

PIPELINERS UNION 798

January/February 2018

# Blue Light Reports

Volume LIII Number 1

[www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org)

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**ADVOCATE FOR  
YOUR  
FUTURE**

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**Please visit the  
Local 798 Web Site at  
[www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org)  
for updated pre-job  
information**

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. 2017 just flew by and the work was fantastic with man-hours exceeding over 11 million. By all accounts 2018 looks to be even bigger! Local 798 and its members have been truly blessed.

2018 Steward School is just around the corner. We will kick off the week with our annual charity golf tournament on Monday, April 9, 2018. Lincoln Electric will host a BBQ on Tuesday, April 10, at the Local 798 Training Center. Steward School officially runs from Wednesday, April 11, through Friday, April 13, concluding around noon with a shrimp and crawfish boil hosted by Miller Electric at the 798 Training Center. Make your plans early to attend as rooms at the Renaissance Hotel fill up quickly.

At the end of November, TransCanada invited all four crafts to a meeting in Chicago. Also included was the UA Pipeline Department, along with six contractors. The theme of the meeting was safety and skilled manpower for work in 2018 and beyond. TransCanada was ecstatic that all four crafts not only showed up on such short notice, but enthusiastically engaged in the process. For many generations, we have met with clients and contractors, but always separately. What made this meeting historical and revolutionary was that all entities were in the same room to problem solve for a future project. The significance of that one event solidifies in my mind that we have been on the right track for many years now by partnering and advocating out front for the client's projects.

I know I sound like a broken record, but advocacy is working, and we need to double our efforts in the future. When you see an e-mail from Local 798, take a minute or two to take the action we are requesting. A few minutes of your time today to show support for a project could very well provide you and your family with a more secure future in the pipeline industry. I love a good old -fashioned picket line, but the truth is it hasn't provided us with a single man-hour in decades. Advocating is the key to better relations and more union projects. We are the best pipeline constructors in the world. Let's also be the best advocates for energy infrastructure to be built the right way, using Union Labor!

Department of Transportation regulations govern our drug testing in the pipeline industry. Beginning January 1, 2018, semi-synthetic opioids will be included. Please pay special attention to the Dispatcher's report that will give you a little more detail. Many of the medications that are prescribed for pain management will appear in this new testing.

The work outlook could very well be record setting. Some of the major projects that should be built in 2018 include: Atlantic Coast Pipeline, 580 miles of 20", 36", 42"; Atlantic Sunrise, 192 miles of 36"; Nexus, 250 miles of 36"; Penn-East, 114 miles of 36"; Northern Access, 97 miles of 24"; Pilgrim, 178 miles of 16' and 178 miles of 20"; Midship (Cheniere), 200 miles of 30" or 36"; and Driftwood, 96 miles of 36" and 42".

Many of the projects that will be built this year and into the future don't have fancy names, and are smaller by miles and diameter, but they are the bread and butter for man-hours just as well. As always, I am proud to say, *"I work for you, the greatest pipeliners in the world."*

Fraternally,



Daniel C. Hendrix  
Business Manager



Enbridge Line 3 Meetings - Duluth, MN



**UNION 798**  
UNITED ASSOCIATION

AFFILIATED A. F. L. - C. I. O.



January 12, 2018

Officers and Members  
Pipeliners Local Union 798  
PO Box 470798  
Tulsa, OK 74147-0798

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

After much thought and consideration, I hereby tender my resignation as Financial Secretary-Treasurer of Local Union 798 effective January 12, 2018. I would like to thank Danny Hendrix, David Barnett, along with the Officers and membership of Local Union 798, for providing me with the opportunity to serve as Financial Secretary-Treasurer for the past six years. You saw something in me that I had not dreamed could be possible. It has been an honor to work for our members, and it is truly the highlight of my career. As with any position I ever accepted, it was always my desire to make as many improvements as I could, and I hope my efforts received your approval. I know in my heart this great Local will continue to grow, and forge a path for other unions to emulate.

I would like to thank the Officers, Business Agents, Organizers, and the office staff for the support they have given me, because they are truly a remarkable group of individuals. I would like to thank everyone I had the pleasure to work with these past 37 years, but I would like to mention two men who molded my work ethic. The first man is my Dad, Travis Pilgreen; he was a Helper and Operator for many years, and he could out work anyone. I watched him lead by example, and he was always willing to help others in need. He could not be a Welder due an accident as a young boy that left him blind in one eye, but he never let this fact slow him down. I was present the day he was tragically killed in a work-related accident, and a little part of me died with him that day. I always told him I would work hard and save my money, so I could retire when I was fifty-five. I am keeping my promise to him.

The second man who had a great influence on my life was my father-in-law Tommy Crabtree. He was such a quiet and gentle man who led by example, and he showed me you do not have to be the fastest Welder, just the most consistent. He was slow to anger and discovered the good in everyone. If at the end of my life, I could be half the man these two great men were, I will have considered my life a success.

In closing, it has been my pleasure to serve this great Local, and I am humbled by all the well wishes I have received. I am merely retiring from this position, but as always if I can be of an assistance do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Wade Pilgreen

**WADE PILGREEN:  
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT!  
WE WISH YOU MORE OF  
WHAT YOU LOVE THE MOST.  
LOCAL 798 OFFICE STAFF**



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to start by wishing all of you a safe and prosperous year in 2018. Once all of the man-hours are in, 2017 will go down as one of the top three best years that Local 798 has ever experienced. In 1968, Local 798 worked a little over 12 million man-hours, while in 2008 we worked 11.6 million man-hours. Through November of 2017, with the December hours yet to be reported, we stand at 10.8 million. All indications show that 2018 man-hours will be just as good, and may even prove to be our best year ever. What an exciting time to be a union pipeliner!



There are several big projects coming up, and the best way we can ensure that we are the ones doing this work is through advocacy. It has become vitally important that we advocate for our jobs, because there is a growing number on the other side that are loudly protesting against any new pipeline projects in this country. The anti-pipeline crowd generally pushes misinformation and scare tactics about pipelines, and they are very good at getting their message out. Our best tool for fighting this right now is The American Pipeline Action Network. If you have not joined the Action Network, please do so. Go to our website [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org) and click on the "Take Action Today" link to get started. If you have joined, try to make the time to sign every petition and letter of support. We are making good progress with this, but we need more participation. You do not have to be a member of Local 798 to participate in the Action Network, so make sure to ask friends and relatives to participate as well.

We had a great turnout for the Local 798 December membership meeting, especially considering how many members were working at the time. We had 2,205 members still working the day of the meeting, which is great for December. It was nice to see that there were several new members in attendance. Some were attending a union meeting for the first time ever. It's encouraging to see so many actively participating in Local 798.

I would like to congratulate Brother Darrell Turner on his recent retirement. Darrell has had a long and distinguished career with Local 798, and I wish him well. I also want to congratulate Wade Pilgreen on his retirement. Wade has done a fantastic job as the Financial Secretary-Treasurer, and I'm honored that Danny and Wade asked me to come to work for Local 798. Wade is a wealth of knowledge, and I'm fortunate to have been able to learn the day-to-day operations from him. I am truly humbled that Danny and Wade have that level of confidence in me.

Above all else, I want to thank you, the membership, for giving me the opportunity to work for Local 798. I do not take this lightly, and will always serve this union to the best of my ability. Please give me a call if I can help you in any way.

***Fraternally,***

*Justin Wallace*

***Justin Wallace  
Financial Secretary-Treasurer***





Jobline:  
918-610-2745

### Jerry Dale Crabtree, Jr.

AL, FL, GA, LA, MS  
918-770-6747



I want to start this report by expressing my deep gratitude to Danny Hendrix. His confidence in my ability to take over this jurisdiction is very humbling to say the least. He continually inspires everyone around him to "take the bull by the horns" and to always strive to make a positive impact on this great Local. It is because of his leadership skills, enthusiasm, and love for Local 798, that we are accomplishing record-breaking numbers in every aspect of our profession.

