

UNITED ASSOCIATION PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS
LOCAL NO. 101, BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

SERVING SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS SINCE 1898



125th Anniversary
COMMEMORATIVE HISTORY

Platinum SPONSOR

Platinum SPONSOR

*The General Officers
of the United Association
Congratulate the Members of
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 101
on Their 125th Anniversary.*

Mark McManus
General President

Patrick H. Kellett
General Secretary-Treasurer

Michael A. Pleasant
Assistant General President



CONGRATULATIONS

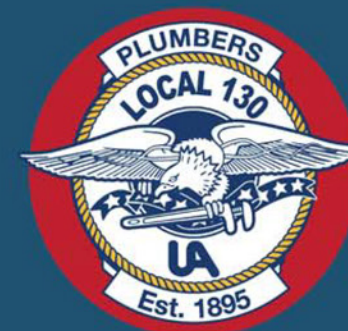
Business Manager Daniel McKenna
Officers and Members of
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local No. 101
on your
125th Anniversary Celebration

PLUMBERS LOCAL 130, UA

Chicago Joliet Warrenville Volo

JAMES F. COYNE
Business Manager

KENNETH A. TURNQUIST
Secretary-Treasurer



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Recording Secretary

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Business Representative*
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JOSEPH B. MONDIA
JENNIFER A. MacDONALD
RYAN D. BROWN

*Illinois Pipe Trades
Organizer*
ALBERTO GARCIA

The PLUMBER protects the health of the Nation!

Congratulations

Plumbers & Pipefitters

Local 101



on Your 125th Year
Anniversary!

PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS



FORT WAYNE, IN

DEDICATED TO THE WORKING PEOPLE THROUGHOUT
NORTHEAST INDIANA



Kent Prosser
Business Manager

Christopher Brown
Business Agent

Les Zimmerman
Business Agent

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125 Years of Service to Your Members,
Contractors, Industry and Community!

We were honored to serve you in producing
this book for your anniversary celebration.



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SERVING SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS SINCE 1898



**PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 101
125TH-ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
DINNER-DANCE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

GATEWAY CLASSIC CARS

1237 Central Park Drive,
O'Fallon, Illinois

5:00 to 11:30 p.m.

Registration and Appetizer Reception.....5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Buffet Dinner and Dessert.....6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Featuring Rib Eye Steak and Chicken Cordon Bleu
Presentations and Speakers.....8:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Entertainment and Dancing.....8:30 to 11:30 p.m.
Live Music will be provided by the band Dr. Zhivegas



OUR PAST PROVIDED MUCH TO OUR LOCAL AND ITS FUTURE

Brothers, Sisters and Friends:

It is my honor and privilege to thank all of you and welcome you to the U.A. Local 101 125th anniversary celebration.

When Local 101 was chartered on August 17, 1898, 10 men had the vision and dedication to come together and organize our proud local. In the following 125 years, we have seen growth and prosperity, gaining in membership to over 300.

As we celebrate this special anniversary, I would ask that we look back and remember all the members before us who paved the way for what Local 101 has become today. Now, members have a living wage that affords them the ability to live comfortably, two types of pensions for their retirement and health care for themselves and their dependents. All of these would not be possible without the commitment of all the former and current officers and confidence of the membership.

I would also like to recognize the help of our Anniversary Committee and the generous sponsors who have helped make this celebration possible; please enjoy it.

Here's to the future of Local 101!

Fraternally,

Daniel C. McKenna

Daniel McKenna, Business Manager
U.A. Local No. 101, Belleville

This book was proudly produced by

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Local 101 Retirees Club

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Research Assistant & Proofreader: Ann Wilkins Jefferson
Art Direction: Andy Taucher
Layout & Design: Steven Demanett
Research Assistant: Rebecca Stover



