One Rincon Hill & 535 Mission St. (on the cover) are two of many projects now under way in San Francisco.
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I would like to start this issue of the Pride magazine with a thank you on behalf of myself and this leadership team here at your District Council. As all of our members were aware this year, in the month of May, per the IUPAT Constitution were nominations for all elected Business Representatives, Delegates to the District Council and Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer.

It is with great pride that I get again the opportunity to serve the members of this Council along with my dedicated staff for another 4 years and keep our team of Business Representatives intact. I would also like to thank all the Administrative Assistants that perform on a high level every day serving our members at their Local Unions. There have been a lot of positive things going on in the Organizing Department alongside our Service Department and I am excited to keep this organization on the right track for the advancement of our industry and our families.

“I am excited to keep this organization on the right track for the advancement of our industry and our families.”

I also want to thank our Apprenticeship team of instructors and staff under the direction of Director of Training Alex Beltran for all that they do to ensure our future craftsmen stay on top of industry changes and opportunities in our trades including our STAR program that has risen to the top in the nation.

Along with all the excitement of nominations, this leadership team and I have also met with the Executive Boards of the Painters Local Unions to discuss the wants and concerns of their industry as we enter into negotiations. This process starts as it always has with a couple of informal meetings with the leaders of Northern California Painting and Finishing Contractors Association sharing our concerns and them sharing theirs. We then decide on mutually agreed upon dates to start formal negotiations as to where and when. Our goal as your leaders is to try to take the members concerns along with industry concerns and complete a deal that our contractor partners and members can compete with and continue prosperity for all of our families.

As you can imagine sometimes this is not an easy task as we are dealing with multiple concerns and wants on both
sides of the table, but keeping focused on an agreement that provides the opportunity to keep our members working not only right now but in the future as well is the goal. At this time there was an agreement that came in front of our members to vote on which was rejected. We have since then agreed to extend that agreement for another 20 days to see if we can reach an agreement that our members will accept.

Now to update the rest of our members and the crafts they represent, it was only 3 years ago that extremely hard times were upon us and our average member was not getting the hours they needed to support their health care and other benefits and to support their families. As everyone is aware the work outlook has changed dramatically and now our average member is fulfilling those hour needs and maintaining their health care benefits along with other fringe benefits. Combined with all that comes increased hours counting toward our industry hours needed to conclude our obligations under the deferral process in order to receive our negotiated increases in the remaining master agreements. As I write this article it is too early to tell which crafts will hit their respected trigger hours, but what I do know is this year is better than last year in terms of hours gained in all crafts. How all that plays out is still the unknown but I expect to receive official notification from the various trust funds sometime in September of this year. The other good news is our health care program Smart Choices/Healthy Rewards has not only gained momentum by our members but has considerably helped in controlling our costs with just a $0.12 increase over the last 3 years. I have been in this organization for over 30 years and I can’t remember the last time we have had that small of an increase in a span of 3 years. I just hope that trend continues as we enter into 2015.

““There will be more challenges ahead, there always is, but together we will get them done and I sincerely thank all of you for that.””

Among all the other things we all have going on and as I reported out in the last edition of the Pride we should all be excited and proud about Kenneth Rigmaiden becoming our next General President at our upcoming 31st IUPAT General Convention. Mr. Rigmaiden has shown us the talent and skill set needed to perform the job as General President as he did while in the position of General Executive Vice President under James Williams. If you were not aware General President Rigmaiden is also a proud member of District Council 16 and is a long standing member of Local Union 12 San Jose. You all have had the opportunity to elect your delegates to this year’s convention and I will be holding a meeting prior to the convention with all of you to give insight on what to expect and the rules and procedures that come with attending this convention.

I look forward to attending Local Union meetings and visiting with the membership and also to lay out some policies and programs that will ensure the growth and stability of our industries. There will be more challenges ahead, there always is, but together we will get them done and I sincerely thank all of you for that.

Fraternally,

Chris Christophersen Sr.
BM/ST
District Council 16
Brothers and Sisters I want to congratulate our Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer Chris Christophersen who was elected by affirmation to lead this District Council for the next four years. It has been my distinct honor to work for Chris and be a part of his team. I would also like to congratulate all the Local Unions in District Council 16 for their wisdom in seeing fit to have all the Representatives re-elected by affirmation. I have in past articles asked that you the member get involved in VAC activities, STAR training and become involved in your Local Union. Attendance at Local Union meetings are crucial for you to know what is happening not only in your Local but also the District Council, International and work in general. Information is the key in your growth not only as a Union member but also as an Apprentice or Journeyman.

"Information is the key in your growth not only as a Union member but also as an Apprentice or Journeyman."

I want to address all of you, the membership of DC 16. I also want to recognize the active 10% who have engaged and who month after month do activity after activity, put in the time and the effort to make your Local Union and District Council successful, we need your help. I want to reach out to all of you who need to become active participants and not just ride on the coat tails of the active 10%. I have in past articles asked that you the member get involved in VAC activities, STAR training and become involved in your Local Union. Attendance at Local Union meetings are crucial for you to know what is happening not only in your Local but also the District Council, International and work in general. Information is the key in your growth not only as a Union member but also as an Apprentice or Journeyman. We have just gone through the contract process with the Painters Master Agreement yet when visiting Painter Local Union meetings there was very little participation. I know of the excuses, the hardship of working all day and then going to meetings that aren’t convenient to get to, but it is fundamental to how we as an organization operate. It is you, the individual member who makes or breaks the Union. Your knowledge of the working agreement, Local By-Laws, District Council By-Laws and the IUPAT Constitution will make your career a successful one. Once again I am asking for you to help yourself and your Union by simply being part of the solution by going and being involved. It was Henry Ford who said “coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” By joining you came together with your brother and sister members, by staying together through good times and bad you have progressed, now let’s work together through involvement in our cause to be successful.

The Painters Master Agreement was voted down by the small number of members who participated. At this time we have agreed to a 20 day extension. We are working with our Contractor partners to come up with an acceptable Painters Master Agreement.

Remember to treat each other with dignity and respect for you are the best of the best.

