



U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin and Local 798 Business Agent David Butterworth visiting the Mountain Valley Pipeline in West Virginia.

**Photo credit:** [manchin.senate.gov/newsroom/photos](http://manchin.senate.gov/newsroom/photos)

# BLUE LIGHT REPORTS

July/August 2023

**Pipeliners Union 798**

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Tulsa, OK 74147-0798

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

**Business Manager**  
Daniel C. Hendrix

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Treasurer**  
Justin Wallace

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**Vice President**  
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Justin Head  
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Cassidy Croley  
Robert "Andrew" Kindle  
Chad Simmons  
Charles Thomas  
Ralph "Barky" Zoller

**Dispatcher**

Jimmy Dick

**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,

I want to begin my report by extending my heartfelt congratulations to my longtime friend and 798 Organizer, Ronnie Hill, on his recent retirement. Your unwavering dedication and wealth of knowledge have left an indelible mark on our local union, and your absence will be deeply felt. As you embark on this new chapter of your life, I have no doubt that you will continue to embrace each day with the same passion that has characterized your career. May your retirement be filled with boundless joy, relaxation, and cherished moments with your loved ones. Congratulations, my friend.

Summertime is here, and with it comes more opportunities for pipeline employment and hot, humid conditions. The work outlook is slowly improving as contractors adjust their bottom line to be more successful at the bid table. Integrity Maintenance work is still enjoying a steady flow of work for our members, and we feel confident this work will continue to grow as these pipeline systems continue to age. Also, the availability of building trades continues to be abundant to all who possess the proper skill sets. Local 798 has already seen a few challenges in manning our work, mostly with Helpers who have sought opportunities outside of our industry as an alternative to pipelining. I don't fault anyone for finding a better path when times get hard, and I wish them well. While this takes place, a whole new crop of folks would love to take their place on the ROW, and some will get their chance this summer. Our organizing efforts have produced a database of available Helpers and Welders who are very interested in a better way to pipeline with family benefits and retirement. As in the past, we will not sell memberships until all our current members and sister locals are first offered the jobs.

Last but not least, if you enjoy the great benefits of the union, such as healthcare, pension, 401(k), training, and a structured workforce, please take just a few minutes every morning to thank the good Lord for your many blessings. Then pick up your phone and go to the Local 798 Action Network to advocate for your future. Use your voice to collectively tell the nation they need this energy infrastructure built by the best—Local 798! As always, I am proud to say, **"I work for you, the greatest pipeliners in the world."**

Fraternally,

Daniel C. Hendrix  
Business Manager



**Otis Minnesota, LLC in Muncie, Indiana**



# Financial Secretary - Treasurer's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am happy to report that we now have the signed NPLA for 2023-2026 available to view on our website. A printed version will also be mailed to each member very soon. I feel like we came out well, overall, through these negotiations. The Special Agreement and Station attachments will see considerable improvements on the financial end. These attachments will no longer follow the 75% of Mainline rates. Now, they will either be 80% or 90% of the full rates, depending on the state the work is performed in. New money was negotiated for each year in the Mainline rates as well. We reallocated the fringe packages to shore up the health and welfare, pension, and Local 798 Training Center funds. This means we can build reserves in our healthcare fund, the pension funding will continue to be bright green, and it directs more funding to the training center to help cover the costs associated with the Apprenticeship Program currently being created. Keep in mind the registered Apprenticeship Program is a requirement for us to keep the edge over the nonunion for the upcoming CO2 projects. This will be a good thing for this local union and will open up ample opportunities for those Helper members interested in the program. If you are a Helper and have no interest in an apprenticeship, nothing will change for you as far as that goes. You can, as always, choose to remain a Helper member and cover the work that falls under the Helper classification.

I just returned from Washington, D.C., where we met with the four pipeline crafts, PLCA representatives, and leadership from Wolf Carbon Solutions concerning their upcoming Mt. Simon Hub project. This work looks like it will develop in 2025 and centers around a 280-mile 20" trunkline in Illinois and Iowa. Wolf is committed to using union labor to build the pipeline and all related work. The Navigator Heartland CO2 project is also coming along through the permitting phase, and construction could begin as early as the third quarter of next year. Navigator is also fully committed to using union labor to build this project. We also recently met with Enbridge to discuss some of their upcoming projects, such as the Ridgeline project (117 miles of 30", 8 miles of 24", and a station facility in Tennessee) and the Rio Bravo (two parallel 137 miles of 42" pipelines and compressor station facilities in Texas). I feel like we had a very productive meeting, and hopefully, we can secure a commitment for both projects in the coming months. It is always productive to meet collectively with the client/gas company and see what their needs and expectations are from us to grow our market share.

The work outlook is beginning to look much better. Shortly after Steward School, we visited the Associated Pipeline job near Leesville, Louisiana. This job was for DT Midstream and consisted of around 39 miles of 36". It is nice to get some big work in this area; hopefully, much more will come our way. Thanks to Leroy McDougal and David Hall for taking us and the UA Journal crew around the job site. It is always good to visit with the membership and share information on what's going on with Local 798 around the country. Michels and Associated also picked up the Williams REA project in Pennsylvania. Thank you to all who advocated for this project. We don't win them all, but every ounce of energy spent advocating for these projects helps get us that much more of the market share. I say this all the time: the Action Network is not the only tool but an effective one. Can I point to instances where our advocacy should have gotten us the work but did not? Absolutely, but I can also point to many projects that wouldn't have come to fruition without our organized advocacy. And I know David Butterworth will cover this in detail in his report, but how about the HUGE win we just secured on the Mountain Valley Pipeline? The MVP will put many 798 members to work in the coming weeks and months. I commend David for working tirelessly and never giving up on seeing this project built. We've had the rug pulled out from under us many times in the last five years, but it appears we will finally see this project completed.

No politician is perfect, and they'll break your heart most of the time, but U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin, from West Virginia, stood firm on his commitment to getting this project built and putting our men and women back to work. I think we need to acknowledge when a politician hears our needs and actually sets out to right a wrong. That's exactly what happened here. These important projects and the jobs they create should never be held hostage by radical environmentalists and federal judges who use their positions as leverage. We need many more moderate politicians that pull more to the middle rather than far right or far left to keep this momentum going. We've said for years that Nationwide Permit Reform is the answer to most of our woes. According to Gallup polls, most Americans politically identify as "moderate" rather than conservative or liberal, which puts us in a position to gain from both parties moving back to the middle. I can't tell you one thing that has been done by the extremists of either party in recent years that has been beneficial to this country. I think fighting from the middle is where we will see more of these victories.

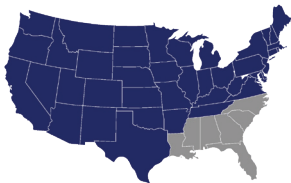
Lastly, I'd like to congratulate Ronnie Hill on his recent retirement. I always appreciate Ronnie's knowledge of the industry. It's always sad to see these guys go, but that is the beauty of working under a union collective bargaining agreement. When the time comes, we can all retire with our dignity intact. Congratulations, Ronnie. Thank you for your service to Local 798, and I know you will make the most of your retirement!

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, NC, SC  
918-991-5341



Jerry Dale Crabtree, Jr.

I write this after completing our Northwest Louisiana/East Texas blitz with fellow 798 Business Agents, the Organizing department, and our UA Brothers. We had great success gathering and using data to disrupt the status quo to help our fair contractors better obtain work in the South.

As most of you know, we have received great news on the completion of the MVP. Work is on the rise. With that said, I encourage members to man our work. We are at a pivotal time in our profession. It will take every member stepping up and giving these contractors their best effort. Not only do we have multiple pipeline jobs going, but our sister locals have BT jobs in multitudes. Please give Jimmy Dick in the Dispatch office a call for more information. Another way members can contribute their expertise is to get in touch with our organizers. They have several opportunities for members who are seeking work.

I sincerely believe that our negotiation team did a great job on our new contract. If anyone has questions or doubts, please get in touch with one of your BAs. Also, please remember to stay actively involved in our Action Network. It only takes a minute to make a huge difference.

I want to congratulate Ronnie Hill on his recent and well-deserved retirement. Also, I want to say congratulations to Andrew Kindle on his newly appointed position as an organizer. He will be a great asset/addition to our amazing organizing team.