Next, I would like to express a heartfelt thank-you to Wade Pilgreen. He has gone above and beyond to help me during this transition. Wade has always been just a phone call away whenever I have had questions and I've had a million of them, not just recently, but over the years. He has always been a voice of reason no matter what the storm might have been. I am saddened by his retirement, but I know, without a doubt, that Justin Wallace will continue his legacy and do everything in his power to move our Local forward.

By now most of you know that Chad S. Williams has taken over as Inside Guard. Chad has been a member in good standing for the past 18 years and is an all-around great guy. I know he will do an amazing job, and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with him during his transition. I encourage everyone to become more involved and help serve as an Inside Guard at future meetings. Just contact Chad and let him know if you would like to help.

I have spent the last several months touring this jurisdiction with my predecessor, Darrell Turner. With his guidance, I have had the opportunity to meet key people in the UA and several of our union contractors. Make no mistake, the work in this area is abundant, but it is all being picked up by non-union contractors. The fact that sub-standard work is being chosen over the high quality that we can produce is aggravating and very frustrating. My immediate goals are to hit the road hard, continue to meet contacts, and try to encourage union contractors to honestly bid the work in the South.

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and that it is followed by a prosperous New Year. I want all my fellow Brothers and Sisters to know that I am always available, and that I am here to serve you. Also, please take the time to welcome and help guide new members with our way of doing things. Remember that they are trying to transition into a new work environment, so show patience and understanding.

Please feel free to contact me as I look forward to hearing from you. God bless all of you and God bless our great Local for all the opportunities that have been bestowed upon us.

Pre-Jobs:

DD Pipeline Services:

-Colbert City, AL. 2,600' of 6" relocation. Gas Company: North Alabama Gas Authority. Steward: Jimmy Davis, Jr. Special Agreement rates.

TJ Construction Co:

-AL, MS, TN. Maintenance upgrade 10". Gas Company: American Midstream Corp. Steward: Dustin Bilbrey. Special Agreement rates.

### Chad Gilbert

AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, WY  
918-270-6736



I would like to start my report by congratulating two men on their retirement who have been a huge part of making Local 798 successful during my lifetime. First Darrell Turner, who I was lucky enough to work with as a young Welder Helper in Florida. Darrell was one of the best Welders I had the pleasure to help. He not only was a great hand, but he gained market share for the Local by how hard he worked and the quality he brought to the field. Darrell, we hate to see you go and respect you for your years of service to Local 798. Next is Wade Pilgreen. I had the pleasure of working with Wade as a technician on the CRC automatic for Murphy Brothers. He was no doubt one of the best craftsmen I was ever around in the field. He worked just as hard as Financial Secretary-Treasurer as he did in the field, and we have all benefited from his labor. These two men are examples of what has made our Local successful, and we should all learn by the examples they have shown throughout their careers.

We have started to wind down on our maintenance work in the West and with more members returning from the big work out East, we are starting to ramp up policing the work in this area. We will be visiting all jobs in the jurisdiction, and if we run into 798 Welders working non-union, we will be filing charges. If you do not want to or are unable to abide by the oath of obligation you took to become a 798 member, please mail your book in and save your Brothers and Sisters the expense of your working non-union.

Finally, there are some exciting things happening out West with more public lands being opened for drilling leases. U.S. government officials have also released an early plan for what could become one of the biggest natural gas fields in the nation. The Lance Field in western Wyoming could eventually cover 220 square miles and have over 3,500 wells.

In Colorado, commissioners have approved drilling near Battlement Mesa and Broomfield. I personally spoke in favor of drilling in the city of Broomfield along with UA Local 208 Agent Mark Miller. The predominantly Democrat led commission supported labor and the oil and gas industry, and approved an agreement with Extraction to drill 84 wells in Northern Broomfield. With these developments and more, I can see the pipeline infrastructure in the West expanding in the coming years.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. If I can be of help, do not hesitate to call and remember to: Work Hard, Work Safe and Work Union.



**LOCAL 798**

**"WE HAVE THE GREATEST PIPELINERS IN THE WORLD"**

## Phillip Wallace

AR, IA, KS, MN, MT, MO, NE, ND, OK, SD  
918-270-6738



I write this Blue Light report after returning home from the December meeting. Thanks to everyone who took the time to attend. Special business was conducted to swear in newly appointed officers and an Election Committee. Congratulations to Jimmy Dick and Steve Birgy for their appointment to the Finance Committee, and Chad Williams for his Inside Guard appointment. These dedicated 798 members are here for the long haul and will serve this Local with the respect and dignity that the entire membership deserves.

Your Business Manager Danny Hendrix also appointed an Election Committee in advance of the nominations process that will take place at the January Membership Meeting to replace retiring Financial Secretary-Treasurer Wade Pilgreen. Congratulations to the three Election Committee Members: Farron Hollabaugh, Chris Waeckerle and Joe Hurt. Danny and Wade have followed the guidelines of the UA Constitution and Bylaws and Local 798's Constitution to ensure that all rules are followed. It is my hope that the special election will go smoothly and without great cost to the Local.

I want to congratulate Jerry Dale Crabtree, Jr., for his appointment as Business Agent to replace Darrell Turner in the southern states. Dale has served this Local many years as Welder Helper, Welder, Job Steward, and Welder Foreman. As Business Agent, I believe he will continue to serve with integrity.

Congratulations to Wade Pilgreen and Darrell Turner on their retirements. These guys have dedicated their lives to the pipeline industry and to Local 798. The first time I met Wade was on a Great Plains job in Arkansas where we both were Welder Helpers. I thought, "who is this little guy that's trying to out work me, the best Helper ever!" I can tell you, Wade made me a better hand and a better person for just knowing him and being around him for many years. Thanks, Wade, for all you have done for me and all you've done to make this Local the best Local in the entire UA. You and Toni enjoy your retirement.

I can say WOW to Darrell Turner. What a pipeliner you are, and have been your entire life. The first time I was on a job with Darrell where I could really get to know him was in Alabama where he was Job Steward. Darrell showed me and all the 798er's what a real Steward was like. Darrell spent his time on the firing line where he spelled off five days a week and visited the rest of the job on the sixth. I have respected Darrell from that time and am proud to call him my friend. I thank him for making a better union member of myself and others. I'm wishing you and Ms. Bonnie a long and happy retirement.

Just because there are retirements, it doesn't mean these members are finished supporting this Local. Wade Pilgreen, Darrell Turner, Rick Taylor, Jerry Ryan, Billy Wayne Hawkins and any other retirees that helped bring this Local from the bottom to the top, will continue to be involved. Danny Hendrix's plan started twelve years ago with Jim Moss and David Barnett working their tails off to get a plan in place, so we can have the success a pipeliner deserves. Along with being blessed with all the work we've had since 2006, the plan has worked very well to give the membership great wages, wonderful health care, and a fantastic pension fund. Danny and Wade have fine-tuned that plan to fit the future of this Local. In my opinion, it just keeps getting better. Not just recent retirees, but 798 has current UA Officers on this team, even if they are not here every meeting. Soon to be Director of the UA Pipeline Department, our own David Barnett; UA Executive Vice President Jim Moss; our own Business Manager Danny Hendrix, who holds a position as UA Vice President of District 3; General President Mark McManus; Assistant General President Mike Pleasant; and General Secretary Treasurer Pat Kellett; are on board with the plan to secure a bright future for this membership.

The work in the Midwest area is winding down for the winter months. At our December staff meeting I had 26 active jobs with 126 UA hands working. Every one of these jobs was Maintenance and Integrity. After the Dakota Access Pipeline, I'm back to being the Maintenance Man again. These are good paying jobs. They don't put a lot of people to work, but it's pretty much all season. If you want this type of work, you will have an open butt low-hydrogen weld test, butt and branch. Every gas and oil company in my area is giving the in-service weld test, so get your hand in to practice before you apply for this type of work.

