Business Manager’s Report

What’s Going On

UA CONVENTION: Congratulations goes out to the delegates elected by the membership to represent Local 441 at the upcoming 39th UA Convention. At the February 8th Union meeting there were 20 eligible members nominated to fill the 13 elected delegate positions available. The 13 Delegates were elected by secret ballot at a Special Meeting held on March 12th to represent Local 441 at the 2016 Convention. The Convention will be held in San Diego, California, August 1st through the 5th. According to the Constitution of the United Association, Local 441 is entitled to a total of 14 delegates.

Those elected in descending order were Bill Urton, Mike Magennis, Jerry Short, Brian Burnett, Mike Wolownik, Steve Watson, Rick Salyer, Andy Tipton, David Emerson, Steve Stenger, John Shepherd Jr., T. J. Strickland, and LeRoy Lawrence. Alternates are Bill Lorg, Daryl Burnham, and Nick Rhodes. I have the honor of serving as the 14th Delegate by virtue of my office.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each of the Delegates elected. I know they will represent our Local Union with honesty and integrity. Thank you to the membership for your support in this very important matter.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS: Negotiations will be conducted prior to June 1 for Zone IA (Wichita area), Zone IIA (Topeka area), and Zone IIB (Lawrence area). These negotiations will be for wages only. Zone IB (Frontenac area) has three years remaining on its current contract and has $1.25, $1.25, $1.00 scheduled to be added to the total package effective June 1st over the next three years.

[Kansas Direct Pipeline]

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KUDOS:

Union Plumbers Volunteer to Help Victims of Flint Water Crisis
By JoAnne Powers, Workers Independent News

Flint, Michigan Plumbers and Pipefitters, members of the United Association, worked together to help the community of Flint on the heels of the water crisis which exposed tens of thousands of residents to water contaminated with high levels of lead.

The volunteer assistance reached a peak at the end of January as 470 Plumbers and Pipefitters from across Michigan joined the local plumbers’ union in Flint to help replace faucets, install water filters, and deliver bottled water and water testing kits to hundreds of Flint residents.

Harrold Harrington, Business Manager of UA Local 370 in Flint, says they’ve worked on this project since October: “Our members live here, we work here. We’re part of the community. We all stick together, that’s part of being a union, and the International’s helping out, too. So, it’s not just members in Michigan, it’s also all over the United States and Canada. It’s pretty amazing how the unions can come out and get something like this done. It seems like the state officials, and even the feds, they can’t do anything, but we can all band together and get something done. I’m glad to be a part of it.”
Employment Dispatch

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

WORK OUTLOOK

After a very slow winter, our work is finally picking up. The outlook for the rest of the year looks pretty good.

With oil prices down we may smile at the pump, but our lack of presence in the refineries is starting to show. I don’t anticipate much new work in our refineries this year.

The Dairy in Garden City is starting to hire. That project will peak at around 60 and is a 20 month project.

The outage at Jeffrey Energy Center has been our biggest project in the Topeka area. As of this writing we have 62-441 members on the job and the job is ahead of schedule, under budget and no recordable injuries. Westar and Day & Zimmerman are very happy. It made me very proud to be a Local 441 member when I visited the jobsite and observed what has been done in a short period of time. Everyone was working together and watching out for each other. I knew we could do it if we had the chance!

Another job that needs recognized for the outstanding quality and dedication from the membership is the Riverton project. It is winding down but I’m sure will lead to future work in the plant because of our performance.

US Engineering has secured a project at KU in Lawrence. It is a two-year project and will peak at 25 to 30.

Our commercial work in Wichita is strong and should hold throughout the year. Topeka and Lawrence is a little soft but the KU project will help.

Keep up the good work and enjoy your summer.

Fraternally,

Bill Urton (316) 265-4291
Business Representative/Dispatcher

Manhattan/Fort Rilee Area

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Construction continues on a large scale in Manhattan and especially Kansas State University. Our Fair Contractors continue bidding work in the area, but work for Local Union 441 members remains slow.

