

THE CONNECTOR



Iron Workers Local 498 - 5640 Sockness Dr., Rockford, IL 61109 – 815/873-9180 February 2022

From the Business Manager:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



I hope this Newsletter find you all healthy and warm. We have entered a slow period here in Local 498, which you all probably know by now. There have been little things going in and out, but unfortunately no real big projects. I will be meeting with Justin Minor the BA from Local 393 to get up to speed on the work going on and coming up in the new territory. There also is work going on around the local if you are willing to travel to Madison, Joliet, or Milwaukee. Let me know if you are willing to go there.

Just a FYI, if you are laid off and are not getting the text messages, please let me know so I can turn on your text message. Also, if you go out and are laid off, please let me know or come in and sign the list so you end up where you belong on the out of work list. I do make mistakes and will fix it, but I can't fix it if I don't know you are not working anymore.

Attached in this Newsletter is the Flyer for the Cornerstone Supplemental Insurance opportunity. The active members should look at it to see if it is for them. We all know people it could have been beneficial for had they had it. I do hate to bombard you with all of this, but I did commit to getting the information out there to see if it were something that could benefit some of our brothers and sisters. If we do not have enough participation (20% or about 33) then it will not happen. There are some clear benefits to this, and it is on top of your normal disability through insurance and IMPACT disability program. It may even be worthwhile if you know you will be out for some other elective surgery in the future and can plan and utilize the benefit.

I know many of you now know that Local 393 Aurora has lost their charter. While there are still many unknowns. I will share what I do know. The local's territory was divided up, some went to Chicago (1,63, & 136) some went to Local 444, and some came to Local 498. I will attach a small map but essentially our southern boundary is I-88 from University Rd. to the Fox River. The Fox River north to McHenry and Kane County line west to Rt 31 north to Virginia Ave. to where it ties to Rt 14 to 47 and 47 North as it has been. I still do not know exactly how many members of Local 393 will be coming to us. The International is allowing them to fast-track transfers to the local's they choose. Currently everyone working in in the former Local 393 will be working under the current Wage and benefit structure until May 31, 2022. After June 1, 2022, there will likely be separate section in our CBA for the "Eastern Zone" of Local 498. How it will look I am not sure at this moment, it will require a fair number of conversations and meetings with fund professionals, so be patient on those answers. My goal is and will always be to the benefit of **all** the members, both current and new resulting from this change.

As far as dispatching for the new territory contractors are still contacting Local 393 as their hall is still open, letters are going out to inform the contractors who and where to call, but that will take some time to get the information out there. I will not kick former 393 members off any jobs that are now members of other locals in our new area (498 Eastern Zone), that is not right. Lay-offs will happen, and they will report to their local's they are members of for dispatch.

I will remind you all that this could have happened to us as well not that long ago and for you to keep that in mind when talking to your brothers and sisters. This would be hard for any local and their members to process and you would not want to be told where you belong when all you have ever known was YOUR local. Now they are split up between 5 locals and are potential boomers in the territory they have known as theirs. There will be acclimation to this change, but we will do our best to make it as smooth as possible.

In Solidarity,

Mark



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Work in our local has slowed down quite a bit in the last two months. Around our local the nonunion is slow also which is good but there are a few projects that are still moving along slowly. Down in Davis Junction Us Petroleum is putting up a new gas station. DC Concrete and Wills Concrete were on sight working on the foundations. Both contractors mostly do residential and small commercial jobs. In Freeport on Lincoln Drive R and J Trucking is putting up a PEMB. It's a father and son and they are doing the structure themselves. Iron Zone was at the new Valvoline on East State Street in Rockford for one day. They are a small outfit from Northlake Illinois that mostly do work in by Chicago and the surrounding areas.

Your phone calls and texts are really appreciated. Recently Mark received a call from a member, and he relayed the message to me, and I was able to get an apprentice on with DuPage Overhead Door. Although it was only for one day, I know the work ethic and professionalism that our members provide speak volumes when they and other contractors bid work in our local.

One other topic that I would like to bring up is the Workers' Rights Amendment to the Illinois Constitution, which will be on the ballot in November. This amendment would prevent Illinois from ever passing a state law or local ordinance that would diminish the rights of employees to organize and collectively bargain. This amendment would also ban so called "right-to-work" laws in Illinois. I'm sure by now you all realize that any laws or ordinances that have any "right-to-work" language in them are no good to unions or workers in general. I know November and elections are not on our minds right now, but I **cannot stress** enough how important this amendment is, and what it means for worker's rights in our state. Over the coming months you will see and hear more about this and the opposition to this amendment. Make sure you talk with your family and friends about this amendment so we can protect worker rights for generations.

Don't hesitate to contact me with a text or phone call at 815-721-3058. It might be a job or contractor that I don't know about. We cover a large area and sometimes it is hard to keep a good eye on all of it.

In Solidarity,

Keith Gahl

Apprenticeship Coordinator

Hello Brothers and Sisters.

The Winter/Spring Semester has started, and we currently have welding classes on Monday and Wednesday nights. If anyone is wanting to come in and do some practicing, please feel free to do so.

We will also be having an OSHA 30 class towards the end of March. The class will be held on Saturday and Sunday on two weekends. You must be present and on time on all of the class days in order to be certified.

On a side note. It sure would be nice to see some more JIW's show up and participate on Meeting nights. We are not currently on the Internationals radar, and I would like to keep it that way. But to do so does require attendance of our membership at the general meetings.

Upcoming Tests/Training dates:

Weld Test Feb. 26th

OSHA 30 March 19th,20th,26th,27th

Weld Test April 30th

Weld Test May 14th

Paul Kauffman



Local 498 Calendar

Feb . 15th – Regular Membership Meeting

March 15th– Regular Membership Meeting

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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 Announcements

Paul Espy – 12/7/2021

Kenton Dahlstrand 12/22/21

William Prather – 12/23/21 (Not a 498 Death Benefit Participant)

**Continue
getting paid
if you're
unable to work**

due to illness, injuries, or death



IW LOCAL 498

OPEN ENROLLMENT

No medical tests or questions to enroll!



Short-Term Disability



Long-Term Disability



Life Insurance with AD&D

Enroll by February 28th, 2022

for guaranteed approved coverage
effective 4/1/2022

CALL NOW! Don't miss out!



For more information, or to enroll by phone or online:

(224) 770-5306 | www.iw498disability.org

IW Local 498

Your Income is at Risk!


Potential Income Lost


(during the first 26 weeks of a disability)

EXAMPLE: \$80,000 Total Earnings (\$1,539 a Week)
Example based on average earnings.



 Actual Weekly Income

 Health & Welfare Short-Term*
*Taxable benefit with a duration of 26 weeks.

 Weekly income lost, if you can't work due to illness or injury¹

 IW 498 Paycheck Protection Voluntary Short-Term**

** Stackable, tax free options of \$250 or \$500 can increase your weekly income during a disabling event.

This graph represents an example of the possible limitations of your Health & Welfare STD Coverage.

¹ If your illness or injury extends past the 26 weeks (when Short-Term Disability ends), 100% of your income may be at risk. Long-Term Disability options are available and can pay up to 60% of your income for up to 2 or 5 years. Call or go online to enroll or learn more.



For more information, or to enroll by phone or online:
(224) 770-5306 | www.iw498disability.org