**60TH EDITION – SUMMER 2022** 

**IECUOIS** 

## **UNITED ASSOCIATION LOCAL 32**

PLUMBERS • PIPEFITTERS • METAL TRADES • REFRIGERATION • HVAC • PIPELINE • GAS DISTRIBUTION



















## 32 Connections

#### UA Local 32 Agents and Organizers

Business Manager / Financial Secretary Jeffery J. Owen

Dispatcher / Assistant Business Manager Ryan Miller

Plumber Agent Mike Kunkel

Plumber Agent Corey Wilker

Steamfitter / Welder / Shipyards Agent TJ Riordan

Refrigeration / HVAC Agent Joel Crabtree

PSE / Municipalities Agent Troy Shopin

Mainline / Gas Distribution Agent Michael Whaley

Organizer Brad Moore

Organizer Zachary T. Smith

Organizer Chris Hawes

Organizer Antonio Cruz

Political & Legislative Coordinator Kurt Swanson



Seattle Plumbers and Pipefitters United Association Local 32 597 Monster Road SW Renton, WA 98057 www.ualocal32.com www.facebook.com/local32 Instagram: @ua\_local\_32

Main Office Phone Number: 425-277-6680 Main Office Fax Number: 425-277-7370

Union meetings are the 2nd Thursday of every month at 5pm.

Have an article you would like to submit? Please contact Tamarra Henley by email: tamarra@ualocal32.com or call: 425-277-6680.

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## BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

By Jeffery J. Owen

Brothers and Sisters:

It's been a busy summer, and the work outlook for the rest of the year is no different. Over the last 5 years our local has defied the normal construction "boom or bust" cycle that we used to know. We are still working at a good pace and the next year shows only limited signs of slowing. Our hours worked reflect this good fortune. Of course, it hasn't hurt us that the two biggest corporations in the world are right in our back yard.

- 2021-2022 4,470,608 hours worked
- 2020-2021 4,559,201 hours worked
- 2019-2020 4,337,662 hours worked
- 2018-2019 4,537,128 hours worked
- 2017-2018 4,109,250 hours worked

Our Local is financially sound, and well prepared for what may come our way. Our health plans and pension plans are holding their own and getting better, and our apprenticeship levels are nearing 600. With the full transition to block training at the JATC we can minimize any disruption to our jobsites. We have leadership in place with our business agents who, on a daily basis, represent the members in the field through collective bargaining enforcement and common sense.



### Wage Allocations:

- Building Trades Plumbers and Steam Fitters: June 1st, 2022
  - \$1.00 to the check
- Light Commercial Agreement: July 1st, 2022
  - PL01: \$2.00 (\$1.00 to the check, and \$1.00 to the state pension)
  - PL02: \$1.50 (\$1.00 to the check and \$.50 to the state pension)
- Refrigeration Journeyman Wage \$1.00 Allocation effective October 1st, 2022

In October, we begin negoiations for the Gas Distribution agreement. In December, we will have our final wage allocation under the 2017-2023 Master Agreement. We are already preparing for the challenges that will come with the upcoming year. As always, our Collective Bargaining Agreements remain the backbone of our success.

### **Organizing Blitz**

Over the last year, I have been reporting on the scheduled UA Organizing Blitz in Renton, Washington from September 12th-15th. Organizers from throughout the US and Canada will be working here in Washington State as part of this Blitz. Given the increased workload in light commerical and building trades, as well as commerical plumbing service and HVAC/R service, we are fully prepared to take advantage of the organizing opportunities in King County. The Local 32/WSA Organizers Brad Moore, Zac Smith, Chris Hawes, and Antonio Cruz have done a great job to ensure the success of this Blitz for all who will be attending.

### **Picnic**

I want to thank the Picnic Committee for the work they put in to deliver the best Local 32 picnic we have ever had. The membership was clearly ready to get out of the house and enjoy themselves with their families. We had the entire park to ourselves, and we needed every square inch of it as the kids were everywhere.















### **Business Office**

Over this past year, we have had several changes within the business office.

- Longtime PAC Chairwoman Sister Leanne Guier retired effective June 1st, 2022, and Kurt Swanson transitioned from the PSE/Utilities Agent to her previous role as Political and Legislative Coordinator/ PAC Chairman for Local 32.
- Brother Troy Shopin is the newly appointed Puget Sound Energy and Seattle Public Utilities Agent.
- Brother JR Ybarra retired on August 1st as Mainline/Gas Distribution Agent, and Michael Whaley is the newly appointed Mainline/Gas Distribution Agent.

Continued on next page

### **UA Local 32 Election and Results**



Once again, I would like to congratulate both our newly elected and former officers for their continued commitment to the membership of Local 32. The work they do for the membership is an essential part of what gives our Local its strength.

At the July and August Union meetings we performed the important swearing in of our officers and ratification of our Business Agents.



### Local 32 Election of Officers 2022

Congratulations to the newly elected officers and officials who are beginning their three-year terms.

The Executive Board election was held June 9, 2022. I would like to especially thank everyone who volunteered. Your efforts made the election process seamless for the membership.

The election volunteers and locations were:

Judges - Gordan Baxter and Jack Baker

**Renton/Local 32** - Jon Draper, Dustan Roach, Warren Brickel, Dennis Martinez, Dave Cook, Sara Rowan, Dan Thornton, Ray Lind, Tom Stewart, Helen O'Brien, Glen Nelson, Mike Early.



Tacoma Location - Mike Mejer and Gary Gregory Everett Location - Larry Herring, Tom Riordan Sequim Location - Bruce Crittenden Wenatchee Location - Ed Holmes

### Local 32 Officers Elected for the term July 2022 - June 2025

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

1. James Hughes	618 votes
2. Marisa Spencer	593 votes
3. Juan Morfin	590 votes
4. Collin Greene	543 votes

#### BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Approved by White Ballot Jeffery J. Owen

**PRESIDENT** Approved by White Ballot Eric Gilbreath

VICE-PRESIDENT Approved by White Ballot Mike Alvarado

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Approved by White Ballot 1. Jake Jarvis 2. CJ Hensley 3. Kevin Grice

#### **RECORDING SECRETARY**

Approved by White Ballot Jeremy Sandor

#### **READING CLERK**

Approved by White Ballot Jim Hester

#### **INSIDE GUARD**

Approved by White Ballot Dave Wilkinson

## WA STATE ASSOCIATION WSA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Approved by White Ballot Joel Crabtree

#### BT STEAMFITTER EXAM BOARD

Approved by White Ballot 1. Cody Hatton 2. Tyler Celli 3. Troy Hewitt

#### **BT PLUMBER EXAM BOARD**

Approved by White Ballot 1. Josh Warnat 2. Kurt Cushman 3. Antonio Cruz

### BT REFRIGERATION EXAM BOARD

Approved by White Ballot 1. Aaron Olson 2. Brandon Moore 3. Dave Lowry

#### MT MARINE EXAM BOARD

Approved by White Ballot 1. Ethan Allen 2. TJ Riordan

#### DELEGATES TO THE SEATTLE BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL

Approved by White Ballot

- 1. Corey Wilker
- 2. Mike Kunkel
- 3. Kurt Swanson
- 4. TJ Riordan
- 5. Joel Crabtree

#### DELEGATES TO KING COUNTY LABOR COUNCIL

*Approved by White Ballot* 1. Fric Gilbreath

- 2. Jeremy Sandor
- 3. Dave Ciprut
- 4. Kurt Swanson

#### DELEGATES TO THE PUGET SOUND METAL TRADES COUNCIL

Approved by White Ballot 1. TJ Riordan 2. Ethan Allen

## Local 32 Business Agents and Daily Work Assignments

The following Business Agents serve the membership with the character and integrity necessary to represent the members of Local 32. The outline below gives you a sense of the daily agent responsibilities to you and all the members they represent.



### **BROTHER JOEL CRABTREE**

Hire date June 14th, 2016

- Business Agent for the following:
  - Building Trades HVAC/Refrigeration Service Mechanics
  - Building Trades HVAC/Refrigeration Service Mechanics, Wenatchee
- Divisional Trades Facilities Engineers
- Labor Trustee, Seattle Area Health Trust
- Executive Board Member, Washington State Association
- Member Representative, Seattle University
- JATC member and Committee Secretary
- Chairman, Refrigeration/HVAC Subcommittee
- Seattle Building Trades Council
- Seattle City Codes Advisory Board
- Chairman, Refrigeration/HVAC Subcommittee
- Other duties as assigned



### BROTHER COREY WILKER

Hire date September 5th, 2017

- Business Agent for the following:
- Building Trades Plumbers
- Light Commercial including PLCs and SPMs
- Building Trades Agent, Wenatchee
- Division Trades Utility Workers

- Member Representative for the following:
  - Seattle Schools
  - Port of Seattle Marine Maintenance
- Representative, ARSCA rainwater catchment systems
- Washington State Code Council Representative
- Seattle Building Trades Council Representative
- JATC committee member

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Other duties as assigned

### **BROTHER RYAN MILLER**



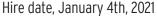
- Dispatcher, all Trades
- Assistant Business Manager
- Trustee, Supplemental Pension Plan
- Program Director, Market Recovery
- Other duties as assigned