Public Officials and KSU administration project a large increase in BIO-AG related businesses locating in the area due to the construction of the National Bio-AG Defense Facility. The restraints the current state administration and GOP-led legislature is putting on local government may make it impossible to build or maintain the infrastructure needed for the development and growth to continue on such a large scale.

I look forward to interviewing the newest apprentice applicants in May. Retiree Banquets are also in May so I get the pleasure of seeing many of the members that helped pave the way for the rest of us. Negotiations will be ongoing so I will be spending time with contractors that helped build that same road. May looks to be very busy.

I hope everyone enjoys the spring and summer. Please work and play safely.

Fraternally,

Phil Petty (785) 640-6151
Organizer/Business Representative

UA Endorses Hillary Clinton for President

The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry (“UA”) is endorsing former Secretary of State, U.S. Senator and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton for President of the United States.

“Hillary Clinton brings a unique blend of experience to the office of President of the United States,” said Plumbers and Pipefitters Union General President William P. Hite in announcing the endorsement. “She is a skilled diplomat and a tough negotiator, yet she also has great compassion for working families. She is committed to rebuilding our country’s aging infrastructure, especially our water and waste water systems, and all facets of the energy sector, including pipelines, nuclear and natural gas. These are top priorities for the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters and for the whole country. I’m confident Secretary Clinton will provide the leadership to get the job done. She will help America become stronger, more competitive and create quality jobs in the process.”

“Hillary Clinton has stood side by side with workers fighting for the right to organize and against harmful labor policies such as Right to Work,” Hite said. He noted that in the end, “this election will come down to which candidate will work the hardest to resolve the persistent problems of income inequality and restore dignity and fairness in the workplace. Hillary Clinton knows that when unions are strong, America is strong. We are proud to endorse her for President of the United States.”

http://ua.org/latest-news/ua-endorse-hillary-clinton-for-president.aspx
PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS LOCAL UNION #441 WICHITA, KANSAS
SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS MEETING
March 14, 2016
The Special Order of Business Meeting of Local Union #441 was called to order at 10 a.m. by President John Shepherd Jr. with Brother Jerry Short at the door.
SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:
A letter was read by Business Manager Richard Taylor that was mailed to all 441 members which contained Notice for Special Order of Business Meeting to be held March 12, 2016, for election of Local Union #441 UA Convention Delegates for the 39th UA Convention. The vote was held by secret ballot.
The meeting was then turned over to Brother Roger Naylor, Chairman of the Election Committee for eligibility verification.
President John Shepherd, Jr. asked the body three times if everyone had had a chance to vote and then closed the ballot.
The delegate results are in the chart at right.
Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.
Richard Taylor, Acting Recording Secretary

Elected delegates should arrive in San Diego, California, in time for the opening of the 39th Convention of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada, AFL-CIO, on Monday, Aug. 1, 2016, at 8:00 a.m.
Delegates need to bring their individual dues card, Social Security or Social Insurance card, and driver’s license or photo ID.

Delegate Results for 39th UA Convention

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delegate Number</th>
<th>Member Name</th>
<th>Number of Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bill Urton</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Michael Magennis</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Brian Burnett</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jerry Short</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Michael Wolownik</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Rick Salyer</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Steven Watson</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Andrew Tipton (Gump)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>David Emerson (Dave)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Steven Stenger</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>John Shepherd Jr.</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Thomas Strickland (T.J.)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>LeRoy Lawrence Jr.</td>
<td>23 / 30 Run Off Vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Richard Taylor</td>
<td>Business Manager (Elected Paid Officer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>William Long (Bill)</td>
<td>23 / 17 Run Off Vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Daryl Burnham</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Nicholas Rhodes</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Topeka/Lawrence Area
Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

