Business Manager’s Report

Final Report

This is the last time I will be writing a message to you as your Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer. With the upcoming Officers elections Local 441 will have a new Business Manager in this seat by the time the next newsletter is ready to be published. As I have been contemplating my final message to the membership of Local 441, it has given me an opportunity to reflect on my 15 years in office, 13 of those years serving as your Business Manager. There have been many challenges we have faced together and I believe we have emerged from these challenges stronger than ever. I am very proud to have served as your Business Manager and proud of all that we have achieved together over these years.

The job as Business Manager is by no means a one-man show. The success of a Local takes a dedicated team, which is made up of many parts. These parts include the support and commitment of my fellow Officers, the Agents overseeing the day to day duties in each area, the office staff promoting a professional business attitude and daily support, along with the skill and hard work, each and every day, of our rank-and-file membership. And we can never forget the foundation that has been laid down for us by all those that came before us and sacrificed so much to forge the path we continue to extend. All these parts coming together are why we have been able to accomplish so much. I will be forever grateful to all of you for the confidence you placed in me and for the help and support you have offered along the way.

When I first was selected to lead this Local Union, we were in the midst of a consolidation. This was a time of tremendous turmoil and rightfully so. Four individual locals, some that had been in existence for 100-plus years, had lost their identity. Generations of tradition gone overnight. It was not an easy position to step into. There were many tough decisions that had to be made and some drastic measures taken to start the rebuilding process of one united local. It took some time, but together we have done exactly that. I made a promise to the membership in the beginning that every decision I made would be for the benefit of all of you.

Richard L. Taylor

[Business Managers Report, cont’d on page 6]

Sign Up Today!
Local 441 Kansas Golf Tourney in July

LOCAL 441 KANSAS GOLF TOURNAMENT 2017

What: 4 Person Scramble
36 Teams Maximum, Register Early!!!
Date: Saturday, July 8, 2017
Time: 8:00 a.m. Shotgun
Place: Sand Creek Station Golf Course
920 Meadowbrook Dr, Newton, Ks
Cost: $80 per Player (includes continental breakfast/lunch/2 drink tickets/gifts)
***Prize Money for 1st four flights***
Please join us in fun and socializing at this event.
Money and registration of your team needs to be reserved by
Friday, June 9, 2017. Contact Local 441 to register at
(316) 265-4291 or email: email@ua441.org

Download your registration form at www.ua441.org
Wichita/Dispatch

Brothers and Sisters,

I want to start my letter off by saying thank you to all of our Local 441 brothers and sisters for all the hard work you put in each and every day. You are the backbone of this local union and of the entire UA.

We have been very blessed to have all the work we have had this year. Industrial work has been down a little but our commercial work and HVAC work has been very steady. The dry powdered dairy in western Kansas has gone very well and should wrap up in mid to late summer. Shambaugh has been very pleased with the manpower and they hope to secure more work in Garden City and that would be great news for our local.

More work has been secured in western Kansas by some of our local contractors and they plan on aggressively pursuing more work when it presents itself. The Cargill project here in Wichita is expected to wrap up this summer. With the success of this project at Cargill more work is expected to be given to our local brothers and sisters and that is a testament to Local 441 and its members.

The spring outage at Jeffries has gone very well and should wrap up in a few weeks. Day & Zimmerman and Westar have been very pleased with the production and the professionalism of our local craftsmen. I also want to extend a thank you to some of our traveling local brothers and sisters who have helped us on this outage and other Local 441 projects.

The projects at KU with US Engineering and P1 group are going well and should last for the next few months. McElroy’s is going to be very busy the rest of this year with several projects on the horizon.

Once again Brothers and Sisters of Local 441, thank you for all you do each and every day. Let us all be good examples to one another on the jobsite and look out for one another as well. We will be able to grow this local union and the UA by building each other up. Learn from one another and take pride in what we stand for as union craftsmen. Get involved with your local and let your voice be heard. We will continue to move this local and the UA forward by standing together.