### **BROTHER TJ RIORDAN**

Hire date December 1st, 2020

- Business Agent for the following:
- Building Trades Steam Fitters and Welders
- Building Trades Steam Fitter and Welders, Wenatchee
- Building Trades Technical Engineers
- Metal Trades Marine Pipefitters
- Division Trades Core Drillers
- Division Trades Utility Workers
- Member Representative for Water District #49
- JATC committee member
- Seattle Building Trades Council Representative
- Puget Sound Metal Trades Council Representative
- Other duties as assigned

## BROTHER MIKE KUNKEL



- Business Agent for the following:
- Building Trades Plumbers
- Light Commercial Plumbers, including PLCs and SPMs
- Building Trades Agent, Wenatchee
- Labor Trustee, Seattle Health Trust
- Trustee, Seattle Area Training Trust
- Division Trades Core Drillers

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### BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT | Continued from page 5

- Member Representative for the following:
  - Water District #49
  - Division Trades Utility Workers
  - King County Plumbing Inspectors
  - King County Parks Plumbers
  - King County Airport Plumbers
  - L&I Compliance Officers
  - L&I FAS Inspectors
  - One Union Square Plumbers
  - Seattle Housing Authority Plumbers
- Washington State Code Council Representative
- Seattle Building Trades Council Representative
- JATC committee member
- Other duties as assigned



#### **BROTHER TROY SHOPIN**

Hire date June 2nd, 2022

- Member Representative, Puget Sound Energy
- Member Representative, Seattle Public Utilities
- Training committee member, Puget Sound Energy
- Training committee member, Seattle Public Utilities
- King County Water District
- Other duties as assigned



### **BROTHER MICHAEL WHALEY**

Hire date June 13th, 2022

- Mainline Pipeline Agent, all Western Washington
- Gas Distribution Agent, all Western Washington
- Operator Qualification Director, Gas Distribution
- Other duties as assigned

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Business Manager, Local 32

### **Old Timers' Event**

Our Old Timers get together will occur on September 10th at the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington in Renton. This will be the first time we have been able to host this event in person since 2019. Please contact the business office for more information and to RSVP. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Retirements



#### **SISTER LEANNE GUIER**

retired June 1st, 2022, completing a 24-year career as an active member in Local 32. After being initiated in 1998 and graduating the Steamfitter apprenticeship in 2001, she worked as a fitter and volunteered her time on various committees within Local 32; most specifically, the Local 32 PAC Committee - a position which served her well later in her career.

Leanne was hired on October 1st, 2012, as the first full time Political Coordinator for Local 32 and the Washington State Association. Her involvement in local, state, and federal politics and the relationships she has developed over the years, have been crucial in creating work opportunities for Local 32 members, protecting our licenses, working conditions, and defending our members against harmful legislation. Her work and commitment have helped to strengthen our plumbing certification in the state, push back and defeat right-to-work legislation, and have played an instrumental role in some of the first Community Workforce agreements in King County. Over the last two years, she has worked hard to put us at the table on green energy and position us to have a strong voice regarding our concerns about the ban on Natural Gas and its impact to our members.

### **Other Accomplishments**

- Steamfitter Apprentice of the Year 2002
- Pacific City Council President
- President of Sound Cities Association in 2019
- Mayor of Pacific Since July 2013
- Local 32 UA Convention Delegate 2016 and 2021

*Congratulations, Sister Leanne Guier on your transition to retirement.* 



#### **BROTHER ERNESTO "JR"**

**YBARRA** retired August 1st, 2022, ending a career that spanned 4 decades. Known to the members as JR, he initiated into Local 375, Fairbanks, Alaska on October 1st, 1984, and completed his apprenticeship in 1987 as a Building Trades Journeyman Fitter.

JR worked on the Alaska pipeline both as a helper and journeyman welder and

worked throughout the country on various Mainline jobs. JR transferred his membership into Local 32 in October of 1999 after working on Pipelines in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. He was appointed as Mainline/Gas Distribution Agent at Local 32 on March 1st, 2011 - a position in which he served until his retirement August 1st.

Over the last 11 years as an Agent, JR has trained innumerable welders and helpers, preparing them for life on the pipeline. He oversaw the growth of the Gas Distribution industry through training and Operation Qualification programs. Over the last two years, he worked to develop a pipeline training facility, currently in its final planning stages. When attending the Annual National Pipeline Conference and Steward School there wasn't anyone there who didn't know him and understand his impact on the industry. "Thank you" does not begin to express our gratitude for all that he has done, both for the membership and for the industry to which he has dedicated his life.

Congratulations, Brother Ybarra on your well-deserved retirement.

### HEALTH PLAN REPORT

### **BENEFIT PLANS**

We have had two Trustee meetings thus far in 2022: March 28th and June 21st. Total plan participants in March were 8,466; in June 2022 there were 8,526 plan participants.

Overall, our Health plan continues to do well. As of March 31, 2022, the Trust's unallocated assets totaled \$38.3 million (cost basis), approximately 7.9 months of projected expenses. On a market value basis, unallocated reserves totaled \$40.2 million, approximately 8.3 months of projected expenses. The market value of assets on March 31, 2021, exceeded the cost basis by \$1.8 million.

- Labor Trustees: Jeffery J. Owen (Chairman), Mike Kunkel, and Joel Crabtree
- The Management Trustees: Ed Kommers (Secretary), Jerry Bush, and Mark Webster

### Health Plan Review Current Period

- 1. Active/self-pay eligibility increased 3.1% and retiree eligibility increased 0.9%, when compared to the prior period.
- 2. 4.7 million hours were reported to the Trust for the 12 months ending with April 2022 eligibility, a 5.7% increase from the prior period.

- Excluding \$2.1 million in claims reimbursable to the Trust under the stop-loss contract, net self-funded paid claims totaled \$45.9 million, or 97.1% of the expected amount.
- After adjusting for changes in Trust liabilities and audit adjustments, the 12-month net gain to unallocated reserves totaled approximately \$3.2 million on an asset cost basis, or \$1.8 million on an asset market value basis.

### Eligibility

The number of active and self-pay members eligible each month is summarized below. During the last 12 months (May 2021 – April 2022):

- 2,720 active and self-pay members on average were eligible each month, an increase of 3.1% compared to the prior 12 months.
- An average of 1,670 spouses and 3,093 children were eligible for benefits each month.
- An average of 1,043 retiree individuals were eligible each month.
- An average of 625 members, or 23.0% of the active group, elected medical/Rx benefits through Kaiser.

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**Benefit Eligibility** 8,000 7,483 7,309 7,273 7,500 7,000 6,500 6,000 3,093 3,019 3,007 5,500 5,000 4,500 4,000 1.670 3,500 1,617 1,626 3,000 2,500 2,000 992 1,030 1,043 1,500 2,673 2.640 2,720 65 63 62 1,000 348 362 372 500 603 582 608 0 May 19 - Apr 20 May 20 - Apr 21 May 21 - Apr 22 May 19 - Apr 20 May 20 - Apr 21 May 21 - Apr 22 **Active Members** Retirees Spouses Member/Retiree Children

The chart below shows average eligibility over the most recent 36 months by member/retiree, spouses, and children.

Retiree eligibility by Medicare status and marital status, is summarized below.

During the last 12 months (January 2021 - December 2021):

- An average of 608 retirees/surviving spouses were eligible for benefits each month, an increase of 0.9% over the prior year.
- An average of 55 retirees/surviving spouses, 9.0% of the total, elected coverage through Kaiser.
- An average of 981 total retired individuals (retirees and spouses), were covered during the last 12 months. Of the total, 735 were eligible for Medicare and 246 were not Medicare eligible.
- There was an average of 63 children of retirees covered during the last 12 months.

### Hours

During the most recent 12 months ending February 2022 hours worked, April 2022 eligibility, a total of 4,701,065 hours were reported to the Trust. This was a 5.7% increase over the total hours reported in the prior 12 months. These hours generated

an average of 2,631 hourly eligibles and an average of 53 months of coverage removed from the dollar bank each month. Based on average net eligibility months of 2,578, the hours per net month of eligibility were 152.0, up 1.7% from 149.4 in the prior 12 months.

### **Financial Operations**

Trust's income and expenses for the last 12 months (April 2021 – March 2022). During the 12 months, approximately \$56.8 million in income was received and \$56.0 million in expenses were paid, resulting in an operating surplus of approximately \$0.8 million.

### Assets, Liabilities, and Trust Reserves

The Trust's income, expenses, assets, and liabilities, as of March 31, 2022, the Trust had total assets of approximately \$60.9 million (unaudited cost basis). Subtracting liabilities of \$22.6 million leaves unallocated assets of \$38.3 million, or 7.9 months of 2022/23 projected expenses on a cost basis.

