

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics for the year 2022, the newest tabulation, reported that 5,486 workers were killed on the job in the United States. No worker should go to work and not return home. With education, training, and regular inspection of workplaces, accidents can be prevented or reduced yet news articles today report increases in accidents in major industries.

To increase awareness of these tragedies, the AFL-CIO in 1989 declared April 28 "Workers Memorial Day" to honor the hundreds of thousands of workers who lost their lives or were injured or disabled at work. The date was chosen to recognize the day in 1970 when the Occupational Safety and Health Act went into effect.

Since that time, Workers Memorial Day events have spread all over the cities and counties of the United States and it has grown to become an international event. This year, on April 28, 2024, Terre Haute joined for the first time the legions of days of remembrance around the world. It was held on the lawn of the house of Eugene V. Debs who was a fervent advocate for workers' safety. The event was reported on local media.

To continue the tradition, union leaders of the building trades, along with representatives of the Greater Terre Haute NAACP Branch #3068 and the Debs Foundation, have already started planning for the second Workers Memorial Day event to be held on Sunday, April 27, 2025, from 2:30-3:30 at the Debs House at 451 North 8th Street. The entire Greater Terre Haute community is invited and encouraged to attend. All union locals in the area are gathering names of fallen workers to be read in a solemn service. We are determined that their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

Workers' Memorial Day Event 2025



JOIN US TO HONOR THE WORKERS WHO
DIED OR WERE INJURED ON THE JOB

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

Sunday, April 27, 2025
2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Eugene V. Debs Museum
451 North Eighth Street
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807

Speakers, the Reading of the Names, Tributes

Music and Refreshments

ORGANIZE!
SAFE JOBS
NOW

Annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 12, 2025

AGE GROUPS

3 and under
4 through 7 year olds
8 through 11 year olds

Registration - 11:00 am

Crafts, Pictures & Lunch - 11:00 am

Hunt - 12:00 noon

Presentation of Awards - 12:45 pm

The event is open to the children and grandchildren of Members of Local 157 who are 11 years old and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Business Manager

Troy E. Bennett



I know that the holidays can be very stressful for some, from not knowing if you will have enough money to buy someone the present that they want or pay the monthly utility bills, house payment, car payment, insurance. Or maybe you're thinking about the loved one that wasn't able to be there to celebrate with you this year. You need to know that you're not alone, not all will admit to it but I will, I have been there. In our newsletter we have a list of volunteers that you can reach out to at any time of day, including all of the elected and appointed Officers of Local 157.

I'm looking forward to the New Year and the challenges that will come with it, and one of the biggest challenges will be manpower. I can't emphasize enough about manning our work in our jurisdiction first, I know a lot of you have been on the road for quite some time and ready to come home. It's been a very long time since we have had a "boom" of work in our area. Please make sure your certs are up to date and current, remember continuing education is a must in our industry and keeps you employable.

In the past few months, I have been working with First Financial on some of our accounts, our General Fund was at 0.15% interest rate, and as of December it is now at 2%. Our Advancement Fund was 0.05 % interest rate and it too is now at 2%, this has been long overdue. I'm looking forward to working with First Financial in the future on our other accounts and get them where they need to be. Looking back on this past year I can say without a doubt it was a rollercoaster ride, never knowing what was around the next curve or over the next hill. I would like to thank all of you for your support and knowledge that you shared with me, especially to the staff at Local 157, Health and Welfare and Ed Trust.

I would like congratulate Donnie Bough, Business Manager of Local 440 on his retirement, thanks for the advice and information that you gave me this year and for making our travelers in your jurisdiction feel at home. To Bob Stieneker the new Business Manager of 440 Congratulations, looking forward to carrying on a great relationship with you and your members.

Our International Rep Robbie Johnson has been given a new assignment by General President Mark McManus and will no longer be over the state of Indiana. Thank you, Robbie, for guidance along the way over the last couple of years and for letting me vent as needed, good luck on your new assignment. Mr. Evan Wooding will be our new International Rep over Indiana starting on January 1st. Local 157 is looking forward to building a great relationship, and helping us move forward.

