Steve “Robert” Randolph
Retired Welder
Dequincy, LA

Slick Rig Winner

1957 Chevrolet
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is a great time to be a pipeliner in Local 798. With over two million man hours worked this year, I would say that the work season is off to a fantastic start. The great news is that the work doesn’t appear to show signs of slowing down anytime soon. After seeing a record-breaking number of man hours worked in April, I predict that this will be a trend for the coming months as well. With that in mind, we must do our best to fulfill our obligation to our fair contractors. To fulfill our end of the bargain, we have nearly exhausted the Out-of-Work Lists and have heavily utilized the application list. In doing so, we have taken in many new members this year and will continue to do that to man the work. I ask that our long-time members welcome these new Brothers and Sisters to our membership and set the bar high for what it truly means to be a Local 798 member.

As you may already know, this year, Business Agent Rick Taylor and Organizer Jerry Ryan have officially retired. I am proud to not only have called these two men my colleagues, but also my friends. I wish them well in their future endeavors. I would like to officially welcome Justin Hornback to the Local 798 staff as our newest Organizer. Justin has been a Welder member of Local 798 for nearly ten years. His exemplary character and work ethic throughout his time in the Local lets me know that he will be an asset to our staff.

In an effort to keep the membership up-to-date on Union business and happenings in the pipeline industry, we will be hosting a regional meeting in Cleveland, OH, this September. If you are in the area, I encourage you to attend. More details to follow soon.

Finally, I want to thank my office staff. They have worked tirelessly to serve our membership to the best of their ability during this busy work season.

As always, I am proud to say, “I work for you, the greatest pipeliners in the world.”

Fraternally,

Daniel C. Hendrix
Business Manager

Pipeliners Union 798
4823 S. 83rd E. Ave.
P.O. Box 470798
Tulsa, OK 74147-0798

PH: 918/622-1900
FAX: 918/627-9327

Please visit the Local 798 Web Site at www.local798.org for updated pre-job information

BUSINESS MANAGER
Daniel C. Hendrix

FINANCIAL SECRETARY-
TREASURER
Wade Pilgreen

PRESIDENT
Preston Richard

VICE PRESIDENT
Paul Davis

RECORDING SECRETARY
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INSIDE GUARD
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EXECUTIVE BOARD
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FINANCE COMMITTEE
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EXAMINING BOARD
Clark Eastwood
Mike Miller

BUSINESS AGENTS
David Butterworth
Chad Gilbert
Chris Lancaster
Black Schroeder
Darrell Turner
Phillip Wallace
Charles E. Yates, Jr.

798 ORGANIZERS
Justin Hornback
Ronnie Hill
Terry Langley

DISPATCHER
Ricky Jones

Dispatch Office: 918/610-2761
Out Of Work List: 918/663-3200
Dispatch FAX: 918/610-2740
Jobline: 918/610-2745

Please visit the Local 798 Web Site at www.local798.org for updated pre-job information

Minnesota Limited
Fab Shop
Big Lake, MN

Blue Light Reports • July / August 2017 • Page 2
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to begin my remarks today by thanking everyone who has stepped up and helped man our work. These are indeed historical times for our Local due to the sheer volume of members we are sending out to these jobs. And I am also excited about the new members we are receiving during this time. It is our responsibility to welcome and educate these new members on the standards of becoming a UA member. Black Schroeder and Guy Williams gave excellent presentations at Steward School. These presentations can be viewed on our website, www.local798.org, under the media tab. I would like to highlight just a few key points. Pipeline etiquette is making others feel comfortable by the way you behave, and thinking of others before yourself, because people will remember how you made them feel, whether good or bad. We must practice this belief on and off the ROW. It must become ingrained in us to treat others with respect and to be kind in our dealings with others. The etiquette of business is a set of written and unwritten rules of conduct: show up on time; be drug and alcohol free; help fellow members in time of need; support unionism and the oath of obligation; protect UA work; and protect the UA constitution and abide by it. Remember there is a proper chain of command when dealing with issues on the ROW. Always start with the Welder Foreman, then proceed to the Job Steward, then to the Business Agent if needed. Any type of harassment on the job will not be tolerated, neither will any type of disrespect to the Welder Foreman, Job Steward, or any UA member. Many people become UA members because they expect to be treated fairly, and are willing to abide by our code of conduct.

Safety should be our number one priority every day. This issue hits close to home for me because I lost two of the most influential men in my life due to pipeline accidents. These men instilled in me the values and ethics that I hope I am passing along to others. We must demand that everyone work safe, not just doing what is convenient at the time. Because the ones who have gone before us have worked and sacrificed for our safe working conditions today. Our craftsmanship and productivity are two of the most important things that make Local 798 unique, and it is imperative that we give the contractors and our clients an honest day’s work. The quickest way to do anything is to do it right the first time! We strive to have zero repair rates, and work diligently to identify those members who need additional assistance at our state-of-the-art training center in Tulsa. As UA members, we should take pride in our work, lead by example and stand by our word. If we follow these principles, I believe we will be successful at work as well as in life.