The summer months are here, and with them, bring many severe storms to the South. Staying weather aware is crucial for your safety, so stay updated on the latest forecasts and heed any warnings or advisories. Additionally, having an emergency plan and taking necessary precautions to protect yourself and your loved ones during severe weather events is important.

In closing, I am always available and here to serve YOU, so do not hesitate to call me on my cell. May God keep all of you safe. God bless every one of you, and God bless this great local.

## Pre-Jobs:

### B&G Pipeline Company:

- Fuquay-Varina, NC. 55,821' of 12" New lay for Dominion Energy NC. Welder Foreman: Naaman Warren. Job Steward: Frankie Wilbanks. Special Agreement.

### Foltz Welding Ltd.:

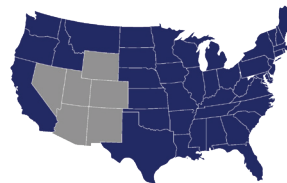
- Many, LA. Demo station small bore pipe 2"-10" for DT Midstream. Welder Foreman: Greg Russell. Integrity Maintenance.

## Price Gregory International:

- Okeechobee, FL. Rehabilitation of one mile of 18" pipe for Safeguard/NextEra. Welder Foreman: Clay Lafaye. Job Steward: Michael Mellion. Mainline rates.

## Wayne Holden & Company, Inc.:

- Shreveport, LA. Install 4,000' of 8" HP steel pipe for CenterPoint Energy. Welder Foreman: Dustin Wilson. Special Agreement.



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



Justin Head

I want to congratulate the negotiating team on a job well done on our contract. They came up with a great agreement regarding the situation going into negotiations. I also think that we gained more than we had to give. There will always be things at odds when you give something up, but when you have client partners telling you what needs to change, you must listen. As of this writing, members are starting to head back out on the MVP. I would also like to thank David Butterworth for his tireless efforts in helping get that back in motion. Completing the MVP will provide some great work for our members!

Work in my jurisdiction is still different from what I was expecting. There have been a few decent-sized projects that contractors were invited to bid on but were not able to secure the work. Some good projects are coming soon that will likely go later this summer.

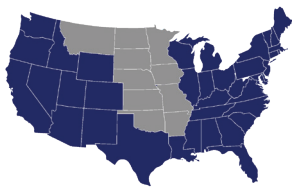
Also, I am still picking up some of the Kinder Morgan maintenance work in Arizona. That work should continue throughout the year. Recently, I've received many calls about the 24" coming out of Wyoming and Colorado. I will see reps from that client at the end of the month and hopefully find out if that project is still on track for later this year. There are 59 miles of 16" in Colorado; the bulk of that work will go next year. However, they may start laying some of the drills this year. The local building trades in Arizona are still hiring daily. If you're interested, contact me, and I will help you proceed.

If there is anything I can do to assist, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## Pre-Jobs:

### WA Rasic:

- Phoenix, AZ. Digs for Kinder Morgan. Start Date 5-26-23. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-9-23.



AR, IA, KS, MN, MO, MT, NE, ND, OK, SD  
918-230-1884



## Todd Hartle

I am writing this report after returning home from a meeting with the senior project manager of Navigator CO2. We have a good relationship with Navigator. During the meeting, we discussed the Action Network, and they agreed that it is an excellent tool for us and gas companies to help get projects going. It is crucial that everyone in support of the pipeline industry is involved with the Action Network.

It has taken off a little slow, but the Integrity Maintenance work is starting to go in my area. The work outlook appears it will be better than last year. I have been doing job visits for the past week or so. It is great seeing our members on the ROW. We have had jobs on the job line for Helpers that went unfilled. If you get one of these new Helpers on a job, show them how to do the work. We need to teach them how we work. A day's work for a day's pay. Show up for work daily and stay off the cell phone, etc. If they cannot make it, they cannot stay. Someone can help you get a job like anyone else, but it is up to you to keep it.

I recently attended a UA organizing blitz in Texas. Business Manager Danny Hendrix is assembling an organizing team that is up to the challenge. I want to congratulate new Organizer Andrew Kindle. Andrew is hard-working and dedicated to Local Union 798. I believe he will be a great asset to the organizing team.

I want to end my report with the preamble of the Constitution and By-Laws of Pipeliners Local Union 798. It is important that we all are familiar with the Constitution and By-Laws so that all members understand the fundamental principles of the local union.

"The objects and aims of the United Association are propagation branches in all cities and towns of America for mutual improvement and affiliations, cooperation, and education of all members in particular, and the trade in general. We believe that the only manner in which this can be accomplished is by promoting the subject of organization among the Pipeliners throughout the country and endeavoring by that means to elevate the trade to its proper standing, thereby gaining the respect of all."

If I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call me. God bless you, your family, our country, and our great Local Union 798.

## Pre-Jobs:

### Charps, LLC:

- Clearbrook, MN. Various sized pipe to be used for compressor station fabrication for ONEOK. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman: Rick Chancey. Job Steward: Austin Severson. Station rates. 90 percent rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-04-23.
- Clearbrook, MN. Weld up 8 joints of 36" and test for TC Energy. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman: Joseph Foris. Job Steward: Joseph Eichstadt. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Job complete.
- East Grand Forks, MN. 21,300' of 6" take up and relay, with 2 launchers and receivers in Polk County for ONEOK. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Patrick Hiller. Integrity Maintenance. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-5-23.
- Ogden, IA. 30" and 16" pipe to be used launcher install, drip removal and 4 mainline valve replacements for Northern Natural Gas. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman: Christopher Olson. Job Steward: Joy Compton. Integrity Maintenance. 90 percent rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-28-23.
- Stillwater, MN. 100' of 10" pipe to be used for 10" casing extension on 6" line in Washington County for Northern Natural Gas. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Patrick Hiller. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Job complete.

### Gordon Const. Of Mahanomen:

- Eagleville, MO. Decommissioning 5 gasoline tanks in Harrison County for Flint Hills Resources. Superintendent: Dan Berg. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Adrian Johnson. Integrity Maintenance. Station Agreement but paying Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Job complete.

### Hanging H Companies, LLC:

- Bozeman, MT. 12" and under piping upgrade at Bozeman Terminal, structural steel pipe supports and racks for Phillips 66. Superintendent: Matt Spitzer. Welder Foreman: Shane Slover. Job Steward: Aaron Carr. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-12-23.

### InterCon Construction, Inc.:

- WI, MI, IL, MO, WY, NE, KS. 30" pipe to be used for Integrity Maintenance. 10 digs-WI, 5 digs-MI, 3 digs-IL, 10 digs-MO, 2 digs-WY, 7 digs-NE, 2 digs-KS for Enbridge. Superintendent: Carl Bubolz. Welder Foreman: Russell Messer. Job Steward: Tyler Johnson. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 12-21-23.

### Michels Pipeline, Inc.:

- Ada, MN. Ada Compressor Station - station piping, facility tie-ins, in Norman County for ONEOK. Superintendent: Kevin Marlett. Welder Foreman: Donald Smith. Job Steward: Jonathan Walters. Station rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-30-23.
- Columbia Falls, MT. Hydrotesting pipe for Northwestern Energy. Superintendent: Yancey Palmer. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Nichols Ostby. Integrity Maintenance. 90 percent rates. Working 6-10s. Job complete.
- Middletown, MO. Replace one 30" PSV spool and replace one 24" A3 spool in Montgomery County for TC Energy. Superintendent: Trevor Norelius. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Joy Compton. Integrity Maintenance. 90 percent rates. Working 6-10s. Job complete.
- OK & KS TBD. Keystone digs - elbow digs on 30" Keystone Pipeline for TC Energy. Superintendent: Ervin Shurpitt, Jr. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Kevin Davis. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 5-8s. Approx. completion 9-1-23.
- Stillwater, MN. Install 8" launcher and receiver and replace pipe in Washington County, MN, congested work for Northern Natural Gas. Superintendent: Trevor Norelius. Welder Foreman: Jan Slater. Job Steward: Adam Conzemius. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-5-23.
- Valier, MT. Marias to Valier Loop project. Construct 60,267.40' of 20", 9 HDDS totaling 5,754' of 20" pipe for NorthWestern Energy. Superintendent: Yancey Palmer. Welder Foreman: Cory McClung. Job Steward: Lee Sloan. Special Agreement rates Attachment 1. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-24-23.

