Dear Brothers and Sisters,

First, I would like to welcome Charles (Chuck) Seale as the newest appointee to the Executive Board. Chuck has graciously accepted this invitation to fill the vacancy resulting from the untimely death of our Brother Mitch “Groovy Man” Leihr. On behalf of everyone at Pipeliners 798, we want to extend our sincere thoughts and prayers to Mitch’s family and friends. Chuck is a Journeyman Welder member from Kosse, Texas and has shown to be a good craftsman, job Steward and a good man in his principles and actions. Please join me in welcoming Chuck on board as he takes on this new leadership role.

I’ve just returned from the UA Convention, along with all the Pipeliners Local 798 delegates. It will surprise no one to hear that all 62 members carried themselves with pride, dignity and respect to represent you, the membership, at this national level. I can assure you that the UA and all its Local Unions have a secure future with the election of Team McManus as your new UA officers. General President Hite endorsed Mark McManus as the next General President to serve the next five years. Mark has assembled a powerhouse team to insure the UA and all its locals will continue to take great strides to enhance this already great organization. As your Business Manager, I was honored to be asked to run on the McManus Team as Vice President of District 3 of the UA, which includes the states of OK, AR, TX, LA, MS, AL, FL, GA, SC, NC, TN and was elected unanimously. I look forward to serving you and the UA proudly in this position for the next five years. Just to be clear, I am not leaving Local 798. To the contrary, in order to serve as UA Vice President you must be a Business Manager of your local union and be active in helping support your local members.

I also want to congratulate David Barnett who was serving as a UA Special Representative on his newly elected position as UA International Representative. Wade Pilgreen was also appointed to serve on the Financial Committee and Dale Crabtree as Sergeant-at-Arms for the convention. These appointments show the UA recognizes great talent when they see it. Last but not least, our good friend and honorary 798 member, Jim Moss was elected UA Administrative Assistant to the General President. Congratulations Trustee Jim!

The work outlook continues to look strong going into the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2016, with some of the southern work getting back on track. Congratulations Trustee Jim!  

As always I am proud to say, I work for you, the greatest pipeliners in the world. Let’s all make a commitment to jump in and do our part.

America gives us the real energy independence we have not experienced in over six decades. The American dream and our er, then horsepower and now the energy of today is oil and natural gas. The oil and gas being produced and transported within the Pipeliner’s backyard in the green versus the grey. It is clear that environmentalists are passionate about their beliefs; we must be as well.

Let me be crystal clear in saying, I would never advocate or condone any type of vandalism to get a point across. This is not the Pipeliners 798 way. However, we must have the same level of commitment that they possess, but demonstrate it in a constructive manner. We must be diligent and structured so that we can continue to provide the energy pipelines of the future and educate future generations on the importance of this work. Wade and the 798 staff here in Tulsa have done a fantastic job of communicating our message to you, the membership, when the situation arises for action. When you are called upon to help by attending meetings, writing letters or making phone calls, please remember it is our duty and responsibility as 798 members to be informed advocates for pipelines that enhance our energy independence.

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

Fraternally,

Daniel C. Hendrix
Business Manager
Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to begin by saying thank you to the membership for allowing me to represent our great Local at the 39th United Association Convention, and it was truly an honor to stand with our sister locals this week as we conducted the business that will see us into the future. General President Bill Hite opened the convention with a moving speech and this was a bittersweet moment for me. Bill Hite has displayed exceptional leadership qualities throughout his 12 years of service. When he took over as General President of the UA, it was in disrepair. However, with his unwavering commitment to his vision for the UA, he has helped mold an organization that will help lead our Local into the 21st century. Under his leadership, our voices are now heard in the halls of Washington, the UA is fiscally sound, and training is a cornerstone of the UA.

As Bill Hite is moving on to retirement, he is leaving the UA in exceptional hands with the election of Mark McManus as the incoming General President. Mark McManus’ diligent work has been instrumental in the responsible fiscal policies the UA has implemented over the years. I am confident the UA will continue to make great strides as his team leads this great organization into the future! I want to congratulate Mike Pleasant, Pat Kellett and Steve Morrison as they will assist our new general president with his duties. I know they will work tirelessly on our behalf to ensure that our best interests are at the forefront of our leaders in Washington and Canada.

I also want to say a special thank you to our delegates who attended the 39th UA Convention for taking time from their jobs to travel and participate in our business and to represent our great local with responsibility and professionalism. It made my heart swell with pride as each of you paid attention to detail and discussed among yourselves the importance of the information we received this past week. I was especially proud of our younger delegates, as they begin to see the vision the UA has for our future. Danny and I will not always be around; therefore, it is vitally important that the “younger generation” begin to take responsibility for our Local and search for ways to be of service.

The theme of the convention, “Built on Excellence,” was indeed timely as we begin to lay the foundation for this Local’s future. Danny and I want our Local 798 members to take pride in their craft and their unique skill set, but that can only be accomplished through each one of you. Do you want to help carry this exceptional Local into the future and build on the excellence of those that came before us, or are you willing to settle for a “job?” The choice is yours. I have great confidence in our members and this past week I saw many answer that question and show unwavering commitment to Pipeliners 798 and our heritage.

I want to congratulate David Barnett on being elected as an International Representative to the UA. Through his hard work, our reputation as a Local has risen substantially within the UA leadership. David Barnett truly has the heart of a servant, and I know he will continue with this same selfless spirit in his new role as he paves the way for our future.

I want to congratulate Danny as he has been elected to serve on the General Executive Board of the UA. This is truly an honor for Danny to serve in such a capacity and it demonstrates that our Local has the most talented and dedicated workers in the industry. Danny has served on the negotiating committee for several years, and his skills have not gone unnoticed by the leadership of the UA. I am proud to serve with him as he guides our Local into the future. Dale Crabtree did an excellent job serving as a Sergeant-at-Arms during the convention and I am proud to call him friend. He represented our Local with dignity and class this past week working many long hours before and after the convened sessions.

As always, I consider it a blessing to serve you and if I can be any assistance please do not hesitate to call. I hope everyone has a prosperous and safe work season.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Wade Pilgreen
Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Connor Roberts, is the son of Local 798 Helper member Ryan Roberts and grandson of Local 798 Welder member Michael Topazio. Connor is a 2016 high school graduate of the Willoughby/Eastlake Career Academy welder program in Ohio. He won the gold medal for Ohio; then entered the SkillsUSA national competition in Louisville, Kentucky. At the national competition he scored higher than all high school and college level welder competitors and took home another gold medal! He has been invited to represent the USA at the WorldSkills competition scheduled for October 2017 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
Michels:

New Pre-Jobs:

Denver area on maintenance, and we welcome them and the job opportunities they are doing a great job completing the project. Q3 also has started doing some work in the Douglas leadership. Distribution. We have truly regained our stature as a leader in the UA due to our tremendous leadership.

