

Official Publication of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157 Terre Haute, Indiana
Volume 36 Number 3-4 March/April, 2015

Congratulations to Local 157's 2015 5th Year Apprentice Contest Winners!



(L to R) Judging this year's event are Local 157 Members, Chad Ward, Nick Patterson, John Butler, Troy Bennett, Jeff Ehrlich, Jon Bussey, Steve Pearson Jr and Jason Brey Meyer



(L to R) Winning 1st in Piping Josh Bowman
Winning 1st in Welding John Vahling
Winning 1st in Plumbing Josh Pine

More Photos on Page 9

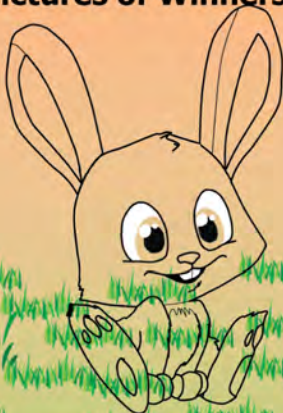
EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 28, 2015

Registration
Crafts, Games, Pictures & Lunch
Hunt
Presentation of Awards
Pictures of Winners

10:30 am
11:00 am
12:00 noon
12:45 pm
1:00 pm

Age Groups
3 and under
4 years old – 6 years old
7 years old – 10 years old



This event is open to the children and grandchildren of Members of Local 157 who are 10 and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult.



Business Manager's Report

Greg Thoennes

Our work continues to be steady as we have reported the last few months. There are a few outages beginning soon along with several decent projects. The latest on the Cronus Fertilizer Plant in Tuscola is for them to be moving dirt and mobilizing in June or July. We will keep you up to date as more information is received.

Most of you are aware of the data breach that occurred with Anthem. We have been notified that the Indiana Pipe Trades Health & Welfare Plan was affected. Anthem will be mailing information concerning the breach to all those affected. If you want more information now you can go online to www.anthemfacts.com. This site contains most of the information that we have. At this website you can view the Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) tab to learn more specifics. Anthem is enrolling everyone affected in a two (2) year identity theft and credit monitoring service, free of charge, with AllClear ID. You can also enroll in an additional service which includes credit monitoring and identity theft insurance policy at no cost on that website through AllClear ID.

Safety is always a topic of concern in our industry. During the past several months we have had a lot of Members employed at the Duke Energy Cayuga site. There have been a few serious safety incidents. Not all have directly involved pipefitters but some have. We know that no one goes to work intending to get injured but we also know that we work in a dangerous occupation. This project is a National Maintenance Agreement (NMA) project which requires that we have tripartite meetings to discuss all aspects of the project. The tripartite approach involves representatives from each of the crafts, the contractors and the owner. Much of the discussion at these meetings involves safety. We know that a safe project requires the commitment from all three sides. The owner must provide a safe working environment. The contractors need to train workers on the hazards, abate known hazards and provide personal protective equipment when it can't be completely abated. Our Members must be properly trained and follow the safety procedures. We also have to be observant of all the activity around us. Local 157 is committed to do everything within our control to keep our Members safe. Having been in this industry for a long time, I am aware of the many obstacles along the path to zero injuries. This is a very competitive industry where schedules and budgets may appear to get priority over safety. We must always make safety the first priority, not only for ourselves but also for our families. I found some interesting reading at www.osha.gov in the article titled "Adding inequality to injury: the cost of failing to protect workers on the job".

I want to support and wish the best of luck to our three apprentices who will be competing in Fort Wayne this month at the State Apprenticeship Contest.

I want to encourage everyone to attend one of the IPT Defined Contribution Pension Plan's education meetings. It is a great opportunity to get a better understanding of your pension and have your questions answered by the experts.

Finally, we are happy to be having the Easter Egg Hunt again in Terre Haute on Saturday March 28th. I know it will be a fun event. We hope you can be there.

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

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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 261 Members actively seeking employment with 41 of them being Apprentices and 26 Members on travel jobs. For the month of January we dispatched 47 Journeymen and 10 Apprentices, with 28 call backs and 2 travel requests. For the month of February we dispatched 51 Journeymen and 19 Apprentices, with 26 call backs and 6 travel requests.