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-	

Effective With Hours Worked	Commercial	Residential
January 2022	\$9.46/hr.*	\$9.46/hr.*
June 2014	\$9.01/hr.*	\$9.01/hr.*
January 2014	\$8.66/hr.*	\$8.66/hr.*
June 2013	\$8.46/hr.*	\$8.46/hr.*
January 2013	\$8.36/hr.*	\$8.36/hr.*
January 2011	\$8.16/hr.*	\$8.16/hr.*
June 2010		\$7.96/hr.*
January 2010	\$7.96/hr.*	
June 2009	\$7.66/hr.*	\$7.66/hr.*
January 2009	\$7.46/hr.*	
July 2007		\$7.26/hr.*
June 2007	\$7.26/hr.*	
January 2007	\$7.16/hr.*	
July 2006		\$7.06/hr.*
January 2006	\$7.06/hr.*	
July 2005		\$6.70/hr.
June 2005	\$6.70/hr.*	
*\$0.06/hr. used for drug testing	program	

### PENSION PLAN REPORT

### WESTERN WASHINGTON SUPPLEMENTAL PENSION UPDATE

Our Supplemental Pension Plan is very important to retirement planning along with our State and National Pension. We encourage all our members to participate by making selfcontributions and to educate themselves about this essential piece of their retirement picture.

**Self-Contributions –** Currently, 36% of members are making self-contributions to the plan, an increase of 10% from last year.

**Beneficiaries –** 20% of members still do not have a Beneficiary on file. It's important that you list your beneficiaries. Please contact the business office for the necessary documents to make this update.

### Supplemental/401k Contribution Report -January 1st through June 30th, 2022

- Employer contributions \$11,429,787.00
- Member contributions \$ \$4,131,445.00
- Other contributions \$ 15,908.00

Total Contributions for this time period: \$15,577,140.00

Total Local 32 membership balance: \$362,968, 132.00

The average balance in the plan is: \$104,089 the average age of plan participants is 44 years of age.

### **REMEMBER TO UPDATE** YOUR BENEFICIARIES!



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A check-up may not be high on your to-do list. But preventive care— things like blood work, health screenings, and immunizations—can help you stay healthy now and proactively address concerns you may face in the future.

At Vera, we're here for everything from sick-care to preventive screenings, nagging issues to chronic condition management. No topic is off the table.

We prioritize empathy, safety, and time, so we can treat you exactly where you are—zero judgments.



## We save you (and your Union) money

Vera care is free to you—and because preventive care creates a healthier community with fewer costly medical needs, it saves Local 32 money, too.



## We give you more time with your doctor

Longer appointments allow you to ask questions and understand your test results.



#### We treat your whole health – not just your symptoms

Your care team works to support not just your physical health, but your mental and social wellbeing, too. Because it's all connected.



## We connect you with a health coach

Making lifestyle changes can be hard. Your coach takes time to understand your situation and acts as a partner in your health journey.

### Earn a \$100 annual incentive

Complete an Annual Whole Health Evaluation by November 30, and earn \$100. Call the care center at (206) 337-6080 or make an appointment at patients.verawholehealth.com.

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## AND UA LOCAL 32



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- Extended hours, weekends, and same-day emergency appointments



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Aligners

Teeth Whitening <u>Kit<sup>®</sup></u>

### **EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS FOR UA LOCAL 32 UNION FAMILIES**

Subject to the Limitations of the Plan

(Fees May Vary Depending on Plan Coverage)

Procedure General Dentistry (ADA CODE)	Your Potential Cost at Another Provider*	Your Cost Before Insurance (Cash Basis)	Your Cost UA LOCAL 32 TRUST With Insurance
150/210 - Initial Oral Exam and Digital X-Rays	<sup>\$</sup> 267	<sup>\$</sup> 59	\$ <b>O</b>
1110 - Teeth Cleaning (In absence of Periodontal disease)	<sup>\$</sup> 132	<sup>\$</sup> 68	\$O
2392 - Filling (2-surface Composite Resin-back tooth)	<sup>\$</sup> 296	<sup>\$</sup> 145	\$O
3330 - Root Canal (Molar-3 canals) By General Dentist. If Specialist is required, fees will vary.	\$1,540	<sup>\$</sup> 740	\$ <b>O</b>
2750 - Crown (Porcelain Fused to High Noble Metal)	<sup>\$</sup> 1,420	<sup>\$</sup> 755	0\$
5120 - Complete Lower Denture	\$1,728	<sup>\$</sup> 905	\$O

Retirees and UA LOCAL 32 families without benefits are also eligible for the discounted cash savings.

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425.372.0036	425.507.1000	425.775.5557	253.840.0540	253.475.7500
Bellingham	Kennewick	Maple Valley	<b>Richland</b>	<b>Tukwila</b>
360.715.8400	509.378.3530	425.578.9152	509.866.4335	206.575.0400
Bonney Lake	<b>Kent</b>	Northgate	Silverdale	Vancouver-Fisher's Landing
253.299.3033	253.850.9777	206.336.2100	360.536.9033	360.891.1999
Federal Way	Lake Stevens	<b>Olympia-Black Lake</b>	<b>Spokane</b>	Vancouver-Salmon Creek
253.835.3377	425.249.4129	360.338.7152	509.464.2001	360.574.4574
<b>Gig Harbor</b>	Lakewood	Olympia-Martin Way	<b>Spokane Valley</b>	Woodinville
253.765.5002	253.292.4041	360.455.9544	509.900.3500	425.492.2000

BE SURE TO SAY YOU'RE A UA LOCAL 32 member when calling your local Bright Now! Dental & Orthodontics office.

Discount or offer questions? Contact your Bright Now! Dental & Orthodontics Account Representative

Carrie Magnuson Carrie.Magnuson@smilebrands.com 253.405.4547

This flyer must be brought in at time of service to ensure the special discounted rates and coupon offer are honored. This is not an insurance plan. This is a voluntary option and you save whether you have dental insurance or not.

1. \$99 Braces on approved credit (ADA Codes 8070, 8080 & 8090). Average estimated cost ranges between \$6,415 - \$6,640 based on standard 24-month case (does not include finance charges, potential insurance coverage, or any other discounts). Valid on new, standard orthodontic cases only. 2. \$0 down, 0% APR, and \$96 a month on approved 3rd party financing for an Express case. Average retail price of aligner case ranges from \$2,000 - \$4,600. Average treatment plan 24 months. Diagnosis may result in a recommendation for Lite or Standard aligner case, or additional treatment. Aligners may be provided by a general denist. Does not include finance charges, potential insurance coverage, or any other discounts. \$1 OneSmile Dental Plan included upon purchase of Reveal Aligner case and is good for one year. The OneSmile Dental Plan information. 3. Not all patients are canalidates for whitening, one free opalesence professional whitening trevef 333 (halo does 00150). Digital X-rays retail price \$135 (ADA Code D0150). Digital X-rays retail price \$157 (ADA Code D0150). There may be future costs based on diagnosis. See office for complete pricing information. All offers rays retail price \$135 (ADA Code D0150). Digital X-rays retail price \$157 (ADA Code D0150). Digital X-rays retail price \$158 (ADA Code D0150). Digital X-rays



## ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER/ DISPATCHER REPORT

### By Ryan Miller

Brother and Sisters:

I hope you and your families had an enjoyable summer, even if it showed up a month late! It was amazing to see the turnout at the Local 32 Picnic

exceeding 1k members and family members attending. Special thanks to the Picnic Committee for their hard work putting together a perfect day!

### Work Outlook

Seattle, Bellevue, and the surrounding areas is still showing some growth, and it continues to include all types of construction covering all industries covered in our agreement. Work this summer has continued to ramp up from the very slow spring which followed the Concrete Strike. Amazingly, we were still able to set another record year of 4,470,608.07 hours worked for the 2021-22 fiscal year: an increase of 11k from 2020-21. Work continues to look promising through the remainder of the year. Some economic uncertainty has left a few projects on hold until further notice, and it will continue to be a factor that affects workload until we exit any potential of a recession.

### Out of Work List

The Fitter's list has generally been clear the last three years, needing travelers to fill open calls. This has continued through Summer 2022, with 152 Fitter Travelers still working in the jurisdiction. June was a rebound month for the Plumbers, ending with an empty list and Travelers filling open calls. Light Commercial has had a bit of a slow turnaround with projects progressively moving through groundwork and first floors of concrete. We expect it to be taking off soon when wood framing begins.

### Traveling Freedom of Movement

When traveling to a Local within the Washington State Association (Locals 26, 44, and 598) please be sure to contact the Agent in that jurisdiction for approval prior to traveling. Remember, it is your responsibility to check in when travelling – not the responsibility of your supervisor or journeyman. Following these steps should help make things go smoothly:

- 1. Contact Business Agent of the jurisdiction into which you are traveling to request FOM travel.
- 2. If approval is granted, contact Local 32 Dispatch.
- 3. Complete both Reciprocity and Vacation forms. (This is very important!)
- 4. Check out with Agent who approved FOM travel and contact Local 32 Dispatch when work is complete.

### Training/Continuing Education

Just a reminder to the Plumbers to make sure to complete your continuing education and renew your Plumbing Certification prior to its expiration. This goes the same for welding continuities. It's always much easier to maintain than to retest! Take advantage of the resources at the JATC to maintain qualifications or to further your knowledge as technology and trade innovations continue to change.

### Appreciation

Finally, I would like to thank all the past and newly retired members of Local 32. You have paved the way for this Local and its successful future. That trailblazing work should be celebrated. A special thanks to my good friend, JR Ybarra (pictured below) I wish you all the best in your next chapter! The professional way you carried yourself and the way you represented your members has served as a tremendous example to me and the many other members with whom you worked. The foundation you built, the pride you embodied, and

the generous way you shared your experience have not only served the membership, but been a great benefit to Local 32 and the UA.

And as always, to the membership that keeps Local 32 moving forward - Thank you!