Fraternally Yours,

Steven E. Watson
(316) 265-4291

441 Business Representative/Dispatcher

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PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS LOCAL UNION #441
MILITARY DUES OFFICE POLICY

Local 441 pays dues for members who are on military duty.

Requirements

- A letter or copy of orders for member file
- Members need to keep in contact with the Local office and let us know at least once a year (or at the end of their active duty) as to their status as to their military duty.

Other Information

- Members need to notify Local 441 when they go back to work
- Local 441 only pays dues for the member if the member has been off the entire calendar month
- Local 441 does NOT pay for death assessments. The member continues to pay those.

Other Instructions

- Members need to contact Health & Welfare Office at (316) 264-2339 regarding their military status.
- Members that are apprentices need to contact the Apprenticeship Office (316) 267-8508 as to their military status.

PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS LOCAL UNION #441
SICK/DISABLED DUES OFFICE POLICY

Local 441 pays dues for members who are disabled as follows:

Requirements

- A letter or document from a doctor for member file; this must be submitted every three months
- Member qualifies if drawing short term disability through H&W office. (You may submit a copy of the signed H&W form as document from doctor needed by Local 441 office.)
- Member qualifies if drawing work comp
- Member CANNOT be working at all (even in another field) or we do not pay their dues

Other Information

- Members need to notify Local 441 when they go back to work
- Local 441 only pays dues for the member if the member has been off the entire calendar month
- If there is a settlement, member goes back to work, or goes on permanent disability and draws social security or Pension, the member is responsible to pay their own dues
- Local 441 does NOT pay for death assessments. The member continues to pay those.

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Keep America working. Buy American.
Kansas Direct Pipeline

Lawrence/Ottawa/Northeast Area

Brothers and Sisters,

We are up on work in Zone 2B and looks to be steady through fall of this year. Taylor Forge Engineered Systems has ongoing work in gas distribution. We are building pig launchers for Pacific Gas and Union Gas shipping to Canada. Custom Sheet Metal is working at Ottawa High School on several phases of work. This work consists of two area remodels and five new buildings. The work will be ongoing for the next two years with the first phase of seven to be complete August 1, 2017.

KC Mechanical has one month of work to complete trim out at Ottawa Elementary School. US Engineering is on Kansas University’s Central District Development Project. This is the largest project ever done at KU, coming in at just over $300 million, with mechanical at about $47 million. The Parking Garage is 100% complete, the Central Utility Plant at 95% complete, the Science Building is at 50%, and the Student Union is getting started.

P1 Group is working on the new Earth Environment and Energy building. Rough in and mechanical rooms are ongoing. Manpower on all the KU work will hold steady through June of this year. P1 has ongoing work at Berry Plastics, Hallmark Cards, and P1’s fab shop is supporting several projects around the county as per the monthly Union Label Report. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer.

Fraternally,

James Cottrell (785) 215-1360

Frontenac Business Representative – Zone 2B

Frontenac/Pittsburg/Southeast Area

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Well, it’s the start of a new year and work looks good for 441. As for last year, it was another record-breaking year for manhours.

First and foremost, please don’t forget to VOTE in the upcoming LU441 election. This is a very important election for our 441 members.

In the southeast Kansas area, we just finished up the Empire Project in Riverton. For the warranty work as it is up in May and Azco completed the last project on it in April. The demo project of the old units at Empire will be done by K-con, a non-Union demo company from Indiana. The bright side of this is, as soon as the units are down, the new units go up. This is great work for our 441 membership.

We should find out about the Pittsburg High School project very soon as they are looking for us to bid the project. The Chanute Ashgrove project with Waldinger is going very well. The Russell Stover project in Iola is on hold for now.

As always, please feel free to contact me.

Fraternally Yours,

Mike Wolowiski (620) 231-4280

Frontenac Business Representative – Zone 1B

Topeka/Manhattan/Salina Area

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As many of you know by now, with Phil Petty’s retirement I will be covering the Manhattan/Fort Riley/Abilene areas.

