

Official Publication of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157 Terre Haute, Indiana
Volume 37 Number 3-4 March/April, 2016



- ✓ REGISTER
- ✓ CONFIRM
- ✓ EDUCATE
- ✓ MOBILIZE



www.indianaworkersvote.com

HOME

2016 Election Primary
Illinois - March 15th
Indiana - May 3rd

Your livelihood and ability to make good wages and benefits are the most important Family, Personal and Social Values, I would hope, that matters at election time!

<http://www.elections.state.il.us/>





Business Manager's Report

Greg Thoennes

Work in the Local remains good especially with the turnaround at the Marathon Refinery. Our Members are doing a larger portion of this project than in the recent past and our work is critical path for this turnaround. We are confident our Members will perform exceptionally well and again prove the value in the best trained workforce available. The REG project in Danville is going well and while the work in the Terre Haute and Lafayette areas have slowed recently we are optimistic that it will improve as we go into warmer weather.

I want to congratulate all of those elected as Delegates to represent Local 157 at the 39th UA National Convention. We also want to thank the Election Committee for all of their assistance with this process. The UA will finalize our Delegate count next month and we will be sending out information to each Delegate. This is a great opportunity to participate in the constitutional process of our great organization. This Convention is even more special because we have one of our own Members, Brother Mike Pleasant being nominated for Assistant General President.

At the February 5th Union Meeting the Membership viewed and voted on two new Logos. We want to congratulate Gary "Mac" Collins III and Allen Winters for their winning submissions. We will be getting hard hat stickers and other items soon with those Logos.

In our last Newsletter I talked about recent updates to the Local's website www.ualocal157.org. One of the links on our site is "Union Information". For those contemplating retirement or just curious about your National Pension history, you can click on the "National Pension Fund". Once at that site you will need to create a log-in account. You may then click on "Participants" and then "Contribution History Reports". Clicking on the "Contribution History" tab will show you a report of all contribution hours reported to the National Pension and the contractor that you were working for. You can also view other helpful documents on that site.

Primary elections were just completed in Illinois and will be held on May 3rd in Indiana. In Illinois, the Governor continues to promote his anti-worker turnaround agenda. They are facing a lot of issues there and his insistence on solving them at the workers expense is continuing to make a difficult situation worse. In Indiana after three terms for anti-union policy Governors, we have a great opportunity to regain that spot with John Gregg. He has been a great supporter of ours and we will need to work hard to get him elected this fall and elect other pro-worker candidates to remove the super majorities in both Senate and the House. An important resource to use is the website www.indianaworkersvote.com. They have links to register to vote and also to confirm your voter registration status. You can also find your polling locations and who your elected officials are.

I hope everyone has a great Easter and we will have photos of all of the excited kids that participated in our Easter Egg Hunt in the next newspaper.

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
Field Representatives	- Stephen A. Snyder
	- Darrek J. Davis
President	- Darrell Pickett
Vice President	- Shawn Martin
Recording Secretary	- Jeff Lindley
Executive Board	- Greg Lanam, Dirk Porter, Matt Melin, Steve Shaffer
Finance Committee	- Tim "Mudflap" Wright, Greg "Buff" Seward, Jonathan Wooten
Examining Board	- Steve Pearson Jr, Kenny Thompson, Tom Huss, John Christeson
Inside Guard	- Justin "Opie" Weger

Business Agent's Report

Wilbur E. "Webb" Crouch, III



As of this publication there are 151 Journeymen and 22 Apprentices actively seeking employment with 46 Members on travel jobs. For the month of February we dispatched 123 Journeymen and 12 Apprentices with 24 call backs and 59 Members to travel jobs.

Not much has changed since my last article except some man power numbers and duration of some projects. Cayuga spring outage starts April 1st but will not require as many man hours or the same duration as I previously reported. There will be 3 to 4 weeks of 6-10's for 10 pipefitters on days and 6 on nights working on valve replacement and hot welds. Cayuga Duke Energy will also be constructing a waste water treatment plant on site. Currently this project is in the engineering phase but construction should start in May or June. Merom spring outage will start April 1st as well and will employ approximately 75 pipefitters for 4 to 6 weeks of 6-10's and possibly 7-12's. Merom will also have a few smaller projects throughout the summer that should keep a few Members employed.

There will be many employment opportunities with sister locals and across the Midwest this year. If there is a particular project you are interested in working on feel free to contact me at the hall.

Congratulations to all Members elected to serve as delegates to the 39th U.A. General Convention in San Diego. Being elected to the convention is a big honor and I know Local 157 will be well represented.

I know it's a little early but in the next few weeks I will begin planning for the Local 157 kids fishing rodeo in June. Anyone that would like to help with this event, contact me at the hall.

I hope everyone can put aside a little time to get outside and enjoy the beautiful weather we are having. I'm looking forward to hearing the big fish and mushroom stories. Be sure to send in your fish, game and gathering pictures so we can put them in the Piping Industry News.

Financial Secretary Treasurer's Report

John "JB" Strange



As the media reminds us on a daily basis, it's an election year. To be more precise, it's a "presidential" election year and the results couldn't be more important.

We hear every year that "this election" is the most important one in our lifetime. I'm afraid this time I truly believe it.

In my lifetime of voting in elections, I have never seen anything like what is going on in this one. This country is deeply divided by political ideology. Whether it is abortion rights, gun rights, civil rights, voting rights, immigration, etc. this country is split like never before. We desperately need a leader that can bring us together and unite us as a country while protecting working middle class Americans.

With the evolution of social media, 24 hour news, commentators, political analysts, spin doctors, party leaders, trolling, tweeting, sound bites, etc. this election cycle has broken all the rules of what constitutes an insightful education of the candidates and their strategies for the future of our country through the debate process. Citizens need to know who they are electing and what these candidates' priorities are and what direction they want to take us.

Instead, in the Republican Party debates we hear the most outrageous, and ridiculous false statements of what they intend to do while shouting, demeaning, and lying about their opponents. Civility is completely absent from the process. In fact, the more profane, outrageous, and hypocritical statements the candidates make, the more popular they seem to be among their parties base. Donald Trump made the statement that "he will make Apple produce their iPhones in America", while his personal signature clothing line is made in China.

None of these candidates have it in them to have an honest conversation with the American people. He also said: "We've had great support from union workers, the people that work, the real workers, but I love the right to work." As informed union members, we know that you can't "love right to work" and be a supporter of union workers!

(Continued on Page 4)

Financial Secretary Treasurer's Report

John "JB" Strange - (Continued)

We talk politics a lot at union meetings and try to encourage our members to vote, but the facts are, Indiana had the lowest voter turnout rate in the entire country last election. Meanwhile, so far in the primaries this year, the republican turnout has been breaking records. We know we have the numbers to make a huge difference in elections when we get involved. If we don't get off our butts, get involved, and get out the vote this November, we could easily find ourselves being governed by a billionaire president with a republican controlled congress. This would be a devastating for your union, your family, and our contractors. Our future is in our own hands and we can't take that for granted!

Field Representative's Report

Darrek Davis



Work in the area continues to be steady. Our out of work list numbers have dropped a fair amount due largely to the amount of Members the Marathon turn around has taken. Hopefully this is a trend we will continue to see throughout the summer months.

Gas Distribution work will continue to be good. I recently completed the annual prejobs for both Miller Pipeline and Infrasure and both contractors have a significant amount of work on the books for this summer. The majority of this work will be replacing aging infrastructure for various utility companies.

Travel opportunities are also shaping up to be abundant this year throughout the country. With the current shortage of welders nationwide welders will definitely be at a premium. One thing I would like to ask every Member who does travel and works in other Locals jurisdiction, is to remember you are a guest and your craftsmanship, behaviour and actions play a huge role in our ability to get future work at these locations. We work very hard to develop good working relationships with agents from other Locals to get the membership these work opportunities and it only takes one bad apple to ruin it for everyone for a long time.

