Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The story of pipeline opposition just went to the next level. Nine environmental activists were arrested Tuesday, October 11, after claiming credit for temporarily shutting down five major pipelines carrying oil from Canadian tar sands to the U.S. The group, which calls itself “Climate Direct Action,” turned off emergency safety valves for pipelines in Washington, Minnesota, Montana and North Dakota, including the northern leg of TransCanada’s Keystone pipeline. The others targeted were the TransMountain pipeline owned by Houston-based Kinder Morgan, Houston-based Spectra Energy’s Express Pipeline, and Canada-based Enbridge’s Line 4 and 67 pipelines. The activists claimed that tar sands coming to the U.S. via pipeline came to a halt for the first time. **Activists employed manual safety valves, calling on President Obama to use emergency powers to keep the pipelines closed and mobilize for the extraordinary shift away from fossil fuels now, which is required immediately to avert catastrophe.** The groups involved in the activities claim to be protecting the environment, but their actions alone are inviting an environmental incident and put the safety of people, including themselves and potentially first responders, at risk. The environmentalists unlawfully trespassed, used bolt cutters to cut the chains off the valves, and attempted to turn the valves to stop the flow of oil. I’m not an attorney, but surely this would be considered an act of terrorism. **Hopefully these individuals will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. If this isn’t considered a terrorist act, then there is no such thing.** If “THEY” don’t believe in the use of fossil fuels to meet the energy needs of America, then “THEY” need to quit using almost every conceivable product known to man and live off the grid and really do “THEIR” part to save the planet. If you live much north of the state line of Oklahoma, you are going to be busy chopping firewood with an axe all summer to stay warm in the winter. Oh, wait, burning wood can’t be good for the environment! It just infuriates me when such a small fraction of people is dead set on trying to kill progress and production of our abundance of energy in this country.

As you can surmise from above, our fight for pipelines just got more serious. Local 798 had already begun the process several months back to make advocating for the building of pipelines much easier on our membership. We have hired a group that specializes in advocating by the membership, but the key focus is to make it as simple as possible so everyone will want to participate. **We anticipate that when we ask you for help, it will go viral with not only our members but with others who agree with our mission.** It also will have the ability to show us how many members are participating and how many are not engaged. Don’t be alarmed, we will make this as simple as a couple of clicks from your phone or computer mouse. I know some of us struggle with technology, including myself at times, but we must utilize all the tools available to make our voices resonate through social media because that is the stage on which these issues are fought.

I want to thank the entire membership for delivering a vote of confidence for Wade and myself by not having an opponent for the upcoming election. I will continue to do what I believe is in the best interest of 798 as long as I hold this office. The ballots will be coming soon to your home address and I urge you to vote for candidates of your choice. The people you choose will help lead and govern the committees of the Local, so take this seriously.

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

Fraternally,

[Signature]

Daniel C. Hendrix
Business Manager

---

Bainville, MT
Welders: Scottie Jackson and Robert Doane
I would like to begin by addressing the upcoming Local 798 elections and the importance of participating in our election process. By the time you read this Blue Light report many of you will have already received your ballot. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible Local 798 members on Wednesday, October 26, 2016, to their most recent permanent address on file as of October 14, 2016. To be eligible to vote, a Local 798 member must be a member of the United Association and a member in good standing of Local 798 one year immediately prior to the date of the election. The “date of the election” for determining eligibility to vote is October 26, 2016. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one year immediately prior to the election shall not be eligible to vote.

If you do not receive a ballot, or need a “duplicate” ballot, please contact Election Services United (ESU) directly at 1-800-971-3960. A “duplicate” ballot may be requested if a member did not receive their ballot at the address provided to Local 798 or if the member is no longer receiving mail at that address. Remember, only the member can contact and request a “duplicate” ballot. When doing so be prepared to provide identifying membership information such as a book number or Social Security number. The member will then be provided a confirmation number and should expect to receive their “duplicate” ballot in the mail at their new address.

But most important, to be counted your ballot must be returned to the “Tulsa, OK Post Office” printed on the outer envelope by 9:00 a.m. (CST) on Thursday, December 8, 2016. Any ballots received at the post office later than this date and time will not be counted. Please be responsible and make your vote count! The ballots will be counted at Local 798 Union Hall starting at 9:30 a.m. (CST) on Thursday, December 8, 2016, and the election results will be announced at the regular December Membership Meeting on Friday, December 9, 2016.

Throughout the year I receive many phone calls from members who offer comments or concerns regarding Local 798. Now is the time to make your voice heard. Please vote and exercise your right as a member to determine the future leadership of our great Local. I truly believe we have the most skilled and dedicated workers in our industry.

I know all of you are aware of the protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline, and I know you are just as frustrated as I am about the continued developments against our members and our livelihood. As a Local, we have spent countless hours in support of this project through various public hearings, contacting government officials, and writing letters to the Army Corps of Engineers. We conducted ourselves in a thoughtful and professional manner, and we brought our concerns before the appropriate regulatory agencies. Our members were instrumental in bringing our side of the story to the forefront of the discussion. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe had every opportunity to bring their concerns before the same regulatory agencies as we did, thus begs the question: “Why at this late stage have they embarked on such a vicious and dangerous campaign against the Dakota Access Pipeline?” And why would our government leadership bring a halt to certain portions of this project after it was approved?

I recently read an article by Jessica Sena that was published in the Bakken Business Journal. She made several key points, but I would like to discuss her citation of the 1988 Supreme Court Case, Lying vs. Northwest Indian Cemetery Protection Association. Basically, this case dealt with the issue of the U.S. Forest Service wanting to build a logging road through the Six Rivers National Forest in northwestern California in which three different Indian tribes claimed religious use. The Supreme Court ruled against these three tribes thus preventing the situation in which these tribes could guarantee the nonuse of government land. The court realized these tribes “could easily require de facto beneficial ownership of some spacious tracts of public property.” The Supreme Court also stated in its brief, “However much we wish it otherwise, the government could not simply operate if it were required to satisfy every citizen’s needs and religious concerns.” Does this situation sound familiar to you? This case has similar threads to the Dakota Access Pipeline Project. Our federal government has gone against its own regulatory agencies and judges to satisfy the needs of a few over the good of all. We as a Local must rise up and make our voices heard in order to defend our way of life.

One last piece of exciting news; recently the Board of Trustees met and approved a five percent increase for all retirees who retired prior to January 1, 2016, and raised the accrual rate for Journeymen to $175 per credit and Helpers to $116 per credit. In addition, the retirees will receive a thirteenth month check and should have already received these additional monies by the time they receive this report. Even with these new rate increases, our pension fund is still one of the premier funds in the country with a funding percentage of 111 percent. As of this article, our 401 (k) Fund balance has exceeded $120 million which is three times higher since we implemented the contractor contribution stream just a few short years ago. I am also proud to announce that the average 401 (k) account is more than $21,000 per member. I hope you are contributing to your 401 (k) account because with these significant increases in our revenue stream, we are building a solid future for your retirement.

In closing, it is always a blessing and an honor to serve you and I am blessed to be a member of Pipeliners 798. I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Wade Pilgreen
Financial Secretary-Treasurer
As I work on my Blue Light report, I am receiving courtesy calls from members upon job completion to check in, express gratitude for the job opportunity, and offer future assistance. In return, I also would like to say thank you to all the Stewards, Welder Foremen, Welders, Journeymen, Helpers, and retirees for a job well done in my area. I count on you just as much as you count on me. I am grateful for the team effort and your dedication to man the work, attend meetings, report non-union activity, and fulfill requests. Most of my jobs have been small integrity maintenance, anomaly digs, and short in pipe length. Regardless, our members have professionally provided a workforce and gained both valuable hours and benefits in the process. Thanks also to the contractors who continue to bid these smaller projects. We truly appreciate the work.

