Slick Rig Winner
Robert D. Stewart, Jr – Tuscola, IL
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The 2016 Steward School has just concluded. While it is impossible to put into words all that transpired for the week, I will try to give you a brief snapshot of the events. Monday afternoon was the charity golf tournament that was completely sold out. We actually added a morning game this year, so everyone who cared to play had the opportunity. Wade Pilgreen and Cathy Blackmore from the Dispatch Office did an outstanding job making sure the event went off without a hitch. On Tuesday, Lincoln Electric hosted their annual BBQ lunch at the Training Center where they also showed off their latest and greatest equipment and consumables. The week was highlighted by special guests: UA Executive Vice President, Rick Terven and UA Assistant General President, Mike Pleasant. Both officers spoke eloquently about Local 798. They conveyed the message to the membership that if the UA could paint a picture of the “model local” it would look like 798! We have the #1 pension and also the #1 health care in the UA organization. Along with them, we had several other UA officers who attended the school including Director of Energy/Administrative Assistant to UA General President Jim Moss, UA Director of Pipeline and Gas Distribution Tom Gross, and UA Special Representatives David Barnett and Mike Mikich.

On Wednesday morning Ellen Boardman was inducted into Pipeliners 798 as an Honorary Member. Ellen has worked diligently with the UA Pipeline Department and specifically with 798 going back to the days of George Lambert. She along with many others in the UA were paramount in us achieving our exemption from the DOT, and for that I along with the members of 798 will be eternally grateful. It is our distinct honor to welcome Ellen to Pipeliners 798.

Wednesday evening, the Ladies of 798 held their annual charity basket auction and raised almost $80,000 dollars! It was a lively event, to say the least, and enjoyed by all. Special thanks to Chariley Fromme and all the ladies and men behind the scenes who hauled, built and bought baskets.

Thursday was another important day, as we went through our new Pipeliners 798 handbook and financial planning for the membership through education by the Trust Company of Oklahoma, PIBF presentation and the financial team of Chris Brown. Later that evening, we honored our retired members with 50 + years of service. What a remarkable group of men who brought this Local together so long ago, and have entrusted it into our hands for safe keeping.

Without your help, none of this would be possible. I would be amiss if I didn’t mention my whole staff inside and outside the hall and PIBF. Local 798 Office Manager, Renee’ Taylor once again made sure everything flowed well. Even when I didn’t follow the agenda, she pulled it off like a true pipeliner, never letting anyone see her sweat!

The work outlook for 2016 remains strong. We worked 6.8 million man-hours in 2015 and most all of these were small unnamed projects. This year we still have many small projects to get built but in addition, we have some mega-pipelines that I believe will be getting started around the time you receive this report. The Dakota Access 1168 miles of 30” received its final permit from Iowa and has started some ROW construction work. This job will be 8-10 spreads of work almost immediately. Sable Trail in Florida should kick off around June and will be 5 spreads of 36”. The Northeast also will continue to provide millions of man-hours for our members for years to come.

My message for all the attendees at Steward School and the membership receiving this publication is, we must continue to partner with the clients at the various meetings in support of these pipeline projects. It is vital that we exceed the clients’ expectations of members participating at this level. This plan is working, and we are seeing the fruits of our labor already with more clients wanting to partner with organized labor now and into the future. You are in control of your destiny by your actions or inactions. Don’t leave the heavy lifting to others, we must all pull in unison and share the load. As Always, I am proud to say “I work for you, the greatest pipeliners in the world.”

Fraternally,

Daniel C. Hendrix
Business Manager
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to everyone who attended Steward School. I am overwhelmed with all the positive feedback I have received about the new format. Danny and I had hoped this new format would enable our younger members to obtain vitally important information about our Local and we believe it accomplished just that. I would like to recognize our office staff for the countless hours they have given to the preparation of the Steward School, especially the new 798 Member/Steward Handbook. I can say with confidence this document was a labor of love and I am proud to say the Local has the most dedicated office staff. I would also like to give a special “thank you” to Ellen Boardman for her assistance in the editing process of the 798 Member/Steward Handbook.

I was thrilled with the large participation in the Steward Computer Class, and the willingness of our members to learn new information. I know I covered a large amount of material, but my goal was to provide general information about the online Steward Pack E-Reports and to bring awareness to the teaching resources that are available on our website. I would like to thank the Business Agents, PIBF staff, and Pipeliners 798 staff who attended and assisted during the class. Just remember, technology is a large part of our industry and we must strive to improve ourselves in this area.

During our recent job visit to the Lone Star Pipeline Project in Crockett, Texas members of the UA Journal Staff were in attendance obtaining video footage and information about our Local and how we work on the right-of-way. They did an excellent job portraying our membership and this article can be found in the latest edition of the UA Journal. I would like to give a special thanks to Barbara Riddleberger, Genie Ford, and Dean Battaglia of the UA Journal Staff. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the members of the UA Pipeline Department: Tom Gross, David Barnett, and Mike Mikich for all the hard work performed on behalf of Pipeliners 798, and thank them for taking a special interest in our activities during Steward School. It was truly an honor to have Mike Pleasant, Assistant General President, Rick Terven Sr., Executive Vice President and Jim Moss, Administrative Assistant to the President, in attendance during Steward School; their input is always appreciated. I would like to welcome our newest Honorary Member, Ellen Boardman, to our great pipeline family. This recognition was so deserving because she has worked tirelessly on behalf of our membership.