The 2016 session of the Indiana General Assembly has come to a close with no major attacks on the working people of Indiana. As I stated in my last article the majority of the session was spent on education, road funding and civil rights issues. As Hoosiers continue to struggle to make ends meet, sadly Governor Pence and the Republican leaders of the Indiana General Assembly have worked to make things worse. Instead of focusing on improving the lives of all citizens, they have spent their time attacking everyone and everything that makes Indiana great. They continue to block bills to improve education, improve our roads and bridges and attempts to raise Indiana's minimum wage and not to mention what they have already taken from us with the passage of the right to work law and the repeal of the common construction wage law.

But I strongly believe this tide is about to turn! In November we will all have an opportunity to play a role in getting Indiana back on track and that will be done by getting out and voting and encouraging others to do the same. It will be an exciting time next January when the General Assembly convenes and John Gregg is the Governor of Indiana!

Field Representative's Report

Steve Snyder



Work in the Northern jurisdiction has started to slow down. Most of the large projects that carried us through the summer and winter have come to an end.

Subaru has successfully started the paint trials on the new paint addition and will continue for the weeks ahead. Various design oversights and unforeseen issues has kept several of our Members busy during this time. I had a chance to meet the Executive Vice President of Subaru Tom Easterday at the Lafayette City Council meeting the other night. I introduced myself to him and he could not thank me enough for the craftsmanship and quality of work that Local 157 put together in the paint addition. He also told me that we finished this project two and one half months ahead of schedule. This is something that is not public knowledge. I want to personally thank everyone that helped make this project a success and I look forward to cultivating our new relationship with Tom Easterday to further sell our commitment and quality we as a Local offer day in and day out. As far as any new capital improvement projects for the plant we are looking at April before design releases become available for bid. Until that time the main focus is to produce cars, cars and then more cars. I will keep you posted as things

(Continued on Page 7)

TRAINING NEWS

Rich Cheever
Training Coordinator

**From the Educational Trust Department
of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157**

Jeff Ehrlich
Welding Coordinator

Mike Smelser
Assistant Training Coordinator

First of all, we would like to welcome Connie Hudson to the Training Center staff. Some of you may remember Connie as she formally worked for Freitag-Weinhardt.

Recently, we had the following certification classes: Industrial Rigging, Signal Person, Medical Gas Installer and Instrumentation Level I.

We are currently preparing for the Medical Gas Installer Recertification that is scheduled for Saturday, April 9th at 8:00 am (EST) at the Terre Haute facility. This event entails a 4 hour class and a 40 question test with an 80% or above score for recertification.

We hope to have a Rigging and Signal Person class scheduled on the 157trainingcenter.org website for registration soon.

The Illinois Plumbing Continuing Education Classes have been scheduled. The dates are Saturday, October 15th at 8:00 am to 12:00 pm (CST) at our Hutsonville facility and Wednesday, October 26th, from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm (CST) at our Danville facility.

March 30th and 31st we will be attending the Indiana State Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Contest hosted by Evansville Local 136. We will have results from the contest in the next issue of the Piping Industry Newspaper.

We are currently in the process of selecting our next apprenticeship class. First interviews will be conducted in April and the second interviews in May.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Apprentice Graduation is scheduled to take place on May 5th at the ISU Hulman Center. We encourage all our graduating Apprentices and their families to attend. This is an incredible accomplishment and you should all be proud of your achievements!



WELD TESTS AT THE TERRE HAUTE TRAINING CENTER

Saturday, April 16th, 2016 at 8:00 am
Saturday, May 21st, 2016 at 8:00 am
Saturday, June 18th, 2016 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



Tim Thacker
Administrative Manager

During the months of December 2015 and January 2016 your Health & Welfare Plan staff processed 16,417 claims, totaling \$6,942,812.86.

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.