Danny Hendrix being elected to serve as Vice President of District 3. David Barnett was a member of the C.O.G.A for four years and through our support they have, and are, supporting drilling initiatives in Colorado.

In the upcoming election in the state of Colorado, there are several ballot initiatives that could halt or delay oil and gas drilling in the state. Local 798 is committed, along with C.O.G.A, to prevent any further oil and gas regulations on fracking. Please, if you live and vote in the state, vote against these measures that would hamper job opportunities in our area.

I would like to also mention that Local 798 delegates represented our members with class at the 39th General Convention in San Diego CA. We should all be proud of Danny Hendrix being elected to serve as Vice President of District 3. David Barnett was re-elected and will now serve the UA as International Representative of Pipeline & Gas Distribution. We have truly regained our stature as a leader in the UA due to our tremendous leadership.

I am proud to see our contractors starting to pick some work up in WY. Michels worked hard to obtain the work in Opal, WY, for Williams Northwest and the hands are doing a great job completing the project. Q3 also has started doing some work in the Denver area on maintenance, and we welcome them and the job opportunities they are bringing to the area.

If I can be of help, please do not hesitate to call.

New Pre-Jobs:

Q3 Contracting:


Michels:


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CHAD GILBERT

AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, WY

918/270-6736

I am writing my report preparing to travel to Denver, CO, for the Colorado Oil & Gas Association's annual C.O.G.A Summit. Pipeliners Local 798 has been a member of the C.O.G.A for four years and through our support they have, and are, supporting drilling initiatives in Colorado.

In the upcoming election in the state of Colorado, there are several ballot initiatives that could halt or delay oil and gas drilling in the state. Local 798 is committed, along with C.O.G.A, to prevent any further oil and gas regulations on fracking. Please, if you live and vote in the state, vote against these measures that would hamper job opportunities in our area.

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If I can be of help, please do not hesitate to call.

New Pre-Jobs:

Q3 Contracting:


Michels:


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DARRELL TURNER

AL, FL, GA, LA, MS

918/270-6737

I am proud to report from the 39th General Convention in San Diego that Pipeliners Union 798 is front and center. I mean that literally. We moved from the catacombs five years ago to the cathedral this convention, and we have the best seats in the house at the greatest convention that I have ever attended. AND the delegation from the United States and Canada elected two of our own to serve at the international level. Brother David Barnett has been elevated unanimously from Special Representative to International Representative at the Pipeline Department. Our business manager, my boss, Brother Danny Hendrix was elected unanimously and without opposition, to serve as vice-president of District 3. Hearty congratulations to you both. Y'all are damn sure deserving. And that is not all. Our Financial Secretary/Treasurer Wade Pilgreen was assigned to a very prestigious committee by General President Hite. Also our Inside Guard Brother Crabtree, was selected as a sergeant-at-arms. Way to go Brothers! The United Association will be stronger with your leadership and vision.

Now for some long awaited good news. The word of the day is Proceed. By the time this article reaches your mailbox, we will have miles and miles of big inch preparing to get under way. Finally, the Army Corps of Engineers moved favorably this week to build the following projects in my jurisdiction:

1. The Dalton Expansion of Georgia, consisting of about 106 miles of 30", 24", 20" and 16" for Williams Transco, was let in two spreads to US Pipeline and Henkels and McCoy. This project, beginning in September, has considerable fabrication and three meter stations.

2. Transco will build the Hillabee Expansion Project across Alabama. The loop-in project in several counties consists of four loops of 42" totaling about 10.5 miles and five miles of 48". Transco will begin construction in early September. Award went to Price Gregory Construction Pipeline Company.

3. EPS Engineering has acquired the water bodies permits, allowing for the construction of about 100 miles of 24", 12", and 6" in south Louisiana. Included are some 26 directional drills. Work is expected to get under way around August 22, 2016, with Price Gregory crews. I want our membership to know that the water bodies permit for this project was filed in August, 2015, and it has taken one year to secure. So remember, when Business Manager Hendrix asks us to make calls and write letters, do it. Our jobs depend on it!

4. The Sable Trail Project includes 88 miles of 36" in Alabama, (one spread), 148 miles of 36" and 21 miles of 24" in Florida (one spread). Price Gregory is the successful contractor. Rockford Construction has one Sable Trail spread consisting of 77 miles of 36" and 49 miles of 30" in Florida.

5. Rockford will also lay 144 miles of 36" for Nexus Pipeline Company using one spread in south Florida. All Rockford welding for Sable and Nexus will be stick rod, rig. Brothers, anyway you slice it, we have 748 miles of pipeline kicking off. Now for more good news.

6. Snelson Pipeline Co. of California, will build a compressor station for Sable Trail in the Orlando, Florida area. This project should have our 798 steward on site by the third week of August. Brothers, this will be an awesome spot to spend the next eight months. We also have some 8" in Mississippi, some 24" near Atlanta, and a sizable project on the Gulf Coast that will begin soon. Additionally, there are some 200+ miles of large diameter pipe that is in the pre-bidding process in Alabama and Louisiana.

For the 90 members who are working in my area, thank you for the stellar welding job and low repair rates. That is who we are. And I appreciate everybody's pipeline etiquette and safe working habits. Together we are unstoppable; we are 798.

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RICK TAYLOR

CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV

918/270-6739

I have just arrived home from the UA Convention held in San Diego, CA. We had 62 members as UA Delegates who attended and made 798 proud. There was a significant change in the business model of the UA. This came as the result of retirement and new leadership. Mark McManus was elected General President with many outstanding representatives. Our Business Manager, Daniel Hendrix, was elected UA Vice President of District 3. David Barnett was elected UA International Representative. We also continue to have great leadership from our friend and honorary 798 member Jim Moss, who is Administrative Assistant to the General President/Director of Energy. We are fortunate to have three strong voices to represent us on the UA level with their knowledge and expertise of the pipeline industry. I am very proud to have been able to serve in my role as a Business Agent and watch as our Local has made such great strides in these last ten years.

