

Blue Light Reports

Trustee Local 798 **JAMES P. MOSS**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to thank all of you who attended Steward School and our meeting. Both were very informative and productive. I came away from both feeling a renewed sense of pride in our members both for themselves and the Local Union. Consistency was the theme throughout the Steward School and it was evident to me that the membership appreciates this concept.

One topic that came up, and is affecting all of us in a negative way, was the cost of health care. This is not just a 798 problem but a problem that all Americans are facing. It is also a problem that stirs strong sentiments in all of us. Feelings of "it's not fair" and "who's fault is this" are common to all. Unfortunately, all of the Health Plans in this country are in the same boat and the only thing we can do is react to the problem by cutting benefits or raise the rates we pay for our health care to cover the rising costs.

The reason I bring this up is to ask that next time you feel you are being taken advantage of, do something about it. Write your Congressmen, Senators and State Legislators. And keep writing them. Put it on your list of things to do once a month. Explain the hardships that your family is facing due to the failed health care system in this country. Demand that they introduce legislation to address your concerns. Inform them that you will hold them accountable for their actions on your behalf when election time rolls around again.

And ask them to keep you informed on their activities in this area of concern.

Only when this problem is addressed in Washington DC and State Capitals around the country will we start to see any relief from this desperate situation. And don't be fooled by any attempts to tax our benefits for the purpose of fixing the problem. Remember, at some point everybody has some type of health care but only some of us pay for it.

On another note, our work season is starting and we are expecting more work than we had last year. This will present us with challenges we have not faced in a long while, mainly, the challenge of manning our work. I am asking all of you to take the jobs when you are available. I know the work is demanding and we all want some time off. This year, however, there won't be much room for taking a couple of months off after finishing a job. Everyone knows this won't last forever so now is the time to take advantage of the situation and put some money away for a rainy day. Finally, if you know anyone who is not afraid of hard work and would like to join this great Local Union, send them our way. We are going to need them. Let's go to work!

Fraternally,



James P. Moss

Interim Business Manager **DANIEL C. HENDRIX**

Brothers and Sisters

Thanks to all who made the extra effort to attend the 2007 Steward School. If you were unable to be here, you probably have already heard, this was one of, if not the best, Steward Schools held in years. All the Agents, Interim Financial Secretary-

Treasurer and I presented the terms and interpretations of the National Pipe Line Agreement in portions. I felt it was important that the members hear about the Agreement from the Agents who

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represent them. Lively discussions were held each day and the Friday night informational meeting was very open and enjoyed by all.

I am happy to report the work outlook for 2007 still remains very positive. As I stated in my last report, we recorded 3.7 million-man hours in 2006 and I expect a significant increase for 2007. Our greatest asset is our skilled workforce – you! We will be challenged to meet the demands of this years many projects, so I encourage each of you to hire out on as many jobs as you can. Given what we expect will be a huge demand for Welders this year, we are also urging all those who want to upgrade to Welder status to contact the Training Center and become certified. We are counting on you to help with our ongoing recruitment of new members so, if you know welders, pipeline fitters, and helpers who are not Local 798 members, encourage them to apply now.

I would also like to express my thanks to all who volunteered as inside guards and to all who helped behind the scenes at the BBQ and crawfish boil. Your help and dedication is to be commended. Also, a big thank-you to all our sponsors; Lincoln Electric, Miller Electric, Mathey-Dearman, and PFERD INC. for all their equipment and consumable donations for the Training Center. Between the charity golf tournament and ticket sales on donated items, \$27,469.88 was raised for the Scholarship Fund.

Thanks again for your efforts and your support for Local 798. As always, I am proud to say, **“I work for you, the finest Pipeliners in the world.”**

Fraternally,



Daniel C. Hendrix

Brothers and Sisters,

Since my last *Blue Light Report*, I have had the privilege to attend both the U. A. Pipeline Conference in Scottsdale, AZ, and the 798 Steward School in Tulsa, OK as your Interim Financial Secretary / Treasurer.