In Memoriam



Lawrence S. Humphrey, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from Delphi, Indiana passed away on January 30th, 2016. Lawrence was born on May 29th, 1940 and was initiated into the United Association on October 2nd, 1978.

Clyde L. Carter, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from Oblong, Illinois passed away on February 6th, 2016. Clyde was born on March 3rd, 1946 and was initiated into the United Association on January 2nd, 1975.

Patrick L. Kiefer, a retired Division Trades Journeyman from Lafayette, Indiana passed away on February 8th, 2016. Patrick was born on March 5th, 1955 and was initiated into the United Association on October 7th, 1994.

Michael R. Kjormoe, a Building Trades Apprentice from Palestine, Illinois passed away on February 16th, 2016. Michael was born on April 25th, 1983 and was initiated into the United Association on August 20th, 2013.

Field Representative's Report Steve Snyder - (Continued)

progress.

Purdue continues to look promising for 2016. The Honors College Dorm has finally reached some major milestone dates and has started cutting back on manpower. The schedule is still on track for the grand opening of this school year. The Active Learning Center is still moving forward. During a recent jobsite visit I noticed several areas that we could be working however conflicts with the General Contractor is holding up progress. The \$65 million football complex renovation and addition is still slated for May 2016 start date. However no design release dates have been generated for this project by the Construction Manager. There are still several million dollars' worth of projects slated for Purdue this summer as well as for Lafayette, West Lafayette and Tippecanoe County School Corporations. It is a good time to be a pipefitter.

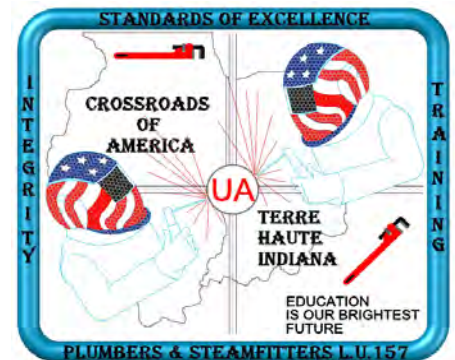
On the political front I have been utilizing my relationship with the Northwest Building Trades Council as well as Local 597 Chicago Business Agents Chris Hernandez and Dennis Hahney. Dennis is also the president of the Northwest Building Trades Council as well. Both of these agents have helped me tremendously in streamlining operations with the Tippecanoe Building Trades Council which I serve as trustee, and I look forward to continuing to learn from their experiences. I also had a very successful meeting with Lafayette City Mayor and the City Attorney along with Jim Ogden, President of Tippecanoe Building Trades, to discuss the "Responsible Bidder Ordinance." The meeting was successful and I look forward to moving forward to the next steps.

In closing, I am humbled and honored to have been nominated and voted to represent Local 157 at the 2016 UA convention. I will not disappoint and represent us well. Thank you for your support.

LOGO WINNERS



Gary "Mac" Collins III



Allen Winters

Thank you to all who submitted their artwork.

RETIREE'S LUNCHEONS



Friday, June 3rd, 2016 at Noon
Terre Haute

Tuesday, June 7th, 2016 at Noon
Lafayette

Thursday, June 9th, 2016 at Noon
Danville



ON THE JOB AT SIA IN LAFAYETTE, INDIANA.

Pictured L to R,
Local 157 Members
Aaron Mathews and
Jonathan Wooten

Important Election Dates for 2016

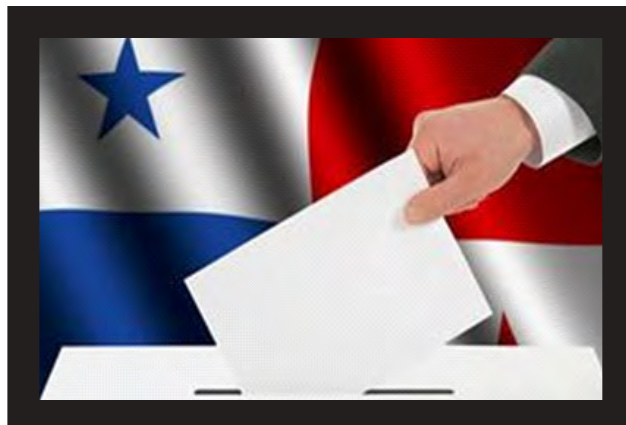
Monday April 4th – Voter Registration will close