Like most of our members I’m sure glad spring is here. Work is looking better in Zone 2A and 2B. We have projects getting started in Lawrence. Let’s start with Kansas University. The P-3 Central District work has started with a small crew and will slowly add men through the summer and Fall. Hiring will peak in the Spring of 2017. The Earth, Energy & Environment Center Underground has started with P1 Group (no word yet on above ground). There are multiple smaller projects getting ready to go once the students leave for the summer.
The Lawrence area also has school district work planned for this late spring and summer as will Ottawa in Franklin County. Hiawatha school District has another phase starting soon also. The Topeka area school work has slowed but should pick up again after the kids are out of school. This Summer should be a good one for work.
The Mars expansion has started, P1 has the underground. The process piping has been awarded to a non-union company. Hospital work remains steady at this time and there are some projects on the books for later this year. The Washburn Dining & Dorm project is winding down with mechanical work being completed ahead of schedule. The WESTAR Coal Pipe Project is underway and our members have really stepped up to the task! This project is ahead of schedule and money! Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to your craft and to your Brothers.
Finally, I would like to thank all of the Members of Local 441 that voted in the March Convention Delegate vote. Many of you drove quite a distance to cast your vote. All of you gave up a Saturday to be with your Brothers and Sisters instead of hanging with the family. Thanks for voting and electing me to represent you. Your confidence in me and the other delegates is truly an honor.
Thank you for your support and guidance.
Fraternally yours,
Rick Salyer (785) 354-8539
Topeka/Lawrence Business Representative
2132 S Kansas Ave, Topeka, KS  66611
Job Site

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are. —Theodore Roosevelt
Training

I would like to start by saying thank you for your support during the election for the UA convention delegates. Other training department members that were also elected were Brian Burnett and Andy Tipton. It will be an honor for the three members from the training department to represent LU 441 at the UA convention.

Right now is a busy time in the training department; we are in the process of scheduling interviews for next year’s 1st year apprenticeship class (2016/2017). At this time we have over 200 applications we are sorting through. Interviews will be scheduled for the first two weeks of May. If you have someone that you would like to write a letter of recommendation for, please email it to the training office or drop it off at one of the 441 Union halls.

The training department has launched an updated web page, www.PPATKS.org, for registration and information on training and CEU classes. All that you have to do is look at the calendar for your area, click on the date or dates that are highlighted, fill in the information that is required, and you will be registered for the upcoming class or classes. There is no need to call; you will receive an email back once the class has been confirmed. We are hoping this will be an easier way for the members to find out what classes are coming up for both training and CEUs. In addition, if you need a specific certification or qualification, please let us know and we will try and schedule a class.

We will continue weld training on Tuesday nights from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. All members are welcome to attend as long as we have an open welding booth. We will continue this class every Tuesday night as long as members are attending. I would like to schedule one for the Topeka Training Center. Once we have at least five members signed up, we will set a recurring night for the weld training classes.

The sale of the Lawrence property has finally gone through. We hope to start looking at some remodeling plans for the Topeka Training Center this summer and then start the remodel shortly after.

It has come to our attention that OJT cards are not being filled out honestly and accurately. It’s important to our program that individuals are properly evaluated. Please consider this when filling out OJT cards.

Remember that you, as journeymen, set an example every day for our apprentices with your work ethic and your attitude.

Michael J. Magennis
Training Director UA Local 441

Free Entrance Days in the National Parks!
Fee-free days make national parks accessible to more people. The National Park Service turns 100 years old in 2016 and wants everyone to join the party!
On 16 days in '16, all National Park Service sites that charge an entrance fee will offer free admission. Mark your calendar for these entrance fee–free dates in 2016:

April 16 through 24: National Park Week
August 25 through 28: National Park Service Birthday
September 24: Veterans Day

For more information, go to www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/fee-free-parks.htm
CONTACT INFORMATION

Wichita (316) 265-4291  Training (316) 267-8508
Topeka (785) 354-8539 | Lawrence (785) 843-3151 | Frontenac (620) 231-4280
Local Union 441 Website: www.UA441.org
PPATKS (Training) Website: www.PPATKS.org
Union Association Website: www.UA.org

The Health & Welfare Office handles your local pension information, KSR (401k), and general questions regarding your health insurance (such as your status in qualifying for insurance benefits.)