We also had another very successful golf tournament this year. The George Lambert/Harry Faucett Scholarship Golf Tournament raised $32,000 which will enable Pipeliners 798 to continue providing much needed assistance to our members and their families as they pursue their higher educational goals. I would like to thank all of our sponsors for their support in this worthy cause, and their selfless dedication to our tournament. It was also great to welcome back Dan Boevers and his golf trick presentation. I would like to thank Cathy Blackmore for all her assistance in the planning and coordinating of the golf tournament and I know she enjoys her time on the course interacting with all the participants.

At this time, I would like to emphasize the importance of Danny's speech on Friday night. Environmental groups will never give up in their opposition of our pipeline projects. We must make our voices heard because this is not just about our families and their futures, but it is about what is right for our country. We must take an active approach: emailing our congressional leaders, attending environmental hearings and anything else this local leadership requests of you. Remember, whose voice do you want the general public to hear, the environmental groups or ours? We must be steadfast and immovable as we continue our efforts to educate the public on the safety of pipeline construction.

I would also like to thank Phillip Wallace, Jerry Ryan, Terry Langley, and Ronnie Hill for all their assistance in the approval process of the Dakota Access Project. I want to give a special thanks to David Barnett, UA Special Representative, for his continued efforts as we contend with various environmental groups. The Dakota Access project proves that if our membership takes a part in the permitting phase of the project we will win. Thanks to all the members who attended these meetings and sent in comment letters for this project. Within a few weeks this project will begin and several hundred of our members will begin constructing this pipeline.

Now that we have received the permits to begin the Dakota Access pipeline, we again rely on each of you to do your part and show the client they have made the right choice doing this project 100% union. Show up each day with a good attitude and do your part to make these jobs a huge success. You carry the Pipeliners 798 brand everywhere you go, from the restaurant, to the local store, to the job site. As we go into these communities, be sure to respect the residents and show them 798 members are the best of the best.

The UA Convention will be held this summer and Danny Hendrix has been selected to run as Vice President of District 3 and David Barnett has been designated to run as an International Representative. These appointments are evidence that Local 798 has the respect and confidence of the United Association’s leadership and both of these influential leaders are so deserving of these nominations. In addition, we will have 62 delegates representing Local 798 at the 2016 UA Convention.

In closing, I would also like to congratulate our newest Executive Board member Cody Pedigo. I know Cody will do an excellent job for the membership.

As always, it is a privilege and honor to serve this membership, and if I can be of assistance do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Wade Pilgreen
Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Swearing In of New Executive Board Member Cody Pedigo
DAVID BUTTERWORTH
CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV
918/270-6745

I am writing this report after returning from an action-packed week of Steward School. The theme this year involved reading through the new 798 Handbook. The Handbook is a document that touches on everything the membership needs to know about how our Local functions, and it answers many commonly asked questions. The message of Steward School was abundantly clear: we need to continue to aggressively let our voices be heard when we are being attacked by the anti-fossil fuel activists. This is something that is relatively new to all of us. We all know that pipelines are the safest, most efficient way to transport oil and natural gas. We must get out there to tell the story to those who are uneducated about that fact. We as organized labor have the opportunity to help the clients get their projects underway and get our people back to work. Together, we can accomplish anything, just as we did with the DOT exemption.

I enjoyed visiting with everyone at Steward School. My favorite part of Steward School has always been the reconnecting with old friends along with making new ones. Congratulations to Danny Hendrix on being given the opportunity to become the new Vice President of UA District 3. This will be a great chance for him to represent our membership at the UA level, and I think nothing but good can come from it. Also, congratulations to Wade Pilgreen for being named the Financial Secretary of the upcoming UA Convention. It’s awesome to see these two guys being recognized for all their hard work and sacrifice. With Danny, David and Wade helping us out at the UA level we have come a long way and are primed for success.

The work in the Northeast continues to be steady with most of our projects being small to medium sized jobs. These jobs are our bread and butter in this part of the country. Whether the job is a million dollar project, or a $10,000 dollar project they are equally important to me. The smaller tight-bid projects can be difficult because the contractors have to watch every dime and they are in competition with the non-union, but they still put money into the hall and they have to be manned. Last year our contractors had to watch every dime and they are in competition with the non-union, but they still put money into the hall and they have to be manned. Last year in the Northeast the majority of our man hours came from projects just like these.

The Ladies of 798 had another huge success with their basket auction and raffles. Without them we would have had a rough year. I will be visiting some of these projects in the near future so the membership can get to know me. I can be of any assistance to anyone please don’t hesitate to call. As always you, the membership, will be foremost in my mind.