The Keystone XL and the Line 3 Replacement projects are still held up with permit problems. The Keystone has a possibility of a late 2018 start, but don't count on that. The Line 3 will be held up until the good people of Minnesota elect a new governor. Get on board and join the American Pipeline Action Network so your voice can be heard and help your Local advocate for your job and future. Don't forget United We Stand, and Divided We Fall. Support your Local Union.

## Black Schroeder

TX  
918-270-6743



I have been talking to several of our union contractors in the past few months and they are telling me there are more jobs going out for bid in the next two years in Texas than we have ever seen. There are from 50-mile to 700-mile projects ranging from 12" to 48" pipe. In the last few years our contractors have not been able to stay competitive due to the abundance of cheap labor in the south. These gas companies keep amazing me with these cheap contractors and their cheaply built pipelines. You would think one day it would catch up with them. When they get rid of one cheap contractor, there are five waiting to take their place. Several of our contractors are serious about trying to get some of this work.

There are still a lot of skilled Welders, Journeymen and Helpers out there working for these substandard contractors. They are fed up and just waiting for the opportunity to better their lives for themselves and their families. They want to "join our 798 family." A local union that does not organize the unorganized will not survive; approximately 75% of our members have come from organizing.

I would like to congratulate Darrell Turner for being able to retire. That's what it's all about and why people join unions. You work hard most of your life, so you can enjoy the rest of your life comfortably. The chances of someone who did not join a union being able to retire and maintain their lifestyle, is just about slim to none. Happy retirement to Darrell and Bonnie.

Congratulations to Wade Pilgreen on his retirement as well. I hope the best for Wade and Toni; they deserve it. Wade is the only man I know who works as hard as he does and only sleeps two hours out of 24. Wade brought a lot to the table and he will be missed.

If you did not attend the December meeting, you missed out on hearing about history being made and lots of milestone accomplishments. The pension has gone over a billion dollars. The General fund is over \$100 million. We're over 7,700 members strong. The work outlook for the next two years is astonishing. And David Barnett will be the first 798 UA Pipeline Director in 22 years. Brothers and Sisters, it's all good and it doesn't get any better than that.

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and is looking forward to a great 2018 work season. Stay healthy and please be safe. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need anything or have any questions.

## Charles Yates, Jr.

IN, MI, OH  
918-270-6746



As we close the 2017 calendar year with over 11 million man-hours worked, 2018 looks to be even better with countless opportunities to be fruitful as individuals and as a union. Michels kicked off their congested Michigan work, along with two compressor stations in connection with the Nexus project. Also, UPI has started metering stations in Ohio, and Snelson plans to begin its compressor stations in January. We anticipate the 250 miles of 36" mainline portion to launch late March/early April.

There is additional proposed work in this area as well. Buckeye Pipeline is planning an undetermined amount of a Michigan-Ohio pipeline expansion project. This line will be a reversal to help facilitate the transportation of refined petroleum. Construction is scheduled for 2018. Columbia Pipeline

Group intends to lay a line of 36" in Fairfield and Franklin counties in Ohio. Consumers Energy is expected to continue with Phase 2 & 3 of the Saginaw Trail Pipeline in Michigan this year as well. The Marcellus-Utica Midstream Conference in Pittsburgh will be an excellent venue to discuss industry prospects: pipeline jobs, cracker plants, station work, etc., related to the Northeast gas boom aka The Beast in the East. David Butterworth, Justin Hornback, and I will attend this event in January, focusing on learning more about our industry news.

In preparation for these spring kick-offs, be sure to make arrangements to attend Steward School as well. It is imperative to attend the Steward Reporting Class and familiarize yourself with the current Steward pack if you have intentions to be a Steward in 2018. Until then, the tutorial videos are available on our 798 website, [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org).

Special thanks to all who take the extra time to help with our non-union efforts. I appreciate the many phone calls alerting me to non-union activity. The more details you can provide the better, because sometimes it is hard to find a needle in a haystack. I have located a few non-union contractors in this region and have recently protested Troy Construction with the support of our members. If you are interested in future protest participation, please contact me. Sometimes these events are organized on the fly, and there just isn't time for a mass call blast.

In fact, we were greatly encouraged on this last protest. Many local residents gave us the thumbs up as they drove by, honked their horns, or brought refreshments on such a cold November day. We even had a teacher deliver hot homemade pizza rolls and ask what the community could do to promote union labor. As a member of a teachers' union, she understands that we are stronger together. Unfortunately, we also identified card-carrying 798 hands working non-union, who apparently do not value their union. Charges have been filed. Now it is up to our E-board. Make no mistake; there is no room in this organization for fence jumpers, regardless of years of service.

In closing, I must remind everyone that we are not doing a good enough job advocating for our pipeline projects! Danny spoke about it at our recent December meeting. We are only getting about six percent participation in signing petitions in support of the upcoming projects that we all count on for our very existence. Brothers and Sisters, that is unacceptable! We must do a better job! Please go to our Action Network, [www.action.local798.org](http://www.action.local798.org) and sign the petitions. Then share on Facebook and Twitter. It equates to money in your pocket, health care, and pension credits. Our leadership has given us an invaluable tool! It is up to us to use it! Let's make it our New Year's resolution to use [www.action.local798.org](http://www.action.local798.org) in 2018 the way it was designed to be used! These upcoming projects can disappear if we don't!

If I can be of assistance, please contact me. Wishing you all health, wealth, and happiness in the New Year.

#### Pre-Jobs:

##### 1127 Construction:

-North Canton, OH. 3,600' of 12" replacement for Dominion Energy. Superintendent: Joe Smith. Welder Foreman: Dave Kandle. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 12-10-17.

##### Big Inch:

-Howell, MI. Launcher, receiver and valve replacement 4"- 20" for Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company. Superintendent: Jim Shepler. Welder Foreman: Layne Richard. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-4-17.

##### Contractor Rentals:

-Lima, OH. 2,800' of 8" install with pig traps for Marathon Petroleum Company. Superintendent: Jim Connor. Welder Foreman: Todd Caseman. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 11-11-17.

-Vincennes, IN. 16" integrity maintenance anomaly rehab (less than a mile) for Marathon Pipeline Company. Superintendent: Christopher Randolph. Welder Foreman: Mitch Harrin. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 11-17-17.

##### Michels:

-Belleville, MI. Approx. 11 miles of 36" for Nexus Gas. Superintendent: Billy Rogers. Welder Foreman: Carl Overstreet, Jr. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 2-28-18.

-Seville, OH. 2,600 HP turbine and associated piping (compressor station) for Nexus Gas. Superintendent: Craig Watson. Welder Foreman: John Monden. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-3-18.

-Clyde, OH. 2,600 HP turbine and associated piping (compressor station) for Nexus Gas. Superintendent: Rick Van Winkle. Welder Foreman: Lance Cook. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-3-18.

#### Minnesota Limited:

-Logan, OH. Abandonment of approximately 28 miles of 20" plus launcher/receiver location for Columbia Gas Transmission. Superintendent: Dusty Schaaf. Welder Foreman: Eric Haskins. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 1-4-18.

-Martinsville, IN. Bore and replacement of approximately 550' of 16" (railroad crossing) for Vectren. Superintendent: Greg Frazier. Welder Foreman: Bobby Turner. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-9-17.

-Portage, IN. 4" bore to replace ditch spans 1 - 700'; 1 - 500'; 1 - 400' for Nipsco. Superintendent: Kerry Schott. Welder Foreman: Kirk King. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-14-17.

-Riga, MI. Installation and replacement of 18 - 12" mainline valves and follow-up with supporting line fill for Kinder Morgan. Superintendent: James Redmond and Tommy Yaklin. Welder Foreman: Brian Fox. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-30-17.

-Plainfield, IN. Modification to an existing regulator station for Vectren. Superintendent: Matt Austin. Welder Foreman: Jim Tyson. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-30-17.

#### PJ Steel:

-Marion, MI. 10", 8" and 4" abandon 7 flow lines from header for Consumers Energy. Superintendent: Don Knopf. Welder Foreman: Michael Fisher. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 12-7-17.

#### RL Coosaet:

-Battle Creek, MI. 12" anomaly digs for Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company. Superintendent: Joe Elliott. Welder Foreman: Michael Fisher. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-10-17.