I recently attended the Keystone meetings held in Lincoln, Nebraska, along with UA International Representative David Barnett, Business Agent Philip Wallace, Business Agent Chad Gilbert and retired member Warren Jones. Of course, the opposition was out in force, but we had great support from our sister crafts. And I would like to say thank you to all who attended. In addition to the Keystone Pipeline, hearings are also underway for the Line 3 Replacement Project and the Atlantic Sunrise Project. I know many of you are working and will be unable to attend the meetings, but I encourage you to log on to our American Pipeline Action Network to sign petitions and electronically send letters to our Congressmen. Again, I am very appreciative for all you do to support our efforts to get these projects approved, and this work season is the evidence that our efforts are being rewarded!

I would like to recognize Ricky Jones and the members of the Dispatch Office for all the hard work and dedication they have given over these last couple of months. It has not been easy filling all these job orders, but they have shown up and given their best effort. I would like to say thank you to all the office staff for all they do for our membership, and for their tireless dedication to their work. They are a wonderful group of people to work with, and I appreciate all they do to help the Local run smoothly! I would like to commend Charlie Yates and David Butterworth for all of their hard work and effort. They may be the two newest Business Agents to come on board, but they have handled all the work in their areas like veterans. I would like to welcome Justin Hornback to our 798 staff. He is a ten-year member, and is currently assisting Ricky in the Dispatch Office. He will have other duties as assigned by Danny, and I know he will be a great asset to our staff. I look forward to working with him.

Danny and I hope to see you this summer. We are planning a Regional Meeting on Sunday, September 17, in Cleveland, OH, at the Lincoln Electric Headquarters. Additional information will be posted on our website as more details are finalized. I hope everyone has a safe and productive work season and as always, I am blessed to serve this great Local. Please do not hesitate to call if I can be of any assistance.

In closing, I am sure many of you are aware that Terry Langley is fighting multiple myeloma. Please remember him and Debby in your prayers. James 5:16 “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (KJV).

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Wade Pilgreen
Financial Secretary-Treasurer
Industry. If you have contributed, please continue. If you haven’t signed up yet, please do so. The environmentalists are attacking our industry, and we need all the help we can get to secure our jobs.

The work we are looking at in the West will be bid later this summer. Xcel has the Lancaster to Ft. Lupton, CO, Natural Gas Pipeline (4.1 Miles of 24 inch). They will also put the Tungsten to Bobtail Natural Gas Pipe to bid, which consists of 15 miles of pipe. The size is to be determined. Tallgrass has over 90 miles of 20 inch from Weld County to near Sterling, CO, that is up for bid in 2017 also.

I have traveled to the Black eagle and Crossfire Projects organizing new hands. We have been fortunate to retain some great helpers and welders from the West this year, and I welcome them to 798. I will be stronger with the new hands we have organized into the Local. I feel this can bring more job opportunities for the membership. The members who join will have to remain loyal to their oath of obligation which requires them not to work for unorganized contractors. And if they do, charges will be filed immediately. Members should relay to the new members the benefits of working Building Trades when Pipeline work is not available. Also, stress to new members the importance of contacting the Business Agents if offered work by non-signatory contractors.

I would like to close by asking everyone to keep Terry and Debbie Langley in your prayers for the challenge Terry has before him. Cancer, no matter what type, is the one disease that touches all of us. I urge you to find a charity of your choice that fights cancer and searches for the cure and contribute. Sometime in our lifetime maybe we will start to see a breakthrough and even a cure for this horrible disease.

Please call with questions or concerns and always remember, if we work together and strive for the same goals, we can achieve anything.

DARRELL TURNER
AL, FL, GA, LA, MS
918/270-6737

Brothers and Sisters,
I will be retiring from Pipeliners Local Union 798 at the end of this year. I have had an incredible career as a 798 member and officer, but it is time to move on. I don’t know what the future has in store for Bonnie and me, but we will never forget the affection and comradesy of our 798 family. We are 798 until death do us part!

On to the business at hand: The Sable Trail, South Florida expansion, and Williams expansion projects in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida are winding down. It appears that all mainline construction, tie-ins, testing, and gas-up will be completed by the end of June, and the LU 798 personnel should be terminated at that time. I have work continuing in Louisiana and Mississippi at this writing, and I have held one new station pre-job since my last report with no new pipeline jobs to report.

There are currently three non-union projects underway in Georgia that have my undivided attention. Above and beyond the normal aggravations related to our adversaries, these projects weren’t shown to any of our fair contractors (large or small). In fact, 18 miles of 24” congested pipeline at Atlanta, GA, is under construction within 30 minutes of a major PLCG contractor, Latex of Georgia. The job was simply awarded to a contractor (not), that if accused and convicted of being qualified, would be let go for lack of evidence.

The Louisiana work for Energy Transfer was awarded to Sunland and Troy. Those three spreads (164 miles of 24”) will commence in August. Our Local fought the good fight to secure that work, but it wasn’t meant to be. We will never stand for sub-standard wages and conditions in Louisiana or anywhere else, for that matter.

