

Official Publication of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157 Terre Haute, Indiana
Volume 36 Number 1-2 January/February, 2015

TRAINING OUR FUTURE



(Pictured L to R) Welding Instructor Jason Breyemeyer instructs Apprentice Zeph Bickett at the Lafayette Training Center

(Pictured L to R) Apprentices Nick Ekstrom, Josh Smith, Nick Lowe, Landon Zadai, Troy Wheeldon, Kolton McKenzie and Blake Neal stand in front of the Local 157 sign made entirely of copper pipe from a detailed ISO metric sketch completed by Josh Smith in drafting class at the Lafayette Training Center

NOTICE: Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union No. 157
will be accepting **APPLICATIONS** for the 2015 Apprenticeship Class.

To apply for the apprenticeship program log onto www.indianacareerconnect.com
Under Search for a Job enter any of the following keywords in the search field; pipefitter, fitter,
pipe welder, plumber, steamfitter and enter 47803 in the zip code search field.

Applicants will be considered without regard to race, creed, age or sex. A high school diploma or equivalent by June 2015 is required. All candidates must have and provide a copy of a valid driver's. All selected applicants will be subject to a background check and must have a clean drug screen.



Business Manager's Report

Greg Thoennes

The work situation has been holding steady and should be improving as we progress through the 1st quarter. While we are not at full employment our work hours were up for the fourth quarter of 2014 as compared to the past two years. It does look as though 2015 should be a much better year.

At the 12/5/14 Union Meeting the Membership approved the \$2,000 Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Policy offered by American Income Life (AIL). You should be receiving a letter from Local 157 and AIL soon about this benefit. AIL is a union insurance company that is endorsed by several Unions around the country including the UA. Because the Membership approved this benefit you will automatically receive it simply by being a Member. Included with the letter that you will receive will be a "yellow reply card". You don't have to return this card to receive this benefit. Only return this reply card if you wish to speak to an AIL representative about additional supplemental insurance. Local 157 will not provide any personal information to AIL; only you may do that by returning the reply card. If you are interested in additional insurance we feel that purchasing that from a union company that tailors benefits toward other Union Members is a good thing.

We have had some questions about the increase of premiums for retirees for Health and Welfare. This increase will only affect those who retire on or after 2/1/15. This does not increase premiums for current retirees.

On December 16, 2014 President Obama signed H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015. Included in this \$1.1 trillion spending bill was the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014. This pension reform was led by the National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Plans (NCCMP) and supported by the UA. These reforms were necessary to protect and preserve the multiemployer defined benefit pension system. While this is a very complex issue, the reforms primarily affect those few Plans headed for insolvency and also will shore up the stressed Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). There is some misleading information about this reform being spread. Our defined benefit plan, the Plumbers and Pipefitters Nation Pension Plan (PPNPF), is not adversely affected by this reform. You recently received a Pension Protection Act Funding Status notification from the PPNPF indicating that the Plan is in "Yellow" status. The Plan developed a Funding Improvement Plan in 2010 and the funding status has steadily been improving. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

The JATC has changed the way that we are taking applications for the Apprenticeship Program this year. Instead of taking requests for application during the month on January only, we will be taking them year round. To apply log on to www.indianacareerconnect.com and enter pipefitter, fitter, pipe welder, plumber or steamfitter in the "keyword" search field and 47803 in the "zip code" search field. We will have a cut-off date for this year's class before we conduct interviews but we will continue to take applications.

Piping Industry News

PRESIDENT ~ GREG THOENNES
SECRETARY/TREASURER ~ JOHN "JB" STRANGE
EDITOR ~ PATTI MESKIMEN

The Piping Industry News reserves the right to reject or discontinue any material considered unfair to Local 157



Official monthly publication of
Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157
8801 E. Milner Avenue
Terre Haute, IN 47803
(812) 877-1531



PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 157 OFFICERS

Business Manager	- Greg Thoennes
Financial Secretary/Treasurer	- John "JB" Strange
Business Agent	- Wilbur E. "Webb" Crouch, III
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	- Darrek J. Davis
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Business Agent's Report

Wilbur E. "Webb" Crouch, III



As of this publication there are 239 Members actively seeking employment with 36 of them being Apprentices and 25 Members on travel jobs. For the month of November we dispatched 50 Journeyman and 15 Apprentices, with 15 call backs. For the month of December we dispatched 89 Journeyman and 18 Apprentices, with 22 call backs.

