Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and a Merry Christmas. As seasons go, to me, winter is a time for reflection and a time to prepare for the upcoming spring and summer. The work outlook is still very positive, but as we all know, the protesters, politicians, and permits can really skew the start times for pipeline projects. Atlantic Coast Pipeline will be reviewed at the U.S. Supreme Court level, but a decision is not expected until June of 2020. Keystone XL was approved through Nebraska’s Supreme Court with a positive outlook but still has numerous obstacles before construction. Enbridge Line 3 claims to have the green light for early construction in 2020. Our signatory contractors are actively engaged in bidding work in the lower tier states and have had some success. Hopefully, by the time you read this report, we will have some large spreads looking to start in early 2020 down south. Collectively, with the PLCA and the other three crafts, we have held numerous meetings with potential clients that are interested in the value that organized labor can bring to their projects. The clients see the structure that we bring to the table and realize that our competition does not have this to offer. Summarizing the above paragraph, we must continue to advocate on the Action Network.

It is never too early to start making plans to attend this year’s Steward School scheduled for April 6-10, 2020. It will be here before we know it, so don’t wait until all the rooms are filled up. This event is a great opportunity to network and make new friends and connections in the pipeline industry.

We have had several meetings concerning negotiations on the National Pipeline Agreement. Our contract doesn’t expire until May 31, 2020, but as your representatives, we believe by starting early, it shows the contractors, and most importantly, the clients, that we intend to avoid an impasse by allowing ample time to bargain.

The election is over. I want to thank the Election Committee for their service on a job well done. To the candidates, thank you for having the willingness to stand up. And, finally to the winners, congratulations on your victory.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a blessed and fruitful 2020. 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 hope that each one of you was able to spend some time with your families and enjoy the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The year 2019, never turned out to be the great work year that we had expected it to be, but we will finish the year with between 7 and 7.5 million man-hours. Compared to 2017 and 2018, this past year looks pretty slim. But keep in mind, over the last 50+ years, we have worked an average of 4.9 million man-hours per year. Many years were considerably less, while several years were considerably more. Thankfully, the building trades work was plentiful this year, and many of our members were able to take advantage of this.

I thank everyone that voted in our recent election of officers. Exercising our right to vote is the best way we have, as union members, to see that Pipeliners Local Union 798 continues heading in the right direction. It was nice to see so many take an active interest in their local union by participating in this election cycle. On a personal note, I want to thank you all for your continued support over the last two years, and I am humbled that I will get to carry on serving as Financial Secretary-Treasurer of Pipeliners Local Union 798 for the next three years. It is an honor to serve alongside Business Manager Danny Hendrix, representing Local 798 members. I do not take this job lightly, and I am overwhelmed with your support. Thank you again! I have noticed through conversations with some members that not everyone has a clear understanding of what each officer or committee member position entails. I invite you to look at your Local 798 Constitution & By-Laws for a clear description of each position’s job duties. I only bring this up because I have had several members ask me this election cycle, “What does the E-Board do?” or questions such as that. Each of the officer and committee member positions is vital to the structure that we maintain as a local union. Congratulations to each member that was elected to represent Local 798 in these positions.

Danny and I recently attended a Union Leader Partnership Summit with Enbridge in Houston, Texas. UA Director of Pipeline Jurisdiction Dave Barnett, and UA Special Reps. Chad Gilbert and Mike Mikich were also in attendance. This was a great meeting between representatives of all four crafts and our partner client, Enbridge. Enbridge has some big projects coming up in the southern region of the United States, and I believe they recognize the value of organized labor. We were able to gain some insight from Enbridge on what goes into their bidding process, and how they choose contractors to build their pipelines. It was nice to be able to sit down and have an honest, open dialog with a client of their size. Much good will come from this meeting.

We’ve talked numerous times about the Market Recovery in the last 18 months, and it has begun to bear fruit. Since the beginning, we’ve picked up six projects under the Market Recovery package, with many more yet to be awarded. That may not seem like much, but that is six jobs we certainly would not have had without the Market Recovery package. Some of these were large projects, as well. With all the uncertainty in the permitting process, particularly in the north and the northeast, every project we can pick up down south is a win for Local 798 members and their families. I do believe we are going to see more of this work awarded to our fair contractors this winter.

If there is ever anything that I can help you with, please don’t hesitate to call on me. As always, I am proud to serve the membership of Pipeliners Local Union 798!

Fraternally,

Justin Wallace
Financial Secretary-Treasurer
As you read this report, 2019 has come to an end, and 2020 is off and running. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and enjoyed treasured memories with family. The weather can be very hectic this time of year, so I hope everyone takes their time and makes it to their destinations safely.

I would like to personally congratulate all my fellow members who were duly elected in December. I know each of you will do an amazing job and will continue to help our local be a thriving success.

As many of you know, work in my jurisdiction is still slow. Union hands working nonunion jobs are still very detrimental to our way of life, and unfortunately, it has been very prevalent. I encourage and appreciate all the phone calls, so feel free to call me with any questions or concerns at 918-991-5341. I am here to serve YOU!

I would also like to remind everyone to make plans to attend our regular meeting on January 10, 2020. We are all empowered by the knowledge gained when we stay involved with what is going on in our local, and our regular meetings are a big part of that process.

