem to be busy if interested in traveling.

As you may or may not have heard the Labor Day Parade and Picnic has been canceled this year. We will still be purchasing t-shirts for you. I will let you know when they are in.

The Golf Outing is still scheduled for September 13th 8 am at Silver Ridge, but due to COVID-19 we will not be doing the steak dinner after golfing but will be eating on the course, burgers, or brats. So, if you are interested in doing the Local 498 Golf Play Day for charity do not forget to get your foursomes registered. The deadline for registering is August 31st.

Reminder that Oct 24th will be our day for the Lifeline Health Screening Tri-state puts on for you every year here at our hall. Keep your eyes out for the letter coming in the mail to register.

Another reminder, this year is an election year for Local 498, our intent is to have nominations at our August 18th meeting. We will attempt to have the meeting outside if possible, otherwise we will be following the Illinois requirements for COVID-19 if the meeting is held inside the Meeting Hall. The city is cracking down on businesses that are not following the Governor recommendations.

- The meeting room will be set up for 50 with social distancing, masks will be required to enter and move around the building. We will provide them if you do not have one.
- Once seated you may remove mask. If you get up to move around you must put the mask back on.
- If there are more than 50 in attendance the overflow will be in the dispatch room so everyone will have a n opportunity to nominate or participate in the general meeting if they desire.
- The Apprentice classes will be also following these guidelines during class time.

Hopefully, we will get through this soon and be able to get back to normal. Everyone be safe out there.

In Solidarity,

Mark

From the Organizer/Recording Secy.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our members were recently picketing ESA Iron Works at Decker Trucking on Ipsen road in Belvedere. We picketed a little over a week and ESA finally agreed to take a couple of guys. After the first couple of days the owner of ESA thanked me for sending out such good workers. That lasted about eleven days and the owner called me again and said they needed to leave the job now. Our members left and by the end of the day ESA was kicked of the job. We are working on trying to get one of our good contractors on the job.

Down in Rochelle we have a couple of members working on the foundation for Johnson Tractor. I talked to the construction manager about the job and the PEMB will be done by B&C Enterprises out Elgin they are nonunion sheet metal workers so as of right now I don't know if we will be able to get guys on.

In Rockton there is a O'Reilly's being built and the concrete is good but have not found out who is doing the structure yet. Hopefully work will pick up soon. As always if you see any work going on in our area give me a call and I will check it out.

In Solidarity,
Keith Gahl
(815) 721-3058

Apprenticeship Coordinator

Brothers, and Sisters,

Upcoming Classes:

Aug 10th - Orientation Night and first night of classes for the fall semester. **Mandatory for all apprentices.**

Sept. 12th - Weld Test

Nov. 7th - Weld Test

I'm looking at trying to have an OSHA 30 class here in the near future, but I need a few more attendees in order to justify having the class. If there are any Journeymen that would like to attend, please let me know so I can get the class scheduled.

If you want to take a weld test just let Dean, or myself know so we can put you on the list.

In Solidarity,

Paul Kauffman

Local 498 Calendar

Aug 18th – Regular Membership Meeting (Nominations)

Aug 31st – Golf Outing Registration Deadline

Sept – Labor Day Parade & Picnic Cancelled

Sept 13th – Golf Outing

Sept 15th – Regular Membership 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 Peterson – 815/234-8163.