Currently the fourth quarter in my area looks strong with the kick-off of the Welded job for Sunoco in Ohio. Most of the remaining projects I have are in Michigan which were rather late getting started this year. Sources indicate the Rover project is just around the corner with the possibility of some directional drills starting as soon as late fall. I have attended numerous Ohio EPA meetings regarding the proposed LEACH, NEXUS, and Utokia, all of which are currently still scheduled to proceed. The Utokia has been a bit overshadowed by these other big-inch projects: Kinder Morgan's Utokia East Pipeline Project consists of 215 miles of 12" diameter pipe exclusively in Ohio. According to research at Kent State University, "the Utokia would have about a $37,3-million-dollar boost to the state's economy within its first five years." I haven't had anything come across my desk yet, but we are all anxiously awaiting further details. I also anticipate good things from our new contractor, M.J. Electric, out of Michigan who I signed at the end of September. Welcome.

Congratulations to all the nominees running for various offices. It's great to see so much participation. Special congrats to those who received a white ticket for their respective positions. This shows great unity within our union. Check your mail and return those ballots. 'Tis the season to vote.

May you all have a plentiful Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. God bless us — every one. If I can be of assistance, don’t hesitate to call. Let's stand together every day to remain UNION STRONG.

Prejobs:
1127 Construction:

Alex Paris:

Big Inch:

Foltz Welding:
- Clinton, IN. 1,200' of 10" replacement plus 1,700' HDD for Marathon Pipeline.


Geeding Construction:

Henvilts & McCoy:

Infracore Construction:

MJ Electric:

Meade (Contract Material):

Michels Pipeline:

Mid-Ohio Contracting:

Minnesota Limited:

Ohio Limited:

PJ Steel:
- Jackson, MI. 102.8 miles of 16" hydrotest for Wolverine Pipeline. Superintendent: Larry Townsend. Welder Foreman: Brad Jenkins. Working 5-10s. JOB COMPLETE.
- Six Lakes, MI. 6" retire from 5 through 37 lateral lines for Mich-Con. Superintendent: George Lewis. Welder Foreman: Jason Roggo. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 10-6-16.

Precision Pipeline:

Price Gregory International:

Quest Construction:
- Marietta, OH. 6" and smaller meter and pipe trap for Blue Racer Midstream.
Superintendent: John Fitzwater. Welder Foreman: Matt Delik. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 10-3-16.

R&R Pipeline Construction:

RL Coolant Construction:
- Howell, MI. Fabricate and install one 20' launcher, one 20' receiver, one 12" value replacement and one 4" value replacement for Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company. Superintendent: Jack Hill. Welder Foreman: Roger Mullin. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-1-16.

Robert Pipelines:

Union Pipeline:

United Piping Inc:

Welded Construction:
Smithfield, OH. 54.4 miles of 20" new lay for Sunoco Pipeline. Superintendent: Gerald Hill. Welder Foreman: Tommy Geohagan. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-1-17.

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

I would like to begin this Blue Light Report by giving an update on what is happening with the work in the Northeast. Currently several of our larger new-lay projects are finishing up with the bulk of our work now transitioning into integrity maintenance, station and the small diameter variety. The big diameter we have consists of short runs of pipe. A question that I have been asked frequently is when is the Mariner East 2 going to start in Pennsylvania? I asked a Sunoco representative this question, and he said there is a positive dialogue between Sunoco and Pennsylvania DEP as they review the 33,000-page document that applies to the Chapter 105 water permits. I wish I had more to report on this front, but unfortunately that is all I am hearing at this time. As for the Williams Atlantic Sunrise project, they expect the final EIS FERC permit to be issued at the end of October with an additional 60-day public comment period being added by the Pennsylvania DEP. On a more positive note, if you happen to be driving on I-79 in West Virginia, you will undoubtedly pass several tractor trailer loads of 42" pipe that is being hauled and stockpiled in preparation for the 300-mile Mountain Valley Pipeline project. It's always a good sign to see pipe being laid down on the ground.

It was good to see everyone at the September membership meeting and I was proud to see our members participating in the nomination process. Putting yourself out there for election takes courage, and I admire those who care enough about our Local Union to get involved. Good luck to everyone who threw their hat into the ring. As for the rest of the membership, I feel it is very important for you to take the time and vote for the candidate of your choosing. Your participation is something that is needed in order for us to grow as a Local. If you don't vote in your Local Union's election, then I feel you have no right to complain about the leadership. So please, do your part and vote. Don't let apathy stunt the growth of our Local.

I am still pre-jobbing some work that lasts for a short duration. I really appreciate those of you who are helping Rick and me with these projects. I will be pre-jobbing two projects of this type this week and haven't had trouble manning either one due to the fact that things are slowing down a bit in New York and New England. If you are called to go to those of you who are helping Rick and me man these projects. I will be pre-jobbing two jobs this week.

It looks like 2017 is going to be another great year for our members. I have just received this and thought I would share it with you. “Atlantic Coast Pipeline LLC has signed Spring Ridge Constructors as lead construction contractor for the proposed 600-mile project to transport natural gas from West Virginia to eastern North Carolina. Spring Ridge is a joint venture of four of the nation's major pipeline construction companies — Pacific Gregory International, Inc. and U.S. Pipeline, Inc., both of Houston, Texas, Rockwell Corporation of Hillsville, Virginia, and SMPC of Brownsville Wisconsin” (Weekly Newsletter Pipeline Contractors Association, Vol. 59, Oct. 3, 2016). The Mountain Valley Pipeline is stockpiling 300-plus miles of 42" pipe in West Virginia and Virginia, with starting date late 2017 pending permits. The Mariner East Pipeline is on hold due to DEP permits with the state of Pennsylvania. Also the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline is awaiting DEP permits. All these projects are slated for the next two years. I would like to take this time to remind everyone of the election of officers for Local 798. You should be receiving your ballots in November, so please take the time to vote. Please take the time to be with your families on the upcoming holidays and enjoy. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to call me. As Always: Be Safe!

Rick Taylor
CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV
918/270-6739

It is that time of year again when the work is starting to slow down. I hope everyone had a prosperous work season. The man hours this year are right in line with last year's. Although we have had a few big projects, the majority of the work has been maintenance projects and laying of smaller pipe. These projects have always produced a lot of man hours over the years. We have so much to be thankful for in the pipeline industry. Our benefit package is another advantage we are fortunate to have. Currently, our retirement package is able to give our members a decent retirement. Helpers receive $116 and Journeyman receive $175 for each credited year. Retirees also recently received a 5 percent increase and continue to receive a thirteenth check. This just doesn't happen often. This happens because our Business Manager Danny Hendrix and Financial Secretary Wade Pilgreen and our Board of Trustees work hard to make sure we are taken care of. There are always people working behind the scenes to make sure you are taken care of in whatever capacity you find yourself in.

Blue Light Reports • November / December 2016 • Page 5
CHRIS LANCASTER

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

I am writing this report from home. I have been hearing about all the wind damage and flooding going on in the Southeast. I hope none of our members suffered any losses from this storm. I have several jobs going on in the Carolinas, and some of the jobs suffered from a lot of wind and rain and lost time over this storm. Most work is going again now. The work in my area is still slow. I am pre-jobbing some small work but there are several projects that should get going next year if they can get their permits. I encourage everyone to attend any of the town hall meetings they can. These are going to be good jobs that will put many members to work.

Our 798 election is coming up soon. They are all great candidates running for these offices so you will have some hard choices, but I want to encourage you to vote. This is your Union and it is your choice of who you want to represent you in these offices. These offices require people who are able and qualified to perform the tasks required of the position. These candidates deserve your vote and support. I want to thank and wish best of luck to those running, but most of all appreciate your interest in our Union by running for these offices.

The December meeting is around the corner. I hope you will be able to attend and look forward to seeing you there. I hope everyone is having a safe and great work season.

