

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Local 18

As I'm driving home two days before Halloween I see Christmas decorations are being put up at a local outlet mall. Is it me or do the holidays seem to come earlier and earlier every year? I'm sure this is a very busy time of year for most of us but let's not be distracted by all the holiday hustle and bustle on the home front. We need to stay focused on the job so we can ensure we make it home to our loved ones.

It has been a great year for Local 18, especially with the purchase of our new hall. It sure will be nice to have one place to go for everything; meetings, school, etc. We have been very busy in regards to the work picture and as of this writing are at full employment with 2200 members total. 282 of which are in Las Vegas and 385 in San Diego.

The Las Vegas work picture looks good with many big projects starting or very close to starting. Kone has the new Raiders Stadium, Otis has Resort World with 250 units, and TKE has the Drew project. Also this Holiday season, members in Vegas will be collecting new or used bikes to be donated to children in need, contact Business Agent Joe Boswell for more information.

The San Diego work picture also looks good with projects going in by almost every company. Ascent is at Naval Hospital San Diego, Specialized is at 1010 2nd Ave., Mitsubishi is at Savina lot 5, Otis is at Pinnacle, Sunroad phase II and Monte Verde, Schindler is at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, and TKE is at Sharp Chula Vista. This holiday season, members will be collecting toys for the BOMA San Diego Promises2Kids toy drive and will also be attending the San Diego Building Trades Holiday food and toy distribution. There will also be the annual "Old-timer's" Holiday luncheon, everyone is encouraged to attend. For more information on any of the events contact Business Agent Frank Belio.

Local 18 was proud to send ten members to the Women Build Nations Conference this year in Seattle. This is the third year Local 18 has attended, joining the event this year were sisters Maria Flores, Megan Ottman, Pellaiah Hinojosa, Laura McCullough, and Tanja Touch. Also present were brothers Todd Martin, Pierce Schoen, Joshua Wallis, Larry Engel, and Business Agent Hoby Lasko. Currently Local 18 has 11 women members of which 7 are mechanics, 3 are apprentices, and 1 is an Inspector. The conference is attended by numerous building trades Unions from across the United States and Canada whose mission is to promote, preserve, and retain women working in the building trades. While at the event there are various classes and workshops to attend which include courses on Union empowerment, Being a male ally, addressing violence and conflict on the job, and respectful workplace best practices. A great event for everyone involved to acquire the tools necessary to promote and mentor women in the building trades. I was also asked to relay a word of thanks to the members of Local 18 for their support in funding the trip as well as a special thank you to Local 19 Seattle for hosting dinner at the Space Needle, it was enjoyed by all.

Also a quick reminder to make sure we are turning in our job cards for all construction and modernization jobs as well as notifying the hall of change of address or when you will be coming off the medical list. Additionally, let's make sure our dues are in before the start of the new quarter and all TM's must pick up their permits before the first of the month.

In Solidarity,

- Puddin'

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