I’m looking forward to this new assignment and continuing my work in the Topeka area. Brother Phil Petty has left some big shoes to fill and I will continue his great work in the area. Work is going well in the area and should remain so for the rest of the year with many projects getting ready to hire.

Topeka has the Reser’s project with P1 Group working the underground. McElroy’s and Custom Sheetmetal have the above ground process piping and HVAC work. This job is on an accelerated schedule. Also, Topeka has the Cyrus Hotel in downtown Topeka. McElroy’s is the mechanical contractor. The next expansion at Mars has been announced but no information yet on contractors bidding. Jeffrey Energy coal pipe project has been going very well and should be winding down in Mid-May. A big “thank you” to everyone involved with the shutdown.

NBAF, with US Engineering, Mann Mechanical and others, will be increasing their workforce as the structural work lets them. Stainless welders will be needed so get ready. I toured the Seaton Hall project in early April with Brother Ed Mainey of Kruse. A great job is being done by all on that project.

The remodel of the Zone 2 Topeka Training Center has moved to the next phase of planning with the “Code” review by the city getting started. We had a slight delay due to issues with the electrical service but that has been resolved as of now (you never know with an old building). We had Apprentice interviews in April with many qualified and quality applicants. It seems to get better every year that I have been on the Zone 2 JAC. I would like to thank Mike Magennis and Brian Burnett along with Jessica and Brittany of the training department for all their hard work and due diligence. Their efforts are showing in all aspects of the school.

I would like to welcome Brother James Cottrell back as the Business Representative for the Lawrence area. Many of you know James and know what an asset he is for our Local Union. James will take over for me in the Lawrence/Topeka area. Thank you for your help and willingness to share your knowledge of the business as you go through your training.

Fraternally Yours,

Mike Wolowiski

Topeka Business Representative – Zone 2A

Spring 2017

Official Notice of the Election of Officers for Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union #441

The Election of Officers for Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #441 will be by mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed out May 12, 2017, and must be received back in the designated P.O. Box by 5 p.m. on June 15, 2017. Ballots will be counted on June 16, 2017, and officers installed at the July 10 meeting.

In the event of a tie, a run-off election will take place using mail ballot.

No Member who directly or indirectly owns a plumbing, pipefitting, HVAC, or other related business employing Local 441 Members may hold an elected office or cast a vote.

The officers to be elected are:

- Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer
- President
- Vice-President
- Recording Secretary
- Sergeant at Arms
- Executive Board (elect 4)
- Finance Committee (elect 3)
- Examining Board (elect 4)

Local Candidates for all Elected Officers of Local Union #441 will be nominated as follows in compliance with Sections 121, 122, 123, 124, 148(b), and 161 of the United Association Constitution:

President, Vice President, Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Sergeant of Arms, Four (4) Executive Board Members, Three (3) Finance Committee Members, Four (4) Examining Board Members.

NOTE: ALL OFFICERS ARE ELECTED FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS.

The candidate for each office who receives a Plurality of the votes cast shall be declared elected.

LU 441 Elections are here. Mail in your ballot TODAY! Have a voice in your union and in your future.
Jeffreys
Spring Outage 2017

Jayhawk
Local 441 Helping the Community

Keep America working. Buy American.
Carrol (Dean) Eugene Brent, 69, died April 5, 2017. Most recently of Salina, Ks. Member in good standing for 45 years.

Robert Gene Caraway, 80, died March 13, 2017. Most recently of Grosse Point, Mi. Member in good standing for 55 years.

Herman Wesley Cox, 89, died April 26, 2017. Most recently of Lawrence, Ks. Member in good standing for 57 years.

Lawrence Leroy Evans, 86, died January 3, 2017. Most recently of Derby, Ks. Member in good standing for 47 years.

James A. Foltz, 69, died April 6, 2017. Most recently of Garnett, Ks. Member in good standing for 49 years.

