From the Desk of the Business Manager. ...

Brothers & Sisters,

This summer has been very active both with the projects that we have been working on and the future opportunities that we have in the Shale Industry. We have had many meetings with organizations that represent oil and gas companies, the first being American Petroleum Institutes (API), the Ohio division. They represent 15 of the largest oil companies in the world. The president of API, Jack Gerard, said Ohio is on the cutting edge of Shale Energy Development and is a game-changer for providing millions of new jobs and economic growth in America. Our contact with API, Rebecca Heimlich, has been very supportive of Local 396 and the initiatives we have made. The second organization is Energy in Depth. It is an organization which represents some 200 small gas companies in Ohio. We work with campaign manager Mike Chadsey on many boards to explain the positives of hydraulic fracturing.

Business Agent Tim Callion spoke about the direct and indirect jobs that we have experienced in the last two years and what the future holds for us at a panel discussion on the fracking film “Truthland”. The discussion was held at Youngstown State University on August 14th. Tim did a very good job of explaining the positives, even though some in the community were outspokenly opposed to Shale Drilling. As Tim stated, “I guess we are just used to it.”

We have been awarded the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) federal and state grants to train our members, new members applying for the apprenticeship program and future welders in the Marcellus and Utica Shale Operation. These grants have the support of many activists, including the Regional Chamber, bipartisan support from the government and more than 65 companies engaging and working to help increase our educational achievements and market shares. Training Coordinator Marty Loney worked very hard to secure this by navigating through the grant language and many meetings with the grant board. Marty explained the benefits of our programs, and because of his determination, we were the only one selected for this grant from the oil & gas industry. With this grant, oil and gas companies will look to us for qualified, skilled workers for their work.

The UA has provided us with free t-shirts, with our logo on the front and the back bearing a UA logo with the words “Political Task Force.” These shirts will be handed out as needed to any members helping by attending political rallies or candidate fundraisers. The color of the t-shirt is navy with gold trim. We have 180 to hand out, sizes L, XL, and XXL. The only thing we ask is that you help to attend some of the events that will be coming up with the presidential election.

The UA is asking for pictures of women in the pipetrades for the UA journal. If any of our female members would like to submit a picture of yourself working in the field, please forward it to localunion396@zoominternet.net and we will forward it to the UA.

A Davis-Bacon survey is being conducted; within our jurisdiction we will need to collect prevailing wage rates and fringe benefits of all of our contractors performing work. This is important because, when federal dollars are awarded to projects in our area, the union wage is to be used as the standard wage rate. I will be asking for the support of contractors and (continued on Page 2)
Business Manager’s Report (Continued from Page 1)

members who have worked on these projects in supervisory roles. Please fill out the forms that will be sent to you so that we may forward them to the US Department of Labor.

Local 396 will again be a sponsor of the 2nd Annual YOUNG Utica and Natural Gas Conference and Expo, to be held September 6th and 7th. We will have two UA Showcase Trailers at the Covelli Center. In a letter to General President Hite, we thanked him for his support of the first Expo with the All-Trades trailer, the Welders trailer, the Virtual Welders and the hand-outs of the United Association programs. With the direction of the Training and Energy Departments of the UA, we will once again be able to open doors at this Expo and continue our success in this business.

Finally, because of the LU 396 membership and the leadership roles it has taken in the Mahoning Valley, the Regional Chamber rewarded our organization at the Salute to Labor and Business Awards, held August 30th at Mr. Anthony’s in Boardman.

As work in the area continues to grow, please keep up all of your hard work and continue to make our union proud.

Fraternally,
Butch Taylor

A Word From the Business Agent

Wow, wasn’t this a hot summer? Maybe there is something to this “global warming” after all? I hope everyone has found some time to enjoy the great weather.

Work in the area has been hot, too. The Rolling Mill at V&M has pierced some billets and will soon be operational. Kvaerner has been testing, flushing and commissioning work areas to V&M. They are still on site with a small skeleton crew. McCarls has begun working on punch items at the Roll Mill and is still working to complete the water treatment plant. De-Cal has ramped up work on the finish side of the mill. They are currently working two shifts on site, with fabrication support at their Youngstown Fab Shop.

GM Lordstown completed outage work at the Assembly and Fabrication Plants this summer. Contractors Western Reserve Mechanical, Stevens Engineering, Progressive Mechanical, and John E. Green were involved with the upgrades that took place. We look forward to the future upcoming projects at GM Lordstown.