The U. A. Pipeline Conference was very informative, and was a positive learning experience for me, as well as an opportunity for other U. A. Locals with pipeline jurisdiction to meet the present Local 798 staff. It always helps to be able to put a face with a name when we contact each other by phone in our day-to-day business operations. I would like to commend Phil Stephenson and his staff on putting together a very professional and enlightening conference that really went to the heart of the issues facing the pipeline industry today.

As many of you know, the 2007 Local 798 Steward School experienced a very good turn out considering the amount of work that was ongoing this year. The format was very enlightening, and allowed Danny, myself and each agent an opportunity to read a portion of the contract and answer the questions asked by our members and members of visiting sister locals. We sincerely believe this is

the way to get all of our areas of jurisdiction on the same page. If you were unable to attend, you were truly missed. We were able to visit one-on-one about issues that we need to resolve in all of our minds, so we can move forward as the great Local Union that we are. If you did not attend the Steward School, call a member who did and get their first-hand account of what went on and their feelings about the meetings.

As you will recall in my last report, I talked about the past-due initiation fees owed by some of our members. I am pleased to inform the membership that from January 2nd through April 1st of this year, the Local received \$189,211.00 in past due initiation fees. I would like to commend those members who have made this good faith effort to clear this up. When I talk to some of the members who owe back initiation fees, they indicate to me that as soon as the work breaks they fully intend to pay their fees in full. I want the members to know that by the same token, I fully intend to collect these fees. The outstanding amount on initiation fees as of April 1st was \$760,546.91. I will be contacting the members on the jobs after they go to work to get these paid. On a related note, I

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

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

Jenessa Carter Hicks is a first year law student at the University of Mississippi. She was Valedictorian at Haynesville High School in Haynesville, LA. Jenessa graduated Summa Cum Laude from Louisiana Tech University in May 2006 with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, and a minor in English. While at Tech, she was a member of the Phi Mu Fraternity. She was also a member of the varsity dance team at Louisiana Tech, the Regal Blues. Jenessa was active in numerous honor societies, including Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Beta Phi, Golden Key, and the Order of Omega. Jenessa was awarded the Outstanding Student Award for the College of Liberal Arts for the year 2006. She was also the recipient of the John K Price and the John Caldwell Scholarships from the Department of Social Sciences, and Outstanding Student Scholarship from Louisiana Tech, and the Martha McDonald Scholarship from Phi Mu. She was on the President's List for 11 quarters while at Tech.

Jenessa is a member of the Delta Theta Phi law fraternity at Ole Miss. She is the recipient of the University of Mississippi School of Law Scholarship and the Winter/Bennett Scholarship. Since Jenessa grew up surrounded by the benefits of organized labor, she decided to focus her study of the law in the field of Labor Law.

Jenessa is the Granddaughter of James (Jimmy) and Gay Cater. James is a 33-year retired welder member of

Local 798. She is the daughter of Lisa Carter. Jenessa recently married her high school sweetheart, Garron Hicks of Haynesville, LA.

Whitney Stearns is currently a Junior at Oklahoma State University. She graduated from Charles Page High School, Sand Springs, OK, in 2004. Whitney is currently in the Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority at Oklahoma State, and served as Scholarship Chair for the sorority last year. She was also an ambassador for the college of Human Environmental Sciences, which is a hand selected group of students based on leadership and GPA.

2006/2007 Pipeliners Voluntary Fund Scholarships Awarded

Whitney is currently in the Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society within the college of Human Environmental Sciences. Next year, she plans to attend dental hygiene school at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. Becoming a dental hygienist has always been her dream, and she is working hard to accomplish that goal.

Whitney is the Granddaughter of Glyn M. Wells, 54-year retired welder member of Local 798.

Kevin H. Wyatt graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology from The University of Southern Mississippi in 2003. He continued his education by maintaining a 4.0 GPA while completing a Master of Science degree in 2005 at the University of Southern Mississippi. Kevin is currently pursuing a PhD. Degree in Zoology at Michigan State University. He teaches Biology lab and will work as a researcher in Alaska during the summer months. Kevin has received numerous honors, awards, scholarships, and has many photographs and articles published in several national and local wildlife magazines. The work he does as a Ph.D. student is related to environmental issues and as he enters the job market, will work hard for the Union effort.

