

Official Publication of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 157 Terre Haute, Indiana

Volume 37 Number 5-6

May/June, 2016



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.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EASTER EGG HUNT!

The weather cooperated and all were able to enjoy the food, games, crafts, the hunt, live bunnies....and of course the Easter Bunny! We had an excellent turnout. Thank you to Sandy Reece for coordinating the event and to all who pitched in and helped make the day a success!





Business Manager's Report

Greg Thoennes

The recently completed Marathon Turnaround was a big success for all of our Members that worked on that project. We have had very positive feedback from the contractors and the owner about the quality and quantity of work performed. We always believe that whenever we are given the chance we will prove the value of the best trained, skilled workforce available. Our work has slowed down some and we are thankful for the work opportunities in our sister Locals around the State and also

in Ohio. Welders will continue to be in demand and we encourage you to take advantage of the Training Center to upgrade your skills.

We recently had a meeting with Cronus Chemicals about the fertilizer project that is to be built in Tuscola. Joining us at the meeting were Tecnimont and KBR who have formed a joint venture to serve as the EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) contractor for the project. I believe that all sides felt that the meeting went well. Cronus Chemicals remain committed to constructing this project and are confident that they have everything in place for a successful venture including the location, infrastructure, EPC contractor, PLA and a skilled union workforce. If everything progresses well with Cronus and the EPC contractor then this project will move forward. There may be some preliminary work begin this year but we probably won't see much until the spring of next year. We will keep you informed as information becomes available.

The Training Center has recently successfully completed the UA Accreditation Audit. They are working with a local engineer on a design and budget for the proposed new training building. The JATC has completed the interviews for the upcoming apprentice class and letters have been sent to those who were accepted. We are working hard as a group to insure we are producing the highest skilled welders, pipefitters and plumbers. The emphasis is always going to be on welding because that skill will always be in great demand but because of the diversity of our work in the jurisdiction, we need to produce well rounded craftsmen. We always need to meet the needs of our contractors competing for jobs in our Local.

At the May 6th Union Meeting we had a lengthy discussion concerning the Pipe Trades Industry Health and Welfare Plan. The Plan is in good shape however health care costs are growing at a pace that is causing a large increase in our contribution rate to insure our Plan remains well funded. The Board of Trustees has taken action on measures to reduce expenses and preserve benefits. We have reviewed options available for additional savings but many would require a large increase to deductibles and out of pocket expenses. We also feel that our active Members have always been supportive of paying a portion of the costs of providing good affordable retiree health coverage. For these reasons the Board approved an increase of \$.90 effective July 1, 2016. We have an increase due of \$.70 which means that we will need to take \$.20 off of wages to keep our good health care benefits. The Membership voted to approve the increase. We have an increase of \$.30 on 1/1/17. Please give me a call at the Terre Haute office if you have any questions or concerns.

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
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Terre Haute, IN 47803
(812) 877-1531



PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 157 OFFICERS

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Business Agent	- Wilbur E. "Webb" Crouch, III
Field Representatives	- Stephen A. Snyder
	- Darrek J. Davis
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Examining Board	- Steve Pearson Jr, Kenny Thompson, Tom Huss, John Christeson
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Business Agent's Report

Wilbur E. "Webb" Crouch, III



As of this publication there are 241 Journeymen and 51 Apprentices actively seeking employment with 44 Members on travel jobs. For the month of March we dispatched 142 Journeymen and 41 Apprentices with 11 call backs and 24 Members to travel jobs. For the month of April we dispatched 155 Journeymen and 27 Apprentices with 44 call backs and 17 Members to travel jobs.

Most of our outage work for the spring and summer is currently manned up and should be complete in a few weeks. Unfortunately, it is going to be a very slow summer in our jurisdiction. We have several projects put on hold due to this being an election year. Hopefully we have a good turnout at the polls to put labor friendly legislators in office that will do what is best for working class families.

There will be quite a few opportunities for travel work this summer at sister locals. Locals 440, 136, 172, 166 and Local 50 in Toledo should all be taking travelers this year. I have built and maintained good relationships with the agents from these locals and hopefully when they need people they will call us.

I would like to congratulate our Apprentices who recently graduated from Ivy Tech. I know it's been a long, hard road for them and it was an honor to see them get their degree.

I would like to remind everyone of the Local 157 Kids Fishing Rodeo Saturday, June 11th from 8am till noon. Live bait will be provided. Bring your kids/grandkids and join us for an exciting day of fishing, prizes, food, fellowship and big fish stories. Anyone interested in helping out with this function please contact me at the Union Office.

Financial Secretary Treasurer's Report

John "JB" Strange



We are currently in the process of choosing our new class of apprentices from a list of several eager candidates. These candidates have been through a 3 part examination as well as two interviews. We want the best and brightest people we can get to maintain the highest possible safety and training standards for our Members and our contractors. We have also just completed graduation ceremonies for our current 5th year class of apprentices with Associate Degrees in Applied Science from Ivy Tech at the ISU Hulman Center... Congratulations to all the graduates!

We are getting the details for the 39th United Association General Convention and are working with our delegates to finalize registration, hotel and scheduling information. This event takes a lot of planning, communication and cooperation on several levels to make everything run smoothly and to have a successful, productive and enjoyable convention experience for everyone involved.

One of the responsibilities that come with my office is the negotiation and implementation of our various metal trades contracts. One of those contracts is with the Indiana American Water Company.

It seems like we all take safe and clean drinking water for granted. We don't worry about our kids drinking from the water fountains at school. We don't think twice about the water we drink at restaurants or the utensils we eat with. We jump in the shower without hesitation. Most of us don't even consider the thought of our water being contaminated, until something like what has happened in Flint Michigan grabs our attention.

There is a lot of work, training and technical expertise that goes into distributing and maintaining a safe water supply. Our Members working at the water company have the very important job of delivering safe drinking water to our homes, businesses, schools, hospitals and community at large. We can take pride knowing that Local 157 Members are on the job, working day and night to supply our community with the clean, safe water that we all need every day.

That being said, I'm happy to report that we have a new 3 year collective bargaining agreement with Indiana American Water.

Negotiations are never easy. They require an open and honest dialog with a certain amount of trust hopefully earned over the years as situations that arise that are resolved between the two parties working together.

I believe we got a good, fair contract and want to thank the water company and especially my stewards who were indispensable to our negotiating team!

Field Representative's Report Steve Snyder



Work in the Northern jurisdiction is starting to shape up due to the bidding process quickening and the proximity of the end of the school year.

Subaru has been running at full steam producing cars at full capacity now for several weeks. This trend will continue as sales are strong and are forecasted to remain strong in the months ahead. This has pushed most of the current Skilled Trades to work only weekends for the month of May to gear up for the 18 day plant shutdown starting May 27th. During this shutdown we will have 9 mechanical contractors performing work throughout portions of the plant on various maintenance items and retooling work. The Toyota Line gets removed and replaced

during this time as well. I expect our numbers to be well over 80 pipefitters working 2 - 12 hour shifts for the duration of the outage. Paint 2 is being expanded by 100' adding 35,000 square feet to the Mezzanine alone. The concrete is scheduled to start in June with enclosure scheduled for October. This work will include two new locker rooms and washrooms along with adding 80' on the existing four ovens and six more gas burners. This addition will also include adding more equipment to the waste water treatment plant along with numerous utility piping drops. Scheduled completion of the addition is June of 2017.

Purdue continues to solicit contractor bids for small public works as well as some fairly larger new projects. One of the biggest is a 60 million dollar Creighton Hall of Life science building. Utility reroutes have already been started and main contract bidding is scheduled for the end of May. The 40 million Mollenkopf expansion has been bid and is currently under review by the construction manager. No word yet as to who was successful. The Honors College Dormitory is on the cusp of completion while the Active Learning Center is still heavily under construction and should continue through the summer.

I mentioned last meeting about community service work that was performed by our 4th year plumbing class for the United Way. I want to expand a little more about that subject. I was approached by Earl Cox the Labor Liaison for the United Way with a host of plumbing issues they had at their 150 year old facility. I thought what a great opportunity to get some hands on experience for our apprentices while doing some community service. It was a win - win for all parties involved. When I mentioned this to our Plumbing Instructor Joe Musenbrock he jumped at the opportunity to help. While my input was limited to material take off, and scheduling, Joe stepped up to the plate and did an outstanding job not only on executing the work but having the patience and foresight to make this opportunity a learning experience for all the apprentices involved. Again I want to say Thank you for a job well done!

