



# UA LOCAL 396 JOURNAL

## International Representative Ranson Speaks of a Bright Future to the Local 396 Membership

At February's Union meeting, International Representative T.L. Ranson came and spoke to



**UA International Representative T.L. Ranson**

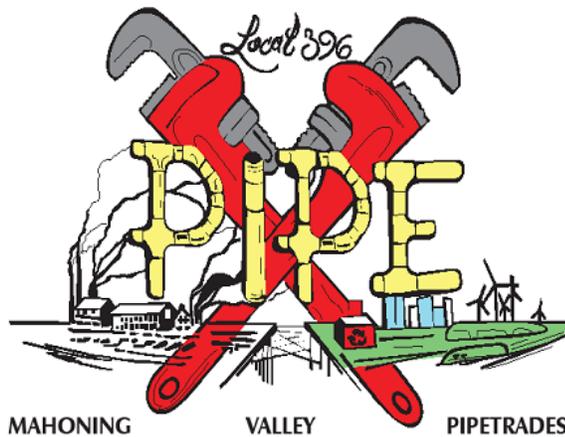
the Local 396 membership. He thanked them for the invitation to speak about the future of Local 396 and the positive pro-

grams and bright opportunities that will be coming into the area. Ranson discussed UA General President Hite's new position in President Obama's Export Council, which will work on creating good jobs for American workers. This is a key part of Obama's administration: to bring back well-paying jobs as well as build a strong manufacturing and industrial base in the United States.

Ranson also added that General President Hite had received distinguished service awards from the Military Officers Association of America over the Hel-

rets to Hardhats program. This award is from the most prestigious military organization.

International Rep. Ranson then said he was very concerned about the United Association fighting the anti-union forces in the country. Politics are very important and the UA and local unions must help labor-friendly people get elected. T.L. was pleased to hear about the UA PAC Fund of \$.05 approved by the body. This will be used to help our efforts in the election of union-friendly candidates.



A major portion of T.L.'s speech was directed towards welding. Five hundred UA-certified welders passed their tests, but when they got on to the jobsite, 300 could not

pass. "We teach to certify, but not to weld," and this must be corrected.

T.L. also discussed the Standard of Excellence program of the UA.

The contractors, owners, and the members all have jobs to do, and we must work together in order to be successful. He said our local is on the verge of having a great deal of work; we must be careful on how to select manpower to run the work. Experience counts.

Finally Ranson discussed our PIPE Program. This program will help us overcome a lot of non-union issues in the Local 396 jurisdiction. Our union will grow stronger thru this program and with the support of our training

program.

In closing International Rep Ranson wished us well and as always, gave his continued support of Local 396 and its members.



**Lordstown General Motors**



Dear Membership,  
The working events in the valley over the winter and spring have been just like the weather: cold, slow-moving..basically, just "flat-out stinks." But I would like to say that lots of events have been happening through our local union, and we have nothing but bright, sunny days to look forward to. Perseverance, determination and the faith in our membership have given us the best opportunities to succeed, with new business for our local contractors and exciting new contractors moving into the area.

To begin, our partnerships with businesses and organizations under PIPE are starting to grow. Chuck Whitman (pictured below) has big plans to develop the Canfield area, where his business is located. Shopping centers, assisted living, a possible urgent-care hospital and stores are all in his reach. Per our agreement, he will be supporting us by using union plumbing contractors on all of his commercial work, and we in turn will support him with his businesses and golf course. This has already started when we hosted the State Apprenticeship Contest and union repre-



## From the Desk of the Business Manager...

sentatives, UA Officers, Business Managers and Agents, and contractors were in attendance. Also, representatives of the NMAPC committee out of Washington, DC and representatives of large and local contractors attended a labor/management golf outing at Kensington Golf Club. We were able to use this event to build strong relationships. I do believe that both of the contractors that will be building V&M Star and the NMAPC witnessed the great skill levels at the contest, and along with the hospitality that they received, we strengthened our bond with the job assignments at V&M Star.

Secondly, our partnership with YMHA and the Brier Hill Project was a big success. More construction will follow with the Arlington I and II project. NRP from Cleveland, Ohio will be the construction manager, but the Housing Authority is committed to keeping construction jobs performed in the valley with valley residents. There will be a May meeting with NRP and our desire is to be at these meetings to explore the positive programs on the residential end. Construction will start early 2012.