Piping Industry News

PRESIDENT ~ TROY BENNETT
 SECRETARY/TREASURER ~ TODD BOLAND
 EDITOR ~ PATTI SZYMANSKI

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



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

PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 157 OFFICERS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Business Manager | - Troy E. Bennett |
| Financial Secretary/Treasurer | - Todd Boland |
| Business Agent | - Jonathan L. Wooten |
| President | - Adam Bennett |
| Vice President | - Steve Shaffer |
| Recording Secretary | - Matt Melin |
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Mitchell W. Swaner |
| Examining Board | - Shawn Bignell, Tom Gofourth,
Brad Robertson, John Sanquenetti |
| Inside Guard | - Liam Moeller |

Business Agent's Report

Jon Wooten



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and Christmas with their families. 2024 has been a very busy year and 2025 looks to provide even more work for our membership. Looking over the numbers, Local 157 should just go over 1.4 million manhours for 2024 on building trades projects. With the current projects on the horizon, we should go over that number in 2025.

This Fall Senco at Marathon Oil Refinery has had steady call outs for combo welders and certified riggers. It's encouraging that we have filled all these calls with minimal travelers. Marathon has provided Local 157's membership with more manhours than any other facility in our Local's 125+ year history. Filling those calls for Senco is one of our top priorities. We will fill these calls by whatever means necessary. Whether it be gate testing our AWP students and using them as combo welders, calling all of our sister locals and putting travelers to work or reaching across the trades and putting other union members to work. We ask that all of our journeymen on site at Marathon be patient and take these AWP students/apprentices under your wing and train our future leaders of 157. We are closely monitoring the number of apprentices to journeymen and as I reported at the December union meeting, we will only be sending journeymen fitters and welders for the foreseeable future.

The loan from the Department of Energy for Entek's lithium separator facility has been issued to the owners. Phase 1 of this project is in full swing and a small crew from Local 157 is on site. Pre-cast walls have been stood up and the rooftop HVAC equipment has arrived. Freitag and Sycamore have both been awarded contracts on the initial shell and core. As the 3D models are coming out the amount of upcoming work for the process systems will be substantial. As these contracts are awarded and pre-jobs are held at our local building trades meetings we will report on them.

Work in the Northern jurisdiction remains steady at ZL9, Wade Utilities and the Rolls Royce project. Freitag has been awarded a process package at Rolls that will include 1" heavy wall stainless 36" od and up. This project will start on 5-10's and last throughout the Summer. BMWC will stay busy in 2025 with their crew at Rolls Royce. A&R Mechanical is finishing up their scope of work at Rolls Royce and should be able to keep everyone on the payroll as the Hillenbrand project will be taking off very soon. As the cold weather moves in, Hillenbrand has fallen behind by 8-10 weeks due to site work and the concrete on the high-rise towers. I look for A&R to add 20+ hands there in the new year. DA Dodd has picked up a contract from GC Tonn and Blank in West Lafayette at the new Ortho Indy facility. That will keep a small crew busy throughout 2025. HMMH has 15/20 hands working in the Lafayette area on projects at SIA, IU Hospital and Purdue. Shambaugh has a crew at REA Wire in Lafayette and will stay busy there throughout the winter.

In closing, please continue to utilize our training department and upgrade your welding skills. If you're a fitter pick up your EPRI rigging certification, a state plumbing license or med gas certification. All these certifications will make you more employable. Happy New Year to you all.

Field Representative's Report

Adam Bennett



Brothers and sisters, I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and was able to spend time with their families. That being said I would like to take the time to wish all of you a Merry Christmas!

2025 is looking to be a good year for all of us at Local 157. As of the writing of this article work in Danville is steady with a small upcoming project at their bio diesel plant where they will be needing a combo welder and possibly an apprentice for some long term work and also a short shut down. Speaking with a couple of our contractors in the area they seem to be busy and optimistic about the outlook of work for 2025.

Spring outage work seems to be promising with scheduled shutdowns at Nipsco in West Terre Haute and an outage also scheduled at Duke Energy Cayuga. The need for combo welders and certified riggers will be at a premium, so with the slow down of local jobs this winter there's no better time to utilize our training facility to further your certifications. Speaking of Cayuga we have received word that Kiewit was awarded the bid for a HRSIG boiler job there scheduled to start in late 2025 or early 2026. This project and another project there is something we will be reporting on as more details come this year.