CHAD GILBERT

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

I am writing my report from Denver, CO. I am currently visiting projects we have in the area, policing non-union projects, and talking with union and non-union contractors on the front range of Colorado. Kevin Miller, Special Representative for the Operating Engineers, and I will be visiting Tallgrass Energy today to inquire if we have contractors on the bid list. Tallgrass plans on doing 100 miles of 16-inch in Weld County next year, and we are trying to make sure the pipeline is built with local, qualified, and trained craftsman. We are relying on the message that with so much scrutiny on our industry, gas companies need to use the best contractors, not just the cheapest. One cheap contractor, with an untrained migrant workforce, could damage the pipeline industry beyond repair with shoddy work and unsafe working conditions.

Our national and local union elections are approaching so please vote. Voting is a right and privilege, but also a duty. As for the national elections, what I ask the candidates here in the state of Colorado concerning union voting issues is: Do you believe in an employee’s right to collective bargaining? Do you support an increase in the minimum wage? Other issues that concern me personally are Social Security not being privatized, and tax breaks for contractors who furnish healthcare and retirement. Also important is funding for unemployment benefits and an energy policy that includes, supports, and tax breaks for contractors who furnish healthcare and retirement. Also important is funding for unemployment benefits and an energy policy that includes, supports, and tax breaks for contractors who furnish healthcare and retirement.

Prejobs:

- Appalachian Pipeline:

- B&G Pipeline:
  New Bern, NC. 2-4-10" Station work. Welder Foreman: Nathan Ferguson. Superintendent: Blake Frield. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 10-10-16.

- Appalachian Pipeline:

- B&G Pipeline:
  New Bern, NC. 2-4-10" Station work. Welder Foreman: Nathan Ferguson. Superintendent: Blake Frield. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 10-10-16.

- Appalachian Pipeline:

- B&G Pipeline:
  New Bern, NC. 2-4-10" Station work. Welder Foreman: Nathan Ferguson. Superintendent: Blake Frield. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 10-10-16.

- Appalachian Pipeline:

- B&G Pipeline:
  New Bern, NC. 2-4-10" Station work. Welder Foreman: Nathan Ferguson. Superintendent: Blake Frield. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 10-10-16.

Foltz Welding:


Be Proud! Be Union!

Pre-Jobs:

Apex Pipeline Services, Inc.:
- Elkview, WV. Install gas heater and 8" and 10" control valves for Columbia Gas.


Appellation Pre-Fab, LLC:

Kirila Contractors, Inc.:

Otis Eastern Services, Inc.:

The Hills Group:

U.S. Pipeline, Inc.:


Precision Pipeline, LLC:
- Covington, PA. 1.8 miles of various size pipe and 7.4 miles of 16" for Shell, Howard.

The December meeting is around the corner. I hope you will be able to attend and look forward to seeing you there. I hope everyone is having a safe and great work season.

Prejobs:

- Appalachian Pipeline:

- B&G Pipeline:
  New Bern, NC. 2-4-10" Station work. Welder Foreman: Nathan Ferguson. Superintendent: Blake Frield. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 11-16-16.

- Appalachian Pipeline:

- B&G Pipeline:
  New Bern, NC. 2-4-10" Station work. Welder Foreman: Nathan Ferguson. Superintendent: Blake Frield. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 11-16-16.

- Appalachian Pipeline:

- B&G Pipeline:
  New Bern, NC. 2-4-10" Station work. Welder Foreman: Nathan Ferguson. Superintendent: Blake Frield. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 11-16-16.

Foltz Welding:


PHILLIP W. WALLACE

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

I write this Blue Light Report after visiting all the spreads doing work on the Dakota Access Pipeline. This 1,141-mile Crude Oil Pipeline will move the American Light Sweet Crude from the Bakken Oil Field of North Dakota to the Patoka, Illinois, pipeline hub to be distributed to refineries across the country. This is a very much needed pipeline in order for this country to be less dependent on foreign oil. It took over two years to get this project permitted. Our members, along with other UA locals and the other three crafts, worked together to let state and federal agencies know how important this project was to all of us, for our families and livelihood. This was done by showing up at the town meetings, sending emails, writing letters, and making phone calls. The Pipeline Industry is changing, and we have to change with it or be left behind. Our members did a great job showing strength in unity.

Progress on the DAPL is right on schedule to be in service by the end of the year. Spread 9 in Williston should be tied-in and tested by the end of October. Spread 6 is tied-in and tested. Spread 7 in Mandan has the green light to lay the last 20 miles to Lake Oahe where all the Standing Rock Sioux have camped out and protested since Labor Day. The protesters have stopped construction on the 20 miles to the north on Spread 7. Spread 9 in Williston should be tied-in and tested by the end of October. Spread 8 is just about complete. We have much work to do on the Dakota Access Pipeline. This 1,141-mile Crude Oil Pipeline will move the American Light Sweet Crude from the Bakken Oil Field of North Dakota to the Patoka, Illinois, pipeline hub to be distributed to refineries across the country. This is a very much needed pipeline in order for this country to be less dependent on foreign oil. It took over two years to get this project permitted. Our members, along with other UA locals and the other three crafts, worked together to let state and federal agencies know how important this project was to all of us, for our families and livelihood. This was done by showing up at the town meetings, sending emails, writing letters, and making phone calls. The Pipeline Industry is changing, and we have to change with it or be left behind. Our members did a great job showing strength in unity.

Prejobs:

- ARB Inc.:


  - Denver, CO. 12,000 ft. of 6-inch for Phillips 66. Steward: Steve Schreibvogel. Working 6-10s. Integrity Management.

- Phoenix, AZ. Launcher and Receiver with 4-inch associated piping. Ameresco Gas. Steward: Luskey Morris. Working 5-8s. Special Agreement.
you read this, the DAPL should be 90 percent complete. This has been a great project and our Welders, Journeymen, and Helpers have done a tremendous job getting this done in one work season.

The maintenance work in my area has picked up the last quarter with some slewing and creek change outs. I don’t expect this type of work to go through the winter like we have the last few years. This work season will finish with around 6.5 to 7 million man hours. And with all the Alabama, Georgia, and Florida work this winter, it will be a big start for 2017 which makes this look like another great year to be a 798 Pipeliner. I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays and enjoy this time with your families.

BLACK SCHROEDER
TX
918/270-6743

Congratulations to both Danny and Wade for going unopposed for the second consecutive term. Ballots should be in the mail, so everyone should try to get your ballots and vote. It is very important that you have a voice, and this is the democratic process to do so.

The work is still slow in Texas. We are still waiting to find out who was awarded the 48” heavy wall job in Portland, TX. Hopefully we will know soon. If it goes to a fair contractor the starting date is early January. We expect Price/Gregory International will commence construction around November 1, 2016. We expect Price/Gregory International will commence construction of the 42” and 48” loops in Alabama on or about December 1, 2016, with a small river crossing crew.

My old pappy used to say that the old days weren’t bad, they were rotten. But I’ve decided that there is something good to say for the old pipeline days. There is no doubt that pipeline construction has evolved into an incredible industry, and pipeline work has seen a multitude of positive changes over the years. But the fact remains that the wagons sometimes pull the horse. When I began pipelining nearly 50 years ago, a single permit was issued and we went to work right away. Today it takes (on average) 3.8 years to get project permits, and there is still no guarantee that construction will get underway. We should not be penalized for wanting to work in an industry that we love. And we should not be punishsed for pinning our hopes on a job that might never become reality. But there is a workable plan and an answer. It is called the United Association and Local 798. In unity there is strength, and in strength lies solutions. Our leadership is visionary at the national and local level. When they call on us for help we must act immediately.

I want to congratulate Local 798 Business Manager Danny Hendrix on his election as District 3 Vice-President of the United Association, and David Barnett as International Director of the United Association. Congratulations are also in order to newly elected General President Mark McManus and his leadership team. The United Association will reach new heights with Mark at the helm.