-East China, MI. Install 1-30" valve for DTE Energy. Superintendent: Randy Recker. Welder Foreman: Dennis Zielinski. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 12-4-17.

#### UPI:

-Hanoverton, OH. 3 metering stations 2"-48" for Nexus. Superintendent: Rich Olson. Welder Foreman: George Houston. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 4-30-18.

## David Butterworth

CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV  
918-210-6715

I would like to congratulate all those recently appointed as officers in our Local. Each member selected comes well recommended, and I look forward to working with you now and in the future. We are all now charged with the task of making sure this Local maintains its high-level of efficiency and structure. Those retiring have been up to the task and we must look to their example as we conduct our Local's business going forward.

I want to thank Darrell Turner for his 44-years of service to this organization. Darrell has dedicated most of his life to serving Local 798 and for that I commend him. I hope he enjoys life, and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. There is one last thing that I would like to say to Darrell and that is "Roll Tide," unless you are playing West Virginia.

Now on to the next person who is riding off into the sunset, Mr. Rodney Wade Pilgreen. He has been a shining example of what hard work and professionalism is all about. Wade has been there for me and the membership day and night, 24 hours a day, for six solid years. Nobody works harder than Wade. His work ethic gives me the motivation to keep striving for the membership and to take hold of opportunities that will carry us into prosperity for many years to come. Although it is sad to say goodbye, I know my friend Wade will be blessed in his days ahead.

I am both excited and wary about the upcoming work season that we are about to embark upon here in the Northeast. I am excited because I know that the hard work we are putting into our advocacy campaign is paying off. In fact, I just learned the Mountain Valley Pipeline (300 miles of 42" in WV and VA) received state approval on the Virginia DEQ's Water Quality Permits. I am also enthusiastic about the job prospects our members are going to be fortunate enough to have this upcoming work season. Try googling Mountaineer Express, Mountain Valley Pipeline and Atlantic Coast Pipeline and you will see what I am talking about.

I am wary because of the rugged terrain that each of these lines cross. I know some retired members that have worked in West Virginia and in Alaska. And those folks say that the dangers in laying these lines will be comparable or worse than the dangers we faced during ALYESKA construction. We are



going to have look out for each other next year. If you're new to working in the hills, I suggest you get with someone who is familiar. Be aware of your surroundings and be focused every day.

For example, in order to lay some of these hills, stationary winches will be required, and some of them will be four and five winch tractors long. Always look up the hill to see what's happening up above you. You need to be thinking about where you are going to go if something does break loose, whether it be a tractor, a rock or a joint of pipe. On extremely bad hills don't get in the ditch or in harm's way until all movement has ceased up above. When it's all said and done, nobody will remember how long it took to lay the hill, but it will be sadly remembered if something happens to you while working on the hill. You are your Brother and Sister's keeper. Please remember that when you are working on the side of a mountain in West "By God" Virginia next year.

#### Pre-Jobs:

#### Apex Pipeline Services:

-Nitro, WV. 36" and smaller pre-fab for WB Express. Superintendent: Ted Thomas. Welder Foreman: Kevin Lancaster. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s. Approx. Completion: 1-31-18.

#### Blue Flame Pipeline:

-Smithburg, WV. 9.6 miles of 30" new-lay. Superintendent: Cliff Frymier. Welder Foreman: Matt Harris. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s. Approx. Completion: 7-1-18.

#### Bond Bros. Inc.:

-Burrillville, RI. Prefab for 4 meter stations (1-16"). Superintendent: Michael Moore. Welder Foreman: Jeff Stockwell. Station rates paying High-Scale. Working 5-8s. Approx. Completion. 4-1-18.

#### Contractors Rental Corp.:

-Worthington, PA. 1 - 12" compressor station install-set and assemble compressor. Superintendent: Tyler Gandee. Welder Foreman: Mark Eagleson. Station Agreement paying High-Scale. Working 5-10s. Approx. Completion 2-13-17.

#### InterCon Construction:

-Erie Co., NY. Two 12" Integrity digs. Superintendent: Nick Gretzinger. Welder Foreman: Patrick Kingsland. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion. 12-22-17.

#### Latex:

-Hughesville, PA. 29.4 miles of 42" for ASR (Spread 4). Superintendent: Don Cupit. Welder Foreman: Sonny Brewer. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 4-18-18.

#### Michels:

-Tunkhannock, PA. 37.5 miles of 30" for ASR (Spread 1). Superintendent: Johnny Kroner. Welder Foreman: Kent Jewell. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 6-30-18.

#### MJ Electric:

-Ellicott City, MD. Install instrumentation for ASR station. Superintendent: Kevin Rimpela. Welder Foreman: Kevin Rimpela. Station rates paying High-Scale. Working 4-10s. (Ongoing).

#### Otis Eastern:

-Slate Hill, NY. 8 miles of 16" new-lay that includes NYDEC restrictions. Superintendent: Danny Cox. Welder Foreman: Dale Barefoot. Special Agreement paying High-Scale. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 12-23-17.

#### Price-Gregory:

-Charleroi, PA. 7.5 miles of 36" tie-ins in WV and PA. Superintendent: Terry McDaniel. Welder Foreman: Billy Burns. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 11-10-17.  
-Yorktown Heights, NY. Install approx. 200' of 60" casing for HDD. Superintendent: Buck Hines. Welder Foreman: Jerry Haynes. Mainline Rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 12-20-17.

#### VEC Inc.:

-St. Albans, WV. 12-16" fab and station work. Superintendent: Sean Wilster. Welder Foreman: Justin Trammell. Station Agreement paying High-Scale. Working 7-10s. Approx. Completion 12-20-17.  
-Factoryville, PA. 1/2 through 36" Compressor station install for ASR. Superintendent: Kevin Jalbert. Welder Foreman: Craig Myers. Station Agreement paying High-Scale. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 6-8-18.

#### Voshell Bros.:

-Dover, DE. 16.9 miles of 10" plus misc. station work. Superintendent: Gale Voshell. Welder Foreman: Daniel Milstead. Special Agreement paying High-Scale. Working 5-10s. Approx. Completion 8-1-18.

#### Welded:

-Tremont, PA. Install 17 miles of 42" for ASR (Spread 5). Superintendent: Sonny Weems. Welder Foreman: Gary Weems. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion. 3-1-18.

-Lebanon, PA. Install 41.5 miles of 42" for ASR (Spread 6).

Superintendent: Landon Duncan. Welder Foreman: Anthony Loggins. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 4-15-18.

-Marietta, PA. Install 36.5 miles of 42" for ASR (Spread 7).

Superintendent: Jim Parker. Welder Foreman: Rod Kelley. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. Completion 4-15-18.

## Chris Lancaster

KY, NC, SC, TN  
918-270-6735



I am writing this report after returning home from the December union meeting. There was a good turnout for the meeting and it was good to visit with those able to attend. It was sad to hear that two of our longtime friends and officers are retiring. Wade Pilgreen is retiring in January. Wade has served our Local in many capacities throughout his career and has been a huge part of our success. He will be truly missed, but I'm happy for him to be able to retire and enjoy the thing he has worked so hard for. Darrell Turner will be retiring at the end of December and he, as well, has dedicated most of his life to Local 798. He played a big part in securing and maintaining the working conditions and benefits we all enjoy today. I wish him the best in his retirement.

Danny Hendrix has made excellent choices for their replacements. For Financial Secretary-Treasurer, he has appointed Justin Wallace. I'm sure he will do a good job. Jerry Dale Crabtree replaced Darrell Turner. Jerry Dale is a good, longtime member, and he will serve this Local well in his new position. Congratulations to Justin and Jerry Dale.

The work in my area has slowed down a lot for now, but will ramp up next year with the Atlantic Coast and PSNC, as well as Piedmont in NC. I'm hoping for a mild winter so that these projects can get started early. Duke also has some good projects to do in KY next year as well. 2018 looks to be another great year to be a Pipeliner.