History of U.A. Local No. 101

ADVANCING GROWTH &

CHANGE OVER 125 YEARS

in Southwestern Illinois

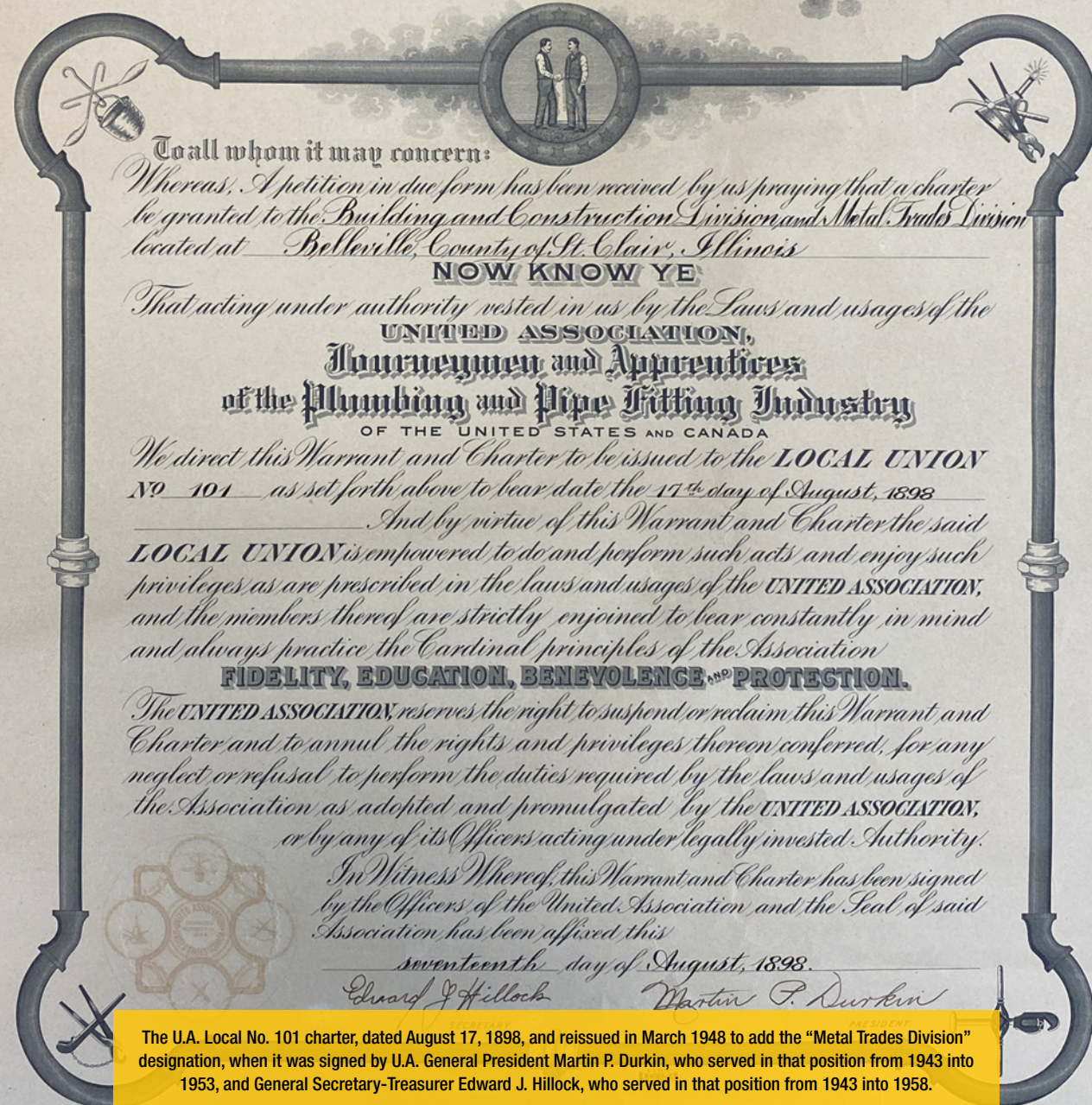
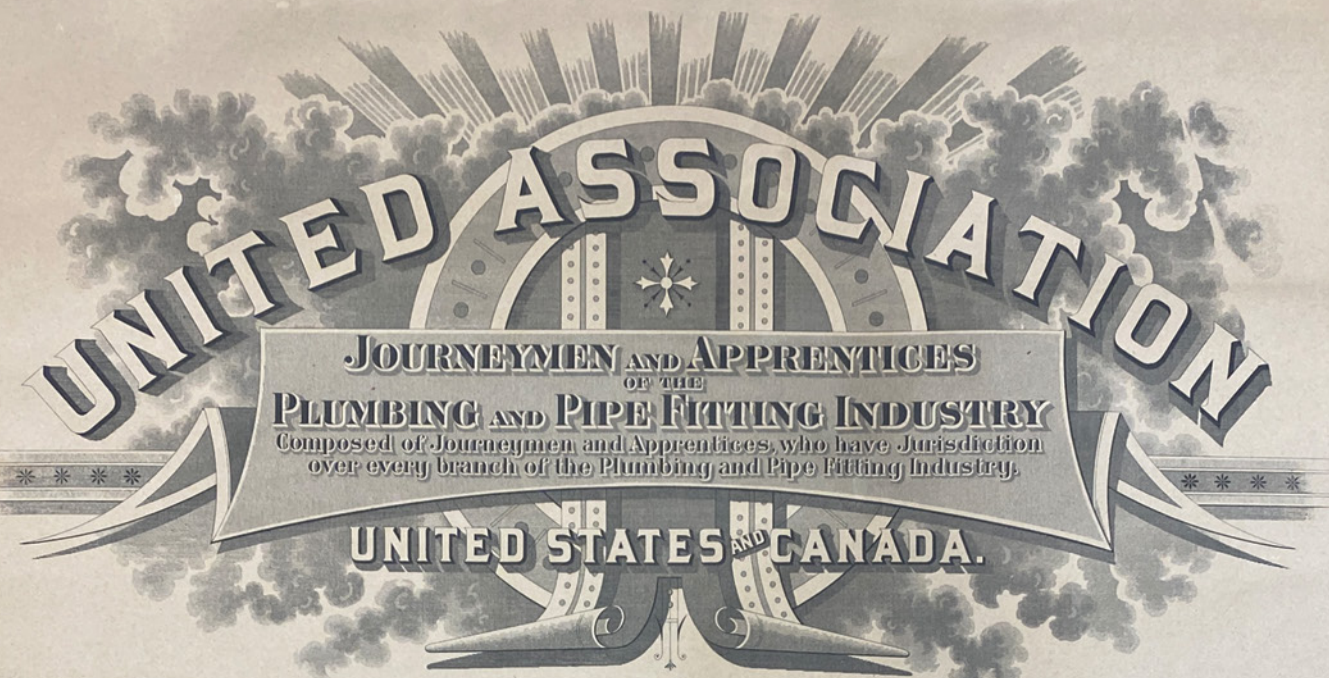