Gulf South Pipeline Corporation will bid a new compressor station and 1,000 feet of pipe. The size is to be determined. Driftwood Pipeline has 96 miles of 42” and 36” with three new compressor stations in design, pre-construction, and pre-bid stage. The project will be built in South Louisiana, and construction is anticipated to begin in January 2018. Florida Utilities has 44 miles of 12” to build near Pensacola, FL. The project bids in August of this year.

Please call me if I can help you in any way.

CHAD GILBERT
AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, WY
918/270-6736

I am writing my report at home while preparing for the last Nebraska Service Commission Hearing on the Keystone XL. Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, David Barnett, and Phillip Wallace have worked tirelessly on behalf of the membership to get this project approved. I am proud to be able to help them by commenting at the hearings. Some actions we take are visible, like attending these meetings. Now it’s round two with new leadership in Washington, DC, that supports oil and gas projects. I feel that the KXL will go next year with some Station Work possibly in late 2017.

The next project is the Enbridge Line #3 Replacement in Minnesota. There will be around 22 town hall meetings during the month of June scattered across Minnesota. I will be at most of these and would invite anyone to come to support these projects. If you are working and cannot make a meeting, ask your family members to try and attend. Also, you and your family members should join the American Pipeline Action Network. Once you’ve registered on the Action Network, the hard part is done. Then all you have to do to get involved is click and sign the petitions that are sent to the politicians in your area. This is an easy way to get involved with helping your Local fight for the permits on future pipeline jobs. There is power in big groups of concerned citizens putting pressure on the people in Washington who make these decisions. You don’t have to be a union member to show support.

Local 798 members, you should be maxing out your 2,200 hours this year to gain the two retirement credits. What a great way to build your retirement. The northeastern states are booming with several good jobs that will last all work season. We need to take advantage of these job opportunities while we have them. I think this boom will go through 2018 with the projected work on the books. This is an exciting time to be a 798 Pipeliner so take advantage of these times while they’re here. And always, work safe.

BLACK SCHROEDER
TX
918/270-6743

If the last half of 2017 ends like the first half started, Local 798 will flourish even more than we expected. Our pension will grow just like our Local’s membership and 401(k)s have done.

I would like to welcome all the new members including those who have never worked on a pipeline and those who have left the non-union pipeline contractors. I know this is a giant step for anyone, especially for those individuals who have been out there several years. It’s going to be like starting over. You will get the opportunity to better yourself, and hopefully, the biggest majority of you
will be able to one day look back at your life and say joining Local 798 was the best thing that ever happened to you and your family. I would also like to welcome the men and women who served our country. Whether you were in combat or never saw combat, you sacrificed for us and our country. Hopefully, we can pay you back for what you have done. Thank you.

No matter who you are or where you come from, you are now a part of a Brother and Sisterhood that is the Best of the Best, who stick together through thick and thin. Always remember our “Oath of Obligation.” Don’t ever forget that at 4823 South 83rd East Avenue in Tulsa, OK, the best welders in the entire world pass through those gates.

There are still several big projects waiting to start, and I have been talking to RMS and CRC. They say we will be running procedures for the Atlantic Sunrise, and possibly some more projects, before the end of the year.

If I can be of assistance to anyone please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Pre-Jobs:

Michels Pipeline:

Charles Yates, Jr.
IN, MI, OH
918/270-6746

This Blue Light report follows a tour of job visits. It was good to meet with so many hands both in the yard and on the ROW. We have received positive feedback from contractors regarding performance and progress. Overall, the jobs in my area are going smoothly and our clients are pleased. Thank you all for your dedication to 798, long hours, and meeting the clients’ deadlines. In fact, the Utopia is maintaining a less than one percent repair rate.

We’ve also been fortunate to take in some excellent new people who have been a positive addition to our Local. With all this work, it has been a challenge to fill orders. This has been an opportunity for organizing the non-union sector. We have taken away key personnel from non-union contractors, which has crippled their work force and strengthened ours. Danny, Wade, Black, Chad, and Ronnie have been vital to these efforts. We’ve pulled together to organize every corner of the United States.

There are still many more jobs to visit. Looking forward to seeing you sometime this summer. Work safe and stand together, union strong.

Big Inch:


Contractor Rentals:


Geeding Construction:


InfraSource:


Mid-Ohio Contracting:


Minnesota Limited:

- Pittsburgh, IN. Take-up 27,000’ of 8” and replace with 12” for Vectren. Superintendent: Dusty Schaaf. Welder Foreman: Eric Haskins. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8/15/17.


PJE:


Roberts Pipeline:

- Columbus, MI. 40” of 6” integrity digs for Buckeye Partners. Superintendent: Justin Robinet. Welder Foreman: Daniel Barcow. Working 5-10s. Job complete.

UP:


Welded:


David Butterworth
CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV
918/270-6745

I am writing this Blue Light Report after a week of pre-jobbing in Connecticut and Pennsylvania. The work continues to be strong and I am excited about the future work outlook. The next major project on the horizon is Williams Transco’s Atlantic Sunrise Project. This project is 183 miles of 30”, 36” and 42” pipe and it includes five meter stations, and two compressor stations with facility modifications in five states. The majority of this project will be done union, and we have been advocating for this project to go for over two years.