In closing, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year. I hope to see you at the January meeting. If I can be of assistance, don't hesitate to call.

## REMINDER

Your monthly dues and working assessments paid for 2017 are available to you on the Member's Only Login area of the Local 798 Website. Once logged in, you can click on the payment history page and enter any year period to view the total amount of monthly dues paid during that time. To view your working assessments and organizing fees paid, you must go to the work hour page and enter the date range you need, and it will give you the totals for that time frame. Please remember, hours are typically reported 30-45 days behind, so if you worked in December, those working assessments will not appear until late January to mid-February 2018.

Your emailed year-end reports will not be available until after February 19, 2018. If you do not have an email address on file, your year-end reports will be mailed to your home address. We will be working diligently to get this information out to all members, so we will be unable to provide the information over the phone prior to that date. However, you may obtain this information when logged into the Member's Only Login area of the website as indicated above. Please keep in mind that it is our goal to provide the membership all the information they need, while striving to do so in the most cost efficient ways possible.





## Unions and the Outdoors Go Hand in Hand Activate your Union Sportsmen's Alliance Membership

If you're like millions of AFL-CIO union members, the outdoors is a way of life. When the season opener rolls around, you're always ready to gear up, get out and experience the rich rewards that only you and those who share this special bond can understand.

If you hunt, fish, shoot or simply enjoy spending time in the great outdoors, the Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA) is for you. The USA is a community of union sportsmen and women who share the special connection of both the union and outdoor brotherhood and a commitment to preserve North America's outdoor heritage.

Through its unique, community-based Work Boots on the Ground conservation projects, dinners, sporting clays shoots, union-dedicated outdoor TV series, interactive website and social media presence, the USA has become North America's fastest-growing non-profit, union-dedicated conservation organization promoting solidarity across all union ranks.

Thanks to the UA, you can be part of it at no-cost. Simply activate your USA membership today and start enjoying the USA's first-class digital magazine, members-only discounts on outdoor gear and trips, the chance to enter member contests and national giveaways, the opportunity to be on the TV show and much more.

Visit [www.UnionSportsmen.org](http://www.UnionSportsmen.org) and click "Join USA" to get started!



Members of UA Local 469 at the USA's Phoenix Shoot.



Rene Thorn of UA Local 250, was a guest on the USA's Brotherhood Outdoors TV show.

918-280-4800

**PIBF NEWS**  
Pipeline Industry Benefit Fund  
Robert "Bob" Kime - Director  
Renee Vause - Assistant Director

[www.pibf.org](http://www.pibf.org)

### Health Reimbursement Account (HRA)

*The HRA program is designed to cover remaining medical expenses after all insurance policies have processed the claim. Plan participants should not submit medical bills to the HRA claims department for reimbursement if the bill has been paid in full by PIBF or other coverage. If PIBF is the only policy, the HRA benefit can be processed by submitting a copy of the PIBF explanation of benefits. If a plan participant has a secondary insurance policy, such as coverage through a spouse, auto insurance, Medicaid or prescription coupons, a copy of the secondary carrier's explanation of benefits is required to process the HRA claim. You should advise the PIBF staff if your prescription co-insurance has been reduced by a manufacturer's coupon.*

### 401(k) Roth Feature

*The Trustees approved the Roth feature in the 401(k) plan at the last Board of Trustees meeting. This new feature allows plan participants to move pre-tax 401(k) funds to an after-tax Roth inside the 401(k) plan. Once this election is made, the election cannot be reversed. The election is a taxable event. Each year a participant moves funds from pre-tax to the after-tax Roth, the participant will receive a 1099-R for tax return preparation, but there is no penalty on the funds moved. The total amount of the transfer will be subject to Federal Income Tax. Under Federal law, the first transfer or deposit into the Roth starts a 5-year waiting period. This means you cannot withdraw the Roth funds for the first 5 years without incurring a tax penalty. There is only one waiting period. Additional funds put in the Roth account will not have a new 5-year waiting period. You can move funds to the Roth as many times as you want during the year, but the minimum transfer is \$1,000 per transaction.*

### Correspondence from the 401(k) Plan

*All members that have investments or have had investments in the 401(k) Plan have been receiving correspondence from the Fund office or the Trust Company of Oklahoma. After careful review, PIBF has established a policy of removing mailing information from the 401(k) plan participant files that have zero balances. Beginning in 2018, members with zero balances will no longer receive correspondence after 365 days of no activity. If the participant returns to the industry and re-establishes a cash balance, the account will be activated for correspondence.*

### Mailing information and phone numbers

*PIBF and Local 798 do not share change of address information. It is extremely important that plan participants notify both 798 and PIBF when permanent address changes occur or when email or telephone numbers change. You can change your address by mail, by calling the Fund office at 918-280-4800, or by going online to [www.pibf.org](http://www.pibf.org), logging into the "Members Login" section and choosing "Submit Change of Address Online Form".*

## Steward School – April 9-13, 2018

Registration information will soon be mailed to all members for the upcoming Pipeliners Local Union 798 Steward School, April 9-13, 2018. **If you plan to work in the future as a Steward, Welder Foreman, or Pipeman, make plans to attend.** Please complete your registration information and make your reservations as soon as possible. Additional information on the events will be included with your registration packet. Pipeliners Local 798 has a group rate of \$94.00/night at the following facilities:

Renaissance Tulsa Hotel - 6808 S. 107th F. Ave. (918) 307-2600

Courtyard Marriott Woodland Hills – 9041 E 71st St. (800) 626-6873

When making reservations, please ask for the Pipeliners Local Union 798 rate.

The 19th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, benefitting the George Lambert / Harry Faucett, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, will be held Monday, April 9, 2018, at Forest Ridge Golf Course, 7501 E. Kenosha, Broken Arrow, OK 74014. Registration information will be included with your Steward School registration packet.

Steward School registration packets can be picked up at the Local 798 Training Center from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. You can also pick up your packet at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel Tuesday evening, April 10, 2018, from 6 to 8 p.m., and again beginning at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning, April 11, 2018.

Lincoln Electric will host the annual Barbeque at the Local 798 Training Center on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at noon.

Classes covering the Steward Reporting Forms and Computer Class will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at the Local 798 Training Center, following the Lincoln Barbeque.

Steward School sessions will be held at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel beginning promptly at 8 a.m. Wednesday, April 11, 2018, and continue through noon Friday, April 13, 2018.

The Family and Retiree Banquet, honoring members with 50 or more years of service will start at 7 p.m. Thursday evening, April 12, 2018. Join us for a delicious dinner and entertainment.

Miller Electric will host the annual Crawfish Boil and equipment demonstrations at the Local 798 Training Center on Friday, April 13, 2018, at noon.

The 9th Annual Slick Rig Contest will be held on Friday afternoon at the Local 798 Training Center. A minimum number of 10 participants will be required for this event to be held. Additional information will be provided with your registration packet.

The April Regular Membership Meeting will be held at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel at 7 p.m. Friday evening, April 13, 2018.

The April Ladies Hospitality will also be held at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, April 13, 2018.

### Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarship Programs

All scholarship applications must be received in our office by January 22, 2018, to be considered for the 2017/2018 Scholarship Programs. You can still obtain an application on the Local 798 website at [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org) under the Voluntary Fund tab, or make a request by phone at (918) 622-1900. If you have any questions regarding the Scholarship Program, do not hesitate to call the Union Office.

#### Veteran's Day Parade

Helper Member Dustin McClanahan, with the assistance of David Allen of the Local 798 Training Center, organized members to participate in the Veteran's Day Parade on November 11, 2017, in Nowata, OK. With a total of 10 trucks, the group made up over half of the parade. Participants displayed several flags including the U.S. flag, the U.S. Army flag, the 798 Training Center flag, and Local 798's flag. Dustin is an U.S. Army veteran and member/officer at the Nowata VFW Post 2745

### Update Your Information

The beginning of a new year is a great time to update all your contact information with the Hall. Simply log in to the Member's Only Login at [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org) to verify your information is up to date. This includes mailing address, phone numbers, email address and demographics.