The work is finally taking off here in the northeast. This has been the first year since I have been a Business Agent that the amount of work has slowed down at all. The heat wave continues throughout the U.S. and I imagine there are some days some of you wish you were not working. Always be safe and drink plenty of fluids in this excessive heat. You can dehydrate before you know it, so watch yourself and those around you for any signs of symptoms.

I would also like to say I appreciate our Voluntary Fund for remembering all of us who were flooded in West Virginia. So many of our members lost everything. They called this the Thousand Year Flood because it has never happened like this before. The total loss of businesses, homes, and schools was devastating to our state. It is wonderful to be part of an organization who cares for its members.

If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to call. As Always: Be Safe! Be Proud! Be Union!

Pre-Jobs:

Alex E. Paris Contracting Company, Inc.:


Apex Pipeline Services, Inc.:

- Davis, WV. Laying 6,000' of 20" steel for Columbia Gas. Welder Foreman: Josh

B. Miller Excavating, Inc.: 

Blue Flame Pipeline, LLC.: 

Contractors Rental Corporation.: 

Henkel’s & McCoy, Inc.: 

Infrasource Construction, LLC.: 

Kirila Contractors, Inc.: 

Minnesota Limited, LLC.: 

Ohio Eastern Services, Inc.: 

Thanks to everyone who had a part in the 39th convention in San Diego. The great speakers were very impressive, and the weather was fantastic.

The work in my area is still very slow. Our contractors are bidding some work in Texas. If they are successful it could go in the spring.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the September meeting. If I can be of assistance to anyone, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

CHARLES YATES, JR.
IN, MI, OH
918/270-6746
While on the flight home from San Diego, I reflected on the past few months. My schedule was full with the DUG East in Pittsburgh, the regional meeting in Wheeling, a NEXUS township meeting in Michigan, the Regional Meeting in San Diego, and the convention in San Diego. It was a privilege to be elected as a delegate to the 39th UA Convention and to participate in the process of voting on our laws and resolutions that we will have in place for the next five years. I am grateful to have attended such an event and to spend time with fellow delegates and their families. Thank you.

The first order of business at the convention focused on electing new general officers. Congratulations to Team McManus. I know Brother Mark McManus is the right man to lead the UA into the future. I am especially proud of our own Business Manager, Danny Hendrix, who was elected Vice President of District 3, and David Barnett who was elected as International Representative. We also had our Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Wade Pilgreen, appointed to the Convention Finance Committee, and Jerry Dale Crabtree will serve as a sergeant-at-arms. Congratulations to you gentlemen as well. Local Union 798 is more respected than ever and this was apparent throughout the convention – from the invitation to have an active and vital role in UA leadership and activities; to our delegates having front row seats the entire week; and a video presentation that included pipelines and showed our members in attendance at FERC meetings. Our leadership in Tulsa and our conduct on the ROW are making a difference in how we are professionally perceived.

Next stop on my schedule will be the numerous NEXUS project FERC meetings throughout Michigan and Ohio. I’m looking forward to seeing our membership turn out for support. There is strength in our numbers, which helps us do the most good for these projects to kick-off.

Not only is it important to stand together at the FERC meetings, but the need for support also applies to our Voluntary Fund. Much of our Local Union is built on tradition. Part of the unique 798 traditions is the Voluntary Fund. This resource is designed to help our members. You may have personally received assistance from the fund yourself or at the very least know someone who has. Some stewards have become relaxed in taking-up donations for the fund. Voluntary Fund should be collected every week on every job regardless of how many hands are on the job: two or two hundred. Although donation is not mandatory, it is mandatory that the Steward provide an opportunity for hands to donate each week. A weekly report needs to be turned in with your Steward’s Pack whether hands give or not. If you have no donations to send in, be sure to include an explanation of why hands did not give (ex: hands have yet to receive first pay).

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I’m 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.

Pre-Jobs:
Ace Pipeline:

C & E Contractor Services:

Contractor Rentals:

Foltz:
- Various locations in IL, IN, and OH. Shop fabrication assist with 200 miles of hydro test for Marathon Pipeline. Superintendent: Mike McGee. Welder Foreman: Mitch Herrin. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 10/1/16.
- Lima, OH. 1,250’ of 6” take-up, replace with 1250’ of 8” for Marathon. Superintendent: Joe Pennington. Welder Foreman: Johnny Walker. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 10/1/16.

Geedding:

We have just returned home after attending the 39th UA Convention in San Diego, CA. What a week! Congratulations to Mark McManus, Pat Kellett, Mike Pleasant, and the entire McManus team as they are ramping up to take the UA into a completely different ozone. It is pretty evident that President-elect McManus has picked probably the best team the UA has ever had. I was very honored to represent Local 798’s members at the convention, and even more honored to see and be part of the most democratic process ever witnessed. When it was all said and done we all walked away united. Those are the kinds of things that make you proud to be a UA member. Congratulations to Danny Hendrix for being elected to be part of Team McManus as Vice President of District 3. It was very humbling for Local 798 when our Business Manager Danny Hendrix walked up to the microphone and all 62 Local 798 delegates stood up. Danny announced Local 798 has 62 delegates - 62 for the resolution and 0 against. That showed great solidarity. We Were All In. We all saw history made - fourth and fifth year apprentices in the United Association can now vote after 127 years.

Congratulations to all the 798 delegates. Everyone conducted themselves as professionals. You would make any Local union proud.

Congratulations to Jim Moss, Tom Gross, David Barnett, Darren Jones, and Corby Shelton who were also elected as part of the McManus Team. All of the committees did a great job. Also thanks to Wade Pilgreen who served on the Convention Expense Committee and Dale Crabtree served as one of the sergeant-at-arms.

Kenneth Edwards, Vice President of District 3 and Bill Eden, International Representative for Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico, will be retiring. They served us well. Thank you. Last but not least, thanks and good luck to Bill Hite in his retirement and all his team who are retiring. General President Hite and his team took the UA to a whole new level from where we were when he took office in 2004. Being able to retire some day and also to be able to live the “American Dream” are two of the main reasons we joined unions.
- Henkels & McCoy: Completion 12/31/16.

Mid-Ohio:
- Minnesota Limited:

Oil Eastern Services:

Price Gregory:
- Marietta, OH. One 8" and One 6" meter station for Blue Racer Midstream. Superintendent: John Fitzwater. Welder Foreman: Matt Delik. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 7/1/16.