Pre-jobs:
Alex E. Paris:
Washington County, PA. 1 mile of 12” and 4.5 miles of 20” new lay for Markwest.
Bond Bros. Inc.:

Black Schroeder
TX
918/270-6743

While attending the UA Pipeline Conference in March we learned that Danny has been asked to run on the McManus Team at the 39th UA Convention for the position in the UA as Vice President of District 3. Thanks to Kenneth Edwards, Business Manager of Local 211, for all the hard work and commitment he put forth as our last Vice President. Also, thanks to Mark McManus for having faith in Danny and Local 798. The members of Local 798 are very proud and honored that our Business Manager has been chosen.

This year’s Steward School was another huge success thanks to Danny, Wade, the UA General Office was represented well at this year’s Steward School. General President Hite assigned another great group of speakers: Assistant General President Mike Pleasant; Executive Vice President Rick Terven; Administrative Assistant to the General President Jim Moss; Tom Gross, David Barnett, and Mike Mikich from the Pipeline Department; Jimmy Hart from Metal Trades; UA International Representative Bill Eden; and Vice President of District 3 Kenneth Edwards. Thank you to all of you for jobs well done.

A very special thank you goes to the members who took their time and money to come to the Steward School to learn, and to support their local union. Without members like you we would not have a strong union. Anyone who did not get to go missed a very informative and educational Steward School.

The Ladies of 798 had another huge success with their basket auction and raffles. Without our ladies, the men of 798 could not be a success either. Congratulations to Ellen Boardman for being honored as the Pipeline Lady of the Year at the UA Pipeline Conference, and also becoming an Honorary Sister Member of Pipeliners Local 798 at the Steward School.

Work in Texas is winding down. Precision Pipeline in Crockett laid the pipe out during Steward School. The UA hands did a great job considering the rain; we finished with a 1.7 % repair rate. Several jobs are being bid on in Texas and hopefully our contractors will come up with some of them.

Everyone, please read your UA Journal. The Precision job in Crockett, Local 798, along with the Pipeline Department got some excellent coverage. Barbara, Genie, and Dean at the UA Journal did a fantastic job, along with producers Chris & Rodney. Thank you.

Please have a safe, healthy, and blessed work season in 2016. If I can be of assistance please don’t hesitate to contact me.
We in the unionized pipeline industry are blessed to be among the top tier of blue collar workers in the United States. The United Association and its affiliated Locals consistently lead the Building Trades (actually all workers) in wages, health care benefits, pension benefits, and work and safety rules. But we must never forget that it did not just happen. The right to negotiate collectively with our employers provides us with decent pay and benefits and they, in return, get the best trained and available work force.

There is more to this story than meets the eye. There is no dispute that we are among the top middle class wage earners, but what about most working Americans who do not work under the terms and conditions of a union contract? Approximately 143 million people are eligible for full-time work in 2016, and about 118 million people actually hold down full-time jobs. Of these 118 million people, about 9.3%, or roughly 10.62 million workers earn near, at, or below the federal minimum wage of $7.25. These 10.62 million workers also include many, many employees who earn less than the federal $7.25 an hour, because they fall into categories like tipped employees, disabled employees, and teenagers. And we often hear about protests and strikes by workers seeking $15.00 per hour. In the real world known as corporate America, this is the sad reality. Including all American workers, 41% earn less than $15.00 an hour.

The federal minimum wage has not increased since 2009, but 29 states and the District of Columbia have set minimums higher than the federal minimum. Washington State, California, and New York are among blue states leading the way to increase workers’ pay. Two red states, North Carolina and my home state of Alabama, passed laws in 2016 that prevent individual cities and counties from raising the minimum wage set by the U.S. Government. In fact, Birmingham, Alabama recently raised its version of minimum wage to $10.10 per hour by a 7 to 1 vote of the City Council. My state’s Republican Legislature, led by the Business Council of Alabama and The Chamber of Commerce, immediately sent a bill to our Governor to stop the raise in its tracks. Governor Bentley signed the bill into law revoking the raise for those Birmingham workers immediately. I had marched in the streets of Birmingham in favor of passage and spoke at the state Legislature on behalf of the bill as well. Several towns and counties in North Carolina had workable minimum wages in place that were higher than the state’s $7.25 minimum. However, in the last few days that state’s Republican Legislature enacted a law striking down the higher wages of working people who deserved that raise. Imagine a government that deliberately takes food and shelter from its citizens. Not raising the minimum wage does exactly that. Raising a minimum wage does exactly that.

Important Reminders
1. Pay your dues on time. Membership has its rewards
2. Put your stamps on your dues card. It is “your” card.
3. Sign your ID Card. It is “your” card.
4. Update your personal information.
5. Make sure you have a current phone number on file with the Dispatcher.
6. Consider all jobs. Every union job is a good job.
7. Welder Foremen, you are in charge. Take charge.
8. Stewards, if it isn’t broken, don’t fix it. If it does break, you know what to do.
9. Our Training Center is second to none. I repeat: Our Training Center is second to none.
10. Pipeline Etiquette. It should be number 1.