New LU 396 contractor, Evets Inc., had a good surge of work this summer at the Covelli Center. In a letter to General President Hite, we thanked him for his support of the first Expo with the All-Trades trailer, the Welders trailer, the Virtual Welders and the hand-outs of the United Association programs. With the direction of the Training and Energy Departments of the UA, we will once again be able to open doors at this Expo and continue our success in this business.

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Fraternally,
Butch Taylor

Springs Road Exterran Plant.

Since the last newsletter, over half of the projects listed have been completed: Universal Stainless, Ironwood Assisted Living, Windsor House Assisted Living, Exal Aluminum, Valley Health Trumbull, Austintown, Niles, South Range Schools, and Eastwood Mall. St. Elizabeth and St. Joe’s Hospitals are just a few of the projects in addition to our NMA work that kept us busy this spring and summer.

We continue to take pride in the accomplishments of our diverse work force, and signatory contractors of the Mahoning Valley. There is no job too big or small.

In closing once again I hope everyone had a great summer, and please remember to vote on or before November 6th. Once again we face issues affecting our livelihoods, ie Project Labor Agreements, Prevailing Wage, Voter Suppression, and Human Rights.

I leave you with this quote, “In our glorious fight for civil rights, we must guard against being fooled by false slogans, as ‘right-to-work.’ It provides no ‘rights’ and no ‘works.’ Its purpose is to destroy labor unions and the freedom of collective bargaining...We demand this fraud be stopped.” -MLK

Fraternally,
Butch Taylor
"We recognize that labor dishonors no man."
-Ulysses S. Grant

Let me start out by congratulating all of the apprentices for moving on to the next year in their apprenticeship, especially the 5th year, who have all moved to Journeyman status. We held a dinner for the graduating class of 2012 on June 22nd. During the ceremony, Bill Galla was presented a plaque to commemorate his 38 years as an instructor. Bill retired at the end of the last school year and will be missed.

Congratulations to all and good luck!

With the membership working, signup for journeyman classes has been slow, but the following classes are still being offered: Backflow, Backflow Recert, Medical Gas & Recertification, Welding, Brazing, Foreman Training, and Crane Signalperson. Please note that some classes have additional fees and that you are responsible for the continuities and expiration dates for your certifications.

The need for our members to upgrade welding skills now is unlike any other time in our history. If you have the skills or desire, please try your best to come down to the weld shop on Thursday nights to practice. The next test session will be held Saturday, October 20th, at 8 AM here at the union hall.

The Gas & Oil Industry in our area is beginning to explode, therefore the need for downhill welders is increasing. The UA1 test is a good starting point for getting into the industry. Each gas company has their own testing requirements. For members who are interested, we need a firm commitment as this class will not just run in the evenings. The final schedule has yet to be determined.

If you are interested in downhill welding, please call/come to the hall and practice on Thursday nights to test for the UA1 downhill test. Please keep in mind that the UA1 is only a UA certification and that each gas company has its own test requirements. For members who are interested, we need a firm commitment as this class will not just run in the evenings. The final schedule has yet to be determined.

Finally, Local 396 instructors attended the UA’s Instructor Training Program in Ann Arbor, Michigan, August 11 thru the 17th. Don Jessop was on assignment that week for the UA, supervising the National Apprentice Contest. Some classes taken by instructors included medical gas, instructor recertification, industrial rigging technologies, planning effective teaching lessons, geothermal certification, construction layout and positioning, and advanced methods for GTAW. Classes are designed to be taken to help the needs of each individual local for upcoming and future work in their respective jurisdictions.

-Marty Loney
Training Coordinator

LEFT: Industry Day at Washtenaw saw an historic event with the signing of the Affiliation Agreement between the UA and the Plumbing Trades Union of Australia.

“A God, Who has called hence the soul of our Brother/Sister who has departed this life. You who alone Knowest the secrets of each heart, with all its trials, sorrows and temptations we beseech Thee to have mercy upon him/her, and also upon all those, our brothers and sisters, who have gone previously; pardon each sin that they have committed and give them rest, light and peace in Thy everlasting Kingdom; all of this we beg through you our God and Savior.”

Ahhh, Retirement….the time to enjoy all of the things you never had time to do when you worked! Congratulations are extended to our recent retirees, and we wish you the best.

Retirees:
Russ Morgan, retired 5/1/2012, 46 years of service
Dave Lawrence, retired 7/1/2012, 37 years of service
James Ischkum, (Honorable Withdrawal), retired 7/1/2012
Terrance Stanton, retired 7/1/2012, 25 years of service
Paul Trupe, retired 8/1/2012, 33 years of service

We once again have YSU Season tickets available at the union hall. If you are interested in attending any of the games listed below, please contact the hall to see if the tickets are still available.

