

Blue Light Reports

Volume XLIII, Number 1

JANUARY / FEBRUARY / MARCH 2008

www.local798.org

Business Manager **DANIEL C. HENDRIX**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I trust each and every member had a prosperous year and a happy holiday season. Our Local has been very blessed for the last year. We recorded well over 6.8 million man hours and 2008 looks as if it will exceed that number.

Our election has been concluded and the membership has spoken. I would like to thank the Election Committee for all their hard work. I would also like to say job well done to all the candidates, and congratulations to the new officers. With our autonomy back, we must work diligently towards harmony that this Local so greatly deserves. I want to be the first to say, that no matter whom you may have supported, we must all stand behind our newly elected Officers and move forward with the business of Local 798. On March the 7th, Trustee Jim Moss installed your new officers at a special meeting held in Tulsa. Although the meeting was somewhat small due to inclement weather it was an evening full of great emotion for all those who were present. We have our Local back and have the opportunity to self-govern after two years. No member wanted to be in trusteeship, myself included. But looking back, it was the only medicine that could cure our ills. Our new Constitution and By-Laws have been returned and are being printed. We will be mailing this document to you as soon as we receive it from the printer.

I want to share with you, the members, about a small group of dedicated individuals that took on an awesome and sometimes thankless task. They stood up when the Local was at its lowest and most vulnerable point. A Trustee was in charge, a new Interim Business Manager and new Interim Financial Secretary-Treasurer was appointed. All the familiar landmarks for success were at best hazy. These men are able craftsmen; their

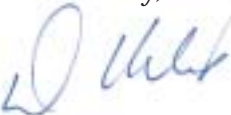
decision to come on board at that crucial time was a leap of faith. They believed that as an organization, we could be better, and that we deserve better. The group I am referring to is the Business Agents and Organizers. I salute each and every one of you, and thank-you for having the faith and the guts to stand up and move us forward.

I want each and every member to make an effort to come to the Steward School. We have many new issues to discuss on the agreement, new dispatch policies, and our pension and health care issues. There will never be a better time to gather as one than in April. I encourage all the new members to come and see what this local is about, and meet the people that represent you.

I personally would like to thank Phil Stephenson, International Representative and Director of Pipeline and Gas Distribution for his encouragement and guidance over the last 15 months. I also would like to thank International Representative Jim Moss for his unwavering commitment and dedication to serve as Trustee to Local 798. Without Jim's perseverance from the very beginning, I believe our Local would have ceased to exist.

I also would like to thank the membership for their support of this Local. We have had many growing pains over the last year in the field, and in the office. I am proud to say the membership as a whole has worked in harmony and with professionalism. As members, we will continue to profit and prosper when we stand in Unity. As always, I'm proud to say, *"I work for you, the finest pipeliners in the world."*

Fraternally,



Daniel C. Hendrix

Brothers and Sisters,

I am writing this report from the Tulsa, OK office, where I am conducting the daily business of Financial Secretary-Treasurer. The work load in the Tulsa office of Local 798 has increased dramatically with the tremendous amount of man-hours and the initiations of many new members over the past year. As members, we are very fortunate to have the highly qualified staff that we now have on board in the Tulsa offices. When calling Local 798 to conduct business, please be aware of the work load that the office employees are involved in. We understand that no request is as important as yours, but we do get many requests everyday. For instance, just in the department of assessments we made over 300,000 entries on the computer last year. This is only one department, and we have five other departments that have an equally large work load. I would also like to explain to the membership why you were unable to conduct business with this office Dec.10th thru Dec.14th 2007. For those who are not aware, Tulsa, Oklahoma experienced one of the worst ice storms on record. The Union Hall, along with approximately 500,000 other people, lost power on the night of Dec.9th. We regained our power on the morning of the 14th, only to discover that we still didn't have computer service or heat in the building. We do apologize for the inconvenience it may have caused to the members.

The elections have been conducted, and as of March 7th, I am the newly inducted Financial Secretary-Treasurer. With the number of votes that were cast on my behalf, I must say it is truly an overwhelming feeling. I would first like to thank each and every one who supported me with their vote and the additional support that I received through your many calls. I also would like to commend each and every candidate who stepped up and put their name on the ballot to give the membership a choice. Participation is one of the keys to the success of this great Local Union. To the other Elected Officers, I say "Congratulations!" I am looking forward to conducting the business of Local Union 798 with a full staff of Officers that the membership elected to represent them.

With over six million man-hours recorded for 2007 I hope that each and everyone had a prosperous year. This is one of the few times

when we, as Pipeliners can enjoy the benefits of a great previous year, and still look forward to an enormous amount of future work. If we use this great work trend that we have been blessed with, and make the best of it by working every opportunity that comes our way, our families will enjoy a greater standard of living than many have ever known. This means taking jobs when they are offered, showing up to the jobsite on the date you are given, and being on the job every day ready to work.