Thank you for helping us stay connected!



# 2018 January Meeting Notice

## CLARIFICATION

May this notice serve as a clarification for the upcoming Local 798 Special Election for Financial Secretary-Treasurer. In the event of a Special Election, the Business Manager may appoint an Election Committee.

LOCAL 798 ELECTION COMMITTEE  
Chairman – Chris Waeckerle (918) 837-0440  
Secretary – Farron Hollabaugh (918) 244-0648  
Member – Joseph Hurt (225) 931-2143

## Meeting Notice January 12, 2018

The Regular January Membership Meeting will be held at the Pipeliners Local Union 798 Union Hall, 4823 S. 83rd E. Ave., Tulsa, OK on Friday, January 12, 2018, beginning at 7 p.m.

### **SPECIAL BUSINESS:** Nominations for Financial Secretary-Treasurer

1. A meeting to nominate candidates for Financial Secretary-Treasurer will be held on Friday, January 12, 2018, starting at 7:00 p.m. (CST), at the Local 798 Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
2. Nominations will be accepted for Financial Secretary-Treasurer.
3. No member shall run for more than one office. The term of office shall be in accordance with the United Association Constitution.
4. No Local 798 member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in Local 798 unless he/she has been a member in good standing of the United Association and Local 798 for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in Local 798. The "date of the election" for purposes of determining eligibility to run for office is February 23, 2018. Thus, if a member is not eligible as described above as of February 23, 2018, he/she will not be eligible to run for office.
5. Nominations for officers will be accepted from the floor at the nominations meeting. A candidate may nominate themselves and need not have a second. If a member is not present at the meeting, he/she may be nominated or nominate themselves by sending a written notice of their acceptance of nomination to the specified office. Such written notice may be delivered by hand, mail, or facsimile to the Union Office, or by email to nominations@local798.org. Written notice must be received by the Local Union in Tulsa, Oklahoma no later than 4:30 p.m. (CDT) on the day of nominations, Friday, January 12, 2018. (Please note that the email address for nominations will be activated on December 11, 2017, and deactivated at 4:30 p.m. (CDT) on Friday, January 12, 2018.) The names of all candidates received by this deadline will be announced at the nominations meeting.
6. Under Section 504 of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act ("LMRDA"), a member who has been convicted of certain crimes may not hold union office for a maximum of 13 years following the date of conviction or the end of imprisonment, whichever is later. Please call the U.S. Department of Labor, or the Chairman of the Election Committee if you have a question about this provision of the LMRDA.
7. The Election Committee will conduct a candidate's meeting on Saturday, January 13, 2018. All candidates and their observers are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be conducted at the Local 798 Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and will start at 10:00 a.m. (CDT).
8. The results of the election will be announced at the Regular Membership Meeting on Friday, April 13, 2018, starting at 7:00 p.m. (CST) at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel, 6808 S. 107th E. Ave. Tulsa, OK 74133.
9. In the event there is a tie vote and a run-off election is necessary, a mail ballot election will be conducted. Ballots will be mailed on Friday, April 27, 2018, and will be counted on Thursday, May 31, 2018, at the Local Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma, starting at 9:00 a.m. (CST). The results of any run-off election will be announced at a Special Union Membership meeting to be held on Friday, June 1, 2018, at the Local Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma, starting at 7:00 p.m. (CST).

## 2017 DaySpring Villa Christmas Party

During the holiday season the Pipeliners Voluntary Fund, along with Pipeliners Local 798 joined with the Ladies of 798, and the Pipeline Industry Benefit Fund to host the 4th annual Christmas party for the women and children of DaySpring Villa. We want to extend our sincerest appreciation to all who helped contribute to the success of this event.





### DISPATCH REPORT By Ricky Jones

As of November 30, 2017, we have dispatched 1,800 Welders, 197 Journeymen and 3,154 Helpers. On January 1, 2018, we will have a new way of bidding for jobs online. It will be available to members by logging into the "Members Only" area on the Local 798 website, [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org). The online process will make applying for jobs even easier than before. A video tutorial link on how to use the new online process will be available by January 2, 2018.

On January 1, 2018, opioids are coming to the DOT drug test. We are getting the information out to our members as we get it. The challenges ahead are large. The DOT came out on November 13, 2017, with what they are calling their final ruling: **"The opioid crisis is a threat to public safety when it involves safety-sensitive employees involved in the operation of any kind of vehicle or transport,"** said Secretary Elaine L. Chao. **"The ability to test for a broader range of opioids will advance transportation safety significantly and provide another deterrence to opioid abuse, which will better protect the public and ultimately save lives."**

Consequently, DOT-regulated employers will be required to test for these highly abused opioids beginning January 1, 2018. Opioids include hydrocodone, hydromorphone, oxycodone and oxycodone. These drugs are prescribed under brand names that include OxyContin, Percodan, Percocet, Vicodin, Lortab, Norco, Exalgo and Dilaudid. There may be more that contain the four primary drugs they are looking for. It is imperative that if you test positive for any of these drugs and do not have an up-to-date prescription, it will be considered a failure to comply (failed drug test).

Even if you do have an up-to-date prescription, The Medical Review Officer (MRO) will then need to speak to the prescribing doctor to confer and to see if, in the opinion of your doctor, you are able to perform tasks such as driving in a safe and competent manner. The MRO is limited to five days to contact your doctor and make a final decision. If the doctor and MRO conclude that you are legally taking prescribed drugs, your drug test will be downgraded to a negative (passed drug test). This still does not guarantee you will be allowed to work, due to safety concerns. Most prescriptions on the bottle state "Use care when operating a vehicle, vessel or other machines." We also want to mention that up-to-now random drug tests were performed on a 25% basis. As of January 1, 2018, random tests will be increased to 50%.

Also, be aware that if you miss a drug test, you must contact a Substance Abuse Professional (SAP) and complete the requirements of the program. Regardless of your completion day, you are not available for hire until 30 days after your first missed drug test, and 90 days after your second missed drug test. Then, it is six months every failed drug test thereafter. If you continue to accept jobs and are repeatedly terminated for trying to return to work too early, charges could be filed. By January 5, the Local 798 website will have a link directly to the DOT Update on the Job List page.

As of the date of this writing, the wheel has 1,159 Welders, 165 Journeymen, and 1,559 Helpers.



### ORGANIZING REPORT By Ronnie Hill

I am writing this report after returning from the December Membership Meeting. There was a good showing at the meeting, and it's encouraging to see so many come and get involved in the working of our Local. One of the most important things it takes to make a local successful is the full participation of its membership. It was great to see so many new members at the meeting. These new members are on the right track: showing up at meetings, getting involved, asking questions and showing support. It's a blessing to know that our Local is more financially secure, with better benefits and wages than any other time in our history.

I am presently in West Texas checking on non-union jobs. The work out here has escalated considerably in the last month. It's sad to see Welders out here willing to trade their labor for \$35 an hour and Helpers working for as little as \$13 an hour. It's hard for me to understand how so many are willing to work for virtually nothing with no benefits when there is an alternative. I don't see how they make any money when lodging is almost non-existent, and the prices are at a premium with a hotel room sometimes going well over \$200 a night. But there is a lot to the old saying, "you get what you pay for." Production is very low, and the quality of work is even worse. I have observed one job laying 60 joints with three bead hands on flat ground with a very high repair rate. It's bad when you shoot 80 welds and have 24 repairs. The rules we work under do not seem to apply here. Hopefully, the qualified Welders, Journeymen and Helpers will realize how much they are being taken advantage of and come over to the right side.

We certainly need our members to get more involved in our Action Network. This is very important and beneficial to our jobs. If you get an email from Pipeliners Union 798 Action Network, please read it and click on the link to sign the petition. The forces against pipelines are strong and well organized. We must be even more so.

By the time you get this report we should be into a new year. The past year was very good and anyone who wanted to work could work. The new year, from all accounts, will be even better. I'm hoping everyone had a great Christmas and New Year's, and that the 2018 work year will see you prosperous. There are a lot of man-hours looking at us, and we need to remain the most productive, safest and most highly qualified pipeliners that money can buy.