Our work has been better this time of year than it has in quite a while. 2015 is looking promising with our Power House outages, The Douglas County Fertilizer Plant, the new Martinsville Power House in 440 and some work at Marathon Refinery.

There are a few travel jobs available after the first of the year. Contact me and I will try to get you out if I can.

Hopefully 2015 proves to be a more prosperous year than 2014. Thank you for your continued support.

Financial Secretary Treasurer's Report

John "JB" Strange



Now that the 2014 national election is over and we begin a new year, we need to stay aware of our elected representatives and their agendas for our nation. As a labor representative, I try to stay up to date with current events that impact our members, so I would like to share some information that I have recently been reading about.

There are two huge new trade deals, favored by global companies, known as TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) and TTIP (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) that American workers should be conscious of.

The negotiations of these deals are being done in secret. The precise language is being written under the guidance of corporate lobbyists. Congress has very limited access and almost no influence over the process. If a deal is finished, advocates for these trade policies want an expedited congressional approval process, with no time to explain the terms of the deal, no public hearings to educate the public and no opportunity for congress to modify the deal. This is what has come to be known as "fast track."

What little is known seems to show that these new deals follow the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) model in their basic features. This includes expanding corporate rights and disputes being settled without accountability to any national government. The interests of global investors will take priority over public interests and global businesses will be free to seek the lowest wages and weakest worker protections around the world.

These deals say nothing about currency manipulation either, which is great for global companies already manufacturing overseas. Currency manipulation hurts American producers and encourages offshoring. Bipartisan letters, signed by 230 House members and 60 senators, have sought action on currency manipulation. These deals will also be harmful to the environmental and dangerous for labor protections. Another letter from 153 House Democrats have asked for stronger labor rights.

We have been promised prosperity from each new trade deal, but as we know, we've lost millions of jobs, weakened our economy and bargaining power for every worker in America, increased our trade deficit approaching \$10 trillion and lost our strategic advantage in manufacturing to other countries.

Doesn't it make more sense to include congress and the American people in this process? If these trade deals are so good for us, why not make the details public and let the American people decide?



Field Representative's Report Darrek Davis

First off I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year. With the work that is scheduled to take place 2015 appears to be very promising for the Members of Local 157.

The largest project being the much anticipated Cronus Fertilizer Plant in Tuscola, Illinois which is scheduled to start around the second quarter of 2015. With that being said anyone who remembers Edwardsport knows that they did not call for 500 men the first month of the project. Jobs of this magnitude takes time to develop and "man-up". Please be patient and I am certain everybody who wants to be on this project will have the

opportunity.

Marathon is also going to have a lot of work throughout the year. I anticipate a gradual build up of manpower for the turnaround scheduled for the first week of August and lasting for 50 days. One thing we all must keep in mind is even with this facility being at the 95% pay rate we must man our work. Marathon Refinery is going to be around and if we are not the ones doing the work then someone else will be. The show will go on, with or without us!

On to politics, January 6th marked the first day of the 2015 Legislative Session of the Indiana General Assembly. Education issues and the budget are expected to dominate the legislative session, however numerous other issues will be included that will directly affect the Members of Local 157. The attempt to repeal the Common Construction Wage (CCW) Law, proposal to ban Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) and the elimination of Professional Licensing are all legislation that could have a huge impact on the working men and women of Indiana. With two Republican supermajorities (71-29 in the House and 40-10 in the Senate), nothing will be certain until the General Assembly adjourns on April 29th.



Field Representative's Report Steve Snyder

First and foremost I want to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. The 2015 work outlook has shaped up to be very positive not only in Local 157s jurisdiction but other jurisdictions throughout the country.

Purdue University continues to plug along with several bid packages being released for the 2015 spring/summer construction season. One of the larger projects is the 525 Room Honors College Dormitory. As of now the site utilities package is coming out to bid on January 6th and the MEP package February 18th. A new Active Learning Center Library is in the design/build plans for the 2015 construction season. There is

also several small lab remodels planned for the summer. I will be following all of these projects very closely and inform you of any pending changes and bid awards as things progress.

The current Purdue work load is holding steady. Freitag & Weinhardt's job at Purdue's Wade Utility Power Plant will start installing some large bore piping in the coming weeks for the chiller replacement. I expect a small increase of pipefitters for that project. Grissom Hall Interior Remodel is progressing well for Quality Plumbing & Heating. They have manned up over the winter and should hold steady for the next few weeks. DA Dodd as well as North Mechanical continue to work on several lab remodels throughout campus. I expect both their work loads to increase this construction season.