Pre-jobs:
DD Pipeline has successfully completed its project for the City of Athens, AL, Gas Division on time and 0 defects. Well done DD Pipeline.

Price Gregory:
- Live Oak, FL. 167.2 miles of 36” and 24” for Sable Trail. 36” will be laid automatic and 24” is stick rod rig. Steward: Bobby Taylor, Jr. Welder Foreman: Billy Burns. Working 6-10s. National Agreement.
- Darrow, LA. 96.5 miles of 24”, 12”, and 6” for QPS Engineering Company. The job is manned and under way after some serious weather delays and permitting problems. Steward: Mike Miller. Welder Foreman: Stan Campbell.

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

Brothers and Sisters, the greeting wait is over. Those big-inch pipeline projects in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Louisiana (that we’ve talked about for years), have finally gotten underway. And Local 798 members stand ready. The “Sable Trail” and “Florida Southeast Connector” projects in Alabama and Florida have boots on the ground. The 24” project near Gonzales, Louisiana, is manned and progressing smoothly. Williams Transco has awarded the “Dalton Expansion” project in Georgia to Henkels and US Pipeline, two fair contractors. Companies are expected to begin construction by November 1, 2016. We expect Price/Gregory International will commence construction of the 42” and 48” loops in Alabama on or about December 1, 2016, with a small river crossing crew.

In an effort to keep the membership informed we have begun using text messaging as a form of communication to keep you updated with the latest information regarding union business and happenings in the pipeline industry. To begin receiving text messages, please text the word Alert to 22300 to opt in.

In unity there is strength, and in strength lies solutions. Our leadership is visionary at the national and local level. When they call on us for help we must act immediately. As long as we are proactive and not reactive, we will remain the leaders in the pipeline industry. And that is where we belong!

I want to congratulate Local 798 Business Manager Danny Hendrix on his election as District 3 Vice-President of the United Association, and David Barnett as International Representative for pipeline at the UA. It is an incredible honor for Danny, David, and their families. It also speaks volumes about the importance of the pipeline industry within our United International. Congratulations are also in order to newly elected General President Mark McManus and his leadership team. The United Association will reach new heights with Mark at the helm.

Pre-jobs:
DD Pipeline has successfully completed its project for the City of Athens, AL, Gas Division on time and 0 defects. Well done DD Pipeline.

Price Gregory:
- Live Oak, FL. 167.2 miles of 36” and 24” for Sable Trail. 36” will be laid automatic and 24” is stick rod rig. Steward: Bobby Taylor, Jr. Welder Foreman: Billy Burns. Working 6-10s. National Agreement.
- Darrow, LA. 96.5 miles of 24”, 12”, and 6” for QPS Engineering Company. The job is manned and under way after some serious weather delays and permitting problems. Steward: Mike Miller. Welder Foreman: Stan Campbell.

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

Brothers and Sisters, the greeting wait is over. Those big-inch pipeline projects in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Louisiana (that we’ve talked about for years), have finally gotten underway. And Local 798 members stand ready. The “Sable Trail” and “Florida Southeast Connector” projects in Alabama and Florida have boots on the ground. The 24” project near Gonzales, Louisiana, is manned and progressing smoothly. Williams Transco has awarded the “Dalton Expansion” project in Georgia to Henkels and US Pipeline, two fair contractors. Companies are expected to begin construction by November 1, 2016. We expect Price/Gregory International will commence construction of the 42” and 48” loops in Alabama on or about December 1, 2016, with a small river crossing crew.

My old pappy used to say that the old days weren’t bad, they were rotten. But I’ve decided that there is something good to say for the old pipeline days. There is no doubt that pipeline construction has evolved into an incredible industry, and pipeline work has seen a multitude of positive changes over the years. But the fact remains that the wagons sometimes pull the horse. When I began pipelining nearly 50 years ago, a single permit was issued and we went to work right away. Today it takes (on average) 3.8 years to get project permits, and there is still no guarantee that construction will get underway. We should not be penalized for wanting to work in an industry that we love. And we should not be punished for pinning our hopes on a job that might never become reality. But there is a workable plan and an answer. It is called the United Association and Local 798. In unity there is strength, and in strength lies solutions. Our leadership is visionary at the national and local level. When they call on us for help we must act immediately. As long as we are proactive and not reactive, we will remain the leaders in the pipeline industry. And that is where we belong!

I want to congratulate Local 798 Business Manager Danny Hendrix on his election as District 3 Vice-President of the United Association, and David Barnett as International Representative for pipeline at the UA. It is an incredible honor for Danny, David, and their families. It also speaks volumes about the importance of the pipeline industry within our United International. Congratulations are also in order to newly elected General President Mark McManus and his leadership team. The United Association will reach new heights with Mark at the helm.

Pre-jobs:
DD Pipeline has successfully completed its project for the City of Athens, AL, Gas Division on time and 0 defects. Well done DD Pipeline.

Price Gregory:
- Live Oak, FL. 167.2 miles of 36” and 24” for Sable Trail. 36” will be laid automatic and 24” is stick rod rig. Steward: Bobby Taylor, Jr. Welder Foreman: Billy Burns. Working 6-10s. National Agreement.
- Darrow, LA. 96.5 miles of 24”, 12”, and 6” for QPS Engineering Company. The job is manned and under way after some serious weather delays and permitting problems. Steward: Mike Miller. Welder Foreman: Stan Campbell.
It was good seeing and visiting with so many people during the September membership meeting. It's always good to see so many in attendance and taking an interest in the day-to-day business of our Local Union. Membership participation is what makes it work.

There was a lot of important business discussed along with the nominations for our upcoming election of officers. A lot of good people are running for office, and I wish each and every one of them the best of luck.

It was very good news to hear that we have received yet another pension increase for all Welders, Journeymen and Helpers as well as a raise for our retirees. Our retirees have done so much for us in the past, I can’t think of a more deserving group. We owe them everything. If not for them, Local 798 would not even exist. We must always keep them at the forefront. They will always have my support and respect.

It was with great pride that I received my 35-year pin in the mail the other day. I can't imagine where all the time went. It seems like only yesterday I was testing at the Union Hall. It's hard for me to imagine where I would be in life if it wasn’t for this great Local Union. Local 798 has provided me and my family with a good living, health care, and a good retirement to look forward to having. It has not only been a pleasure, but an honor to have had the opportunity to work side-by-side with the best pipeliners the world has to offer and to follow in the footsteps of those members who made it all possible.

I look at the non-union side and wonder what they have to look forward to having. They have no retirement, no insurance, stagnant wages, and deplorable working conditions in addition to not receiving pay for travel, testing time, or waiting time. Some have to work into old age just to put food on their table. In a lot of cases our Helpers' total package is more than the non-union welder makes an hour. Pipeliners Local Union 798 has truly blessed each of us. It has also helped the non-union welder even though most won’t admit it. I have a hard time wrapping my mind around the idea of a group of people who turn away from better wages and conditions and the opportunity to actually stand for something in life.

I have been spending most of my time in the West Texas area, but also some areas in East Texas. It’s sad to report that I have had to file charges on some members for working non-union. This is not something I enjoy doing. Actually, I wish I never had to do it. But the simple fact is we cannot and will not tolerate this. When a man takes his superior skill and sells it to the non-union side for paltry wages, they undermine everything we have worked and fought for. Not only that, they help and support those who wish to destroy us and everything we represent. We will be ramping up our efforts over the next few months, so if you know anyone that is out there helping those who are costing us jobs, please let me know.

It appears that the work outlook is bright and I hope everyone has had a good year. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the December membership meeting. If I can be of any help, or if you have any information concerning the rat work, please give me a call.

