January 24, 2014

To the Members of Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, U.A.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Due to the remodeling of both halls, and other issues at Operating Engineers Local 150, the regular monthly meeting of Sprinkler Fitters Union Local 281, U.A. to be held on February 6, 2014 will be held at the Sprinkler Fitters Union Local 281 Hall, 11900 South Laramie Avenue, Alsip, Illinois. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

Please attend this meeting, as a discussion will take place regarding the location of future meetings.

Due to recent charges filed against members of Local 281, U.A. for working without paying their Union Dues, the Local 281 Executive Board has decided that any member charged, tried, and found guilty of working without paying their Union Dues will be fined a minimum of $1,000.00. This was decided to deter members from working without meeting their financial obligations.

I would also like to remind the membership that the 2014 CISCO Scholarship Applications are now available. This scholarship is available to children of members of trade unions affiliated with CISCO that are currently high school seniors. There is also a scholarship available to union members or contractor employees that wish to continue their education. Applications for this scholarship may be downloaded from the CISCO website at www.cisco.org. You may also contact CISCO at (630) 472-9411 to receive an application by mail. Completed applications must be postmarked by Friday, February 21, 2014.

The William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship applications from the Chicago Federation of Labor are also available. The Chicago Federation of Labor will offer five academic-based scholarships and five random-drawing scholarships in the amount of $2,000 to students graduating from a Chicago or suburban high school. Students or their parents must belong to a union affiliated with the Chicago Federation of Labor and may apply in only one of the two categories. The period for submitting applications is January 1 through March 1, 2014. Applications and information are available on the Chicago Federation of Labor’s website at www.chicagolabor.org.

INSTALL FIRE SPRINKLERS  •  SAVE LIVES AND PROPERTY
You may contact the Local 281, U.A. Union Office for additional information on either of these scholarships. The information is also available on our website. I will let you know if any other scholarship opportunities become available.

Sprinkler Fitters Union Local 281, U.A. has notified the National Fire Sprinkler Association, Inc. of our intent to bargain a successor Collective Bargaining Agreement. As of this date, no meeting dates have been set. All members will be informed of any and all progress on the contract negotiations. All information regarding contract negotiations and updates will be posted on the Membership Only section of our website, www.sprinklerfitterchicago.org. To log-in to the Membership Only section, your User Name is your last name, and the Password is the last four digits of your Social Security Number. Any member that has difficulty logging in to the Membership Only section should contact the Union Office.

Over the past year we have been sending important information via email to members that have provided their email address to the Union Office. If you would like to receive email correspondence in addition to the membership mailings, please contact the Union Office with your email address. We will also send contract negotiation information and updates via email.

The Union Office has outdated telephone numbers for many Union Members. If you have changed your telephone number, please contact the Union Office and update your contact information.

Please be sure to contact the Union Office as soon as possible if you are laid off or hired by a signatory contractor. This is imperative in order for the Local to maintain accurate records.

Any member that goes to a job that had a non-union company try to repair a system, and could not, if the system was left out of service or out of code, please contact the Union Office with information on the job. The Union Office will pass the information along to the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

The Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, U.A. Softball Team is planning a fundraiser to help with the team’s expenses. The fundraiser will be during the Final Four of the NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship. It will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at the Union Office, 11900 South Laramie Avenue, Alsip, Illinois. More details will be available in the near future.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact the Union Office.

Fraternally,

Dennis J. Fleming
Business Manager

DJF/emr