Rufus Junior Sumner, 93, died January 5, 2017. Most recently of Topeka, Ks. Member in good standing for 52 years.

Robert Van Boening, 86, died February 6, 2017. Most recently of Derby, Ks. Member in good standing for 47 years.

Claude Irvin Wolf, 90, died January 24, 2017. Most recently of Salina, Ks. Member in good standing for 61 years.

Notices of brothers and sisters who have passed on are posted on our website as received: www.ua441.org. Click on “Member Information” and “In Memoriam.”

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### 1st Annual Multi-fish Fund Raiser Fishing Tournament

**Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at Lake Melvern Eisenhower State Park East Boat Ramp**

7:00 AM (safe light) – 4:00 PM. Cookout following Ceremony.

2 Person teams - One union member per boat - $75 per person

5 – BASS 10 – CRAPPIE 3 – CATFISH

(Circle the event you are participating in)

**Rules**

1. Each entry must specify which species of fish they are participating in. May compete in each category for each additional entry of $150 per boat.

2. Size of fish must be of legal length, total weight in each category of fish will determine winner. In case of a tie, the biggest fish from each team will be the winner.

3. There will be an optional Big Fish Contest in each category. $20 per boat.

4. Two poles per team member. No chumming. No short fish and must weigh in live fish. 1 lb. penalty for each dead fish.

5. Follow Kansas State boating regulations and a high standard of sportsmanship and courtesy of others must be followed. No alcohol during the event. Only the teams fishing and tournament officials have the right to contest the actions of other teams.

6. Early entry reserves boat spot. Check in from 4 – 6:00 PM on Sept. 22nd at Eisenhower Boat ramp. State Park Permit.

### Team Captain

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Having acquainted ourselves with the rules, and in signing this application, we hereby waive and release all tournament officials, promoters and organizations assisting in the tournament operation from all claims of injury, death or loss of personal property in connection with the tournament.

Signature ____________________________ Signature ____________________________

**Tournament contacts:** Dan McCulloch 785-806-6411, Kirk Holland 785-554-6671,

Rick Salyer 785-423-4995 and Mike Wolownik 316-207-7459.

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### Northside 316 Boxing Club

Nico Hernandez, 2016 Olympic bronze medalist, learned and practiced his skills at Northside 316 Boxing Academy, a business owned by his uncle. The building was heavily damaged in a fire early in November 2016.

The Central Building Trades donated money to help rebuild the facility.
made would be subjected to one test… what was best for the majority of the membership. I am proud to say that we have stood by that and it still stands today.

Even though it seemed we had been torn down, we did what we have all been trained to do; we began the process of rebuilding. In doing so we created an even stronger structure than we had before. We now had a statewide membership base that afforded us with significant political clout and a strong voice that could be heard.

With one local and one jurisdiction spanning the state, our contractors spread out into areas that had been left primarily for the non-union and we began to take back our work. Today, working together with our contractors, our local has been blessed with an abundance of work and job opportunities that has offered each of us the ability to prosper and also provide a secure financial future for our local. Our funds are secure.

We have a Health and Welfare Plan that is well funded and provides premium insurance coverage for our members and their families. We have pension plans that are well funded and provide our members the ability to retire with security and dignity. We have embraced the concept of superior training through day school. Our commitment to training the best in the industry led us to extensively remodel our Training Center in Wichita and in doing so has allowed us to create a state-of-the-art professional learning facility with full-time instructors.

We are also in the process of remodeling the Training Center in Topeka. Even though this was a large financial commitment, we have been able to perform all of this with no increase to our work assessment contribution or increase to the training fund contribution. And in less than two years we have been able to recoup the cost of the upgrades and replenish our operating funds.