Shortly after 10 men applied for a charter for a local union of the United Association of Journeyman Plumbers, Gas Fitters, Steam Fitters and Steam Fitters' Helpers of the United States and Canada – the predecessor of today's United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada (U.A.) – for Belleville, Illinois, the union chartered Plumbers and Steamfitters Local No. 101 on **August 17, 1898**. Together, those original members had organized to improve upon their \$5 daily wages and working conditions, and to gain benefits such as retirement pensions and health insurance from their employers.

To those ends, in early 1901 the fledgling local applied to the U.A. international office to strike against its employers. However, no strike materialized as several of the local's members did not support it because the local did not

have a defense fund to financially support striking members.

But with only 14 members by March 1901, the most difficult challenge Local 101 faced during that time was not coming from resistant employers or anti-labor forces; instead, the rival National Association of Steam and Hot Water Fitters and Helpers union and its Belleville-based local was impeding the progress and growth of Local 101 – as it was for U.A. locals across the country. In Local 101's jurisdiction, for instance, in late 1900 and early 1901 while the local was attempting to organize the employees of a certain non-union contractor, which the local placed on its "unfair list," the National Association and its local in St. Louis offered to support the U.A. efforts but only if all steamfitters in Local 101 would transfer into the National Association.



The U.A. Local No. 101 charter, dated August 17, 1898, and reissued in March 1948 to add the "Metal Trades Division" designation, when it was signed by U.A. General President Martin P. Durkin, who served in that position from 1943 into 1953, and General Secretary-Treasurer Edward J. Hillock, who served in that position from 1943 into 1958.