Work Outlook
At this time 2016 looks to be a very good summer and fall in my jurisdiction. Sable Trail, 36” from Alabama to South Florida is believed to get underway in July. Nexus PL will also get started in Florida on two very good spreads, likely July start. The Dalton Express, (2) spreads of about 112 miles of 30”, 24”, 20” and 16” in Georgia is out for bid at this time. Several fair contractors are working diligently to secure this work for our members, and it is expected to be awarded in the next few weeks. Williams Trasco has a great job near Linden, Alabama that should begin in May. The project includes 42” and 48” looping, and some fabrication. I have written and commented on the “big job” in Louisiana since last fall. Well, dad burn it, it is under way (sort of). The project for Maurepas Pipeline, 105 composite miles of 24”, 12” and 6”, and undetermined amount of 1”, to be constructed by Price-Gregory PL Company, was pre-robbed for the sole purpose of getting the job under way. At this writing there are still permitting issues, high water, incredible rain, and engineering concerns. No one is willing to predict when the contractor will be turned loose on this extensive project. But we have boots on the ground. And we are eternally hopeful that that job’s success. We also expect to take up about 52 miles of 8” and relay 52 miles of 12” between Winnboro, Louisiana and Natchez, Mississippi. No starting date. Pipeline Constructors LLC is believed to have the job.
Henkels & McCoy Inc.:  

Kirila Contractors, Inc.:  

Minnesota Limited, LLC:  

Rockford Corporation:  
Mount Wolf, PA.  3.7 miles of 24” pipe/2 HDD’s Conventional Bores for Talen Energy Supply, LLC.  Superintendent: Kevin Shaw.  Welder Foreman: Jesse Davis.  Mainline Rates.  6-10’s.

Union Pipeline:  
Washington, PA.  14,000’ of 20” & 2,000’ of 12” new lay for Markwest/Poly Cor.  Superintendent: Perry Rogers.  Welder Foreman: Terry Sampset.  Mainline Rates.  5-10’s.

Welded Construction, L.P.:  

CHARLES YATES, JR.  
IN, MI, OH  
918/270-6746

Our Steward School was a great success with close to 700 in attendance. We had some wonderful speakers and very informative sessions, along with the best fellowship you can find anywhere. The membership learned of some giant news concerning our future: we are being recognized for our achievements!

Our current General Secretary-Treasurer Mark McManus will be running for General President at the upcoming UA Convention. It elected, and we are very optimistic that he will be, he plans to appoint our Business Manager Danny Hendrix to Vice President of District 3. He also intends to promote our Brother, David Barnett from his current position as Special Representative to International Representative. We were honored to have had UA leadership in attendance at Steward School. Thank you General President Hite for assigning these officers to join us. I would also like to thank him for his appointment of our very own Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Wade Pilgreen to serve on the Expense Committee at the UA Convention this summer. Finally, we welcomed Ellen Boardman of our very own Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Wade Pilgreen to serve on the Expense Committee at the UA Convention this summer. Finally, we welcomed Ellen Boardman

I am optimistic that our work season is right around the corner. We should be holding Pre-Jobs with Price Gregory and Welded very soon on their work in Ohio. There is also quite a bit of job opportunities in the Building and Trade division. This is valuable work and needs to be maned. Do not miss an opportunity to earn an honest wage, gain insurance, and acquire pension credits. Be sure to contact Justin Wallace (PAFB) for verification of credits. Utilize our Training Center and improve your skill set. Get in touch with our Dispatcher, Ricky Jones to see what is available.

I am honored to work for you. If I can be of assistance, don’t hesitate to call. Let’s stand together every day to remain UNION STRONG.

Current Pre-Jobs:  
B. Miller Excavating:  

Contractor Rentals:  
– Monroe, MI.  2200’ of 16” River crossing replacement for Marathon.


WM Sylvan:  
Cuyahoga, OH.  12” Tank farm, pumps and manifolds for Buckeye Partners.  Superintendent: Anthony Kossovich.  Welder Foreman: George Houston.  Working 6-10’s.  Approx. completion 7/15/16.

Geedling Construction:  


InfraSource Construction LLC:  

LMC Industrial Contractors:  

Mid-Ohio:  
– Dover, OH.  Emergency call-out blanket work for Vectren, EQT, Dominion East Ohio, and Mark West.  Superintendent: James Hawk.


Milchels Pipeline:  


Mid-West Construction:  

Minnesota Limited LLC:  


Michels Pipeline:  


Mid-Western Construction:  

United Piping Inc.: 

Western Utility: 

CHANCE LANCASHER 
KY, NC, SC, TN 
918/270-6735 

I am writing this report after returning home from the 2016 Steward School. It was good to see and visit with those who attended. This year’s school was another great one. Danny, Wade and the staff put on another great learning event this year. Congratulations to Cody Pedigo for his position to the Executive Board. I know he will do a great job. And congratulations to Ellen Boardman for her honorary membership into 798. Thank you to the UA representatives and other guest speakers who took time out to come and speak to us. The new handbook we went over was very helpful in understanding the functions of our local, and our responsibility as members. 

The retiree banquet was another great event. It was an honor to attend the banquet and to visit with the retirees; they are a true inspiration. The Ladies of 798 also did a great job with the basket auction, as well as their other events. They are making a difference in the way the public views us as union members. I would like to thank the inside guards for the great job they did, as well as the vendors for their support.