The above basically recaps where we have ended up, but I can tell you it has been an amazing journey to get here! Countless meetings, negotiations, more meetings, conversations, and hundreds of thousands of miles traveled. Many wonderful memories and many good friends have been made along the way. God has blessed me so abundantly! Each of us has our own story of someone special that has influenced us and helped us along the way. I could not draft a final message without acknowledging that individual for me, Roger Naylor. Thank you, Roger, for your unwavering support, sound advice, moral guidance and, most of all, your friendship.

I personally can’t imagine any other life than the one I have led with the UA and Local 441. The enthusiasm and pride I felt upon becoming a UA member stays with me today. I felt upon becoming a UA member stays with me today. I am just as proud to be a Journeyman as I was to be Business Manager. It is that sense of pride we each have that makes our union strong and enables us to stand together as we face the future.

I am also blessed to have a truly wonderful family. My beautiful bride, Ruth Ann, is always by my side to listen and offer sound advice. She is my best friend, my greatest supporter, and the best partner a man could ever have. The blessings continue in my five sons, two daughters, and four grandkids, with many more to come, I am sure. I look forward to starting my new career as a Local 441 Retiree and spending a lot more time with them.

I want to leave you with a few thoughts as I close out. The number one priority we have as a Local Union is to keep learning, never stop training. If you feel the call to become an instructor, pursue it. If the local calls on you to be politically active, answer the call and bring others with you. When you become a member you made a commitment to support this local and the UA even as it supports you. If this local is to thrive in the decades ahead, all of you will have to do your part, and I don’t mean only on the jobsite.

Of course it is expected that our journeymen and apprentices are professionals on the job and exhibit the highest standard, that is a given. The one gift from God that is standard, that is a given. The one gift from God that is common for all of us is the ability and talent He has given us to perform the work we do with skill and pride, but you must do more.

Every member of this local carries this obligation along with his or her union card, whether that is service to the local, to the community, or in the shops and classrooms of our training center. Don’t ignore that obligation; embrace it!

I am proud of Local 441 and together we have come a long way. Regardless of the good times or the rough times we have always moved forward together. With new leadership there is bound to be change, and we have all experienced change. But don’t let change tear you apart or divide you. We have come too far for that. Any leader that tries to advance himself through negativity or is cynical or apathetic toward others is no leader.

I wish you all the very best in the years ahead. Thank you for all you do each and every day for this local. You, the membership, will always be the backbone of this local. I will forever be grateful for your support of me, my family, and our great Local.

Blessings and, as always, be safe on the job.

Keep America working. Buy American.
**Vacation Fund Account FAQs**

Vacation Savings only applies to members working in the Wichita (1A) Zone. Mid American Credit Union (MACU) houses your vacation fund. Funds go in once a month for each member and that is determined by when your employer/contractors pay their monthly remittance. The Hall can tell you how much your contractor has reported for you and if they have paid the month’s remittance report, but not specific account related balances. Funds go directly into your account so the Hall does not have your account number or any account balance information. Some quick notes on some issues member are running into:

There are actual MACU branches and those locations can identify you with your account number, social security number, driver’s license, etc., but there are also what are called “Shared” Branches. That is another credit union that can access your MACU account – but you have to have your account number and a valid driver’s license with you. Some members have gone into a shared branch location and been told they don’t find an account. That is because they are not MACU and they do not have access to all your information (social security number, date of birth, etc.). They have to have your account number and valid driver’s license or they will not be able to locate your account. If you are running into this issue, please remember to have your account number and a valid driver’s license with you and/or you can go to an actual MACU location which are listed on their website (https://www.midamerican.coop/about-us/branch-locations-and-hours). Another item that has been mentioned is charges. If your account drops below $100, you will see a charge of $3 per month. Sometimes you will be asked to provide a copy of a valid driver’s license. This is something MACU needs to verify this account belongs to you. They try to keep a copy on file so they may need to update from time to time.

**Tell the SEC to Require Companies to Disclose CEO-to-Worker Pay Ratios**

Seven years ago, Congress passed a law that included a rule requiring all publicly traded companies to disclose their CEO-to-worker pay ratio. But Wall Street and big corporations have lobbied hard to stop the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) from enforcing this rule. It’s time to change that.