Les Proteau
Director of Service
California Steps Up Fight Against Wage Theft

With all the organizing efforts down in the Fresno area, we are finally seeing the State of California taking a pro-active approach to wage theft. With all the construction jobs in the area you would never know how bad these workers are being abused with wage theft. It’s not uncommon to see unscrupulous companies work their workers ten hours for eight hours of pay and not allow for meal breaks or pay any overtime. As organizers we see this in industries where there is high numbers of low wage workers employed in such industries as agriculture, hospitality, garment, housing construction and manufacturing. These cheating employers also have a terrible effect on the state’s economy when they don’t pay the proper wages to their employees. This allows them to cheat on workers compensation, not pay the proper state & federal taxes and puts legitimate companies at a disadvantage.

In 2012 the Labor Commissioner’s office issued $51 million in civil penalties to California employers accused of wage theft, up from $34 million in 2011 and $20.5 million in 2010. The California Labor Commissioner’s office has launched a statewide campaign to educate workers and employers about the danger of wage theft. Billboards, radio and print ads carrying the slogan “Wage Theft is a Crime” will be used to warn unscrupulous employers that fail to pay workers appropriately. It being against the law will help encourage workers to report wage theft to state officials. It’s really nice to see the Labor Commissioner’s office stepping up the aggressive enforcement. There is only one way to address employers who steal from employees, and that is to go to jail. The sad part of this is that these workers and families are just trying to pay their bills just like the rest of us.

John Sherak
Director of Organizing
District Council 16
Director of Training

I would like to congratulate all of our Apprentices that have become Journey workers. Our Graduation ceremony is July 19th at Scott’s Seafood. We have 11 Drywall Graduates, 37 Floor Coverers, 78 Glaziers and 42 Painters. I wish them the best of luck on their new journey as future leaders.

We continue periodic field training in the shops of contractors presenting special needs. Heat Illness Prevention is one class recently requested as we enter early into our warm season. Please beware of the heat and drink plenty of water as the summer heat intensifies. If you’re current on your certifications, thank you for your High Performance/High Value training habits. Please pay attention to your certifications and training cards to make sure they don’t expire.

The Floor Coverers are just finishing up on several projects. The apprentices were able to install conventional carpet in residences for Rebuilding Together. Also, they have been working at the Job Corps facility at Treasure Island installing sheet vinyl all heat welding. The classes are currently working on some custom logo carpets for the IUPAT General Convention.

The drywall finishers have been experiencing an increase in attendance not only with apprenticeship, but with the STAR’s program.

“We continue periodic field training in the shops of contractors presenting special needs.”

Sacramento drywall apprentices recently completed a remodel project in the weight room for Sheldon High School athletics in Sacramento. The Bay Area apprentices will be busy throughout most of the summer working with non-profit organizations, Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together, as well as ongoing projects at the Treasure Island Job Corps Center. They provide great training opportunities for DC 16 apprentices, and contributing to a project that ultimately improves the homes and lives of low income homeowners.

The Glaziers now have a real time simulator to the Leica TS06 Plus Total Station for training purposes and have hopes of acquiring more Total Station instruments to accommodate larger class sizes. We have a layout training grid in the training center and have two upcoming training cycles on the STAR’s schedule starting in July. Glazier apprentices were able to install windows and doors for a Rebuilding Together Peninsula project in East Palo Alto. It just happened to be the house that was hit by a falling aircraft engine 4 years ago. The house served as a day care center for neighborhood children as well as a residence.

In the painting world good things are happening at the Training Center, our paint and abrasive blast simulators are up and running. We hope to incorporate them in our upcoming STAR’s curriculum SOON.

We are still offering our Wall Covering classes for all those who want to brush up on their wallpaper skills. Our C.A.S. preparatory classes, which have been incorporated into our STAR’s curriculum, are still ongoing. To the Industrial Painters seeking to round out their certs by adding this to their personal record, please refer to the new STAR’s schedule.

We continue to strive for excellence by providing our members with the training needed to keep ahead of the curve as new technology, tools and methods present themselves in an ever changing work environment.

We are the “Best of the Best”.

Alex Beltran
Director of Training
District Council 16

“People don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care.”

Theodore Roosevelt
District Council 16 continues to focus on honoring Military Veterans for their service. This resolution was drafted by DC 16 to provide services to Veterans coming into the IUPAT. This will be presented and voted on at the 31st General Convention in August, and when passed will be in effect in all the United States and Canada. Our annual Veterans event will be held at the District Council office in Livermore on October 25th this year. Please take the time if you have not already done so to identify yourself as a Veteran and you will receive an invitation to the event in October.

District Council 16 Honors our Veterans

Name________________ Local Union________________
Journeyman___ Apprentice____ Years_______
Branch of Service___________ Years_______
Address____________________
Phone____________________ Email________________
Shirt Size: M____ L____ XL____ 2X____ 3X____ 4X____
Comments:__________________________________

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 16
Glaziers Local 1621

WHEREAS, The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) has benefited throughout its history from many United States and Canadian Military Veterans who became IUPAT members after serving our nations with honor; and

WHEREAS, The United States and Canadian military services are the largest independent providers of training, teaching veterans the importance of attention to detail, respect for authority and structure and a tradition of commitment, and North America’s Building Trades Apprenticeship Programs are the second largest trainers of people, teaching Trade Skills, Safety, Quality of Workmanship, and Pride in our Crafts; and

WHEREAS, The similarities between highly skilled and disciplined military personnel and the highly skilled men and women of the IUPAT are apparent, the IUPAT Apprenticeship and Training programs provide a natural transition from military service to honorable employment at a living wage;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that United States and Canadian Military Veterans who within 18 months of separation from military service seek employment within our covered crafts and membership with the IUPAT shall receive all possible assistance in seeking employment and shall be eligible for a waiver of administrative processing fees when they become Members of the IUPAT; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that active military and recent veterans who successfully complete the IUPAT Painters and Allied Trades - Veterans Program (PAT-VP) may also receive credit for six months apprenticeship service.

A special called meeting of Glaziers Local 1621 was held for consideration of the above proposed resolution at which the resolution was read and a motion was made to approve, was seconded and carried without opposition on this day, June 17th, 2014.

Paul Manuel
President, Glaziers Local 1621
Brad Cabral
Recording Secretary, Glaziers Local 1621
Sergeant Ruffin Romes joined the National Guard as a private. His first two years of service was as a Nuclear Biological Chemical Detector Calibrations Specialist. He became a heavy equipment operator in 2010 then deployed on a 13 month tour of Afghanistan. There he did construction operations, counter terrorist and improvised explosive device defeat missions. He received his Combat Action Badge after a complex attack in East Paktika, returning home in Dec. 2011. Promoted to Sergeant E-5, he went back to Afghanistan where he became Squad Leader for six troops during pre-mobilization training.

On August 28th, 2013 he was stationed as Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge at a Forward Operating Base in Ghazni when it was attacked by Taliban forces. Awarded an Army Achievement Medal for leading troops in security sweeps and aiding wounded coalition forces, he returned home May 13th, 2014. He is still in the National Guard, and trained as an automated logistics specialist, combat lifesaver, first responder and registered EMT.

His hobbies include weight lifting, home improvement projects, reading, and playing sports with his family – wife Shannon, and children Victoria, Dominik, and Nathaniel.

Ruffin was initiated into Local 12 on June 19th and he thanks DC 16, Local 12 and Ellis Flooring for helping him in his transition.

Denny came home from Korea in 1953, resumed his apprenticeship with J.J. Gilrain and married his wife Alvina. In 1955 and again in 1957 Denny went to Saudi Arabia to work for large international contractors Fluor and Bechtel. Denny then worked 22 years for Pacific Painting and Decorating, totaling 33 years as a Union Painter. Denny was the only one in his family to be a part of the Painters Union. His father, V.B. Johnson was also a Union Painter, as well as his brother Omar Johnson. Denny will be 84 years old in July with over 64 years in the IUPAT, now a member of Local 3.

Denny is passionate about woodworking, making countless pieces of furniture and projects turned on his lathe. He and Alvina have been married now for 61 years and have lived in the same house in Richmond for 55 years. They have a daughter Susan and a son-in-law Dennis Gilreath who works as an estimator for George E. Maskers Painting.
Member Spotlight

Marcus Board

Marcus Board has been a member of Local 3 and an employee of Oakland Unified School District for over six years. This year Marcus and 5 others in the entire state of California were honored as the Classified School Employees of the Year for 2014. The event was hosted by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson in Sacramento. To be eligible for consideration for this award the recipient must be a classified school employee for 5 years and a regional recommendation is made on their behalf. Then a selection committee considers all the recommendation from the State of California and chooses on recipient for each category. Marcus won in the category of Maintenance, Operations and Facilities.

When asked for comments, Marcus was very complimentary of DC16’s Training programs in particular the STAR Program Training. “DC16 has ready and available training to benefit the members, like the Supervisory Certification Training.” He is looking forward to continuing to improve his skills by attending more STAR Program Training in the near future.

District Council 16 and Local Union 3 are proud of Marcus and his accomplishment as a 2014 Classified School Employee of the Year.

Jim Morales Jr.

It is with great sadness to inform you that Local Union 718 just lost a good Union brother, a great skilled craftsman and friend to many.

Jim Morales Jr. passed away Thursday, June 5th at the age of 55. Jim became a member of our Local on June 25, 1999 and was a very active VAC member for Local 718 and District Council 16.

Jim worked for Bagatellos, Walters and Wolf and most recently with Silicon Valley Glass where he passed away while on the jobsite.

Jim was an avid outdoorsman and fisherman and demonstrated a true zest for life. All of our thoughts and prayers are extended to his family and friends.

Jim is survived by wife Suzette and seven year-old son, Jim Morales III.
2013—2014 STAR AWARDS EVENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH 2014
ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA

WATCH FOR YOUR INVITATION!

It’s time for the Big Day! With the close of the 2013-2014 STAR Year on June 30th, our staff will be mailing out invitations to the September 6th event soon thereafter. Watch for your invite in the mail. Should any member who believes they have met all eligibility requirements (see below) not receive one, please contact our office for assistance. See you there!

2014-15 STAR YEAR SCHEDULES ARE AVAILABLE
GET YOUR CLASSES IN EARLY!

Our Class Schedule for the first six months of the 2014-15 STAR Year (July through December 2014) is posted on the adjoining page, and will soon be on-line on our website (dc16star.org) and available in print at your Local Union offices. As the new training year begins we would encourage everyone to register and attend classes early to assure your eligibility in 2015. It seems that every year participants clamor to find classes at year’s end and unfortunately not all succeed. Over the course of our twelve month training year the STAR Program offers an ample number of opportunities for everyone to participate. California’s finest High Performance/High Value Craftsmen should be the first in line to upgrade and maintain their skill sets and certifications, not last in line procrastinating until class availability is suspect.

STAR EVENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Complete “Survival of the Fittest” (in this year or a prior year)
2. Complete 16 hours of STAR sponsored training
3. Have no work-related lost time accidents during the year
4. Work 500 hours for a contributing employer
5. Be in good standing with your Local Union on the date of the event
## STAR PROGRAM

### 1ST AND 2ND QUARTERS CLASS SCHEDULE

**JULY 2014 TO DECEMBER 2014**

**PLAN AHEAD** - Class Registration closes 12-days before class date.

### TRADE-SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS

**(A) – All Trades, (D) – Drywall, (F) – Floors, (G) – Glaziers, (P) – Painters**

- **Students Registering for the 8-Hour Lead Refresher Class MUST have successfully completed a State Certified 24-Hour Lead Course. The State Certification must be valid at the time of registration.**
- **Students Registering for Welding Certification 201 MUST have completed Welding Certification 101.**
- **OSHA 30 now requires 32-Hrs of Training, 8-Hrs per Day. (4 classes MUST be completed within a 6 month period)**
- **Total Station Training participants must pass each class in order (A-D) to be able to advance to the next class.**

#### THESE ARE EIGHT (8) HOUR CLASSES BEGINNING @ 6:00 AM TO 2:30 PM

All training is provided by the District Council 16 Journeyman and Apprentice Training Trust Fund