The work outlook is still looking good. Although it is getting started later than the past few years, there are several big projects waiting to start. The environmental groups are trying to stop almost all the projects that are planned. We have to get this we have more than rumors, but Pre-Jobs and orders coming in for some of the large work we have been waiting and working so hard to get through the permitting process.

Steward School and the first quarter of the year is behind us. The work was not great, but not completely absent. We dispatched 113 Welders, 21 Journeymen, and 177 Helpers the first three months of the year to pipeline work. To Building Trades we sent out in excess of 60 Bios; mostly Welders and about 20 Journeymen. The bulk of the Welders were Heli-arc bead and hot-pass fill and cap with LH., with the remainder of about a dozen stick rod Welders. The work was in Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Washington, D.C. working mostly 6-10’s.

Here in Dispatch we are doing what we can to find work for the members in every field of opportunity afforded to us as skilled Union labor. I sincerely pray that by the time you get this we have more than rumors, but Pre-Jobs and orders coming in for some of the large work we have been waiting and working so hard to get through the permitting process.

FOLT WHALE 

By Ricky Jones 

I know even with the work picking up there will be Welders who are coming back on the list after manning some of this winter work. They will be needing somewhere to go as well because they have exhausted their hours at the top of the wheel. Let me encourage you to come to the Training Center and upgrade some skills for the Building Trade work. Dispatch will be seeking work to help hold our membership over until they work their way back towards the top of our list.

If you have had a failure to comply remember to carry your letter from your S.A.P. to every job, even if it has been over two years. Also, retain any receipts of follow-up drug tests you have ever been given. Remind the safety man that you need your follow-ups completed in a timely fashion (follow-ups consist of a minimum of six).

The Out-of-Work List consists of 1222 Welders, 230 Journeymen, and 1517 Helpers as of April 13, 2016.
April 2016
Membership Meeting
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Safety is everyone’s responsibility! As an employee, you should:

• Learn to work safely and take all rules seriously.
• Recognize hazards and avoid them.
• Report all accidents, injuries and illness to your supervisor immediately.
• Inspect tools before use to avoid injury.
• Wear all assigned personal protective equipment.

On the other hand, it is management’s responsibility to:

• Provide a safe and healthy workplace.
• Provide personal protective equipment.
• Train employees in safe procedures and in how to identify hazards.

Everyone must be aware of potential hazards on the job:

• Poor housekeeping results in slips, trips and falls.
• Electricity can cause shocks, burns, or fire if not handled properly.
• Poor material handling may cause back problems or other injuries.

Tools and equipment can cause injuries if guards or protective devices are disengaged. Always use the protections that are provided on the job:

• Guards on machines and tools keep body parts from contacting moving equipment.
• Lockout/tagout assures equipment is de-energized before it is repaired.
• Personal protective equipment shields your body from hazards you may face on the job.

In case of emergency:

• Understand alarms and evacuation routes.
• Know how to notify emergency response personnel.
• Implement a procedure for leaving the scene safely so emergency personnel can do their job.
• Wipe up spills promptly and correctly.

Safety benefits everyone. With fewer injuries, a business can be more productive and profitable. By incorporating safety rules, employees avoid injury as well as illness from exposure to hazardous substances.

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Renee’ Taylor is currently the Office Manager for Pipeliners Local Union 798. She was born and raised in Iowa, attending Fox Valley Community Schools in Cantril and Milton, IA before moving to Broken Arrow, OK. She began her career in Tulsa working for Lummus-Crest Engineering in the accounting and payroll departments, then moving to the Human Resources division. During this time, she completed her Associates Degree at Tulsa Community College. Renee’ has worked for 30 years for the Pipeline Industry Benefit Fund and Pipeliners Local Union 798 offices. She completed her Bachelor’s Degree at Oklahoma Wesleyan in 1999, graduating Summa Cum Laude with dual majors in Business Administration and Human Resources.

Renee’ resides in Broken Arrow, OK with her husband Terry. They enjoy fishing, traveling, and spending time with their children, and grandchildren. Renee’ would like to say Thank You to all the Members of Pipeliners Local Union 798. She has enjoyed working with them, and feels blessed to be part of the “pipeline family.”
Divorce and Marriage

It is the responsibility of the members to provide the PIBF with a copy of the final divorce decree whenever a divorce is finalized. If PIBF is not notified and expenses are incurred by the ex-spouse or stepchildren where a parent/child relationship no longer exists, the member will be required to reimburse the PIBF for claims incurred.

If a member marries, it is the responsibility of the member to notify the PIBF office and to provide a copy of the marriage license. If stepchildren are involved, copies of the new spouse’s previous divorce decree(s) are required to determine which parent is the responsible party for health coverage.

Steward School

The 2016 Steward School held in Tulsa, Oklahoma during the week of April 4th was a big success! The PIBF staff would like to thank everyone that attended and hope those who could not make it this year will plan on coming in 2017.

