

# Local 344

UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES  
OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY

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October 2013

To All Members of Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 344

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

### Member Deaths

Brother **Elmer W. Stephens**, Membership No. 654443, died 9/14/13. He was a Retired Plumber and Life Member.

Brother **John Gentry**, Membership No. 566850, died 9/17/13. He was a Retired Plumber and Life Member.

We wish to extend our sincere sympathy to the families of our Brothers.

### Special Vote on Local Union Death Benefit

At the November 4, 2013 Membership Meeting, we will be voting to pay the life insurance premium for each and every member of Local 344 from the General Fund. If passed, this will mean that the Union will pay all costs and/or premiums until October 2014, and no death assessments will be charged.

### By-Laws

We will be reading, discussing and voting on the proposed changes to our By-Laws at the Regular Membership Meeting on November 4, 2013. Please plan to attend and cast your vote.

### Local 344 Annual Picnic

We had a record turnout for our picnic this year. The weather was perfect and everyone seemed to have a great time. 157 of our members and dependents took advantage of the free flu shots.

Thanks to all the Apprentice volunteers. You did an outstanding job!

### Final 2013 Personal Health Assessments

Personal Health Assessments for members and spouses eligible on the PP344 Health Insurance are scheduled as follows:

**Date:** Saturday, December 7, 2013  
**Time:** 7:00 am to 11:00 am  
**Location:** Local 344 Meeting Hall, 4335 SW 44<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City

You **MUST** call and schedule your Personal Health Assessment. Please call 1-800-993-8244.  
**Deadline to schedule will be Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Please note: This is a make-up day. If you have already received your Personal Health Assessment in 2013, please do not schedule another assessment.**

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*"Unionism has helped to give to everyone who toils the position of dignity which is his due"*

## Scholarships

**Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 344 Scholarships**. We will be awarding ten \$1,000 college scholarships for the 2013 Fall Semester. Please see the enclosed eligibility rules for information on the application process.

**2013-2014 Western Oklahoma Building Trades Scholarship**. Local 344 members and their dependents are eligible to participate in this scholarship. The application is available at the following website: [www.occf.org/scholarshipcenter](http://www.occf.org/scholarshipcenter). Deadline to apply is October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Save the Date - Children's Christmas Party**

Mark your calendar - the Children's Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Details will be mailed in November.

### **Unlimited Mechanical License Exam Prep Course**

A course designed to prepare students to sit for the Unlimited Mechanical License state exam will begin Tuesday, October 29 and continue every Tuesday evening for eight weeks. Classes will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Local 344 Training Center.

### **Boiler Technician Class**

A Boiler Technician class will be offered at the Training Center this winter.

### **OSHA 10 Certification Course Required by July 1, 2014**

As per the Local 344 collective bargaining agreement, all members will be required to obtain an OSHA 10 certification by July 1, 2014 in order to continue working in the field. Classes are currently being offered through the Training Center.

### **Code Update Classes Required to Re-new State License**

Mechanical and Plumbing Code Update classes will be offered at the Training Center beginning late fall or early winter. Effective July 1, 2014, these classes are necessary in order to renew your state licenses through the Oklahoma Construction Industries Board.

### **Medical Gas Code Update for Re-Certification**

Please check your records for the expiration date of your Medical Gas System Installation Certification. If your certification expires within the next six (6) months, you will need to complete a course to re-certify in order to continue to work with **Medical Gas Systems**.

NOTE: If you are interested in participating in any of the above-mentioned classes, please contact the Local 344 Training Center (405-632-5629) or go to the website at [www.plumbersandpipefitters.com](http://www.plumbersandpipefitters.com) (UserID: 344member, Password: local344jafc) to complete an application online at your earliest convenience. The necessary **paperwork must be completed** prior to the first class meeting in order to ensure that all necessary materials are available.

Fraternally,



Darren D. Jones  
Business Manager

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opeiu381afl-cio  
10/14/13



**Eligibility Rules**  
**Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union No. 344**  
**Scholarship Fund**

Education is foremost for young people to realize their goals in life. Also, praise and encouragement is due to those raising families who have decided to return to school and earn higher degrees. The membership of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 344 wishes to encourage all students to work hard toward whatever their career goals may be. Therefore, they have generously given their permission to award ten \$1,000 scholarships for the 2013 fall semester.

Local 344 members, their spouses, sons and daughters who are **full-time students** (12 hours or more) and are completing the fall 2013 semester at an accredited college/university are eligible. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible.

**Application requests must be in writing.** Students may apply by stating in their written request, the college/university they are attending and the 2013 fall semester completion date. **Written requests must be postmarked by Friday, December 27, 2013.**

Application forms will be mailed to the address the student has provided. **The forms must be filled out and postmarked by Friday, February 7, 2014. The applicant will automatically be disqualified if all information is not included.** Specific instructions will be mailed with requested scholarship application.

Winners will be notified by letter, following final selection, to the address provided on the application.