YSU 2012 HOME SCHEDULE
SAT. SEPT 8 vs. Valparaiso
SAT. SEPT 15 vs. Albany
SAT. SEPT 22 vs. Northern Iowa
SAT. OCT 20 vs. Southern Illinois
SAT. NOV 3 vs. South Dakota

President’s Report
From George Popovich, President of Local 396:

The following members were elected as trustees: Ken McCabe (Pension) and Chuck Lehnerd (Combined Funds).

Delegates elected to the Ohio State Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio were Jim O’Hara and Clyde Widener. Thank you all to your time spent on these committees.

I had an opportunity to help out at the United Way/Western Reserve Building Trades Bike Run held on July 15th. It was held at the Operating Engineers Hall Local 66 and was a great success. The number of bikes participating this year tripled to 69. There were a number of building trades craftsmen who rode and said despite a little rain at the end, if was a lot of fun. We’ll be looking to have more bikes involved next year; for all of you riders out there I’ll pass on the information next spring.

The 14th Annual LU 396 Golf Outing will be held Saturday, October 6, 2012 at Bedford Trails Golf Course. The cost is $50.00/golfer. If interested contact the hall by September 17th.

The next union meeting will be held October 4, 2012 at the Operating Engineers Union Hall, 7:30 PM.

-IN MEMORIAM-

396 RETIREES
Absentee Voting
Any person may vote absentee without a reason. Absentee voting begins 35 days before Election Day and may be conducted by mail or in person at the Board of Elections.

Student Voting
Students are encouraged to vote absentee because the identification requirements are not as stringent as they are for Election day. Absentee voters are merely required to provide an Ohio driver’s licence number or the last four digits of a social security number.

Locate Your Precinct
You must vote in the correct precinct in order for your vote to be counted. Plan early and contact the Board of Elections to determine your proper precinct and polling place. If you are unsure of your precinct on election day, ask a poll worker to assist you.

Important Dates
OCT 2—Early Voting Begins
OCT 9—Voter Registration Deadline
NOV 2—Last day of Early in Person Voting at 6 PM.

Working for the People
Almost from his first day in Office, President Obama has been the subject of relentless criticism. The time has come to let the real record speak for itself.

Achievements for the Building Trades:
- American Recovery and Jobs Act
- Pro-PLA Policy for Federal Building Projects
- New Nuclear Loan Guarantees and Project Agreements.
- Expanding Development of Oil and Gas Resources.
- Increased Davis-Bacon Investigations.
- Aggressive Enforcement of Key Safety and Wage and Hour Laws.
- New Green Training Investments.
- Major Improvement for Pipeline Safety.
- Contracting Reforms to Combat Unlawful Hiring.
- Promotion of Apprenticeship Training for Veterans.

Achievements for Workers and Labor Unions Generally:
- Solidarity with Workers in Wisconsin, Ohio and Other States.
- Enactment of Fair Pay Act.
- Ending Anti-Safety Policies.
- Improving Safety Data Collection and Standards.
- Rescue and Revitalization of U.S. Automobile Industry.
- New Pro-Worker Union Election Rules.
- Opposed Bill Allowing Companies to Relocate Plants and Jobs to Avoid Unions.
- Organizing Rights of Employees.
- Fighting Employee Misclassification.
- Benefits for Veterans’ Families.

Achievements for All Americans
- Fighting Terrorism and Bolstering National Security.
- Securing Middle Class Tax Cuts & Closing Corporate Loopholes.
- Cleaning Up Wall Street & Demanding Corporate Accountability.
- Championing Consumer Laws to Protect Working Families.

And much, much more...
Below: Congratulations to Elliot Thomas, son of Local 396 member Melvin Thomas, on his achievement of graduating from West Point in May of 2012. Elliot is now Second Lieutenant in the United States Army.

Above: Marty Loney, LU 396 Training Coordinator, speaks to the apprentices on their first night of class. The new school year kicked off with Orientation on September 4th.

Left: Congressmen Bill Johnson and Tim Ryan (3rd and 4th from left) participate in the ribbon-cutting at Local 396’s grant announcement. The important grant will help tie us with the oil and gas companies.

Right: Business Agent Tim Callion and members Clyde Widener and Jim O’Hara pause for a picture at the OSA Convention, held this year in Cincinnati.

Left: Local 396 member John Philips at this year’s United Way Bike Run.