The final hurdle in the permitting process is the PA Water and Wetland Encroachment Permits. The PA DEP is holding public hearings throughout Pennsylvania in June. Wade and I will be attending some of these meetings, and I expect to see a large turnout from the membership as well. The FERC meetings last year in Lancaster, PA, were dominated by the environmental extremists, and I hope we turn the tide during this next round of meetings.

The current jobs we have going are in the process of manning up or are close to being manned at this point. Manning these jobs this year has been difficult, but they are being manned and we are going to overcome the challenge of an over-abundance of work. If there ever was a time to save your money, this is it. We may never see another time like this again, so save your money for the slow times when they happen because they do happen. If you do this, you won’t have to go help those who practice unorganized labor, or be so reliant to a contractor that you will do things that go against our hard-fought conditions.

To those who have just joined our Local I want to say, “Welcome.” You have been given a golden opportunity to provide a good living for your families and to work toward a retirement and healthcare. It is up to you to make the most out of the gift you have just been given. Take membership seriously and understand the importance of joining the best Pipeline Local in the world. To paraphrase JFK, “Ask not what your Union can do for you, ask what you can do for your Union.” For a union to be successful, the entire membership must be moving in the same direction. For long-time members like myself, that direction is clear: to be the most prompt, professional and hardest working men and women in the entire pipeline industry. If you don’t see it that way, then maybe you are in the wrong union. But if you do, you will become a vital part of the engine that drives the pipeline industry.

Pre-Jobs:

- Alex E. Paris Contracting:

- Apex Pipeline Services:

Appalachian Pipeline Contractors:

- Linden, PA. 15 miles of 24” Hydro-testing. Superintendent: Ben Gruetzmacher.
Appellation Prefab LLC:
- Mansfield, PA. 4 hot taps 30” & 24” split-tees and 2 2” split-tees. (Phase I) 
  Integrity Management paying high-scale. (Job Complete) 
- Middlebury Center, PA. 36” Interconnect valuing system, launcher, receiver. 
  (Phase 2) Superintendent: Robert Alan Truman. Welder Foreman: Stalin George. 
  Mainline rates. Approx. completion 9-1-17.

Blue Flame Pipeline, LLC:
- Smithsburg, WV. Additional 7.8 miles of 24”. Superintendent: Cliff Frymier. 

B Miller Excavating Inc.:
- Beaver Falls, PA. 7,000’ of 20” Take-up and Relay. Superintendent: Bryan Rizar. 
- Westfield, PA. 2,600’ of 26” and 600’ of 20” Take-up and Relay. Superintendent: 
  7-1-17.

Bond Bros. Inc.:
- Burtville, RI. Prefab and Install of piping for 2 meter stations in CT. 
  Superintendent: James Comeau. Welder Foreman: Jeff Stockwell. Station rates 
  paying High-Scale. Approx. completion 9-1-17.

Charls, LLC:
- Scottsville, VA. 30’ Maintenance Work. Superintendent: Mike Phinney. Welder 
  Foreman: Tanner Dremmel. Integrity Management paying High-Scale. Approx. 
  completion 7-15-17.

Contractor Rentals Corp.:
- Wallingford, CT. 5 miles of 16” new-lay (Street work). Superintendent: Micheal 
  Approx. completion 11-3-17.

Hankels & McCoy Inc.:
- Selkirk, NY. 1.3 miles of 36” in NY; 3.8 miles of 36” in MA; 8.3 miles of 24” in 
- Honesdale, PA. 12.9 miles of 36”. Superintendent: Chad Simmons. Welder 

Infrasource Construction LLC:
- Front Royal, VA. 10,500’ of 20” new-lay. Superintendent: Jason Nash. Welder 

Kirila Contractors Inc.:
- Tidioute, PA. 2 miles of 6” new-lay and 1.7 miles of 6” take-up. Superintendent: 
  Ronald Kirila. Welder Foreman: Ted Hazel. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 
  6-20-17.

LMC Industrial Contractors:
- Georgetown, NY. 6 mainline tie-ins: 1,800’ of 36”; 3,000’ of 42”. Superintendent: 
  completion 8-31-17.
- Owego, NY. Upgrade of gas piping to the mainline 30” & 24”. Superintendent: 
  completion 6-15-17.

R.L. Cooladet Construction Co.:
- Marietta, PA. Take-up and relay 900’ of 36”, 300’ of 30”, 300’ of 24”. 
  Superintendent: Randy Recker. Welder Foreman: Jim Cook (LU 85). Mainline 
  rates. Approx. completion 7-15-17.

Rockford Corporation:
- Montrose, PA. Launcher and Receiver Maintenance, 19.24 miles of 24”, 4.42 
  miles of 20”, 2.77 miles of 16”. Superintendent: Kevlin Shaw. Welder Foreman: 

Otis Eastern Service LLC:
- Lebanon, PA. Anomaly digs in 12 PA counties. Superintendent: Skip Holley. 