Westminster Retirement Community construction in Lafayette continues despite the mud and weather holding things up. Once the weather starts cooperating things should move fast.

Wabash College Plumbing Underground has finally started. I am pleased to report that AA Huber has received a notice to proceed from Hagerman Construction and have landed onsite. Again weather is a major factor on the scheduling.

I am happy to report that the winter outages at Subaru Automotive Plant went off without a hitch. Project Design Piping reported a tremendous surge in extra work during this outage all which was requested by the owner. Our Members were up for the challenge and completed all the requested extras in record time. I received several calls on the quality and professionalism displayed by our Members during this outage. If you were a part of this I personally want to say thank you and keep up the good work!

The Subaru Paint Shop Addition is still tracking the current schedule. The exterior skin and steel erection is scheduled to be complete by the end of January with the bulk of the piping work to start shortly thereafter. No word on who was awarded or even if bids are back from Phosphate System. I will continue to monitor this closely. Freitag & Weinhardt continue to work in areas as they become available.

As you all know we have been successful in getting combo welders and pipefitter pairs out to Local 125 Wever, Iowa. They currently are building a large natural gas fertilizer plant that is identical in size and process to the planned Tuscola Facility in our jurisdiction slated to start this year. From what their Agent has told me they are around 35% complete with this facility and plan additional hiring after the holidays. One of the main safety requirements for the Wever Project is to have taken your OSHA 10 class on or after January 2012. This is an owner requirement and will be a road block if your OSHA 10 is over three years old. You can take a class online at careersafeonline.com click on the OSHA 10 construction course to begin. This will cost you \$25.

As always be safe and come home in one piece.

TRAINING NEWS

Rich Cheever
Training Coordinator

From the Educational Trust Department of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157

Bob Morgan
Welding Coordinator

As we begin the New Year we are taking a look at what training needs we are facing and are very interested in finding out what training/continuing education you are interested in. If the need, desire and numbers are there, we will make arrangements as best we can to meet those needs.

We will be starting an OSHA 30 class Saturday, January 17th and will run for four consecutive Saturdays. If you attend 1 ½ days during the OSHA 30 it will fulfil the requirements of an OSHA 10. We are aware that many travel opportunities are requiring an OSHA 10 that has been updated within a 3 year period. If interest warrants we will schedule an OSHA 10 class upon request. There will be one held in August; however, the date is yet to be determined. It will be posted on the website when we know.

As a reminder, almost all of our certifications have expiration dates. You can look up the date that your certification expires by logging onto our website at www.ualocal157.org. Your Username is your UA card number and the Password is your birthdate with no dashes or slashes. Our website is a good source of information regarding upcoming training and recertification exams. You can also log onto ua.org, it is also a great resource when searching for continuing education or certifications.

Weld Tests are held every 3rd Saturday of the month when numbers warrant. Call Bob Morgan to register to test.

On January 10th we hosted our Local 157 Apprenticeship Contest in Terre Haute. The winners of the local competition will represent Local 157 at the Indiana State Pipe Trades competition hosted by Ft. Wayne Local 166 in March. The State Competition winner will then compete in June in Indianapolis at Local 440 in the Region 2 Competition. Good luck to all those who are competing.

We are also in the process of taking applications. As of this point we will no longer be taking written applications as we have teamed up with WorkOne in creating an online application process. If you know someone who is interested in applying have them log onto

www.Indianacareerconnect.com

To apply for the apprenticeship program applicants must first complete the Indiana Career Connect website registration. After completing your registration you should select Job Search and follow the search instructions given on page 1 of this newsletter.

In closing, we in the Training Center understand that there has been a great deal of frustration regarding the On the Job Training Hours (OJT) that the Apprentices have to deal with. We feel the policies that are in place are there for a reason and are vital to the future of our workforce. Pursuing the OJT hours required is designed to reinforce the classroom training and in return give our Apprentices the best opportunity for a successful career.

WELD TESTS AT THE TERRE HAUTE TRAINING CENTER

Saturday, February 21st, 2015 at 8:00 am
Saturday, March 21st, 2015 at 8:00 am
Saturday, April 18th, 2015 at 8:00 am

You must call the
Training Center at (812) 877-1736 and let them know
you are interested.





**Pipe Trades Industry
Health & Welfare Plan**
www.pthwplan.org



Tim Thacker
Administrative Manager

During the months of October and November 2014, your Health and Welfare Plan staff processed 15,328 claims, totaling \$5,851,613.30.

In this article, I would like to state the Plan's Chiropractic Benefit.