I encourage you to help out and take these jobs. I know several of them are Special Pre-Jobs in the Carolinas. There are several jobs planned for the area if we can get through the permitting process. We still need everyone’s help in attending town hall meetings and writing letters. This effort has proven to help in getting the permits needed to do these projects.

We are still having some trouble managing some of these jobs. If you aren’t working, I encourage you to help out and take these jobs. I know several of them are Special Agreement, but they still have to be manned. This season is already half over so let’s get out there and make this a good year.

The September meeting is just around the corner and I hope to see you in Tulsa. If I can be of help, don’t hesitate to call.

Pre-Jobs:

B&G Pipeline:
- Creedmoor, NC. 12,750’ and 5000’ of 12” Take-up and relay. Welder Foreman: Ricky Clifton. Superintendent: Ray Hendley. Working 6-10s. Special Agreement. Approx. completion 9-6-16.

The work in the Northeast continues to be steady with a wide variety of projects currently underway. My first eight months on the job have literally flown by. I have been busy and I have learned a lot, and will continue to do so going forward. When I took this job I wasn’t sure what I was getting into but I am glad I did. I have been granted the opportunity to represent the best of the best, and I plan on telling the Pennsylvania DEP exactly that. I’ll be of assistance, please call me and I will continue to keep the membership foremost in mind.

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

I am writing this Blue Light Report after returning from the 39th Annual UA Convention in San Diego, CA. This was my first convention and it proved to be a great learning experience about how the UA conducts its business. There was some heated debate on two issues and it was exciting to see how union trade democracy actually works. One of the debates had to be settled by a rollcall vote and at the end of the day, both sides, for and against, went away with a clear, transparent decision. I also enjoyed the fellowship with the 62 delegates that Local 798 sent to the convention. It took a lot of courage for these delegates to put themselves out there and be voted on by our membership. If you are a young person in our organization, this is a way for you to get involved with Local 798 and with the UA. You may not win, but at least you had the guts to give it a shot. Think about this when another UA convention rolls around in five years.

Next week I will be attending Pennsylvania DEP Comment Hearings in two locations in Pennsylvania. Recently, a Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court ruled that the Mariner East 2 would provide a public service to Pennsylvanians. This was a big hurdle that Sunoco needed to jump over in order to get the project started. Now hopefully the Pennsylvania DEP will grant the water obstruction and encroachment permits needed for the pipeline. There will probably be opposition at these hearings, but we will be represented and our voice will be heard. I cannot stress enough how important it is for us to be active in the processes involved in getting a pipeline project underway. Hopefully, this project will get going and we can have a strong finish in 2016.

The work in the Northeast continues to be steady with a wide variety of projects currently underway. My first eight months on the job have literally flown by. I have been busy and I have learned a lot, and will continue to do so going forward. When I took this job I wasn’t sure what I was getting into but I am glad I did. I have been granted the opportunity to represent the best of the best, and I plan on telling the Pennsylvania DEP exactly that. I’ll be of assistance, please call me and I will continue to keep the membership foremost in mind.

WELDED:
- St. Louis, MI. Two road bores, 22” take-up and replace with 24” for Consumers Energy Company. Superintendent: Jeff Sanderson. Welder Foreman: Bill Ferguson. Working 6-10s. Job complete.
- St. Louis, MI. Engineer and make bends on 5,000’ of 24” for Consumers Energy Company. Superintendent: Jeff Sanderson. Welder Foreman: Tommy Morgan. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8/16/16.

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

I am writing this report after returning from the 39th Annual UA Convention in San Diego, CA. This was my first convention and it proved to be a great learning experience about how the UA conducts its business. There was some heated debate on two issues and it was exciting to see how union trade democracy actually works. One of the debates had to be settled by a rollcall vote and at the end of the day, both sides, for and against, went away with a clear, transparent decision. I also enjoyed the fellowship with the 62 delegates that Local 798 sent to the convention. It took a lot of courage for these delegates to put themselves out there and be voted on by our membership. If you are a young person in our organization, this is a way for you to get involved with Local 798 and with the UA. You may not win, but at least you had the guts to give it a shot. Think about this when another UA convention rolls around in five years.

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Honored Members respect that we deserve, because we are the Pipeliners and the UA and all who were there. Local 798 Pipeliners have gained back the trust of the UA with professionalism and respect for all the UA Brothers. Everyone there for the way they conducted themselves represented your Local, and all did a great job. I want to thank Assistant to General President-Elect Mike Pleasant will lead the UA for the next five years. These elected officers are very good friends of Local 798. And like I said before, they know who the Pipeliners are, and that's you.

The work in my area is peaked and going strong at this time of year. The Dakota Access Pipeline has gone very well. Repair rates are low and everyone has done a great job to make this project a success. When Energy Transfer approached Danny and Wade about joining forces to work together through the permit process, this approach was new to me. But it worked well to get this job kicked off and to put a lot of people to work. The Dakota Access Pipeline was what I call a "fast mover" on the permit hurdles we had to jump, and that was due to all the town meetings, phone calls, and emails that you helped make happen. Local 798 members and the UA have worked hard on this and now that is paying off. Energy Transfer is a good partner to us now because of your hard work. This is just the beginning of what's to come in the future when the client comes to the Pipeliners for help. Other gas and oil companies see what we can do for them and they want some too. Thanks to everyone for making this job a reality.

The Sandpiper Pipeline is hung up again with additional Environmental Impact Studies so I don't foresee it going until late 2017 or early 2018. I think the Line 3 Replacement of Energy Transfer is a good partner to us now because of your hard work. This is just the beginning of what's to come in the future when the client comes to the Pipeliners for help. Other gas and oil companies see what we can do for them and they want some too. Thanks to everyone for making this job a reality.