Price Gregory International Inc.:
- Ashland, KY (WH) Working in WV and OH. 15,348’ of 36”, 6,188 HHD, 9,160’ 
  of 36” new-lay plus fab. Superintendent: Gary Pelham. Welder Foreman: Jeff 
  Doyle. Approx. completion 10-1-17.
- Elicott City, MD. Atlantic Sunrise Compressor Station 190 HP Expansion. 
  Superintendent: Darryl Ditterline. Welder Foreman: Andy Hess. Station 
  Agreement paying High-Scale. Approx. completion 10-31-17.
- Mansfield, PA. 15.1 miles of 36”. Superintendent: Jack Burch. Welder Foreman: 

- Danbury CT. Removal of 12,952’ of 26”; Install 12,952’ of 42”. Superintendent: 
  Buck Hines. Welder Foreman: Jerry Haynes. Mainline rates. Approx. completion 
  10-15-17.

Precision Pipeline, LLC:
- Tioga, PA. 30,000’ of 8” Flexsteel, 4,100’ of 8’ steel, 240’ of 6” steel. 
  Approx. completion 8-31-17.
- McMchen, WV. Majorvilles Lateral (Rover Project) 23.5 miles of 24”. 
  Approx. completion 11-1-17.

The Hills Group, LLC:
- Watstown, PA. 7,000 of 24” replacements, 13 miles of hydro-testing, 3 valve 
  change outs. Superintendent: Jimmy Hoy. Welder Foreman: Steve Yost. Integrity 
  Management paying High-Scale. Approx. completion 8-24-17.

Welded Construction, LP:
- Washington, PA. 26.6 miles of 20” and 1,873’ of 12” new-lay for ME2. 

CHRIS LANCASTER
KY, NC, SC, TN
918/270-6735

I am writing this report from home. The work, as you know, is great. We are having a hard time filling some of these jobs, so I encourage you, if you aren’t already working, to apply for jobs on the Job Line. We need everyone’s help in manning these jobs because if we don’t man the work, the non-union will. Let’s not let the non-union get any stronger than they already are. The work in my area is manned up for now, but I am still sending in a few hands on the special agreement work.

I want to thank everyone for the good job they are doing. This work season is just now coming in and most are working or have been offered work. We still have a lot of work to do this year and several large projects coming up for 2018. I have a few larger projects that should be coming up for bids in late June and July.

I am looking forward to seeing you in the field soon. I hope everyone has a safe and prosperous year. We are now working under our new agreement so be sure to read it because there are a few changes. It is everyone’s job to make sure our work is protected and our agreement is followed.

Pre-Jobs:

B&G Pipeline:
  Superintendent: Matthew Himschool. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. 
  Approx. completion 8-1-17.
- Forrest City, NC. Various Fabrication and Station work. Welder Foreman: Marty 
  Garrison. Superintendent: Thomas Born. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. 
  Approx. completion 6-2-17.

RLA Utilities:
- Lexington, KY. 8.3 miles of 24” Deactivation. Welder Foreman: Randy Wyatt. 
  Superintendent: Ralph Pfister. Working 5-8s. Maintenance. Approx. completion 
  6-30-17.

Justin Hornback is a Welder member in good standing since his initiation in 2007. He joined Local 798 as a Helper on the Rockies Express project in Nebraska, and changed his classification after completing the Downhill Welding School at the Local 798 Training Center in 2010. Justin maintained his UA certifications and worked Building Trades as a Traveler while in between 798 jobs. He has completed his CWI certification and the required training to give OSHA 10-hour and 30-hour Construction safety courses. Justin moved to Oklahoma three years ago and resides in the Tulsa, OK, area with his wife and daughter, who are both active with the Ladies of 798. He is humbled to receive this opportunity to serve the membership, and strives to assist his 798 Brothers and Sisters to the best of his ability.
Cherokee Nation working with Tulsa Pipeliners Union 798 for job training

TULSA, Okla. – Cherokee Nation’s Career Services department is teaming up with Pipeliners Local Union 798 to train Cherokee Nation citizens to be welders, journeymen or welder helpers.

As part of a Memorandum of Understanding signed April 21 in Tulsa, the Cherokee Nation will refer promising Cherokee workers to Local Union 798 for training, and for jobs across the United States as they arise.

“The Cherokee Nation is working hard to connect our citizens to stable, high-paying jobs that provide great benefits, and we feel our partnership with Local Union 798 is giving tribal citizens yet another pathway to employment for jobs that are in high demand,” said Secretary of State Chuck Hoskin Jr., who toured the union facility in Tulsa recently. “While the physical and mental demands associated with this field of work aren’t for everyone, we have citizens in the Cherokee Nation who are going to thrive in this environment and several have already expressed an interest.”

Through the agreement, training is free to Cherokee Nation citizens. Local Union 798 has about 6,500 members, many who are members of federally recognized tribes, and can connect qualified Cherokee Nation helpers and welders to projects in more than 40 states. Travel and overtime are often required for the jobs, which are in a variety of climates and weather conditions.