The Plan shall pay eighty percent (80%) of the Usual, Customary and Reasonable charge incurred by an eligible individual for chiropractic services and x-rays, subject to a maximum annual benefit of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per person (SUBJECT TO THE DEDUCTIBLE).

Any out-of-pocket expense incurred under this benefit shall NOT be included in or accrue towards the Out-of-Pocket Limit.



*In
Memoriam*



Michael R. Porter, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from El Dorado Hills, California passed away on November 29th, 2014. Michael was born on July 25th, 1946 and was initiated into the United Association on January 30th, 1969.



Spring Retiree's Luncheons

Friday, March 6th, 2015 at Noon
Terre Haute Meeting Hall

Tuesday, March 10th, 2015 at Noon
Lafayette Meeting Hall

Thursday, March 12th, 2015 at Noon
Danville Meeting Hall

2014

Deceased Members

January

Harry Ferrand
David Foster

February

George Bechtold

March

Raymond Holler
David Frost
Charles Campbell

April

Warren Rumple
Gregory Wright
Gary Shamblin

May

David Cook

June

Edward Wagner

July

James Plank

September

William Farmer

October

Theran Brown
Warren Stephens

November

Fred Selleck
Michael Porter

Retired Members

January

Michael Burch~Carl Dougherty
Dennis Farmer~Blake Hartman
David Henderson~William Hill
Clarence Jones Jr
Theodore Kaperak~Gary Knapp
Donnie Ritter~Mark Snapp
Robert Sturm Jr
Robert Swearingen

February

Jeff Atkinson~Terry Debaun
Charles Jones

March

John Christeson~James Young

April

Paul Crouch~Lawrence Drake
Michael Trante

May

Ronald Burke~John Lattin

June

Wayne Brush
Clayton Cunningham
Steven Gillespie~Gale Lockhart
Steven Miller

July

William Durbin~Harry Gibson
Rayland Jackson~Lonnie Wiram

August

Raymond Smith~Carl Wampler

September

Theran Brown~Warren Stephens

October

John Gutysh~William Stewart
Mark Wilson

November

Cecil Mayes

December

David Cyr~Ross Elliott
Gary Loudermilk
Richard Osborn

ON THE JOB AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY



Corey Jackson working on the Underground Chilled Water Piping



Lawmakers ponder pay changes.....

Proposals that could impact the wage of some Hoosier workers are among the flurry of bills filed in the early days of the Indiana General Assembly. The bills range from increasing the state’s minimum wage to repealing the prevailing wages of construction workers. Many are making return appearances after being proposed and failing during previous sessions.

Among them are the following:

HB-1052 COMMON CONSTRUCTION WAGE (David Ober) - Changes the composition of a committee that determines a scale of wages for a public work project. Changes from three months to 12 months the period during which the scale may be used. Provides that after December 31, 2015, the common construction wage law does not apply to a project in which the actual construction costs are less than \$1,000,000. (Under current law, this figure is \$350,000.) Makes technical changes.

Current Status:† 01/06/2015 Referred to Employment, Labor and Pensions

HB-1019 (Jerry Torr) SB-198 (Carlin Yoder) COMMON CONSTRUCTION WAGE - Repeals the common construction wage statute. Repeals related statutes superseded by the repeal of the common construction wage statute. Makes conforming amendments.

For more information regarding Common Construction Wage Law go to:

www.commonconstructionwage.org

On January 6, 2015,
Elfcu proudly became...



Watch for Elements.org & Elements Mobile Banking

During the transition from Elements Financial on January 6, 2015, we will have a new website address — elements.org — and new email addresses coming from @elements.org. Also watch for a mobile banking app update as we move to Elements Mobile Banking.

The good news is the address elfcu.org will work for you until you make these important updates:

- Create a new website bookmark for elements.org,
- Revise your email address book with @elements.org for all your credit union contacts,
- Mark @elements.org as safe senders.

And while we're updating our email addresses, make sure yours is current with us!

Member Experience Enhancements Planned

Some things will never change. For instance, we're always challenging our leadership and employees to serve members better each year with superior service and technology. For starters, you have these enhancements to look forward to in the months ahead:

Stronger Security: **Chip card technology** to protect you from debit and credit card security breaches.

More Access: Personalized money management tools and free FICO® credit score within eBranch at elements.org.

New Payment Options: Including Visa® Checkout and smartphone mobile payments

LIFE INSURANCE – For the “What Ifs” in Life

Life can change in an instant. Suddenly, those “what if” situations can become a reality that send a family reeling financially and emotionally.