### JULY 2014

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<th>12th</th>
<th>(A) 1st Aid/CPR – SL</th>
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<td>(D) The Graco Mark 5 (Operation/ Appl.) – SL</td>
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<td>(G) Total Station A (Intro and math) – SL</td>
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<td>(A) Focus 4/Haz-Com – SL</td>
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<td>(G) Welding Certification 101 – SL</td>
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<td>(G) Rigging &amp; Hoisting “A” – SAC</td>
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<td>(P) 8 Hr Lead Refresher – SL **</td>
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<td>(P) Intro to Faux Finishes – SL</td>
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<td>(F) Cove Pattern – SL</td>
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<th>26th</th>
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<td>(P) CAS Training “A” – SL</td>
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<td>(A) Booms &amp; Lifts – SL</td>
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<td>(P) Intro to Spray Techniques – SL</td>
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<td>(F) Heat Welding – SL</td>
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<td>(G) Total Station A (Intro and math) – SL</td>
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<td>(A) Flagging and Traffic Control – SL</td>
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<td>(P) CAS Training “B” – SL</td>
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<td>(D) Drywall Textures Spray Techniques – SL</td>
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<td>(G) Total Station B (Coordinate (y-x-z) – SL</td>
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<th>23rd</th>
<th>(A) Survival of the Fittest) – SAC</th>
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<td>(This is a one-time MANDATORY class.)</td>
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<td>(P) 8 Hr Lead Refresher – SL **</td>
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<td>(P) Intro to Wall Covering – SL</td>
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### OCTOBER 2014

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<td>(P) Advanced Wall Covering – SL</td>
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<td>(F) Carpet Star Work – SL</td>
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<td>(G) Welding Certification 201 (PRACTICE) – SL</td>
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### DECEMBER 2014

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### 13th
The Annual Women Building California and the Nation Conference has nearly doubled in participation in just the last couple of years to nearly 1,000 women and their supporters from the United States, Canada and Australia. IUPAT General President Ken Rigmaiden answered questions related to promoting and advancing Women’s interests in our trades and the Building Trades in general.
The District Council 16 VAC has been active in the category of Union Promotion by participating in the Cesar Chavez and the St. Patrick’s Day Parades in San Francisco. These are great family events and we keep growing our number of participants each year. This year we were joined by a Local from our sister Council DC 36. They are Sign and Display Local 510 from San Francisco.

Members of DC 16 Local 487 along with City-Year Volunteers donated their time and talent to beautify underserved schools in the Sacramento area, and were able to work right alongside the students on this project.
Council News

A film crew was sent by the International to gather footage for the General Convention in August. We organized a schedule to visit many of the sites featured in this issue of The Pride Magazine. We also shot video and still photos at the San Leandro Training Facility and Treasure Island Job Corps pictured below.

The photos below were received from various sources and are identified by row starting from the top, left to right. Row 1: Meeting with Congressman John Garamendi; Golden Gate Bridge Protest; Floorcovering Fishing Trip. Row 2: Toilet Paper Run; George E. Masker Crew at Clay Bank Project; San Jose Cesar Chavez Parade. Row 3: PATCH Donation; Local 12 members working for Ellis Flooring; Madera Courthouse; VAC-Ken Cooley.
The corporate controlled media propagates the “Why Unions?” in this day and age and millions of workers across this nation repeat it as it was gospel. They say Unions were needed then but there is no reason why we need them today, (Really?). In this article I will use statistics as to why Unions are not only needed but critical for the wellbeing of workers in this country.

Income inequality in the United States has grown exponentially since the early 70’s and this gap has coincided with the decline of Union membership and the Right to Starve Movement, better known as the “Right to Work” by the image makers of Madison Avenue. The United States has the widest gap of income inequality than all other developed nations as measured by the International standard of “GINI coefficient”. The funny thing is, that most developed nations have higher Union participation as a percentage of the workforce than the United States.

Domestically a “Right to Work” state, like Texas, has the biggest income inequality and Maine has the smallest. So could it be that Maine with higher Union density and more progressive state taxes could be the difference?

A 2011 study by the Congressional Budget Office found that the top 1% of households in the nation increased their income by 275% after taxes between 1979 and 2007. Compare that to a gain of less than 40% for middle income Americans, not to mention zero gains by the poorest of our citizens.

In 2012 the gap between the richest 1% and 99%, which is the rest of the population, was the widest since the 1920’s and the trend continues. We are told by those in the corporate media that have gained the most, that workers no longer need Unions and even some Union members repeat the mantra.

In 1915, an era in which the Rockefellers and Carnegies dominated American industry, the richest 1% of Americans earned roughly 18% of all income. By 2007, the top 1% account for 24% of all income and now, in 2014, it is even greater.

In between the crash of Wall Street in 1929 and the late 60’s this country saw the biggest increase of workers struggling and fighting, giving their very lives to form and join Unions and with that increase the lowest inequality in income this country has ever enjoyed.

The numbers speak for themselves and refute the concerted attack of the corporate dominated media that Unions are no longer necessary. I have to admit that the corporate image makers have done an astounding job of erasing the heroic struggles of working class heroes all over this country that sacrificed everything and went into harm’s way to build, join and operate the instruments of class struggle better known as Unions.

I can go on with many other statistics that negate the propaganda of corporate power but that would make a much longer article.

United We Stand and Divided We Fall and an Injury to One is an Injury to ALL.....
Members enjoy great wages and benefits as well as job protection. The recent increases negotiated by District Council in wages and benefits, reflect the advantages of being Union.

Many of Union members have friends who don’t have the advantage of Unions on construction job sites. You should remind them of the advantages of being Union. You can point out our website where they can obtain copies and see the great benefits of being Union.

Members should also remind them that State law does offer some protection to them. Among the important points are:

• The right to be paid time and a half after eight hours for all hours worked.
• The right to be paid overtime even if the worker is earning a piece rate.
• The right to be paid from where the worker is first required to show up whether it is the job site or a shop and also be paid for the time it takes to get back to the shop before going home.