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It's a great time to be a Pipeliner.
Members Honored With U.A. Certificates

Albert E. Ashby
Journeyman Spacer
Tularosa, NM

Theodore H. Brown, Jr.
Welder
Salina, OK

James J. DeRoche Jr.
Welder
Booneville, AR

James R. “Pearl” Fauccett
Welder
Neches, TX

James F. “Franklin” Fink, Sr.
Welder
Batesburg, SC

William A. “Okie” Gilbert
Welder
Durant, OK

Howard D. Rush
Welder
North Zulch, TX

Richard W. Hanatow
Journeyman Spacer
Mount Pleasant, MI

Herbert M. Holder
Welder
Cody, WY

John S. Miller
Welder
Searcy, AR

Gary J. Graham
Welder
Waynesburg, PA

Robert G. “Bob” Grove
Welder
Newton, IL

Roswell “Ross” J. Hart
Welder
Saltillo, TX

Herbert M. Holder
Welder
Mena, AR

Robert J. Morek
Welder
Whitesburg, GA

John D. Post
Welder
Avella, PA

Curt F. Wall
Welder
North Zulch, TX

Darrel L. Wright
Welder
Mena, AR

Charles “Charlie” E. Yates, Sr.
Welder
Vaiden, MS

John H. Balch
Welder
Jenks, OK

John S. Bennett
Welder
Santa Claus, IN

Glen D. “Squirrel” Bird
Welder
Okeechobee, FL

Jesse C. “Cyrus” Brumley
Welder
Baytown, TX

Larry M. Canoy
Welder
Pioneer, LA

Calvin “Wesley” Cooper
Helper
Clare, MI

Ray Corry
Welder
Fair View Heights, IL

Jimmy C. “Charles” Curry
Welder
Beckville, TX

James P. Cummins
Welder
Fairview, WV

Normal “Lyle” Cummings
Welder
Ft. Walton Beach, FL

Bill M. Davis
Welder
Spiro, OK
Members Honored With U.A. Certificates

Tommy R. "Ray" Manning
Welder
Buna, TX

Alton G. "Gene" McKinney
Welder
Pine Grove, LA

Charlie W. Parker
Welder
McLeod, TX

Lanny Peavler
Helper
Joplin, MO

Robert D. "Doyle" Perry
Welder
Summertown, TN

Delmar F. Pilant
Welder
Claremore, OK

Edward "Ed" Putman
Welder
Bastrop, LA

Larry D. Rhodes
Welder
Lexington, TN

James R. Russum
Welder
Flowery Branch, GA

William J. "Joe" Scott
Journeyman Spacer
Athens, AL

Danny P. Simms
Welder
Wilmot, AR

Larry A. Sportsman
Welder
Colorado Springs, CO

Michael W. Tunnell
Welder
Golden, MS

Terry W. White
Journeyman Spacer
Decaturville, TN

John J. Wilson
Helper
Eureka Springs, AR

Royce W. Wilson
Journeyman Spacer
Batesville, AR

Franklin D. Young
Journeyman Spacer
Elkview, WV

Woodrow W. Bratcher
Welder
Saint Hedwig, TX

Jimmy C. Dodd
Journeyman Spacer
Littleton, CO

Donald R. Hawkins
Welder
Bastrop, LA

Davy L. "Bo" Johnston, Jr.
Welder
Hot Springs Village, AR

James E. Melvin
Welder
Chesapeake, OH

Wayne R. Miller
Helper
Waterloo, OH

Terry W. White
Journeyman Spacer
Decaturville, TN

John J. Wilson
Helper
Eureka Springs, AR

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Journeyman Spacer
Batesville, AR

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Welder
Hot Springs Village, AR

James E. Melvin
Welder
Chesapeake, OH

Wayne R. Miller
Helper
Waterloo, OH
**Cathy L. Blackmore** is grateful for the opportunity she was given in February 1986 by Monk Robinson to work for such a wonderful organization as Local Union 798. After 30 years of working in the Dispatch Office, she feels like the membership has become her second family.

Cathy resides in Tulsa, OK, with her husband Phil, and has lived in Tulsa all her life. She has three kids, Neil, Martin and Rebecca; and three grandkids, Bryce, Gavin and Malaya. Her passion is stage-managing at a live theatre. Her most recent production, the Penguin Project, featured a cast of physically and mentally challenged actors.

Tracy Lee is the accountant for both the Voluntary Fund and Local 798. She is responsible for the financial reporting, maintenance of accounting records, accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and tax compliance. She began her career with the Local in January 2010 after leaving a construction company which she helped build from the ground up. Tracy received her bachelor’s degree from Langston University in 2005, graduating summa cum laude with a major in accounting and a minor in management information systems. She plans to attend Northeastern State University in 2017 to pursue a master's degree in accounting. She currently resides in Broken Arrow, OK, with her two daughters, Leslie and Linsey Lee. Tracy is truly thankful for the opportunity to serve this great organization.

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**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION FOR LOCAL 798 OFFICERS**

This Notice provides important information regarding the nomination process for the upcoming Local 798 2016 Officer Election. If you have any questions about this notice, please contact an Election Committee Member listed below.

### NOMINATIONS

1. Nominations will be accepted for the following offices:
   - President
   - Vice President
   - Recording Secretary
   - Business Manager
   - Financial Secretary-Treasurer
   - Inside Guard
   - Executive Board (4 positions)
   - Finance Committee (3 positions)
   - Examining Board (2 positions)

2. No member shall run for more than one office. The term of office shall be in accordance with the United Association Constitution.

3. No Local 798 member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in Local 798 unless he has been a member in good standing of the United Association and Local 798 for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in Local 798. The “date of the election” for purposes of determining eligibility to run for office is October 26, 2016. Thus, if a member is not eligible as described above as of October 26, 2016, he will not be eligible to run for office.

4. No Local 798 member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in Local 798 unless he has been a member in good standing of the United Association and Local 798 for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in Local 798. The “date of the election” for purposes of determining eligibility to run for office is October 26, 2016. Thus, if a member is not eligible as described above as of October 26, 2016, he will not be eligible to run for office.

5. Nominations for officers will be accepted from the floor at the nominations meeting. A candidate may nominate himself and need not have a second. If a member is not present at the meeting, he may be nominated or nominated himself by sending a written notice of his acceptance of nomination to the specified office. Written notice may be delivered by hand, mail, or facsimile to the Union Office, or by email to nominations@local798.org.

6. Under Section 504 of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (“LMRDA”), a member who has been convicted of certain crimes may not hold union office for a maximum of 13 years following the date of conviction or the end of imprisonment, whichever is later. Please call the U.S. Department of Labor, or the Chairman of the Election Committee if you have a question about this provision of the LMRDA.

7. The Election Committee will conduct a candidate’s meeting on Saturday, September 10, 2016. All candidates and their observers are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be conducted at the Local 798 Union Hall, 4823 South 83rd East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and will start at 10:00 a.m. (CDT).

### MAIL BALLOT ELECTION

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 11101. 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 41-12 38th St., Long Island City, NY 11101.

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 in the election 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 shall not be eligible to vote. The date of the election shall not be eligible to vote.