In closing I would like to remind everyone that good weather is finally here. Please be patient with all the activity outside and heighten your sense of awareness for children playing close to streets, the massive amount of road construction, farm machinery planting crops, and of course motorcycles. Stay safe and enjoy!



Left to right, Troy Patton, Nick Salem, Instructor Joe Musenbrock, Carroll Smith, and Cody Reifel.

Job well down! Instructor Joe Musenbrock along with the fourth year plumbing apprentices donated plumbing services for the United Way of Greater Lafayette's 150 year old building. Work consisted of replacing various faucets, drain cleaning, water closet repair, and water heater installation. CEO Michael Budd issued each apprentice and instructor a certificate of appreciation along with special recognition at the annual Peer Counseling Program dinner.

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

The 2015-2016 school year is quickly coming to a close. I'm sure there are many apprentices happy this year is almost over. Ivy Tech held commencement on Thursday, May 5 at the Hulman Center and there was a very good turnout for our graduating apprentices. Our Local was very well represented.

The Training Center would like to share the information surrounding both the process of Apprentice selection and the required level advancement hours in the Apprenticeship Program.

First of all, the numbers of Apprentices selected per year is based on four items. These are the number of Apprentices completing the Program, the average number of hours worked in Local 157 per year, the anticipated need for workers in the Local in the near future, and the age of the Local 157 workforce.

The average age of active Local 157 Building Trades Journeymen in 2016 is 46.3 years old; however that in itself doesn't tell the whole story. There are 99 active Members in that average that are 59 years of age or older and 128 Members between the ages of 55 and 58. We can't anticipate at what age Members are going to decide to retire, but we must have the manpower available to meet the labor needs in the Local as this occurs.

Next, we look at this year's graduating class. There are 41 Apprentices classified as 5th year. Of these 41, there are 3 still classified as 5th year that should have completed Apprenticeship in 2015, but it's difficult for the Training Department to determine as to why these gentlemen haven't gotten those hours as of yet. We encourage all Apprentices to pursue all available jobs on the Job Line, but in these 3 instances, these individuals have only averaged 540 hours between the 3 of them in their 5th year. Whereas, 16 of this year's graduating class, already have the hours required to complete Apprenticeship as of April of this year.

It's important to know what has determined these required hours. The Local 157 Training Center is an accredited UA Training Center. In April of this year, we did undergo a UA accreditation audit with a visit to the Terre Haute Training Center by a UA auditor. The UA National Guidelines for Apprenticeship Standards approved by the U.S. Department of Labor is where the required 8500 on-the-job-training hours for the term of Apprenticeship is found. With this being said, it does seem to be a steep requirement, until we look at the actual numbers. From September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015 (one Apprentice advancement period), the average Local 157 Journeyman worked 1766 hours. The average Apprentice in this same time period worked 1585 hours, with the 5th year Apprentice average being 1805 hours.

The difficult part of the hours requirement is that the Training Center really has no control over how much or how little an Apprentice works, or if the Apprentice applies for jobs on the Job Line. It is the goal of this Training Center to see each and every Apprentice through the entire Program and on to a successful piping career, as these apprentices are the future of Local 157.

Please remember to check the website: www.157trainingcenter.org for the availability of certification classes. If there are no scheduled classes, be sure to contact the Training Center to request a certification class. With enough demand, we will schedule classes as needed.

ILLINOIS PLUMBING CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES

**are scheduled for Hutsonville, Saturday October 15th, 2016 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm (CST)
and on Wednesday, October 26th, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm (CST)**

WELD TESTS AT THE TERRE HAUTE TRAINING CENTER

Saturday, June 18th, 2016 at 8:00 am
Saturday, July 16th, 2016 at 8:00 am
Saturday, August 20th, 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 February and March 2016 your Health and Welfare Plan staff processed 15,217 claims, totaling \$5,705,325.74. The cost of medical claims and prescription drugs continue to skyrocket with no end in sight.

In this article, I would like to state the rules for Coordination of Benefits under the Plan. Please make sure that you contact the Plan office immediately, if you or any of your dependents become covered under another health insurance plan. In addition, we must have a letter from the other insurance carrier showing the effective date of coverage and who is covered under their plan.