As with every election year, there are a lot of questions regarding upcoming projects with a new incoming President. Recently I was able to sit down with Pete Rimsans, Vice President of government relations at Wabash Valley Resources. (For-

Adam Bennett (Continued)

merly S&G Solutions). Pete was very optimistic about the state of work at WVR and stressed the fact that the job was still on track to be underway in early 2025. This is a large scale long term project that we will be reporting heavily on until we have boots on the ground.

In closing, as we look into 2025 it seems that some of these projects are finally coming to fruition and we are on track for a big year! I would personally like to wish every one of you a happy, safe and prosperous New Year!

Financial Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Todd Boland



I'm writing this as we close out the year 2024. My hope is for everyone to have a safe, healthy and prosperous 2025. Our forecast for employment in the upcoming 2025 year looks as promising as any time during my career.

Industrial Supply has terminated their relationship with Local 157. The employees that we represent have voted to move in a different direction. They have decided to become an employee-owned business. We only represented 5 of their employees in 2024 and have communicated to those employees that they still have an option to remain members. If they choose to remain with UA Local 157, they would be evaluated through the training department and placed in the apprenticeship program based on their assessment and skill level. Industrial Supply has been with Local 157 since the early 1950's.

Gas Distribution hours reported for the last 3 months are as follows: September 19,489; October 23,106 and November 18,996 hours. All in all, these are impressive numbers. A big thank you to Tom Gofourth for continuing his organizing efforts. During the last week of December, Tom organized 2 new members in Kentucky. Tom has also been busy with lead pipe replacement throughout Indiana and Kentucky. The contractors being utilized for this work does not only include those Gas Distribution Contractors but also includes Building Trades Licensed Plumbers. Tom was instrumental in getting municipal contract language amended in the City of Lafayette, which requires the use of Licensed Plumbers. This is one of those many reasons why we need to have representation in those municipal conversations. Thanks to Tom for your work on these things.

Currently Barry Turner, Tom Gofourth and I are involved with helping the local Eugene V. Debs Foundation establish a Workers Memorial. We've been asked to create a list of members who were disabled or lost their lives while on the job. This list will include those commuting to and from work. We've obtained useful information provided by our local Historian, Mitch Poynter. If you know anyone that should be included in this memorial, please notify one of us.

During my last report, I discussed the opportunity for remote meetings. To briefly update this, there was a motion made during our October meeting to form a committee to investigate our options. Troy had already contacted Sycamore Engineering. The motion passed and the wheels are turning. Thanks to Troy for the vision and to Adam for getting this started. This has been something our members have talked about for a long time, I'm excited to see this moving in the right direction.

I receive a lot of questions regarding options for payment of Union Dues. There are several convenient options available. 1) Automatic payment can be set up through your personal banking institution. 2) Checks can be mailed to or dropped off at the hall. 3) Dues can be paid through our secure Members Site. 4) Payment can be accepted via telephone. I understand everyone is busy and life gets in the way. Per our bylaws, Sec 29, Unions Dues are to be paid by the first day of each quarter. Please call if you have any questions or need assistance setting up auto payment.

By now, everyone should have received a letter regarding the newly implemented Peer Mentoring Group. This is very personal to me, and I would like to say a special thanks to all those involved in making this available to our members. As a person with nearly 24 years in long term recovery, I know the struggles that come with needing to ask for help. I'm actively involved in the recovery community and have resources with Mental Health America, Wabash Valley Recovery Alliance as well as suicide prevention. If you are ever unable to reach our Peer Mentors, I'd like to make myself available as well. In addition to my work contact, you can call me on my cell (812-841-5028).



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Stephanie Morgan
Administrative Manager

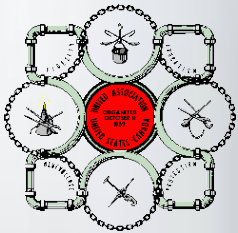


During the months of October, November, and December 2024, your Health & Welfare Plan staff processed 27,425 claims, totaling \$12,416,849.89.

With the start of a new year underway, I would like to remind you of the current deductible and out of pocket limits that renew each January 1st. The current deductible is \$700.00 per person per calendar year with a family maximum of \$2,100.00. Please keep in mind, one person cannot meet more than the individual deductible towards the family maximum. The annual out of pocket per person per calendar year is \$4,000.00 with a family maximum of \$8,000.00. Again, one person cannot meet more than the individual limit.