“This MOU is historic because it means tribes, especially Cherokee Nation, will be at the table early in the development process so that we can voice opinions about cultural resources and natural resources before pipeline routes are determined and finalized here in Oklahoma,” said Bobby Gonzalez, tribal liaison to the union. “The union and tribal government will have each other’s interest in mind as work is contracted with big oil companies.”

Local Union 798’s training specializes in downhill welding, which accounts for the vast majority of work involved with the contract jobs. Entry level helpers have the potential to earn more than $100,000 per year, while some experienced welders belonging to Local Union 798 earn well above that, not including their benefits.

“This isn’t just a job, it’s a lifestyle and a career path that can change someone’s life,” Local 798 Business Manager Danny Hendrix said. “This agreement could provide job opportunities for Cherokee Nation citizens that include nice wages, per diems, pensions, health care, 401(k) and structure. We want to help build careers. That’s really what it’s all about, and it just makes sense for us to work with tribal nations.”

Helpers connected to jobs through Local Union 798 are required to complete 5,000 hours of field work before applying for the union’s welder training. The training courses are offered three times per year and last 14 weeks.

“Our Career Services department already provides training in carpentry, welding, masonry, electrical work, heavy construction, culinary and other trades, which allows us to develop and encourage work habits and skills that promote employability and self-sufficiency,” said Career Services Executive Director Diane Kelley. “Our partnership with Local Union 798 will give Cherokee Nation citizens yet another avenue for training and good-paying jobs.”

Cherokee Nation Career Services offers vocational and educational programs, employment programs, youth programs, skills assessments and certifications, and a variety of other resources for individuals and businesses.

For more information on the training and job opportunities available through the Local Union 798 agreement, contact Cherokee Nation Career Services at 918-453-5555 or email career-services-dept@cherokee.org.

About Cherokee Nation

The Cherokee Nation is the federally recognized government of the Cherokee people and has inherent sovereign status recognized by treaty and law. The seat of tribal government is the W.W. Keeler Complex near Tahlequah, Oklahoma, the capital of the Cherokee Nation. With 350,000 citizens, 11,000 employees and a variety of tribal enterprises ranging from aerospace and defense contracts to entertainment venues. Cherokee Nation is one of the largest employers in northeastern Oklahoma and the largest tribal nation in the United States.

To learn more, please visit www.cherokee.org.

Editor’s note: Find all the latest Cherokee Nation news at www.anadisgoi.com.
STEWARD SCHOOL 2017

18th Annual Charity Golf Tournament
A Day at the Ball Park

On Sunday, May 21, 2017, there were 127 Local 798 members and their families who attended a Pirates game and tailgate party at PNC Park in Pittsburgh, PA. Welder member Kirk Cofano was instrumental in organizing this event which raised around $5,000 for the Voluntary Fund. A big thank you to everyone who volunteered to man the raffles and other drawings to make this event a success.

Vision Benefits

The vision coverage provided by PIBF is $200 annually for each family member. Depending on the circumstances, children under 19 are eligible for additional coverage under the Affordable Care Act. Some eye care facilities will bill PIBF directly for services while others operate on a cash basis for the best pricing. The chain stores or mail order companies generally operate on a cash basis. If you purchase frames and prescription lenses and pay cash, be sure to obtain a diagnosis of your vision procedures and a paid receipt. PIBF will reimburse you up to $200 from the vision program and you can resubmit the remainder through the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) program.

401(k) Plan

Before the contractors began paying employer 401(k) contributions, the 401(k) plan received five cents per hour from fringe contributions to pay for the operating expenses of the plan. This amount covered such things as audit fees, investment manager fees, office overhead and other fees such as postage and printing. When the contractors began paying employer 401(k) contributions, the five cents was included in the amount going into each participant's account and a quarterly fee is deducted from each participant's account to cover operating expenses. The PIBF staff is reviewing the cost to operate the plan and may increase the quarterly fees in 2018 to cover operating costs. However, the fee in total should not exceed the five cents per hour earmark originally paid to the 401(k) plan by the contractors.

918-280-4800 – www.pibf.org

Kathy Morrison Retires After 41 Years of Service at PIBF

The retirement of Kathy Morrison, Claims Manager at PIBF, was announced by Danny Hendrix at the 2017 Steward School opening session. Kathy began her career at PIBF in 1976. She worked in various areas of the organization, but spent most of her time in the Health and Welfare Claims Department, advancing to Claims Manager in 2013. Kathy is looking forward to spending more time with her grandchildren and family in retirement. We miss her as a co-worker, but will always consider Kathy and her family as friends. Everyone at PIBF wishes Kathy a great retirement.

New Claims Manager

We are pleased to announce Kimberly Brasiola as the new Claims Manager. Kimberly has been Assistant Claims Manager for several years and is well seasoned and capable to take over the position recently left open by Kathy Morrison's retirement. The position of Claims Manager is responsible for the operation and supervision of the daily functions of the Claims Department and the position reports to the Director or Assistant Director.
The work exploded April 10, 2017. We had the largest order EVER for one day. During my two years as Dispatcher, we've had 65, 73 or 80 dispatches to perform in a day. On April 10, 2017, we had orders for 150 people, approximately 50 welders and 100 helpers. It stayed at that volume for over a week. During the surge in 2008, we only had one or two days of 100 dispatches.