The Hoosier Energy Merom spring outage on Unit #2 is scheduled to start March 21st and be complete by March 28th. Unit #1 outage will start April 11th with a completion date of May 9th. Sterling Boiler will have approximately 40 pipefitters on site working 6-10's. Freitag will have approximately 20 pipefitters on Unit #2 outage and that number may double for the Unit #1 outage.

By the time this article reaches you the spring outage at Newton Powerhouse will be underway. Starting March 9th Hayes Mechanical will employ approximately 14 pipefitters for 8 weeks of 6-10's with a completion date of May 6th.

Our number of employed Members is better over this year than in years past, even though we've had a long, cold winter. Our local work should improve even more when the weather breaks. Anyone who knows of a travel job they would like to work on, contact me and I will try to get you out. And by the way, there is no work in Hawaii.

I would like to wish good luck to our Apprentices: Josh Bowman, Josh Pine, and John Vahling who will be competing in the State Apprenticeship Competition on March 25th and 26th in Fort Wayne.

I am currently trying to organize a fishing rodeo for 157 Member's children and grandchildren for a date to be named in June. I will have more details in my next newspaper article. Anyone interested in helping with the rodeo, contact me. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

Financial Secretary Treasurer's Report

John "JB" Strange



We are now officially into the new political year with our Republican majorities in the United States congress, a super majority at the Indianapolis statehouse, and a new Governor in the state of Illinois... Hold on, it's going to be a bumpy ride for working Americans.

After years of "just say no to everything" from the Republicans in Washington, now they have to show that they have the answers to the serious issues we are facing. After years of gridlock, now they must show Americans that they can govern this country. I don't believe working people in this country are going to swallow the same old tired Republican policies of trickledown economics and tax cuts for the one percenters and big corporations that history have proven doesn't work... at least not for the other ninety- nine percent of us.

In Illinois, billionaire Republican Governor Bruce Rauner has wasted no time in going after unions and the working people of the state. He signed an executive order essentially trying to make Illinois a right to work "for less" state. He also wants to eliminate defined pension benefits for public employees that average \$500 per week while he made more than \$25,000 an hour last year.

Meanwhile in Indiana, at the time of writing this article, House Bill 1019 which "REPEALS" the Common Construction Wage Law was passed. The bill will now go to the State Senate, where Republican leaders have assigned it to the Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee, rather than the Senate Pensions and Labor Committee for Republicans to ensure its passage. Republican Governor Mike Pence has said he will sign the bill when it reaches his desk.

Last November, barely 30 percent of Hoosiers who were registered to vote actually cast a ballot Indiana at the bottom for turnout nationwide.

We are now suffering from our inactions at the polls...
Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote!





Field Representative's Report Darrek Davis

Will the Indiana Republican assault on the working man stop?

Will the GOP ever come to the realization that the middle class is worth saving?

Will the Republicans ever realize there are good reasons why there are unions in this country?

Unless Hoosier voters make some drastic changes, I am afraid the answers to the above questions is NO.

The latest attack came when a House Committee approved a bill to eliminate the law requiring the payment of common construction wages on public projects. Eliminating the Common Construction Wage law which has been in place since the 1930's, opens the door for out-of-state contractors using temporary workers who are paid less and have few or no benefits. And welcomes contractors using an unskilled workforce on public projects. The common construction wage is paid on any public project that cost more than \$350,000. The wage is determined locally by a five member committee that includes taxpayers and industry experts and is based upon the wages that construction workers in that area have been paid in the past.

The entire reason behind the common construction wage law is to take full advantage of the skills of local workers and ensure that our local tax dollars stay in our communities where they help build local economies. Yet, the arrogance of the House supermajority are gutting a proven system in favor of one that will enable out-of-state contractors to come in and undercut local workers and contractors, driving down wages and the quality of workmanship.

The irony in all of this is the Republicans played a key role in establishing this law more than 80 years ago because they knew the adverse affects it would have on local workers and economies.

The proposed legislation now goes to the Senate where it has been assigned to the Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee. Members of this committee are listed on page 7.

My hope is that the Indiana Senate realizes the mistake that will be made if the Common Construction Wage law is repealed. I encourage everyone to reach out to the Senators listed in this committee and express your concerns and the adverse effect the repeal of this long standing law will have on the working people of Indiana.