Fraternally, Ronnie M. Hill
(918) 284-6862
401(k) Distributions

Since January 1, 2016, nearly 500 members have taken some form of distribution from the 401(k) Plan. For those participants under 59 1/2, this can become very expensive because the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules impose an additional 10% tax on most withdrawals. The IRS guidelines state the following: “Generally, the amounts an individual withdraws from an IRA or retirement plan before reaching age 59 1/2 are called ‘early’ or ‘premature’ distributions. Individuals must pay an additional 10% early withdrawal tax unless an exception applies.” One exception that may affect some members is a withdrawal to pay medical bills that exceed 7.5% of taxable adjusted gross income. This very seldom would apply because participants must turn in their medical bills to the Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan (HRA) before using a 401(k) withdrawal for medical expenses.

401(k) Retirement Savings

Assuming a Journeyman participant accumulates 30 years in the industry before retiring, and assuming he/she works on average 1,200 hours each year and never makes a personal contribution into the plan, that participant could expect a “piggy bank” of nearly $395,000 from only the contractor contributions (assum- ing 5% return over the lifetime of savings). The calculation is as follows: 1,200 hours per year or 100 hours per month X $4.74 per hour from contractor contributions ($474.00 per month) X 5% = $394,490.59 calculated over 30 years or 360 months. The calculation using the same formula at the $2.64 Helper rate arrives at a value of $219,716.28. The PIBF staff receives calls from members who are unhappy because their 401(k) account is not growing. Our first question is how much is in the account and what was the growth for the year. A $500.00 growth on a $10,000.00 account is 5%. That meets the calculation in the example illustrated. Most money managers advise their clients that regular contributions by the employer and the employee can easily produce a $1,000,000 account balance at the end of a long working career. To achieve this, you must take some personal responsibility and contribute from your paycheck and not withdraw money from the account unless absolutely necessary and as a last resort.

Pension Plan and Health Plan Changes

The Board of Trustees approved plan changes in September 2016 and through the generous contributions and sponsorships made at the annual golf tournament. This scholarship is awarded to the highest-ranking applicant meeting the qualifications for the Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program. Only applicants who have maintained a minimum 3.2 GPA in their college level coursework will be considered for this award.

Additionally, the Ernie Miller Scholarship was established to encourage students attending Trade Schools to enter careers oriented towards labor unions. A $500 scholarship will be awarded to one recipient for the 2016/2017 school term. All applicants will be ranked according to academic achievement and the potential of success in their chosen field of study.

Application forms for the 2016/2017 Scholarship Programs are now available for students enrolled in the fall semester. Written requests should be addressed to Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program. Applications may also be downloaded online from the Local Union website at www.local798.org. It is available under the Scholarship Program section.

An instruction sheet accompanies the application and appraisal forms. Particular attention to the rules and compliance with the requirements is necessary in order to be eligible for consideration in the final screening process. Completed forms should be returned along with copies of all previous college transcripts. It is the applicant’s responsibility to have the college or university registrar’s office immediately mail in a transcript of their grades upon completion of the fall semester. Sufficient time is allowed for receipt of fall transcripts, but a cut-off date is necessary to process all files through the screening committee. Applicants will be disqualified if all materials, including the application, appraisal forms, and transcripts, are not received by the January 20, 2017, deadline.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

In January 2017, following the conclusion of the Fall 2016 semester, the Pipeliners Voluntary Scholarship Fund will award ten general scholarships of $3,000 each. A screening committee will select the winners from the qualifying applicants. Any Local 798 member or his/her immediate family relative (spouse, child, or grandchild) who has graduated from high school and is currently attending at least the first semester of an accredited college may apply. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible.

The Voluntary Fund has sponsored the Scholarship Program since 1969. The Scholarship Fund owes its success to the generous contributions of the Local 798 membership. Thanks to all of you for your continued support.

The Harry Faucett, Jr. Memorial Scholarship, in the amount of $7,500, will also be awarded. It has been funded by Voluntary Fund donations, memorial donations in dedication to Harry Faucett, and through the generous contributions and sponsorships made at the annual golf tournament. This scholarship is awarded to the highest-ranking applicant meeting the qualifications for the Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program. Only applicants who have maintained a minimum 3.2 GPA in their college level coursework will be considered for this award.

An instruction sheet accompanies the application and appraisal forms. Particular attention to the rules and compliance with the requirements is necessary in order to be eligible for consideration in the final screening process. Completed forms should be returned along with copies of all previous college transcripts. It is the applicant’s responsibility to have the college or university registrar’s office immediately mail in a transcript of their grades upon completion of the fall semester. Sufficient time is allowed for receipt of fall transcripts, but a cut-off date is necessary to process all files through the screening committee. Applicants will be disqualified if all materials, including the application, appraisal forms, and transcripts, are not received by the January 20, 2017, deadline.

Staff Promotion at PIBF

I would like to announce that Renee Vause, Fund Controller, has been promoted to Assistant Director effective immediately. She will be transitioning into the new role over the next year. Renee maintains a Certified Public Accountant license and is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. Renee has been on the management staff at PIBF since 1999. It is anticipated that Renee will eventually assume the position as Director of the Fund. Danny Hendrix, Business Manager of Local 798, informed the membership about the position change. Danny has been an employee of the Fund for over 10 years.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

In January 2017, following the conclusion of the Fall 2016 semester, the Pipeliners Voluntary Scholarship Fund will award ten general scholarships of $3,000 each. A screening committee will select the winners from the qualifying applicants. Any Local 798 member or his/her immediate family relative (spouse, child, or grandchild) who has graduated from high school and is currently attending at least the first semester of an accredited college may apply. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible.

The Voluntary Fund has sponsored the Scholarship Program since 1969. The Scholarship Fund owes its success to the generous contributions of the Local 798 membership. Thanks to all of you for your continued support.

The Harry Faucett, Jr. Memorial Scholarship, in the amount of $7,500, will also be awarded. It has been funded by Voluntary Fund donations, memorial donations in dedication to Harry Faucett, and through the generous contributions and sponsorships made at the annual golf tournament. This scholarship is awarded to the highest-ranking applicant meeting the qualifications for the Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program. Only applicants who have maintained a minimum 3.2 GPA in their college level coursework will be considered for this award.

Additionally, the Ernie Miller Scholarship was established to encourage students attending Trade Schools to enter careers oriented towards labor unions. A $500 scholarship will be awarded to one recipient for the 2016/2017 school term. All applicants will be ranked according to academic achievement and the potential of success in their chosen field of study.

Application forms for the 2016/2017 Scholarship Programs are now available for students enrolled in the fall semester. Written requests should be addressed to Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program. Applications may also be downloaded online from the Local Union website at www.local798.org. It is available under the Scholarship Program section.

An instruction sheet accompanies the application and appraisal forms. Particular attention to the rules and compliance with the requirements is necessary in order to be eligible for consideration in the final screening process. Completed forms should be returned along with copies of all previous college transcripts. It is the applicant’s responsibility to have the college or university registrar’s office immediately mail in a transcript of their grades upon completion of the fall semester. Sufficient time is allowed for receipt of fall transcripts, but a cut-off date is necessary to process all files through the screening committee. Applicants will be disqualified if all materials, including the application, appraisal forms, and transcripts, are not received by the January 20, 2017, deadline.

Staff Promotion at PIBF

I would like to announce that Renee Vause, Fund Controller, has been promoted to Assistant Director effective immediately. She will be transitioning into the new role over the next year. Renee maintains a Certified Public Accountant license and is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. Renee has been on the management staff at PIBF since 1999. It is anticipated that Renee will eventually assume the position as Director of the Fund. Danny Hendrix, Business Manager of Local 798, informed the membership about the position change. Danny has been an employee of the Fund for over 10 years.
Two of our members, Tom Shaw and Dan Burdge (Twiggy), came across this accident and helped the elderly lady from the car. Thankfully, she was not injured seriously. They called 911 and waited with her until the emergency responders arrived. They also called the lady’s daughter to let her know where she was, and that she was all right. This accident had happened over two hours before they found her. If they have not spotted her, she could have been there all night. This goes to show that our members are an asset to the communities we work in because we care!
Cassidy and Julie Croley want to thank all the members of Local 798 who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The help was greatly appreciated when it came to repairing the damage done to their place from flooding. Also, thank you to Phillip Wallace and Wade Pilgreen for their concern. It is such a great feeling to know they belong to a “family” that sticks together and helps each other out.