**Dispatch Numbers Comparison**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welders</td>
<td>1,207</td>
<td>1,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journeymen</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpers</td>
<td>2,014</td>
<td>1,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,432</td>
<td>3,270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We dispatched 1,344 people in April, and 1,204 in May.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Terry Langley, Jerry Ryan, Charles Yates, Jr., and David Butterworth, for coming into the Dispatch Office to help during this time of work overflow. And, we cannot go without mentioning Ronnie Hill and the Business Agents who have done everything they could to help. Also, we thank our Sister Locals who have lent us their hands so we could man our work.

Above all, the ladies in the Dispatch Office - Cathy Blackmore, Cynthia Martin, and Jennifer Sanders-Musick - have worked countless hours to help ensure our members go to work. They have worked 10, 12, and 13-hour days, six days a week. They are still working long hours, six days a week, to get everyone to the job and on time if possible. We cannot thank them enough for the dedication they have shown to this Local.

Justin Hornback, Organizer, is working in Dispatch to help us while we are dealing with this large load of work. We have also hired two more office professionals to help in Dispatch. So, along with the work increases, we are in the middle of training new hands. However, they are catching on quickly and are tremendous assets to the Dispatch Office now.

Also, to the members, who regardless of being tired from a long work winter, have loaded up and manned the work, THANK YOU!

The wheel is low with 220 Welders, 16 Journeymen, and 231 Helpers. Most of these people have only been on the wheel about a month.

To all the new members I would like to say welcome to Local 798. It was the best decision I ever made and it will be for you as well. I know you’re seeing a lot of differences between 798 jobs and those on the other side. Make every effort to learn all the working rules and best practices. If you’re not sure about something, ask someone. They will be more than happy to help you. It’s really very simple. Everything we do is about Quality, Productivity, Safety and Respect for our Brother and Sister members.

If you talk to your friends who are still in the non-union side, tell them about the wages, conditions, and benefits that we have. Ask them to do what you did and stand up against the shady unfair practices of the non-union side. Welders, Journeymen and Helpers are the key to a pipeline project. Without them, no pipeline will ever be built. If we all stand together as one, the sky is the limit. If you’re going to be a pipeliner, then you need to be a 798 Union Pipeliner where you not only get the best wages, but the respect that goes along with it. Demand it, don’t settle for anything less, and ask others to stand with us and demand it also. If you have friends wanting to be union, tell them to call me and demand it. If anyone has any information about non-union projects, please let me know.

It is a great honor to represent the members of this Local Union and if I can help in any way, please let me know. Everyone please have a safe and prosperous work year. It’s a good time to be a pipeliner.

Fraternally, Ronnie M. Hill

(918) 284-6862
Wayne Causey writes to thank the Voluntary Fund for the help he recently received. Special thanks to David Leroux, Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, and all those who contribute to the fund. Greg and Jody Russell would like to thank all who give to the Voluntary Fund for the help received for Greg’s recent medical issues. A special thanks to Darrell Turner, Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen. Gary and Candy Dickinson thank the supporters of the Voluntary Fund for the help received after double eye surgery. Special thanks to Terry Allen. Joe and Carol Henderson are grateful to everyone who came to aid when Carol fell out of her chair unconscious at the Steward School Retirees Banquet. They will never forget the quick response to help, and prayers for a quick recovery. They are still seeking answers to why it happened. Herbert Holder sends his thanks to the Voluntary Fund for the check that was sent to his family. It meant a lot to them. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen. James Hathorn would like to thank the Local for the award presented to him at the 2017 Steward School. It was unexpected and an honor for which he doesn’t have words to express his feelings. Ellis and Linda McGown thank the Voluntary Fund for the help they received after Linda’s car accident. A special thank you to Leon Loggins. Larry and Cindy Spann want to thank the Voluntary Fund for the help received after his eye surgery. It was greatly appreciated. The Justin Wiles Family says thank you to all the contributors to the Voluntary Fund. The money they received was so appreciated! Special thanks to God for getting them through this difficult time, and to Todd Hartle for his thoughtfulness. The John’s Family sends thanks to the Voluntary Fund, Dennis Stiles and David Loyd. Your kindness during their time of need was greatly appreciated. James Warner and Family would like to thank the donating members of the Voluntary Fund for the help received after his back operation. The help was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, Phillip Wallace, David Warner, and Zach Warner. Kenneth Martin wishes to thank the Voluntary Fund and all who contribute to it for the help he received when he was recovering from retinal detachment surgery. All the calls, cards, and prayers during this time were very appreciated. Special thanks to Kent and Judith Fritts. Calvin Ashby sends his thanks to the Voluntary Fund for the help when his wife was ill and in the hospital. Special thanks to Darrell Turner. Martin and Julia Steele thank the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the help received after Martin’s surgery. Ricky Standridge would like to thank all who give to the Voluntary Fund each week. He feels blessed to be part of Local 798. Special thanks to David Dickerson, Darrell Turner, Wade Pilgreen, and Danny Hendrix. Michael and Regina Thompson thank everyone who graciously contributes to the Voluntary Fund. Regina is improving after her surgeries. Thanks to everyone for their prayers and concerns. Special thanks to Jeff Doyle and the workers on the Price Gregory spread. Lanny Edwards is grateful for the help he received from the Voluntary Fund while he fights liver cancer. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Frank Tevepaugh and R.J. Todd. William “Randy” Barks says thank you to all the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 for the generous gift from the Voluntary Fund. It is nice to be part of such a caring organization. Special thanks to Mack Doyle and Jimmy Berry. Ty Graves and Family sincerely thank all of the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The help they received is very much appreciated. William Eubanks expresses his gratefulness to the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 for the help, kindness, and financial support during difficult times. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers. Jerry Smoak would like to thank the Voluntary Fund and all his Brothers and Sisters who care enough to contribute to the fund. The financial help he received during this difficult time certainly made things easier. A special thank you to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, Wayne Knight, and Brian Anderson. Travis Wells and Family thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. The help was really appreciated when his machine was stolen. Special thanks to Bruce Carroll. Michael Counts and Family wish to extend their thanks to the Voluntary Fund for aiding them in their time of need. The delicacy and grace with which Local 798 operates is truly admirable. They are deeply grateful for the assistance, as it eased their troubles in hard times. Charles Lynch would like to thank all of the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the gift he received after his surgery. Special thanks to Mack Doyle, Wade Pilgreen, and Danny Hendrix. Brent and Lois Hoffmeyer thank the Voluntary Fund for helping them in their time of need. Special thanks to Jimmy Dick and Steve Hammond. Phillip Lowe sends his thanks to the Voluntary Fund and to all his Brothers and Sisters for the gift that was sent. He dearly appreciates the thoughtfulness. Brad and Stacey Mullin thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. It is comforting to know that their Brothers and Sisters care. Your help in their time of need was very much appreciated. Heather Choate says thank you to all the 798 Brothers and Sisters who graciously donate to the Voluntary Fund. The check she received was greatly appreciated.