5. At the date of the election shall not be eligible to vote. The date of the election shall not be eligible to vote.

6. Members who do not receive a ballot, or who need a “duplicate” ballot must contact ESU directly at 1-800-975-3960. Thus, 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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 7:00 p.m. (CST).
I am writing this report after returning from the 39th UA Convention in San Diego, Ca. I would like to congratulate Brother Mark McManus on his election to the position of General President of the UA and also congratulate his whole team. There is no doubt in my mind that under their direction and leadership, the UA will reach heights never before achieved.

I would also like to send a special congratulation to our own Business Manager Danny Hendrix for his newly elected position of Vice President of District 3, and to Brothers David Barnett and Jim Moss for their election as International Representatives.

Pipeliners Local Union 798 had 62 delegates representing us there. I am very proud to say each and every one of them represented our Local with the highest amount of professionalism and integrity. It was a great honor to not only be among our delegates, but to also be among the 3,000 plus delegates from sister locals across the nation and Canada. This convention was true democracy in action. There were many resolutions brought to the floor, debated and then voted on. Sometimes very spirited debate ensued because everyone did not come there with the same ideas or agree on every resolution. But after hearing all sides and a “yes” or “no” vote, we all left in agreement and headed in the same direction. This is what true unionism is all about. It is all right to have different ideas and voice them respectfully. And when the body hears it all out and makes a decision, we all adhere to that no matter what our previous thoughts were. This unity is what makes us strong and healthy. That is also what sets us above the non-union sector; we have structure and discipline.

Some of the non-union contractors in West Texas are offering wages that were paid 30 years ago. Some welders complain but accept it in order to be close to home. I have been a pipeline welder for 39 years and not once have I ever slept in my house while working on a pipeline job, nor have I ever considered working for less just to get one. We move forward and they continue to move backwards. This is our reward for unity.

I talked with a nonunion welder the other day, and he said his contractor told him since he had speeding tickets they could no longer pay him rig pay. Now the bad part is that they told him he could continue working, driving, and using his rig, but they would no longer pay him for it. The contractor also did not furnish water and the workers were told by their foreman that this was not a union job and they could get water on their own time. This was a bigger contractor, too, not a small outfit. Now what kind of company or foreman would deny working people in this heat a drink of water, or refuse to pay them what they rightfully owe in wages?

I would like to say this is not our problem. But the plain truth is that it is our problem. When a welder will work for substandard wages and no conditions, they allow that contractor to submit ridiculous bids and therefore cost us jobs.

If there are any nonunion welders reading this, I ask you to think about what I said. You are a skilled craftsman, a professional. Do not sell your labor cheap, do not break down what has already been fought for and won. You deserve more; we all deserve more. The only reason they get away with this is because you are willing to let them. Welders can and will control the wages if you will simply roll up your leads and stop welding for them. Join and stand with us, we are all pipeliners. Your struggle is our struggle and ours is yours. We are one only separated by an imaginary line. It is a classic case of divide and conquer being played out by greedy contractors. Without welders these unscrupulous contractors have two options. Sign an agreement and pay a living wage, or figure a way to lay pipe without welders and that can’t be done. If it could, they would have already done it. Believe me. If all of you will stick together and become one, you may not work at home, but you will be union with good pay, health care for your families, and a pension that will allow you to retire with financial stability and dignity. All you have to do is stand up and say “NO More” will we tolerate this kind of abuse. After all, you are the people who made these contractors rich so why shouldn’t you deserve and expect a fair wage. It is not us against you, although that is what those nonunion contractors want you to believe. It is all of us against those who will, if given the chance, try to divide us for their own personal gain.

It does not matter if your welding 42” in PA or 2” in South Texas, you need to be union. You need to be justly compensated for your work. You also need to be represented in case of problems on the job. Just because your boss tells you something does not mean that is the way it has to be. If you have had enough I would like to talk to you. Also, talk to your co-workers and explain to them that there is another choice. I would also like to ask any of our members who know nonunion welders and helpers to carry this message to them. UNITED WE BARGAIN, DIVIDED WE BEG. And that is a fact.

If I can be of any help to you, please don’t hesitate to call. Also, if you can help me, I would certainly appreciate it. I always need some help. If I do not answer, please leave a message. I am in a lot of no-service areas, but I will call you back.

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

First thing I want to do is thank the membership for allowing me to attend the 39th UA Convention. I cannot think of all the words I need to express my gratitude for such a privilege and honor. By the end of the convention I was full of hope and great expectations for what the future holds for 798 and the entire UA.

Now all about us! Currently, the number of members on the list includes:

Welders: 698          Journeymen: 122    Helpers: 552

Our work here in dispatch has tapered off to a steady flow. However, by the time you read this, we expect to see the surge of the Sable trails in the south, then the Dalton Project in Georgia plus the Mariner East II in the north. This will create a reoccurring scenario of large numbers of hands (60 to 70) being ordered in a day. This should begin in September and continue into November.

Pay attention to the job line every night. It is going to be important. There is no way to know when something good is going to break, or something that may only fit your needs or situation. We will have a number of people who have been hired out for months on this southern work that have been dispatched to the Dakota Access, and will drag to honor their previous commitment. This will open up opportunities for people positioned at the back of the wheel to pick up some good work. There will be plenty of opportunities ahead!

Do not forget to call and place your name back on the Out-of-Work List after any termination. You have five business days to get back on and possibly save your spot. This includes any other jurisdiction working under the National Pipeline Agreement. This means contract hires also. And, make sure your phone, e-mail and Out-of-Work Card are up to date. I hate telling a member I cannot dispatch them because the skill is not checked on their latest card. Information should be updated regularly. Most of this can be taken care of by logging into the Members Only area of the 798 website and changing your information. The membership has done a great job of willingly submitting this information. Very few Helper books have been sold and I do not see many more being sold the remainder of the year. So keep up the good work. It’s been a good year and we are now on the verge of a great year. I love doing what I can to help you.

The next Blue Light issue we will talk about Building Trades and the things you need like OSHA 10, TWIC cards PSM Training, and pre-drug test for Building Trade jobs. Keep a copy of your last DOT drug test from pipeline work and if it is not six months old they may except it. You also need to keep up with UA Certifications needed for this type of work.
Adam Kehl says words cannot express how much he appreciates the gift he received from the Voluntary Fund. It has immensely helped with medical expenses.