Edward (Mr. Ed) Putman would like to thank everyone who gives to the Voluntary Fund. The help was very much appreciated after having knee replacement surgery. A special thank you to Ricky (Bubba) Putman, Ricky Putman, Jerry Glen Davis, and everyone who called.

Edell and Donna Ussy thank everyone so much for the check they received following Edell’s recent cancer diagnosis. It was appreciated and will be used for doctor bills. A special thank you to Warren Lyda.

Mark E. Hughes sends a heartfelt thanks to the contributors to the Voluntary Fund for the assistance he received. It was a blessing. Special thanks to Richard Crowden.

Robert Lowen Mace and Family write to say thank you to the Voluntary Fund and all who contribute to it for the donation they received after the devastating loss of their home from flooding in Anna, WV. It is with sincere gratitude that they accept the money to help rebuild their home.

Marshall Cain and Family would like to thank all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the help they received during his wife’s hospital stay. A special thank you to Buddy Kervin, Charles Lynch and Sam Jacks.

Jason Smith and Family say thank you for the gift they received from the Voluntary Fund. Your kindness means much more than words can say.

Timothy Melvin expresses his gratitude to the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 who donate to the Voluntary Fund. The generous gift helped with unforeseen costs after flooding in his neighborhood.

Carl Traveek thanks all the members who give to the Voluntary Fund. The help received after the flooding this spring was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Stan Campbell and Mike Miller.

Jerry A. Gilly is beyond grateful to everyone for the gift he received from the Voluntary Fund. The money will help while he recovers from his surgery. Special thanks to Mitchell and Kim Elliott and family.

L.D. “Ike” Mason and Family would like to thank all 798 members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The kind words and prayers were deeply appreciated. A special thanks to Phillip Wallace, Todd Hartle, and Tim Gintz.

Joey and Misty Ferrington express their deep appreciation to each person who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. The donation, phone calls and prayers make them feel blessed to be a part of the 798 family.

Steve “Moose” and Jeannie Bird thank the Voluntary Fund for the check they received for the damage from flooding in Clendenin, WV. The money will help for their property loss. Special thanks to Rick Taylor, David Butterworth, and Greg “Snook” Rose.

James Smyrl greatly appreciates receiving a much needed check from the Voluntary Fund after his wife’s serious spinal surgery. Thank you to all the members who have donated to the Voluntary Fund, and especially Darrell Turner and Rags Gros.

Donnie Monceaux would like to thank all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the check they received during Marietta’s illness. It was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix.

Allen and Glynda Monie say thank you to everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the gift they received for Glynda’s recent hospital stay. Special thanks to Richard Ludlow, Mike Miller and Jerry Foster.

Gary Smith thanks the Voluntary Fund for helping in his time of need. Special thanks to Raymond Johnson and Kenneth Glaze.

Raymie Rogers and the Bob Moyer Family say thank you to all the contributors of the Voluntary Fund after the passing of his father-in-law. A special thank you to Charlie Garrett and Walt Kennedy.

Alex Scrape is thankful for the Voluntary Fund check he received due to his father’s health. He is appreciative of all his Union Brothers and Sisters.

Justin Hornback and Kayla Jodway cannot express how thankful their family was to receive the kind letter and check from the Voluntary Fund. On top of the gracious generosity from the fund, they were lifted up by kind words and prayers from so many of their 798 Brothers and Sisters. They will forever be grateful to be a part of this amazing organization.

William and Sara Choate thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the help they received. This gift was much appreciated. A special thanks to Michael Hatch.

Carl and Leah Wood express their thanks for the donation from the Voluntary Fund. The gift they received was such a blessing in their time of need.

David and Judy Burns want to thank the 798 family and all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The generous gift, along with your kindness and concern was much appreciated after the passing of their loved one. A special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Jennings and Billy Martel.

Dennis and Deloris Shambaun would like to thank the Voluntary Fund for the help they received during the devastating flooding in Clendenin, WV. The gift was greatly appreciated in a time of need. A special thank you to Jerry Taylor.

The Mellion Family want to thank the Voluntary Fund for the gift they received.

Brian Fox, Shaun Fox and Family express their appreciation for all the love and support shown during the illness and passing of Brian and Shaun’s mother, Peggy Fox. A special thank you to the Voluntary Fund and all the 798 family who expressed their condolences through attendance of the services, flowers, Hospice donations, phone calls, text messages and cards. The outpouring of generosity, thoughts, and prayers were greatly appreciated!

James “Jim” Walton thanks all the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the check received following his wife’s hospitalization and surgery. Special thanks to Dean Snuffer, Wade Pilgreen and Danny Hendrix.

Carlos Bailey wants to thank the Voluntary Fund for the tremendous help in his time of need. It was such a big help to receive this special gift! Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, Black Schroeder and Bob Kime.

Raymond Johnson says thank you to all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the donation, but also for the prayers, flowers, cards and words of support. They came at a time that was extremely difficult for his family. It is a great honor to be a part of an organization that takes so much pride in helping others in their times of need. Special thanks to Kenny Glaze, Joe Hurt, Gene Hale, Louie Langley, Matthew Ingram, Paul Mullin and Darren Patterson.

Elvin Duncan and Family are truly grateful to the Brothers and Sister of this great Local for the support they have received. Special thanks to Rick Duncan and Phillip Wallace.

Charlie Tyson says a special thanks to the members of this line Local who give to the Voluntary Fund. He appreciates the financial support from the fund in his time of need.

Eric Jones expresses his gratitude to those who dig deep every week and donate to the Voluntary Fund. The gift he received was greatly appreciated and a tremendous financial help. A special thank you to Jason Staten for taking over in his absence and for all the help.

Paul Jacobs, Sr. wants to thank all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. It was greatly appreciated in their time of need after his wife’s stroke. A special thank you goes to Charles Yates, Jr. for his help and to the Board.

The Gregory Family says thank you to everyone who wrote in to the Voluntary Fund following their family’s loss of both James “Raymond” Gregory and Rodney Gregory. Please keep Kevin Gregory in your thoughts and prayers as he carries on the family name in 798.

Melvin Western wants to thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for caring. A special thanks goes to Carroll Tuggle.

Mike and Jennifer Hawk want to thank all those who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. They appreciated the help very much during Jen’s recovery.

Joe and Carol Henderson thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. Joe is recuperating from hip replacement surgery and is currently having in-home therapy, which will continue for several months. Special thanks to Ronnie Evans, Chris Waeckerle, Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

Charles and Lydia Schexnydier, Sr. express their heartfelt thanks for the Voluntary Fund check which helped defray their costs due to flooding in Louisiana. Special thanks to Darrell Turner, Daniel Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, Rick Arlos, and all 798 members.

Jerry and Wanda Bratcher appreciate the assistance they received from the Voluntary Fund. It will help out toward travel expenses related to the surgery that was done out of state, as well as medical supplies not covered by insurance. Local 798 proves once again
that it takes care of its members. Special thanks to Richard Prater.

Lawrence (Mouse) Motty wants to thank all the contributors to the Voluntary Fund for the help he received during his time of need. Special thanks to J.W. Osburn, Jerry Crabtree and Shannon Jackson.

Chad Todd and Family would like to thank every Brother and Sister who gives so generously to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Fred Mulkey, Jerry Fazzio and all 798 members.