### Midwestern Contractors:

- Carlton, MN. 1/2"-4" pipe to be used for demo and repipe compression lines in Carlton County, MN, for Northern Natural Gas. Superintendent: Wes Sears. Welder Foreman: Joseph Bysor. Job Steward: Michael Benham. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-12-23.

### Northern Horizons, Inc.:

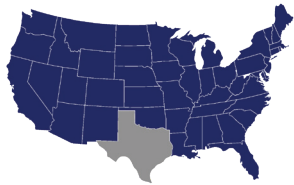
- Alta, IA. 8" and under pipe to be used for a new TBS station and casing extension in Story and Buena Vista County for Northern Natural Gas. Superintendent: Ryan Julius. Welder Foreman: Patrick Kingsland. Job Steward: Casey Smith. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-2-23.
- Lamoni, IA. 24" mainline valves rebuild in Warren, Decatur, Clarke, and Polk Counties for Flint Hills Resources. Superintendent: Jason Sanders. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Brent Stai. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 7-15-23.
- Solway, MN. 16" casing removal and Integrity Maintenance for Flint Hill Resources. Superintendent: Jason Sanders. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Austin Severson. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s. Job complete.

### Otis Minnesota, LLC:

- Bemidji, MN. 6" and 12" fab for TC Energy project. Superintendent: Dan Carlin. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Levi Bottelson. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-10-23.
- Hartland, MN. 1,600' of 24" in Albert Lea, MN, 1.5 miles of 36" in Albert Lea, MN, 2.8 miles of 36" Ventura E-Line Ext. Albert Lea, MN, for Northern Natural Gas. Superintendent: Jim Setterman. Welder Foreman: Cory Schwartz. Pipe Foreman: Ronald Douglas. Job Steward: Jimmy Noggle. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates.

Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-1-23.  
United Piping, Inc.:

- Bowling Green, MO. Pipe replacement in Pike County, MO, using 12" pipe for 1,000' for BP Pipelines. Superintendent: Heath Beckstrom. Welder Foreman: Thomas Mudro. Job Steward: Dalton Clemmons. Integrity Maintenance. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s. Approx completion 6-15-23.



TX  
918-237-3573

## Joe Gaines



I am writing this report from the road. I am currently en route to Weatherford, Texas, to participate in the East Texas/Louisiana UA blitz. The last several months have been busy with travel all over the state. We continue to make great headway in contacting workers and contractors. To continue to make strides in gaining back market share in Texas, we must reach the nonunion sector and improve working conditions for all. I am confident that with our continued hard work, we will make a difference.

I recently attended the LNG conference in Houston with 798 Organizer Chad Simmons. Gas company representatives, contractors, and vendors from all over the globe were in attendance. We gained valuable information about upcoming work in Texas and Louisiana. There will be abundant work on the Gulf Coast in the foreseeable future. These liquid natural gas lines will be constructed over the next few years, and some have already begun. With our continued UA organizing efforts, we are hopeful that some of this work will go union.

Building trades work continues to be robust in Texas. I place several workers each week at Texas Instruments in Sherman and at Samsung in Austin. Combo Welders are in high demand in both locations. If you are not currently working, please take this opportunity to brush up on these skills at our training center in Tulsa.

Congratulations to our newest Organizer, Andrew Kindle. I have personally known Andrew for almost 15 years. We have welded across the pipe from each other, and I can say without a doubt that he will make a fine organizer. His work ethic and drive will help to propel 798 into the future.

Congratulations are also in order for 798 Organizer Ronnie Hill. Ronnie, congratulations on your well-deserved retirement. Thank you for all that you have done for 798 over the years! You will be missed. Best wishes for your next chapter!

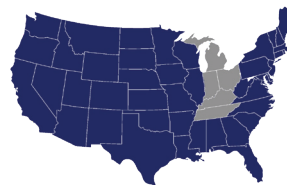
In closing, I wish each of you a happy Fourth of July. We live in the greatest country in the world, and I am grateful each day that I'm an American. I hope you get a few days off to spend with family and friends and celebrate the red, white, and blue.

May God continue to bless America, our local, and each of you. As always, if I can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to call 918-237-3573.

## Pre-Jobs:

RMS Holdings, LLC:

- Houston, TX. (24) 36" Welds for Exxon Mobil. Superintendent: Matt Steel. Welder Foreman/Job Steward: Anthony Dickinson. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 5-15-23.



IN, KY, MI, OH, TN  
918-270-6746

## Charles Yates, Jr.



Change is inevitable. Without it, we become stagnant and limit the fruits of our labor.

This growth can be challenging. Finding a balance between moving forward and honoring traditions is a challenge. Our new NPLA presents a healthy share of both while protecting the long-standing Mainline agreement working conditions we've become accustomed to. I know that not everyone will approve of these changes, but these modifications to our contract are for the betterment of our local and the greater good. I am encouraged by this contract because I believe it will help us regain market share and put more money in our members' pockets. The allocations of our fringe benefits were applied appropriately and will significantly help the longevity of our fund. Thank you to all who professionally approached the negotiations to achieve a beneficial contract for all parties involved.

I'd also like to commend our membership for promoting the MVP project. You produced 2,270 signatures in support of the project, which greatly influenced the final decision. This is just more proof that the Action Network produces results. Please do not get complacent about signing petitions and reviewing the featured actions. We ARE seeing results, and we ARE better positioned with bargaining power. Stay with it. This solidarity reminds me of the "2016 DOT" ruling regarding the welding rig classification. Brothers and Sisters of Local 798 partnered with UA representation and sent in 2,200 letters of support to change the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulation law for rig Welders. "If we work together, we will be a much stronger force to contend with." (Brother Danny Hendrix, April 2016).

Strong relationships with our sister locals are also a way to show solidarity. I attended the Kentucky Pipe Trades Conference a few weeks ago. Special thanks to Brother Scott Lewis and Local 502 in Louisville for hosting this informative event.

This is also the time of the year when the rubber hits the road, and our members head out to work. We currently have 47 jobs going on in my area, with several more projected to start. At the time of this writing, I am on job visits and addressing questions about the new contract. I look forward to more of these discussions and seeing you on the ROW. If I can be of assistance, do not hesitate to call.

Shop small, support union, and buy made in the USA.

## Pre-Jobs:

Apex Pipeline Services, Inc.:

- Louisa, KY. 280' of 20" lift and lay for TC Energy. Superintendent: Curt Hall. Welder Foreman: Jason Smith. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 6-30-23.

Appellation Construction Services, LLC:

- Cincinnati, OH. Line segment replacements: 1,920' of 20" and 311' of 8" and 60' of 1" for Duke Energy. Superintendent: Colten Hendrix. Welder Foreman: Randy Williams. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-1-23.

Associated Pipeline Contractors, Inc.:

- Lancaster, OH. Blanket integrity dig work in OH and PA for Enbridge/Texas Eastern Transmission LP. Superintendent: Richard Imes. Welder Foreman: Steven Shelton. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-31-23.

Charps, LLC:

- Maceo, KY. 1,100' of 30" offset relay for ONEOK. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman: Pete Dremmel. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-7-23.

Contractors Rental Corp dba CJ Hughes:

- Ashley, IN. POD station upgrades of various small-bore piping in

Steuben County for NiSource/NIPSCO. Superintendent: Craig Loquist. Welder Foreman: Patrick Cochrane. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-1-23.

- East Laurelville, OH. Replace approx. 2,461' of 10" with 8" pipe and 6 valve setting replacements for TC Energy. Superintendent: Greg LeMaster. Welder Foreman: Joshua Pattison. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 8-1-23.
- Oregon, OH. 14,000' of 20" pipe replacement for TC Energy. Superintendent: Levi Smith. Welder Foreman: Jerry Fulk. Working 5-10s and 1-8. Approx. completion 9-15-23.
- Pikeville, KY. 300' of 20" reroute for TC Energy. Superintendent: Clinton Endicott. Welder Foreman: Gavin Shuman. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 6-15-23.
- Springfield, OH. Integrity Maintenance of various size pipe replacements 2"-20" for TC Energy. Superintendent: Greg Grove. Welder Foreman: James Griffith. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 9-25-23.

Foltz Welding Ltd.:

- Parke and Putnam counties, IN. Hydrotest approximately 20 miles of 30" for Energy Transfer. Superintendent: Scott Schoonover. Welder Foreman: James Adams. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-30-23.
- Upland, IN. 2 cut-outs and replace 22" pipe for Energy Transfer. Superintendent: Scott Schoonover. Welder Foreman: James Adams. Working 6-10s. Job complete.

