



Trowel Talk



VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2019

Main Hall Contact Info
Phone (650) 872-8922
Email
bob@pl66.org
israel@pl66.org

Robert J. Noto
Business Manager
Financial Secretary

Israel R. Vargas
Business Agent

Next meeting will be held on March 12th at our Oakland hall. The meeting starts at 5:30 p.m.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Business Manager 1

Business Agent's Report 2



Message from the Business Manager



Congratulations:

Jeff Crothers announced his retirement in last month's Newsletter. I would like to take this time to congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his years of service. Jeff has been a member of Local 66 for 41 years. Over that time, he served his apprenticeship, worked as an apprentice, journeyman and foreman. He was an instructor in our apprenticeship program for several years and was the inaugural instructor for our Job Corps Plastering Program at Treasure Island. He started that program from scratch and helped build it into one of the most successful Job Corps programs in the Country. Jeff also served as an Executive Board member, Trustee, Vice-President, President and Business Agent for the Local. He has given us many hours of his time and has helped promote our Union and our Industry for the betterment of our members. Personally, I can't thank him enough for all the assistance he has provided to me over the years and especially in the last several months. Now he gets to

move onto the next chapter of his life and begin to enjoy the pension he worked so hard to build. That is the reason we are union plasterers, so we can retire with dignity and enjoy the same lifestyle in retirement we enjoyed while we were working.

So, Jeff, we hope you enjoy your retirement and please don't be a stranger!!

New Business Agent:

With Jeff's retirement comes change. Per our Constitution and Bylaws, the Executive Board approved the appointment of Israel Vargas to finish the term that Jeff Crothers held. Israel has been working as an Organizer for the last three months and has done an excellent job recruiting new members. He has hit the ground running in his new position and is doing a great job. He will handle the Business Agent duties while continuing to develop the relationships he started with non-union contractors and workers as an organizer. Israel will be in the Oakland office during dispatch hours then out in the field most days. He will be attending some training classes over the next couple of months to help with his new job. I do not believe in putting anyone in a new position without proper training. Feel free to contact Israel if you have ques-

tions, need any assistance or to just welcome him aboard.

Work Outlook:

The rains have slowed down some of the work out there, but we all know that when the rains stop there be an even higher demand for workers. We still have a high demand for journeypersons that can do EIFS, so if you are not working and are qualified to do EIFS please contact Israel or me.

Journeyperson Upgrade Classes:

I have talked to Apprenticeship Coordinator Dan Martinez about holding a Journeyperson Upgrade Class for EIFS and he is working on scheduling it. We are going to have several more EIFS jobs in the future, so if you are interested in taking the class please let Israel or I know so we can start putting a list for the class together. Also, the apprenticeship will be holding Boom/Scissor Lift Classes at our school. If you need this certification let us know and we will try to get you into one of the classes.

Thank you and please be safe out there,

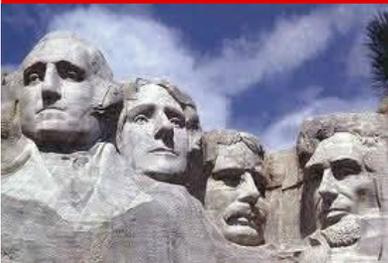
Bob Noto

Business Agent's Report

Our deepest sympathy extends to the family and friends of our deceased brother Cal Stinnett and our long time Office Manager Loretta Attard. When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure...



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.



Hello everyone. First and foremost, I would like to congratulate Jeff Crothers on his retirement and thank him for all the years of service he provided to Local 66. Jeff did a great job helping Chester lead this Local Union through one of the worst and longest recessions in our nation's history. We were very lucky to have him as our Business Agent. Thank you Jeff, and good luck on your new adventure. Also, I want to thank the Executive Board for approving my appointment to continue Jeff's term as Business Agent. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you. I am committed to doing the best I possibly can, and beyond, to carry on with the tradition of strong leadership Local 66 is known for. For those of you that don't know much about me I have been in the plastering industry since 2001. I didn't know anything about the plastering trade when I started in the Union, but I liked it. I was lucky to have a good mentor that taught me well during my apprenticeship and after. Throughout the years I was exposed to and learned all aspects of our trade, including fireproofing and the specialty work.

My goals are to continue with all the great things that Jeff was doing, while still doing some of the organizing duties that I was doing

for past three months so we can continue to bring in younger members to help secure the future of the Union Plastering Industry while balancing the number of members that are getting close to retiring and the ones that still have more years to go. Another thing I want to do is to try to visit our members in the field more often so we can provide you with the appropriate help you may need. And for all of our Spanish speaking members out there, I'll be happy to help you in Spanish to maintain a better understanding of what is happening and a better line of communication. I will be working together with our Business Manager Bob Noto and the Executive Board to achieve goals that will make our Local better.

There is no doubt that the rains have been delaying the jobs out there. But, on the brighter side, I was informed by some of our signatory contractors that they are getting very close to gearing up again. I have eleven members on the out of work list at this time. Please don't forget to call at least once a week so you don't lose your spot on the list and if you are out of work call to put your name on the out of work list. Especially if you have knowledge of Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS). We need more plasterers that are skilled in EIFS. I'm putting together a list of plasterers that are interested in taking a Journeyman Upgrade Class for EIFS. Please let Bob or I

know if you want to be on this list. Also, please let us know if you are interested in a Boom/Scissor Lift certification class.

Remember if you have a newborn family member, you have 60 days to enroll him/her on your Health & Welfare Plan. The hospital usually provides service for around 30 days under the mother's medical plan. If you don't meet this requirement you have to wait for the open enrollment until mid-June. You can call directly to HS&BA at 1-844-663-8121 or simply let Bob or myself know to speed up the process.

Thank you for all your support and be careful on the job! Safety first!

Israel R. Vargas

Albert J. Benjamin



Congratulations on 70 Yrs.