Jim and Judy Warner thank the 798 members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the help they received after Judy’s back surgery this past spring. The help was greatly appreciated, and Judy is doing well. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Phillip Wallace and David Warner.

Kermit G. Hunt wishes to thank the Voluntary Fund for the gift he received after the historic storms in his area.

Guy and Maria Williams wish to thank everyone who contributes so freely to the Voluntary Fund. They truly appreciate the contribution they received following a death in their family. Our pipeline Brothers and Sisters are the most giving people on earth. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, Andy Hunt, Justin Teague, and all the hands on Spread 9 of DAPL.

David L. Taylor thanks the Voluntary Fund and those who contribute to it for the check he received after suffering total losses in the floodings in Clendenin, WV. Special thanks to Rick Taylor and David Butterworth.

Rusty Evans says thanks to the Voluntary Fund for the help. Special thanks to the current Administration for not forgetting the retired members.

William and Kelen McCleary thank very much the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The gift was greatly appreciated and will help replace items lost in the Clendenin flood.

The Rivera-Hernandez Family thanks all the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 for the help they received. They feel blessed to belong to such a great union and are forever grateful. Special thanks to Chad Springer and Kenneth White.

Kody Lively and Family want to thank everyone for the financial help they received from the Voluntary Fund. It means a lot to their family for the support, and they couldn’t be more appreciative of the brotherhood. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, Andy Hunt and Justin Teague.

Bob Binion would like to thank every one of his 798 Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. He appreciates the monetary donation he received after his terrible car accident.

Gary Buchan and Family are grateful to all of the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 who generously contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the gift they received following his wife’s spinal surgery. His wife is recovering well, and your thoughtful giving and caring is greatly appreciated. He is honored to belong to Pipeliners Local Union 798!

Wally and Pat Gros are grateful to be a part of Local 798 and thankful for the gracious members who donate to the Voluntary Fund. The contribution helped during their time of grief following the death of Wally’s brother, Robert Alan Gros. They are overwhelmed by the kindness and support received from this great Union. Special thanks to Tim Ginz.

Rodger Hastings expresses heartfelt thanks for the help received including the prayers, phone calls, and texts. It’s such a blessing to be a part of a family that expands across the nation and reaches out in times like this. Special thanks to Darrell Turner, Mike Shelton, Rick Hemmer, Curtis Mason, Lynn Landreth, Dowey Knight and Ricky Morgan.

Douglas E. Collins expresses his gratitude for the financial contribution he received for “Michelle’s Fund” during their loss. It is appreciated more than you will ever know, and it is his hope that your selfless giving will be returned tenfold.

Sam G. Clark, Jr., thanks everyone who contributed. Special thanks to the Voluntary Fund. The help was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Darrell Turner, Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

Patrick “Tom” and Nancy Geohagan express thanks to all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. It was a great help with David’s hip surgery and back problems. It is an honor to be a part of Local 798. Special thanks to Buddy Williams and everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund.

Steve and Dusty Edwards would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Voluntary Fund for the gift they received following Dusty’s recent surgery. Special thanks to Allen and Sue Ellis and Brad and Becca Ellis.

Albert Pauley expresses his gratitude to the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 for the help and concern he received following the passing of his wife of 37 years. It was a blessing to see all of the beautiful flowers and for all of the food that was prepared for his family. He appreciates being part of Local 798 and having such good friends. Special thanks to the Voluntary Fund, Sam and Ruth Melvin, Danny and Norma Kay Hendrix, Charlie Yates, Terry and Debbie Langley, and Rick Taylor.

Anthony Ivanow and Family would like to express their sincere thanks for the generosity, love and support shown following the passing of his wife’s, mom, Deb Neuman. The donations will help out tremendously with expenses, and they are forever grateful for the generosity. On behalf of the entire family, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Billy and Linda Hips appreciate so very much the thoughtfulness of Local 798 for the help they received from the Voluntary Fund while Billy was undergoing cancer treatments. He is in remission now.

Rufus Bex, Jr., would like to say thanks for the extra check he received. It was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix.

Wayne Causey sends his thanks to everyone contributing to the Voluntary Fund for the gift he recently received. Special thanks to Black Schroeder, Rani, Dee Wee and Nikki Hawkins, and Wayne Hawkins from TN for their thoughtfulness.

Ted and Becky Thomas write to thank Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen, and all those who give to the Voluntary Fund for the help they received after the flooding of their home. Special thanks to Apex Pipeline.

Mike Wilson says words cannot express what the gift from the Voluntary Fund has meant to him. His wife fought long and hard against cancer until she passed away October 6, 2016. Thank you for the gift, and for thinking of him and his family in their time of need.

Randy D. Lancaster, 53-year-old Helper of Jonesboro, AR, passed away May 16, 2016.

Donald Cockerham, 70-year-old Retired Helper of Winnboro, LA, passed away August 4, 2016.

Melvin L. Knox, 81-year-old Retired Welder of Corinth, KY, passed away August 7, 2016.


Thomas McIntosh, Jr., 92-year-old Retired Welder of Eufaula, OK, passed away August 14, 2016.

Larry S. Balch, 70-year-old Retired Welder of Tumwater, WA, passed away August 20, 2016.


Larry E. Norworthy, 78-year-old Retired Welder of Cheyenne, WY, passed away August 23, 2016.


Delmer F. Pilant, 81-year-old Retired Welder of Claremore, OK, passed away August 26, 2016.

Norval L. Cummings, 95-year-old Retired Welder of Ft. Walton Beach, FL, passed away September 17, 2016.


Jesse C. Lane, 81-year-old Retired Welder of Gary, TX, passed away September 22, 2016.


Gregory D. Billen, Welder, Skiatook, OK
Debbie L. Cannon, Helper, Pineland, TX
Bill G. Clendening, Welder, Wetumpka, OK
Randy Lee Eason, Helper, Scotts Hill, TN
Joel L. Mallette, Welder, Saucier, MS
Jerry M. Minor, Journeyman Spacer, Olive Hill, KY
Francisco Sarrazola, Welder, Houston, TX
Morgan A. Scott, Welder, Mount Juliet, TN
Charlie D. White, Journeyman Spacer, Scotts Hill, TN

**Swap & Sell**

**Miller PipePro 304** stainless welding machine. 125” Miller remote on a Tidweld reel. $8,200. Excellent machine, welds great! 3,580 hours. Call Paul at (318) 233-3803.


**2008 Miller PipePro 304** stainless model. Welds good with 1,600 hours. Selling with leads and remote. Ask $6,000. Call (626) 826-4917 and ask for Ben.

**1993 Travel Supreme 36’ 5th Wheel** – Includes: one 15’ Slide Out, electric front jacks, rear ladder, tinted windows, insulated drapes in the living room, 10-gal hot water heater, oak table w/4 chairs, 88” double recliner sofa, queen bed, regular flush toilet, washer & dryer, new refrigerator. Newish: air conditioner, furnace, carpet, double cellular blinds, microwave, springs, shackles and tires. Asking $7,250. Call (812) 249-1315 or (765) 665-3606.

**Miller 304 Pipe Pro**. In excellent condition with 250 ft. of lead, also in excellent condition. Machine welds great. 4,300 hours. $7500. Will consider all offers. Call James at (717) 847-2485.

**2015 Mobile Suites Naples**. 43’ Loaded with every available option. Full size Fridge. Sat. DW. Used only 3 months. MSRP $198K. Paid $135K, will take $98K. Contact philipcoates3@gmail.com for more information and pictures.

**2007 Holiday Rambler Savvy**. Top of the line Travel Trailer. 2 slides, w/d hookup, awning, queen bedroom, sleeps 6. It’s just like a one bedroom apartment. Very clean. Ready to roll. No issues at all! Clean title. Call or text (214) 632-0632.