Henkels & McCoy, Inc.:

- Batavia, OH. 16.25 miles of 12" with launcher and receiver and one regulator station for Duke Energy. Superintendent: Andy Durkin. Welder Foreman: Jason Steed. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-15-23.
- Reed City, MI. Bundle of Integrity Maintenance work for TC Energy. Superintendent: Jeff Fate. Welder Foreman: Christopher Hill. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 10-31-23.

Holly Construction, Co.:

- Melvindale, MI. 8" to 16" blanket integrity digs for multiple gas companies. Superintendent: Aaron Brotsky. Welder Foreman: Kevin Miller. Working 5-8s. Approx. completion 12-31-23.

InfraSource Construction, LLC:

- Antioch, TN. Small regulator replacements 2" and 4" for Duke Energy. Superintendent: John Baker. Welder Foreman: William Hemze. Working 6-9s. Approx. completion 8-10-23.

LamSar, Inc.:

- Saint Claire, MI. 3 miles of 8" smart pig runs for Nova Chemicals. Superintendent: Angelina Daugherty. Welder Foreman: Dustin Ashby. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-15-23.

Meade (Contracting & Material):

- Brownsburg, IN. Pressure testing 20 miles of 12" and identifying fittings; installing four fabricated assemblies for CenterPoint Energy. Superintendent: Packard Campbell. Welder Foreman: Marty Greger. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-29-23.
- Whitestown, IN. Hydrotest approximately 3 miles of 12" and install fabricated assemblies at three station locations for CenterPoint Energy. Superintendent: Packard Campbell. Welder Foreman: Andy Anderson. Working 6-10s. Job complete.

Otis Minnesota, LLC:

- Columbia Station, OH. Pressure testing HCA areas of existing 8" and 10" pipelines for TC Energy. Superintendent: Aaron Shrontz. Welder Foreman: Cody Dye. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 8-28-23.
- Lenox, MI. Fabricate and install new pig traps on existing 12" and 8" lines for SEMCO. Superintendent: Dan Schaubhut. Welder Foreman: Nick Mistic. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 7-1-23.

RL Morris & Sons:

- Kalkaska, MI. 12" through 30" launcher and receiver and integrity work on high pressure gas lines for Consumers Energy. Superintendent: Matt Besaw. Welder Foreman: Mark Blaisdell. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-15-23.

Roberts Pipeline, Inc.:

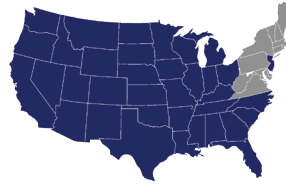
- Reed City, MI. Miscellaneous piping at six well head locations for TC Energy. Superintendent: Mark Decker. Welder Foreman: Gary Buchan. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 5-26-23 (ongoing).

Union Pipeline, Inc.:

- North Jackson, OH. Emergency call-out high-pressure transmission blanket work for Dominion East Ohio. Superintendent: Perry Rogers. Welder Foreman: Tim Schwendiman. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 12-31-23.

United Piping, Inc.:

- Mussey Township, MI. Install new meter station in St. Clair County for TC Energy. Superintendent: Mike Manley. Welder Foreman: Chris Waeckerle. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-16-23.
- Northville, MI. Four valve change outs including actuator and accessories for Consumers Energy. Superintendent: Jim Bailer. Welder Foreman: Matthew Sheets. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 6-30-23.



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

David Butterworth



By the time this report reaches you, the REA will be in full swing, and MVP will be steadily hiring. Our advocacy played a significant role in securing the necessary permits for both projects. The MVP has almost been a decade-long battle where we attended FERC hearings, state water board hearings, Virginia House/Senate hearings, and any other MVP-related event. I want to personally thank the members who showed up when called upon. You know who you are. I am eternally grateful for your service and fortitude. This goal couldn't have been accomplished without your unwavering dedication to our great local, our industry, and our livelihoods.

I would also like to thank West Virginia's U.S. Sens. Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito, and U.S. Rep. Carol Miller for supporting the project. These Congress members understand the importance of MVP, its benefit to our national security, and its role in transporting reliable energy to gas-starved regions in North and South Carolina. There seems to be a shift away from party fringes. There is a group of "common sense" congressional leaders who understand a phrase I first heard from Ohio Valley Energy Association President Jim Milleson. Jim said this about our energy transition, "the proper way to achieve energy transition is not through elimination; the appropriate way to transition is through innovation."

I recently attended an MVP job visit/press conference with Manchin, Equitrans CEO Thomas Karam, 25 dedicated Local 798 members, and numerous members of our four crafts in Bridgeport, West Virginia. The restart of the MVP is just cause for celebration, but we also must address the scrutiny that this project will be under. There will likely be pushback from different sources in and around the project. We must rise above the fray and be better human beings than those who will be loudly voicing their angst. We also need to bring our "A" game every day, which means working safely, efficiently, and professionally from start to finish on each project. Let's show everyone that we are the best and get this pipeline built for the good of the country!

The MVP language in the "debt ceiling bill" states that it is in the country's national interest to build and maintain this pipeline. Please try to stop and think about the magnitude of this each day as you head to work. Be proud of the fact that by building MVP, we can provide cheap, reliable energy and deliver it in the safest, most efficient way to our fellow Americans. Manchin said it best at the job visit: "If those against the project start hollering at you, just keep your head down and shovel harder." Please follow this mantra daily, whether at work or in the community; I'm sure it will serve you well.

## Pre-Jobs:

Ace Pipeline, Inc.:

- Ellenboro, WV. Capping, pigging and nitrogen purging several different segments on 12 miles of 30". Superintendent: Sam Jarvis. Welder Foreman: Jason Pitts. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s.
- Pennsboro, WV. Install 4.5 miles of 20" steel, 7,000' of 16" steel, and 3.44 miles of 18" HDPE. Superintendent: Jeremy Phillips. Welder Foreman: Kevin Lancaster. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s.

#### Appellation Construction Services, LLC:

- Appomattox, VA. 2"-30" pipe demolition. Superintendent: Brad Kamerer. Welder Foreman: Larry Chamberlain. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 5-10s.
- Hereford Township, PA. 24"-30" meter station upgrade/pipeline interconnect and valve changeouts. Superintendent: Trevor Sheleman. Welder Foreman: Ryan Fink. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 5-10s.
- Westwood, MA. 8" meter rehab. Superintendent: John Francis. Welder Foreman: Nat Hasara. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s.

#### Associated Pipe Line Contractors, Inc.:

- Saylorburg, PA. 13.78 miles of 42" new lay steel. Superintendent: Cole Vaughn. Welder Foreman: Charlie Beddingfield. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Bond Civil & Utility Construction, Inc.:

- Burrillville, RI. 2"-36" mainline valve replacement and filter separator installation. Superintendent: Matthew Fernandes. Welder Foreman: Ed Stockwell, Jr. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s.
- New Haven, CT. Tubing and filter installation on power gas systems plus pipe supports. Superintendent: Frank Pilarella. Welder Foreman: George Robideau. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s.

#### Charps, LLC:

- Quakertown, PA. Welding support for 113 anomaly digs spread throughout PA, NJ, CT, NY, MA, and RI. Superintendent: Brandon Olson. Welder Foreman: Joe Foris. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 6-10s.

#### InfraSource Construction, LLC:

- Winchester, VA. 2.84 miles of 20" replacement and installation. Superintendent: Chad Colley. Welder Foreman: Mike Mills. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### JL Allen Co.:

- Brewster, NY. Compressor replacement project. Superintendent: Nate Phipps. Welder Foreman: Josh Coombs. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Kirila Contractors, Inc.:

- Erie, PA. 3,600' of 20" new lay street work. Superintendent: Ron Kirila, Jr. Welder Foreman: Ted Hazelet. Mainline rates. Working 5-10s.

#### LMC Industrial Contractors, Inc.:

- Canandaigua, NY. 120' 10" creek crossing. Superintendent: Kenny Bauer. Welder Foreman: Jonathan Miller. Special Agreement rates. Working 5-10s.