I've received calls from a few of our members who were run off for not showing up for work, and they would say, "I'm the best hand that they have." Remember, to be considered the best hand on the job, you must first show up for work on time every day. While I am on this subject, I get a few calls from some of our helpers who feel the wage package is not high enough. We all want the most we can get for our hard work, and it is this premise that we live by. Many times however, when I look into the person who is complaining, I find they missed days when they were on the jobs that could have been worked, but they failed to show up. Brothers and Sisters, when we miss one day on a six day job, we have just given up 21% of our pay check for that week, and one day's benefits as well. Always keep in mind, it is a great deal easier to negotiate increases for workers who show up every day, ready for work, on time, and give a fair day's work.

For the past year, I have worked very hard contacting members who are behind on their obligations, to get their initiation payments paid. The majority of our members who were behind have stepped up and taken care of this outstanding debt. To the ones who have not yet taken care of the back initiation payments that you owe Local Union 798, may this serve as a **FINAL NOTICE** to get it paid! In the very near future, I plan to file internal Union charges on these members, beginning with the oldest initiations owed and moving forward. If fines are assessed by our newly elected Executive Board, I will not accept dues payments until the fine is paid.

To any of our members or prospective members, I would like to remind you that in no case do you give your money for initiation payments, dues, or fines to the job steward.

All payments to Local Union 798 should either be sent through the mail, credit card payments over the phone, or auto-withdrawal from your account through the Tulsa, OK office. The job steward will be able to provide you with dues envelopes to assist you in sending mail payments. All of the 2007 dues receipts and Voluntary Fund receipts have been mailed at this time. If for some reason you have not received yours, please call and we will resend them.

I have received several calls about life insurance benefits. As a UA member, if your dues are less than three months in arrears and you do not owe a previous reinstatement fee, you have a death benefit that will be paid by the UA. This benefit begins at 6 months of continuous membership and increases with your number of years as a member, with a maximum at this time of \$2250.00 for 35 years or more. Also, active eligible participants in the Pipeline Industry Benefit Fund have a death benefit of \$10,000.00, which increases to

\$20,000.00 for accidental death. These are two distinct and different policies and you should make sure you have the right beneficiaries named on each. The UA beneficiary card can be changed through this office by requesting a new beneficiary card to complete. The PIBF also has a beneficiary card for their benefit as well, and can be requested through their office.

I hope you have made your plans to attend the 2008 Steward School and I am looking forward to visiting with as many of you as time allows. If I can be of assistance, feel free to contact me through my Local 798 office phone number in Tulsa, OK 918-610-2757. And as always, Work Safe, Work Proud, Work Union!

Fraternally,



David L. Barnett

International Representative, United Association **JAMES P. MOSS**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It has been just a little over two years since I came to Local 798 as your Trustee. When I arrived in Tulsa on February 27, 2006, my assignment was to assess the current state of affairs at Local 798 and make recommendations to General President Bill Hite on how best to correct the problems that plagued the Local Union at that time.

Many decisions had to be made in order to return Local 798 to self-governance. While not all agreed with some of my decisions, the fact remains that after two plus years of trusteeship, Local 798 has endured. The Local has emerged with its jurisdiction intact, on a solid financial footing, with a structure in place to secure its future, and with an elected group of Officers and appointed Agents and Organizers who will serve in the best interest of all members of Local 798.

I hope that all of the members of 798 remember, each and every day, that Local Union 798 is all of you. And the Local Union will be judged on the actions of all, whether they are the decisions of your elected leaders or the performance of rank-and-file members on the

right-of-way. Together, you will remain strong and vibrant with an unlimited future.

While we all need to look to the future and move ahead, we must never forget the past. Indeed, remembering those experiences will help ensure that the mistakes of the past are not repeated. But it is time to look forward. You have elected officers who will lead this fine Local in the right direction with honesty, integrity and hard work.

I am very happy for you, now that you have your Local Union back and am saddened at the thought of not being a part of something as great as Local 798 anymore. But I can honestly say it has been a pleasure serving you and leave with the utmost respect for you and Local 798.