Sincerely,

**Ryan Miller** 



## PLUMBERS' AGENT REPORT

### By Mike Kunkel



Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you are enjoying our delayed summer. It was great to see everyone and their families at the Local 32 Picnic. We had nearly 1,000 people attend. A lot of work went into its planning and implementation, and I want to thank the Picnic Committee and everyone else who made it happen. It would not have been as successful without all

their help. Unfortunately, there was one negative to the event. My partner and I got whooped in the finals of the horseshoe tournament.

**New Officers –** Congratulations to the newly sworn in officers and a very sincere thank you to those who have finished their terms. Our local is successful due to its volunteers. They make us the greatest local union in the UA.

**Projects** – Work continues to be steady. There are many large ongoing projects and many more on the horizon.



### **800 COLUMBIA**

Below, left to right: Theodore Pugh, Tessla Rennie, Gordon Finch, Nick Wilker, David Biggs, Jeremy (Jay) Park, John LeFevre, Jason Smith, Sean Pullin, Gary Wright, Dave Monkman, Leonid Buryy, Misael Marin, James Frye, Eamonn McCarron, Dustin Gregg, Marcellino Orru, Mike Kuhn, Jeffrey Morriss Diego Carrillo, Jake Hass.





### **AVENUE A - BELLEVUE**

**Plumbers:** Randy Hart - Project Superintendent, Tim Cusack - Foreman, Neil Ramos - Foreman, John Anderson - Foreman, Alex Smith -Foreman, Kyle Locke, Robert Dolan, Mason Tobin, Cesar Centeno, Gene Lawing, Sean Partridge, Kelly Tucker, Chase Southworth, Sinakone Phonsavang – Steward. **Apprentice Plumbers:** Mathew Tangen, Vincent Mai, Matt Soha, Charles Gardner, Dakota Sieffert, Justin Lagadon, Trevor Marshall, Kong LeFeau, Jesse Tyler, Dmitri Wagoneer, Mathew James, Sean Nikoncyk. **Helpers:** Alexis Sanchez, Jacob Laban, Jermaine Hunt. **Fitters:** Anthony Frazier - General Foreman, Randy Hentges - Refer Foreman, Kevin Thompson - Foreman, Travis Jenkins -Foreman, Scott Garrioch, Carlos Montoya, Jeremy Ragan, Tommie Small, David Wofford, Wyatt Wofford. **Apprentice Fitters:** Mathew Bailey, Robert Galusic, Johnathon Jokela, Lorna Mazoff, Zach Nicholson, Killian Karas. **Helper:** Ethan Wesley.

Continued on next page

### PLUMBERS' AGENT REPORT | Continued from page 13

We are hearing that some of these new buildings will not initially be built out, and that will play into both large and small TI jobs once the hybrid work model is figured out. Plumbing service work has also been picking up. We have upcoming public and private jobs that will be performed under a PLA or CWA. One of the things that helps ensure Local 32 members work on these jobs is the requirement for apprentice utilization from a registered apprenticeship.

**Training –** I want to thank Dale Wilcox and his family for all the years he has given to the Local, from working, to teaching in the field, to teaching full time at the JATC. Dale and I first met as nighttime instructors, but I found out he was kind of a big deal when we attended the UA Instructor Training Program. Turned out he was an instructor there, not just a student! Congratulations on your upcoming retirement, brother.

Our region has been blessed to be a major hub of the bio-tech industry, and these projects continue to come to our area. Each one is unique, but still have similar mechanical systems in them. Many of these systems will also be in the hospital projects that are coming up. To make sure our membership will be ready, the JATC has ramped up training for medical gas certifications to meet the expected work.

With the addition of Jeremy Sandor as a full-time instructor with the JATC, there will be opportunities to learn the ins and outs of detailing as well as other technical tools used in the field, such as operating Trimble and Bluebeam.

**Political Action Committee –** Firstly, I want to congratulate Leanne Guier on her retirement. She led our PAC for many years, and we were fortunate to have her for as long as we did. Secondly, I want to welcome Kurt Swanson and wish him luck his new role as the PAC leader.

I have recently become involved in the PAC. With a field vantage point, I honestly didn't have a full grasp of how important the work they do is to our membership. The PAC interviews political candidates as they seek our endorsement. During that process, we have an opportunity to educate them on what affects our membership. Along with that, we can build a relationship with them which pays dividends as we fight certain laws that attack our jobs. Corey Wilker has been in a dog fight protecting the membership against some proposals that will directly affect our members' jobs. We will need every ally possible to stay in the fight and defeat these proposals.

**Plumbers Law –** We will continue the good fight, working in Olympia to strengthen our plumbing laws and protect the

public from unscrupulous contractors and unsafe plumbing systems.

Compliance officers have been able to use the new legislation to take on the underground plumbing market. Please report any non-licensed companies or people to their website: <u>https://secure.lni.wa.gov/reportcontractorfraud/</u> that is the fastest way to help them enforce the law.

Local 32 just hosted the quarterly L&I Plumbers Advisory Board meetings at the Hall. Ed Holmes officially announced that he was stepping down as the Chairman of the Board. He was instrumental in the new plumbing legislation that will not only protect the work of the plumbers, but all our trades. One of the items in the new law specifies that any company advertising plumbing work be required to attain a plumbing contractor license and employ a full-time licensed plumber.

**Code Updates –** As a reminder, plumbers will need 24 CEU's to renew their plumbing license, however that will be every three years instead of every two. Keith Nicolson has been hosting plumber test prep classes since...I honestly can't remember when. He has been offering these classes since I went through my apprenticeship. Take advantage of his knowledge as his student's success rate is incredible.

**Fixed Units -** Negotiations are wrapping up with Water District 49. The King County contract was just ratified after over a year of negotiations.

There are open positions for plumbers with the King County FMD group, the Plumbing Inspector group, Seattle Housing Authority, L&I Compliance and FAS. Please reach out to me if you are interested in any of these positions.

**Safety –** Please take your safe work practices home with you. It is easy to relax habits when doing projects at home, but it is important to remember that accidents can happen anywhere. Relying on safe work practices helps keep you and your family healthy and whole.

In closing Brothers and Sisters, the work looks good for the time being. Please take advantage of our JATC training programs and financial classes to make sure we are ready to tackle the future as we have always done.

Sincerely,

**Mike Kunkel** Plumbing Agent



## **STEAMFITTER & MARINE PIPEFITTER** REPORT

By TJ Riordan

Hello Brothers & Sisters, I hope everyone had a great Summer.

Brother Craig Rose, Steamfitter Project Superintendent for McKinstry, is overseeing one of the most in-depth steam fitting projects that has taken place in Local 32 in many years. The project, which is at the University of Washington Power Plant, involves two high pressure superheated steam boilers, derating them from 425 psi down to 185 psi, installing a new steam turbine generator, as well as new energy recovery systems. The oldest boiler was installed in 1968 and originally ran on coal. Craig has come full circle with the newer of the two boilers - he helped install that one nearly 20 years ago with another one of our contractors. While the project is complicated and has many critical parts, the timeline is spread out over a year and a half, allowing the UW to keep one boiler operational and supplying heat to 180 buildings, one of which is the UW Hospital.



Brother Jim Hakkinen putting a test on some piping.



Brother Sean Yancey stopping for a quick pose.

Shout out to Brother Rose and his Steamfitter crew; Brothers Sean Yancey, Jim Hakkinen, Brian Asplin, Flint Hayes, Nathan Anderson, Austin Zepeda-Compton and Bill Long for making us all UA Proud. Keep up the good work, Brothers!

### The Future of Fitting

Brothers and Sisters, to meet the demands of changing markets, we must advance our knowledge and skillsets. As Local, State, and National politics continue to drive legislation that promotes electrification and attacks natural gas, our need to adapt to the demands of the new market has never been greater.

Along with politics, we are also faced with attacks from other Labor Organizations. VRF has become more prevalent in the Building Trades Commercial market. We are faced with a skilled labor shortage in the Building Trades Commercial VRF market, and contractors are threatening to build their VRF workforce using our competition. Let's not let that happen. Local 32 must continue to provide our contractors with the only choice for the best skilled labor.

Continued on next page

### **STEAMFITTER & MARINE PIPEFITTER REPORT** Continued from page 15



UW Power Plant Boiler #7

Our Organizers are actively pursuing Building Trades Commercial VRF Pipefitters to ensure that Local 32 retains our work while meeting the needs of our contractors. Refrigeration Agent, Brother Joel Crabtree, and I are working together, along with input from the Training Center and members in the field, to develop strategies to continue to capture the Building Trades Commercial VRF market and build a workforce with the skills necessary to perform this scope of work.

Additionally, Washington State is poised to be a potential World Leader in the clean energy market with the advances in Hydrogen capture and modular nuclear reactors. Much of this work is projected to happen in the Wenatchee Valley. Projects like these will provide opportunities to build long-term UA careers.

### Technology

I am pleased with the development of new Field technology courses that will be offered soon at the Training Center. These courses will focus on software and skills that are being used by our members in the field; Bluebeam, Navisworks, Auto-CAD, and Revit to name a few. The work is designed to be sequential, meaning you must satisfactorily complete each step to be able to advance and will require some additional at-home content and learning. More information is available in the Apprenticeship Coordinator's report on page 24.