Among its unscrupulous activities, the competing union's local then threatened to halt all work in St. Louis being performed by a contractor who also employed Local 101 members in Belleville unless those men joined the National Association, which even sent a letter directly to a Local 101 member in regard to joining its organization. Subsequently, in early 1901 four Local 101 members agreed to join the National Association, which chartered Local No. 36 in Belleville with the two steamfitters, two helpers and other members consisting of machinists, beer-pump men, coal miners, laborers and threshing machine men and "a few more pick-ups or go-as-you please," as Local 101 described them in a letter in the August 1901 issue of the U.A. *Journal* monthly membership publication.

Local 101 continued to scuffle against ongoing adversity; as such, in 1904 the local reported to the U.A. that conditions in its jurisdiction were "bad." At that time, the local's journeyman plumbers were working 48-hour weeks, including 8-hour Saturdays, for a wage of \$5.50 per day and no fringe benefits, while its steamfitters were being paid a lower scale under the same conditions.

Battling To Maintain And Build Up The Local Union

By mid-1905, Local 101 members were being employed under "fair" conditions and the local's relationship with contractors in its jurisdiction were "friendly" at worst, but there remained no signed working agreement between the two parties and the local's plumbers and steamfitters continued to work 48-hour weeks. By September 1908, their wages had been reduced to \$5 per day – although steamfitters were being paid that same scale and U.A. General Organizer Frank J. Kennedy noted in his report in the October 1908 *Journal* that the local "has

U.A. WAS ORGANIZED OVER 130 YEARS AGO

With a general lack of stable, national organizations to represent steamfitters and plumbers at the time, Patrick J. Quinlan, a plumber from Boston, sent a letter to R. A. O'Brien, a plumber in Washington, D.C., on April 25, 1889, proposing the formation of a new, national pipe-trades union. Subsequently, on October 7, 1889, 40 delegates from 23 piping-trades locals in 10 states and the District of Columbia assembled in Washington for a convention.

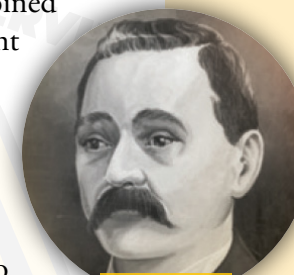
Four days later, the United Association of Journeyman Plumbers, Gas Fitters, Steam Fitters and Steam Fitters' Helpers of the United States and Canada (U.A.) was born on October 11, 1889. The U.A. selected Brother Quinlan as its president, Brother Henry Collins of New York City as its vice president and Brother O'Brien as its secretary-treasurer.

Meanwhile, most steamfitters were attempting to sustain their own national union, the National Association of Steam, Hot Water and Power Piping Fitters and Helpers, that they had formed in 1888, soon after which it would become the International Association (I.A.). For two decades, however, the two piping unions clashed regularly over jurisdiction – before the American Federation of Labor (A.F.L.) ordered the I.A. to amalgamate into the U.A. in 1912.

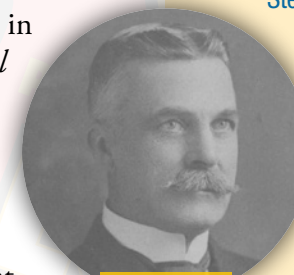
The union endured through two world wars and the Great Depression, after which on January 1, 1947, it changed its name to the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada.

been responsible for the good conditions (its members) now enjoy."

However, during the previous year, five members had been "persuaded by the unscrupulous methods of the "International Association" (formerly the National Association) to leave Local 101 and join the rival union, Organizer Kennedy also reported. While rebuking the seceders, he further noted,



Patrick J. Quinlan



Richard A. O'Brien



LOCAL 101 CHARTER MEMBERS

These 10 men signed the U.A. Local 101 charter issued on August 17, 1898.

