



SPRINKLER FITTERS AND APPRENTICES UNION

LOCAL NO. 281, AFL-CIO

of the UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

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January 18, 2024

To the Local 281 Members

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

A Motion was made, seconded, and passed by the voting Members present at the regular monthly meeting held on Thursday, January 4, 2024, to reschedule the regular monthly meeting for February due to meetings that several Officers would be attending. Therefore, **the regular monthly meeting for February will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Local 281, U.A. Union Office, 11900 S. Laramie Avenue, Alsip, IL.**

We will again award the Thomas M. Collins Scholarship. The Scholarship will be awarded to children or grandchildren of members of Sprinkler Fitters Union Local 281, U.A. that are attending **an accredited private high school**. The Local 281 Member must be in good standing. The Scholarships will be selected by a random drawing that will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2024. Applications can be obtained by calling the Union Office. The applications may be picked up at the office or may be mailed. We also have the information and the application form available on our website. The website address is www.sprinklerfitterchicago.org. **The deadline for Scholarship Applications is Tuesday, January 30, 2024.** All applications must be **received** in the Union Office by that date in order to be eligible for the drawing.

The 2024 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 <https://www.cisco.org/scholarships/>. You may also contact CISCO at (630) 472-9411 to receive an application by mail. Completed applications must be postmarked by Friday, February 16, 2024. The information is also available on our website.

The application for the 2024 CISCO **four-year Scholarships for High School seniors** may be found at: https://www.cisco.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023_Four-Year-Application-for-HS-student-2.pdf

The application for the 2024 CISCO **two-year Scholarships for High School seniors attending community college or pursuing an Associates Degree** be found at: https://www.cisco.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023_Two-Year-Application-for-2023-community-college-or-associates-3.pdf

The application for the 2024 CISCO **two-year continuing education awards for CISCO members who are enrolled in an undergraduate degree program at a community college or a 4-year accredited college or university who are working in the Union building construction trades or are employees of a CISCO contractor** may be found at:

https://www.cisco.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023_Two-Year-Application-for-2023-Continuing-Education-1.pdf

The Chicago Federation of Labor awards 10 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarships to high school seniors, five to the winners of the Academic Competition, and five to the winners of the Random Drawing. The scholarships, valued at \$2,000 each, may be used at any accredited college or university in the United States. Applicants may only apply for one scholarship and must choose either the Academic Competition or the Random Drawing. Completed applications must be sent electronically to the Chicago Federation of Labor by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28, 2024. Applications and all supporting documents should be emailed all together to: scholarship@chicagolabor.org

The application for the 2024 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship **Academic Competition** may be found at <https://chicagolabor.org/wp-content/uploads/Academic-Application-2024.pdf>.

The application for the 2024 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship **Random Drawing** may be found at https://chicagolabor.org/wp-content/uploads/Drawing-Application-2024_v2.pdf.

The information is also available on our website. I will keep you informed if any other scholarship opportunities become available.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade committees are planning The St. Patrick's Day Parades. The Downtown parade is scheduled for Saturday, March 16, 2024, and the South Side parade is scheduled for Sunday, March 17, 2024. Sprinkler Fitters Union Local 281, U.A. will have a float in both parades. I will update the Membership when we receive our float numbers and staging time and location.

The By-Laws of Sprinkler Fitters and Apprentices Union 281, U.A. were amended on November 2, 2023, to allow members to receive Death Assessment notices via electronic notification and opt out of postcard notification. **We have added an After Death Notification Post Card Opt Out Form on the Members Only Section of our website, <https://sprinklerfitterchicago.org/membersOnly/login.aspx>.** To login to the Members Only section, **your User Name is your last name and your Password is the last four digits of your Social Security Number.** The After Death Notification Post Card Opt Out Form is the first item on the Members Only Page. By completing this online form, your decision to opt out of the postcard mailing and the information entered will automatically be forwarded to the Union Office for processing.

If you prefer to continue to receive a postcard by U.S. Postal Service, you do not need to do anything. Postcards will continue to be sent by regular mail to every member who does not opt out of postcard notification.

The Union Office has outdated address and telephone contact information for many of our members. Please contact the Union Office as soon as possible to update your address and telephone numbers. Also, the mass emails sent out by the Union Office have been the quickest method to communicate with the membership on Union events and other important matters. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact the Union Office.

It is also very important that the Local and the Pension Funds have updated beneficiary information on all members. Please contact the Union Office for beneficiary forms.

Fraternally yours,



Bryan LaRoche
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

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