

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to take a moment and welcome our new members into the family. The work abundance has dictated that we grow our ranks to fulfill our obligation to the contractors as well as the clients. Accelerating our membership at such speed has caused a few growing pains in the office as well as in the field, but it is challenges such as these that create opportunities. Many of our long-held traditions, customs, and policies, including Right of Way etiquette, have always been passed down from generation to generation by the *elders educating the newer members through verbal communication and example*. We, as elders, shouldn't expect the newer members to understand this code of conduct, if we are not willing to share this unwritten code that governs our expectations of what behavior is becoming of a 798 member. Most behavior from new members that is perceived as disrespectful, discourteous or abrasive, is unintentional and could have been avoided by better communication from the Welder Foreman, Job Steward, or an elder member who can pass along the structure and principles of R-O-W etiquette. *Blatant criticism of new members only ostracizes someone who has made the decision to be union. Whether you have been blessed to be a part of this Local for a short or long period of time, please reach out and welcome the new arrivals into the family.* We as a family must promote harmony and goodwill through assistance and education of what is to be expected. *Let's all be mindful of our obligations to the family and each other and we all will be stronger as an organization for it.*

Just recently two new commissioners to FERC have been approved and hopefully many of the projects that have been held up for lack of a voting quorum can now move forward. The work outlook for the remainder of the year and beyond continues to be very strong, along with winter projects that I believe are just around the corner. This has been a banner year for pipeliners; by year's end we may reach *10 million man-hours*. This local union and its membership have truly been blessed. Meanwhile, several billion dollars' worth of interstate pipeline projects are in some stage of development, whether they are still in the permitting process or construction is ongoing. These include: the \$5.1 billion Atlantic Coast Pipeline; the \$3 billion Atlantic Sunrise, the \$1.4 billion Leach Xpress; the \$2 billion Nexus Pipeline; and the \$2 billion Mountaineer Xpress. These massive pipeline systems will lead to more work interconnecting the smaller lines from well sites and processing plants, to these transmission lines.

Local 798 will hold a regional meeting in Cleveland, OH, hosted by *Lincoln Electric* at its facility. Many of our long-time vendors will also be there to participate. I encourage each of you along with your families to attend if possible. *This meeting is open to all pipeliners regardless of craft or union affiliation, and we want to showcase to everyone in the pipeline industry that 798 is leading the*

way. We will have plenty of fresh information to share with all, so mark your calendar for Sunday, September 17. More details are on our website and Facebook. As always, I am proud to say ***“I work for you, the greatest pipeliners in the world.”***

Fraternally,

Daniel C. Hendrix