Pursuant to Section 20 of the United Association Constitution, all delegate registrations—including Local Union delegates and delegates representing District Councils and other affiliates—must be completed, finalized, and submitted to the UA General Office by no later than May 25, 2021. The May 25, 2021 deadline is a constitutional deadline that must be observed.

In due time, the General Office will send advance expense money to all the elected delegates. The balance due will be paid after the adjournment of the convention in San Diego, California, by the Convention Finance Committee.

Delegates must reach San Diego, California, in time for the opening of the Convention. In the event of a fully in-person Convention, the Convention will open on Monday, August 23, 2021, at 9:00 am. In the event of a partially or fully remote Convention, the Convention will open during the week of August 23, 2021, on a date and time prescribed by the General President.

The delegates are requested to bring to the convention their UA membership card and driver’s license or photo ID.

Pursuant to Section 25 of the United Association Constitution, all General Convention resolutions must be filed in the General Office no later than May 25, 2021. Under Section 25(a), Local Union delegates must be “approved by their Local Union.” While Local Union approval has traditionally taken the form of approval by a majority of members present and voting at a regular or special meeting, the General President has directed, in light of COVID-19 and pursuant to his authority under Section 46(f) of the United Association Constitution, that the UA also accept resolutions that have been approved by a majority of the Local Union Executive Board.

Under Section 25(b), resolutions submitted by State and Provincial Associations and other recognized and affiliated bodies (e.g., District Councils), must be “approved by a majority vote in” the Association or other affiliated body. Consistent with the approach to Local Union resolutions above, the General President has directed that the UA accept resolutions that are approved by a majority of the delegates of the Association or other recognized and affiliated body, by a majority of the body’s Executive Board, or, if there is no Executive Board, by a majority of its officers. Such resolutions must also be signed by the President and the Secretary of the Association or affiliated body, or by another officer(s) if there is not a President and/or Secretary.

All General Convention resolutions—which submitted by a Local Union, a State or Provincial Association, or another affiliated body—must be filed at the General Office no later than 90 days prior to the first day of the Convention. In other words, any such resolution must reach the General Office by no later than May 25, 2021 in order to be considered timely.

Local Union resolutions must be accompanied by an email or letter from the Business Manager certifying that the resolution was approved by the membership at a regular or special meeting or by the Local Union Executive Board. Likewise, resolutions from other affiliates must be accompanied by an email or letter from the affiliate’s top official certifying that the resolution was approved by a majority of the delegates of the body, by a majority of the body’s Executive Board, or, if there is no Executive Board, by a majority of its officers.

Resolution submissions by email should be sent to 2021resolutions@uanet.org. Submissions by regular mail should be sent to Assistant General President Michael A. Pleasant, Attn: 2021 Convention Resolutions, Three Park Place, Annapolis, MD 21401. Given reports of postal delivery delays arising from COVID-19, affiliates are encouraged to submit resolutions by email. Whether you submit a resolution to the UA by email or by regular mail, you must send a properly formatted electronic version of the resolution to 2021resolutions@uanet.org.

Sample resolutions, as well as sample letters from a Local Union and from a State Association certifying that their resolutions were properly approved, were previously enclosed with our August 23, 2019 letter to Business Managers regarding resolutions. A copy of our August 23, 2019 letter, including the enclosed sample resolutions and letters, has been posted to the Business Manager’s section of UA.NET.org. Affiliates should carefully review these materials before developing a resolution, as improperly formatted resolutions are out of order and will be rejected.

Fraternally,

Mark McManus
General President

Patrick H. Kellett
General Secretary-Treasurer

Mark McManus
General President

Patrick H. Kellett
General Secretary-Treasurer

Official Convention Call

TO ALL OFFICERS OF UNITED ASSOCIATION LOCAL UNIONS, STATE OR PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS, AND DISTRICT COUNCILS:

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In accordance with Section 11 of the United Association Constitution, we, your General Officers, hereby issue the call for the Fortieth Convention of the United Association of Journeyman and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada, AFL-CIO. Given the uncertainty created by COVID-19 and the paramount interests of the United Association in protecting the health and safety of the delegates and all persons with whom they have contact, your General Executive Board has exercised its authority under Section 11 of the United Association Constitution to empower the General President to select, and take any and all steps necessary in his judgment to implement, one of three formats for conducting the Convention:

1. A fully in-person Convention that will convene on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, California;
2. A Convention in which delegations are permitted to send a certain number of delegates, as determined by the General President, to participate in the Convention in-person in San Diego, California during the week of August 23, 2021, while all other delegates participate virtually (i.e., remotely); or
3. A fully virtual Convention in which all delegates participate virtually during the week of August 23, 2021.

The General President is further empowered to make adjustments regarding the number of days on which the Convention is held and other matters related to the timing and logistics of the Convention if, in his judgment, such adjustments are warranted based on COVID-19.

The General Executive Board has requested that the General President select one of the three foregoing formats for conducting the Convention and inform all affiliates of his selection by June 15, 2021. Upon selecting a format, the General President shall work with the Convention Rules and Election Committees, and other appropriate parties, to develop special rules and procedures for conducting the Convention in accordance with the Convention option selected.

Local Unions and State or Provincial Associations shall proceed to elect delegates and alternates in accordance with the provisions of the United Association Constitution governing the conduct of the Convention Call: nomination and election of delegates to the Convention, filing of credentials, etc.

Sect. 11. Regular conventions of the United Association shall be held once every five (5) years. The date, time and place for holding the convention shall be set and established by the General Executive Board. The General Secretary-Treasurer shall notify all Local Unions as to the city designated where the convention will be held and the date the convention will open.

Sect. 12. The basis of representation of delegates to each convention shall be one (1) delegate for each Local Union; provided that said Local Union shall not have less than twenty (20) members in good standing during the fifth full month [March 2021] immediately preceding the month in which the convention is to be held, and one (1) delegate for each additional one hundred (100) members. A Local Union, whether a Building and Construction Trades Local Union, or a Metal Trades Local Union, or a Local Union, shall be entitled to not less than twenty (20) members in good standing during the fifth full month [March 2021] immediately preceding the month in which the convention is to be held to be represented by twenty (20) members in good standing during the fifth full month [March 2021] immediately preceding the month in which the convention is to be held. There shall be no less than twenty (20) members in good standing during the fifth full month [March 2021] immediately preceding the month in which the convention is to be held.

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