

Dear Brothers/Sisters:

As summer nears it's end and the kids head back to school, I hope everyone was able to take some time away from the busy work load to enjoy your families and yourselves a little.

Work still remains busy, but seems to have slowed just a bit.

On the political front, we are still working on the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act, S582 and HR1742 in Washington DC. This important legislation would allow a property owner who retrofitted their facility to write this capital improvement off of their taxes over five years instead of the current thirty year period. As you can see, this would be a huge incentive for a property owner to upgrade their facility.

Hopefully, those of you that are working with our new apprentices that started in late August are taking the time to insure that these new members understand the dangers of being on a construction site and how to be productive while being safe.

At the Training Center, we are continuing to add new Up-Grade Classes and opportunities for our members. We all know that the general contractors and developers are requiring more and more training certifications. Please take advantage of the courses being offered here.

I am happy to report that our Welding Department recently had several members take the UA 70 Hanger and Plate Test for certification. This is a great tool to possess and of course can be built upon to achieve other Welding Certifications.

Finally, I am sad to report that former Business Agent/Organizer, Dennis Cummings passed away in August. I know his untimely death was a blow to his family and friends and our thoughts go out to them all.

Work Safe,

STAN SMITH  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary