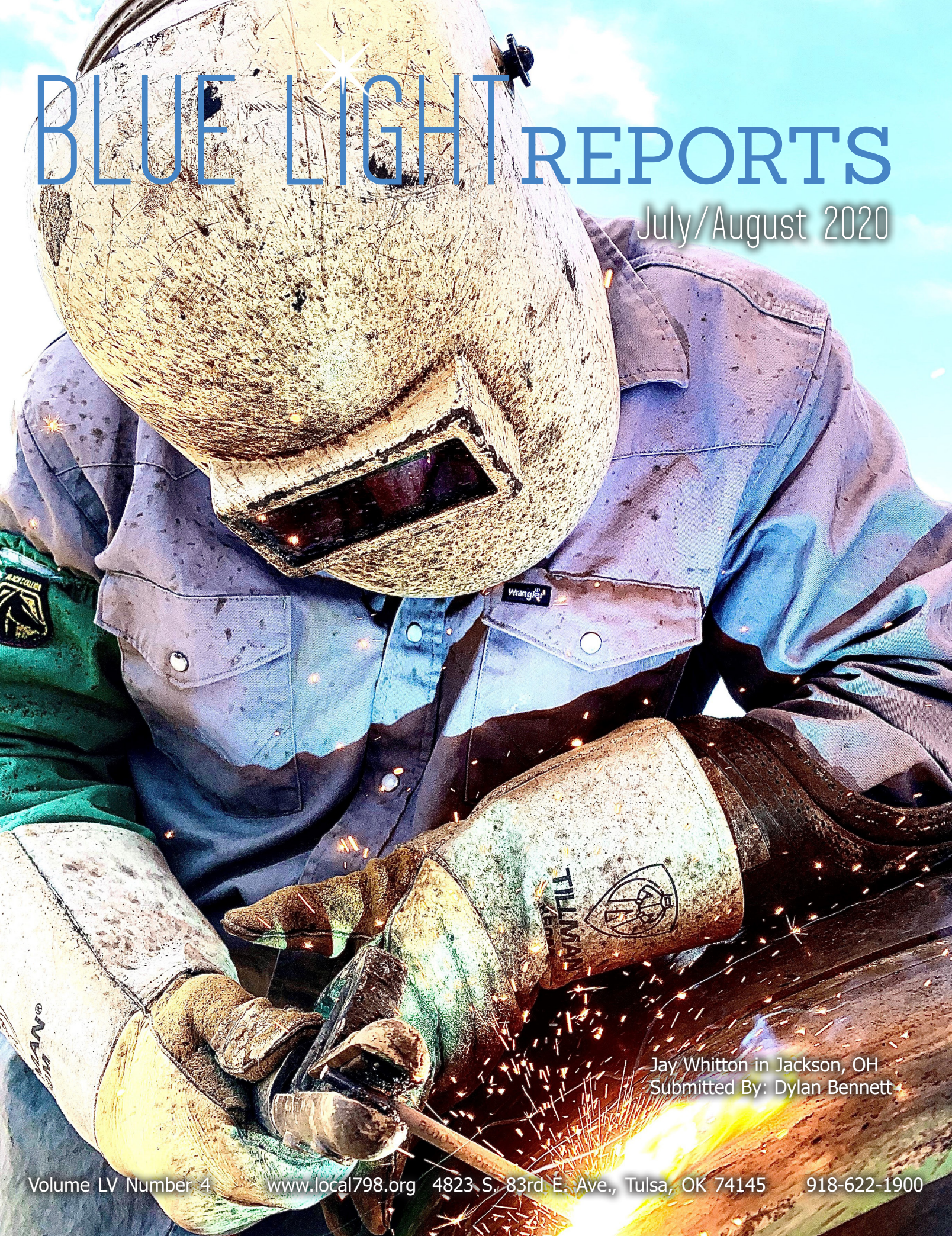


# BLUE LIGHT REPORTS

July/August 2020



Jay Whitton in Jackson, OH  
Submitted By: Dylan Bennett

**Pipeliners Union 798**

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

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

**Please visit the  
Local 798 website at  
[www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org)  
for updated pre-job  
information.**

**Business Manager**  
Daniel C. Hendrix

**Financial Secretary-  
Treasurer**  
Justin Wallace

**President**  
Preston Ri'chard

**Vice President**  
Paul Davis

**Recording Secretary**  
Guy Williams

**Inside Guard**  
Shannon Jackson

**Executive Board**  
Ed Coker  
Randy Mathis  
Cody D. Pedigo  
Troy Post

**Finance Committee**  
Jimmy Dick  
Jason E. Knight  
Guy Simms

**Examining Board**  
Clark Eastwood  
Mike Miller

**Business Agents**  
David Butterworth  
Jerry "Dale" Crabtree, Jr.  
Justin Head  
Chris Lancaster  
Black Schroeder  
Phillip Wallace  
Charles E. Yates, Jr.

**798 Organizers**  
Ronnie Hill  
Justin Hornback

**Dispatcher**  
Ricky Jones

**Dispatch Office**  
918-610-2761

**Out-of-Work List**  
918-663-3200

**Dispatch Fax**  
918-610-2740

**Job Line**  
918-610-2745



# Business Manager's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The National Pipeline Agreement has finally been signed and finalized for June 1, 2020, through June 4, 2023. Our contract will immediately go to print, and by the time the Blue Light reaches you, we will be sending out a printed copy to all members. For the time being, you can go to the 798 website for viewing and print a copy now if you like.

The negotiations were very challenging, to say the least. We started in-person meetings in the last quarter of 2019 that continued into the first quarter of 2020. We finished up with seven virtual meetings that went right up to the wire and a little beyond. Our mission from the onset was to try to find ways collectively that would keep our contractors competitive for years to come without taking drastic cuts to wages, benefits, and conditions. I believe we were able to achieve our objective, but in the minds of some of the members that have been commenting on social media, we sold out. Most of the comments are from members who have only been in this union for a few years and have never seen the downturns in the pipeline industry that most of us have experienced. I would venture to say, most of the commenters have zero experience owning a company, competitively bidding work, building relationships with clients/owners, and have never been entrusted with negotiating a National Agreement that affects every union pipeliner and their families in the United States. My job as your Business Manager is to ensure that our livelihood, pension, healthcare, training, and our contractor partners not just survive, but thrive through good times and slow times. I want to thank UA Director of Pipeline & Gas Distribution, David Barnett, and Chad Gilbert and Mike Mikkich with the UA Pipeline Department, for their dedication and diligence to get this agreement finalized. Also, thank you to all the other members of the National Pipeline Negotiation Committee.

The manhours for 2020 through May is 1.7 million compared to 1.9 million for the same period in 2019. We have faced numerous unprecedented challenges as a nation and as members of the pipeline industry during the first quarter of the year. The COVID-19 pandemic shut down the U.S. economy, causing the lowest demand for crude oil in 50 years, bringing negative oil prices to go along with our regular challenges of protestors, liberal judges, politicians, and of course, the non-union sector. I trust and pray that the remainder of the year will be better for all concerned as soon as our economy is moving full steam ahead again.

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

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Hendrix". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Daniel C. Hendrix  
Business Manager



# Financial Secretary - Treasurer's Report

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this report finds you well. At the time of this writing, the National Pipeline Agreement is finalized. I won't go into great detail here, but by the time this report reaches you, the contract will be posted on our website and mailed to every member. Many 798 members are going through the longest period of unemployment that they've ever experienced. We made some concessions in the new agreement to take work away from non-signatory contractors. We also gained things such as an extra day of per diem payment (not to exceed seven) and raises in year two and year three of the agreement. We know that the **number one priority** right now is to pick up more work in every part of the country to get back to full employment.

We advocate for our jobs regularly, and nevertheless, it seems that many courts and public utility boards are stacked against us. We cannot stop advocating, and we cannot refuse to change and continue to lose market share. We have a partnership with our union contractors that we must maintain. These contractors have chosen to be union, just like we have chosen to belong to this Local union. We have the best fringe benefits package in the country. Still, we have to keep in mind the nonunion competition does not believe skilled tradesmen and women deserve a livable wage, much less pension, healthcare, 401(k), or a state-of-the-art training center to utilize. This is who we compete against when we go to work every day, and it is who our contractors bid against at every job showing. If these concessions allow our contractors to be successful in picking up more work, Local 798 members will reap the benefit of getting to work more, gaining pension credits, extending healthcare coverage, etc. We are coming off a boom that lasted longer than anyone ever dreamed. I believe many good years are yet to come our way, but we have to get back in the markets we are losing. The smaller projects and gathering work do not generally end up hung up in courts, and they don't attract the protesters, for the most part. The sad truth is, the nonunion contractors have grown by performing this type of work while our contractors have viewed it as not profitable enough during the boom. If these concessions get us back in the door with some of these clients, things will start to turn around.

I want to address a subject that affects many during slowdowns in our industry, the cost of healthcare, and specifically COBRA continuation coverage. I've had many conversations lately with members about the possibility of reducing COBRA premiums or extending the hours' bank for more months of active coverage. I get this, and totally understand the frustration of being out of work, and at the same time, losing your active insurance coverage for you and your family. I am not trying to justify those costs or disagree with any premise of healthcare being too high. Still, I would like to share some information from the PIBF that might shed some light on how COBRA premiums are set, and why the hours' bank arrangement is the way it currently is. In 2019 the PIBF took in \$1.6 million in COBRA premiums paid in by participants utilizing the coverage. For that same period, the PIBF paid out \$4.7 million in claims for those on COBRA coverage. In other words, participants covered under COBRA, the Fund paid out nearly \$3 in claims for every \$1 that was paid into the Fund in premiums. For retiree coverage, in 2019, the Fund paid out \$1.64 in claims for every \$1 paid into the Fund in premiums.

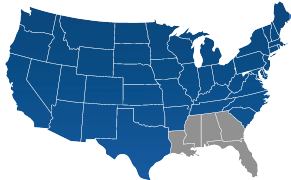
The way the health fund can sustain this is through excess hours paid in while the participants are on active coverage. For every 120 hours worked, you gain one month of active coverage for you and your family. We often hear that the coverage should extend further. As much as we wish this were sustainable, it is not at this time. Any hours in excess of the 120 hours per month or 1,440 hours for a year of coverage, figures into the cost of the member on active coverage, the retiree on retiree coverage, and the member that is on COBRA coverage due to slow times in the industry. In short, any excess paid in over what would gain a full year of coverage for a member and their dependents goes toward paying claims for active, COBRA, and retiree coverage alike. We are all in this together.

Thankfully, the COVID-19 pandemic seems to be subsiding, and I pray it continues to do so. The markets dropped drastically this spring, but as of today, many have gained back much or all of the earlier losses. Local 798's General Fund and the Pipeliners Voluntary Fund continue to be in good shape. If there is ever anything 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

# Business Agent Reports



AL, FL, GA, LA, MS  
918-991-5341

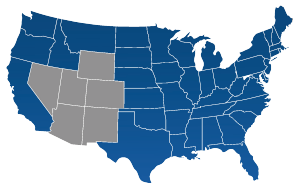


Jerry Dale Crabtree, Jr.

Since my last report, I have been spending numerous hours on the phone. I had the opportunity to visit with a few RMS hands in Grand Chenier, Louisiana. Work has been at a standstill in my jurisdiction, but I hope it will pick up as our country gets back to work after this pandemic.

Please remember that some Building Trades work is available. Pick up the phone, and call Dispatch for information. Also, it is still very important to take advantage of and participate in the Action Network. It is part of your obligation as a Local 798 member to advocate for our profession!

In closing, remember that I am always available and here to serve you, so do not hesitate to give me a call on my cell at (918) 991-5341. I hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe Independence Day. May God bless each one of you, and God bless this great Local.



AZ, CO, NM, NV, UT, WY  
918-398-3380



Justin Head

I hope this report finds everybody well. At the writing of this report, negotiations of our contract seemed to be complete. However, we are still waiting on the PLCA to sign. I thank Danny, Justin, and the UA Pipeline Department for the many hours spent getting a new contract put together. The nature of negotiations is a give and take, and that is what happened in these negotiations. Nobody likes change, but the times are changing. The non-union sector is more competitive than we have ever seen, and we have to embrace some of these changes in order to get the work.

I thank the members that signed our petition to Governor Brown in Oregon for the Jordan Cove Project, which includes the Pacific Connector Pipeline. I know it can seem monotonous signing multiple petitions for the same project, but it is necessary to get the point across. We ended with a little over 1,600 signatures. The signatures were mailed to Governor Brown's office the same day the Western States and Tribal Nations Advocacy Group took out a full-page article in the Portland newspaper urging the governor to build this project and put people to work. I am hopeful we will be able to get some feedback from the governor's office soon. Infrastructure has always been how this country

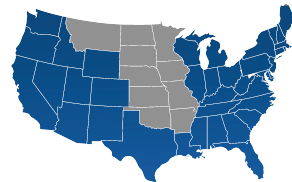
bounces back from hard times, and Jordan Cove is a great project to help do that.

The work in my area is still slow. The West generally seems to take a big hit when commodity prices fall. I still have some smaller jobs awarded that are pending scheduling. The maintenance work has also been slim, but the contractors still bid on new jobs as gas companies are starting to release some packages. I have been in contact with other locals out West, and at the moment, most of them are only maintaining enough work to keep their members busy. If that changes, I will be reaching out to try to help our sister locals when possible. If I can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to call!

## Pre-Jobs:

### Michels Pipeline:

- Casper, WY. Enbridge, Phase 2 Station piping and meter connect. Superintendent: Matt Ross. Welder Foreman: Joel Mills. Working 6-10s. High scale. Start date 6-15-20. Approx. completion 8-1-20.



AR, IA, KS, MN, MO, MT, NE, ND, OK, SD  
918-606-9459



Phillip Wallace

I write this Blue Light report at the beginning of the fourth month of the COVID-19 pandemic. This terrible virus could not have come at a worse time for pipeline workers that make their living away from home. The year 2020, was lined up to be the start of several big inch projects that we need so badly for this membership. I firmly believe if the virus hadn't been unleashed on us, the pipeline industry would have been rocking and rolling by early summer.

I just received word from Enbridge that the Line 3 replacement is pushed back to start this coming winter. In my opinion, the State of Minnesota has a governor and lieutenant governor who are not in favor of any pipeline infrastructure. However, Minnesota Limited has done fabrication on their three Line 3 pump stations, and Michels has finished fabrication on their five pump stations.

I do believe we will lay some Keystone XL mainline this year. Abercrombie did a great job building the mile and a half of 36" on the US-Canadian Border Crossing in Montana. This job started at the very beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, but the pipeliners overcame that hurdle and got the job done. I don't know who the contractors will be, but I have heard strong talk about doing Spread 9 and Spread 10 in Nebraska, and a possibility of a spread in South Dakota starting this summer.

It is the first week of June, and I have pre-jobbed 60 jobs this year. Half of those jobs are over, and about 30 are still going. The Integrity Maintenance work is still going strong but has not put a lot of hands to work. This is all in service, hot work, requiring anywhere from seven to ten weld tests to be able to work on most of these jobs.

I hope everyone stays healthy and safe. This virus is not over, and we will be living with this terrible situation for a long time. God Bless us all and stay safe.

## Pre-Jobs:

### Abercrombie Pipeline Services, LLC:

- Gascoyne, ND. 36" pipe cutting for TC Energy. Superintendent: Carmen Moody. Welder Foreman: John Gurkin. Steward: Kevin Davis.

### Charps, LLC:

- Lincoln, NE. 3,000' of 8" with launcher and receiver for NNG. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman: Richard Chancey. Steward: Casey Smith.
- Rosemount, MN. 4 miles of 4" demo for NNG. Superintendent: Josh Baily. Steward: Brad Applebee.

### Intercon Construction, Inc.:

- Cunningham, KS. 24" Cutouts and 1,500' of 24" HDD. Superintendent: Adam Kraus. Welder Foreman: Thomas Hall. Steward: Chuck Seale.

### McCizer Pipeline, Inc.:

- Malvern, AR. 10" & 12" Hydrotesting for Enable Midstream. Superintendent: Duey McCabe. Steward: Michael Haynes.

### Michels Pipeline:

- Fairbault, MN. 5,000' of 26" & 9,100' of 30" for NNG. Superintendent: Tim Tureson. Welder Foreman: Mark Uesery. Steward: Donnie Lindsey.
- Cedar Rapids, IA. Blanket work for Mid America Gas. Superintendent: Davde Neuleib. Welder Foreman: Jon Griswold. Steward: Dalton Clemmons.
- Louisville, NE. 16" valve setting & odorizer unit install for NNG. Welder Foreman: Dale Martin. Steward: Adam Conzemius.

### Northern Horizons, Inc.:

- Hugo, MN. 16" & 20" valve changeouts for NNG. Superintendent: Jason Mallon. Welder Foreman: Patrick McConaughy. Steward: Seth Dremmel.

### Philco Gathering Services:

- Bee Branch, AR. Compressor Changeouts for Flywheel. Superintendent: Phillip Coates. Welder Foreman: Curtis Mason. Steward: Tracy Lester.

### United Piping, Inc.:

- Holdrege, NE. Install Pig Traps and related piping 2"- 20" for Enbridge Energy. Superintendent: Jim Mitchel. Welder Foreman: Sam Chapman. Steward: David Pawloski.

### VEC, Inc.:

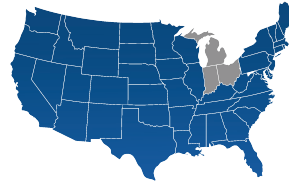
- Tescott, KS. Station Modifications and upgrades for NNG. Superintendent: Mike Telesz. Welder Foreman: Boucher Mooney. Steward: Clyde Smith.

calls, cards, gifts, and donations to various charities in Tuffy's name. I also thank Danny and Norma Hendrix, Phillip and Janie Wallace, Richie and Stacia Hayes, Charlie and Steff Yates, Chad and Crystal Gilbert, and Jason and Lori Miller for being there for me through this difficult time. Numerous people have asked me about making donations in Tuffy's name, and I think she would be proud for the donations to go to The Ladies of 798, since she was one of the six ladies that helped start it. The Lord has taken her home, so there is no more pain and suffering. And he will be watching over all of us. May God bless Local 798 and all its members.

## Pre-Jobs:

### Michels Pipeline:

- Bronson, TX. 22 miles of 30" Mainline for Boardwalk Pipeline. Superintendent: Gordon Cameron. Welder Foreman: Carl Overstreet, Jr. Market Recovery. Starting 5-26-20. Approx. completion 8-1-20.



IN, MI, OH  
918-270-6746



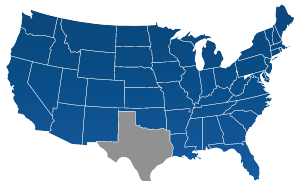
Charles Yates, Jr.

With the doors reopened at the union hall along with the training center and PIBF, it seems we are returning to normal. The new world of COVID-19 requires safe, appropriate guidelines that include social distancing, restricted large gatherings, and temperature checks. This is no time to let our guard down. If the 2020 quarantine taught us anything, our daily routine must include common sense and personal responsibility.

Along with the Corona virus battle, we also fight for our livelihood. Organized labor is up against imports, outsourcing, globalization, politics, corporations, right-to-work laws, and nonunion contractors. We cannot stay stuck in the past with our way of thinking. We have to adjust or get left behind. Pipeliners Local Union 798 is battling to retain our market share of the pipeline industry every day. I want to acknowledge Danny Hendrix, David Barnett, and the entire negotiating committee for the tireless number of hours they put into our new contract. These men have dedicated their lives to protecting and keeping Local 798 at the forefront of the pipeline industry. We now have a newly signed NPLA. There will be some things you may not like because most of us do not like change. I do not like change because once you lose something, it is tough to get it back, but I understand why it is necessary. Change is essential to stay ahead of the curve. Our contractors must stay competitive against nonunion for 798 to thrive. We have repeatedly emphasized that membership performance influences negotiations. Absenteeism, missed drug tests, productivity, quality, and safety all play a major part in our contracts. According to a member's recent social media post, there is a misconception that "The membership has no say in their contract." Nothing could be further from the truth. Members have an ultimate say in their contract negotiations. By simply delivering a better product EVERY DAY, our negotiating committee has better work records to bargain with.

I am proud to report the work in the central region is going very well with four major spreads and many smaller jobs with a bulk of maintenance work. All spreads of the Buckeye Express are now pre-jobbed and manning up. I want to welcome newly signed contractor John E. Green to our 798/UA family; we look forward to a long and productive partnership.

In closing, the country has a fresh start. It is a new start-up for us all personally and professionally. We need to get behind our new contract. Like it or not, it is our agreement until 2023. If we do not want to lose more verbiage in the next round, we must help ourselves. Overall, we made some gains in per diem and increases to our benefits package. The fact that we obtained new benefits during a contract negotiation is a plus considering unions have experienced decades of decline in voice and membership. The future of Pipeliners Local Union 798 remains strong. This new agreement makes our contractors more competitive. These contractors now need to implement strategies that trim a little of their own fat, reduce their profit margin a bit, and



TX  
918-633-3435



Black Schroeder

I hope everyone has stayed safe through this pandemic that has plagued the country. A lot of us have been through some very bad times.

My wife just lost her hard-fought battle with cancer. It has been very difficult for me after being together for the last 47 years. Tuffy was true 798; she stuck by me through thick and thin, never gave up hope or lost faith, stayed positive every single day, and kept saying everything was going to be OK. She enjoyed helping others and working hard at everything she did, and she will be missed every minute of every day. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members and friends for the thoughts and prayers, text messages, phone

use the leverage we have provided to bid more jobs, which will, in turn, offer more man-hours, more wages, and better benefits for our families. This is a commonsense solution and allocates responsibility for both sides.

If I can be of assistance, do not hesitate to call. Shop small, support union, and buy made in the USA.

## Pre-Jobs:

### Big Inch Fabricators and Construction:

- Howell, MI. Install separator, contact tower with associated piping and 2 anomalies, 250' of 20" for Energy Transfer-PanHandle Eastern Pipeline. Superintendent: Jim Shepler. Welder Foreman: Layne Richard. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-24-20.
- Remington, IN. Install 26" receiver, replace 3-26" valves and 2-26" tees for Energy Transfer/Trunkline Gas. Superintendent: Dallas Shepler. Welder Foreman: Troy Miller. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-4-20.

### Charps, LLC:

- East China, MI. Installation of 2-12" meters, a launcher, a receiver, and 1.25 miles of 24" lateral for Vector. Superintendent: Aaron Guthrie. Welder Foreman: Christopher Olson. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-31-20.

### Contractors Rental Corp dba CJ Hughes:

- Mount Gilead, OH. Install launcher and receiver, valve change-outs for TC Energy. Superintendent: Matt Hill. Welder Foreman: Matt Delik. Working 5-10s and 1-8. Approx. completion 9-11-20.
- East Sparta, OH. 3 miles of 12" lift and lay replacement for TC Energy. Superintendent: Jim Connor. Welder Foreman: Tim Schwendiman. Working 5-10s and 1-8. Approx. completion 9-2-20.

### Foltz Welding Ltd.:

- Pittsboro, IN. 600' of 30", 300' of 24" and 300' of 20" take-up, relay, and road locations for PanHandle/Energy Transfer. Superintendent: Chris Elliott. Welder Foreman: Quinton Curry. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-1-20.

### Geeding Construction, Inc.:

- Benton Harbor, MI. 1,000' of 10" HDD for Marathon. Superintendent: Andy Erbe. Welder Foreman: Walter Cole. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-17-20.
- Lima, OH. 8" line upgrades for Marathon. Superintendent: Logan Verslous. Welder Foreman: Brian Voytko. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 8-8-20.
- Toledo, OH. 6,000' of 8" and 12" reroute for Buckeye and Zenith. Superintendent: Logan Verslous. Welder Foreman: Stephen Miller. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-12-20.

### Henkels & McCoy, Inc.:

- Mancelona, MI. Install prefabricated skid for TC Energy. Superintendent: Bill Duren. Welder Foreman: Gary Mullin. Working 6-10s. Job complete.
- Kalkaska, MI. Replace 5-12" orifice meters with 3-12" USM tubes for TC Energy. Superintendent: Bruce Anderson. Welder Foreman: Anthony Ashby. Working 5-10s. Job complete.
- Beverly Hills, MI. 1,000' of 16" remove and replace for Consumers Energy. Superintendent: Gordon Donnally. Welder Foreman: Paul Mullin. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-30-20.

### Infrasource Construction, LLC:

- Muncie, IN. Maintenance change-outs and station work replacing 12" with 1,344' of 16", approx. 600' of 16" via HDD, retrofit station 8" and 12", and replace 8" with approx. 1,645' of 12" in various locations for Vectren. Superintendent: Kyle Biggs. Welder Foreman: Aaron Shaw. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 10-30-20.
- Columbia City, IN. Casing removal project of various sizes in Indiana counties: Lake, Fulton, LaPorte, and St. Joseph for NIPSCO. Superintendent: Clark DeGroot. Welder Foreman: James Gumpert. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 10-31-20.

### John E. Green Co.:

- East China, MI. 700' of 16" pipeline tap, road crossing, filter separator and valve station for DTE Gas. Superintendent: Lisa Lisecki. Welder Foreman: Stephen Downer. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 10-1-20.

### KS Energy Services, Inc.:

- Clarksville, IN. 900' of 16" replacement and tie-ins with HDD for Vectren. Superintendent: Tim Baldrige. Welder Foreman: Rusty

Wallace. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-10-20.

### Minnesota Limited, Inc.:

- Centerville, OH. 16" launcher/receiver installation and 6" launcher/receiver installation for Vectren. Superintendent: Fred Leisure. Welder Foreman: Ilya Kalinin. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-1-20.
- Lafayette, IN. Take-up 1,300' of 6", install 2,100' of 12" and 8" piping, and filter regulator station for Vectren. Superintendent: Tommy Alexander. Welder Foreman: Robert Turner. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-8-20.
- Evansville, IN. Station modifications: 2"- 30" launcher/receiver piping modifications in 5 job locations for TC Energy. Superintendent: Doug Vaughn. Welder Foreman: Ryan Turner. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-11-20.
- Wixom, MI. Remove and replace approximately 3,600' of 30" piping for DTE. Superintendent: Wes Bogard. Welder Foreman: Cody Dye. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-31-20.

### NPL Construction Co.:

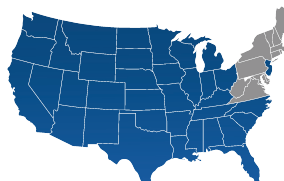
- Mishawaka, IN. 16" integrity work for NIPSCO. Superintendent: Nick Sturwold. Welder Foreman: Seth Dyas. Working 5-10s. Job complete.

### Price-Gregory International:

- Oak Hill, OH. Buckeye Express Project-Spread 1: 24.5 miles of 36" for TC Energy/Columbia Gas. Superintendent: Todd Burleson. Welder Foreman: Jeremy Padgett. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 10-31-20.

### United Piping, Inc.:

- Dillonvale, OH. Subsidence remediation at the TEAL Compressor Station (installing I-beams and structural work). Superintendent: Bob Humphrey. Welder Foreman: George Houston. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-1-20.



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

David Butterworth



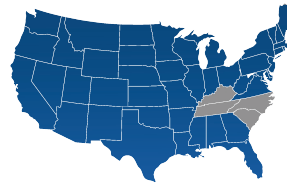
The work in the Northeast is beginning to pick up somewhat, but it's still slower than the previous three work seasons. At this time, there have been 55 jobs pre-jobbed or amended. For the entire year of 2019, that number was 125. These numbers show that this year looks to be similar to last year. Most of these 55 jobs are small Integrity Maintenance projects or small gathering projects that don't employ the large number of people it takes to man a mainline project.

I think projects like this are going to be prevalent as our industry moves forward. It is imperative that we give our contractors a fair day's work on projects where the non-union competition is stiff, and there's not much money left on the table. This needs to happen on every job we work. The 42" mainline projects (Mountain Valley Pipeline and Atlantic Coast Pipeline) are still trying to press forward and will probably do some work in 2020, but they face many obstacles related to highly scrutinized permits. The delay tactics employed by environmental lawyers and left-wing judges have caused both projects' budgets to swell. ACP's budget has grown from \$5.1 billion to \$8 billion, and MVP'S budget has gone from \$3 billion to \$5.5 billion. It seems almost weekly another lawyer files a lawsuit against the government agencies involved in the permit process.

The opposition has a plan, and it is working. We also need to have a plan. We need to make our voice heard through our Action Network by writing letters to our state and federal representatives; attending town hall meetings; attending Senate and House hearings where anti-pipeline bills are involved; and speaking out against the falsehoods and inaccuracies that spew from the other side. I am currently doing this every chance I get, but we need your

support. It's time for us to become more knowledgeable about what is happening around us because we are under attack, and it's real. If you are not doing any of these things, then you need to start. If you are currently doing this, I applaud you. As a local union and as an industry, it's time to do everything possible to let our voices be heard.

I'm not sure when MVP will start back again, but the current talk is July. I have had my heart broken many times by the permit issues on the MVP, so take that prediction with a grain of salt. Also, by the time you read this report, we should have a new National Pipeline Agreement. I want to thank Danny, David, Justin, Chad, and all the negotiation committee members who worked hundreds of hours to negotiate a fair contract that we can all follow and abide by for the next three years.



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



## Chris Lancaster

### Pre-Jobs:

#### Appalachian Pipeline Contractors, LLP:

- Strasburg, VA. Hydrotest 12,350' of 26", take-up and re-lay 5,086' of 26", and 4,427' of 36". Superintendent: Anthony Campbell. Welder Foreman: Jacob Lancaster. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### InfraSource Construction, LLC:

- Springfield, MA. Emergency weld repairs to 380' of 16" steel and 380' of 6" steel hanging on bridge. Superintendent: Jason Nash. Welder Foreman: Tracy Johnson. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Michels Pipeline:

- Carmichaels, PA. 100' of 30" casing bore. Superintendent: Paul Yeakel. Welder Foreman: Gavin Shuman. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.
- Port Jervis, NY. Class change by hydrotesting 6,729' of 20" pipeline and replace two 4" valves. Superintendent: Todd Bradshaw. Welder Foreman: Dick Swiger. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Minnesota Limited, Inc.:

- Burgettstown, PA. Resume pipeline construction on 1.6 miles of 16", 1 mile of 12". Superintendent: Dustin Adams. Welder Foreman: Brian Fox. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.
- Wind Ridge, PA. 3,715' of 36" and 3,810' of 30" replacements and modifications. Superintendent: Duane Carlson. Welder Foreman: Mike Boyett. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Otis Eastern Service, Inc:

- Brockway, PA. 10 miles of 12" replacement. Superintendent: Butch Niedermaier. Welder Foreman: Roy Dry. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Precision Pipeline:

- Bridgeport, WV. Cut out 800' of 42" for slip repair. Superintendent: Brad Moser. Welder Foreman: Jimmy Dick. Mainline rates. Working 5-8s.

#### VEC, Inc.:

- Locations in MD, OH and PA. Replacement of regulation runs and piping. Superintendent: Sean Wilster. Welder Foreman: Ryan Brady. Integrity rates. Working 6-10s.

As I'm sure you are aware, the country is still plagued with COVID-19. Although things are beginning to return to a partial state of normality, we are still having issues getting some work started. I have been fortunate to be able to pre-job a few jobs in Tennessee and North Carolina, and Latex has started the 38 miles of 20" in North Carolina. There are several more jobs in my area waiting to start. Hopefully, they will begin as soon as the COVID-19 threat lessens.

We are still in a battle over many of our major projects, with the environmental groups finding new ways to stall these projects. If possible, let's keep signing the petitions and going to the town hall meetings. We need everyone's support to help get the permits for ACP, Line 3, Keystone XL, and several other projects. I'm sure you are getting tired of hearing about advocating for these jobs, but we must keep pushing for our jobs and the right to work.

I thank Danny, David, Chad, and all the negotiating team for all their hard work in getting us a new agreement. They have put in many hours under unusual circumstances due to COVID-19 in order to get the best agreement. Thanks to them, we have a good, new three-year agreement.

If I can be of help, don't hesitate to call.

### Pre-Jobs:

#### B&G Pipeline Company:

- Van Wyck, SC. 22,268' of 12". Welder Foreman: Naaman Warren. Superintendent: Samuel Wilson. Special Agreement. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-17-20.

#### InfraSource Construction, LLC:

- Florence, KY. 23,875' of 24" and 2,640' of 8". Welder Foreman: Shane Sheffield. Superintendent: Glenn Seik. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 10-20-20.

#### Latex Construction Company:

- Bunn, NC. 38 miles of 20". Welder Foreman: Wayne Bates. Superintendent: Bill Burt. Market Recovery. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 10-1-20.

#### Contractors Rental Corp dba CJ Hughes:

- Mt. Juliet, TN. 4,800' of 30" replacement. Welder Foreman: Dave Salzgeber. Superintendent: Chris Card. Market Recovery. Working 5-10s and one 8. Market Recovery. Approx. completion 7-30-20.

#### Snelson Companies, Inc.:

- Wilder, KY. 8-20" tie-ins and 600' of demo. Welder Foreman: Ronald Danner. Superintendent: Jeff Gregory. Integrity Maintenance. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-18-20.



Route 147 bridge job for Columbia Gas of Massachusetts in Springfield, MA.

# PIBF Report



Renée Vause

Director

## MDLIVE - Virtual Medical Visit Option

The MDLIVE program launched May 1, 2020. Hopefully, you have all registered and set up a profile for you and your dependents to use should you need the service. It is a great idea to do this in advance of your first virtual visit. As a reminder, this is a virtual medical visit program offered by BlueCross BlueShield for active and COBRA participants and for participants where PIBF is the primary coverage. This program will give 24/7/365 access to speak to a doctor from any location. Co-payment for this service will be \$15 per visit. This co-payment will not count toward your annual medical benefits deductible or out-of-pocket expense limit. It will be eligible for reimbursement under the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) by submitting your Explanation of Benefits (EOB) with a completed HRA Claim Form. Details about the program and instructions on how to participate have been mailed to the membership. In addition, you should have received a new Medical ID card listing the MDLIVE information.

## Informational Videos Available at [www.pibf.org](http://www.pibf.org)

In a continuing effort to provide support to the membership 24/7/365, PIBF has posted tutorials on our website to assist with some commonly asked questions. Please check back periodically for additional information as we post more helpful videos. Current videos available are:

- Accessing the member portal through the Members Login
- Address changes through the member portal
- Adding a shortcut to the member portal to your iPhone or other mobile device

The videos and/or step by step instructions are available at [www.pibf.org](http://www.pibf.org) in our "Quick Links" section and under the "Forms" tab.