If I can be of any help assistance, call anytime. If you know any qualified non-union Welders, Journeymen or Helpers wanting to come over, have them call me. And please call with any information on non-union jobs or any member that may be out there helping our adversaries.

Fraternally,  
Ronnie M Hill  
918-284-6862

# Short and Personal

## Thank You

**Gilbert Rulz and Family** are truly blessed and thankful to be part of Local 798. They are grateful to have received help from the Voluntary Fund. They say thank you to the Brothers and Sisters who donated, with a special thanks to Kyle Sanford and Jerry Dale Crabtree, Jr.

**Stu Baldwin and Family** thank the Voluntary Fund for the help received after Hurricane Harvey. Flood damage repaired and glad to be back in the house! Thank you to Black Schroeder, Danny Hendrix and all the members who give to this great fund!

**Robert Mills** sends his thanks for the thoughtfulness, kindness, and generosity of Local 798 for the gift he received from the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Phillip Wallace.

**Richard Keller, Jr. (Chief)** thanks the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 who give to the Voluntary Fund for the gift he received. The help was immensely appreciated.

**Louis Lacina, Jr.** wants to thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the contribution he received in support of damages resulting from Hurricane Harvey. A special thank you to Tommy YBarbo.

**Louie Langley** would like to thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the gift he received during his cancer treatments.

**Daniel Braden, Jr. and Family** thank all the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. A special thanks to Heath Guffey and Boyd Catching.

**Tim and Stephanie Robinson** appreciate the help they received from the Voluntary Fund for Stephanie's medical procedures and extended hospital stay. Special thanks to Ronnie Evans.

**Brandon, Paige, Kingston & Bankston Ricketts** send their thanks for thinking of them during their difficult time.

**David and Julie Grow** express their sincere appreciation to the members of Pipeliners Local 798 for the incredible kindness and generosity shown to them during the most difficult time in their lives. Receiving the contribution from the Brothers and Sisters who support the Voluntary Fund has touched their hearts deeply and they cannot adequately express their appreciation.

**Foley North** offers his most sincere thanks for the gift he recently received. Thanks to Brother Hendrix and Brother Pilgreen, with a special thank you to Brother Charley Tyson. It is indeed an honor to be a part of Local 798 for almost fifty years.

**Louis Gray** is proud to be part of Local 798 and sends his thanks to the Brothers and Sisters in this Local for their support during an extremely tough time in his life. Because of you, he has been able to work and get help along the way. Special thanks to Jimmy Dick and John Seaver for all they have done.

**Robert Peters** sends a special thank you to John Knight and Raymond Johnson for writing to the Voluntary Fund on his behalf. He also thanks Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen and all his Brothers and Sisters who donate to the Voluntary Fund.

**The Franklin Family** cannot express their appreciation for the beautiful Bible that was sent in memory of James. They especially appreciate your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time for their family.

**Robert and Donna McCray** feel blessed and grateful to the Voluntary Fund, Local 798, and the Ladies of 798 after Donna fell and fractured her femur requiring a partial hip replacement. The help was appreciated. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

**Larry D. Ferguson** would like to thank the Voluntary Fund for the help he received after getting hurt on the job. Special thanks to David Layton.

**Mark Kongsjord and Family** thank all of Local 798 for the helpful gift.

**Duncan Attaway and Family** say thank you to the Voluntary Fund for help received following his recent brain surgery. The outpouring of love and support received has been overwhelming and sincerely heart felt. A special thanks to all the members on the Precision job in Wooster, OH. All the texts, phone calls, prayers, and visits have helped his entire family be uplifted during this time of need. Thank you!

**Kevin Coffin** sends his thanks to everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. His family greatly appreciated the help.

**Leonard Miller, Jr.** feels blessed by his Local 798 Brothers and Sisters for the help he received. He would like to thank Brian Gilley, Jimmy "Cowboy" Williams, and Chad Gilbert for helping him get help from the Voluntary Fund.

**Timothy Snyder** wants to thank all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. He appreciates the generosity he received during his difficult time. Special thanks to Rick Thomas.

**Mrs. Barrett** says thank you for your love and concern. They will be using the gift they received to help cover the deductible insurance.

**John Peters** can't begin to express how grateful he is for the help he received from the Voluntary Fund after Hurricane Harvey. He says thank you to the entire membership. Special thanks to Raymond Johnson, John Knight, Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, and JT.

**John Johnson and Family** feel they are truly blessed to be part of Local 798. They are grateful to have received help when John was in the hospital. A big thank you to each Brother and Sister who donates to the Voluntary Fund.

**Michael Woods** sends his thanks to the Voluntary Fund for the gift that was sent to his family. It meant a lot to them during their difficult time.

**Rufus Bex, Jr.** wants to thank everyone for the help he received. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

**J. House** greatly appreciated the Voluntary Fund helping him in his time of need.

**Sharon Lefler** sends her sincere gratitude to Phillip Wallace as well as all her Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The monetary relief she received while recovering from her knee injury was a blessing!

**Andrew Clear** writes to thank his Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 for the monetary gift received after a loss in the family. He will be forever grateful to be included in such a wonderful union.

**Joseph Lee and Family** say thank you for the monetary gift they received during their hardship. He is so thankful to be a part of such an amazing union.

**Bruce and Andrea Carroll** would like to thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. The gift they received was most appreciated as were the many phone calls to check on Bruce as he recovers from shoulder surgery. Special thanks to Brian Anderson and Alan Boyd.

**Seth Hickman** thanks the Voluntary Fund, with a special thank you to Scott "Puddin." The gift he received helped his family in many ways. It was greatly appreciated.

**Mark Cottrill and Family** thank everyone for the Voluntary Fund gift they received. They have been through a lot this year with the loss of his son and wife. He is so grateful for the monetary help. Thank you for all your kindness and consideration through this difficult time.

**John Tyler Smith** is honored to be a part of this great brotherhood. He cannot thank you enough for being there for his family during this tragedy his family has suffered. Special Thanks to Richard Williams, Tommy Morgan and Tommy Morgan, Jr.

**Sherri and Danny Lambert** would like to thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. The check they received helped cover roof damage after Hurricane Irma. They are very fortunate to belong to such a great organization. Special thanks to Mark Oliver, Richard Warren and Jim Hathaway.

**Richard Joeris** wrote to say thank you to those who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. A special thanks to Ronnie Evans and all the others at the Training Center. "Thanks to all my friends who have been by my side."

**Thomas Hardwick** sends a very special thank you to Local 798 members for the gift he received. He truly appreciates all the kindness, thoughts and prayers. He has been given a clean bill of health and will soon be ready to take on the next project.

**Larry Edwards** says thank you to all the contributors for the money received following his rotator cuff surgery. A special thank you to Billy Palmer. He also wants to thank the originators of the Voluntary Fund for their forethought in establishing a fund that would benefit so many members for so many years.

**Craig and Wanda Easley** want to thank everyone who gives to the Voluntary Fund. The help and support they received after the passing of Craig's mother was truly appreciated.

**Joe Bigley and Family** would like to give thanks to everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund, as well as a special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, David Butterworth and everyone on the Welded spread in Smithton, PA, who helped him through his time of need. The words of advice from Ed Bohannon and Gary Weems will never be forgotten and were greatly appreciated.

**The Bachner Family** send their thanks to all the 798 members who contributed to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, David Butterworth and everyone who worked with Kevin Bachner, aka MR. GREEN JEANS, on the Welded spread in Smithton, PA. Kevin spoke highly of Local 798 and how much this Local meant to him; how proud he was to be a member of this great Local. The outpouring of love and support at his passing has proven how great this Local really is. Thank you ALL for your support and love through such times of need.

**Cathy and Phil Blackmore** would like to thank the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 and all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the assistance they received. They also want to thank everyone for all their prayers.

**Bobbie Powell** can't express enough how deeply he appreciated the help he received from the Voluntary Fund. May God bless you all for the help you have given him and many others.