Beneficiary Rules

A brief summary on the Fund’s beneficiary rules:

- PIBF health plan participants covered under “active health coverage” also have death benefit coverage. This is a member’s only benefit.
- Natural death is $10,000 benefit and accidental death is an additional $10,000 benefit.
- Under the rules of the plan, it is the participant’s option to choose the beneficiary. In some states, laws exist that designate a minimum benefit to an existing spouse regardless of who is listed on the beneficiary card at PIBF.
- The policy of the PIBF requires certain documents to be provided such as the death certificate before benefits can be distributed. (The PIBF staff does not release the name or names of the beneficiaries to anyone other than those named on the records at PIBF.) As soon as the PIBF is notified of the death, the staff sends a letter to the named parties.
- You may change your beneficiary at any time by giving written notice to the PIBF office. You can request a beneficiary change form from the PIBF office or obtain a printable form from PIBF’s website at www.pibf.org. A beneficiary change will become effective when it is entered into PIBF records prior to payment of the death benefit.
**Thank You**

Don and Betty Armstrong would like to thank everyone for the gift received from the Voluntary Fund. The help they received allowed them to be with family during an emergency. Special thanks to Dave Loyd, Terry Thibodeaux, and Cotton Jordan.

Theo Wright says thank you to all members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund, for the help he received after surgery. Special thanks to Charles Lynch.

Eugene (Gene) and Linda Lundfelt would like to thank all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The money they received was greatly appreciated and will go towards Linda’s medical bills. They would like to give a special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, and Freddy Curran.

Richard (Ricky) and Devon Gallagher send a huge thank you to everyone for their generosity in donating to the Voluntary Fund. Receiving the check while recovering from knee surgery was a huge blessing to their family. Special thanks to Cody Pedigo, Ed Coker, and Craig Humble.

Mike Strickland thanks everyone for their support thru the Voluntary Fund. He is blessed to work with a great group of caring, thoughtful members who support each other in time of need. Special thanks to Darrell Turner, Danny Hendrix and Scott Strickland.

Juan Carlos Rivera thanks everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the help he received after eye surgery. He would like to give a special thank you to Clay and Shannon LaFaye.

Cody Evans wants to say thank you to those who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the gift received. The help was greatly appreciated and went toward his daughter’s medical testing. Special thanks to Guy Gregory.

Brian Gavin wishes to thank all the members who contributed to the Voluntary Fund for the check he received. It helped pay for some medical bills. A special thank you to Jon Law and Ed Coker.

Keith and Sabra McDonald express their sincere gratitude to those who donate to the Voluntary Fund. The check really helped. Special thanks to Billy Earl Hawkins, Meagan Dyer, Mickey Westerman, and Rye Hawkins.

Opaline Young and Family write to thank Local 798 for the beautiful Bible received in memoriam of Henry Young. It brings the family such comfort to know Henry, a dedicated member since 1954, was held in such high regard.

Bruce Weeks would like to thank all the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Neal and Travis Crabtree for remembering him after his emergency lung surgery.

Tim and Ann Bogard send thanks to the Voluntary Fund for the gift they received. Special thank you to Ron Danner, Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, and all the Brothers and Sisters at the Minnesota Limited job in Powhatan and Jacoburg, OH.

Wayne and Katherine Rauson want to say thank you to all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The gift they received was very helpful during this time of need. A special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

Jeff Werder says thank you to all the members of Local 798 who have donated to the Voluntary Fund. The gift is very much appreciated and a big help toward medical bills. Special thanks to Ed Stockwell, Jr. and James Freeman.

The Family of Rodney S. Gregory express their sincere gratitude to Local 798 for the Bible, prayers, and support upon Rodney’s passing.

Don and Betty Armstrong give thanks to all who give to the Voluntary Fund, for the gift received. Special thanks to Jeff and Chrissy Park, Matt and Sharon Strother, Rick Taylor, and all 798 Brothers and Sisters for their support.

William (Wild Bill) Pulte would like to thank the Voluntary Fund for the help given when it needed it. It was appreciated very much. Special thanks to George Bumila, Danny Hendrix, and Wade Pilgreen.

Phillip Coates takes the opportunity to say thank you to Local 798, its membership and officers. The gift he received from the Voluntary Fund was a big help during his down time from knee surgery. He and his family are very grateful for the help. A special thanks to Carroll Tuggle, Phillip Wallace, and all who donate to the Voluntary Fund.

Janet Degeyter thanks all who have donated to the Voluntary Fund. The gift was of great help in her time of emergency. Special thanks to Chuck and Tabatha Houston, and Bob and Christy Houston.

Cory “Bromo” Eaves says thank you for all the help from Local 798 and the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Bobby Taylor and Tim Adrian (Sheehan), Bruce Eaves, and Kyle Tigert. He is so grateful to be a part of this wonderful union.

Douglas Baker wants to thank all his Brothers and Sisters of Local 798. He is proud to be a part of this large and dedicated family. Thank you to those who give to the Voluntary Fund and to the person who sent in a letter on his behalf.

Bryan and Jan Fox, along with their daughter Kayla would like to say thank you to everyone who contributed to the Voluntary Fund, for the help they received after Kayla and Jan’s accident. They especially thank Tom Collins, Savannah Collins, and Marvin Broussard.