## COBRA and Other Deadlines Extended

Due to recent announcements by federal agencies, you may qualify for an extension to elect COBRA coverage, make a COBRA payment, or remit certain documentation to the Plan. Please read the following information to see if you qualify.

Certain deadlines that fall within the "Outbreak Period", which began on March 1, 2020, and will end 60 days after the announced end of the COVID-19 National Emergency (up to one year), will be suspended during this period. Examples are included below to help you understand how this extension works. However, keep in mind that you will not have COBRA coverage unless and until we receive your election and all payments that are due. If an election or payment is not received, COBRA coverage will be terminated. Once we receive your election and all payments that are due (provided we receive them by the extended due date), your coverage will be retroactively reinstated, and claims incurred will be processed under the rules of the Plan.

### Affected Periods and Examples of Extended Due Dates

The following deadlines must be "suspended" during the Outbreak Period:

- (1) HIPAA Special Enrollment Period - the 30-day or 60-day period in which employees and dependents may request special enrollment in the Plan when there is a new dependent due to marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, or a loss of eligibility for other group health coverage.
- (2) COBRA Election Period - the 60-day period, after receiving a COBRA election notice, in which an eligible participant may elect COBRA coverage.

*Example:* Assume you received a COBRA election notice on January 31, 2020, with a 60-day period ending March 31, 2020, in which to elect COBRA coverage. You failed to make a timely election under these rules that normally apply and had your Plan coverage terminated. Under the new extension rules, the 31 days of the election period that remained as of March 1, 2020, must now be extended at the end of the Outbreak Period. For instance, if the Outbreak Period ends on July 1, 2020, you will have 31 days from July 1, 2020, in which to elect COBRA coverage.

- (3) Due Date for Notifying Group Health Plan of Qualifying Event or Determination of Disability - the 60-day period in which an eligible participant must notify the Plan of certain qualifying events, such as divorce or a child losing dependent status (other deadlines apply for notifying the Plan of a disability for purposes of extending COBRA coverage).
- (4) Due Date for Paying COBRA Premium/Self-Payment - the 45-day period after COBRA coverage is elected for making the initial payment, and the 30-day period for making subsequent payments for monthly COBRA coverage.

*Example:* Assume your COBRA coverage is terminated during the Outbreak Period due to non-payment of the required COBRA premium. You will now have additional time, based on the payment period or portion thereof that falls within the Outbreak Period, in which to make the required payments. For instance if you had COBRA coverage that was terminated effective May 1, 2020, due to nonpayment of the monthly COBRA premium and the Outbreak Period ends on August 1, 2020, you will have 30 days from August 1, 2020, in which to pay all outstanding monthly COBRA premiums (for May, June, July, and August 2020 coverage).

- (5) Due Date for Filing Benefit Claim Under Plan's Claims Procedure - the maximum period allowed to submit an initial claim for benefits.
- (6) Due Date for Filing Appeal of Adverse Benefit Determination Under Plan's Appeal Procedure - the 180-day period to appeal a denied claim.




## Featured Personnel



Michelle Landtroop is the Health and Welfare EDI coordinator and has worked for PIBF for 19 years. She enjoys camping, cooking, crafting, music, and spending time with family and friends. Michelle has been married to her husband Bryon for 30 years and has two adult sons Cody 29, Caleb 24, and one precious granddaughter Sophia. Michelle wants the membership to know that "Working at PIBF has truly been a blessing to me. I work with a great team, and we have a wonderful membership that we strive to help each day. PIBF is our home away from home. Thank you to the members of Local 798 for working so hard and for the opportunity to serve you."



Liz Jewell has been with PIBF for the past 18 years serving our membership. Liz is a Senior Claims processor, working with short term disability claims and coordination of benefits (COB) claims. She has 15-year-old twin daughters, Violet and Victoria. In 2016, she married Jason and gained two daughters, Samantha and Boston, and then her family was blessed with two grandsons, four-year-old Lawson and Dayton who was born earlier this year. When she is not working, she enjoys being with her family and antique shopping with her daughters. Liz also enjoys her pets and sitting on the patio watching the birds. She is also a documentary junkie! Liz enjoys being with her co-workers, talking to the members daily, and helping them with any issues. "PIBF is my second family and I am thankful to the membership for working so hard to allow us to be here."

 918.280.4800

 [www.PIBF.org](http://www.PIBF.org)

 Renée Vause - Director

### Membership Contact Information Update

To maintain accurate records, we ask that you take a moment to verify your contact information on file with the Local Union 798 office and make any corrections, if needed. You may verify or make corrections to your contact information by signing into the Member Login section of our website at [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org). You may also complete the Address/Change Form that will be mailed to the membership and return it to the Local Union 798 office.



The September/October issue of the Blue Light Reports will honor our devoted members who have been a member for 25 years or more. If you would like to have your photo published, please email a clear photo to [information@local798.org](mailto:information@local798.org), or mail to Pipeliners Local 798, Attn: Blue Light, P.O. Box 470798, Tulsa, OK 74147. Please have all photos submitted by August 7, 2020, to be published.

# Meeting Notice

## September 11, 2020

The regular September Membership Meeting will be held at the Pipeliners Local 798 Union Hall, 4823 S. 83rd E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74145, on Friday, September 11, 2020, beginning at 7 p.m. CST.

***SPECIAL BUSINESS: Nomination and Election of an Election Committee and Nominations for UA Convention Delegates.*** *The Election Committee will oversee the 2020 Election of Convention Delegates for the 2021 UA Convention. Therefore, Election Committee Members will not be eligible to seek election as a Convention Delegate.*

**Nomination and Election of an Election Committee:** As provided in the Local 798 Constitution & By-Laws under Article XVII, Elections, Section 7: "For each general election for officers or convention delegates, an Election Committee consisting of three (3) members will be nominated and elected at the nominating meeting. The member with the highest number of votes shall be Chairman of said committee, or, if no such plurality exists, the Committee shall appoint its own Chairman. The nominating meeting will be held at least one meeting prior to the election meeting. Its term of office shall be for that election only."

Any member who has been in continuous good standing for the two years prior to election is eligible to run for Election Committee. Nominations will be accepted on the floor at the membership meeting. In addition, letters of nomination may be submitted via fax to (918) 627-9327, via email to [information@local798.org](mailto:information@local798.org), or via mail to PO Box 470798, Tulsa, OK 74147. Faxed, emailed, and mailed nominations must be submitted by 12 noon CST on Friday, September 11, 2020. It is the nominator's responsibility to verify that the nomination has been received in the Local 798 office.

All nominees must sign a nomination acceptance letter. Nomination acceptance letters should be submitted prior to the start of the September 11, 2020, membership meeting. Letters can be submitted via fax to (918) 627-9327, via email to [information@local798.org](mailto:information@local798.org), or via mail to PO Box 470798, Tulsa, OK 74147. It is the nominee's responsibility to verify that the nomination acceptance letter has been received by the Local 798 office.

The secret ballot election will be conducted during the September 11, 2020, membership meeting. Election Committee Members will not be eligible to run for Convention Delegate and should plan to attend a meeting on Saturday, September 12, 2020, at 9 a.m. CST at the Local 798 office.

See the Nomination and Election Notice for Convention Delegates located elsewhere within this issue of the Blue Light Reports for information concerning the Nomination and Election procedures for Convention Delegates.

### Ladies of 798 Hospitality

The Ladies of 798 Hospitality will be held at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel at 6808 S. 107th E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74133, beginning at 6 p.m. CST on Friday, September 11, 2020.

### Hotel Accommodations

The Renaissance Tulsa Hotel has graciously offered a discounted room rate of \$97-137/night. To make reservations, please call (918) 307-2600. Make sure you indicate you would like Pipeliners Local Union 798 rate.

## Nominations for Local 798 2021 Convention Delegates/Alternates

This notice provides important information regarding the nomination process for the upcoming Local 798 2021 U.A. General Convention Delegates. If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the Union Hall.

### Nominations

1. A meeting to nominate convention delegates will be held on Friday, September 11, 2020, starting at 7 p.m. CST, at the Pipeliners Local 798 Union Hall, 4823 S. 83rd E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74145.
2. No Local 798 member shall be eligible as a convention delegate or alternate unless they have been a good standing member of the Local Union which they are to represent for at least two (2) continuous years previous to their election and they remain in good standing from the date of their election through the period of the convention. The date of the "election" for purposes of determining eligibility to serve as a convention delegate or alternate is October 21, 2020. Thus, if a member is not eligible as described above as of October 21, 2020, they will not be eligible to run for convention delegate or alternate.
3. Nominations for convention delegates will be accepted from the floor at the nominations meeting. A candidate may nominate their self and need not have a second. If a member is not present at the meeting, they may be nominated or nominate their self by sending written notice of their acceptance of nomination as a convention delegate. Such written notice may be delivered by hand, mail, or facsimile to the Local 798 office, or by email to [nominations@local798.org](mailto:nominations@local798.org). Written notice must be received in the Local 798 Union Hall in Tulsa, OK, no later than 12 noon CST on the day of nominations, Friday, September 11, 2020. (Please note that the email address for nominations will be activated on July 1, 2020, and deactivated at 12 noon CST on Friday, September 11, 2020.) The names of all candidates received by this deadline will be announced at the nominations meeting.
4. Under Section 504 of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act ("LMRDA"), a member who has been convicted of certain crimes may not hold office or serve as a convention delegate 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.
5. The Election Committee will conduct a candidate's meeting on Saturday, September 12, 2020. All candidates and their observers are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be conducted at the Local 798 Union Hall, 4823 S. 83rd E. Ave., Tulsa, OK 74145, and will start at 10 a.m. CST.