Send a letter to the SEC. It’s time to enforce the rule requiring companies to disclose their CEO-to-worker pay ratios.

Visit aflcio.org/take-action or actionnetwork.org.

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**KANSAS LOCAL #441 UNION MEETINGS**

**Second Monday of every month, 7 p.m.**

(316) 265-4291/1330 E. 1st Street, Wichita

**Next Meeting Dates:**

**June 12, July 10, Aug. 14**

**UA LOCAL #441 RETIREE MEETINGS**

Frontenac Area Retirees

Tuesday mornings at Home Café, Cherokee, KS at 8 a.m.

Wichita Area Retirees

Meeting at the Hall, 1330 E. 1st Street N., on the first Wednesday every month at 10 a.m.

Note: All retirees and spouses and former members’ widows are welcome to attend any of the area meetings.

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**2017 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

(All zones unless noted otherwise.)

- **Monday, May 29th**
  - Memorial Day Holiday (All Zones)

- **Tuesday, July 4th**
  - Independence Day Holiday (All Zones)

- **Monday, September 4th**
  - Labor Day Holiday (All Zones)

- **Thursday, November 23rd**
  - Thanksgiving Day Holiday (All Zones)

- **Friday, November 24th**
  - Day After Thanksgiving Holiday (All Zones)

- **Sunday, December 24th**
  - Christmas Eve Holiday (Zones IB, IIA, IIB)

- **Monday, December 25th**
  - Christmas Day Holiday (All Zones)
Training

I would like to start out by congratulating our State of Kansas Apprenticeship contest winners for 2017, Jeremy Alexander-Plumber, Chase Serrault-HVAC-R, Kyle Babcock-Pipefitter and Jacob Lichtenauer-Welding.

All of these young men will compete in the District 4 contest made up of 11 states being held in June at UA LU 455 St. Paul, Minnesota. These young craftsmen are one of the reasons Local Union 441 will have a strong foundation for many years to come.

The skill that they have learned at our training center and on the job will take them far in their career.

I would also like to thank all of our contest judges and sponsors for their help with judging, material donations, and prizes for all the contestants.

At this time we have 216 apprentices in the training program and the committees are in the process of completing interviews for all zones in the state. We need to fill the spots of this year’s graduating class of 48. Our members, along with our training department, will need to help train these new 1st year apprentices that the JAC zone committees accept into Local Union 441 Standards of Excellence.

We will continue weld training on Monday nights from 6:00PM to 9:30PM at the Wichita Training Center. All members are welcome to attend as long as we have an open welding booth. We will continue this class every Monday night as long as members are attending. We have scheduled weld training at the Topeka Training Center for Thursday night with Kevin Kibbee from 6:00 PM to 9:30PM. Again, as long as we have attendance we will continue have the shop open. Please contact Brandon, Kevin, Rick or the training office to make sure that class is on.

It is very important to our program that apprentices are properly evaluated. Please consider this when filling out OJT cards. Also remember that we, as members, are not the only ones that look at them. The completed cards are sent to all trustees and some are sent to the State Office of Apprenticeship. Slang and profanity are not professional and reflects poorly on us as a whole.

Comments don’t have to be all negative. If you have a positive comment, please include it as well. 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

Phil Petty Retirement Party

Congratulations to Brother Petty on his retirement after 41 years as a faithful member of the United Association and Plumber & Pipefitters Local Union #441.

Brother Petty has dedicated his career in service to others and his dedication and hard work for the betterment of our union is truly a valuable asset that will be missed.

The plaque reads: “On behalf of the Members and Officers of Plumbers and Pipefitters LU 441, we wish you a long and healthy retirement. You have served this membership with dignity and have always strived to perform your duties while demonstrating brotherhood and fairness to all.”

Apprentice State Contest

Keep America working. Buy American.