#### Michels Pipeline, Inc.:

- Harrison Valley, PA. Removal of 11.5 miles of existing 12" and installation of new lay 20". Superintendent: Kirk Baker. Welder Foreman: Jacob Morgan. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Otis Minnesota, LLC:

- Delaware Water Gap, PA. Replace 8' of 18". Superintendent: Kyle Wittie. Welder Foreman: Anthony Stone. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 5-10s.
- Freeville, NY. 14" pipe replacements. Superintendent: Tony Niedermaier. Welder Foreman: Carl Neal. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 6-10s.
- Valencia, PA. Hydrotest and cut outs on 20" existing pipeline. Superintendent: Joe Carter. Welder Foreman: Wade Bagwell. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Precision Pipeline, LLC:

- Bridgeport, WV. (MVP Spread A-B) Approximately 1.4 miles of tie-ins and 67 miles of hydro testing. Welder Foreman: Chris Waeckerle. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.
- Elliston, VA. (MVP Spread H) 9 miles of mainline welding and 14 miles of tie-ins and hydro testing. Welder Foreman: Dennis Jackson. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.
- Pembroke, VA. (MVP Spread G) 9 miles of mainline welding, 15 miles of tie-ins and hydro testing. Welder Foreman: Harry Houser. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.
- Rocky Mount, VA. (MVP Spread I) 11 miles of tie-ins and hydro testing. Welder Foreman: Derick Strong. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.
- Sutton, WV. (MVP Spread C-D) Approximately 0.82 miles of 42" mainline, 9 miles of tie-ins and 63 miles of hydro testing. Welder Foreman: Raymond Johnson. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Price Gregory International:

- Valley Head, WV. 42" pipe removal and road bore grouting. Superintendent: Greg Newcomb. Welder Foreman: James Owens. Mainline rates. Working 6-10s.

#### Schmid Pipeline Construction, Inc.:

- Lafayette, NY. Pipe replacements of various sizes. Superintendent: Lonnie Skadsem. Welder Foreman: Bradley Smith. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 6-10s.

#### US Pipeline, Inc.:

- Quarryville, PA. Anomaly cutouts on 30" pipe. Superintendent: Gary Seidel. Welder Foreman: Steve Yost. Integrity Maintenance rates. Working 6-10s.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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 updates if needed. You may verify or update your contact information by signing into the Member Login section of our website at [www.local798.org](http://www.local798.org).







# DISPATCH Report

Jimmy Dick

918-610-2761

The workload is providing many good opportunities for our members. It is important to have your contact information up to date in the Dispatch office. Recently, we have been calling off the top of the out-of-work list for Helpers. While making each call, we discovered many members whose phones were disconnected or had changed their numbers. We also have members whose voicemail is full or who still need to set up a voicemail. Please ensure we can get a hold of you to provide you with work opportunities. We understand that call blasts can sometimes be annoying. We just want to make everyone aware of the opportunities available. It is the individual's decision if they would like to accept the work, no matter the classification. If you would like to opt out of receiving any call/text blasts from Local 798, you will need to listen to the entire message and then follow the prompts at the end. Please remember that by opting out, you will no longer receive any call/text blasts from the hall. This

includes call/text blasts regarding the Dispatch office, membership dues, messages from the business manager, etc. The more we can communicate, the more it helps our members.

Work opportunities are coming in every day in the Dispatch office. If you're not on the out-of-work list, I highly encourage you to be. We have recently removed over 1,000 Helpers from the out-of-work list, per Section C, Paragraph 6 of the Dispatch and Out-of-Work Policies. "The first time a Member is called off the top of the Out-of-Work List for National Agreement or Intermediate Agreement work by the Dispatch Office, the Member may refuse the job and retain their place on the Out-of-Work List. If the Member is unavailable when called at the telephone number provided, requiring the Dispatch Office to leave a message, the Member must return the call the same day or apply on the Job Line that evening, or this will count as the Member's first refusal. The following time or times a Member is called, it will be from the automated system leaving a message that there is work available. If the Member does not call back and accept a job or apply for a job on the Job Line that evening, this will count as the Member's second refusal, and the Member will be removed from the Out-of-Work List. It is the Member's responsibility to put themselves back on the Out-of-Work List after two (2) refusals. The Member will be required to obtain a new Out-of-Work Date at the date and time of the call or website entry." Again, we encourage our members to be on our out-of-work list. If you were removed due to the policy, call in and get a new out-of-work date. As of this writing, only 276 Helper members are on the list. There are plenty of work opportunities out there now and more upcoming.

If you are a Welder with the skills to make the LH open butt and branch test, contact the Dispatch office and your BA. We are seeing more and more opportunities for our Welder members with this skill set. This year, more of the upcoming work will require LH and Automatic skills to obtain a dispatch. We ask all members to update their out-of-work card.

There are a lot of work opportunities at hand and in the future. We look forward to helping our members take advantage of these opportunities.

## Out-of-Work List



# ORGANIZING Report

Chad Simmons

918-600-4207

On behalf of the Organizing department, we want to start by thanking Brother Ronnie Hill for his many years of service and dedication to our local union. We are glad we could absorb some of his knowledge before his retirement. Happy trails, Brother Hill!

By the time you receive this report, Brother Robert "Andrew" Kindle will have joined the organizing team. We hope that you will help us welcome him onboard. Andrew, a product of organizing, realizes the life-changing impact that we can make on the nonunion worker. Congratulations, Brother Kindle!

Your Organizing department continues to engage the pipeline industry in many ways. We have interacted with gas company representatives throughout the country. These relationships are vital to getting our message out in the industry. Joe Gaines and I attended the LNG Conference in Houston, where we spoke with major players from the gas companies involved in the LNG market. There is a multitude of work to be performed on the Gulf Coast, and we are working with the UA to get a portion of these projects.

As the organizers continue to engage nonunion workers, we have been able to organize several Helpers. We are glad to have them join the ranks and be able to make a good wage with benefits. Help us welcome these new Brothers and Sisters when you see them on the ROW. Fellow organizers from the UA and Pipe Trades helped us in West Louisiana and East Texas as we ran a blitz there, contacting over 100 nonunion Welders and Helpers. It is hard to believe these contractors would pay their Welders and Helpers such ridiculous wages. If you know nonunion Welders or Helpers interested in a better way of life, have them contact one of us.

We need the membership's help in our organizing efforts. A prime example of how you can help is the Associated job in Anacoco, Louisiana. This was DTMs first big project in the Haynesville Shale area and the first time for them to utilize a signatory contractor. Thank you to the hands that worked and displayed their craftsmanship to the gas company and contractor. **We can tell everyone that you are the greatest pipeliners in the world, but nothing compares to showing them firsthand!**

In an earlier report, we discussed three necessary components for a job to come to fruition – the gas company, the contractor, and the local. As we supply the manpower for these projects, please make sure that your skill levels are where they need to be. If not, have a good attitude and a teachable spirit. If you are a regular employee of one of our signatory contractors, urge them to bid on the projects competitively with the proper addendum. Working together with our contractors, we can show the gas companies that we are the best bang for the buck!

Thank you all for continuing to support the Action Network. It is a vital tool for us to support projects and legislation. It is just a few clicks to have your voice heard. As for the MVP, there were several opportunities to support, and your diligence paid off in the end. Thank you again.

If you are approached about working nonunion, CALL an organizer. We will help you with the process. If you are working nonunion on your own, you are hurting the whole industry and violating the Oath of Obligation. The nonunion contractors will collectively continue to pay poverty-level wages if people are willing to work for them. Why supply a premium skill set for a mediocre wage? Would you sell a Cadillac for a Pinto price?

May God bless you, and may God bless Local 798.

Charles Thomas 918-313-5987

Chad Simmons 918-600-4207

Cassidy Croley 539-235-4487

Ralph "Barky" Zoller 539-235-4610

Robert "Andrew" Kindle 539-235-4514



Renée Vause

Director

## Member Portal Login Changes

At Steward School and in a previous Blue Light article, we let you know that your PIBF Member Portal login will change. This change should be in place by the time this article is published. As a reminder, the login will no longer be based on your Blue Cross Blue Shield 803 identification number but will use an email address. The reason for this change is to allow adult dependents to create their own Member Portal accounts and view their Health and Welfare claims. Adult dependents will be able to view their claims only. Once participants set up their new account, they will still be able to view the adult dependent Explanation of Benefits (EOB) but only the claim number, the dependent's name, member balance, and an indicator if the claim has been submitted for Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA). Please note that participants will not be able to view adult dependent private health information on the EOB such as procedure codes. Only the information needed to submit an HRA claim will be viewable.