### Shipyards

Work is steady in the shipyards. The annual Metal Trades Department Conference will be held in Las Vegas from October 31, 2022 - November 3, 2022. Congratulations to the Delegates who will be representing Local 32 at the Conference.

Fraternally,

**TJ Riordan** Steamfitter Business Agent



## **REFRIGERATION / HVAC** REPORT

### By Joel Crabtree

### Brother and Sisters:

We're into the middle of summer here in the Northwest and the heat is definitely on. Service calls are stacking up, and most contractors do not have enough manpower to fill the needs of their current

customers - let alone bring on new ones. Compounding that, we are deep into a serious service mechanic labor shortage, and many of our contractors are looking for skilled, licensed mechanics. Some of our contractors have resorted to signing bonuses and offering over scale wages to try to entice mechanics to make the jump to a different contractor. This strategy is not a sustainable solution to the labor crisis we have in the Northwest. Instead, we need our signatory contractors to start larger crews of entry level people so we can build the future journeymen, foremen, and service managers that our industry needs. This HVAC/R Service and Maintenance growth trend appears to be holding steady into the foreseeable future in the greater Puget Sound region, and we are working hard to organize service mechanics from the open sector to help the contractors labor shortages. If you know anyone looking for an excellent lifelong career, please refer them to myself or any of the organizers to learn more about these great opportunities. Due, in part, to changes in Washington state energy codes the future magnitude of VRF install work in our area is staggering! Our service side has been in a heavy growth pattern for years now, and we are poised to service and maintain these building systems for years to come. To fulfill this need, the building trades Pipefitters and HVAC/R service groups will need to work together to train or organize enough manpower to install this upcoming building trades workload, because if we don't our competition will. Brother TJ Riordan and I have been meeting with contractors and working closely to come up with solutions to the immediate construction and installation manpower needs. If you're out there in a service van and want to make a change to VRF install, call me directly and we can dispatch you out on a crew installing VRF next week! This is all Local 32's work, and we will do everything in our power to keep Sheetmetal from making more inroads to the pipefitting trades. To do so, we're going to need help building these crews to accommodate the sheer magnitude of this trend of VRF installation work.

On the Supermarket side we need Subject Matter Experts (SME's) to step up at the training center. The JATC has built a state-of-the-art refrigeration lab and now needs mechanics with experience to teach! There's a huge need on the supermarket side to transfer our embodied knowledge to the vounger mechanics coming up in the trade. Block training has given us the opportunity to bring current working perspectives about new and old equipment and systems into the classroom. Sharing your experience will allow the apprenticeship training program to achieve much higher technical levels for the future of our industry. But we need those mechanics in the supermarket trade to come down and give that perspective to the next generation of mechanics. With the new block training model, teaching only requires a few days commitment per year, and the payback goes far beyond any financial reward. If you are interested in getting involved, please give me or brother PJ Moss a call to discuss the possibilities.

By the time this report reaches you the HVAC/Refrigeration numbers dispatched out of our service Appendix II will be at or just over 800 mechanics and still growing. Again, if you know any open shop mechanics or young people looking for a rewarding career with the highest wages and benefits in the industry, please direct them to me or Local 32's Organizing Department.

Fraternally yours,

Joel Crabtree HVAC/Refrigeration Business Agent



Joe Sparks of MacMiller and the crew landing units on a rooftop with a helicopter. They set 60 units in 6 hours.



1st year apprentice Levi RingusLong time merof PSF Mechanical working on aGangwish of Nfan motor replacementon a fan moto

Long time mechanic Terry Gangwish of McKinstry working on a fan motor replacement

## PLUMBERS' AGENT REPORT

### By Corey Wilker



Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you are all enjoying the summer weather and that your families are happy and healthy. We are still faced with many issues stemming from the pandemic; from supply chain issues for equipment to lack of

piping materials, and even inflation costs. The entire world is in recovery and trying to get everything going again is a colossal task. With my glass half empty I am thinking "will this ever end?" With my glass half full, I am hoping that 2023 is the year we can move beyond Covid!

### Work Outlook

The work in King County is still booming as it has been for over a decade. Even with the concrete strike at the start the year which put hundreds of our members out of work, we are now back to almost full employment. There is still a lot of upcoming work on the books for 2023 such as ongoing PLA's at SeaTac, multi-family high rises in Seattle and Bellevue, the Microsoft Campus, biotech and other labs for Fred Hutch, multiple Seattle School projects covered under CWA's, as well as Harborview and Swedish hospital expansions. There has been some work put on hold for "redesign", but I am hopeful those will come back online too.

### WSSC

As many of you know, the Code Council has been hijacked by special interest groups. Throughout the last year the Energy Code proposals have been rammed through the Council regardless of concerns from the public. The "Green Washington" groups have joined with the energy code interests and put in several proposals to add electrical outlets wherever there is a stub out for natural gas. There is no basis for these proposals, other than to force building owners to ban natural gas. We have been fighting against all these proposals in the comment and discussion for each proposal but, sadly, the other Council members have united in their resolve to push their agenda.

During the UPC code process, a proposal was submitted to allow AAV's into Chapter 9 of the Washington State Plumbing Code. The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) voted unanimously to DISAPPROVE the proposal. However, in the Building, Fire, and Plumbing (BFP) committee meeting the proponent was able to secure the votes necessary to change the proposal to be brought to the Council and added as an Appendix. We submitted documentation on the public health hazards and other problems associated with these devices when they fail. Once again, the Council ignored the health and safety concerns and voted to move the proposal forward to public comment. The proponent of the AAV proposal is a Council Member and has supported the Energy Code proposals so they, in turn, are supporting his proposal. As you can see, our work is under attack in this code cycle, and we are using every and all means to fight back.

If any member has information, pictures, or documented failure of AAV's, please reach out and let us know.

### IAPMO and ARCSA

In September we will be attending the IAPMO and ARCSA conferences. We will be supporting IAPMO in their promoting of our plumbing code and our attendance at the ARCSA conference is important to ensure the laborers know we are serious about protecting this work. The Local 32 Business Office and the Training Center will work in conjunction to make sure we have a voice in these discussions and promote the UA on a national level to perform this work. We can thank the Local 32 and WSA teams who worked together to the add rainwater catchment language in the Washington State legislative code. (See highlighted language below.) We intend to take advantage of their efforts and use this definition to help secure this plumbing work for our members.

### RCW 18.106.010(9)

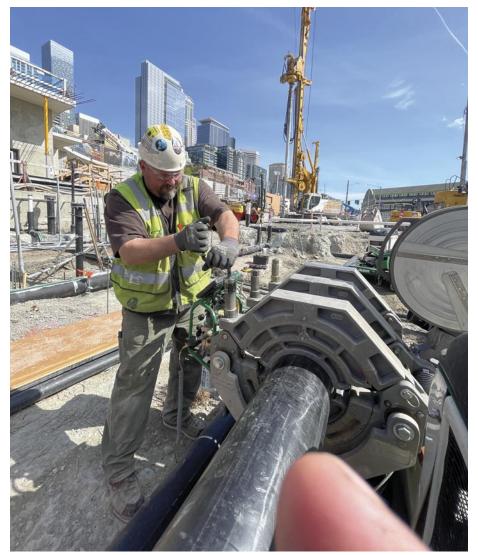
(9) "Plumbing" means that craft involved in installing, altering, repairing and renovating potable water systems, liquid waste systems, and medical gas piping systems within a building as

defined by the plumbing code as adopted and amended by the state building code council, and includes all piping, fixtures, pumps, and plumbing appurtenances that are used for rainwater catchment and reclaimed water systems within a building.

In addition, we are currently working with the Department of Health commission which will be making rules and standards for multifamily onsite non-potable water systems. Our participation will make sure that if we are using reclaimed water for fixtures inside the building, that this work is done by certified plumbers.

### Seattle Aquarium Ocean Pavilion

One of the more unique jobs currently underway is the Seattle Aquarium. Turner is the GC and Hermanson has the plumbing



Local 32 job steward, Brother Dave Wilkinson, fusing HDPE onsite at the Aquarium.

and mechanical. Longhorn Organics is the specialty contractor doing the actual aquarium piping. We opened the discussion at the Seattle Building Trades Pre-Job and convinced them that we could provide the highest skilled labor for the job. Longhorn signed a one job agreement with Local 32 and we have had our members installing the underground HDPE piping through Phases 1&2.

### Stewards

We would like to recognize the efforts of all our jobsite stewards. The members of this Local who accept responsibility for taking on day-to-day issues deserve our thanks. Their effort, going above and beyond the common call of duty, makes every one of our jobsites better. Job stewards are a crucial part of why Local 32 is so successful as an organization. On behalf of the membership:

## THANK YOU, STEWARDS, FOR ALL YOU DO!

### Special Thanks to JR Ybarra

In closing this report, I would like to acknowledge my friend and mentor, JR Ybarra, I met and shook hands with JR on my first day as an Agent in 2017. I knew instantly he was a man I could trust, and that he was someone I needed to pay attention to and learn from. JR is the type of person who commands respect, not through force, but through the example of his wisdom and experience. Throughout the five years that have now passed, JR has taken the time to give me advice which has had a profound effect on me both personally and professionally. JR helped me change my behavior to live a healthier life, and he showed me ways to solve problems which, consequently, allow me to be more effective in my service to the membership. For the generous sharing of his wisdom, his kindness, and his example, I will forever be grateful for, and indebted to, my friend, JR Ybarra. Congratunations on your retirement!