It is sad to say, but people usually don't get energized until they get hurt. With that being said, I suspect with all of these attacks on the working people of Indiana will one day result in the ouster of some Republican legislators as well as the Governor. However this can only be done one way and one way only, by each and every Member exercising their right to VOTE the next election cycle!!!!



Field Representative's Report Steve Snyder

It has been a very busy last couple of months in our Northern jurisdiction. Work is starting to take shape for the 2015 construction season.

Subaru Automotive Plant continues to release bid documents for piping and mechanical sections for the paint shop additions. The latest bid award has gone to Project Design Piping for the waste water treatment plant located just north of the new addition. At the time I am writing this several bids have been submitted but not awarded for the sludge piping or the dip tanks which consist of 30" SS piping and several large bore pumping packages. There are still more bid packages to follow. I will keep you informed as things progress.

Freitag & Weinhardt have been slowly manning up and will continue as weather cooperates. Shambaugh and Son are still waiting on design documents before starting the chilled water package they were awarded last month. I expect that to change very soon. All in all Subaru is finally shaping up with more and more opportunities of work for our Members.

Work at Purdue is still holding with several of our contractors staying busy on remodel work. The mechanical and plumbing bids for the 525 room eight story Honors College dorm were turned in Thursday March 5th. Results of that bid are unknown at this time. The site utility package for the same project has already been awarded to North Mechanical. The 85,000 pound owner supplied York chiller has finally arrived at Purdue's Wade utility power house. Installation should be complete March 6th with the large bore piping starting immediately. Freitag & Weinhardt have been very patient with all the delays associated with project.

I am also happy to report that Freitag & Weinhardt have been successful in getting a decent size SS piping package at Tate and Lyle North Corn Processing Plant in Lafayette. It has been several years since Local 157 have been inside the gates. I am very excited that we have the opportunity to put our skills on display to the owner with the hope of additional work in the plant. From several of initial reports from various Building Trades Meetings it appears that the customer is starting to become more and more quality oriented. Typically this plants maintenance and construction has been done with unskilled labor. I hope this will start a trend and we can show the end users what we have to offer. Freitag is looking to peak around 20 plus pipefitters and combo welders this spring. Schedule start date is April 1st.

Heartland Automotive Manufacturing has started on its plant expansion in Lafayette. AA Huber has the plumbing and mechanical on this project and has an April 1st start day. This addition will increase the size of this plant from 150,000 square feet to 450,000 square feet. Heartland is responsible for supplying Subaru Automotive with headliners for several different model vehicles.

On a different note I believe that 2015 is going to be a prosperous year for a lot of our Members. Please keep in mind those who are not as fortunate and donate time and services in your local community early and often. Feel free to contact anyone of us for any worthwhile organization that needs help. As always come home safe.

Rich Cheever
Training Coordinator

TRAINING NEWS

From the Educational Trust Department of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157

Bob Morgan
Welding Coordinator

2015 is well under way as March comes in like a Lion and we make our way towards spring.

The Training Department continues to do its best to keep up with the never ending world of certifications. We strive to keep members Med Gas and Weld continuity, Med Gas Installer, Industrial Rigging, Instrumentation, Foreman and OSHA certifications current and up to date.

We just completed an OSHA 30 class and we started an Industrial Rigging Certification class the first Saturday in March. As new classes are being scheduled we will list them on the Local 157 website. Please continue to check www.ualocal157.org for the latest available upgrade and certification classes being offered.

For those of you, who are updating their OSHA certification online, please notify the Training Center so we can update our records. It would also be helpful if you would send in a paper copy for your file in the case that you are traveling and should need a copy sent to you.

As a reminder to all Illinois Journeymen and Apprentice Licensed Plumbers your license renewal is due no later than **APRIL 30th**. Unfortunately the renewal fee has increased across the board by \$50.00. So Journeymen renewal fee is \$150.00, Apprentice renewal fee is \$100.00 and anything past the 30th of April deadline a \$100.00 late fee will be added on. For those who do submit their renewal, please contact us so that we can update our records.

Mark your calendars as we have scheduled the 2015 Illinois Plumbing Continuing Education classes. Hutsonville/Robinson class will be held Saturday, October 24th 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon CST and Danville will be held Tuesday, October 27th 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. There is no need to register, just show up and sign in.