De-Cal, the contractor on-site at V&M Star, has made a commitment to the area by purchasing a fabrication building in the Youngstown area and near the construction site at V&M. A lot of preparation and hard work went into the building thanks to the support of our elected leaders, especially Carol Rimedia-Righetti and Tim Ryan. Frank Gambino and Michael Montgomery of De-Cal plan to bring fabrication to the valley through steel, Marcellus Shale, and many

other projects that will be coming into the tri-state of Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. This is a great opportunity for us and for the future of our membership. Both Michael Montgomery and Frank Gambino, as well as Mike Sliviak, site project manager, are very impressed with the skill level of our membership and our commitment to grow with De-Cal.

Marty, Tim and myself have been meeting with our MCA contractors to discuss the happenings of the HVAC/MES industry. We have been looking at Local 392's programs which have been a big success in Cincinnati, Ohio and where Marty Naseef, past BM of 392, is the director of the UA's HVAC program. He has stated he will help us on any matter. Through our labor/management meetings, Marty is trying to establish a standing committee to review these programs. We've also met with representatives from Roth Brothers to review these changes, as well as to express our interest in growing our partnership to meet Roth's needs.

I would also like to discuss the new wave of industry in our area: Marcellus Shale and Utica Shale. We have had many meetings with experienced individuals in this field, including Kathryn Kleber, the President and Director of the Marcellus Shale Coalition, Tom Wilcox, Business Agent of LU 190, Ken Broadbent, Business Manager of 449, and Bill Cornell of McCarls. They have all stated that training and the need for downhill welders are the necessities. This involves hard work, but it will be worth it for the end

result of billions of dollars of work. As reported in both The Vindicator and The Tribune, "added economic value is estimated to rise from 8.04 billion at the end of 2010 to 18.85 billion at the end of 2020." Oil companies such as Chevron are now involved with this area, and the transportation of the gas to market will require pipes and compressors, as well as the gathering plants that will be needed to hold the product. I have met with congressmen Tim Ryan and Bill Johnson and have their confirmation that the construction jobs need the training of our local people. Also, Marcellus Shale is the largest deposit of natural gas in the world and it sits right under us...this, indeed, cannot be moved overseas!

Finally, at May's union meeting, a half percent check-off increase through Section 2B of the By-laws was discussed. The E-Board and Finance Committees approved to move this increase to the June union meeting for the membership to vote on. This half-percent will support advanced energy/green energy programs, market our local for future industry, and establish recovery programs to fight against the non-union in our jurisdiction. With the large amount of travelers coming into work in our jurisdiction, they will help fund these programs and benefit and strengthen our local. **Please make EVERY attempt to attend the June union meeting to discuss and vote on this matter.**

**Fraternally,  
Butch Taylor**



Tim Callion, LU 396 BA

# A Word From the Business Agent

We've all been waiting for the big job call for the V&M Star

Tube Mill. Unfortunately a late start, poor site conditions, and extreme bad weather have slowed production at the site. In spite of these setbacks, we must remain optimistic. In the movie "Field of Dreams," we all remember the famous line "If you build it, they will come." So it is with V&M..it is being built, and jobs for 396 members are coming.

Aker Construction has been awarded the Mechanical package at the mill. The pre-job conference for this package has been held with Local 396 receiving the proper work assignments. Superintendents for Aker are on-site preparing for the work that is upcoming. Peak manpower for this package is at 250 workers. Currently Civil Package work is moving ahead with process and drain piping going in the ground. The frame of the building is taking shape with structural steel being set; footing and foundation work is also continuing.

Safety is still priority one at the site. V&M has strict guidelines regarding safety. The contractors on the pro-

ject have also adopted their standards. Workers are being encouraged to think ahead to avoid accidents and injuries on the job.

Work in our jurisdiction seems to be headed in the right direction. RG Steel (formerly Severstal) has a new agreement with the mill workers. McCarls has taken back the maintenance work at the Warren plant. They completed a two-day, 78 man shutdown in April that many of you were part of. Management from the mill, and McCarls, were pleased with the work completed at the outage. Plans for further outage work are ongoing, however no dates have been confirmed.

GM has started another press job with Progressive Mechanical doing the piping work. Work on the project will go into a July 4th outage. Roth has been awarded an industrial waste piping job at the plant; work will take approximately 2-3 weeks to complete.