In Solidarity,

### **Brother Corey Wilker**

## LOCAL 32 ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

### SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2022 AT VASA PARK, BELLEVUE SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR – SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023













































## **ORGANIZING** REPORT

By Brad Moore, Zachary T. Smith, Chris Hawes and Antonio Cruz

# Organizing today for our future

As we begin to push past the challenges and isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are seeing a variety of new obstacles and opportunities for organizing and growth within Local 32. Charles Darwin said:

> It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent. It is the one that is most adaptable to change.

Since our genesis in 1889, Local 32 has been at the forefront of innovation and adaptation. During the First World War Local 32 had thousands of members working in the shipyards, helping America grow its naval prowess throughout the globe. After the Second World War, this local union began to slowly pivot its labor focus towards growing this region through an expansion into the commercial building trades. Although commercial housing and infrastructure construction remain in high demand, we find ourselves leaning into the next phases of growth for this local union. VRF installation in addition to commercial HVAC and Plumbing Service are expanding labor markets, and they are exploding with promise and opportunity. VRF or Variable Refrigerant Flow systems are becoming the industry standard for comfort heating and cooling in light



commercial buildings, and it is quickly displacing the traditional hydronic systems in some commercial building applications. Refrigerant heat transfer offers energy savings and efficiencies that far surpass all other traditional methods of climate control. With our established HVAC and refrigeration training programs, Local 32 is poised to capture and dominate the installation and maintenance of these systems. For the first time, we are adjusting our organizing efforts to actively pursue skilled workers for this newest iteration of building trades commercial pipefitting work.

Our Commercial HVAC and Plumbing Service demand has remained steady and consistent throughout the entire pandemic. The workers in this sector were rapidly identified as "essential" as they maintained and supported critical infrastructure throughout our communities. Even throughout the dramatic work interruptions caused by the recent concrete strike, plumbing and HVAC service saw virtually no disruptions in employment numbers.

With this knowledge and the intrepid spirit of the labor movement, the Local 32 organizing team is continuing to adapt to the changing demands in the market and region. While brother Brad Moore continues to bring qualified mechanics to the construction sector, brothers Zac Smith, Chris Hawes, and Antonio Cruz are embarking on a campaign of outreach and engagement for commercial service workers and building trades commercial VRF pipefitters throughout the state.

As in-person events resume, the organizing team is visiting trade-schools, supply houses, and trade-related events to educate workers and to open opportunities for this local union to represent them and "protect them from unjust and injurious competition." The results of these efforts have been incredibly positive. The investments this membership has made in our business office facility and training center, convey our values and a sense of pride to every person the organizing team has engaged and brought through our doors. Training, licensing, and certifications are at the heart of service and VRF work throughout this state, and we are fortunate to be able to offer the resources for education we have in our training center. Our apprenticeship program and its ability to train mechanics reflects the highest degree of commitment to knowledge and innovation. This commitment offers extraordinary value for both workers and contractors and it is vitally important to our organizing endeavors.

The workers of this union are among the best trained, most productive, and well compensated workers in the country. We are all ambassadors for this local union and because of our willingness to adapt to the changing demands of this region we are displaying those invaluable traits and characteristics that will ensure our survival and prevent the decline of our benefits and way of life.

### "Green Energy Superpower"

As the evolution of the Labor Movement continues, the members of Local 32 will continue to be in the forefront of development and growth. During this year's Washington State Association (WSA) conference in Suncadia, WA, one of the biggest topics was developing this state into a "Green Energy Superpower." Even as political forces are attacking existing job markets for our members by threatening the distribution and use of natural gas, Local 32 and the WSA are finding ways of adapting. This local union and the WSA are leaning into exciting new opportunities poised to create sustainable jobs for all our members. One such example is working with a local company, called Modern Electron, who has developed the technology and equipment to remove the carbon from natural gas and produce hydrogen. The success of this technology could assist in preserving the infrastructure which keeps so many of our members working. With further development and legislative support, consumers in the region could potentially preserve their existing heating resources and reduce their carbon footprint simultaneously.

Additionally, if this state's political leadership continues to push for expanded electrification, the WSA has established a collaborative relationship with the X-energy company, who is planning on building a new, intrinsically safe, melt-down proof, nuclear reactor in Washington state. X-Energy has taken a remarkable nuclear technology developed in Germany and refined it with huge advances in material science technology to create a pebble-bed, nuclear reactor with numerous fail-safes to prevent the accidents which have contributed to some of the stigma surrounding nuclear energy. With the potential for the expansion of safe nuclear energy in the region, comes the opportunity for countless UA jobs in both the construction and service sectors.

If this region is successful in becoming the Saudi Arabia of Green Energy, this local union will be poised to support the growth which will ensue. Whether building climate control is driven by electrified refrigeration systems or fossil fuels, fitting will remain a viable and necessary trade. The biggest key to our survival is adaptation and the ability to adjust to change.

As we look forward through the windshield at our future, and glance in the rearview mirror to learn from our past, the organizing team is so very thankful to be on this journey. Whether the accelerator is propelled by fossil fuel or electricity we are cautiously ready to travel to our next chapter in the evolution of Local 32.

## **JATC REPORT** By PJ Moss and Heather Winfrey

It's busy during summer months at the Seattle Area Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Office. We are conducting continuing education and prep classes, and the team is completing long-term training projects. This year, we're glad to be returning with a group of full and part-time instructors to the United Association's International Training Program (ITP) in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

This weeklong event ensures instructors with specific teaching certifications, such as Medical Gas or Welding, remain current with their credentials. ITP also helps our newer instructors gain skills in developing and structuring program content. We are thankful to our Trust for making it possible to bring 25 people to ITP this year. They include William Whitfield; Tom Barrett; Armando Villalobos; Jeff Holmes; Steve Simpson; Jeremy Sandor; David Snowden; Mike Allen; Bryan Haithcox; Kurt Cushman; Dan Fink; David Gibson; Randy Hentges; Lloyd Berge; Mark Westbrook, Troy Hewitt, Jake Jarvis; Tommy Copeland; Marisa Spencer; and Ken Robinson. Of note, Jake Jarvis will be graduating this year from the Instructor Pathway at ITP.

Perhaps the most exciting ITP news, however, is 2nd Year Steamfitter Damon Marr will be competing in the national UA Apprenticeship Competition - Welder contest. Damon is a talented, dedicated apprentice whose steadfast and consistent practice of his craft makes him a formidable competitor. Please send him best wishes and thanks for making UA 32 proud!

In other news, we last reported conducting apprentice interviews for 5 weeks over April and May 2022. We were able to start 21 HVAC/Refrigeration, 12 Steamfitter, and 13 Commercial Plumber apprentices this summer. We anticipate demand for the Light Commercial Plumber applicants is just around the corner. This brings our current active apprentice count as of July 2022 to 571 - this continues to be a record high for SAPT.

Also, we're developing an innovative continuing education model that engages vendors and makes it possible for members to take an immersive course in a single day. This model, called a "clinic," includes some online pre-study, but the day itself is dedicated to hands-on learning. On July 30, we



hosted the first Service Plumber - Drain Cleaning Clinic. 34 Apprentices and Plumbing Servicemen attended this event, which focuses on jetting, snaking and camera location with the latest technologies used in the field. Our thanks to Antonio Cruz, William Whitfield, Kurt Cushman, Bob Newman, Brandon Lehman, and George Chastain for providing in-depth clinic design and instruction, and to Clay Spears of Ballard Industrial, Jesse Janke and Mark Fabian of Emerson Commercial & Residential Solutions (Ridgid), Grant Galbreath of Spartan Tools, and Kyle Daggett of Milwaukee tools for showcasing and instructing on their equipment. We anticipate offering this clinic again in Spring 2023, and introducing additional clinic content, such as specialty valves and pumps.

Additionally, we've been developing technology course content that will become stacked SAPT certificates. A "stacked" certificate indicates that a series of progressive, sequential content has been successfully completed, and the individual



Milwaukee showing camera location technology interface.

who holds the certificate has demonstrated in-class skills and knowledge to specific levels. We believe this will benefit members who want increased and applicable tech skills in the field, and eventually, those who want to migrate into other career pathways. Special thanks to TJ Riordan, Mike Kunkel and Jeremy Sandor for working with us on this content. We've started a small pilot group to assess the effectiveness of the training beginning this summer. To this end, we are pleased to announce that SAPT has hired Jeremy Sandor as its first full-



Rigid demo on camera location.



George Chastain explaining portable jetter.

time Technology Instructor. He will begin this role just as he joins us to attend ITP.

Finally, the entire SAPT family is sending its congratulations and thanks to Brother Dale Wilcox, who is retiring from the fulltime Plumber Instruction team at the end of August. Dale has taught over 20 years in part-and full-time capacities. We've heard the gratitude of countless members who have told us that if not for Dale, plumbing code would have been a tremendous challenge. Many people know Dale is essential to the success of Plumber continuing education, both in-person and online. Dale even inspired his son Kyle to join the part-time instruction team, and one of his proudest moments was teaching together. His sense of humor, his devotion to his craft and union, and his motivation to help others gain skills and move ahead in their own careers will be sorely missed on a daily basis. We expect Dale will continue to support SAPT in a part-time capacity after he has settled into retirement bliss with his wife, Karen. Dale, your SAPT family wishes you all the best, and we want to hear about every new adventure you undertake. In your own immortal words, anything less would be "B\*\*\*s\*\*\*!"