We are very excited about the amount of interest our apprentices have shown in earning their Welding Certifications.

Since September, the start of classes this year, we currently have the following number of apprentices who have successfully passed a UA Certified Weld Test.

UA 21

1 – First Year Apprentice
4 – Second Year Apprentices
9 – Fourth Year Apprentices
2 – Fifth Year Apprentices

UA 22

3 – Fourth Year Apprentices
1 – Fifth Year Apprentice

We would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to all of the Instructors/Judges, Apprentices and Spectators who participated in the 2015 Local Apprenticeship Contest. Competing in the Welding Competition were: Jacob Bower, Zach Gibson, Mitchell Swaner and John Vahling. Competing in the Pipefitting Competition were: Josh Bowman, Rodney Cheesman and Brock Raley. In the Plumbing Competition was Josh Pine. The winner in each category will represent Local 157 in Ft Wayne March 24th - 26th.

Apprentices representing Local 157 are:

John Vahling – Welding

Josh Bowman – Pipefitting

Josh Pine - Plumbing

WELD TESTS AT THE TERRE HAUTE TRAINING CENTER

Saturday, April 18th, 2015 at 8:00 am
Saturday, May 16th, 2015 at 8:00 am
Saturday, June 20th, 2015 at 8:00 am

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





**PO Box 3040
Terre Haute, IN 47803-0040
Toll Free: (800) 837-5678
Phone: (812) 877-2581
Fax: (812) 877-4542**

During the months of December 2014 and January 2015 your Health & Welfare Plan staff processed 15,166 claims, totaling \$5,986,713.73.

It is very important that you know who your beneficiary(s) are for the Death Benefit under the Plan. The Plan provides a Beneficiary Form that needs to be completed when you become covered under the Plan in order to name the Beneficiary(s) to receive your Death Benefit. The Beneficiary Form is also used to change your beneficiary(s). You may want to change your beneficiary(s) in the case of marriage, divorce, or the death of the named beneficiary(s). If you have not completed a Beneficiary Form or you need to make a change, please contact the Plan office and we will mail you a new Beneficiary Form. Please note that any change of beneficiary shall not be effective until received by the Plan provided such change is received prior to the death of the eligible participant.

Eligible Employee Only Benefit Amount Payable

Death.....	\$11,500.00
Accidental Death and Dismemberment (Non-Occupational Only)	
Loss: Life.....	\$11,500.00
Both Hands, Feet, Eyes or combination of any two (2).....	\$11,500.00
One (1) Hand, Foot or Eye.....	\$5,750.00

Retired or Disabled Individual Only Benefit Amount Payable

Death.....	\$4,500.00
Accidental Death and Dismemberment (Non-Occupational Only)	
Loss: Life.....	\$4,500.00
Both Hands, Feet, Eyes or combination of any two (2).....	\$4,500.00
One (1) Hand, Foot or Eye.....	\$2,250.00



Tim Thacker
Administrative Manager



In Memoriam



Linda L. Carr, a retired Executive Secretary from Avon, Indiana passed away on January 22nd, 2015. Linda was born on April 26th, 1947 and was initiated into the United Association on May 1st, 1978.

James E. Clark, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from Crawfordsville, Indiana passed away on January 29th, 2015. James was born on March 23rd, 1960 and was initiated into the United Association on October 4th, 2004.

Donald W. Bohannon, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from Universal, Indiana passed away on March 1st, 2015. Donald was born on January 10th, 1933 and was initiated into the United Association on July 7th, 1967.



Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157
will be hosting a Kid's Fishing Rodeo
in the month of June.

Watch for the exact date on the
Local's website and
in the May/June Newsletter!

