

To the members of Local 290 from Business Manager Lou Christian

Update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Impact, September 12/2020

COVID-19 Update: Keep up the good work wearing face covering, social distancing, hand washings and cleaning frequently touch surfaces is showing results. Planning where work requires close proximity to other workers is necessary. All these combined to keep the COVID-19 infections down and the Construction Industry working. Take these practices home, help protect our family and friends. We are seeing infection rates drop in many areas. Hopefully the past Labor Day weekend, precautions taken will translate into continued dropping of the infection rate.

Wildfires: The unprecedented number of wildfires across the Pacific Northwest has affected UA Members in Washington, Oregon and California. Many of our Members have been impacted by the evacuations across our jurisdiction. We sadly have Members who on extremely short notice have had to evacuate their residences, some of these residences have been destroyed by fire. We have many Members or their family members who have had to evacuate and don't know if their residences have survived. We know at this point three residences have been lost to the fires. We are awaiting word on many more. Please keep these Members and their families in your thoughts and prayers. We are collecting donations to help the affected Members. Our job Stewards are collecting donations on the job sites to help the affected Members. We are also asking Members who have lost residences to set up a separate account at the credit union so donations can be made directly from our members to their affected Brothers and Sisters. When we get a complete list, we will post it on our website and list them in the next update.

The smoke from the fires have blanketed most of Western Oregon, Washington and California. The largest construction site in our jurisdiction shut down outside work Friday due to the unhealthy smoke levels. Suspended outside work will be updated by Sunday 7:30 PM on the inclement weather number for that job site letting you know if work is available on Monday due to the unhealthy smoke conditions that exist now. 1-800-468-3508

Membership Assistance Program: Dave Stahly is working with our Business Agents and Organizers to get help to Members in need, who have had to evacuate or lost their residents. This information went out in an email to the Membership late yesterday. You may have seen news accounts of some of our affected Members. Please contact us if you need assistance or you know of a member who is affected, by calling your area Business Agent/Organizer, Joe Neely or myself for places to evacuate to. Together we can help our Brothers and Sisters who have been impacted by this unprecedented number of fires.

Information Meeting 9/18/20: Next Friday we will have our second online Local 290 Information Union Meeting. You will need to pre- register for the webinar meeting. [click here](#) Pre-registration is required to ensure Members are checked in by the Inside Guard Josh Rudzik. Once verified you will be emailed the meeting number and password to access the meeting. This ensures that registrants are Members of Local 290. The verification will begin about Noon Friday and the email confirmations will be sent out after that. Last month we had 71 members attend out of 110 who pre-registered. Please verify your email address if you didn't receive the information meeting reminder email that was sent out Friday afternoon the 11th with the front office 503-691-5700. I am looking forward to being able to update you on the past months events and activities and answer the questions leftover from last month's meeting. We will be updating the membership on the Members impacted by the fires.

Local Union Elections: You should have received the Elections Notice in the mail. If you have not received the Notice contact the front desk at 503-691-5700 to confirm your contact information. The Notice and the Election Rules are posted on our website [Election Notice Election Rules](#). The Election Committee continues to work very hard to make sure all the changes due to the pandemic are planned for. You can look for Election updates on our website by checking this [Link](#)

Building Trades Test Reminder: The test is scheduled for the weekend of September 26th and 27th. The test will be given each day with the group divided in half to keep the numbers under the Training Center cap for people in the building. The written test portion will take place in the Union Hall. The Exam Board is continuing to work out the details.

Registrar Application Closed: Thank you to all who applied! We have around 80 total applicants. The JATC will be reviewing those and working to select the new Registrar.

In Solidarity,

Lou A. Christian