Tuesday May 3rd - Indiana Primary Election from 6:00am to 6:00pm

Tuesday May 17th – Voter Registration will re-open

Tuesday October 11th – Voter Registration will close

Tuesday November 8th - General Election from 6:00am to 6:00pm

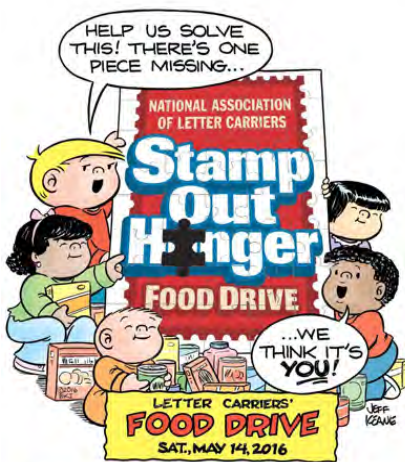




Methodist Assistance Program is available to ALL Local 157 Members and their immediate family. Please do not hesitate to give them a call if counseling is needed.



MAP addresses a broad spectrum of issues – stress, depression, anger, alcoholism, anxiety, etc. – that can interfere with an employee's ability to function on the job...and in life. MAP specializes in early intervention, a factor proven to meet the needs of employees and their families, while reducing the expense of accidents, lost productivity, absenteeism and retraining.



24th Annual National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive Saturday, May 14, 2016

Let's all do our part!



**Life's most persistent
And urgent question is,
'What are you doing for others?'**

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Local 157 Kid's Fishing Rodeo

Saturday, June 11th, 2016

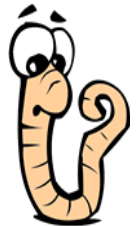
Rain or Shine!

Registration at 8:00 am

Tournament from 8:30 am to Noon

Being held at the Pond east of
the Main Office Building.

Age groups 1-5, 6-10 and 11-15



We will have hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks!

This event is open to all Local 157 Member's children and grandchildren.

Children must be accompanied by an adult!

Bait will be provided.

Prizes will be given in each age group for the largest and the smallest fish.

2016 Spring Retiree's Luncheons


TERRE HAUTE
LAFAYETTE
DANVILLE



May 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 INDIANA PRIMARY 	4	5 Apprentice Graduation Hulman Center 	6 Union Meeting 8:00 pm Terre Haute 	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 USP Workers Food Drive 
15 Happy Mother's Day!	16	17	18	19	20	21 ARMED FORCES DAY UA Weld Test 8:00 am (Subject to attendance) 
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day 	31				

June 2016

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

NEXT UNION MEETING

Quarterly Union Meeting
Saturday, April 2nd, 2016 at
10:00 am in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall

Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, May 6th, 2016 at
8:00 pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall

Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, June 3rd, 2016 at
8:00 pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall



Plumbers & Steamfitters #157
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 8801 E Milner Avenue
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**LOCATIONS & NUMBERS**

LOCAL 157 BUSINESS OFFICE.....8801 E Milner Avenue
 Terre Haute, IN 47803
 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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 Training Coordinator Rich Cheever ~ rcheever@ualocal157.org
 Assistant Training Coordinator Mike Smelser ~ msmelser@ualocal157.org
 Welding Coordinator Jeff Ehrlich ~ jehrlich@ualocal157.org

INDIANA PIPE TRADES DEFINED

CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN.....P.O. BOX 416

Seelyville, IN 47878

Phone.....(812) 877-3588

Fax.....(812) 877-2438

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