2015 Summer Retiree Luncheon Schedule

Terre Haute, Indiana - Friday, June 5th at Noon (EST)


Lafayette, Indiana - Tuesday, June 9th at Noon (EST)

Danville, Illinois - Thursday, June 11th at Noon (CST)



Field Representative Steve Snyder at the
Indiana State House with Labor Friendly
Indiana House Representative District 27 Sheila Klinker

Members of the Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee:

	Republicans:	Brandt Hershman, Chair	Dist 7
		Travis Holdman	Dist 19
		James Buck	Dist 21
		Ed Charbonneau	Dist 5
		Luke Kenley	Dist 20
		Pete Miller	Dist 24
		Ryan Mishler	Dist 9
		James Smith	Dist 45
		Greg Walker	Dist 41

	Democrats:	John Broden	Dist 10
		Jean Breaux	Dist 34
		Frank Mryan	Dist 1
		Lonnie Randolph	Dist 2

Continued from Darrek Davis' article on Page 4



At Local 157's December 2014 Meeting I listened as Mark Swaner announced his longtime friend Mike Porter had passed. Mike had been Local 157's Apprentice Coordinator in the 1970's, 1980's and into the 1990's. Looking around I soon realized maybe half in attendance knew Mike, and maybe half of those knew what he had truly meant to our Local, after all he had not worked in our Local in 20 years.

In the 1990's Mike along with his wife Barb, also a 157 Member, moved to California. There they went to work for Tri-Tool Inc. a company specializing in Weld-Prep Tools. Mike headed their Research and Development and oversaw specialty weld and weld-prep jobs all over the country and overseas.

Over the years Mike taught machining techniques at Local 157 as well as locals all over the country. His favorite assignment, though I'm sure, had to be teaching Tri-Tool at the UA's Instructor Training Week in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

While thinking of Mike, I also think back on all the people who helped along the way. Like most of us my list is long, some still here and some long gone. Heading that list for me is Mike Porter. In talking with several Members about Mike they all had stories and they all agreed "Mike Porter was Local 157's Standard of Excellence long before the UA ever coined the phrase". Several gave credit to Mike for helping to transition our Local and yes a lot of our contractors from use the old "Red 5-P" all the way out and "Dry Washing Stainless" to "Walking the Cup, Automatics and Gold Tracks". He pushed for and implemented quality control programs and standards learned during our Marble Hill Nuke days as normal procedure.

Mike worked hard to keep Local 157 at the forefront in training. For instance he could see how important the future of CWI's (Certified Welding Inspectors) would be to our Members, sending our first group of instructors to obtain these certifications. Today we have dozens of CWI's, many their main source of employment.

No, Mike didn't do it all but he did a lot. If you look throughout our Local, it's easy to see Members in key positions who were directly trained by Mike or those who had benefited from standards and methods Mike had handed down.

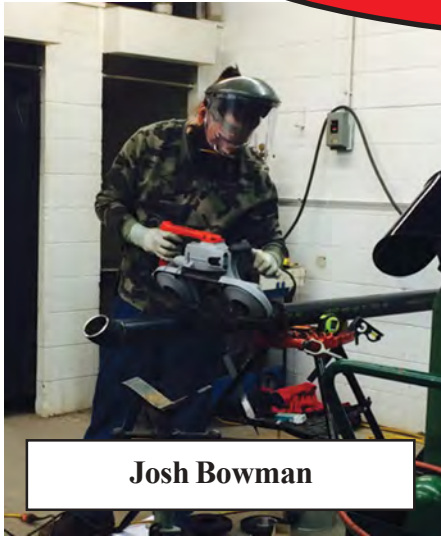
Even though Mike was tough and always expected your best effort, he did have a softer side. Jerry Swiger a 157 Member and Mike's son-in-law shared, "It wasn't unusual at all on many Saturday's to find Mike sitting in his wood shop at home working on something with an apprentice who needed a little extra help."

We all have those who instilled knowledge, skills and confidence in us. When I was teaching I would tell apprentices "There's no better feeling then to know you have the skills and knowledge to go anywhere in the country and be successful." Being "PORTERIZED" allowed me and countless others that feeling. I knew with what he had given me I would succeed. I ask you brothers and sisters, let our newest Members know your story. Who made a difference in your life? For me and many others it was Mike Porter.