Ask yourself these questions:

- What if I died unexpectedly?
- Could my family continue to live in our home?
- Would my children have the funds to be able to attend college?
- Will my family have the funds on hand to pay for my funeral and final expenses?

Life insurance is there to provide financial help to those affected by the “what if” situations.

There are four basic needs most families have:

- Final Expenses
- Income Protection
- Mortgage Protection
- And College Education

Life insurance from American Income Life Insurance Company can address these needs to help ensure that your family can continue to thrive while remaining in the home you have provided for them. Coverage is available to provide for money to replace a portion of the income they will lose if you are not there. You can make sure your children are able to have a college education. Life insurance helps protect the legacy you have worked so hard to provide.

You will soon receive a Benefit Notification
Please return the Reply Card or access it online at
www.aillife.com/benefits/

This will allow you to designate a beneficiary for your no-cost \$2,000 AD&D benefit.

An AIL Representative will deliver your certificate of coverage and will perform a no-cost, no-obligation Needs Analysis to evaluate your insurance needs and talk to you about insurance programs for which you may qualify.

American Income Life can help provide solutions for life's “what ifs”.



AMERICAN INCOME LIFE
insurance company

Tony Anderson
Public Relations Specialist
(317) 440-8669
www.aillife.com

Protecting Working Families

ONLINE DUES/INITIATION PAYMENTS

www.ualocal157.org

When paying online there are things you should remember.



- 1) Only Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

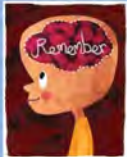


- 2) Pop-ups on your web browser must be enabled.

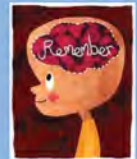
- 3) Unless you receive a receipt the payment has not been processed.

- 4) You will only be able to pay for the charges that are showing available for payment.

If you experience any problems or have any difficulty please contact the office for assistance.



2015 UNION DUES





1 QUARTER ~ \$87.00
2 QUARTERS ~ \$174.00
3 QUARTERS ~ \$261.00
4 QUARTERS ~ \$348.00

1ST QUARTER IS DUE BY 1/1/2015
2ND QUARTER IS DUE BY 4/1/2015
3RD QUARTER IS DUE BY 7/1/2015
4TH QUARTER IS DUE BY 10/1/2015

February 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 	3	4	5	6  Union Meeting 8:00 pm Terre Haute Meeting Hall	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>
15	16 	17	18	19	20	21  UA Weld Test 8:00 am (Subject to attendance)
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6  TH Retiree's Spring Luncheon - Noon  Union Meeting 8:00 pm Terre Haute Meeting Hall	7
8 	9	10  Lafayette Retiree's Spring Luncheon Noon	11	12  Danville Retiree's Spring Luncheon Noon	13	14
15	16	17  Happy St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21  UA Weld Test 8:00 am (Subject to attendance)
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NEXT UNION MEETING

**Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, February 6th, 2015 at
8:00 pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall**

**Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, March 6th, 2015 at
8:00 pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall**

**Quarterly Union Meeting
Saturday, April 4th, 2015 at
10:00 am in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall**



Plumbers & Steamfitters #157
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Phone.....(812) 877-1531
Toll Free.....(866) FREE157
Jobline.....(877) WORK157
Fax.....(812) 877-4450
- LAFAYETTE BUSINESS OFFICE.....2555 S 30th Street
Lafayette, IN 47909
Phone.....(765) 477-7092
Fax.....(765) 477-6587
- DANVILLE BUSINESS OFFICE.....2100 Oakwood Avenue
Danville, IL 61832
Phone.....(217) 446-3300
Fax.....(217) 446-1484
- FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE.....P.O. Box 369
Terre Haute, IN 47878
Phone.....(812) 877-3588
Fax.....(812) 877-2438
- ADVANCEMENT FUND OFFICE.....P.O. Box 369
Terre Haute, IN 47878
Phone.....(812) 877-3588
Fax.....(812) 877-2438

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- Welding Coordinator Bob Morgan ~ rmorgan@ualocal157.org

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Toll Free.....(800) 837-5678
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- TERRE HAUTE TRAINING CENTER.....8707 E Milner Avenue
Terre Haute, IN 47803
Phone.....(812) 877-1736
Fax.....(812) 877-4552
- HUTSONVILLE TRAINING CENTER.....601 N Rose Street
Hutsonville, IL 62433
Phone.....(618) 563-4097
Fax.....(618) 563-4149