Kevin is the son of Howard and Ann Wyatt of Mt. Olive, MS. Howard is a 41-year retired welder member of Local 798.

Angela Roper graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2005 at the University of Central Arkansas with a double major in Physics and Mathematics, and a minor in Interdisciplinary Studies through the Honors College. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Medical Physics at Vanderbilt University, and holds an internship at the University as a Radiation Safety technician.

Angela received a tuition remission at Vanderbilt, and the United Association's Trust Scholarship this year. In addition, she received a Presidential Scholarship from the University of Arkansas along with several scholarships specifically through the Honors College. She obtained a grant to do research at Los Alamos National Laboratory as a undergraduate in 2004, and presented her thesis through the Honors College in the same year. Throughout her studies as an undergraduate, she was on both the President's list and the Dean's List multiple times.

Angela is an active member of Serving Central Arkansas Together, Environmental Alliance, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars as an undergraduate. As a graduate, she is a member of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. Upon graduation, she plans to stay at Vanderbilt University and work in the Radiation Oncology Department, focusing on cancer treatment planning for a variety of different cancers.

Angela is the daughter of Ralph Roper, a 33-year Local 798 helper member.

Joshua Root graduated from Bald Knob High School in 2006 with honors. During his Senior year, he was a member of the Sr. High Basketball team, Beta Club, FCA, Band, FBLA, Oasis, and Who's Who among American High School Students. Joshua was awarded the Presidential Scholarship, Academic Challenge and BKEA Scholarship. Upon graduating, Joshua chose to attend the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, AR. He has currently completed one semester in which he was selected for

the Dean's List. Joshua's future plans include graduating from UCA, and attending Medical School.

Joshua is the son of LaJeana and Doug Root, a 28-year helper member of Local 798.

Josh Stearns is a freshman at Oklahoma State University. He graduated from Charles Page High School in Sand Springs, OK in 2006. Josh is currently a member of the Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) fraternity at Oklahoma State. He is majoring in business management and is active in the Business College. He participates in many service projects such as Into the Streets, Big Event, and Relay for Life. After graduating with his degree, he plans to work in the business field, and someday may manage his own business.

Joshua is the Grandson of Glyn M. Wells, 54-year retired welder member of Local 798.

Preston D. Moore is currently a junior at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, majoring in Biochemistry/Molecular Biology and maintaining a 3.36 GPA. He is a member of Gamma Beta Phi (Service Fraternity) and Alpha Epsilon Delta (Medical Honor Society), United Residents Hall Association (Hall Officer), Gibbs Residency Association (Current Vice President), Student Government Association (Senate Member), Orange Nation, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and Clinic VOLS. Preston has completed volunteer work for Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill Industries, Boys and Girls Club, Orange vs. Blue Blood Drive, Student Assistant at Inskip Elementary School Clinic through Clinic VOLS.

Preston plans to attend medical school and continue his studies in order to become a Doctor of Medicine, preferably an Ophthalmologist. He is the grandson of 40-year retired welder member Mack Curtis.

Rachel Sutton grew up in Rockledge, FL and went to Florida State after graduation. Her accomplishments this year include serving on the executive board of her sorority Delta Zeta as house manager. She participated on a committee for dance marathon

benefiting the Children's Miracle Network. Last fall she was on the Dean's list for academics. She plans to continue her studies at Florida State in Creative Writing and Physiology for two more years, then attending grad school.

Rachel is daughter of welder member David Sutton.

Dana C. Leonards is currently studying at Panola College School of Nursing. She is in her third semester of four total semesters of the nursing clinicals and classes. Dana's goal is to graduate from Panola College and pass the NCLEX within the next year to receive her R.N. License. After receiving her R.N., she plans to provide nursing care in a local hospital while continuing her nursing education. In addition to her school work, Dana and her husband Kurt are raising three wonderful girls, Valerie, Aubrey, and Jenna Kate.

Dana is the daughter of welder member Wesley F. Chapman, and helper member Deborah Chapman.

