A Bright Future Ahead for 2013!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We have been very busy going to different locations talking to many business and piping contractors as well as attending events that has Mahoning Valley in the spotlight. Our plan through P.I.P.E. is to market through our strengths to generate jobs, making us the leader in the building trades. By being a more strong and secure union these companies will be glad to partner with us for a future that is bright and full of opportunity.

The first opportunity in the oil and gas industry is American Petroleum Institute. They have been meeting with us for plans of work in our area. They represent twenty of the largest gas companies in the United States, like BP and Hess/Consol. Leaders of API like Rebecca Heimlich and Dan Gunderson have worked with organized labor for many years along with Mike Chadsey from Energy in Depth and Holly McKee of Buckeye Energy. We will all be hosting an Energy Forum March 11, 2013 with the topic being “Ohioans for Ohio jobs”. They all have a great influence in the energy field and their partnership is significant to Local Union 396 and the jobs that will support the pipe project.

The meeting with Chapman’s President, Art Hathaway, reviewed the New Springfield Cryogenic Processing facility, known as “Hickory Bend”. This is a $300 million dollar project and the construction manager is Mark West. Mr. Hathaway was positive in that if Chapman was successful in getting the first plant, the three other plants that Mark West will be building in our jurisdiction will go union.

The Kensington Cryogenic project went to an out-of-state non-union contractor. We have been working very closely with the UA general office as well as a union piping contractor, Pioneer. There is report that some success is coming from this. This will be discussed at next month’s union meeting.

Ohio Manager, Al Sauline, of Aqua Ohio is friends with member, Moon Barrett. Brother Moon was able to setup a meeting discussing work in water transportation. Oil drill pad needs water and Aqua has the work to start building pumping stations to each location for the drilling of the well head. Thanks to the support of Brother Moon and Mr. Sauline, Local 396 is trying to get the opportunity for work on water lines and pumping stations in the future.

Our two pipe fabrication contractors, De-Cal and Evets, will both have the opportunity for strong growth due to its fabrication shops and upcoming jobs in the industry of oil and gas construction, plus many other projects. Welders will be needed. However, the types of welders needed are UA 30 and UA 17 certified. Kirk Bregar as well as all of our welding instructors have been working with our members to obtain these welding certifications. Kirk has been coming into the weld shop every Thursday. Thank you to Brother Kirk and to all of our welding instructors for taking the time to help our members become properly certified.

Penn National Gaming and Turner Construction have partnered for the new Race Track/Casino in Austintown. Business Agent, Tim Callion, has been working very close on this project to ensure the project is 100% union with plumbing and HVAC. He has been part of community outreach events with our local contractors being involved also. The project is on schedule with the mechanical bids going out in about eight weeks. Many of our members will be able to make some money on this project if they don’t lose it on the ponies after it is built! Many other projects will follow in Austintown and Niles due to the entertainment business.

Now that the election is over and President Obama has won re-election, the UA will benefit from his support of organized labor. General President Hite has stated in his report the following; “We have returned to office the President of the United States who understands and appreciates unions. He knows that unions like the United Association will be critical in fulfilling his agenda to move America forward. We will be the ones who build the power plants, refineries, pipelines, water treatment plants, hospitals, schools and all the infrastructure that a country like ours needs to compete successfully in the world. With Barack Obama in the White House we will see the continued use of project labor agreements in that means jobs for our members”.

We cannot forget or get complacent because of what has happened in other states like Indiana and Michigan. They have pushed through legislation for right to work laws without going to a vote from the citizens of the state. In Ohio the right to work laws will have to be a ballot vote. Right to work states have the lowest average annual pay in the nation. The election in 2014 will be just as vital as the election in 2012.

Please keep working on getting your Medical Gas and welding certifications as well as many others like rigging and foreman classes. Marty Loney has put many of these projects together due to the mandate from the United Association. We have received a letter from T.L. Ranson who is working with the UA on welder recruitment issues. The letter states how the training center will be utilized for welder recruitment. The letter will be read at February’s Union meeting.

Fraternally,

Butch Taylor
A Word From the Business Agent

Now that Christmas gifts have been bought, returns have been made for what we really want and that the New Year’s resolutions are almost forgotten, we can focus on the opportunities that lie ahead.

Our members are still working on carry over projects from last year. V&MI still remains to be the employment leader in the valley. McCarls is completing its work with a skeleton crew while De-Cal, about 100 strong, works toward its deadline on the Finishtool. Plans for the VAM Coupling plant are ongoing, however a start date has not been given.

Prout Boiler will be the mechanical contractor for the Salem Community Hospital addition. They expect to begin work soon.

Work at GM Lordstown is steady with Western Reserve Mechanical on the Cooling Tower job and other projects in the facility. The Conti Group has started work on the Body Shop Tool Installation project. They will be working on new tooling, facility drops, and installing tooling kits. The crew size is projected up to twenty-five pipefitters.