Remember, one way to save some out-of-pocket costs is to utilize the FREE and easy to use LiveHealth Online service your plan offers all eligible members and dependents not entitled to Medicare or other primary group coverage. The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year and can be accessed from any smartphone or computer with webcam capabilities. You will find the app in your smartphone's App Store. If you already have the App, please make sure you have updated your insurance identification number so that they can find your eligibility and bill correctly. Every dependent over the age of 18 will need to set up their own account. If you should be charged for your LiveHealth visit, please contact this office so that we may assist you.

In Memoriam



Thomas B. Seabury, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from Battlecreek, MI passed away on November 5th, 2024. Thomas was born on September 17th, 1952 and was initiated into the United Association on July 1st, 1981.



Howard P. Wiese, a retired Building Trades Journeyman from Danville, Illinois passed away on December 8th, 2024. Howard was born on June 14th, 1943 and was initiated into the United Association on August 24th, 1979.

Charles S. Smith, a retired Building Trades Member from Flat Rock, Illinois passed away on January 2nd, 2025. Charles was born on July 26th, 1957 and was initiated into the United Association on October 11th, 1982.



Those who touch our lives
stay in our hearts forever.



Plan to attend the Tippecanoe Building Trades Hands On Apprenticeship Expo to learn about skilled trades opportunities for YOUR future.



WHEN:

Thursday, April 24th 2025
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

WHERE:

Tippecanoe Fairgrounds
1406 Teal Road
Lafayette, IN 47905

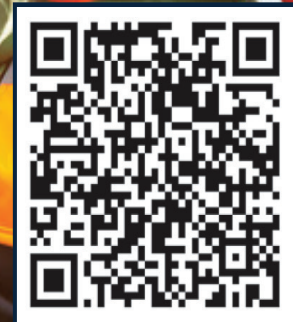
Union Representatives will be on site to provide information about applying to our Apprenticeship Programs.

These skilled trades will be onsite the day of the camp:
 Brick Layers - Electricians - Insulators - Iron Workers
 Laborers - Operating Engineers - Painters - Pipefitters
 Roofers - Sheetmetal Workers - Teamsters - Cement Masons

You should wear correct clothing to be outside and work with your hands.
(Long sleeve shirts, jeans and closed toe shoes, etc.)

Lunch will be served to all attending

PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE TO SIGN UP AN INDIVIDUAL OR A GROUP OF STUDENTS FOR THE EXPO



SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS EVENT!

Peer Mentor Group

Available 24/7

Terre Haute/Robinson Area

- Carter Crouch – Retired (812) 236-3398
- Kimber Bratcher – Retired (765) 366-6681
- Charlie Risley – Active (812) 870-2825
- Sheena Collins – Active (812) 251-7403