George Hirth
Joseph “Jack” Kiefer
Louis M. Weber
Otto Weber
Edward S. Weber
Edmund “Dick” Stoltz
Patrick J. Ralph
William H. Neidig
Jacob F. Herzler
William O. Heublein

“When they joined our organization, the wages for a steam fitter in this city was \$2.50 per day, but today they receive the same as the plumbers, which is \$5 for an eight-hour day.”

The following year, a strike by the carpenters union in Belleville in May 1909 strained the previously amicable rapport between the union plumbers and steamfitters, who did not cross the carpenters’ picket lines, and their employers. The local also still had no signed working contract with those contractors at that time.

What’s more, throughout that year, poor leadership, “bad secretary (treasurers) and non-attendance of meetings,” as U.A. General Organizer William Lynn described in his report in the October 1909 *Journal*, had dwindled Local 101 down to just a few members and scant funds in its treasury by the previous month. But with the assistance of the international office and Organizer Lynn, who installed a course of action “which will mean the life of the local in Belleville if carried out to the letter,” by mid-1910 Local 101 was back on its collective feet.

Meanwhile, several Local 101 members were regularly employed by the several breweries that were either established or expanded in Belleville

during the 1910s, including the **Western Brewery**, makers of the locally popular Stag Beer, until national Prohibition banned the production of alcoholic beverages from January 1919 to December 1933. (*Referred to locally as “Stag Brewery,” Western was founded in 1906 and its brewery at East D and North 12th streets in Belleville would be a regular employer of union plumbers and fitters until it closed in August 1988 as the last brewery in the city, ending Belleville’s 130-year tradition of brewing.*)

Conditions remained challenging for the local into 1913, however, by which time only one contractor had signed its working agreement. As it continued to labor, in early 1916 several of the local’s leaders and members advocated for amalgamating with U.A. **Plumbers Local No. 360** and **Steamfitters Local No. 439** of East St. Louis, arguing that merging would increase work opportunities and the number of business agents working for the local, as well as raise the Belleville wage to the \$6-per-day East St. Louis scale. Ultimately, Local 101 voted against the amalgamations and continued to function within its city.

Over the next several years, the Belleville and St. Louis locals clashed over jurisdiction disputes regarding work assignments and territory. After several meetings in 1917, U.A. General Organizer John M. Ryan was able to report in that September’s *Journal* that “everybody was well satisfied, for the locals got what they were looking for and peace and harmony once more reigned supreme.”

Then Local 101 went on strike on October 1 of that year to enforce its demand for a \$6-per-day wage scale for all of its journeyman members, an increase of 50 cents for plumbers and \$1 for steamfitters. After just one day of “tying up all work in the city,” as *The Belleville News-Democrat* reported the following day, the “master plumbers ... agreed to put the new scale into effect at once” and the union members returned to work.

Less than two years later on March 31, 1919, the **Master Plumbers Association**, an alliance of industry contractors, signed an agreement with Local 101 that increased the local’s wage scale for its plumbers, steamfitters and gasfitters by \$1 to \$7 per day (or 87-1/2 cents per hour). Among other provisions, the contract also stipulated that no Local 101 member “shall report at job before 7:45 o’clock.”

But first, after the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified on January 16, 1919, prohibiting the production, importation, transportation and sale of alcoholic beverages nationwide, Belleville’s breweries, which employed several Local 101 members, were shut down. They would not produce alcohol again until Prohibition ended with the ratification of the 21st Amendment, which repealed the 18th Amendment, on December 5, 1933.

Navigating The Highs And Lows Of The ‘20s And ‘30s

Local 101 seemingly flourished along with the rest of the country during the so-called “Roaring Twenties,” a nearly decade-long period of economic prosperity and revolutionary social and cultural change in the United States. In fact, U.A. General Richard P. Walsh reported in the January 1922 *Journal* after a recent visit to Belleville that the local “reported conditions excellent, having experienced one of the best years in the industry and were looking forward to an equally prosperous winter.” While in the city again that October, Organizer Walsh was informed by Local 101 **Secretary-Treasurer Joseph “Jack” Kiefer** (who would soon become the local’s first business manager) that “conditions were excellent there at the present time.”