## ORGANIZING Report

By Ronnie Hill

918-284-6862

etc. Those who wish to stop our work never rest, therefore we must not either. They are continually spreading rumors and misinformation about pipelines and pipeline workers, and it is up to us to educate those who will listen.

Our 4th of July holiday will be coming up soon, and I wish each of you a safe, happy holiday. Be careful and always observant during uncertain times. If I can assist anyone in any way, please don't hesitate to call. Work safe, be productive, and show the world what Local 798 is capable of doing.

Fraternally,  
Ronnie M. Hill

I hope this report finds everyone doing well. This year has had a difficult start, that's for sure. First, the COVID-19 virus, then the market was reeling, coupled with falling oil prices. As if that wasn't enough, now we are witnessing unrest across our country from violent protests. Hopefully, by the time you receive this report, we will have returned to some state of normality, which will certainly be welcome and long overdue. It is time to get Americans back on the job sites to not only provide for our families but to begin rebuilding what has been lost or destroyed.

On a better note, it's always good to know that we have successfully negotiated a new contract with our partners at the PLCA. I want to congratulate Danny, Justin, David Barnett, and all those on the negotiating committee for a job well done. Their hard work and commitment to this organization and its members are second to none. It is an honor to know and have the opportunity to work with such dedicated individuals. I can personally say with confidence that not an hour passes by on any given day that each of them doesn't have the welfare of our local union and its membership in their hearts and minds.

I am confident the new contract will serve both sides equally well. On our side, it will provide fair wages with benefits. On the contractor's side, the new agreement will provide profits and also a competitive edge to secure more work for our membership. We have always enjoyed a good working relationship with our PLCA members, and it's always been more like a partnership. Therefore, we will always strive to provide them with the most highly skilled and productive pipeliners in the industry.

The work in this area has slowed considerably. Hopefully, now that much of the country is reopening, the work can get back up and running again. Our contractors have work on the books, and we expect an upturn in events.

Please stay focused on all efforts to promote our work through the Action Network, membership meetings, etc. Those who wish to stop our work never rest, therefore we must not either. They are continually spreading rumors and misinformation about pipelines and pipeline workers, and it is up to us to educate those who will listen.

Our 4th of July holiday will be coming up soon, and I wish each of you a safe, happy holiday. Be careful and always observant during uncertain times. If I can assist anyone in any way, please don't hesitate to call. Work safe, be productive, and show the world what Local 798 is capable of doing.



## DISPATCH Report

By Ricky Jones

918-610-2761

*your last dispatch or Contractor Hire, if you notify the Dispatch Office within five (5) business days after your termination or layoff. **All hours on which benefits are paid that will be included in the count.***

*If you quit a job, or are terminated for drug, alcohol, safety, attendance or environmental policy infractions, or if you acquire a layoff where in your position must be replaced by dispatch, you will be required to obtain a new Out-of-Work Date. If layoff is for medical reasons and the Business Agent in the jurisdiction of the job has approved the medical layoff or a worker compensation claim and you call in within five (5) business days of termination and work less than your time, then you will be put on the Sick List subject to the "illness" rules.*

*If you miss a welding test or have been terminated for bad welds, you may resume the same Out-of-Work Date you had, if you notify the Dispatch Office within five (5) business days (**including Contract Hires or testing in another Local's jurisdiction**).*

*When you hire yourself out directly to a contractor performing pipeline work, whether or not such work is within Local 798's territorial jurisdiction, you will be REMOVED from the Out-of-Work List effective as of your first day of work for the Contractor.*

Please be aware of the policy before it costs you a lot of money by making a mistake. A job that may not be good for you could be perfect for someone else and vice versa. The entire Local 798 Dispatch Policy can be found on the web site at [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org). If you have any questions call Dispatch at (918) 610-2761. We will be glad to help.

We do expect building trades to improve by July, so keep your UA certs up to date and know where your OSHA 10 card is.

1,560 Welders

230 Journeymen

1,830 Helpers

# Short & Personal

## THANK YOU

**Dakota Sanders** thanks the 798 Voluntary Fund and everyone that contributes to it for the help he received recently. Special thanks to Carroll Morris, Van Smith, Jayson Lambert, Chris Hathcoat, James Wood, Stacy Hale, Danny Hendrix, and Justin Wallace. It is great to be part of such a great organization.

**Gary Pohlman** thanks you for the check that was sent to him. It means so much to know that people as kind as you are out there. God Bless.

**Jason Terrell** thanks you for helping him and his family during their time of need. Special thanks to Jeff and Chrissy Park for writing the letter.

**Formander A. Shears** thanks Local 798 and all the members who support the Voluntary Fund. He really appreciated the help he received.

**David and Sonya Hall** thank you for the gift they received from the Voluntary Fund in their time of sorrow. Thank you to all the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Charles Stiles, Rodney Kilgore, Steven Morris, Brady Schreibvogel, and all the members who took time to sign a letter for the gift they received.

**John and Kelsey Lavender** thank all the members who contacted them during their time of loss of John's father, Richard Lavender, a retired 798 welder. Special thanks to Richard Warren and his family for writing a letter on their behalf.

**Rodney Davis** thanks the leadership and everyone that contributes to the Pipeliners Voluntary Fund. He also thanks Donald Ray Barrows for his friendship and offers to help after falling and fracturing his pelvis. Rodney has been a member of this union since he was 18 years old and will be until the day he dies. 798 is the best, and it will continue to be.

**Frank Tevepaugh** thanks everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the money he received for his knee replacement surgery. It was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Skip Todd.

**Don and Chrissy Hawkins** thank the Voluntary Fund for remembering them during Chrissy's second round of cancer. They are thankful to be a part of such a great local and are truly blessed. Special thanks to Summer Hawkins, their beautiful daughter.

**Freddie Langston, Jr.** thanks Roger Wheeler and Local 798 for the Voluntary Fund during this trying time.

**Lawrence F. Motty** thanks everyone who has given to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to all that wrote a letter on his behalf.

**Justin and Hannah Kidd** thank all members that contribute to Voluntary Fund for making the experience of adopting their first child greater. Collin is doing great and is a true blessing to their family. Special thanks to Jerry Dale Crabtree.

**Harriet Bieri** thanks 798 for Jacob Bieri-Brintnall's scholarship. He is the grandson of Stanley Bieri, a member since 1953 until his death in 2016. He was proud to be a pipeline welder.

**The Arnette Family** thank all the members who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. It is nice to know they have the 798 family to help them in their time of need. Special thanks to Jamie and Rodney.

**Kathy and James Hathorn** thank the Voluntary Fund for the much-needed assistance. They got hit by a storm, and Kathy also had a medical problem around the same time. He has always been proud to be a member of Local 798, and one of the reasons for that pride is the way the organization rises to assist the membership in times of difficulty.

**Pat Gros** thanks everybody for the Voluntary Fund money and the wonderful life this union has provided for her and her late husband, Wally Gros. Wally was a firm believer in the union and in the Voluntary Fund. He always made sure he had cash on hand to contribute weekly. He loved his Brothers and Sisters and believed in everything the union stood for. He was union to his core and was proud of the work he accomplished.

**Stanley Chapman** thanks Danny Hendrix and all who donate to the Pipeliners Voluntary Fund for their generosity. Special thanks to his friends, too many to name, for their letter on his behalf after the passing of his wife, Barbara.

**Bart and Devra Moser** thank all Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 for contributing to the Voluntary Fund. The check they received was thoughtful and helpful following his hip surgery.

**Art and June Roberts** are very grateful to the Pipeliners Voluntary Fund and the members for the generous check to help them after Art's heart surgery and his stroke. It is people like yourselves that exemplify the many other people who care for others.

**Michael and Ethel Blanchard** thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund in this special time of need as his wife, Ethel, has been going through chemo. The gift has helped with medical expenses.

**Orlando Halwood and Family** thank you for the help given to them when their 11-month-old daughter was hospitalized for a week. The funding provided during that time was much appreciated. They hope everyone is staying safe during this pandemic.

**Glynn Carroll** thanks the Voluntary Fund for the recent financial assistance he received. He also thanks all those who work hard and make the Fund possible.

