



Trowel Talk



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Next meeting will be held on November 13th, at our Oaklandhall. This will be a special called meeting. The meeting starts at 5:30 p.m.

The next holiday will be Thursday November 22nd & Friday November 23rd celebrating Thanksgiving.

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Special Called Meeting:

Our next Union Meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 in Oakland will be a Special Called meeting. The Special Called meeting will be to vote on the Executive Board's recommendation to change Article 20 of the Local 66 Constitution and Bylaws from the Strike Fund to the Organizing and Strike Picket Fund. Basically, this would allow the Local Union to use the Funds that could only be used for a strike or picket action as of now to also be used for Organizing activities and the payment of wages and benefits for an organizer. We need to grow our membership and our contractor base to meet the current demands of our industry. We also have over 100 members between the ages of 50 and 60 years of age. Over the next 5 – 10 years these members will be retiring so we need to organize new members to fill those positions. This change in the Constitution and Bylaws will be one step toward doing that. And as always, our November meeting will also be Special Called for our annual Turkey Raffle.

Election:

Talking about voting brings me to my next point, the upcoming November 6 general election. I know we have many different political views in our union. Our membership ranges from the far left to the far right, with all shades in between. There are many issues upon which we may disagree. But I am still going to ask each one of you to consider your ballot carefully, make sure you are registered and vote for Building Trades and Committee on Political

Education (COPE) endorsed candidates. A lot of time and effort go into these endorsements. All the endorsed candidates are interviewed by Building Trades and Labor Council representative to make sure they are friends of labor. Before they are endorsed, we want to make sure that they will be advocates for our issues and the issues of working people. They are all in favor of Prevailing Wage and Project Labor Agreements which are extremely important to our members and our contractors.

We have enclosed the Building Trades endorsed Candidates for the four counties we represent. You should have the one for the county you live in enclosed. For our members that do not live in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, we have enclosed the State Building and Construction Trades Council endorsed Candidates.

One last note on the election. I would ask you to please **Vote No on Proposition 6**. The monies generated from the fuel tax by law could only be used for transportation related improvements. Most of which are for roads and bridges that are in dire need of improvements. If Proposition 6 passes thousands of union construction workers that are working on these projects throughout the state would become unemployed.

Work Outlook:

The work hours coming in are some of the highest hours we have seen in many years. Many contractors need people. If you are not working, please contact Business Agent Jeff Crothers or myself so we can get you out to work. Also, please remember, according to our CBA you must be on the out of work list to be dispatched. The only way you can go out as a name call is if

it is a "call back" (you must have worked for the employer in the last 18 months) and if you are hired as a foreman.

Also, if you know anyone that is a qualified plasterer that is not in the union or someone that wants to become an apprentice, please reach out to them and have them contact us. This is a great time to join our union because it looks like the work hours are going to continue to be strong through 2019.

Holiday Season:

On a personal note, I would like to wish all of you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving Holiday and hope you all have a safe and joyous start to Holiday Season.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for the support you have shown us, and I hope to see you at the Union Meeting on November 13th.

Please be safe out there!

Bob Noto

60 YEAR GOLD CARD



Salvatore Castro

Business Agent's Report

If you are out of work make sure your name is on the out of work list. Also, make sure you call in once a week or your name will be dropped off the list for not checking in.



in once a week or your name will be dropped

LMCC Report



Since being hired as the Director of the Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) 4 years ago, I have won 9 judgements against non-union contractors that I have caught violating prevailing wage laws totaling over \$300,000.00 in fines. 11 more cases are currently under investigation by the DLSE. I hope to be able to report to you soon on a few local cases that I have in the works.

If you are working on a project and there is a non-union Plastering or Fireproofing contractor on that job, please let me know (510) 636-9943.

Tim Nelson.



Work continues to be strong for plastering and fireproofing. If you're out of work, call either Robert Noto or myself. Our contractors need workers, and our members need the hours for both wages and benefits.

If you are dispatched to a Plastering contractor, and that employer has a drug testing policy, you can only be tested using a mouth swab test. It's been brought to our attention, that a few of our signatory contractors are automatically urine testing new hires. That is a violation to our Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). Our CBA strictly states that new hires can only be swab tested. If you're asked to take a urine test as a new hire, please let us know immediately.

If you're dispatched to a Plastering contractor and the general contractor requires a urine test, then you'll have to take the test, if you want to work there. Marijuana is legal in California, but if you fail a drug test for testing positive with the drug,

you have no recourse. Remember, THC stays in the body and fat cells for some time. Testing positive 30 days from the last time you consumed Marijuana is not unusual. If you use the substance, just remember that there are still consequences if you do.

I've had a few calls from members who don't know that we get our bridge tolls paid, both ways, if you cross two bridges. The payment of bridge tolls is in our CBA. Our contractors don't have a choice to not pay the tolls. If you cross a bridge, turn in your bridge receipts for reimbursement. Parking and BART are paid for as well. If you have a question, please call either office.

When you get laid off, your employer is required, under our CBA, to pay you in full, at the time that you are laid off. If you are not paid in full, you can file a grievance against that employer. You will be paid your base wage, 24 hours a day, until you receive your lay off check. The amount owed in the grievance could get very expensive for your

employer. This paragraph is not only to protect our members, but also to inform our signatories as well.

Election day is right around the corner. We've included our Building Trades Endorsements for our 4 counties. I won't tell you how to vote, but the endorsements and propositions that are included in your mailing have been vetted by our Building Trades Councils. The endorsements for candidates and propositions support our working members and their families. How you vote can have a direct effect on your job in the future.

Work Safe, Work Smart



Remo Moschini



Remember our Service Men & Women. Their sacrifice from their families enables us to be with ours.

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FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

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