If an eligible individual is entitled to benefits under any other "Plan" (as that term is defined below) which will pay all or part of the expenses incurred for treatment for an Accident, Injury or Sickness, the amount of benefits payable under this Plan and any other Plan shall be coordinated so that the total amount paid will NOT exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the expenses incurred. In no event shall the amount of benefits paid by this Plan exceed the amount which would have been paid in the absence of any other Plan.

The term "Plan", as used in this section, shall include any plan providing benefits or services for or by reason of hospitalization, medical or dental care or treatment, which benefits or services are provided by: a) group, blanket or franchise insurance coverage; b) group Blue Cross/Blue Shield and other prepayment coverage provided on a group basis; c) automobile insurance policy, which provides medical payments; d) any coverage under labor-management trustee plans, union welfare plans, employer organization plans, employee benefit organization or any other arrangement of benefits for individuals or a group; and e) any coverage under governmental programs, and any coverage required or provided by any statute.



In Memoriam



Patrick J McCabe, a Building Trades Journeyman from Lafayette, Indiana passed away on March 25th, 2016. Patrick was born on January 4th, 1962 and was initiated into the United Association on September 1st, 1987.

Oran H Wiseman, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from Flat Rock, Illinois passed away on March 27th, 2016. Oran was born on June 7th, 1925 and was initiated into the United Association on December 3rd, 1948.

Michael J Burns, a Building Trades Journeyman from Terre Haute, Indiana passed away on April 2nd, 2016. Michael was born on January 2nd, 1959 and was initiated into the United Association on March 1st, 1980.

Dean A Layton, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from West Terre Haute, Indiana passed away on April 6th, 2016. Dean was born on October 30th, 1932 and was initiated into the United Association on October 4th, 1957.

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Apprentice Contest.....

The State Contest was held this year in Evansville. Representing Local 157 was (pictured above respectively)

David Carrell, Tyler Galey, Jordan Keller and Cody Jacobs



To see all the pictures go to ualocal157.org

MEMBERS ON THE JOB



Local 157 Member Josh Knipp works on vent penetrations for furnace install at Westminster Village.



Local 157 Member and welding instructor Jason Brey Meyer working for Quality Plumbing and Heating completes one of several thousand 1-1/2" socket welds for natural gas supply to each condo at Westminster Village in West Lafayette.



Local 157 Member Kurt Lebegue works on vent piping.



Local 157 member TJ Jackson shows off exterior piping for one of four buildings. Each building has 18 apartments requiring home run piping to each condo plus individual metering.

IN NORTHWEST INDIANA



Members on the job at the Wilmeth Active Learning Center Purdue University. Left to right - Kolton Mckenzie, Derek Oldham, Josh Maroney, Robert Anthrop, General Foreman Aaron Rice, Ron Payne, Kevin Lemmons, Shane Hoagland, James Newbauer, Tom Maroney and Joe Musenbrock.




Steward Brian Lewis, General Foreman Mike Purdy and Kevin McHenry on the job at Subaru Automotive working for Project Design & Piping.



Steward Brian Lewis welding stainless piping at Subaru Automotive.



July 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Union Meeting 10:00 am Terre Haute 
3	4 	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 UA Weld Test 8:00 am (Subject to attendance) 
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

August 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5  Tenative Union Meeting 8:00 pm Terre Haute Meeting Hall	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 UA Weld Test 8:00 am (Subject to attendance) 
21	22	23 Incoming Apprentice Orientation 6:00 pm	24	25 2-5 Year Apprentice Meeting 6:00 pm	26	27
28	29 First Day of Classes 	30	31			



Local 157 Golf Outing

**Rocky Ridge Golf Course
Darlington, IN**

Sunday, August 28th, 2016

Registration - 6:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

Tee-off - 8:00 a.m. Sharp!

Format - Peoria Handicap

\$45.00 per person

(Includes Green fee/cart lunch, drinks and door prizes)

Hole Sponsors - \$150.00

**Please send payment no later than 8/22/16 to Jeff Casto
611 South 15th Street Lafayette, Indiana 47905**

**Thank you in advance for your Sponsorship and we look forward to
seeing you there!**

**Golf Committee Member,
Jeff Casto**

(765) 477-4795, work

(765) 479-4677, cell

Donations are not tax deductible.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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



Plumbers & Steamfitters #157
 PIPING INDUSTRY NEWS
 8801 E Milner Avenue
 Terre Haute, IN 47803

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material Do Not Delay

www.ualocal157.org



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
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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

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