**Jim Bellinghausen** thanks all who contribute to make the Voluntary Fund possible. He is humbled to be a recipient, and the money received went to hospital bills. Special thanks to Matt Delashmutt, Paul Helgaland, and Danny Hendrix.

**Glenda McKeown** expresses her appreciation for the financial assistance from the Local 798 Voluntary Fund. She also thanks all the Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Fund. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Justin Wallace.

**The Brian Gavin Family** thanks all the pipeline family for contributing to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Andy Hunt and David Butterworth for acknowledging the grief that came with the loss of Brian's mother-in-law.

**Ray and Royce Walden** thank the members of Local 798 who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the help received after Ray's recent surgery. Special thanks to Eddie Newby.

**Brian and Jordan Sutherland** thank the 798 Brothers and Sisters who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. They are so grateful for the donations during this difficult time.

**Harold E. L'Hote, Jr.** expresses his heartfelt thanks for the help he received following the passing of his son. He is forever grateful for the Voluntary Fund and to all those who contribute. God Bless.

**Harold E. L'Hote Sr. and Diana L'Hote** thank the Brothers and Sisters of the Voluntary Fund for the support they gave his son, Harold L'Hote, Jr., after the sudden death of his son, our grandson, due to a heart attack. It was very much needed and appreciated.

**Danny and Lynn Poole** thank everyone who donates to the Voluntary Fund and those who decided to help them. The tornado damage at their place was bad, and they appreciate the financial help. Special thanks to Debbie Plaster and Jimmy Dodd.

**Jenny and Billy Beach** thank Local 798 for the help during a difficult time. Thank you to everyone that donates to the Voluntary Fund.

**Lanny and Sherry Ware** thank you for the help from the Voluntary Fund and to all the people that give their money to the Fund. It helped during Lanny's recent hospitalization. Special thanks to Leon Loggins.

**Keve Blacksher** thanks everyone who contributes to and is affiliated with the Voluntary Fund. It was greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Mac Doyle.

**Todd Hartle** thanks all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund, as it truly blessed his family during their hardship after both Todd and his daughter's surgery. Special thanks to Hershel Mason, Karmen Mason, Brett Mason, and Phillip Wallace.

## RETIREMENTS

**Richard W. Bailey**, Helper, Haynesville, LA

**Connie J. Cordova Monden**, Helper, Stinnett, TX

**Don K. Denton**, Welder, Sulphur, LA

**Jackie L. Drennan**, Helper, Caddo, OK

**Craig E. Easley**, Welder, Denver, CO

**Samuel L. Evans**, Welder, Charlotte, NC

**Robert V. Florez**, Helper, Troy, PA

**Mark J. Halliday**, Helper, Hope, AR

**Chrystal B. Hawkins**, Helper, Bastop, LA

**Allen S. Hiester**, Helper, Millerton, PA

**Erika H. Hoglund**, Helper, Callensburg, PA

**Gaston Hurtado**, Helper, Tucson, AZ

**George E. Kingsland**, Welder, Pardeeville, WI

**Daniel R. Leglise**, Helper, Dennison, OH

**Mitchell Pendergraft**, Spacer, Sioux Falls, SD

**Jim A. Rini**, Welder, New Philadelphia, OH

**Paula L. Roberts**, Helper, Coudersport, PA

**Danny R. Rogers**, Welder, Live Oak, FL

**Cecil H. Shelton**, Spacer, Flora, IL

**Carlos U. Suarez**, Welder, Houston, TX

**Thomas J. Szpara**, Helper, West Seneca, NY

**Charles E. Thrasher**, Welder, Ethel, MS

**Richard S. Warren**, Welder, Clarksville, AR

**Rodger W. Williams IV**, Welder, Adamstown, MD

## IN MEMORIAM

**Coy W. Edwards**, 85-year-old Retired Welder of Holdenville, OK, passed away April 10, 2020.

**Wallace J. Gros Jr.**, 65-year-old Retired Welder of Sulphur, LA, passed away April 10, 2020.

**Allie W. Allison**, 88-year-old Retired Welder of Selmer, TN, passed away May 2, 2020.

**Samuel W. Shadrix**, 84-year-old Retired Welder of Lineville, AL, passed away May 4, 2020.

**Kenny N. Sweetin**, 39-year-old Helper of Hartshorne, OK, passed away May 11, 2020.

**Dusty W. Hampton**, 41-year-old Spacer of Kerrville, TX, passed away May 16, 2020.

**David L. Coleman**, 46-year-old Helper of Galloway, OH, passed away May 19, 2020.

**Harvey J. Besneatte**, 71-year-old Retired Helper of Laramie, WY, passed away May 21, 2020.

## SWAP & SELL

**The Hood Fan:** The hood fan cools and defogs. Hood fans for scoops and pancakes. \$36 includes mail fee. Contact John Russell via call or text at (903) 609-2458.

**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.



**XXL Pipeline/Abercrombie Job in Montana and Canada. This is the Pipeline marker on the Border.**

**L-R Zeb Cooper, Derek Devitt, Tim Elliott, in US, and Loren Ulrickson, Ryan Roberts in Canada.**

# 2019-2020 Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarship Recipients

The Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program is pleased to announce the following winners. These students successfully completed the scholarship program requirements and were selected as the highest-ranking applicants. The recipients were chosen by an independent evaluator that scored the applicants according to factors such as their grade point average, the difficulty level of their academic program, the strength of their recommendation letters, and the overall assessment of their essay.

Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients, and to all of our candidates who are expanding their opportunities through the pursuit of higher education. Thanks also go to our contributors to the Voluntary Fund who have made this program possible.

## Harry H. Faucett, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Winner



**Madison Hurt** is from Saint Amant, Louisiana, and is the daughter of Michele and Joseph Hurt. Her father, is an 11-year Welder member of Pipeliners Local 798. Madison is currently enrolled at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in the clinical nursing program.

While attending Sant Amant High School, Madison was an honor student, as well as a member of the Lady Gator varsity softball team. She participated in dual enrollment classes through Southeastern University and earned 15 college credits while completing her high school courses. She was named as the recipient of the Honesty and Integrity Award through New River Lodge No. 402 F. & A.M. in Gonzales, LA, and received the Dean's scholarship through FranU for her academic achievements. As a college student, Madison has maintained a 4.0 GPA and has completed 63 credit hours in her first three semesters.

Madison enjoys hunting, fishing, and traveling in her spare time and volunteers at the Baton Rouge Food Bank and Sunrise Living Home in Baton Rouge. Her plans are to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and continuing her nursing education by pursuing her Master of Science degree in nursing. Her long-term goal is to become a family nurse practitioner.

## General Scholarship Winners

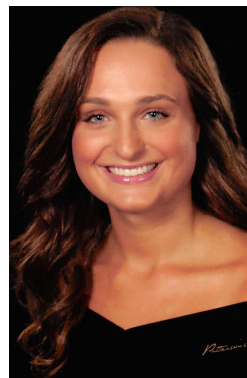


**David Arnold** is the son of 798 Welder member Doy and Annette Knight and Gene and Tammy Arnold. He graduated from Pangburn High School in 2008 and quickly began work as a welder's helper, becoming a member of 798 later that summer. He alternated between working pipeline and going to school at Arkansas State University-Beebe, where he first met his wife. In the spring of 2010, he joined the US Army as a helicopter avionics, electronics, and armament repairman. David went to basic training that September followed by AIT until July of 2011. He served a total of six years in the Army, separating as a Sergeant, spending time stationed in Virginia, Hawaii, North Carolina, and one-year deployment

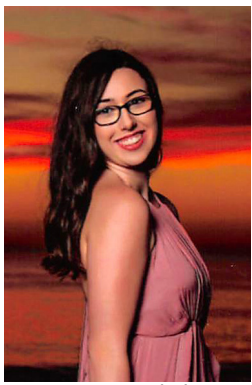
to Afghanistan in 2012-2013. He began dating his wife in 2014 while stationed in North Carolina. The couple got engaged on July 4, 2015, and married on April 29, 2016. He separated from the Army on August 16, 2016, and drove 15 hours to begin classes at the University of Central Arkansas on August 17. In August 2018, David graduated summa cum laude with his bachelor's degree in health science. He was accepted into the Doctor of Physical Therapy program and began graduate school that same month. He plans to graduate in August 2021. He has an interest in orthopedic physical therapy with a goal to specialize in that setting in the future. While he was in the military, he earned the Army Achievement Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, graduated from Air Assault School, and received the Kiowa Warrior Maintainer Bronze Award from Bell Helicopter. He is a member of Alpha Chi Honor Society. David says his biggest accomplishment to date is convincing the love of his life to spend the rest of her life with him.