Work at the Glacier Turnpike Reststop has begun; Conti was awarded the plumbing and Roth the heating.

Local contractors are also doing work at St. Elizabeth Hospital's new addition,

YSU parking deck, Delphi N. River Road, Planet Fitness, and Quaker Steak & Lube. Other projects in our jurisdiction currently out for bid are Erie Terminal, Ergon Refinery, and Niles High School ; however they have not yet been awarded.



V&M Star

Work outside of Local 396 is steady with a few calls from Lorain and Cambridge. Local 396 Cincinnati needs UA63 welders and Local 636 Detroit is hiring UA21 and combo welders. As always, I will continue to assist any member to procure work out of town until more work develops at home.

Fraternally,



Tim and Gary McKinley, BA LU 776 Lima (far left), at the contest with competitors from other locals.

# ON THE TRAINING FRONT

From **Marty Loney**, Training Coordinator:

Finally, it's been nice to see a few days that the sun has not been afraid of! Welcome to spring in Northeast Ohio...Let's get right to it...

Congratulations are extended to Don Lockney, Don Haid, Bob Jones, Scott Campbell, Ed Rowland and Frank Lucido on completing the Foreman Training Class held in February and March. All of these members did a great job on the test held on April 12th. Next class will be held in the fall.

Congratulations also to the First Year Apprentices, who have completed all requirements of the first year and are going to be sworn in at June's meeting.

The weld shop continues to be open during the day and also on Thursday nights for all those wishing to enhance their welding skills. The next weld test sessions will be **May 21st** and **July 16th**.

For any member that may be interested in classes that are not offered at Lo-

cal 396, please call and we will look into any sister locals that are offering them. If you want to take a class that Local 396 offers, please call and put your name on the list for that class. Classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so please call early. You can call myself or Rachel or leave a message on the training line.

Testing for a new first year apprentice class was held on May 10th, with interviews to be held on May 27th.

Letters were sent to those members signed up for the Backflow Recertification classes being held May 23rd and 24th, and May 24th and 25th. A couple of spots remain open for those classes; the next Recert class will be in the fall.

Crane Signalperson Qualification class will be held in June. This is a qualification class, NOT a CERTIFIED class. There is no cost for the qualifier.

Certified Class will be held by a third party at a later date. The cost to the third party is \$280.00 for this certification.

The Local 396 training department has been looking into various grants to help offset some of the costs of classes being offered. Tools, material and equipment continue to be the most expensive items. We will continue to exhaust every avenue to give the membership the best education to succeed.

Local 396 hosted the annual Ohio Apprentice Contest the week of April 18, 2011. All went very well and we thank you for all of your support. Winners in each category will be moving on to the District 2 Contest being held in

Charleston, West Virginia the first week of June. The sprinklerfitters will be represented by Local 120, pipefitters by Local 162,



**Marty Loney, LU 396 Training Coordinator**

welder by Local 168, plumbers by Local 162, and MES by Cincinnati Local 392. 4th year apprentice Bill Haggerty competed in the contest and finished 7th. Congratulations Bill!

A few members have inquired about the PipeTrades Pro calculator. They are priced as follows: 1 unit, \$89.95, 6-23 units are around \$62.00; if we have members interested in these calculators, I can order them in bulk and save a few dollars for each member. Please let me know.

Lastly member Chuck Day has inquired about holding a concealed carry permit class. If anyone is interested we will see if he can put this together.

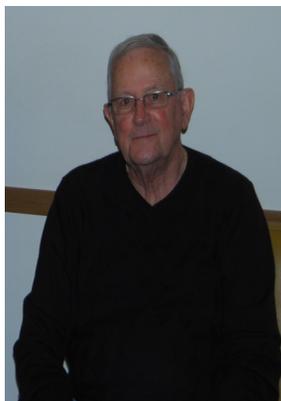
Thanks and have a safe and fun summer.



**LU 396 apprentice Bill Haggerty competing in the contest.**



**Left: State Organizer Mike Sherman, Gary Marinelli, Mike Boda and Paul Cramer at the 2011 State Apprenticeship Contest.**



**Retirees helped out at the contest, including Tom Loney (left), Paul Cramer (above) and Joe Mansky**