But the right to a 30 minute uninterrupted meal period before the beginning of the sixth hour, and a second one after the tenth hour.
• The right to a rest break during the first four hours, a second rest break during the second four hours, which are also paid. A third rest break is required after the tenth hour.
• No employer can make a construction worker bring his own tools. On a construction site, the employees may, if they choose, bring their own tools only if they make twice the minimum wage.

“Members enjoy great wages and benefits as well as job protection.”

• The minimum wage in California now effective July 1 is $9.00 an hour.
• The employer must pay for all costs incurred by employees such as car or truck expense in driving from the shop to the job.
• If uniforms are required, they must be provided and maintained by the employer.
• The right to be paid the prevailing wage on all state or local prevailing wage jobs.
• The right to talk about working conditions on non-union job sites and talk with other workers about what to do including joining a Union.
• The right to be free from harassment of any kind because of a person’s race, age, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, and other protected activities.
• The right to take time off for Family and Medical Leave Act benefits if the employee meets certain hours requirements.

Members should help non-union workers learn their rights because when employers cheat they undermine our good Union contractors. For more information about many of these rights, go to the Department of Industrial Relations website at www.dir.ca.gov or contact your business representative.

David Rosenfeld
Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We are midway through 2014 and in the process of negotiating the Northern California Painters Master Agreement. Painting and Drywall hours are up and hopefully keep increasing as the year continues and with it behind us the “Great Recession” that left so many of our members without the ability to make a living and many had to leave the industry altogether.

By the time this article is in print the June Primary results will be available and the November elections will be heating up. In Oakland the race for Mayor and Districts 2 and 4 will be crucial in our ability to negotiate a city wide PLA and to also build a new stadium for the A’s at Howard Terminal by the Estuary and for the proposed Coliseum City project to take off. The Brooklyn Basin and Oakland Logistic Center projects (both PLA’s) are in the underground/horizontal stages and moving forward so that in about a year we can have our finishing crafts performing in those high profile PLA’s. Summer is here and with it Public Schools related construction that provides needed hours for our Painters and Drywall Finishers.

I want to thank the members that took the time to show up and voted to send Local 3 Delegates to our General Convention in Florida in August and also those that gave me and the Council Leadership a vote of confidence for another 4 years. There are going to be many VAC events leading up to the November elections so please participate and be active in the life of your Union.

I hope all of you will make an effort to attend our Local meetings that are held on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 P.M. located at 2020 Williams Street, San Leandro, CA.

In Solidarity,

Jazy Bonilla
District Council 16
Painters & Allied Trades
Local 3

Brothers and Sisters of Local 12,

Here we are entering the summer months and work sure is plentiful. I’ve been seeing steady and numerous overtime permit requests from a wide range of contractors. Out in the field, there are large projects popping up all over Santa Clara, San Mateo and San Francisco counties. Even Southern Alameda is getting in on the action. As we have been stating in the meetings, it looks like we will hit our target hours to trigger the release of our deferred wage raises. If that comes to pass, we will be renegotiating our Master Agreement prior to June 30, 2015.

As I have stated before, this is a national election year, and already in the California Primaries there was a record low turnout! Not good. Brothers and Sisters I tell you that you all need to register to vote, and actually get out there and vote. We even had a VAC event to call and implore our members to register and vote! Don’t do it because we tell you to, but instead because it is vital to get folks elected that represent our interests in the Labor Movement. Getting our politicians elected is what will keep us working! I’ve said it before, all construction projects and the conditions under which they will be built, starts and gets the green light in the political arena.

And finally, I recently attended a convention for Women in the Building Trades in Sacramento. I was so impressed at the energy, enthusiasm, and positive outlook by the women that toil in our trades! There is a solid future for them in this and other industries! We really need to reach out and recruit more women so that we can tap into their skills, demeanor, and enthusiasm. I truly believe it will have a positive effect on our working conditions, wages, and benefits. I’m so proud of how far they have come, and how much they have overcome to get where they are today.

Fraternally,

Gene Hopkins
Business Representative
Local Union 12
District Council 16
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this letter finds you all well. As I’m sure you all know we are Very Busy! With more and more projects underway and new projects being developed, it is a very fruitful time to live and work in the Bay Area. With that being said, it is vital to our survival to keep our training certifications to the highest level. I hope that each and every one of you will utilize our STAR program for not only keeping your safety certifications up-to-date, but to also refine your skills with our journeyman upgrading classes. I am also happy to report that, Local 83 has signed up 30 new members in the last six months, while our out of work list stays at next to zero. Also I am proud to announce that we have a new drywall finishing shop in the North Bay, West Coast Drywall out of Santa Rosa.

I would like to take a moment to speak to all of you about our Volunteer Activists Committee. As we become more and more active in our community we require more and more volunteers. The Sonoma County Fair and the Petaluma Veterans Parade are just a couple of upcoming events here in the North Bay, not to mention the numerous labor donation events that we host all around Sonoma and Marin County. So I urge you to get involved! Not only does it warm your heart to help someone in need, but you just might change someone’s perception of the Union.

Work hard and work safe and we’ll see you at the next Union meeting.

Local meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6 P.M.

Joe Upchurch
Business Representative
DC 16 Glaziers Local 169

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I expect that by the time you read this our Out Of Work list will be empty and the long awaited busy season will finally be here. Please remember to look out for your Brothers and Sisters on the job site as we get busy and the project schedules get tighter. It is more important than ever to make sure everyone is working safely and gets home to their loved ones at the end of every day.

If you have friends or family that is interested in pursuing a construction career, this is the ideal time to get started. It is also an extraordinary opportunity for anyone you know working without a Union contract to get on board and start earning a real living.

We have just completed our work on the Primary Elections and were very successful everywhere we focused our efforts. Please give the VAC your support as we go into the Fall General Elections. When we have good politicians in office to work with we can all enjoy a better standard of living.

We have a $1 Billion project coming up in Oakland with a Project Labor Agreement in place to guarantee that all of the work will be done by Union craftspeople. This is because we have a good friend, Mayor Jean Quan, who championed this cause on behalf of the Building Trades. So many of you drive past Oakland every day to work further out and how pleasant it will be to work closer to your homes.