Beverly Maddox thanks all her Brothers and Sisters for the generous donation from the Voluntary Fund. Thank you for your love, prayers, and thoughts. Special thanks to Wade Pilgreen, Danny Hendrix and George Ellis.

Donnie and Debbie Miller send their thanks to everyone who gives to the Voluntary Fund. Special thank you to “Taffy.”

John Wayne and Linda Carter would like to thank the Voluntary Fund for the help they received. Special thanks to Darrell Turner and Tim Gintz.

Willie and Mary Thomas thank all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the gift. With Mary’s four back surgeries and Willie’s two hernia surgeries, the gift was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Doyle Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

David Doyle and Family say thank you to everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. The funds helped them recover after the flood.

James and Elizabeth Gumpert would like to thank all the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the help they received in this difficult time. They also thank everyone who showed their encouragement and kept them in their prayers. Special thanks to Greg Russell, Justin Yarborough and Bill Ferguson.

Gwendell Mason sends his thanks to all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The gift he received after his accident was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Carroll Tuggle.

Ronald Rose would like to thank Darrell Turner for his caring response and phone call. He says thank you to all his Brothers and Sisters who contributed and made possible the check he received from the Voluntary Fund.

Rodney Mitchell gratefully acknowledges the gift he received from the Voluntary Fund during a very challenging time. He is so moved by the concern and care that has been shown him by everyone, and the proof that a strong union is not just about your daily work, but your entire well-being. Thank you to the Brothers who sponsored him.

Steven Schroeder takes this time to say thank you to the Voluntary Fund for the generous donation that he received. The monetary donation aided him during an unforeseen situation.

Henry “Guy” Harrell would like to thank all those who give to the Voluntary Fund for the help during his recent illness. He appreciates the help very much.

Tommy and Shirley Bowbule wish to thank everyone for the help they received from the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen and Dennis Sawyer.

Katie and Henry Angelos send their sincere thanks for the generous gift they received. They are forever grateful for the kindness and support they’ve received from near and far. Bless you all.

Richard Johnson and Family would like to thank everyone for the Voluntary Fund gift they received in their time of need.

Rickey Griffin is proud to be a part of a group of people such as Local 798! Thank you to all who give to the Voluntary Fund and a special thanks to Darrell Turner. The gift was very helpful.

Jayson Lambert says thank you to everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. The money was greatly appreciated after his wife’s surgery. A special thanks to Mike Leasure, Eric Jones and the people from Mid-Ohio.

Jeff and Monica Martin would like to thank the Voluntary Fund and everyone who contributes to it each week for the help they received following Jeff’s surgery. It is an honor and blessing to belong to Pipelineers Union 798.

Donald Gilbert sincerely thanks you for the generous gift from the Voluntary Fund. It means so much to have Brothers and Sisters who genuinely care about the well-being of others. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Wade Pilgreen and Darrell Turner.

George Varner appreciates the gift he received while recovering from knee replacement surgery. Special thanks to John Sandstrom and everyone who donates to the Voluntary Fund.

Daniel LeGlise and Family thank everyone for the Voluntary Fund donation.

Robert “Bobby” Taylor, II, thanks every member of 798 who gives generously each week to the Voluntary Fund. The check he received helped on the expenses he incurred while dealing with his health issues. He especially wants to thank Darrell Turner, Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

David and Jaynee White are grateful for the opportunity of belonging to Local 798 and the gracious members who donate to the Voluntary Fund. Thank you to the members who were there during their crisis. They give a special thank you to Andy Hess, Ricky Morgan and Danny Hendrix.

Carleton and Patty Mayfield would like to thank all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. The contribution helped during their time of grief. Special thanks to everyone on the Latex job in North Carolina.

Mike Mathis and Family want to thank everyone for the gift they received from all the generous families who have donated to the Voluntary Fund. The gift was a blessing to his family as Sophia still battles her diagnosis of cancer. They especially thank David and Susie Skagg.

Jim and Yvonne Wheeler take this opportunity to thank the Voluntary Fund for the gift they received after their house flooded in June.

Billy Kellogg writes to sincerely thank the Voluntary Fund and everyone who contributes to it for the donation he received. The help was greatly appreciated.

The John Boles Family says thank you so much for the Voluntary Fund money that was given to John during the sickness and passing of his mother. Your thoughtfulness means a lot.

Warren and Ronda Haught thank everyone for all the love and support they received after the unexpected passing of their son, Warren “Chester” Haught, III. The contribution they received from the Voluntary Fund was a blessing. Special thanks to Paul Mullin.

Frank and Sue Young want to thank the Voluntary Fund for the help they were given after their home was destroyed by flooding. A special thank you goes to Greg Rose.

Ronald McCool sends his thanks to everyone who gives to the Voluntary Fund for the support given in his time of need. He especially thanks Robin and Bobby Meachum.

Kenny and Raeleene Morrison thank all the contributors to the Voluntary Fund for the help they received after the flooding of their home. They send special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Wade Pilgreen.

Dalmus Jett would like to thank all the contributors to the Voluntary Fund for the financial assistance received after the loss of his home due to flooding. Special thanks to David Butterworth and Brian Lloyd.

Manuel Rivera appreciates help he received from the Voluntary fund and would like to thank all those who contribute to it. A special thanks to Sam Sandbothe, his coworkers at Appalachian, and Clay & Shannon Lafaye.

George and Kay Sanders take this time to thank everyone who supports the Voluntary Fund. The gift came as a total surprise but was much appreciated. Special thanks to Brother Larry Fuller.

Danny and Lynn Poole would like to thank everyone responsible for sending money from the Voluntary Fund. The funds made their time of hardship a little easier to handle. This kindness makes this Local Union very special.

Kevin P. Groves wants to thank all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the gift he received after the death of his brother. He would especially like to thank Jimmy Dick and Cecil Hime.

The Topazio and Roberts Families are so grateful for the generous donation in honor of their son/grandson Connor Roberts. Connor has been overwhelmed by the support he has received from our great Union! Thank you to all who have contributed to the Voluntary Fund.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Wayland Fairless, 798 Welder member, and his wife Shayla, announce the birth of twins! Ryland Ace and Layla Jane were born June 10, 2016, in Oklahoma. Ryland weighed 5 lbs. 15 oz. and was 19 inches long. Layla weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 18.5 inches long.