If you have specific questions regarding your insurance, such as a list of doctors, please refer to the numbers listed below.

Health & Welfare Office • www.ppi-fund.org
(316) 264-2339 or (800) 423-6517

NEW HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE effective Jan. 1, 2016!
Cigna • www.cigna.com • (800) 244-6224
Delta Dental of Kansas • www.DeltaDentalKS.com
(800) 234-3375 or (316) 264-4511

If you have a Pension through the United Association, call the National Pension office with any questions related to your pension.

RETIRING?!? Ready to start the paperwork?
Please request an application for a retirement packet from National. Also request a work contribution history report from National Pension as this will assist you in the process.
Please also contact the union hall to let us know your official retirement date.

National Pension (800) 638-7442
Local Pension (316) 264-2339 or (800) 423-6517
Kansas Annuity (620) 232-3799

Ben Newhouse is Local 441’s Independent Financial Advisor.
Members, please feel free to give him a call at (855) 369-7100 for assistance and advice with your Mass Mutual investment account

Local 441 now can accept credit card payments. Forms of payment we can now accept are: cash, check, money order, Visa, Mastercard and Discover.
You can also pay your own dues online by visiting our website at www.ua441.org and clicking on “Pay Your Dues” or “Member Login.”

FINANCES:
The audit for 2016 was completed in March. I am happy to report that all of your funds are doing well. This is primarily due to steady contributions through hours worked over the years, which continues to see gradual increase. Thank you to the membership for your continued hard work in representing our Local Union and Contractors each and every day on the job sites. We were able to keep expenses down as well with only a 3.05% or $43,935 increase in total Support Expenses.

One positive for the financial report was the result of reinvesting current assets into our training program to upgrade our training facility. Through the support of the membership we were able to take money on hand from our General Fund and our Building Fund and use it to cover the cost of the renovations. This obviously lowered the available cash on hand, but substantially increased the local union’s overall assets. As the year has progressed a large portion of the funds spent have already been recouped. Again, thank you to the membership; it is your money that operates this local union.

ONE FINAL NOTE: Your Joint Apprenticeship Committee are in the process of preparing to interview potential candidates for the new first year apprenticeship class of 2016. There is a great deal of pride that goes along with our training department and the facilities we now have to provide the specialized training our demanding industry requires. Training has always been the backbone of the United Association and we are now prepared to continue that legacy.

Again, thank you to the Membership for your hard work and support of your Local Union. Please continue to work smart, work safe, and may God bless you and your families through the summer months ahead.
The UA participated in the Construction Expo at Pittsburg State University on April 6, 2016, by bringing the UA training trailer to campus for students to tour. Shannon Nicklaus, PSU faculty member for 15 years and son of one of our LU 441 members, helped facilitate the day’s events.

Having the UA trailer onsite gives the students a chance to see the field up close and witness what they have been learning in the classroom. Mechanical Contractors Association were on hand and provide opportunities to hire students for a union contractor throughout the four-state area. As a business rep for LU441, it was an honor to show the students that our training is second to none.

**LONG OVERDUE DOL RULE WILL PROTECT RETIREMENT INVESTORS**

By AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka

We applaud the Department of Labor for getting the fiduciary rule over the finish line after a long and thorough rule-making process that took into account a multitude of stakeholders’ interests. While politicians on both sides of the aisle acknowledge our retirement income crisis, very few are willing to do anything meaningful about it. With this rule, the Labor Department is putting a stop to business as usual.

This means putting an end to the siphoning off of hard-earned retirement funds by salespeople masquerading as objective investment professionals.

We know that financial industry opponents of the rule will continue their efforts to prevent it from being enacted. The AFL-CIO will be watching to see how members of Congress respond to their entreaties. This rule is critical to promoting retirement security for working men and women. It means we will have more of our hard earned funds available for a secure and dignified retirement.

With the fiduciary rule finalized, the AFL-CIO urges the Administration to finish its work on the overtime rule that will bring working people closer to earning their rightfully earned overtime pay.