I would like to thank all the members and their families who joined us for our Member Appreciation Barbecue on June 7th. The feedback was so positive that we would like to make this an annual event and congratulations to all the members that won a prize in the raffle.

In closing I would like to remind everyone that our Local Union meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6 P.M.

Work Hard, Work Smart, Work Safely!

Matt Egan
Business Representative
District Council 16
Hello again Brothers of Local 272,

At this time work is picking up and the outlook is good. With not only our local contractors but we are also seeing more of the “Bay Area” contractors. There are going to be great opportunities for increased work hours coming to those who are willing to commute to the Silicon Valley.

With the upcoming work situations, I need your names on the out of work list. If your name is not on the out of work list, how else would I know if you’re available for work? For those of you out there working, remember, always sign time cards, keep a small personal work log and I cannot stress this enough, keep ALL of your check stubs. By the time you read this article, we should have a new contract in place for the Painters, and I’ll highlight/discuss any changes in the next issue of the Pride.

For all of you, I hope you and your families have a safe summer. I’ll leave you with this little reminder of what “our” upcoming holiday is about.

Most of us think of the upcoming Labor Day holiday as the symbolic end of summer. A long weekend in which some will go to the beach, camping, skiing or just spend a quiet long weekend at home with their family. For us, Union crafts people, Labor Day should be the most important holiday of all. I’d like to share the reason for this day.

Labor Day is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country. It is appropriate that we, as Union members, pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation’s strength, freedom, and leadership – ourselves, the American worker.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at a Union meeting.

Fraternally,
John Papa
Local Union 272

Dear Members,

Let me start by thanking you for recently electing via acclamation BM/ST Chris Christophersen, myself and all other District Council 16 Business Representatives. In my opinion there is no greater thank you that the membership can give then to elect its leadership unopposed. I am confident in saying that each one of us look forward to following BM/ST Christophersen, to continue to find ways to create more hours for the members of DC 16.

On May 6th, 2014 at Local Union 294’s regular Union meeting, members Frank Salinas, Gustavo Garcia and Ralph Ornelas were nominated and elected by acclamation as Delegates to District Council 16. As per Local 294 by-laws, I will also serve as an automatic Delegate to District Council 16. Also Juan Rosales and I were nominated and elected by acclamation to serve as Local Union 294’s Delegates to the 31st General Convention of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, to be held in Orlando, Florida the week of August 11th through August 15th, 2014. We will be reporting out on the General Convention at our regular Union meeting in September 2014. I would like to thank the aforementioned members for stepping up and becoming more active in their Union and would encourage others to do the same!

As I am writing this letter it is 109 degrees outside and I am positive some of you are out in the heat doing your best to perform at a High Performance/ High Value level. Please take precautions while working in the heat. Stay hydrated, wear a long sleeve shirt or at least keep sunblock on! Heat exhaustion, heat stroke and skin cancer are nothing to mess with and can be prevented.

In closing I would like to remind everyone to keep an eye on the STAR program’s training schedule. Remember you may not be a Foreman or Leadman on a project without first completing SCT1 and SCT2. The new schedule will be coming out in July, make sure all of your certs are up to date!

In Unity,
Jeff Roberts
Business Representative
DC16/LU294
Greetings to all of our Members at Local 376 and District Council 16,

It has been a busy year thus far. There have been some large projects in our area that have been predominately or entirely Union jobs that have kept many of our members busy with work. I am steadily working with our Building Trades here in Napa and Solano counties as well as with our newly joined CLC (Central Labor Council) to produce more Project Labor Agreements within our area. I am also working with local politicians to get laws passed to bring more work for our membership, such as Senate Bill 54 which was recently passed and is currently bringing more hours.

I would like to thank everyone who has been showing up to our Local meetings and getting involved. We have many members wanting to get involved with the Local and our efforts to bring more work to the area. Please get involved with our VAC (Volunteer Activist Committee), which can put us more in touch within our communities. Let us know if you have an idea for a VAC event that would help out in your community. All family and friends are welcome to participate and will be invited to the banquet after three events have been made, it would be great to see you there.

We would like to continue to see growing participation at our Local meetings that are held every second Wednesday of every month at 6 P.M. Our participation is growing month by month which really brings members closer. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Located at 404 Nebraska Street, Vallejo, CA.

Respectfully,

Troy Notrangelo
Business Representative
DC16 / Local Union 376
Painters & Drywall Finishers

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this article we are in contract negotiations for the Sacramento Addendum to the Painters Master Agreement, and I hope that by the time you receive this edition of the Pride we will have a new contract focusing on mutual gains and our common interests. During the term of this agreement it will be necessary to increase our contribution to our Painter’s Market Recovery Program so that our area employers can compete for local projects. There are way too many jobs in the Chico, Marysville, Sacramento, Stockton and Modesto areas being awarded to our non-union competitors. Painters we must think strategically and fund our most successful and important programs at a level that can make a bigger difference in our market share.

Recently Local 487 members once again stepped up on short notice and helped the students and volunteers complete a community project at Rosa Parks Middle School. I want to recognize and thank Harry Heinz, John Leach, John Oeshner, Mike Panell, Bryan Tapp and his wife Tina, along with Tom Herlache of Herlache and Sons Painting for getting the job done and having fun doing it.

The Coffee Building Group based in Placerville and formally W.F. Hayward has completed their ownership transition and is actively performing drywall work across District Council 16’s jurisdiction. It was an absolute pleasure to work with owner Tom Coffee and his team through this change.

The State wide Primary Election was held on June 3rd and our Sacramento Staff spent the weekends leading up to the election putting up signs and campaigning for Labor supported candidates throughout our area. In many of the races the two top vote getters from the Primary Election will be fighting it out in the November General Election, in what will be some very tough races. We will need volunteers to phone bank and walk precincts for our Building Trades and Central Labor Councils, and so I ask, what can you do for your Union this year? Get involved!