Collin T. King, 38-year-old Helper of
Columbia, MS, passed away January 24, 2016.  
Amarsaikhan Darjaakhuu, 49-year-old Helper of Rockford, IL, passed away June 21, 2016.  
Donnie M. Pugh, 73-year-old Retired Welder of Louin, MS, passed away June 22, 2016.  
John W. Lee, 78-year-old Retired Welder of Lumberton, TX, passed away June 28, 2016.  
Robert A. Gros, 52-year-old Retired Welder of Sulphur, LA, passed away July 9, 2016.  
Bobby C. Moyer, 87-year-old Retired Welder of Paradise, TX, passed away July 28, 2016.  

Retirees  
Willie J. Babb, Jr., Welder, Picayune, MS  
Karen S. Bratcher, Helper, Saint Hedwig, TX  
Woodrow W. Bratcher, Welder, Saint Hedwig, TX  
Emmett A. Clack, Jr., Helper, Rosenberg, TX  
Kenneth M. Derveloy, Welder, Egan, LA  
Larry A. Ecklund, Welder, West Monroe, LA  
Stalin George, Welder, Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Elizabeth C. Gibbons, Helper, East Waterford, PA  
Larry E. Gibbons, Welder, East Waterford, PA  
Thomas L. Gintz, Journeyman Spacer, Palm Springs, CA  
James K. Gwin, Welder, Epps, LA  
Harold D. Herrington, Welder, Bastrop, LA  
Mark E. Hughes, Helper, Grindstone, PA  
Tom D. Jones, Welder, Columbus, OH  
David M. Kidd, Welder, Morehead, KY  
Linda R. King, Helper, Monessen, PA  
Reginald E. Larkin, Helper, Pagosa Springs, CO  
Eugene A. Lundfelt, Jr., Welder, Jersey Shore, PA  
Paul A. Lundfelt, Welder, Ceres, NY  
Harold S. Mathews, Journeyman Spacer, Cameron, WV  
Mary L. Michael, Helper, Burnet, TX  
Roger L. Myers, Welder, Left Hand, WY  
Albert C. Pettry, Journeyman Spacer, Round Rock, TX  
Ed L. Richardson, Welder, Fairfield, TX  
Dennis R. Snellgrove, Welder, Amarillo, TX  
Randell J. Steele, Helper, Bradford, AR  
Robert A. Taylor, II, Welder, Sulphur, LA  
James Dean Wallace, Welder, Yale, OK  
Harold I. Williams, Welder, Schrieve, LA  

2010 Carriage Cameo, 36 ft. with full wall slide. Smoke free interior and very clean with cherry woodwork. 10-gallon gas/electric water heater and new 15,000BTU central air unit replaced last year. Additional A/C unit in bedroom. Electric awning, electric fireplace and lazy-boy living room furniture. Too many extras to list! $35,000 includes complete SuperGlide hitch. Contact Charles Yates at (662) 417-8337 for more information.  


Welder for Sale: Miller 304 has 550 hours, comes with wireless remote and leads 200 feet. $11,000. Please contact Graig Cheek at (580) 310-5957 for more info.  

Lincoln Classic 300 D Perkins welder. It is in new condition with only 220 hours on the machine. The remote is included. $11,500.  

Meeting Notice  
September 9, 2016  
The Regular September Membership Meeting will be held at the Pipeliners Local Union 798 Union Hall, 4823 S. 83rd E. Ave., Tulsa, OK on Friday, September 9, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m.  
SPECIAL BUSINESS: Nominations for Officers. See the Nomination and Election notice included in this issue of the Blue Light Reports.  

798 Ladies Hospitality & Motel Accommodations  
The 798 Hospitality will be held at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel – 6808 S. 107th E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74133 – beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 9, 2016. The Renaissance Tulsa Hotel has graciously offered a discounted room rate of $91.00. To make reservations, call (918) 307-2600. Make sure you indicate you are with Pipeliners Local Union 798.  

Specialty Drugs  
The PIBF membership incurred $11,180,940 in total gross prescription costs in 2015. This is the total cost before discounts are applied. Of that gross cost, over $4,000,000 was incurred to cover the top 25 specialty drugs. Specialty drugs include lifesaving medications for hepatitis C, oncology or cancer treatment, arthritis and psoriasis, to name a few. The PIBF consultant at CVS provided the following comment:  
"There are a number of high dollar products with lower cost alternatives. Many times, the lower cost options have been on the market for an extended period of time and have significant data to support their proven effectiveness. Lower cost alternative products are typically a fraction of the cost of the brand or new to market drug with equal or greater efficacy."  
The PIBF does not intend to limit the use of specialty drugs, but when choosing drugs to treat a condition, we suggest you discuss your options with your doctor to choose lower cost drugs as a first step. If the drug is not effective, then move to the more expensive drug.  

Private Pension Plans VS Public Pension Plans  
The PIBF staff has received calls from the membership questioning whether their Social Security retirement benefits will be reduced because of the PIPF retirement plan. Social Security allows some employers to opt out of paying Social Security taxes. Many public plans such as firefighters, policemen, and various city or state workers, do not participate in Social Security. Because of this, they have reduced or even eliminated Social Security benefits and must therefore rely on their government (public) pension plan as their only retirement. That is not the case with the PIBF pension, which is considered a private pension plan. The employers that are signed to the National Pipeline Agreement pay into PIBF and to Social Security, therefore, plan participants will receive both retirement benefits with no reduction.  

HRA Benefits  
The $4,000 annual Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) benefit for active members, members paying COBRA, married retirees, and the $2,000 for single retirees and retired widows remains unchanged for the year 2016.  

918-280-4800 – www.pibf.org
T-SHIRTS
115-B – Safety Short-Sleeved Pocket T-Shirt. $13.00  (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
115-E – American Labor T-Shirt. $12.00  
(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
115-S – Gray T-Shirt w/Logo & Pocket. $13.00  
(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)
115-R-BL – Rumble of Unity T-Shirt Black. $13.00  (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)

JACKETS
116 – Navy Logo Hoodie. $33.00  
(S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 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, L, XL, 2XL, 4XL)

CAPS
101-J – White Cotton Brushed Twill w/Sandwich Bill. $13.00
101-N – Bone/Camo Legacy Continues. $16.00
101-W – Charcoal Gray Cap w/ pic of Welder. $16.00
201 – Pipeliners Blue Flame Hat. $13.00

MISCELLANEOUS
105 – Cordless Charger. $10.00
132 – 798 Computer Bag. $25.00
135 – 798 Blanket. $33.00

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