Lastly, remember there is Strength in numbers and Greater Strength in ORGANIZED numbers. May God bless you and your families with a healthy and prosperous year. And, God bless this great local.

Pre-Jobs:
Wayne Holden & Company, Inc.:

Pre-Jobs:
Precision West:
- Las Vegas, NV. 14” and 8” auger bores and installation of various fabrication for Kinder Morgan. Superintendent: David Kendrick.
Charps, LLC:
- Casper, WY. 24” and 26” sleeves and split tees for Enbridge.
  Superintendent: DJ Omang. Welder Foreman: Joe Forris. Working
Never forget, United We Stand, Divided We Fall. Sisters, and yourself by getting involved to secure these jobs for all our families. Line for this project, so don't sit back and do nothing. Help your Brothers, your pipeline infrastructure updated for the future. We are very close to the finish line. Jobs are to the union members of Minnesota and the entire country to get the Commerce, and all the politicians. They don't understand how important these days. They have stopped us from building this Line on these jobs need to get involved. This will allow us to outnumber the loud voice of the environmental groups that have stopped us. The Line 3 project consists of 1,032 miles of 36" pipeline. The Canadian, North Dakota, and Wisconsin pipe is in the ground and tied into the old Line 3 pipe, and the missing link is the 350 miles of 36" across Minnesota. The original Line 3 that was laid in the early 1960s is still being used in Minnesota. Our Welders and Helpers are still sleeving on this pipeline that is still in service.

This is where Enbridge and union members of all crafts need to work together to finalize the last portion of the missing permits. After four years of regulatory and permitting review, the replacement of Line 3 is the most studied project in Minnesota history. Replacing the existing Line 3 with the newest and most advanced pipeline technology available today will help protect Minnesota's environment for generations to come. And, yes, there will be one more comment period during which all union members and their families that depend on these jobs need to get involved. This will allow us to outnumber the loud voice of the environmental groups that have stopped us from building this Line 3 replacement for the last four years.

Please participate in the Action Network by letting your voice be heard by the Minnesota Public Utility Commissioners, the EQB, the Department of Commerce, and all the politicians. They don't understand how important these jobs are to the union members of Minnesota and the entire country to get the pipeline infrastructure updated for the future. We are very close to the finish line for this project, so don't sit back and do nothing. Help your Brothers, your Sisters, and yourself by getting involved to secure these jobs for all our families. Never forget, United We Stand, Divided We Fall.

I write this report after returning from St Paul, Minnesota, to attend the Enbridge Line 3 Replacement Project Labor Agreement (PLA) signing by the four crafts organized labor leaders and Enbridge. Our own 798 UA Pipeline Director David Barnett; Special Representative Chad Gilbert; International Union of Operating Engineers National Pipeline Director Bob Wilds; Teamsters International National Pipeline Director David LaBorde; Laborers International Union of North America National Pipeline Director Luke Johnson; and LIUNA International Representative Dan Olson, all attended.

The $2.6 billion question is, "What is a PLA?" The Project Labor Agreement is a legal contract with Enbridge, the four organized labor unions, and our union pipeline contractors, to construct 350 miles of 36" pipeline across the state of Minnesota. The PLA ensures that every weld, nut, bolt, and shovel of dirt will be done by trained, highly skilled union members.

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I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It looks like 2020 will be more prosperous than last year, or at least we can cross our fingers and pray that it is. As far as work went, 2019 was a rollercoaster year. Many members thought they had job security for several years, but due to the power of the extreme environmentalists, jobs were shut down and postponed. The real union Brothers and Sisters went out and helped man the building trades work that our sister locals could not, and a lot of them did other things to feed their families that was not the work of the United Association.

I want to say to those 798 members, you are the real backbone in this union. You are the heroes of Local 798, and you sacrificed for something you believed in. To you, it's a career, not just another way to get a paycheck. We have some union impersonators out there helping the nonunion contractors stay in business and taking work from our fair contractors. Hopefully, when the work starts, our Welder Foremen will look hard at who they hire and let all those impersonators stay right where they are and where they belong.

I want to take the opportunity to thank every 798 member that helped man the jobs in Texas. The union work has been very slow for the last couple of years, and it had gotten to the point that our contractors were not even bidding on projects. With the Market Recovery, we have completed several jobs, and our contractors are bidding numerous projects in the south. Rockford picked up Spread 4 and Spread 7 for Enterprise, and we should be pre-jobbing 17 miles of 30" in El Paso sometime after the first of the year. The pipe will be laid out on the Precision job by mid-December, with nothing but tie-ins and testing left. Price Gregory will be completed around mid-December. Hopefully, by the time you read this Blue Light, I will have pre-jobbed some of this big work. The work will start in early 2020. If I can be of assistance to anyone, please do not hesitate to contact me (918) 633-3435. Thanks again to everyone for all the thoughts and prayers. May God Bless.
I hope you all enjoyed a blessed holiday season. Now the new year gives us a clean slate. 2019 wasn’t what we had hoped, but such is the nature of our industry. We’ve all heard the expression feast or famine; fortunately, building trades work was available. Thank you to all those members who helped our sister locals man their work cooperatively and professionally. This was a win-win situation for our UA family. Members earned a living wage and benefits, while our sister locals provided quality union labor. Keep in mind, your reputation precedes you, especially at the cracker plant. If you made a good name for yourself, it might open doors for future employment at the Dilles Bottom cracker in Hannibal, Ohio. Although the site location is Ohio, Local 83 in Wheeling, West Virginia, has jurisdiction in this area.

Two other major projects in Ohio also give us something to look forward to in the new year. Duke Energy’s Central Corridor Pipeline in the Cincinnati area has received permit approval, which is a step closer to the anticipated kickoff for spring/summer 2020. TransCanada’s Buckeye Express project has started moving materials into the region, which is another win-win situation. The client will receive quality union labor from Local 798; our members will have an opportunity for a fair day’s work for a fair day’s pay, and the Ohio Valley will benefit economically from pipeliners. I am also hopeful the Ladies of 798 will organize a community good works project.

Let’s add advocacy to our New Year’s resolutions. I hate to beat a dead horse, but last year was not what we had hoped for because of permit problems and professional paid protestors. There are two sides to every story, and we must be a voice in support of pipelines. We should loudly proclaim that pipelines improve product transportation and deliver safe energy. What does advocacy look like? Take, for example, the Mackinaw Strait’s Line 5 project in Michigan. There may be opportunities to contribute to the approval process by signing petitions, attending town hall meetings, and being a presence at public FERC sessions. It is imperative we take the time to participate, support, and take action. Solidarity is powerful. If you find yourself with a few minutes to spare, check the Action Network page. Are there any new campaigns that need signatures? Are you surfing the internet? Visit Pipeliners Local Union 798’s website and stay abreast of any scheduled town hall meetings or FERC sessions that need participants. Like to read while having your morning coffee? Get in the habit of routinely visiting both www.action@local798.org and www.local798.org. Add them to your favorites, reading lists, and bookmarks.

Finally, congratulations and welcome to our newly signed contractor, Graycor Industrial Constructors, Inc. Congratulations also to all the newly elected and returning officers. I am confident you will represent the membership fairly. Remember, shop small, support union, and buy made in the USA. As always, if I can be of assistance, don’t hesitate to call.

Pre-Jobs:

Alex E. Paris Contracting Co., Inc.:  
- Eastern, OH. 5,000’ of 20” cross country pipeline for Mark West.  

Big Inch Fabricators and Construction:  

Charps, LLC:  

Foltz Welding Ltd.:  
- Filmore, IN. Two emergency digs for Marathon Pipeline.  

Graycor Industrial Constructors, Inc.:  
- Nappanee, IN. Station modifications 8”-12” for NIPSCO.  

Henkels & McCoy, Inc.:  

Minnesota Limited, Inc.:  
- Sugar Grove, OH. Remove 300’ of 20” plus 100’ of 1” for TC Energy.  


Middlebury, IN. 1,600’ HDD replacement for NIPSCO.  

Meade:  

NFL Construction Co.:  

R.L. Coolsaet Construction Co.:  

Brandon Williams for Precision Pipeline in Hico, TX Submitted by: Christy Burkheart
By the time you read this report, the holiday season will have come and gone. 2019 was an average year with permit issues and delays becoming the norm here in the northeast. I’ve been receiving many calls asking what 2020 will look like. As much as I hate to say, I think 2020 will look more like 2019 than the boom years of 2018 and 2017. There were approximately fifty fewer northeast pre-jobs executed in 2019 than in 2018, and 30 less than in 2017, to put it into perspective. I think there will still be small and medium-sized work that will take place in 2020, but it will be less due to the producers struggling with the price of natural gas. The Henry Hub Exchange reports natural gas prices at $2.25 per thousand cubic feet as opposed to the price of $4.50, which was the price this time last year. The drillers have asked the pipeline companies to lower their fees to transport the gas so that the producers can be competitive. Price downswings like this have happened before, and we have always made it through the dark times. Prices will eventually rise, and our workload will once again increase.

As for the major projects, the Mountain Valley Pipeline still has 37 miles of mainline to be laid in Virginia. I remain skeptical as to how the scheduling will play out due to a large amount of negative scrutiny the project is receiving. There is also a large number of tie-ins to be completed in West Virginia with water permits dictating the schedule on the tie-ins.

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline is tied up in the U.S. Supreme Court, with arguments set for February and a final decision coming by June. The fact that SCOTUS took the case is a good sign because the court gets 8,000 requests per year, and only 80 cases are accepted. Some predict there is an 85% chance the court will rule that the United States Forest Service does have the authority to allow pipelines to cross the Appalachian Trail. It will be interesting to see how this plays out. As always, utilize the Action Network and attend public meetings to let our voices be heard.

In closing, I hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays and were able to spend important quality time with family and friends.

Pre-Jobs:

Alex E. Paris Contracting Co., Inc.:

Apex Pipeline Services, Inc.:

Frank Lill and Son, Inc.:

Otis Eastern Service, Inc.:

I hope you were able to attend. I applaud everyone who voted and mailed in their ballots. We have good, dedicated members who ran for these offices, and all our newly elected officers deserve your support.

The work in my area has slowed down over the past few months. There are still several jobs planned, but it’s looking like it will be early spring before they start. I want to encourage everyone again, if you haven’t already done so, to sign up on the Action Network and sign the petition for our jobs. As you are aware, this is our future, and we need everyone to get involved to help get the required permits to go forward with the major projects that are waiting to start.

This new year is here, and the holidays are behind us. I hope everyone had a good work season even though the work was slower than the last several years. We have large projects yet to start that are still waiting for permits. Hopefully, we will get these projects approved and can get started soon. I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season, and I hope to see you on the ROW soon.

Pre-Jobs:

Snelson Companies Inc.:

B&G Pipeline Company:

Contractors Rental Corp dba CJ Hughes:

Submitted by: Shade Harris
From our readers

Dear Editor,

RV’s, large equipment, and lots of trucks rolled into Braxton County about two years ago. The pipeliners were to become part of our rural communities and our neighbors until lines through Braxton County is completed. The weather and regulations have greatly interfered with the progress, but they have adjusted and the work goes on to be completed.

Their moving to our county has been a great boost to our economy. Businesses have flourished since they became a part of our community.

Their generosity of giving has reached many families in our county.

Last Christmas many children enjoyed a wonderful holiday because of the purchases made by the company. Other organizations have also been the recipients of their help to make our county’s people lives more pleasant.

They have repaired some roads they have used to transport their equipment to the job.

All in all they have been good residents and we will miss their generosity of contributing to our economy while becoming our neighbors.

They will be leaving us when the job is finished and moving to another job somewhere. Can you imagine uprooting your family and getting settled in another location every few years?

We here in Braxton County need to give thanks to them for becoming part of our communities and what they have contributed to the residents here.

The Century Inn has enjoyed knowing some of the people who have become a part of Braxton County for a while.

We the owners and helpers at our restaurant thank you for your business and wish the best of luck when you have to move on. We will miss you.

Misty Boggs
Brenda Mollohan
Esta Boggs

Thank you to Welder member, Paul Lemon, for submitting this article that he found in his local newspaper.
**DISPATCH Report**

By Ricky Jones

1,837 Welders  
284 Journeymen  
2,304 Helpers

First, I want to say that I hope everyone has a great new year filled with prosperity and good health for their entire family. We have hope that the upcoming year will meet everyone’s needs; however, our work is still very dependent on permits. The building trades side still has good indicators that they will be busy and need help. As always, Stainless Welders are first, followed by Combo Welders (Heli-Arc & Up-Hill Stick), Stick Only Welders, and lastly, Fitters. The Cracker Plant through Local 449 is still hiring Welders and Spacers only. It is not uncommon for large building trades work to start this time of year, but as of this date, there has not been any word where it is located. Several of our contractors are bidding large projects in Texas. Hopefully, we can get more work in these areas in the future. It’s very important that we never go out and help these nonunion contractors compete against us.

Thank you, and again, Happy New Year.

**ORGANIZING Report**

By Ronnie Hill  
918-284-6862

Brothers and Sisters, I hope each of you enjoyed a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. As we move into a new work year, hopefully, permits will be approved, and we move forward without obstacles. As always, it’s very important for us to stay engaged, whether it be through town hall meetings, the Action Network, or our everyday lives, in general.

Our environmental opposition has cost us many man-hours, but I hope we will prevail in the long run. These radical environmentalists try to portray us in an awful light, and it’s up to us to prove them wrong. Not only are we the best pipeliners in the world, but we are upstanding citizens and hard-working men and women who are out to provide for our families. We provide a professional service to the clients, and we put many dollars into the local economy where we work. Everything we do and say is under the microscope by our opposition. They lie and wait to use any, and all, negative news they can.

We must be cautious with our actions, especially on social media. Social media is a fantastic tool, but it is also a double-edged sword. Anything posted online is for all the world to see, and what may start as a harmless joke can be twisted and turned into something it was never meant to be. Not only should we be mindful of job-related issues, but also union business. Our business is ours, and nobody else’s. We have an avenue to discuss union business, and it’s not on social media. If you have an issue on a job, go to the Welder Foreman first. If it’s not resolved, then the Steward is the next step. And after that, the Business Agent for the area you are working in. For other business, it’s at the union meeting where all people in attendance have been examined as to be in good standing and eligible to be there, and the doors are locked to any outsider. Anything other than that is unacceptable.

We all made a pledge never to perform any act that is prejudicial to the best interest of the United Association. We also pledge to at all times endeavor to promote its prosperity and usefulness, to remain loyal and true to the principles and policies, and to be governed by the Constitution, By Laws, and Ritual of the United Association. Also, in our pledge, we swore to assist all members to the best of our ability and to defend them when unjustly treated or slandered. All members should, at all times, treat their Brothers and Sisters with the same respect that they wish to be treated themselves. We should never discuss our business on social media under any circumstances, and especially in groups with other crafts and even nonunion people. We are professionals, and we owe our local union and our fellow members more respect than that.

It seems that our contractors are starting to pick up some jobs in the south and southwest, and that is a great sign. Hopefully, we can get more work in these areas in the future. It’s very important that we never go out and help these nonunion contractors compete against us.

I wish everyone a safe and prosperous 2020 work year, and if I can be of assistance to anyone, please don’t hesitate to call.

Fraternally,  
Ronnie M. Hill
## 2020 Election of Officers Results

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Preston (Prez) Richard K. B. (Sonny) Brewer, Sr.</td>
<td>1,856</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Scooter Folk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Paul Davis</td>
<td>2,099</td>
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<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>Keith Knox</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nicholas (Nicky) Broussard</td>
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<td>Danny Hendrix</td>
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<td>Financial Secretary-Treasurer</td>
<td>Justin Wallace</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Eric Knight</td>
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<td>Inside Guard</td>
<td>Shannon V. Jackson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Josh McGee</td>
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<td>Michael Layrock</td>
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<td>Daniel McDavid</td>
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<td>Executive Board (4 Members)</td>
<td>Cassidy Crowley</td>
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<td>Chris Fizer</td>
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<td>Pete Ashby, Jr.</td>
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<td>Randy Mathis</td>
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<td>Bobby D. Smith</td>
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<td>Rick Thomas</td>
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<td>Ed Coker</td>
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<td>Matt Ingram</td>
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<td>Cody D. Pedigo</td>
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<td>Jeffery Tigert</td>
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<td>Finance Committee (3 Members)</td>
<td>Jimmy Dick</td>
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<td>Michael Hatch</td>
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<td>Steve Birgy</td>
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<td>Guy Simms</td>
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<td>Jason E. Knight</td>
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<td>Examining Board (2 Members)</td>
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<td>Mike Miller</td>
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<td>Tyler “Moe” Simms</td>
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<td>David B. Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Bowker</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Anthony Webster</td>
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Steward School
April 6-10, 2020

Registration information will soon be mailed to all members for the upcoming Pipeliners Local Union 798 Steward School to be held April 6-10, 2020. If you plan to work in the future as a Steward, Welder Foreman, or Pipeman, make plans to attend. Please complete your registration information and make your reservations as soon as possible. Additional information on the events will be included with your registration packet. Pipeliners Local Union 798 has a group rate at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel. When making reservations, please ask for the Pipeliners Local Union 798 rate.

Renaissance Tulsa Hotel - 6808 S. 107th E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74133
1-800-264-0165
$97-137/night
Group Code: PIAN
Reservations can also be made online by going to the home page of the Local 798 website.

Please note that the $8 parking fee will NOT be charged to Steward School attendees.

The 21st Annual Charity Golf Tournament, benefitting the George Lambert/Harry Faucett, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, will be held Monday, April 6, 2020, at Forest Ridge Golf Course, 7501 E. Kenosha, Broken Arrow, OK 74014. Registration information will be included with your Steward School registration packet.

Steward School registration packets can be picked up at the Local 798 Training Center from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2020. You can also pick up your packet at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel Tuesday evening, April 7, 2020, from 6-8 p.m., and again beginning at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning, April 8, 2020.

Lincoln Electric will host the annual Barbeque at the Local 798 Training Center on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at noon.
The Steward Reporting Forms and Computer Class will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at the Local 798 Training Center following the Lincoln Barbeque.
Steward School sessions will be held at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel beginning promptly at 8 a.m. Wednesday, April 8, 2020, and continue through noon Friday, April 10, 2020.
The Retiree Banquet, honoring members with 50 or more years of membership, will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday evening, April 9, 2020. Join us for a delicious dinner and live entertainment.

Miller Electric will host the annual Crawfish Boil and equipment demonstrations at the Local 798 Training Center on Friday, April 10, 2020, at noon.
The 11th Annual Slick Rig Contest will be held on Friday afternoon at the Local 798 Training Center. Additional information will be provided with your registration packet. A minimum number of 10 participants will be required for this event to be held.
The regular April Membership Meeting will be held at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel at 7 p.m. Friday evening, April 10, 2020.
The Ladies Hospitality will also be held at the Tulsa Renaissance Hotel from 6-10 p.m. Friday, April 10, 2020.
Automatic Deduction for COBRA Payment is Now Available

COBRA premium payments can now be deducted automatically from your bank account. If you would like to utilize this valuable tool, the “COBRA Payment Authorization Agreement for Automatic Deduction” form can be found on our website at www.pibf.org, located under the “H&W Benefits” tab, under “PIBF Forms,” Form #21. Mailing instructions are included on the form, and a copy of a voided preprinted check must be attached. If the name on the account is not in the member’s name, or a check copy is not attached, the form must be notarized.

Email Addresses and Other Personal Information

To remain HIPAA compliant, PIBF and Local 798 do not share change of address information. It is extremely important that plan participants notify both 798 and PIBF when permanent address changes occur or when email or telephone numbers change. You can change your address by mail, by calling the Fund office at 918-280-4800, or by going online to www.pibf.org, logging in to the “Members Login” section and choosing “Change of Address Form” under the “Forms” tab.

Deductibles Renew January 1st

Please remember that medical and prescription deductibles start over at the beginning of the year. The PIBF office receives a large volume of calls early in the year, questioning the prescription price increase from their last refill. In most cases, this is due to the deductible having to be met before the prescription is covered with co-insurance.

Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)

The HRA deadline is fast approaching for 2019 claims. Don’t leave money on the table! Remember to file for reimbursement of your 2019 claims by April 15, 2020.

COBRA and Retiree Coverage

We frequently are asked questions about COBRA and Retiree coverage. Below are facts and highlights for these coverages. Please refer to the PIBF Health and Welfare Plan Benefits Summary Plan Description for complete information.

COBRA

- Single coverage is $435 per month.
- Family coverage is $1,000 per month.
- COBRA can be purchased for 18 months under most situations; if active eligibility is gained within this 18-month period, the 18-month COBRA coverage period will restart when the active eligibility period runs out.
- COBRA can be extended up to 29 months in some disability situations.
- COBRA can be purchased for dependents for 36 months as the result of certain qualifying events.
- COBRA rules are mandated by federal law, and PIBF is required to offer members and their families the opportunity for a temporary extension of health coverage (called continuation coverage) in certain instances where coverage under the plan would otherwise end. PIBF’s COBRA coverage is not administered using internal guidelines but is instead dictated by federal guidelines that are not subject to modification.
- You cannot skip a month of COBRA coverage. If your payment is not received by the due date, the COBRA coverage terminates and cannot be restarted. You will not have coverage again until you gain active eligibility. Self-payments are payable monthly and due on the 1st day of the month, subject to a 30-day grace period following the due date.
- COBRA coverage provides the same core medical benefits as active coverage.

RETIREE COVERAGE

- Member and Spouse both on Medicare Part A & B $150 per person
- Member and Spouse not on Medicare $450 per person
- $150 Additional Dependent
- RX deductible $250 per person annually
- Retirees on Medicare only have $500 deductible on Part A services, Part B no deductible
- Coverage does not include Dental, Vision, Death Benefit and Hearing Aid Benefits
- Includes HRA Benefits
Featured Personnel

Toni Gant is a Claims Processor and will celebrate her two-year anniversary with PIBF in May. She loves traveling with her family and watching Hallmark movies. She has been married to her husband, Jimmy, for 24 years and has two children – Paige, 23, and Caleb, 18. She would like the membership to know that she really enjoys working at PIBF. Toni loves talking to the members and getting to know them as they call in with questions. She feels very lucky to be a part of PIBF and appreciates all the hard work of the members. Toni says, “I know the membership’s continuous hard work is providing me this opportunity, and I look forward to many more years at PIBF.”

Stephanie Sharp has been with PIBF in the Job Control area for almost 12 years. She processes all incoming checks from the contractors as well as other checks from other locals that send reciprocal monies in. Her daughter, Grace, is 12 years old and loves to play softball. If she is not at work, you can find her either on the softball field for a game, at a tournament, softball practice, or pitching lessons with her daughter. She loves spending time with her family and enjoying her two nephews and her niece. Her nephews, Ryder and Brantley, are ages 8 and 6 and love to play any type of ball. Her niece Adalynne is 10 months old and starting to scoot around the house. Stephanie would like to share a reminder with the membership, “If you work out of another Local, it takes two full months for us to see those benefits start rolling into PIBF.” She has also shared a favorite quote of hers, “Hard work always pays off, whatever you do.”

-Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program

Calling all students! The deadline to submit your completed application, appraisal forms, and transcripts is January 24, 2020. Applications can be downloaded online from the Local Union 798 website at www.local798.org. The application is available under the Voluntary Fund tab in the Scholarships section.

TIME TO UPDATE!

The beginning of a new year is a great time to update your contact information with the union hall. Simply sign into the Member Login section of the Local 798 website at www.local798.org to verify your information is current. This includes mailing address, phone numbers, email address, and demographics.
Thank you to Local 798 Organizer Terry Langley for his many years of service and dedication to our organization. Best wishes for a fun-filled but relaxing retirement!

Aaron Wegener and Dennis Sharpe sleeving in Geyser, MT
Submitted by: Aaron Wegener

Steven Shelton
Submitted by: Jason Duke
2020-2022 Membership Cards

Don’t forget; you must pay membership dues into the 2020 year for your new membership card to be mailed. Membership cards will only be mailed to the address that you have on file with the union hall.

Year-End Statements

Your monthly dues, Voluntary Fund, and working assessments paid for 2019 are available to you on the Member Login section of the Local 798 website. Once signed in, click on the payment history page and enter any year period to view the total amount of monies paid during that time. To view your working assessments and organizing fees paid, you must go to the work hour page and enter the date range you need, it will give you the totals for that time frame. Please remember, hours are typically reported 30-45 days behind, so if you worked in December, those working assessments will not appear until late January to mid-February 2020.

Your emailed year-end statements will not be available until after February 20, 2020. If you do not have an email address on file, your year-end statements will be mailed to your home address. We will be working diligently to get this information out to all members, so we will be unable to provide the information over the phone prior to that date. However, you may obtain this information when logged into the Member Login section of the website as indicated above. Please keep in mind that it is our goal to provide the membership all the information they need, while striving to do so in the most cost-efficient ways possible.
THANK YOU

David and Sharon Kidd appreciate the gift they received from the Voluntary Fund after her accident. It is an honor and a blessing to be a member of 798. Special thanks to James Hathorn.

Frank and Debi Red thank you for all the hard work and dedication each 798 employee puts in. Thank you to all those who faithfully give to the Voluntary Fund and those who can only do it when times permit them to. The check helped them get through an unfortunate event.

Richard and Tammy Warren thank you for the Voluntary Fund check. Times are going to be a little rough, but Richard is doing better. Two surgeries down, will wait to see what happens next.

Joshua J. Summers thanks you for sending the Voluntary Fund. It was greatly appreciated and helpful during his extended hospital stay and continuing recovery. Thank you to all who continue to give to the Voluntary Fund and special thanks to Ronnie and Cody Evans for their prayers and words of encouragement.

Rodger A. Roberts thanks all the Brothers and Sisters of 798 that donate to the Voluntary Fund and to those who nominated him following his recent shoulder replacement. The funds were greatly appreciated in his time of need. He is honored to be a part of such a generous organization.

Pat Mathis thanks you for the beautiful flower arrangement.

Patrick Adrian thanks you for the Voluntary Fund check that was given to his family while Jill received medical treatments. They are grateful to the 798 family and the Voluntary Fund for the support and generous assistance. Special thanks to Brian Jollotta, Heather Engle, and Jesse Berthiaume. Although Heather and Jesse are not members of 798, they contribute to the Voluntary Fund every week because they believe in it and back the Brothers and Sisters of 798.

Rupert E. West thanks you for the help he received from the Voluntary Fund. He never thought he would have to have two hip operations back to back. It’s good to know we have members who care enough in times of need. God bless Pipeliners Local 798.

Houston Rhodes thanks all the members of Local 798 for the help he received after the tornado hit his home.

Danny Clay thanks all the contributors of the Voluntary Fund. With the high cost of hospitals and medicine, he doesn’t see how a nonunion welder gets by. Special thanks to Kenneth Raimer.

The Family of Jeff McCall thanks you for the kindness, thoughts and prayers shown during the loss of Jeff. He will be missed by many. Alton Thompson thanks all the members of Local 798 for the help from the Voluntary Fund after his surgery. Special thanks to Russell Shelton and Dean Evens.

Ricky Lambeth and Family thank all the Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 and the Voluntary Fund. The funds really helped during his recovery time after a complete hip replacement. Thank you for donating to the fund and for the calls and texts while he was down recovering. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix, Justin Wallace, and Wayne and Jennifer Bates.

Jason McKinney thanks all his 798 Brothers and Sisters for the unexpected Voluntary Fund after his father passed away.

Matt Franklin thanks everyone who contributes to, supports, and is affiliated with the Voluntary Fund for the help he received. Special thanks to Billy Wayne Hawkins.

The Kay Family thanks all 798 Brothers and Sisters for donating to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Mark Blaisdell and Gary Buchan for all the help in their time of need.

Kenneth and Pauline Tawney thank you for the help after Kenneth had his stroke two years ago. Kenneth is in remission with lung cancer now, and Pauline has had an infection from a surgery in February until October. She is doing well now as well.

Carole and Rickey Oliver thank the Voluntary Fund and everyone that gives to it. Special thanks to Black Schroeder and Sam Robinson for the help they received while their son was in the hospital. It’s a great feeling to have family like 798 pipeliners.

Glen Sharp thanks everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. The money came in handy following the passing of his wife, Carol. He’s proud to belong to a second family that has his back when things get tough.

Georgia Mathis thanks all the 798 Brothers and Sisters that give to the Voluntary Fund, as well as Tim Whipkey, Justin Wallace, and Danny Hendrix for the assistance after the loss of her father-in-law and long-time member of 798, C.W. Mathis. He stood for our rights as union members and for what we believe in as a union. We love you and say God bless to our 798 family.

Lee and Cindy Sloan express their gratitude to all those who donate to the 798 Voluntary Fund and especially the members on the US Pipeline job in Hannibal, Ohio. The money they received was timely and helpful. They have been blessed this year with a wonderful and caring pipeline family that has shown love, compassion and sent prayers. All of this helped turn a difficult year into a blessed one. They love you and say God bless to our 798 family.

Terry and Renee Taylor thank you for the thoughts, prayers, and assistance from the Voluntary Fund. Terry is recovering slowly but surely. They are blessed to be a part of this wonderful pipeline family, and they miss seeing everyone.
"Vegas" and the Lofland Family thank all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the gift they received due to the passing of Vegas's father. It was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to everyone on the MNL Falcon project, Brian Fox, and Chris Fizer. Hope you all had a safe and happy holiday season. God bless.

Rick "Bugs" Hemmer and family thank Justin Wallace and everyone that gives so generously to the Voluntary Fund. It was greatly appreciated and a big help with expenses for his shoulder surgery. They are thankful for this organization.

Kevin Hubble thanks all who contributed to the Voluntary Fund for the gift and kind words following the recent loss of his mother. Special thanks to Benny Barnett, Danny Hendrix, and Justin Wallace.

David M. White thanks our 798 members. Your gift of contributions to our Voluntary Fund is a generous blessing. He and his wife truly appreciate the help they have received. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix.

Carlos Suarez and Family express thanks to the Local 798 Brothers and Sisters for stepping in and helping out. God bless you all.

Daniel Leglise and Brenda Fox thank the Voluntary Fund office for the financial assistance at a trying time. He had a week off but was sore for several weeks. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix and his team for the continued support of their pension, health, and welfare.

Curtis Mason thanks everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the help he received during his recent hospital stay. He’s had three ER visits and a cardiac ablation over the last six months. He’s very thankful for everyone’s help and concern. Special thanks to Carmen Mason, Tracy Lester, Hershel Mason, Danny Hendrix, Justin Wallace, and Phillip Wallace.

Wayne Causey thanks the Voluntary Fund for the gift received following the loss of his mother. Special thanks to David Leroux, Bo Messina, Squirrel Bird, Puddin and Donna Uspy and to all the dear Brothers and Sisters that keep this fund possible.