Steven L. Caster
Business Representative
DC 16 Local Union 487
Brothers and Sisters of Local 567,

First I wish to thank you all for re-electing me as your Business Representative. Serving you, the members, has truly been the most challenging and satisfying job I have ever had. I am honored by your unwavering support.

The work picture continues to look good. We have written fifty-four work referrals in the months of April and May combined. Most of these work referrals were for drywall finishers, which usually means, the painting and floor covering jobs should increase soon as well. We also expect that the drywall contractor doing the next phase of the Apple project, will start calling drywall finishers out in July. With all of the work on our contractor’s books, it looks to be a much better year.

I am pleased to report to you that your help on recent organizing campaigns has led to more work opportunities for some of our members. In my last Pride Article, I wrote about pickets at the Peppermill. Russ carried out a strategy of escalation that concluded with banners in front of the casino. We were subsequently able to work out our differences with all parties involved, resulting in Platinum Floors becoming a partner with District Council 16 in the flooring industry. J.E. Simas Floors, Inc. also received its contractor’s license about the same time and signed our agreement. We wish to welcome both of these companies and their employees into our great Union. We know our partnership will be good for all of us.

Finally, we have the best opportunity ever to change the political dynamics in the city of Reno. Several of the worker/Union hating council members are termed out. The Good-ol’-Boys who love the status quo are running scared. We will be having many VAC events to support our friends running for Reno offices until Election Day in November. What’s the best way to be notified of upcoming VAC events? Download the new BHeard app on your Smartphone to receive the most detailed event notices in real time!

Fraternally,

Todd Koch
Regional Director

Members of Local 507,

I have an announcement to make to all Local 507 members. Starting towards the end of June, I am no longer going to be your business representative. I will transition to working with the Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer. I will be working under his direction. Jose Espinosa will be your new business representative. Let me say thank you to the members of Painters and Tapers Local 507 for the opportunity you gave me to be your business representative for the last ten years. It was not easy for me to deal with all the issues and time demands, but it has been a privilege and an honor to help my Local improve to where we are today.

We are the most active in the VAC program two years in a row. We have grown our membership to 10% of District Council 16’s membership. We have grown to a Local where the assets have allowed us to help District Council 16, Local 12 and Local 1621 purchase our own San Jose building. With all of your support, we will continue to grow.

It is now the job of our executive board and Jose Espinosa to work with the other Locals and the District Council to move our Local into the future and continue our positive growth. Jose Espinosa has been our VAC coordinator. Local 507 is in need of a capable member to step up and take this voluntary position and ensure our VAC future.

The work future is positive and we need to be keeping up with our STAR training. The upcoming projects will be demanding OSHA 30, SCT-1, SCT-2, Haz Com, and other certifications. Keep up your skills to be ready for the up and coming work opportunities.

Jose Espinosa
Business Representative

James Hewett
Regional Director DC 16 IUPAT
Painters & Tapers Local 507
2149 Oakland Rd.
San Jose, CA 95131
(408) 824-1280
Local Union News

Brothers and Sisters of Local 718 and DC 16,

If you have been into San Francisco lately you might be as amazed as I am at the amount of projects coming out of the ground, just breaking ground and pieces of land that are being cleared away of old buildings to make way for new apartments, office towers, hospitals and major public projects. In San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee addressed a call for 30,000 homes to be built or rehabilitated over the next six years. According to the city, more than 10,000 housing units are currently under construction or are holding building permits ready to be built. Another 12,000 units are in the permitting pipeline, with an additional 25,000 units part of already adopted development plans.

It is very important to report that we are actively working with the San Francisco Building Trades on multiple Project Labor Agreements (PLA’s) with developers, redevelopment agencies, and with the city and county of San Francisco.

We should have our hours report for July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 by the end of August. To recap our benchmark per contract year is 2,450,000 hours and $1.50 per hour increase in total package. To date, we currently have $2.50 held in deferment with another $1.50 coming January 1, 2015; less the known $0.75 to our pension, and H&W to be determined. Our hours report at the halfway point reflected we were up 137,000 hours going into the 3rd & 4th fiscal quarter. It was also reported our hours at the end of March were at 75% of our contract target and were on track to meeting the hours required to release monies being held in deferral. We all should start thinking about where we would like to see that money allocated should we hit our mark.

As always we must stay focused on our future, our training, our safety, and having current certifications is essential in today’s Construction Industry. The best way to predict the future is to become part of it.

Respectfully,

Madison Hull
Business Representative
District Council 16
Glaziers Local 718

Brothers and Sisters,

Last year, Senate Bill 54 was signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown. This bill turned all petroleum refineries in the state of California to pay prevailing wages to all employees on the project. It also enacted apprenticeship standards which means 20% of the workforce on these projects must be state certified apprentices (Union Apprentices).

Senate Bill 54 was enacted due to safety concerns within the petroleum refineries and the Governor say the advantages of the training that is provided with Union contractors and the higher safety standards that Union members often have. This bill requires the entire workforce to continually take safety training and upgrade their skills.

Safety classes are always available through the STAR program and CAS training is also available to all of our members. CAS certification is becoming required on many projects. Refineries, water districts and treatment plants are implementing SSPC, QP1 and QP2 requirements to bid on many of the upcoming projects. These projects require 25% of the workforce to be CAS certified this year and 50% certified next year. We must all take it upon ourselves to get these certifications and continue to elevate our skills to keep our contractors competitive and ourselves working throughout the year. For any more information on any of these items, please contact me at the hall or sign up for the classes through the STAR program.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe on the project you are working on.

Regards,

Robert A. Williams III
Business Representative
DC 16/LU 741
Brothers and Sisters,

As the summer starts to heat up so will the work in District Council 16’s jurisdiction. The Yolo Court House has already started and we hope to have 10 to 15 members on this project by July. The glazing contractor on this project is Center Glass 3 and we would like to welcome them back into the area. The Arena project is scheduled to start Phase 1 of demolition this month with this project scheduled for glazing bids in July. Royal Glass has a project at Chico State expected to start mid-July.

We have had a busy political season going through the Primary Elections and we will have a little break before the General Election in November. The elections will create lots of opportunities for VAC events so please get involved. We will be hosting a Candidates Night in late summer. As soon as we get a firm date we will send out the date and time. September 20, 2014 we will have a VAC event for the Sacramento River Clean-Up.