For security purposes, the portal will require a secondary form of authentication, also known as Dual Factor or Multi-Factor Authentication, which will help keep your private information secure. Please note that due to these changes, PIBF IT Staff will no longer be able to reset passwords, as this feature is now part of the new Member Portal. Be sure to save your password and security questions in a secure place.

## Member Portal Login Instructions and Video Tutorials

To assist you with changes to the login process, you can find helpful instructions and video tutorials on our website at [www.pibf.org](http://www.pibf.org) in our "Quick Links" section under "Tutorials."

## Sapphire Member Rewards – Delayed Launch

The Member Rewards program introduced at Steward School is not yet live and available for use. This program will allow you to compare providers for eligible procedures and earn a cash reward based on your savings by choosing a less expensive provider. We are extremely excited to launch this program, and we will keep you posted for the official launch date!

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

In a continuing effort to provide support and education to the membership 24/7/365, PIBF has posted tutorials and educational videos, and links to videos on our website. New content is now available! Please check back periodically for additional information as we post more helpful videos.

PIBF videos and/or step-by-step instructions are available at [www.pibf.org](http://www.pibf.org) in our "Quick Links" section under "Tutorials."

In addition, 401(k) educational videos and links to videos are posted in our "401(k)" section under "Investment Education." Please note multiple new, informational, and helpful videos, including retirement plan education, investing, and financial wellness.

## 401(k) Roth Feature

The 401(k) Roth feature allows plan participants to move pre-tax 401(k) funds to an after-tax Roth inside the 401(k) plan. Once this election is made, the election cannot be reversed. The election is a taxable event. Each year a participant moves funds from pre-tax to the after-tax Roth, the participant will receive a 1099-R for tax return preparation, but there is no penalty on the funds moved. The total amount of the transfer will be subject to Federal Income Tax. Under Federal law, the first transfer or deposit into the Roth starts a 5-year waiting period. This means you cannot withdraw the Roth funds for the first 5 years without incurring a tax penalty. There is only one waiting period. Additional funds put in the Roth account will not have a new 5-year waiting period. You can move funds to the Roth as many times as you want during the year, but the minimum transfer is \$1,000 per transaction. The form for this is at [www.pibf.org](http://www.pibf.org) in our "401(k)" section under "401(k) Forms," "401(k) Distribution Form," page 16.

## Qualification Requirements for 401(k) Distributions

The Pipeline Industry 401(k) Plan offers multiple distribution options. To qualify for a distribution option, you must meet both federal and plan guidelines. Distribution types include the following:

- 3-month separation – cannot have worked or have posted hours for 3 months prior to distribution request – LIMIT 2 PER LIFETIME
- 24-month separation – cannot have worked or have posted hours for 24 months prior to distribution request
- Retired – Retiree under Pipeline Industry Pension Fund or another Local Union
- In-Service Withdrawal – must be working, age 59 ½ or older, and not retired
- Hardship – multiple options available, each with its own criteria

# Meeting Notice

September 8, 2023

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 8, 2023, beginning at 7 p.m. CST.

## 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 8, 2023.

## Hotel Accommodations

To make reservations at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel, please call 918-307-2600.



**Derek Dayton and John Hoinville**  
East Waterford, Pennsylvania  
Submitted By: Sean Jackson



**Paden Harper and Ricky Johnson, Jr. for Michels**  
Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania

## SERVICE AWARDS

The September/October issue of the Blue Light Reports will honor our devoted members who have maintained 25 years or more of membership. If you want your photo published, please email a clear photo to [information@local798.org](mailto:information@local798.org) or mail it to Pipeliners Local 798, Attn: Blue Light, PO Box 470798, Tulsa, OK 74147. Please submit photos by August 11, 2023.

# CONGRATULATIONS



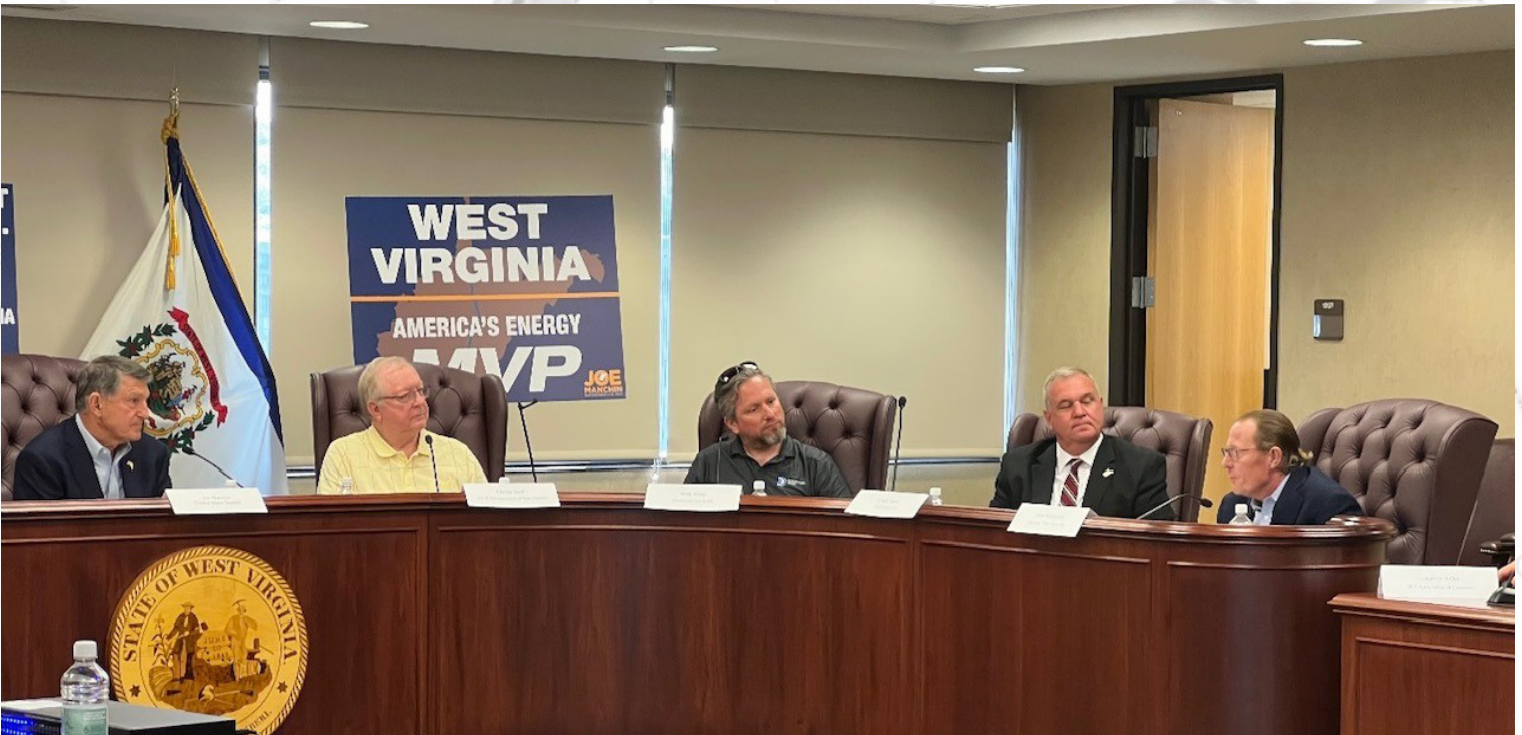
Ronnie Hill was initiated into Pipeliners Local Union 798 as a Journeyman Welder member in 1981. He has worked in every capacity on the ROW, performing UA work. He was elected to serve on the Finance Committee in 2005 and served three consecutive terms until he accepted the position of Organizer in 2011. Throughout his tenure as an Organizer, he has consistently exemplified the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and expertise. Ronnie's contributions have significantly contributed to the success and growth of our organization, and we are immensely grateful for his years of service.

Congratulations Ronnie! May this new chapter of your life be filled with happiness, fulfillment, and enjoying the fruits of your labor.