With humility and respect, I am

Fraternally yours,



James P. Moss



Installation of Local 798 Officers, March 7, 2008



Pipeliners Local 798 Officers

Steward School — April 9-11, 2008

This year's Steward School will be held April 9-11, 2008 at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills. A general session covering the National Pipe Line Agreement will be held Wednesday and Thursday, April 9-10. The Friday, April 11 session will cover the Pipeline Industry Benefit Fund. The sessions will begin promptly each morning at 8:00 a.m. Registration starts on Tuesday, April 8, 2007 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and continues at 6:30 a.m. Wednesday morning, April 9. If you plan to work in the future as a Steward or Welder Foreman, please make every effort to attend. To kick off our Steward School events, please join us on Tuesday, April 8 for the 9th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, benefiting the Harry Faucett, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund. The tournament will be held at White Hawk Golf Course beginning at 8:00 a.m. Please contact the Union Hall for registration information. Lincoln Electric will host a BBQ lunch at the Local 798 Training Center after the Golf Tournament. The Retiree and Family Banquet, honoring members with 50 or more years of service will start at 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening, April 10. Join us for a delicious dinner and entertainment by country performer Bret Graham. Miller Electric will host the annual Crawfish Boil at the

Local 798 Training Center at the conclusion of Steward School, Friday, April 11 at noon. The dedication of the Pipeliners Memorial Wall will be held outside the Union Hall Friday afternoon. That evening, a membership meeting will take place at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills starting at 7:00 p.m. A Ladies Hospitality is also scheduled for Friday evening at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Ladies of 798 have many exciting special events and programs planned throughout the week, including a basket auction during the Retiree and Family Banquet. Visit their registration tables for available information during the Steward School registration times, and all during the week. Special thanks go to our Sponsors: Lincoln Electric, Miller Electric, Mathey Dearman, and Pferd, Inc. Lincoln Electric and Miller Electric have once again donated welding machines and other prizes for a drawing to be held Friday evening at the membership meeting. Help us show our appreciation by purchasing a chance to win one of these valuable welding machines. Contact the Union Hall or Local 798 Training Center for additional information. All proceeds will be donated to the Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarship Program.

Thank You 

The following have submitted Thank You cards or notes to Local 798.

October 2007

Carl & Leah Wood
Cathy & Gilbert Martin
Lora Feenstra
Mike & Jody Green
Bell (Pete) and Frances Lafitte
Ronnie Severn
Louis Hernandez
Dan & Candice Landreneaux

November 2007

Cindy & David Ashby
Leilani S. Crouch & Larry G. Steward
Lance Pilgreen
Travis O. Crabtree
John L. Rice
Carl & Mary Landreth
Vaughn D. Kempson & Family

December 2007

Mary Sue Bruce
Tim Moore & Kim Gowdy
Mrs. Mitchell Parrott
Jordan G. Lindsay
Rebecca S. Quinn & Family
William J. Bertelmann
Mark Chase
Charles & Jeanie Nutter
Tim Holt
John R. Bradford
Jeffrey A. Theroux
Lisa Luper & Family
Wilma Dyer
Gary & Shelly Parnell
Carolyn Hargrove

January 2008

Wendell Coker
F.H. Tucker
Eddie Jones
Matthew R. Senn
Barry Seeley
John & Ethel Mulkey
Bill Garrett
Michael Mathews & Family
Thomas & Margaret Pitts
David J. Souza
Cathy Robinson
The Hawkins Family
The Chad Schroeder Family
Bryce Beaty
Alan Boyd

February 2008

Jerry & Carol Fazzio
Bobby Noble
Dale Sweazea
Toby & Alpha Boyett
Family of James P. Gwin

RETIREMENTS

Name	City / State	Trade Level	Initiation Date	Month Retired
Michael L. Bednar	Pawhatan Point, OH	Welder	October 18, 1966	November 2007
John M. Cain	Livingston, TX	Spacer	September 1, 1978	November 2007
Barry L. Dillingham	Houston, TX	Helper	September 13, 1968	November 2007
Tommy R. Manning	Buna, TX	Welder	July 5, 1966	November 2007
Gary J. Robichaux	Gray, LA	Welder	September 2, 1981	November 2007
Jim R. Moyer	Pampa, TX	Welder	May 22, 1975	December 2007
Ralph K. Roper	Bald Knob, AR	Helper	May 14, 1974	December 2007
Richard L. Templeton	Attalla, AL	Spacer	September 17, 1966	December 2007
Donald W. Collins	Bald Knob, AR	Spacer	October 7, 2002	January 2008
Dewey Pendergraft	Seneca, MO	Helper	October 18, 1967	January 2008
Richard J. Ball	Moblie, AL	Welder	January 12, 1967	February 2008
John W. Doolin	Disney, OK	Welder	July 11, 1973	February 2008
Jamey W. Hobbs	Bald Knob, AR	Welder	June 17, 1997	February 2008
Coy W. McBrayer	Dumas, TX	Welder	September 2, 1965	February 2008
Charles D. Seales	Latrobe, PA	Helper	August 28, 1975	February 2008
Danny M. Dickinson	Lufkin, TX	Welder	August 9, 1965	March 2008
Charles C. Lang	Lake City, MI	Spacer	July 22, 1969	March 2008
John W. Latham	S. Boarman, MI	Helper	June 19, 1978	March 2008
Robert E. Shamblin	French Creek, WV	Welder	September 23, 1965	March 2008