Chris Christophersen was nominated without challenge and declared elected by acclamation as Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer of District Council 16. I was nominated without challenge and declared elected by acclamation as Business Representative Local 767 District Council 16. Delegates to District Council 16 for Local 767 are, Mike Greenlee Sr., Jennifer Sanchez, Ben Petersen and I. We would like to welcome the new delegates and we look forward to representing and informing the membership.

The IUPAT General Convention will be held this year in August in Orlando, Florida. The election of our General Officers will take place along with any changes to the IUPAT Constitution to be voted on by the delegates. We will be re-writing our Local by-laws next year so we will have to form a By-laws Committee.

In closing it is very important to remember the Brothers we lost last year. These members have paved the way for the Glazing Industry. Please be safe and I hope you have a great summer!

Fraternally,

John Tweedt
Business Representative
District Council 16 Local 767

Hello to all the members of DC 16,

In recent months, some of our fellow Locals have had their members die tragically on the job. As a result of the frequency in these incidences, I am strongly urging every member to please take advantage of the SMART CHOICES/HEALTHY REWARDS health plan initiative which allows you to do a blood screening to determine if you have any current or pending medical issues. Even if you have Blue Cross/PPO, you should still have your blood work screened. The members of District Council 16, are not only comprised of skilled, competent workers, but also healthy ones. Your Union wants to see you thrive in your career, and one way to ensure that, is to be healthy.

CONTACT THE TRUST FUND FOR MORE INFORMATION. 1-800-922-9902

The work picture continues to remain slow, although I believe, the demand for painters and drywall finishers will pick-up soon. Continue to network and pursue all possible leads. You are the best resource in proving your worth to an employer.

Hopefully, by the time you receive this article, contract negotiations will have successfully concluded and District Council 16 and its members will have a new three year contract. I trust you attended your Local Union meetings to stay informed on pertinent issues of concern that are important to all of us. It is my collaboration with you, that helps to make this process positive, effective and beneficial for all Union members. If a strike does occur, it is my hope that each of you will do your part to be supportive.

Each member should have received a notice that the regular Union meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 2, 2014, has been cancelled. I hope each member has a safe and enjoyable 4th of July holiday. As always, I strongly urge each of you to attend our regular Local meetings.

Fraternally,

James Ruigomez
Regional Director
District Council 16
Local Union 913

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Fraternally,

James Ruigomez
Regional Director
District Council 16
Local Union 913
Dear Members,

Recently during the course of a Union meeting, a member asked what is the objective of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades/District Council and how does the membership benefit; the following is the preamble quoted from the IUPAT Constitution.

Preamble:
We the members of District Councils and Local Unions affiliated with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades believing that organization and collective action is necessary to foster and adopt ways and means for the continuous improvement of the working and living standards of the members of this International Union; to secure legislation in the interests of our members; to bring about higher wages, shorter hours and better working conditions for them; to influence public opinion by peaceful and legal methods in favor of our affiliated organizations and all organized labor generally; to promote, encourage and bring into existence satisfactory contractual relationships with employers in the industries from which the members of our affiliates are drawn; to advance and maintain better relations between our members and their employers; and to otherwise enrich the lives of our members and their families, all other working men and women, and all mankind—do hereby formulate and adopt Constitution for our guidance and government.

In August to put together proposals, just as a reminder to the members working there, you all are aware that the company has been laying off a lot of workers within the last couple of months. We are down to maybe 40 members from 125, so please be aware that it is going to be a fight getting a new agreement.

As you know the IUPAT General Convention comes every five years, so this is the year we will be meeting in August. This meeting is where all District Councils/Local Unions meet to make changes to the Constitution if needed, General Executive Board Election, and upcoming changes the International has in the near future. I will keep you informed of all the meetings.

Kelly Moore contract will expire Oct 1st, we will be meeting in August to put together proposals, just as a reminder to the members working there, you all are aware that the company has been laying off a lot of workers within the last couple of months. We are down to maybe 40 members from 125, so please be aware that it is going to be a fight getting a new agreement.

On behalf of Local 1237, we wish BM/ST Chris Christophersen and all the Business Representatives of District Council 16 another productive four years.

Vince Echeverria
Regional Director
District Council 16/Local 1237
Members of Local 1621,

It is time to get out and participate actively in our Volunteer Activist Committee. We here at 1621 have requested and received many checks for Patch Funds and now it is time for us to give back. Your assistance with volunteering for phone banks, precinct walks, lawn sign postings, etc. is much appreciated and needed. With all of the political issues that we face, such as health care costs and the high cost of living here in the Bay Area, getting involved with your VAC is one of the smartest things you can do for your own personal bottom line.

Anyone can submit their own request for a VAC event. If you have a need in your community that you would like members to assist with, contact me and I will assist you in obtaining a VAC event approval from DC 16.

Some examples of other events could be assisting the Children’s Shelter with painting or remodeling – visiting retired members and helping with chores – think about what your community needs and let us all help! You may learn about this and upcoming events on our DC 16 website-www.dc16iupat.org. I want to thank all of our members again who have actively participated and supported our VAC.

Work is slowly continuing to be on the rise. Currently, we have a total of 20 members on our out of work list. The work picture is looking extremely busy for the upcoming months. If you are currently out of work, this is the perfect opportunity for you to take advantage of our DC 16 STAR program and advance your skills to obtain High Performance/High Value for your employers. Certifications are needed on most job sites – classes are ongoing and you may view schedules on the website at www.dc16star.org.

Reminder that the new address for our office is 2149 Oakland Road, San Jose, CA 95131 and the phone number is 408-824-1280. Our Union meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 P.M. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Brett Davis
Business Representative
DC16 Local 1621

Editors Notes:

We are proud to feature for the first time in *The Pride* Magazine DC 16 Floor Covering Local 12 and Local 1237 members working for FieldTurf. These shots were taken out at Carmel High School.

These highly skilled members install synthetic turf all over Northern California and are a perfect example of High Performance/High Value.

Mike West