In Solidarity,

#### PJ Moss and Heather Winfrey



Bob Newman explaining cabling device.

## **PSE AND MUNICIPALITIES** REPORT

### By Troy Shopin



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Here's a summary of what's going on in your respective units.

### **City of Seattle**

After voting down the last contract agreement in December, the Local's

negotiating committee are back at it. They've met with membership and have formulated a plan with new proposals that they hope will come to a successful agreement. Again, it is a tough year trying to fill vacancies in all departments at the City. Working out of classification is becoming more prevalent, which is a catch-22: on one hand it allows exposure; on the other hand, we're not backfilling from the bottom, allowing for upward mobility of the workforce. On a positive note, we did get a memorandum of understanding regarding Juneteenth adding and additional annual holiday. This puts us in line with the rest of the coalition City of Seattle bargaining units. Lastly, I'd like to welcome the appointments of Gloria Garcia and Sabrina Clark-Bentley to the Water Pipe Workers Apprenticeship Committee. Congratulations!

### **Puget Sound Energy**

After the passing of a four-year agreement in late December 2021 it's been a smooth transition into 2022. In March, the new Emergency Response Plan (ERP) was implemented. This is a voluntary program for First Response. Initially, there were some issues, but the utility has been very transparent; sharing data and being willing to help make it work for, and be fair to, all participants. The ERP is up for review in December 2022. It looks as though a swing shift (1pm to 9pm) will be implemented for fitters in mid-August. This is to help fill staffing needs due to the labor shortage, and until we get the newer gas workers through the training to be journeymen. I'm being informed that it's a "temporary patch." First Response is

understaffed and is trying to catch up with new hires (this seems to have been the general theme for a while.) We can only hope that we're seeing light at the end of the tunnel.

### **Shoreline School District**

The Local would like to say a fond farewell to Marla Miller. She has been with the district for many years, and her knowledge, tenure, and understanding of all things Shoreline Schools will be missed. Happy Retirement Marla! For the first half of the year, the only real issue was around cell phone usage and privacy issues for the district-provided work phones used while on duty. The union coalition for the district is working on an MOU specific to cell phones to ease concerns over expectations and responsibilities.

### **Highline Water District**

Local 32 would like to welcome a new hire, Dawson Heflen at the water district. The work has been steady through the spring and summer, taking advantage of this good weather. I would also like to send thoughts to our Highline Shop Steward Jeff Laizure, a senior member at the water district - and wish him a speedy recovery.

### In Closing /COVID 19

I would like to thank all the members who are considered "essential workers." You've been required to reevaluate existing work procedures and protocols to ensure continuity and operation of your existing duties, all while reducing your risk of exposure to yourself, the public, and your peers. I do not believe the public fully understands the impact you have on their daily lives. The fact they don't notice is a testament to how hard you've worked to make this so. Again, thank you.

Respectfully,

#### **Troy Shopin** PSE/Municipalities Agent

## **GAS DISTRIBUTION & PIPELINE** REPORT

### By Michael Whaley



Brothers and Sisters:

This is my first newsletter article, and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. Before I do, though, I'd like to note that I am a welder, not a writer.

As a UA member who began my career in 1997, I have

dedicated my life to the pipeline industry. I started out working

in Alaska out of Local 375 on the North Slope as a Weld Helper and turned 18 on the job. In January of 2001 I became a proud member of Local 32. Since then, I have worked in every classification on Mainline work, as well as fusing and fitting in the Distribution trade.

I am looking forward to bringing my experience and knowledge into the business office, and I will do my best to represent the members of Local 32.

Fraternally,

**Michael Whaley** 



## PAC REPORT

### By Kurt Swanson

Brothers and Sisters,

It has been a whirlwind of work and political events for me since I stepped into the Political Coordinator/PAC Chair position following Sister

Leanne Guier. I'm thankful for the support from UA Local 32, the WSA, PAC, and the members.

Sister Leanne Guier and I attended the North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) Legislative Conference in Washington DC in April. I want to thank the members, the executive board, and the business manager, Jeff Owen, for the opportunity to attend the NABTU legislative conference April 3rd - 6th. UA General President Mark McManus was presented an award for his fine work with NABTU. Director of the Washington State Association (WSA) and UA Local 32 member Tim Herbert attended, and we had conversations with numerous elected leaders including Susan Delbene, Kim Schrier, and Maria Cantwell. The Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council (WSBCTC) was well represented by a group of affiliated trade union representatives (including UA Local 32), and they met with the Washington state congressional delegation for lunch and conversation as well.

The political influence of the national labor movement was evident in the list of speakers that were present at the legislative conference. We heard from Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Shumer, Liz Schuler (the first woman president, AFLCIO), Stacey Abrams (Georgia Gov. candidate), Secretary of the USDOT Pete Buttigieg, and Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh. It was encouraging to hear Conor Lamb, a representative from the 17th district, say some very positive things about natural gas, and LNG (liquid natural gas), as clean burning domestically produced energy sources that play a key role in our future energy supply. I like this guy!

The NABTU conference concluded with a visit from President Joe Biden. He spoke about the passing of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and requiring project labor agreements (PLA's) on projects over \$35 million. President Biden took the opportunity to emphasize his support for unions and raising the middle class of working America chanting jobs, jobs.

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### PAC REPORT | Continued from page 27

I'm pretty sure he borrowed the jobs, jobs, jobs theme from our UA Local 32 PAC.

The Washington state legislative races have kept the UA Local 32 Political Action Committee (PAC) and me busy this year. I want to thank Local 32 PAC members Jeremy Sandor, John Komorowski, Gary Gregory, Dennis Martinez, Leanne Guier, and the WSA for attending the Washington State Labor Council Committee on Political Education (COPE) on May 21st this year! Thank you for your service! UA Local 32 brothers Gary Gregory, Jeremy Sandor, and Dennis Martinez attended the WSLC Convention in Wenatchee July 19th - 21st, and Jeremy and Gary were Sargent of Arms for the event this year. Thank you all for your hard work!

Our PAC has been hard at work meeting regularly to interview candidates and make recommendations. Eight meetings were conducted since March with 15 candidates interviewed and numerous incumbents reviewed. I would be remiss in my duties if I did not thank the PAC for their hard work: Leanne Guier, Carl Lewis, John Komorowski, Gary Gregory, Jeremy Sandor, Dennis Martinez, TJ Riordan, Mike Kunkel, Neil Hartman, Eric Gilbreath, Eric Hadilek, Gordon Baxter, Sara Rowan, Jo Sunderland, and our apprentice guests Tracy Manley, and Ethan Wesley. Thank you all for your dedication and work on behalf of the UA Local 32 PAC!

I have been working closely with brother Neil Hartman, WSA Governmental Affairs Director, to schedule introductory meetings and tours of the training facility with our incumbent legislative leaders. I want to thank PJ Moss and Heather Winfrey for their time and effort spent on these tours. These tours are terrific way for legislators to see what UA Local 32 is about and to help us build a relationship with them. Seeing the members and the equipment makes a difference to these elected leaders.

Like my peers, some of my time has also been spent attending various committees. I have been participating on the Utilities and Trades Commission (UTC) Decarbonization Advisory Group. Brother Chris Hawes invited me to sit in on some Affordable Energy Coalition (AEC) meetings to broaden my understanding of the work Local 32 has done on advocating against the natural gas ban in the Seattle area, and to learn lessons from the group while the AEC is being wound down. Sister Leanne Guier is the President of Partnership for Energy Progress (PEP) and has done a great job of focusing the efforts of this bi-state (Oregon and Washington) group that does messaging on natural gas. UA Local 32 has gained knowledge, experience, and industry recognition from being involved in these types of coalitions and committees.

The energy industry recognizes our involvement in the space and has invited UA Local 32 to participate in the Northwest Coalition for Energy Choice (NWCEC). This coalition will be active in Washington and Oregon (like PEP) and will advocate for preservation of



WSA's Tim Herbert and Kurt Swanson with Susan Delbene, Washington DC, Capitol Building



Representative David Hackney, 11th LD (P1), posing with a group of Local 32 members that were in a backflow class during his visit to the training facility.



Representative David Hackney (center) checking in on a gas distribution class during his visit to the training facility.

energy choice and reliability. UA Local 32 is a key labor organization participating in the NWCEC because of our pipe work jurisdiction across our crafts, and our strong ties to the energy industry in our region. I will encourage more labor unions to follow our lead and advocate on behalf of energy choice for their membership.

Unfortunately, local and state elected leaders have gone as far as dictating what energy sources their constituents can use. Labor and the energy industry must respond and advocate for energy choice. Our elected officials have become so focused on banning natural gas, they fail to recognize the numerous pitfalls of their own proposed solutions. In collaboration with other negatively impacted labor organizations and the energy industry (in the NWCEC), we can message and educate the public and put pressure on our elected leaders to reconsider how they approach meeting our future energy needs. They need to do it in a way that doesn't destroy the existing energy industry and creates more piping work, not less. Hydrogen, renewable natural gas, waste to energy plants, and green methanol are all viable energy options for our future that will also provide piping work for our members. Pipe work is how we feed our families and our elected leaders need to remember that when they are planning the future energy needs in our region.