The local then successfully struck its employing contractors in late 1924 and won a new contract with the master plumbers that provided a wage increase of \$1 per day that boosted the local’s journeyman pay scale to

LOCAL 101 LEADERSHIP

Local 101 first installed a business manager to handle all of its administrative duties in 1922; previously, the local’s president, business agent and other officers managed those various tasks. The local combined the offices of business manager and financial secretary/treasurer on November 22, 1976.

Business Managers

Joseph “Jack” Kiefer
1922 – 1932

William G. Adrian
1932 – 1956

William K. “Bill” Adrian
1956 – 1976

Business Manager/ Financial Secretary-Treasurers

William K. “Bill” Adrian
1976 – 1982

Hubert Joseph Nebgen
1982 – 1998

William V. “Bill” Adrian
1998 – 2012

Scott Deitz
January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2021

Daniel McKenna
January 1, 2022 – current

\$11 per day, or \$1.37-1/2 per hour. That same year, the local also gained a contract with the **Illinois Power & Light Corporation** utility company in Belleville, which employed several of its member gasfitters, that raised their wages to \$155 per month (or about \$7.75 per day); set work hours at 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. “with an hour for dinner; and stipulated that “all piping from the outlet side of the gas service comes under the jurisdiction of Local No. 101.”

Another new agreement made after the local threatened to strike again in May 1926 included another \$1 raise for journeymen to \$12 per day beginning June 1 of that year, while also increasing the pay for apprentices (or



Sister Rachel LaBlance

WELDING INSTRUCTOR GOT HER START AS A MARINE IN U.A. VIP PROGRAM

With experience as an aircraft welder in the U.S. Marine Corp, Local 101 [Sister Rachel LaBlance](#) graduated at the top of her U.A. Veterans in Piping (VIP) welding class at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in 2017. After beginning Camp Lejeune's Accelerated Welding Class 5 in 2016 and then training for 18 weeks alongside an experienced journeyman instructor through a combination of classroom instruction and hands-on experience, she was assigned to Local 101 to continue her apprenticeship training.

VIP is a joint U.A. and Department of Defense "SkillBridge" program that equips transitioning active-duty military service members with hands-on training, industry-recognized certifications and educational resources to develop the skills required to be successful in the U.A. apprenticeship program. Sister LaBlance Rachel, who graduated from Marine "Boot Camp" in 2009, completed the VIP program with eight welding certifications and the OSHA 30-hour safety course under her belt.

Before joining Local 101, Business Manager Scott Deitz requested that she have a couple of specific certifications that were required to work at the Prairie State Energy Campus, which VIP provided. She went on to graduate from the local's five-year apprenticeship and became a journeyman in 2021, after which she was a welding instructor in the local's training program and is now a VIP instructor. In 2022, she also became the first female U.A. instructor to complete the union's instructor Rigging course.

"Applying for the VIP program was the best decision I ever made," Sister LaBlance said in an article in the July 2019 issue of the U.A. Journal. "I always encourage other Marines to try to get into the program."

(As of August 2023, more than 3,000 veterans have graduated from the VIP program since it was established in 2008.)