**David Allen** says thank you for the help he received after missing work due to back surgery. Special thanks to Justin and Charley Fromme, Ronnie Evans and the entire Local 798 membership.

**Martha Ore** acknowledges with great gratitude the most generous gift she received. Robert "Doug" Ore was so very proud and honored to be a part of such a great organization. She is certain that he would be so pleased and thankful that your care has been carried on after his passing. She is ever so grateful for the contributions made by every member to enable this fund to help when help is needed.

**William and Sara Choate** thank each Brother and Sister who give to the Voluntary Fund. They greatly appreciate the help they received, as it was very much needed. Special thanks to Charlie Yates, Jr., and Steve Birgy.

**Larry and Renee Staggs** would like to thank all the Local 798 members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the assistance they received after the death of Larry's mother. The help was deeply appreciated. Special thanks to Rick Thomas and Tom Sparza.

**Johnny Neeb** appreciates the gift that was received from the Voluntary Fund. He says thank you to all the 798 family who contributes, with special thanks to the U.S. Trinity spread, Troy Rice and the Mathis family.

**R L Pimpleton** says thank you to the members of 798 and the Voluntary Fund for the support during his time off for medical reasons. The support is something he greatly appreciates.

**Jerry and Crystal Nolan** send their thanks to the Brothers and Sisters who give to the Voluntary Fund for the help during their time of loss. Special thanks to the Brothers and Sisters on the Welded spread. Your kindness during their time of need was greatly appreciated.

**The Robert Smith Family** write to say thank you for being a part of their rebuilding process. This contribution helps so, so much and will help them go a long way in rebuilding.

**Gwendell Mason** says thank you to all his Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. Your kindness and gift were so helpful after his elbow and knee surgeries. A special thank you to Carrol Tuggle for his thoughtfulness and also for dropping by to check on him.

**Richard and Jane Crowden** want to thank all the pipeline Voluntary Fund contributors. With special thanks to Mike and Kim Durham, and Mark and Dee Dee Hughes.

**Barry and Diane Edgin** would like to thank Steve Yates, Ramey Rodgers, and all the hands on the Price Gregory job in Lenox, PA, for sending in the Voluntary Fund request. The gift was greatly appreciated and needed. They also thank all the Brother and Sister members who contribute out of their hard-earned wages that make the fund possible. Words can't express how much they appreciate those who came by, called, and prayed during and after Barry's surgery.

**Jerry and Shirley Tomlinson** thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the check they received after the passing of his mother-in-law. Special thanks to Pawpaw and Chrissy Hawkins.

Brothers and Sisters, due to limited spacing, SHORT & PERSONAL items are published as space permits. We try to print some in each category, and will get to yours as soon as possible. All items must be submitted in writing.

## In Memoriam

**Robert D. Ore**, 76-year-old Retired Journeyman Spacer of Clendenin, WV, passed away October 1, 2017.

**Michael G. Gulley, II**, 29-year-old Welder of Fort Smith, AR, passed away October 2, 2017.

**John E. Dougherty**, 85-year-old Retired Welder of Corpus Christi, TX, passed away October 9, 2017.

**James B. Henderson, Sr.**, 71-year-old Retired Welder of Westerville, OH, passed away October 18, 2017.

**Robert L. Dyer**, 46-year-old Helper of Monroe, LA, passed away October 21, 2017.

**Steven M. Tolley**, 62 year old Retired Journeyman Spacer of Jackson, TN, passed away November 3, 2017.

**Dale J. Anderson**, 75-year-old Retired Welder of Emery, SD, passed away November 6, 2017.

**Richard A. Joerls**, 63-year-old Retired Welder of Buffalo Gap, TX, passed away November 11, 2017.

**Scott A. Skipper**, 43-year-old Welder of Lipan, TX, passed away November 11, 2017.

**Herbert M. Holder**, 81-year-old Retired Welder of Billings, MT, passed away November 12, 2017.

**Charles A. Lewis**, 91-year-old Retired Welder of Lake Jackson, TX, passed away November 17, 2017.

**Justin S. Curran**, 29-year-old Helper of Iron Mountain, MI, passed away November 25, 2017.

## Congratulations

WELCOME Finnleigh Claire Seale, born November 28, 2017, to Welder and Helper Members Chuck and Chelsi Seale. Finnleigh weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 20 in. long. Proud grandparents are Welder and Helper members Ronnie and Michelle Hill, and Wayne Seale.



## Retirements

**Timothy W. Ashby**, Journeyman Spacer, Big Rapids, MI

**Jean A. Barbe**, Helper, Marrero, LA

**William R. Barks**, Helper, Starks, LA

**Andre R. Bryant**, Helper, New Castle, DE

**Stephen C. Chumley**, Welder, Cleburne, TX

**Veronica Y. Dawson**, Helper, Fayetteville, NC

**Blane J. Derosso**, Helper, Tronwood, MI

**Charles E. Dinkens**, Helper, Rush, KY

**William S. Dodd**, Helper, Kintnersville, PA

**Charles T. Harrison**, Welder, Georgiana, AL

**Marcus B. Hedges**, Helper, Silver Grove, KY

**James G. Johnston**, Welder, Killian, IA

**Michael H. Lohah**, Journeyman Spacer, Hominy, OK

**Thomas A. McCann**, Helper, Phoenix, AZ

**Robert L. Powell**, Welder, Amarillo, TX

**Danny R. Shaffar**, Helper, South Range, WI

**Charles W. Taylor, Sr.**, Helper, McRae, AR

**Rex A. Umbarger**, Welder, Sanford, TX

**Sam M. Wooten**, Helper, Vina, AL

## Swap & Sell

**2006 Road King**, with all the goodies. 6-speed baker high performance (\$4,000) transmission, Harley's high performance Screamin' Eagle engine with tuner, fiberglass hard bags, highway LED lights, LED headlight, 18-inch ape hangers with coated stainless braided lines, 18 inch eagle spoke wheels, new tires, new clutch, LED ground lighting, chrome extended bevels on the lights, chrome front forks, and chrome tuned pipes. Thousands of extras invested in this beautiful Road King. Runs and drives excellent. REDUCED to \$9,850.00. Call Larry at (918) 269-1925.

**2008 Dodge Ram 3500** One Ton Welding Truck & Bed. Custom bed, Cummins Diesel, 191,000 miles with white exterior and camel leather interior. Fully loaded with navigation. Meticulously maintained. \$35,000. Call Ron at (318) 613-4078 mobile or (337) 565-6773 home.

**2015 Keystone Montana**. 40 ft., 6 slides, fireplace, leather recliner/couch combo, love seat (both couch and love seat make out to queen size beds). Samsung residential fridge, washer/dryer (not a combo unit), automatic leveling system, central vacuum, king size bed in rear bedroom, 2 flat screens, 2 a/c units. Barely used, hasn't been smoked in or any pets. Like brand new. \$48,500. Charisey Fromme (580) 771-1744.

**Lightest pancake hood** on the market!! \$90 + shipping. Call Ron at (318) 613-4078.

**Mountaineer bunkhouse model trailer with 4 bunks**. Custom fabricated 60 gal. diesel tank with 15 gpm transfer pump in the front. Awning in perfect shape. Everything works fine, and non-smoking with allergy free, non-shedding, small older pets only (13-year-old bichon). This trailer is a perfect floor plan for a family. 10-gal hot water heater, two bathrooms, washer and dryer hookup, outside shower, stove and sink, all original flat TVs and remotes, tires replaced last year. Well maintained with professionally hired wash, wax and seal done in July. The roof was inspected for seal replacement and was also waxed and sealed in July. \$26,500. Email Secratt.farms@gmail.com or call (918) 822-0509. Located in Tahlequah, OK.



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Navy Logo Hoodie  
Item # 116 - \$30.00

#### CAPS

Knitted Cap  
Item # 102 \$6.00

#### MISCELLANEOUS

798 Money Clip  
Item # 129 \$15.00

798 Stainless Steel Travel Mug  
Item # 133 - \$12.00



133

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