Wayne and Katherine Ransom thank all the Brothers and Sisters of Pipeliners Local 798 for the Voluntary Fund that is given each week. It’s a thoughtful and generous thing for members to do. It was greatly appreciated and a privilege to belong to such a great union. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix for keeping our union strong.

Ronnie Lampton and Family say a special thank you to the great Brother and Sister members who donate to the Voluntary Fund. The money was so greatly appreciated during his chemotherapy and radiation treatments. It is an honor to be a part of this great union. A very special thank you to Dennis Jackson and David Layton.

The Family of Austin Lane Adams thanks those who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for helping to get Austin home for a proper and fitting farewell for now. Our family could not have done it without the care and support of his 798 family.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Gary L. Cooper, 80-year-old Retired Welder of Hamlin, WV, passed away October 4, 2019.

Jeff McCall, 53-year-old Welder of Norphlet, AR, passed away October 10, 2019.


Cassel H. Williams, 97-year-old Retired Welder of Doylestown, PA, passed away November 12, 2019.

Jesse E. Ferrell, Jr., 83-year-old Retired Welder of Clendenin, WV, passed away November 14, 2019.

Carl E. Horn, 94-year-old Retired Welder of Logan, OH, passed away November 24, 2019.

Michael L. Smith, 47-year-old Welder of Lufkin, TX, passed away December 3, 2019.

**RETIRED**

Ste
ten C. Blackledge, Helper, Marion, MI

Michael P. Blanchard, Welder, Pierre Part, LA

Kevin D. Brown, Helper, Bemidji, MN

Thomas L. Collins, Welder, Houston, TX

James L. Dunn, Helper, Bald Knob, AR

Steve R. Edwards, Splicer, Wetumka, OK

Timothy C. Griggs, Welder, Waynesboro, TN

Tommy J. Hall, Helper, New Philadelphia, OH

Merle D. Horsley, Helper, Rosepine, LA

Michael D. Lawrence, Welder, New Bloomfield, MO

Jimmy L. Mantle, Welder, Farmington, NM

Betty J. McKenzie, Helper, Americus, KS

Wayne E. Morgan Jr., Welder, Crawfordville, FL

Rodney J. Tullos, Welder, Oak Grove, LA

**SWAP & SELL**

1999 F-350 Super Duty Crew Cab Long Bed: Very clean welding truck ready to go to work. Machine and tools not included. Has ATS transmission with less than 15,000 miles, new BF Goodrich all terrain ta/k0 tires, whistling wheel, non-waste gate, turbo, 4-inch MBRP straight exhaust, brand new firestone airbags, on-board compressor for air bags, Kenwood DNX574s and JL speakers, glow shift boost, transmission and EGK pillar gauges, six position TS tuner. Very nice truck, just ready for a newer ride. $13,000. Text Clint Kidd at (918) 724-6488.

CNC 4x4 Plasma Cutting Table: With waterbed, Hypertherm Powermax 45 plasma cutter, with Lincoln Electric Accumove 2 controller. New HP all-in-one touch screen computer with all the programs, turnkey deal, using your air compressor, all in excellent condition. Comes with a new controller box should you accidentally short out the one on the machine, $1,800 value and new motherboard wiring harness. Belts for the motors valued at $900. Cut up to 1/2" plate but it’s very slow 3/8". $9,500 for everything, or $8,500 for table alone. Can be seen at 118 South Oak, Erick, OK 73645. Pictures and video available upon request. Contact Tommy Fenley at (405) 669-4972.

2016 GMC Duramax Allison 4x4: Complete with 2014 Miller 350, tools, etc. Ready to work - complete rig. $50,000. Contact Joe Boykin at (925) 699-0001.

Lincoln Classic 2 Deutz Diesel Welding Machine: Deutz Diesel in great condition with 2,900 hours. $8,500 or best offer. Contact Michael Bake at (330) 627-6366.

Welding Truck Bed: Welding truck bed, has been used with a 2011 Dodge dually 3500 and a 2001 Dodge 2500 long bed, $2,500. Truck bed is in Glen Rose, TX. Contact Ann Baker at (254) 396-3343.


1956 SA 200 Short Hood: Completely restored powder coat paint. Paint has some flaws; gas tank has small drip from threaded fitting. 68 hours on rebuilt engine. $6,500. Contact Ron at (520) 252-0062.

Lightest Pancake Hood: Lightest pancake hood on the market! Custom made. $90+ shipping. Call Ron Johnson at (318) 613-4078.
DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Light Gray/Royal Mid-Profile Cap
Item #103 - $18.00

798 Lapel Pin
Item # 137 - $4.50

Black Long-Sleeve T-Shirt
Item #119 - $17.00
(S, M, L, XL, XLT, 2XL, 2XLT, 3XL, 3XLT, 4XL, 4XLT)

“I’m A Union Member” Short-Sleeve T-Shirt
Item #141 - $17.50
(S, M, L, LT, XL, XLT, 2XL, 2XLT, 3XL, 3XLT, 4XL, 4XLT)

Navy Pullover Hoodie
Item #116 - $37.00
(S, M, L, LT, XL, XLT, 2XL, 2XLT, 3XL, 3XLT, 4XL, 4XLT)

Navy Winter Cap
Item #101-D - $13.00

Nation Wide Lapel Pin
Item #138 - $5.00