Fraternally with Thanks,

Paul "P.A." Atterson

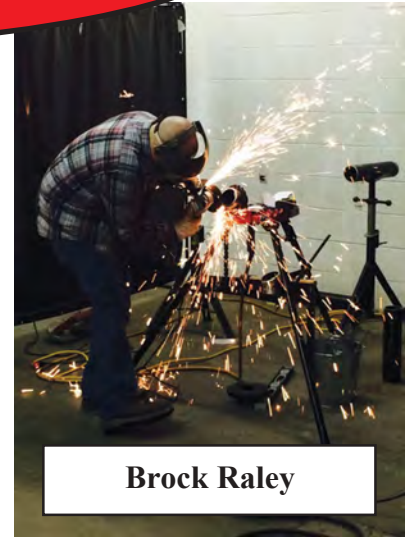
2015 APPRENTICE CONTEST



Josh Bowman



Jacob Bower



Brock Raley



Judges, Troy Bennett, Steve Pearson Jr and Jon Bussey

COMPETING THIS YEAR

Pipefitting



Pictured above:
(L to R) Josh Bowman, Rodney Cheesman and Brock Raley
Pictured to the right:
Josh Pine



Welding



Pictured above:
(L to R) Zach Gibson, Mitchell Swaner, John Vahling and Jacob Bower

Plumbing

PARTICIPANT EDUCATION MEETINGS



To All Indiana Pipe Trades Defined Contribution Pension Plan Participants

The Indiana Pipe Trades Defined Contribution Pension Plan will host area Participant Education Meetings during the month of May. These Meetings will provide you with an informed understanding of the Plan as well as offering you information in regard to the various investment funds available.

A representative from McCready and Keene, Record Keepers for the Plan, will provide a presentation with a question and answer session to follow. Investment Consultant for the Plan, Terry Hogan, from Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, will also provide a presentation and be available to answer any questions you may have.

Listed below are the various locations, dates and times. Please review, select the location that best meets your needs and mark your calendar.



Terre Haute, Indiana

Monday, May 11, 2015 - 6:30 pm Indiana Time

Hutsonville, Illinois

Wednesday, May 13, 2015 - 6:30 pm Illinois Time

Danville, Illinois

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 - 6:30 pm Illinois Time

Lafayette, Indiana

Thursday, May 21, 2015 - 6:30 pm Indiana Time











Your attendance at these Education Meetings is extremely important so that you will be aware of the opportunities available in securing your retirement needs. We look forward to seeing you!

SPOUSES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

April 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 	2	3 Good Friday 	4  Union Meeting 10:00 am Terre Haute Meeting Hall
5 	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 	16	17	18  UA Weld Test 8:00 am (Subject to attendance)
19	20	21	22 	23	24	25 March for Babies 
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1  Union Meeting 8:00 pm Terre Haute Meeting Hall	2
3	4	5  Primary Election Day	6	7	8	9 
10 Happy Mother's Day!!! 	11  IPT Defined Contribution Pension Plan Education Meeting - 6:30 pm (EST) TH Meeting Hall	12	13  IPT Defined Contribution Pension Plan Education Meeting - 6:30 pm (CST) Hutsonville TC	14	15	16 Armed Forces Day  UA Weld Test 8:00 am (Subject to attendance)
17	18	19  IPT Defined Contribution Pension Plan Education Meeting - 6:30 pm (CST) Danville Meeting Hall	20	21  IPT Defined Contribution Pension Plan Education Meeting - 6:30 pm (EST) Lafayette Meeting Hall	22	23
24/31	25 Memorial Day 	26	27	28	29	30

NEXT UNION MEETING

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

Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, May 1st, 2015 at 8:00
pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall

Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, June 5th, 2015 at
8:00 pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall



HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE

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 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

UNION DIRECTORY

Business Manager Greg Thoennes ~ gthoennes@ualocal157.org
 Financial Secretary/Treasurer JB Strange ~ jstrange@ualocal157.org
 Business Agent Webb Crouch ~ wcrouch@ualocal157.org
 Field Representative Steve Snyder ~ ssnyder@ualocal157.org
 Field Representative Darrek Davis ~ ddavis@ualocal157.org
 Office Manager Patti Meskimen ~ pmeskimen@ualocal157.org
 Funds Manager Sandy Reece ~ sreece@ualocal157.org
 Training Coordinator Rich Cheever ~ rcheever@ualocal157.org
 Welding Coordinator Bob Morgan ~ rmorgan@ualocal157.org

HEALTH & WELFARE PLAN.....P.O. BOX 3040
 Terre Haute, IN 47803
 Phone.....(812) 877-2581
 Toll Free.....(800) 837-5678
 Fax.....(812) 877-4542

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