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

**WELDER HATS** - Tall/Short Crown, Reversible and Non-Reversible, Custom Caps. Licensed fabrics available. $12.00 - $14.00 each 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 e-mail: CJW19290@AOL.COM. Credit and Debit cards accepted.

**TheUnionBootPro.com**. Local Union discount code PF0798mD. Get 27% OFF suggested retail price, 24/7, 365 days a year... either as an active or retired union member. No annual renewal required, discount good for life. Union member savings will vary depending on the boot purchased. Discount offered ONLY on our selection of American-Made, Union-Made, work and uniform boots available at TheUnionBootPro.com. We feature Thorogood™ footwear MADE IN USA by the Weinbrenner Shoe Company - one of America’s oldest manufacturers of quality constructed, handcrafted, job-fitted safety work boots. Questions? 1 (800) 723-5384 toll-free.

**Lincoln Short Hood 1948**. Runs and welds good. Garage kept on trailer. Also wildcard grinder, 1/2-ton chain fall, rebuilt mag. Still in box. Asking $2,800. Call Dave at (412) 600-8565.

Cindy Martin started working for Pipeliners Local Union 798 in October of 2007 as the receptionist, then moved to the Dispatch office in 2008. She enjoys working for the members and takes her job very seriously. There never seems to be a dull moment, and she learns something new each day. Cindy is a member of the Ladies of 798 and participates in the Day Spring Villa Christmas Party.

Cindy is married with three grown children and has been blessed with three grandkids. She is an animal lover and has a calling for rescuing lost dogs. Cindy enjoys being at home, working in the garden, and taking care of the four dogs and one cat that they currently have. Cindy feels truly blessed with family and work, and thanks God each day.

Jaimee Grisham was born in Visalia, CA, and in 1984 moved to Tulsa with her husband and son. She has been a part of Local Union 798 since January 3, 1989. Jaimee has worked in several areas of the office, but has been working with the 3% Dues and Organizing Assessments for over 20 years. Jaimee resides in Broken Arrow, OK, with her son and his family. She likes to travel and visit with her mother and sisters in California.

Jaimee feels grateful for working with the best group of people at Local 798 and is thankful for all the understanding and patience that has been shown her during stressful times in her life. Jaimee is proud to be a small part of this great organization.

No matter where you are, the feeling of fall is in the air. The work is unusually abundant for this time of year. Even with our work booming there are going to be people who are at the back of the wheel seeking work. The Building Trades work is out there. The further north and east you go, the better the money is, although they seldom pay per diem or match our benefits. However, what they do pay can push you over your 1,200 hours needed or more, whatever the case may be. If you are working Building Trades, we will not pull you off the wheel or count your hours against you.

The things you need to work Building Trades are up-hill welding skills (up-hill stick bead, low hydrogen, heli-arch, and things of this nature). Plus, nearly everyone wants you to show up with an OSHA 10 card that is no more than three years old. We do have a web address towards the top of our Jobs listing page that tells you where you can go to take the class online. It takes two days; OSHA will not allow you to take it in one. The fastest I have heard of is 13 hours to complete. UA certs are also important, such as UA 21, which is an up-hill 5p bead fill and cap with LH on a 2” set on a 45.436 wall. Also, UA 22 heli-arch bead and hot pass with LH fill and cap, same position and pipe size. We are starting a new spreadsheet here in the office to document those who are interested in working Building Trades. It is very difficult to get Helpers on this work unless they have UA welding certs. Even with certs it is still difficult, but possible, and does happen. As of this writing, the work is abundant on Building Trades. Surprisingly, we did get several Journeyman out last year and hope to do so again this year.

If you are seriously interested in working Building Trades this winter, give dispatch a call at (918) 610-2761. Talk to the ladies here and give them your information. They will have a few questions for you.

Once we get some Building Trades work, we will reach out to those in the area of the work who have corresponding job skills, and will work to get our people employed. We will be looking for jobs! But we will need people interested in working to fill them. The more people we send, the more we get called for more people.

By the time you get this report the Florida work will not be at full steam. Other big work is not expected until after the first of the year. Anything that far out is anyone’s guess when it might start for sure. It appears we will continue to have small and medium jobs pop up in the Northeast East all winter. We anticipate being able to fill them quickly and efficiently with the membership we have at this time.

We here at Local 798 have worked diligently to give every member who has a book an opportunity at the work we have available. It has been an absolute last resort to sell books during the busy work season, and this is a policy we will continue to strive for as we work through this busy fall season.

I want to take this time now to thank the membership of this Local for the opportunity to serve as your Dispatcher. I wish all of you a blessed Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas, wherever you may be this holiday season.

Numbers on the Wheel: Welders 818 Journeyman 144 Helpers 634
1. The General President has directed that the election for officers be conducted by mail ballot. There will be no manual balloting.

2. Election Services United, Corp. (ESU) shall administer the election. ESU is headquartered at 672 Dogwood Avenue, Ste. 395, Franklin Square, NY 11010. The ESU representative conducting the Local 798 election is Sandee Tovin. ESU has advised that it will utilize the services of East River Mail to conduct the mailing. East River Mail is located at 140 58th St #40 Brooklyn, NY 11220.

3. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible Local 798 members on Wednesday, October 26, 2016, at their most recent permanent address on file with the Local Union ("primary address") as of Friday, October 14, 2016.

4. No Local 798 member shall be eligible to vote unless he has been a member of the United Association and Local 798 in good standing for at least a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to vote. The “date of the election” for purposes of determining eligibility to vote is October 26, 2016. Thus, if a member is not eligible as described above as of October 26, 2016, he will not be eligible to vote.

5. Members who do not receive a ballot, or who need a “duplicate” ballot must contact ESU directly at 1-800-971-3960. Thus, for example, if a member does not receive a ballot at the address provided to Local 798, or is no longer receiving mail at that address, he may request a duplicate ballot from ESU. Members must call personally to obtain a duplicate ballot; they may not have another individual call for them. The member will be asked to provide identifying membership information (such as book number or social security number) to obtain a duplicate ballot. ESU will provide the member with a confirmation number.

6. To be counted, ballots must be returned to the Tulsa, OK, U.S. post office box printed on the outer return envelope by 9:00 a.m. (CST) on Thursday, December 8, 2016. Any ballot that is returned to the post office later than this date and time will not be counted. Ballots will be counted on Thursday, December 8, 2016, at the Local Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma starting at 9:30 a.m. (CST).

7. The results of the election will be announced at the Regular Membership Meeting on Friday, December 9, 2016, starting at 7:00 p.m. (CST) at the Local Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

8. In the event there is a tie vote in an officer election and a run-off election is necessary, a mail ballot election will be conducted for only those offices for which there is a tie vote. Ballots will be mailed on January 5, 2017, and will be counted on February 9, 2017, at the Local Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma, starting at 9:30 a.m. (CST). The results of any run-off election will be announced at a Special Membership meeting to be held on February 10, 2017, at the Local Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma, starting at 9:30 a.m. (CST).
T-SHIRTS
Navy Polo Shirt / Item #117-P / $29.00 / (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
White T-shirt w/ Embroidery Logo / Item #115-C / $12.00 / (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
Navy T-shirt w/ Embroidery Logo / Item #115-F / $12.00 / (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)

CAPS
Camo Winter Cap / Item #101-C2 / $14.00
Winter Navy Cap / Item #101-D / $14.00
Navy Blue Cap w/ Red Bill / Item #101-H / $14.00

JACKETS
Local 798 Carhartt Navy Blue Jacket with Hood / Item #140 / $77.00 / (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
Pullover Windshirt w/ Pockets Bone Color / Item #207 / $60.00 / (S, L, XL, 2XL, 4XL)
Navy Hoodie with Zipper / Item #116-Z / $33.00 / (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)

MISCELLANEOUS
Nation Wide Lapel Pin / Item #138 / $5.00
798 Lapel Pin / Item #137 / $4.50
798 Money Clip / Item #129 / $11.00

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