Veronica Jackson was born in Princeton, NJ to Ronnie and Carol Medley. Ronnie is a retired member of Operator's Local 181 and Carol is a member of Laborer's Local 1392. She is a graduate of Barren County High School, which is where she met and married her husband, Dennis Jackson, a 4-year welder member of Local 798.

Veronica and her family reside in the southern part of Barren County, KY. They have two children, Dalton, age 12 and Becca, age 7. Besides being a full-time wife, mother, and student, she is active in her children's school activities, including baseball, basketball, and a girl scouts.

She is proud to be attending Bowling Green Technical College, where her class will be the 50th graduating class. Bowling Green Technical College is known for having a 100% pass rate on the state boards. Her tentative graduation date is December 2007. She will graduate with an Associate's Degree in Nursing, and plans to continue her education the following January in the Registered Nurse Program. Last semester, she finished in the top 10 of her class, and was named to the Dean's List.

Harry H. Faucett, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

The Harry H. Faucett, Jr. scholarship was established in 2000 to honor the memory of Brother Faucett, whose life was one of service, commitment, and generosity. This award, made possible through generous contributions to the Voluntary Fund, is presented to the highest-ranking applicant meeting the qualifications for the Pipeliners Voluntary Scholarship Program.

This year's recipient of the Harry H. Faucett, Jr. scholarship is **Kerry L. Norris**. Kerry is a freshman at Central Baptist College in Conway, AR. His hometown is Warren, AR, and he is a 2006 home-school graduate. Kerry was listed among Who's Who Among American High School Students, and received the AWANA Citation Award, served as a Page in the Arkansas House of Representatives and the Arkansas State Senate. At Central Baptist, he was active in the Association of Baptist Students, and is a member of the Student Men's Organization. He is currently seeking membership in Pi Lambda and the Student Orientation Staff, which are volunteer organizations on the college campus. He has been a volunteer for Evangelistic International Ministry for 8 years, which is a world-wide relief organization based in his hometown, and he's been on mission trips to Venezuela and Mexico.

Kerry is a member of the National Honor Society, and is currently on the President's List at Central Baptist College, which requires a 4.0 grade point. He plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Business with an emphasis in either accounting or finance. He would also like to be able to continue going on mission trips each summer or serving at a summer church camp.

Kerry is the son of Danny and Fonda Norris of Warren, AR. His grandfather, Bobby Strickland, is a 41-year retired welder member of Local 798, and his uncle, Mike Strickland, is a 33-year Local 798 welder member.

would also like to inform the membership that from January 2nd to April 1st of this year, our Local has successfully collected back dues remittance payments from contractors of \$17,936.13, with more being worked on at present. In addition to this amount, in line with our agreement, we have also assessed and collected late reporting fees from these contractors in the amount \$15,215.00 during the same time frame.

I would also like to touch on a situation that I get calls about from time to time. Apparently, we have some members who are leaving town without paying their motel or rent bills. This very rarely happens, but at the very least, we should consider the next pipeline member who will go back into that area and need the same respect that you were afforded. It is your individual responsibility to make sure your bill is paid in full before leaving town. I will be contacting these members on a case-by-case basis to help get this resolved. The large majority of local people have been very

good to us as pipeliners in areas where we were pressed to find housing, and we all want it to stay that way.

The financial audits were recently completed by the U.A.'s auditing firm, and I am pleased to say that they found our present accounting practices to be acceptable and in order.

One question that came up at the Steward School this year was where to get the IRS mileage reimbursable rate. Go to www.irs.gov, then type in mileage rates in the search window and press the search icon. After this, click on standard mileage rates.

I hope this has been an informative report. If you have questions about these or other issues, please feel free to call me at Local 798 (918-622-1900).