Sincerely,

Pipeliners Local Union 798 Officers, Members, and Staff

# MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE



The pipeline industry recently celebrated a significant win, with the Mountain Valley Pipeline receiving the green light to proceed with construction. This achievement signifies an important milestone in ensuring the efficient transportation of vital resources across vast distances. In addition to the jobs that the construction of the MVP will create, completing this project will bring many long-lasting benefits, such as enabling the safe and reliable delivery of energy resources to communities and industries that rely on them. It also enhances economic growth and energy security by improving our country's infrastructure. Thank you to all our members who have been dedicated to advocating for this project over the years by attending public meetings, signing petitions, and contacting elected officials and decision-makers. A special thank you to Business Agent David Butterworth for spearheading the advocacy efforts.

# 2022-2023 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 essays.

Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients and to all 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



**Emily Potts**, a Moyers, Oklahoma, resident and daughter of Welder member Marty Greger and his wife, Dawn Greger, has emerged as a remarkable individual with an impressive track record. Throughout high school, she excelled in sports, music, and community engagement while maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA. Recognized for her academic prowess, Emily joined the esteemed National Honor Society and graduated as valedictorian in 2019. Continuing her educational journey at Northeastern State University, she achieved a Bachelor of Science degree with a remarkable 3.96 overall GPA and a perfect 4.0 GPA in her major. Now pursuing a Master of Science in speech-language pathology, Emily aims to make a difference in the lives of stroke and traumatic brain injury patients. Alongside her aspirations for a fulfilling career, she envisions a future with her husband, Tucker Potts. Emily's story exemplifies unwavering dedication, academic excellence, and a passion for helping others.

## GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



**Ariel Armstrong** was born and raised in North Central Texas, and is the granddaughter of Don and Betty Armstrong, long-time Local 798 members. Ariel graduated high school in 2021, receiving her diploma and an Associate of Arts degree from Tarrant County College (TCC) with the highest honors. At TCC, she was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and made the dean's List three times. She is completing her second associate degree in biblical studies at Kenneth Copeland Bible College (KCBC) and will graduate in the spring of 2023. After graduating from KCBC, Ariel plans to pursue her bachelor's degree in political science.



**Brayden Better**, the son of Welder member Joseph Better, was born in Arizona. In middle school, he moved to Ohio, and from eighth grade until his junior year, he ran cross country and track, lettering and receiving Academic All-Conference each year for each sport. Brayden grew up riding dirt bikes, so he finished high school a semester early to pursue motocross training, competing at the Loretta Lynn Amateur National in 2020. Since starting at Ohio State University, Brayden has made the dean's list each semester. Majoring in accounting for his love of math and numbers, he plans on obtaining his CPA and hopes to own a firm one day to help people save money and put them in the best situation financially. Brayden also plans on minoring in real estate and would like to use his accounting knowledge to own rental properties and have a profitable portfolio.



**Lane Foret** is the grandson of 22-year Local 798 Welder member Terry Adams. Born and raised in Schriever, Louisiana, Lane graduated from H.L. Bourgeois High School in 2020 as a salutatorian with a 4.0 GPA. He served as the senior class vice president and was a Student Council and National Honor Society member. Lane now attends the University of Louisiana at Lafayette as a junior, consistently maintaining a 3.6 GPA. He majors in political science with a minor in computer science and is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success. After graduating, Lane plans on obtaining a contracting job in cyber security to eventually go to law school and become a legal consultant. One day, Lane would like to retire as a teacher to educate and lead the next generation of students.



**Kayla Fox** is the daughter of 25-year Welder member Bryan Fox. She has excelled academically and is pursuing a Ph.D. in philosophy at Bowling Green State University. She graduated with honors from Stephen F. Austin State University with a double major in history and philosophy. Kayla also holds a master's degree in history from Utah State University. Alongside her studies, she has gained experience as a freelance editor, tutor, and teaching assistant. Kayla's passion lies in becoming a professor and teaching college students critical thinking, analytical skills, and the interdisciplinary benefits of philosophy.



**Samantha Harold** is the granddaughter of 61-year Local 798 retired Welder member Ted Harold. Samantha grew up in Bedford, Pennsylvania, attending Robert Morris University (RMU). Throughout her time at RMU, she has been a part of the honors program, marching show band, concert band, winter guard, bowling team, and Pre-Law Society. Samantha was recently inducted into the early law school application program to expedite obtaining her degree. She was newly elected as the Jr. Conductor for the upcoming 2023-2024 marching show band season.



**Brendyn Harris** is the grandson of Journeyman member Lesley Harris. Brendyn is currently a junior at The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss), majoring in political science and on track for pre-law. He is a member of the university's men's club basketball team and has made the dean's or chancellor's list each semester he's attended Ole Miss. Brendyn plans to carry on this success as he practices contract law.



**Hope Hartle** of Rose Bud, Arkansas, is the daughter of Kim Hartle and Local 798 Business Agent Todd Hartle. Hope graduated from Rose Bud High School with high honors in 2020. She was a varsity basketball, volleyball, and softball team member, a member of the National Beta Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Business Leaders of America, 2020 class secretary, and co-editor of the Rambler yearbook. Hope received two associate degrees from Arkansas State University Beebe in May of 2022: an Associate of Science in liberal arts and sciences and an Associate of Science in health science. She also received a technical certificate in pre-health care studies. In April 2022, Hope was accepted as one of 13 out of over 60 applicants into the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). As well as being a full-time student, Hope works as a non-registered ultrasound tech at a local hospital. She serves her community and church by volunteering her time towards several activities that benefit her alma mater and small town. While attending UAMS, she was inducted into the Arkansas Chi Chapter of Lambda Nu National Honor Society for Radiologic and Imaging Sciences. Hope plans to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in diagnostic medicals in the spring of 2024.



**Makena Klubek** of New Strawn, Kansas, is the granddaughter of Paula Grace and 56-year Welder member Tommy Grace. In May 2022, as a dual-credit high school student, Makena graduated summa cum Laude from Burlington High School, earning her diploma and Associate of Arts degree from Allen Community College. While in high school, Makena participated in volleyball for four years and held leadership roles in various clubs. She was an FBLA, FCA, FCCLA, National Honor Society, and Spanish club member. In Makena's senior year, she and other students formed a new club, Mind over Matter (MOM). The club focused on young teens' mental health and well-being, and she represented the club as the student council representative. Makena was both a Kansas Scholars Curriculum and NCAA Curriculum Completer and was awarded the KSHSAA Distinguished Scholastic Achievement in volleyball, basketball, and student council. She was also awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence. Makena attended Bri's Dance Studio for 12 years and competed for six years, receiving numerous awards. She was also a member of the Stringtown Bombers 4-H for ten years and qualified to compete at the state level each year. Makena attends the University of Kansas and earned honor roll distinction for fall 2022. She plans to graduate with her bachelor's degree in health and exercise science and then pursue admission to an anesthesiology program.



**Elisa Langone** is the daughter of Anthony Langone, an 8-year Welder member of Local 798. She grew up in Massachusetts and moved to Arizona during high school, staying in-state ever since. In May of 2023, Elisa completed her senior year at the University of Arizona, majoring in animal science and minoring in biochemistry, and graduated cum laude. While attending this university, Elisa joined the Arizona Alpha chapter of Pi Beta Phi. In addition to being a full-time student, Elisa works numerous hours as a veterinary technician, has achieved a 3.5 GPA, and has been on the dean's list multiple times. After graduation, Elisa plans to continue her academic career by applying to veterinary school.



**Katie Smith** is the daughter of 26-year Welder member Clayton Smith and Jamie Smith of Foreman, Arkansas. She was a 2020 graduate of Foreman High School, where she was co-valedictorian. Katie was inducted into the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta during high school. She was also a Gator cheerleader for five years and was recognized as an All-American cheerleader twice. Katie was a Foreman FFA horse judging team member, competing successfully at district and state levels. Katie grew up riding horses and competed in barrel racing, pole bending, and goat tying in several local high school rodeo associations. She is a pre-vet major at Southern Arkansas University (SAU) in Magnolia. At SAU, Katie is a member of Sigma Alpha, serving as secretary while being on the Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha. Recently, Katie was accepted into the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine for the Fall 2023 semester.



**Contractors Rental Corp dba CJ Hughes in Toledo, Ohio  
Submitted By: Logan Hill**



**Meade in Wolcott, Indiana**



**Otis Minnesota, LLC in Indianapolis, Indiana**



**NPL Construction Company in Kokomo, Indiana**





**Grant Glaze and Clint Bercegeay for  
Associated Pipe Line Contractors in Leesville, Louisiana  
Submitted By: Jerry Carnes**



**Made in Wolcott, Indiana**



**Made in Wolcott, Indiana**

# Short & Personal

## THANK YOU

**Rickey M. Prestidge** thanks all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the check he received. "It will go a long way toward deductibles and medication for my recovery." Special thanks to Michael Dickinson, Justin Wallace, and Danny Hendrix.