Martin Finley, Sr. takes this time to thank the contributors to the Voluntary Fund for the support shown to him during the long illness and passing of his dear wife, Carolyn.
Finley. The cards, calls and monetary gifts were timely and greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Matt Harris, Bobby Smith, Calvin Fuller, Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

Buster Chapman extends his deepest thanks all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund, for the check he received after his shoulder surgery.

Eddie Brumley would like to thank all the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund each week. The money he received was greatly appreciated. A special thank you goes to Black Schroeder, Danny Simms, Leonard Richards, Richard Sowell, Wade Pilgreen, and Danny Hendrix.

Chris Ungard personally thanks all his Brothers and Sisters at Local 798 for the help in his time of need. He is truly blessed and on the road to recovery. Special thanks to Wade Pilgreen.

Billie and Jan Ford thank each and every Brother and Sister who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. A special thank you to a special Brother and friend, John Post.

Annie Lawhon expresses her deepest gratitude to her Brothers and Sisters of 798 for contributing to the Voluntary Fund. It was extremely helpful in the aid of her recovery. She appreciates all the support that has been lent to her, with special thanks to Jeffery Doyle, Michael Fitzhenry, Christy B., and Darcy B. for their unwavering faith, and devotion to her well-being.

Fred Barnes would like to thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. He appreciates the help he received after his recent surgery. Special thanks to Kevin D. Cox, Josh Varnell, and Josh Wilson.

Black Schroeder takes this opportunity to express his gratitude to his 798 family. Sometimes when things happen in life you don’t really know how you will respond, but when you lose your parents it is very humbling when your pipeline family shows up, and showers you with prayers, phone calls, and flowers. Words can’t express feelings enough, but you will always be special to him and Tuffy.

Robert Johnson thanks all the members who give to the Voluntary Fund. A special thanks to Raymond Johnson, Danny Hendrix and all the hands on the Crockett, TX job.

Justin and Alysia Pendergraft would like to thank everyone who has donated to the Voluntary Fund. It is an honor to work with such a fine organization. With their son, Jameson still seeing a specialist this gift will help them out a lot. Special thank you to John Knight and everyone else who has helped them receive this gift, and for all the prayers.

David Spann writes to say thank you to all the Brothers and Sisters of 798 for the help received after Rhonda’s back surgery. Special thanks to Kenny Tucker, Steve Tolley, Houston Rhodes and Larry Collier.

Dustin Barber and Family express their sincere and warmest thanks for your thoughtfulness.

Richard Joeris extends his gratitude for the help received from the Voluntary Fund, and to all 798 Brothers and Sisters who contribute. It has been a great help. A special thanks to Lisa Red Eagle, Rusty Evans, Virgil and Sharon Ashworth, and the guys at the Training Center.

Jeffrey and Jenna Rae Whitmore thank the members of Local 798 and the Voluntary Fund for the check they received. They say thank you to Ryan Copely, Dean Smith, and the crew from the Otis Eastern job in Kirkwood, NY. Your generosity, cards, and prayers after their loss were greatly appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Harold and Richel Pitts announce the arrival of their baby girl, Cleo Ursula Pitts. She was born on March 2, 2016 weighing 6 lb. and 13 oz.

IN MEMORIAM


Robert H. Moore, 70 year-old Retired Journeyman Spacer of Pawhuska, OK passed away February 24, 2016.

Donald A. Garvin, 90 year-old Retired Welder of Perry, FL passed away February 16, 2016.

Carl E. Smith, 69 year-old Retired Welder of Brookhaven, MS passed away March 4, 2016.

Jon E. Smith, 35 year-old Helper of Litchfield, ME passed away March 4, 2016.


Jerry M. Comstock, 83 year-old Retired Welder of Cuero, TX passed away March 23, 2016.


Stephen R. Delrey, 34 year-old Helper of Niles, MI passed away March 29, 2016.

Pamela L. Shultz, Helper, Tampa, FL

Charles E. Simmons, Jr., Welder, Baton Rouge, LA

Cloyd D. Smith, Welder, Jal, NM

Ernie J. Tyson, Welder, Oologah, OK

Gene A. Walker, Jr., Journeyman Spacer, Willow Wood, OH

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).

Caps by Cindy $12 for regular caps & $15 for decor stitch (918) 557-1660.

WELDER HATS – Tall/Short Crown, Reversible and Non-Reversible. NFL, Disney, Hot Wheels, Coke, Farmall, John Deer, and NASCAR licensed fabrics available. $12.00 – $14.00 plus shipping. FR Digital Camouflage Non-reversible - $15.00 plus shipping. Embroidery $1.00 per letter. Call or text Carol at (970) 420-0199 or email: CJW19290@aol.com.

For Sale: 2004 Chevy Silverado 3500 LS Ext-Cab 4x4. Clean & in good shape. 6.6 Dura-max Diesel 4x4 dually, meticulously maintained. Too many extras to list! 297k Miles. 1961 Lincoln SA-200 Red Face Welder w/electronic start (new starter, water pump, 300 amp copper buses in generator) regularly maintained and well kept. Custom built ALL Steel Welding Bed w/several lock boxes (holds all your welding gear). Includes: 275ft of welding leads, 100ft oxygen & acetlylene hose, 150ft oxygen & acetlylene hose reel. Asking $14,499 and we ARE accepting reasonable offers “OBO”. The truck is located in Mount Pleasant, SC. For inquiries and details please contact: John Isaac at (843) 276-4710.