IN MEMORIAM


RETIEMENTS


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Dudley D. Winborne, Welder, Winnnsboro, LA
Ronnie G. Wolverton, Welder, Parsons, KS
Charles M. Wymore, Welder, Homosassa, FL

Caps by Cindy. Call (918) 557-1660 for details.


The Hood Fan ... it cools and defogs. Easy install. $33 pp. Contact (801) 634-9063 (if your fan quits try spinning it with air @ 40psi).

WELDER HATS - Tall/Short Crown, Reversible and Non-Reversible, Custom Caps. Licensed fabrics available. $12-$14 each plus shipping. FR Digital Camouflage Non-Reversible - $15 plus shipping. Embroidery $1 per letter. Call or text Carol at (970) 420-0199 or e-mail: cjw19290@aol.com. Credit and debit cards accepted.

2010 Vantage 300 Kubota diesel engine, less than 3,000 hours. $6,500.

2006 Lincoln 300D Perkins diesel. Hour meter broke. $4,500.

2006 Miller Pipe Pro 304 Kubota diesel, 4,350 hours. $5,000.

Call Tom at (616) 340-7348.

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.

LEGAL NOTICE
Non-discriminatory Policy As To Students
Local 798 Training Center, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes but is not limited to administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Meeting Notice
September 8, 2017
The Regular September Membership Meeting will be held at the Pipeliners Local Union 798 Union Hall, 4823 S. 83rd E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74145 on Friday, September 8, 2017 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Ladies of 798 Hospitality & Hotel Accommodations
The Ladies of 798 Hospitality will be held at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel – 6808 S. 107th E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74133 beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 8, 2017.

Notice
In order to be more cost effective, the Local Union has purchased a production printing machine that will allow the office to mass produce documents for the membership such as the Blue Light, the National Pipeline Agreement, and the Local 798 Constitution and By-Laws. Employees overseeing the printing process are collectively covered under the UA pension plans, PIBF Insurance and 401(k). All the items printed in house will no longer feature a Union bug. Items that cannot be produced in house will still be printed by a Union print shop and feature a Union bug.

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- White Cotton Brushed Twill Cap
  Item #101-J / $13.00
- Bone Crushed Cotton Twill Cap
  Item #101-F / $13.00

**T-SHIRTS**
- Safety T-Shirt
  Item #115-B / $13.00 (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- American Labor T-Shirt
  Item #115-E / $13.00 (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Navy T-Shirt w/ Embroidery Logo
  Item #115-F / $12.00 (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)

**JACKETS**
- Navy Logo Hoodie
  Item #116 / $33.00 (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
- Pullover Windshirt w/Pockets Bone Color
  Item #207 / $57.00 (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)

**MISCELLANEOUS**
- 798 Keychain w/Bottle Opener
  Item #130 / $2.00
- Stainless Steel Travel Mug
  Item #133 / $12.00
- Nationwide Lapel Pin
  Item #138 / $5.00

More products available online at www.local798.org and by calling (918) 622-1900