Fraternally,



David L. Barnett

S H O R T A N D P E R S O N A L

RETIREMENTS

Name	City / State	Trade Level	Initiation Date	Month Retired
Billy R. Johnston, Jr.	Winnsboro, LA	Helper	July 7, 1987	January 2007
Danny "Rex" Mason	Wappapello, MO	Welder	October 23, 1970	January 2007
Robert J. Fontenot	Lake Charles, LA	Welder	September 6, 1977	February 2007
Raymond "Lee" Staton	Pleasanton, KS	Welder	June 27, 1968	February 2007
Joseph Tallerico, Jr.	Waynesburg, PA	Helper	August 9, 1968	February 2007
Don Rabun	Summersville, MO	Welder	August 26, 1981	March 2007
James H. Thomas	Cheyenne, WY	Helper	May 9, 1975	March 2007
Robert Davis, III	Hominy, OK	Helper	August 27, 1974	April 2007

IN MEMORIAM

Name	Age	Passed Away	Trade Level	City / State
Walter W. Martinez	69	Dec 22, 2006	Retired Spacer	Phoenix, AZ
Clayton Lambert	67	Dec 30, 2006	Retired Helper	Jayess, MS
Stanley Varner	50	Dec 30, 2006	Welder	Mountainburg, AR
John J. Sandstrom, Sr.	80	Jan 5, 2007	Retired Spacer	Mathias, WV
Lois S. Bureson	86	Jan 11, 2007	Retired Welder	Midlothian, TX
Bobby H. Seales, Sr.	65	Jan 17, 2007	Retired Welder	Maplesville, AL
David L. Henderson	71	Jan 17, 2007	Retired Welder	Campbellsville, KY
James M. Ferrell	67	Jan 20, 2007	Retired Welder	North Zulch, TX
Richard "Bert" Prater	33	Jan 25, 2007	Helper	Westlake, LA
Lonnie E. Hewitt	59	Feb 2, 2007	Helper	Gillette, WY
Sam E. Burdett	83	Feb 7, 2007	Retired Welder	Winfield, KS
Russell B. Moses, Jr.	62	Feb 19, 2007	Welder	Clarksburg, WV
William D. Perry	87	Feb 21, 2007	Retired Welder	Amarillo, TX
James D. Thomas	61	Feb 24, 2007	Retired Welder	Snyder, TX
Gerald C. Hart	50	Feb 25, 2007	Helper	Winchester, KY
Jerry L. Gilbert	69	Feb 27, 2007	Retired Welder	Durant, OK
Osie L. McLain	81	Mar 16, 2007	Retired Welder	Wellston, OK
Wayne Satterfield	89	Mar 31, 2007	Retired Welder	Poteau, OK
Billy J. Clark	78	Mar 31, 2007	Retired Welder	Mt. Pleasant, TX
Kenneth L. Finnegan	64	Apr 5, 2007	Retired Helper	Aleppo, PA
David E. Etheridge	70	Apr 8, 2007	Retired Helper	Scotts Hill, TN



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

February 2007

- James E. Melvin
- Family of Mary Lou Fontenot
- Wade Spears and Family

March 2007

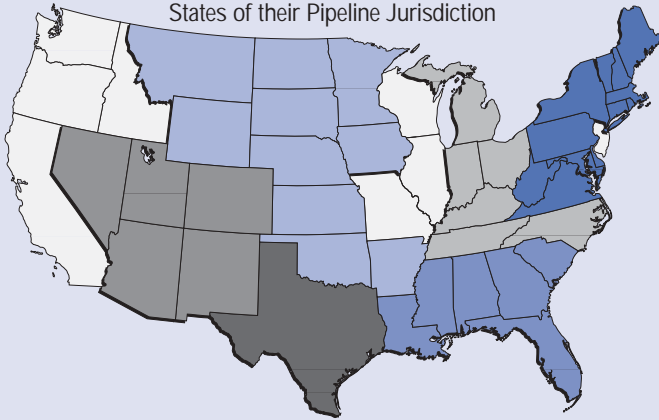
Family of Jerry L. Gilbert

April 2007

- Jerry A. Barnett
- Jerry Jones

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, Wyoming
- 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
- 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

Scholarship Applications Available

The Education Foundation of the Texas Pipe Trades has scholarship applications available for descendants of members of Local Unions affiliated with the Texas-Oklahoma Pipe Trades (now known as the Southwest Pipe Trades). This year, seven scholarship awards will be made in amounts ranging from \$300.00 to \$1500.00. Please contact Local Union 798 for an application packet.

Notice

Please see your website at www.local798.org for current information that is updated daily.

PIPELINERS



UNION 798
UNITED ASSOCIATION

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