Foundation work has started at St. Elizabeth Boardman. The Mechanical Package has not been let yet for bidding.

2013 looks to be a promising year for the Gas Industry. Our local fabrication shops are anticipating to have an increase in production very soon. Most shops are now requiring the UA-30 certification. The welding process is GMAW-S and FCAW on a 6” schedule 80 coupon, using filler metals ER70S-6 and 1E71-T1. Our weld shop is equipped to obtain this certification.

Plans are also developing for a Gas Processing plant in Springfield township. The first phase should begin this Spring and be in production by late Summer.

Brothers and Sisters these are a few of the larger scale projects slated for this year. Many commercial jobs are also planned for 2013. I encourage all of you to prepare for the opportunities that lie ahead. Training and education are key to our achievements. As always I am available for information regarding work in and outside of our jurisdiction.

Fraternally,

“Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties...”

-Helen Keller

On the Training Front...

“All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence”

-Martin Luther King Jr.

Happy New Year! Hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season.

Let’s get right to it. Upcoming weld test dates: February 16th, April 20th, and June 15th.

Applications are now being accepted once a month through April. They will be taken on the third Wednesday of each month from 12:00PM – 4:00PM. A $45.00 application fee (cash only), high school transcripts, and valid drivers license are required at the time of the application. Application dates are as follows: January 16th, February 20th, March 20th and April 17th.

In an effort to open the weld shop to all, we will open every other Saturday from 7:00AM-12:00PM starting January 12, 2013. This is being done so that all members and recruits will have ample opportunity to practice for upcoming weld tests. We will keep the weld shop open as long as there is interest on Saturdays.

All indications point to the need for welders, especially Flux Core (UA 30 test) welders. We are hearing the numbers to be between 15-30 welders in the next few months. Please come up and get your UA 30 certification.

The rigging structure has been delivered but came in pieces. There will be a lot of fabrication to be done to get this structure up and going so please be patient.

The Medical Gas recertification has changed. We will now be required to take three nights of code changes and then take a proctored test. These new changes went into effect January 1, 2013 through our third party certifier NITC.

Fraternally,

Marty Loney
Training Coordinator
President’s Report

Brothers & Sisters,

Happy New Year! As we put the holidays behind us and move into the new year, there are some important dates and upcoming events. They are as follows:

**February 7, 2013**
Union Meeting at the Operating Engineers Hall Local 66
Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney and New York Life will attend at 6:30PM to answer any questions regarding plan investments and options.
Voting will take place for a By-law change to cap the Strike Fund and direct the $.05 to your Health Reimbursement Fund.

**March 16, 2013**
15-Year Anniversary Dinner/Dance
Location: The Embassy
Time: 6:30PM-10:00PM
Please RSVP

**April 17, 2013 - April 20,2013**
Spring Getaway Golf Outing
Location: Winston-Salem, NC
Cost: $85.00 per day (3 days)
Includes: 18 holes of golf, cart, breakfast and hotel

**May 2, 2013**
Union Meeting
Nominations will be taken for Local Officers, Trustees, and Delegates to the State Convention

**June 6, 2013**
Election at the Union Hall with the results announced at the Union meeting. The officials notices will be mailed at the proper dates per UA constitution and Local 396’s By-laws.

Fraternally,
George Popovich

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**IN MEMORIAM**

Local 396 remembers its members who have recently passed:

- **Scott Ambrose**, initiated 1969, died 1/21/2012;
- **Harry Jackson**, initiated 1947, died 5/23/2012;
- **Joseph Potts**, initiated 1954, died 6/28/2012;
- **Walter Parke**, initiated 1955, died 7/4/2012;
- **Thomas Ring**, initiated 1953, died 7/27/2012;
- **Blaine Ressler**, initiated 1951, died 8/10/2012;
- **Floyd Smith**, initiated 1951, died 8/13/2012;
- **Edward Mott**, initiated 1964, died 9/10/2012;
- **Paul Bookhamer**, initiated 1940, died 11/15/2012

“O 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.”

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**396 RETIREEs**

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

**2012 Retirees include:**
- **Kenneth David**, 22 years of service;
- **Don Markovich**, 45 years of service;
- **Charles Lepowsky**, 17 years of service;
- **Robert Booth**, 14 years of service;
- **Terry Meikle**, 33 years of service;
- **Russ Morgan**, 46 years of service;
- **David Lawrence**, 37 years of service;
- **James Ischkum**, 13 years of service;
- **Terrance Stanton**, 25 years of service;
- **Paul Trupe**, 33 years of service;
- **Gerald Everett Jr.**, 30 years of service;
- **Ken McCabe**, 35 years of service;
- **Garry Palette**, 31 years of service