**Billy and Linda Hipps** greatly appreciate and thank all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the check they received following the tornado that took their home, motor home, and truck on March 31. "I have always been so proud to be a member of 798."

**The Conlee Family** thanks the Voluntary Fund and the person who wrote a letter for them in their time of need. "The Voluntary Fund is a great thing that helps all of us."

**Joe W. Spradlin, Sr.** thanks the 798 Voluntary Fund for the help he received during his time of need.

**Vickey Jones** thanks the Voluntary Fund for the money she received after the death of her husband, Arthur Ray Jones. "Ray loved working pipeline."

**Chad Springer and Family** thank the Voluntary Fund and all those who contribute. Their nine-year-old son, Will, was in a vehicle accident, receiving a total of five breaks in both of his legs. He is recovering well now. "We are grateful for the assistance."

**Larry D. Fuller** thanks everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. He appreciates the help after his surgery. Special thanks to Jessie Steed.

**Charles "Danny" Cloy** thanks Danny Hendrix, Justin Wallace, and all who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the check he received following the death of his wife, Barbara. Special thanks to Keith Carr and Kenneth Raimer for being there when he needed them.

**Jim and Gloria Shamblin** thank all 798 members for the assistance they received from the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to Randy Taylor, Bob Butterworth, and Greg Rose.

**Daniel and Wendy McLeod** express their sincere appreciation for the generosity shown to them during this time. "We pray each of you God's blessings in your own families and God's safety during your workdays and traveling ventures."

**George Bumila, Jr.** thanks the Voluntary Fund and all the members who contribute to it. The gift he received came at an opportune time during his surgery recovery. "May God bless all of you and Pipeliners Local 798."

**Shirley Beard** thanks Danny Hendrix, Justin Wallace, and the Brothers and Sisters of 798, for the money she received from the Voluntary Fund. It was a tremendous blessing and help in her time of need.

**Wendell Coker** thanks those who contribute to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to those responsible for him receiving the assistance. "It was greatly appreciated."

**Matt Franklin** thanks everyone who donates to the Voluntary Fund. The generous help he received following his heart surgery was greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to J.C. Thornburg. "I am proud and thankful to be a member of 798."

**Keith and Shirley Edwards** thank those who contribute to the Voluntary Fund for the help they received after Shirley's hip and leg surgery. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Virgil Frith. "God Bless 798."

**Rusty and Donna Bailey** thank everyone for the prayers and phone calls to check on Rusty. They also thank everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund. Special thanks to J.C. Thornburg, Mike Strickland, Todd Hartle, and Danny Hendrix.

**Jerry Swiney** thanks everyone for the help he received from the Voluntary Fund. He will restart cardiac therapy soon. Many thanks to David Butterworth.

**Gary Byers** thanks everyone who contributes to the Voluntary Fund for the help he received during this hard time. Special thanks to Danny Hendrix and Justin Wallace.

**Robert Finton** would like to thank all the Brothers and Sisters who donate to the Voluntary Fund for the assistance he received after the unexpected loss of a loved one. Special thanks to Ricky Jones, Justin Wallace, and Danny Hendrix.

## RETIREMENTS

**Aubrey W. Walker**, Helper, Pollok, TX

**Barry F. English**, Spacer, Hurt, VA

**Charles W. Loggins**, Welder, San Augustine, TX

**Michael D. Hartley**, Helper, New Philadelphia, OH

**Michael E. Dungan**, Welder, McDade, TX

**Sarah E. Rogers**, Helper, Lynn, IN

**Thomas D. St. Clair**, Welder, Reagan, TN

**Thomas J. Lilyerd**, Welder, Mora, MN

## IN MEMORIAM

**Andrew Barney**, 56-year-old Spacer of Rice Lake, WI, passed away September 1, 2022.

**Ronald R. Jones**, 85-year-old Retired Welder of Idabel, OK, passed away February 18, 2023.

**Kenneth J. Daley**, 61-year-old Retired Helper of Beggs, OK, passed away April 13, 2023.

**Ronnie R. Lampton**, 69-year-old Retired Helper of Batesville, AR, passed away April 27, 2023.

**George A. Murphrey**, 73-year-old Retired Welder of Shepherd, TX, passed away April 28, 2023.

**William D. Liles**, 71-year-old Retired Welder of Natchitoches, LA, passed away April 30, 2023.

**Dylan C. Reeder**, 31-year-old Helper of Tulsa, OK, passed away May 5, 2023.

**Brent McCormick**, 54-year-old Welder of Arlington, NE, passed away May 6, 2023.

**Joe G. Ellis**, 75-year-old Retired Welder of Houghton Lake, MI, passed away May 10, 2023.

**William K. Gills**, 88-year-old Retired Spacer of Arkadelphia, AR, passed away May 10, 2023.

**George D. Ferguson**, 85-year-old Retired Welder of Barboursville, WV, passed away May 13, 2023.

**Donald W. Collins**, 80-year-old Retired Spacer of Bald Knob, AR, passed away May 17, 2023.

**Robert G. Grove**, 91-year-old Retired Welder of Newton, IL, passed away May 18, 2023.

**Fred Merlino**, 88-year-old Retired Welder of Zelienople, PA, passed away May 19, 2023.

**Billy F. Ferrell**, 88-year-old Retired Welder of Hazlehurst, MS, passed away May 25, 2023.

**Carl E. Paillette**, 74-year-old Retired Welder of Mangham, LA, passed away May 27, 2023.

**Frederick B. Hughes**, 83-year-old Retired Helper of Falling Rock, WV, passed away June 1, 2023.

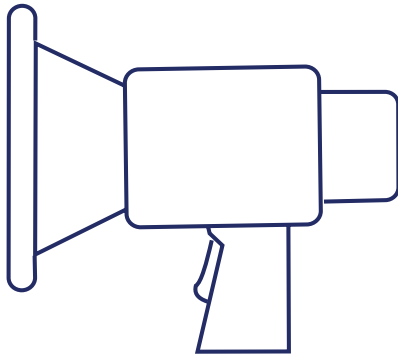
**Joseph R. Kisner**, 83-year-old Retired Spacer of Wind Ridge, PA, passed away June 5, 2023.

**Clinton T. Bison**, 38-year-old Spacer of Shreveport, LA, passed away June 9, 2023.

**Ricky L. Wolverton**, 73-year-old Retired Spacer of Parsons, KS, passed away June 9, 2023.

**John S. Burdge**, 90-year-old Retired Helper of Orbisonia, PA, passed away June 11, 2023.

**Paul V. Misiorek, Jr.**, 79-year-old Retired Helper of Taylorville, IL, passed away June 14, 2023.



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## SWAP & SELL

**1969 Model SA 200:** 1969 Model SA 200 welding machine. Located in LA. Asking \$4,000. Contact Chuck Houston at 724-255-2249.

**2019 Chevy Welding Bed:** Martin Brothers steel welding bed with aluminum lids. Had a Miller welding machine on it. The bed was made in 2019 and garage kept. Has lights inside toolboxes. Contact Charles Casper III at 570-660-8440.

**2020 Chevrolet Silverado/2008 Lincoln 300D:** Cab and chassis WT, CM bed, and 6 toolboxes. Duramax/Allison 35,000 miles. 1,400 hours on machine. Contact Billy Hawkins at 225-505-5959.

**Chums Leather Work:** Custom armbands, suspenders, belts, holsters, journals, knife, and gun scabbards, and much more! Contact Craig Chumley at 682-459-4035.

**Lincoln 200D Welding Machine:** It has been very well maintained and is in excellent condition. It has a Kubota motor, stainless steel top, and doors. The machine includes leads and remote plus other extras. Contact David Dartlon at 318-823-4722 (Home) or 318-417-0836 (Cell).

**Welding Truck Bed:** 3500 Dodge Ram truck bed. Fits Dodge Ram 4-door Limited truck. Contact Todd at 817-455-1003 for more information.



**Bobby Russell and Chris North for Infracore in Erlanger, Kentucky**

PIPELINERS



UNION 798  
UNITED ASSOCIATION

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#115-E

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**Limited Sizes. See website for availability.**