It has been a very busy 2022 for me so far. I hope all of you are having a great summer. The UA Local 32 picnic was the best ever! See you at the Local 32 Christmas party!

Sincerely, **Kurt Swanson** 



Sister Leanne Guier with Representative Kim Schrier, 8th Congressional District, in Washington DC, Capitol Building.



Kurt Swanson, Gary Gregory, Dennis Martinez, and Jeremy Sandor at the WSLC Convention banquet in Wenatchee.



WSA's Tim Herbert and Sister Leanne Guier with Representative Marilyn Strickland, 10th Congressional District, Washington DC, Capitol Building.



Representative in the House,11th LD (P2), Steve Bergquist with Neil Hartman, Heather Winfrey, Kurt Swanson, and PJ Moss after touring the training facility.

### **OLD TIMER'S AWARD LIST**

Although Members have accomplished Years of Service between the 5-year increments listed, ONLY the Members with the specific years listed will receive an award.

### **25 YEARS**

Robert Antonucci Jeffrey A. Ball Peter A. Balogh **Daniel F. Barton** Uri Berenshtein Steven G. Bergstrom Steve L. Blowers Stanton A. Bouchard Warren G. Brown Edward R. Burbridge William T. Cass Aaron J. Colts Thomas E. Coville Daniel J. Cox Andrew D. Dahms Scot E. Davis Timothy A. Denton Steven A. Dewey Daniel J. Dillon John M. Dunn Bruce R. Durham Jeremy D. Elliott Chris M. Elwell Robert W. Farr, Jr. Cayce A. Fenyo Michael D. Freeman Dan L. Giddings **Roderick Gordon** Steve E. Hagen Jason M. Harper Randy G. Hill Brian W. Hotman David R. Jensen James A. Jocson Todd H. Jones **Charles Kimball** Keith J. Lariviere **Bruce Lingenfelter** Ed W. Lions Daniel M. Manship Jim S. McGrath William E. McLaurin Harry H. Medina

David J. Michael Michael Nelson Scott G. Nelson Robert G. Newman Dean F. Palermo James B. Peters Edward W. Predki James H. Prigger, Jr. Jon G. Rosenstrom **Rvan Schafer** Steven K. Schwilke Don F. Shelton **Dan Shepherd** Mark A. Shreve Daniel A. Sipila **Michael Sisneros** Mike R. Snyder Michael W. Stedman Vetle Strand Seann Tanner Jimmy C. Teegarden William D. Thomas James P. Thompson Klon D. Turner **Casey White James Buddy White** Robert J. Winn Yordan I. Yordanov

### **30 YEARS**

Tyler A. Barmore Tom M. Barrett George E. Broten Robert T. Cornett Sandy L. Crozier Matthew S. Downing Eric J. Ercanbrack Kenneth M. Frederick Victor M. Frias Cory R. Galloway Richard J. Gonzales Beverly K. Gordon Tim L. Gruenke Jeffrey K. Hart William T. Johnson

Ted J. Kendall John C. Kohler William L. Long Kenneth A. Miller Frank J. Near Douglas R. Orkney Chad M. Orr Tory A. Peterson John D. Rockford Anthony Rogers Michael J. Shirley Ken T. Spraque Toby A. Strieck Mark T. Wiggins Michael T. Wiley Terry G. Wilsey Michael O. Wilson **Gregory P. Wright** 

### **35 YEARS**

Gary V. Desouza Elena M. Dobner Hans S. Eldridge John L. Funseth Robert W. Gray Thomas W. Green Jim E. Hakkinen Rolan D. Jeans Herman E. Kirschnick IV Christopher R. Knight Greg Lillehaug **James Marks** Keith B. McKenney Steve Mellinger Matt Navlet Helen E. O'Brien Mark D. Palmer Kent E. Pemble Jeff Prince **Phil Salvador** Gerald M. Simicich Eric K. Stewart Daniel H. Strong Tony K. Visitacion Jr.

### 40 YEARS

Clarendon N. Allen Jr. Joseph H. Ames Brian C. Andersen David M. Batchelder Curt J. Corkum Michael G. Downey George B. Georgiadis Dan L. Glines **Rudy J. Hendricks** Grant E. Holmes **Randall W. Hughes** Stig K. Johansen Vincent A. Johnson Duane B. Jolliffe James A. Jordan James Lockhart Gregory L. Maltos Jess W. Mathews Michael S. Matthai John D. McLain Steven D. Mempa **Richard J. Miller Paul Morris** Michael D. Novotny Daryl E. Owens Mark H. Palmer John Paulson Jr. Kenneth E. Phillips George L. Prew Jeffery A. Price Dustan D. Roach Sheldon K. Schweers Randy W. Scott **Richard L. Strand Daniel Trbovich** Marty Yellam Nathaniel Zeumault

### 45 YEARS

Mark J. Allen **Richard R. Breen Ernest Commodore** Lavell Diggins Larry R. Flanary James G. Johnson Frank H. Lavish Steven W. LeMay Rafael L. Lim William C. Lindeke Allen W. Lundborg Walter J. Marshall L. Scott Parks Larry W. Parr **Robert J. Pemble Donald L. Schandel** Garv J. Stedman Thomas N. Stewart Jr. Clifford B. Taylor Donald W. Woods Jr. **50 YEARS** 

### Gregory R. Ackenhausen

Rolf T. Bentsen David P. Duffy Kim Falconer James E. Hall Kevin P. Harrington Steven R. Henderson Prentice Henry Gerald V. Mahoney Donald G. Phelps Richard T. Warren Robert L. West III

### **55 YEARS**

Karl Alexander Jr. Daniel D. Andersen Thomas Bell, Jr. Lonny J. Boyd Raymond J. Cornell Michael D. Durham Charles E. Gilmore Roger K. Halsen Mike R. Harris Robert G. Jackson Quinn A. Law M. Jeffrey Manning Johannes C. Meischke Thomas C. Proszek Ken L. Rearden Thomas J. Riordan Carroll L. Smith Gary L. Stone Robert E. Strobel Donald C. Taylor Steward W. Wells Jack A. Willits, Jr.

### **60 YEARS**

Donald L. Hickerson Jack E. Houser Karl S. Lechner Roger W. Myers Frank G. Newson Jr. Joseph J. Patricelli James W. Perkins Raymond A. Strieck Robert D. Young Joseph Zammit

### **65 YEARS**

Robert F. Meyer Charlie D. Powers Leo R. Walsh

### 70 YEARS

Robert B. Timson Willis C. Wheatley

### **75 YEARS**

Albert E. Santora

30 32 CONNECTIONS | SUMMER 2022

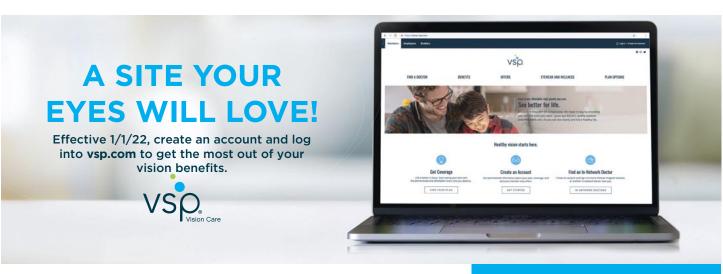
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DATE	NAME	TRADE	YEARS
07-20-2022	Brother Thomas Coville	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	25
07-03-2022	Brother Robert Almquist	BT Journeyman Plumber	69
07-03-2022	Brother Nels Nelson, Jr.	MT Journeyman Marine Pipefitter	43
06-12-2022	Brother Steven Baisch	MT Journeyman School District	29
06-03-2022	Brother Ryk VanDeHee	BT Journeyman Plumber	52
05-29-2022	Brother Charles Wilmott	BT Journeyman Refrigeration	40
05-12-2022	Brother Enos Mowatt	MT Journeyman Water Department	2
05-12-2022	Brother William L. Stone	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	45
05-02-2022	Brother Edmond Bruggman, Jr.	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	65
05-01-2022	Brother Adolphus Mines, Jr.	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	47
04-15-2022	Brother Edward (TED) Huff	BT Journeyman Plumber	40
04-06-2022	Brother Wayne Stobie	BT Journeyman Plumber	3
03-27-2022	Brother Max Cole	BT Journeyman Plumber	53
03-26-2022	Brother Stacy DeRouen	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	6
03-26-2022	Brother Roger Fischer	BT Journeyman Plumber	65
03-24-2022	Brother Theodore Hargraves	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	50
03-08-2022	Brother Joseph Wheatley	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	64
03-04-2022	Brother Carlisle Phillips	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	19
02-14-2022	Brother Mike English	BT Journeyman Plumber	22
02-14-2022	Brother Walter Greenhouse, SR.	BT Journeyman Plumber	62
01-28-2022	Brother Stanton Hightower	MT Journeyman Water Department	8
01-23-2022	Brother Sean McKinstry	BT Journeyman Plumber	6
01-17-2022	Brother Choyce Moon	MT Journeyman Water Department	7
01-02-2022	Brother William "Randy" Allen	BT Journeyman Steamfitter	43



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