IN MEMORIAM

Name	Age	Passed Away	Trade Level	City / State
Dallas W. White	64	September 18, 2007	Welder	Waukomis, OK
Robert J. Rummel	77	October 22, 2007	Retired Spacer	Athens, TN
F.L. Westbrook	63	October 22, 2007	Welder	Fouke, AR
Roy L. Tyler	75	October 29, 2007	Retire Spacer	Mora, LA
Billy W. McGee	71	November 2, 2007	Retired Welder	Lobelville, TN
Larry W. Greer	93	November 13, 2007	Retired Helper	Marthaville, LA
Suzanne Bugni-Sholar	55	November 18, 2007	Helper	Iron Wood, MI
Michael T. Holt	39	November 25, 2007	Helper	Marshall, TX
James D. Bruce	72	November 30, 2007	Retired Welder	Lake Charles, LA
Scott G. Fazzio	35	November 30, 2007	Welder	Slidell, LA
George M. Loyd	60	November 30, 2007	Welder	Folsom, LA
Larry K. Edgemon	64	December 3, 2007	Retired Welder	Warrenton, MO
O.D. Adams	75	January 2, 2008	Retired Spacer	Purcell, OK
Frank A. Wynn	61	January 6, 2008	Retired Welder	Shreveport, LA
James P. Gwin	71	January 12, 2008	Retired Welder	Epps, LA
James L. Keene	88	January 14, 2008	Retired Spacer	Brandon, MS
Roy "Sonny" Davis, Jr.	71	January 24, 2008	Retired Welder	Mulberry, AR
James A. Townsend	53	January 25, 2008	Retired Helper	West Monroe, LA
William T. Moye	82	February 3, 2008	Retired Welder	Jasper, TX
Terry D. Bergey	53	February 8, 2008	Retired Helper	Marion, MI
James L. Person	80	February 12, 2008	Retired Welder	Mexia, TX
John T. Ballenger	80	February 15, 2008	Retired Welder	Jennings, OK
William A. Higman	77	February 17, 2008	Retired Welder	Hull, TX
Earl Hernandez	82	February 19, 2008	Retired Welder	Montgomery, WV
Doyal Barron	66	February 20, 2008	Retired Helper	Russell, AR
Claytee R. Wilkinson	51	February 21, 2008	Spacer	McAlester, OK
William R. Duggan	83	March 3, 2008	Retired Spacer	Keller, TX
Larry K. Poston	69	March 4, 2008	Retired Welder	Latexo, TX

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

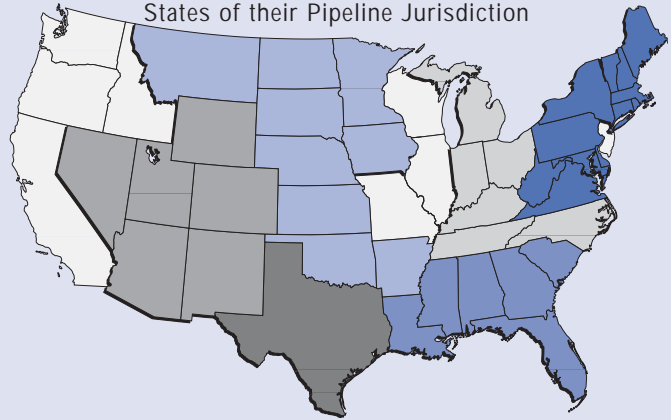
Over the last several months, the Union Office has been flooded with phone calls and written requests for employment verifications, unemployment compensation applications, and child support withholding requests. Please remember that Pipeliners Local 798 **IS NOT YOUR EMPLOYER**. Listing Local 798 as your employer will only delay the process when seeking a loan, applying for unemployment benefits, or supplying information related to child support.

Local 798 will provide membership information, if you have signed an authorization to release this information. However, we cannot provide employment information. If you have listed Local 798 as your employer when applying for unemployment benefits, we will notify the unemployment office you were not employed by us. This may endanger or delay your ability to receive unemployment benefits.

Pipeliners Local Union 798 Business Representatives

Answering Service Phone 918/663-6520

States of their Pipeline Jurisdiction



- Phillip W. Wallace** 501/724-5018 918/663-6520 Ext. 313
Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota
- Chris Lancaster** 731/549-3300 918/663-6520 Ext. 303
Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee
- Chad Gilbert** 970/565-8746 918/663-6520 Ext. 307
Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
- Rick Taylor** 304/587-2191 918/663-6520 Ext. 314
Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia
- Darrell Turner** 256/463-7953 918/663-6520 Ext. 308
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina
- Black Schroeder** 409/753-2264 918/663-6520 Ext. 304
Texas

PIPELINERS



UNION 798
UNITED ASSOCIATION

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

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WICHITA, KS
PERMIT NO. 23