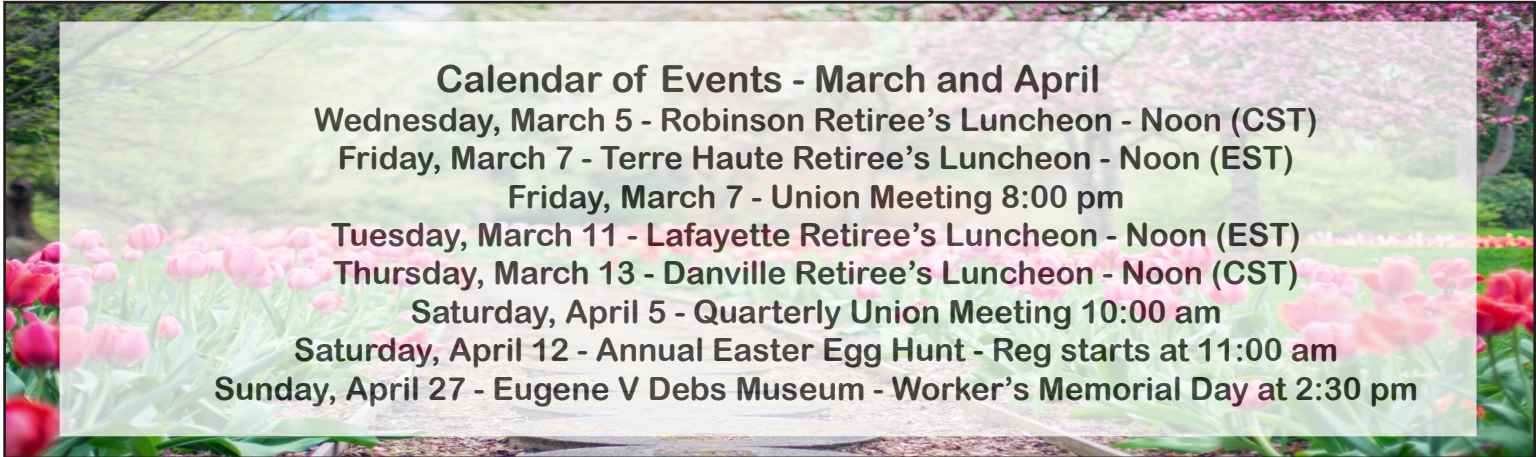
Peer Mentor Group

Available 24/7

Lafayette/Danville Area

- Shawn Martin – Retired (765) 586-7489
- Kim Koerner – Active (317) 796-2136
- Shaun Coomey – Active (765) 586-2963
- #988 Suicide & Crisis Hotline





Calendar of Events - March and April

Wednesday, March 5 - Robinson Retiree's Luncheon - Noon (CST)

Friday, March 7 - Terre Haute Retiree's Luncheon - Noon (EST)

Friday, March 7 - Union Meeting 8:00 pm

Tuesday, March 11 - Lafayette Retiree's Luncheon - Noon (EST)

Thursday, March 13 - Danville Retiree's Luncheon - Noon (CST)

Saturday, April 5 - Quarterly Union Meeting 10:00 am

Saturday, April 12 - Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Reg starts at 11:00 am

Sunday, April 27 - Eugene V Debs Museum - Worker's Memorial Day at 2:30 pm



SPEND LESS.

SAVE OVER 35% ON ADMISSION

Indiana State Building & Construction Trades Council

Jan. 6 – Mar. 21, 2025

Mar. 22 – Jan. 4, 2026

Adult	\$10.75	\$21.75 \$34.75
Youth (2–12)	\$8.75	\$17.75 \$31.75

1. GO to: <https://tickets.indyzoo.com/webstore/shop/ViewItems.aspx?CompanyCode=INBCTCDolphin&CG=MktgDMA&C=DMATkt>
2. Select ticket quantity.
3. Click **Add To Cart**.
4. Check your order and then click **Checkout**.
5. Enter billing and payment information.
6. You will then see a receipt page.
7. You will receive your tickets by email.
8. To print your tickets, please save them from the receipt page when you complete your transaction.

SCAN TO PURCHASE



TICKETS VALID ANY DAY,
INCLUDING SPECIAL ZOO EVENTS:



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, February 7th, 2025
at 8:00 pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall.

Monthly Union Meeting
Friday, March 7th, 2025
at 8:00 pm in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall.

Quarterly Union Meeting
Saturday, April 5th, 2025
at 10:00 am in the Terre Haute
Meeting Hall.

Dated Material Do Not Delay

www.ualocal157.org



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- Field Representative Adam Bennett ~ adam@ualocal157.org
- Gas Distribution Organizer Tom Gofourth ~ tom@ualocal157.org
- Office Manager Patti Szymanski ~ patti@ualocal157.org
- Training Coordinator Shane Alumbaugh ~ shane@ualocal157.org
- Welding Coordinator Brad Robertson ~ brad@ualocal157.org
- Training Center Adm Asst Jemima Robinson ~ jemima@ualocal157.org

LOCATIONS & NUMBERS

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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
- FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE.....P.O. Box 369
Seelyville, IN 47878
Phone.....(812) 877-1531
Fax.....(812) 877-4450
- ADVANCEMENT FUND OFFICE.....P.O. Box 369
Seelyville, IN 47878
Phone.....(812) 877-1531
Fax.....(812) 877-4450

- INDIANA PIPE TRADES DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN.....P.O. BOX 416
Seelyville, IN 47878
Phone.....(812) 877-1531 x206
Fax.....(812) 877-4450
- 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