2007 Dodge Ram. Heavy duty 6.7 diesel with 82,000 miles and push button 4 wheel drive. It also has a ww gooseneck hook up. Asking $24,000.00. Call (479) 647-0514 for details.

Welder Caps regular style $8 each or reversible for $10, plus COD and Shipping. Peggy Taylor (205) 926-5885.

Election Committee Election Results

Nominations and an election were held at the April 8, 2016 regular membership meeting for the Election Committee Members to oversee the upcoming 2016 Local 798 Officer Election. Only three nominations were made, so all three nominees were elected by acclamation.

Chairman – Chris Waecerker
Secretary – Farron Hollabaugh
Member – Glen Lewis
I am writing this report after attending the 2016 Local 798 Steward School. If you were not in attendance, you missed a great time. Steward School is the biggest annual event in the Pipeline Industry bar none. Nowhere in the world do Pipeliners gather together in such numbers for a common cause. It was good to see so many old friends and to make new ones.

This event just gets better every year and is something every member can be proud of. The things we learn at Steward School promote peace and harmony on the ROW. And not only that, it sends a clear message that we are one, undivided. That is what sets us apart from the non-union. We have structure and a chain of command that, when followed correctly works perfectly. Well that, and the fact that we are the best Pipeliners in the world.

All the guest speakers were very informative and gave us a thorough look at which direction the pipeline industry is headed and how we as a group have the ability to guide it.

Business Manager Danny Hendrix explained the importance of every member getting involved with the efforts of our Local Union. Not only on the job site, but with all efforts to promote more work for ourselves. If called upon we must remain united and show our opposition that we are a force to be reckoned with. We are in control of our own destiny and our very jobs depend on full participation. So if you get a call, text, or any other message to help please step up, whether it be attending a meeting, writing letters, vote in polls etc. It takes us all.

I would like to commend Brother Black Schroeder on his presentation on ROW etiquette. It is not about rules, it is about RESPECT for your Brothers and Sisters. Our contract is not a guideline; it is the law and it cannot be negotiated on the ROW.

Brother Guy Williams did an excellent job explaining the UA “Standard of Excellence.” Although Local 798 has had its own Standard of Excellence for many years, this is something we must adhere to. In order to survive in this industry today we must remain to be the best in the world without exception.

Congratulations to the Ladies of 798 on another great basket auction and all the money they raised to help people in need. These Ladies are one of our greatest assets. They work long, hard hours to help others and expect nothing in return. Their determination, devotion and compassion is second to none. Thank you Ladies of 798 for all that you do; your light shines above and beyond, and reflects on all that we stand for.

I will be leaving this morning to travel all across Texas to various non-union jobs. Hopefully we do not have any member helping our foe. It is beyond me how anyone could help the very people who wish to destroy us and everything we have worked and fought for since 1949. These rat contractors are busy cutting wages, destroying working conditions, and trying to stamp out any benefits to working men and women. That is the only way they can compete and underbid a fair contractor. If we help them we are only destroying ourselves.

The anti-union worker only considers himself and nothing more. He will never know the bond that we share together as Brothers and Sisters. He does not understand that he is being used as a puppet to try and break those of us who stand in solidarity to achieve our goals of fair wages, conditions, and the ability to retire with security and dignity. Everything we stand for is for the greater good of the group, the industry, and all working people everywhere. What do they stand for? They stand for nothing other than a false promise from an unscrupulous employer.

If I can be of help, or if you have any information I can use do not hesitate to call me any time. I hope everyone has a prosperous and safe work year. Never forget that “An Injury to One is an Injury to All.”

Fraternally, Ronnie M. Hill
(918) 284-6862
Featured Products

CAPS
101-A – Navy Summer Cap $13.00
101-C – Camo Summer Cap $14.00
101-H – Navy Blue Cap w/Red bill $13.00
101-J – White Cotton Brushed Twill w/ Sandwich Bill $13.00

T-SHIRTS
115-B – Safety Short-Sleeved Pocket T-Shirt $14.00
(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
115-R-BL – Rumble of Unity Short-Sleeved Pocket T-Shirt,
Black $13.00 (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
115-S – Gray T-Shirt w/Logo and pocket $13.00
(S, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
141 – I’m A Union Member! Navy, short-sleeved pocket T-Shirt
$12.00 (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)

JACKETS
116 – Navy Logo Hoodie $33.00
(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 4XL)
116-Z – Navy Logo Hoodie w/ Zipper $33.00
(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
207 – Pullover Windshirt w/pockets Bone Color $60.00
(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 4XL)

MISCELLANEOUS
104 – Navy Leather Portfolio $15.00
129 – 798 Money Clip $11.00
132 – 798 Computer Bag $25.00
139 – Local 798 Logo Knife $10.00

More products available online at www.local798.org and by calling (918) 622-1900
Congratulations to the 2016 Steward School Slick Rig winners!

In addition to their cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries, they each received power tools courtesy of DeWalt. Thank you to DeWalt for your generous support of our members year round!