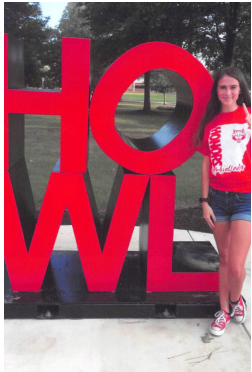
**Jacob Bieri-Brintnall** is currently finishing his junior year at Michigan Technological University where he is pursuing a degree in chemical engineering. He lived in the Traverse City, MI area until he transferred to Michigan Tech in the spring of 2019. His family has a strong affiliation with unions as his parents, aunts, and uncles are members of unions for their respective professions. Much of this belief in unions can be traced to his grandfather, Stanley Bieri, who was a member of Pipeliners Local Union 798 from 1951 until his passing in 2016. Jacob has maintained high grades throughout his academic career, graduating as valedictorian of his high school class and making the Dean's list every semester he has been in college. He was captain of his robotics team in high school and received the CRC Press Excellence in Chemistry Award last year. Over the years he has belonged to the National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Currently he is involved with the Michigan Tech Chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). Over the next year he will be doing a co-op/paid internship where he will be able to apply the knowledge he has learned so far and pick up a bevy of new skills. Jacob will be taking online courses during this time as well to stay on schedule for graduation. Once his co-op is finished, he will complete his senior year and graduate. Once he finds employment, he plans to be the best engineer he can be, be financially secure, and give serious consideration to starting a family.



**Hannah Chapman** is the daughter of 798 Welder member Robert Chapman and Lynne Chapman. She is also the granddaughter of the late Philip Chapman and Busta Chapman. Robert has been a member of Local 798 for 28 years, and Philip was a 40-year-member before his death in 2015. Hannah is a 2019 summa cum laude graduate of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Arkansas. During high school, Hannah was lieutenant of her dance team, a member of the National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Students, and participated throughout her community with Habitat for Humanity, Race for the Cure, and much more. Now Hannah attends the University of Central Arkansas and is majoring in elementary education. At UCA, Hannah is a member of Alpha Sigma Tau sorority, and is a committee member for the UCA Dance Marathon for Arkansas Children's Hospital.



**Ava Durina** is the granddaughter of Michael W. Tunnel, a 53-year Welder member of Local 798. She graduated from East Lake High School with a 4.5 GPA. In high school Ava was captain of the varsity cheerleading team, an officer in the National Honor Society as well as the Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society). In addition, she also volunteered at a local hospital and an assisted living facility. Ava is currently a sophomore at the University of Florida with a 3.8 GPA. At UF, Ava is majoring in health education and behavior and plans to attend physician assistant school upon graduation. On campus, Ava is a member of the Delta Zeta sorority, the Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-Health Honor Society, the Pre-Physician Assistant Association, and the organization Hearts for the Homeless. Ava holds the position of vice president of the Hearts for the Homeless, a club that offers free blood pressure screenings to the local homeless population. In addition, she volunteers at a gymnastics gym for children with disabilities.



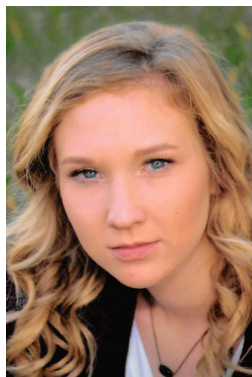
**Caitlyn Hamby** is the daughter of Local 798 Welder member Jesse R. Hamby. She is currently a second semester sophomore at Arkansas State University. She works as a resident assistant for the Honors College and in a research division of their library called OBRE that takes survey data. She comes from a small town called Bradford in Arkansas and grew up in Judsonia, where she attended and graduated from White County Central for elementary, middle, and high school. She is a current member of the Honors College at Arkansas State University where she has participated in multiple volunteer experiences, social events, and educational events. Caitlyn is the president of Arkansas State's "Red Wolf Space

Program," the Secretary of Student Union for Progress, and a member of the Honors College Association. She maintained a 4.0 GPA her first semester of college and was on the Chancellor's list for the fall semester her freshman year of college. As an undergraduate psychology student, she takes a special interest in mental health and plans to be an Occupational Therapist and specialize in mental health which will require three to four years of graduate school. She looks forward to this opportunity to pay of some of her loans and apply this scholarship to fees and textbooks for next fall.

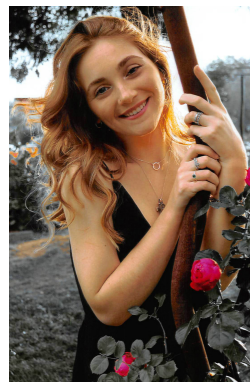


**Rachel Johnson** is the daughter of Local 798 Welder member Levi Johnson. She is an early childhood education major with a dance minor at the University of Central Oklahoma. Rachel plans to use her passions and education to become a kindergarten teacher and teach dance in a studio. Rachel has achieved many accomplishments including Miss America organization titleholder, Overall Physical Fitness Winner, Top 10 Interview, and placed in the Top 10 at the Miss Texas competition. She is on the Dean's Honor Roll at UCO, a member of the Kaleidoscope Dance Company, and attended the National Dance Educators Conference in Miami, FL on a scholarship through UCO to help pursue her studies. In June

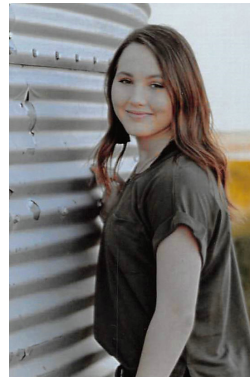
of 2019 Rachel was also honored with membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.



**Marisa Lambert** is the daughter of Jason Lambert, a Welder member of Local 798 for 11 years. She is from Holdenville, OK where she graduated from Moss Public Schools with a 3.8 GPA. Marisa was involved in FFA for five years where she showed goats for three years and was also a member of the National Honor Society. She is currently a freshman at Seminole State College and was on the Fall Honor Roll by having all A's in the fall semester. Marisa is pursuing a physical therapy assistant degree and plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and graduate with a bachelor's in physical therapy.



**Elisa Langone** is the daughter of Anthony Langone, a five-year Welder member of Local 798. She graduated with a 4.14 GPA at Higley High School in Gilbert, AZ. Throughout high school, Elisa participated in the varsity tennis team, as well as numerous competitive dance teams. She was a member of the Conservation Club, National Honor Society, and volunteered at her local church's weekly youth programs. Following high school graduation, Elisa spent the summer in Texas where she worked as a counselor in addition to teaching tennis classes at an all-girls summer camp. Currently, she is a freshman at the University of Arizona where she was awarded a four-year merit-based scholarship. She is studying animal science with a focus on biomedical and comparative sciences, and plans to attend veterinary school upon graduation. Elisa is a member of the AZ Alpha chapter of Pi Beta Phi, where she participates in philanthropy events held by the fraternities and sororities on campus, in addition to volunteering for the charity "Read Lead Achieve." During her first semester at the University of Arizona, Elisa had a GPA of 4.0 and strives to maintain that average through the rest of her college career.



**Whitney McMurry** is the daughter of Brandon K. McMurry, a 12-year Helper member of Local 798. She graduated from Fouke High School, and is currently attending the University of Arkansas at Hope-Texarkana (UAHT). She has been awarded the UAHT Honors Scholarship and made the Vice Chancellor's list last semester. Recently, Whitney became a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She plans to graduate from UAHT with an associate of arts degree and then transfer to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville (U of A) to pursue a bachelor's degree in chemistry. Following graduation, Whitney plans to attend Texas A&M University College of Dentistry and graduate with a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) degree. Whitney plans to work as a general dentist. After gaining experience, she plans to pursue a certificate in pediatric dentistry in order to work as a pediatric dentist.



**Ethan Poland** is the great-nephew of Buddy Rutledge and the grandson of Glen Green; both are Lifetime members of Local 798. They have been members for a combined total of over 120 years. Ethan was born in Bossier City, Louisiana, but currently lives in West Monroe, LA and is a junior at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. At ULM, he received an academic scholarship for exceptional ACT scores and high school GPA. In addition, he was awarded the Forensic Speech and Debate Forum Scholarship by ULM's Communication Department for marked performance in public speaking and communication classes. Every semester he has attended ULM, he has made the Dean or President's list for outstanding GPA. Furthermore, Ethan is a member of several honor societies including Phi Alpha Theta, Sigma Tau Delta, Psi Chi, and Phi Kappa Phi. He is also involved in campus life, working as a student worker in ULM's admissions department. He also volunteered at ULM's student-run radio station 91.1 KXUL, and now volunteers at the Ronald McDonald Charity House in Monroe, LA. Ethan is majoring in psychology and is hoping to graduate with his bachelor's degree in the next year. Upon graduation, he plans to immediately apply to Ph.D. programs in either counseling or clinical psychology. Ethan is interested in studying depression and other related mental disorders, practicing as a psychologist, and teaching psychology at a university. This would allow him the opportunity to do what he is most passionate about: helping others through the struggles of their life.

**PIPELINERS**



**UNION 798**  
UNITED ASSOCIATION

4823 S. 83rd E. Ave.  
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