Local 101 Sister Rachel LaBlance



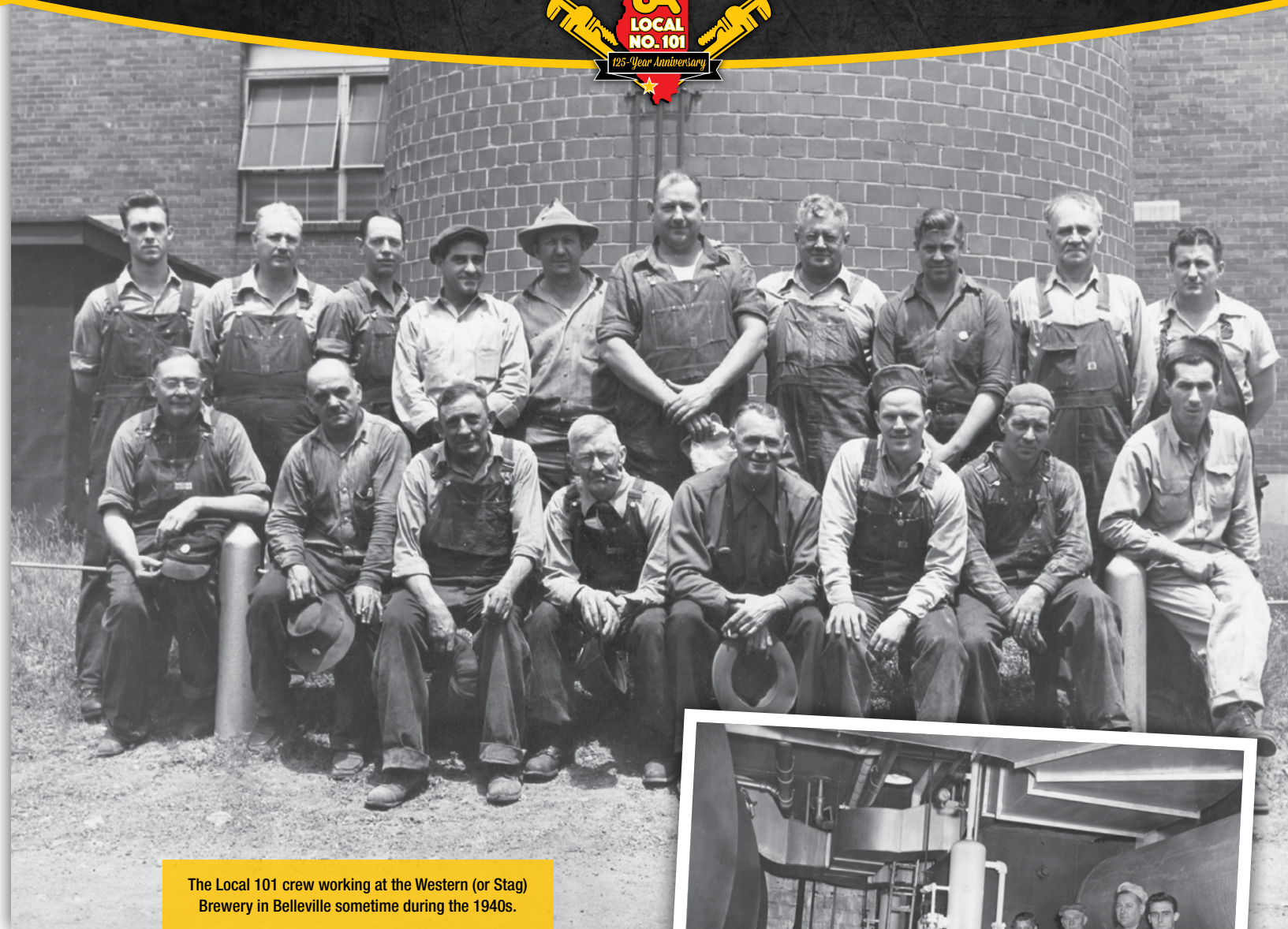
Local 101 Sister Rachel LaBlance receives her apprenticeship completion certificate from Business Manager Scott Deitz after she completed the local's five-year apprenticeship program in 2021 to graduate to journeyman status.

"helpers") from \$6 to \$7 per day. The contract also included a clause that prohibited master plumbers from working on jobs, thereby requiring them to hire additional union plumbers and fitters for their projects.

With an economy that leaned heavily on farming, which had already been dealt a blow by Prohibition, Belleville was hit especially hard by the Great Depression, the historic, nationwide economic and societal catastrophe that followed the U.S. stock market crash of October 29, 1929, (history's "Black Tuesday") and persisted into the late 1930s. While national unemployment surpassed 10 percent

in 1930 before peaking at around 25 percent in 1933, unemployment in Belleville reached as high as 30 percent during that time.

The financial collapse brought hard times to U.A. members across the country, as well, as unemployment among its ranks soared. "Construction all but stopped, and this led to a significant decline in manufacturing," the U.A. International History recounts. "The economies of both (the United States and Canada) spiraled ever downward, until unemployment reached extremely high numbers and workers began to give up altogether."



The Local 101 crew working at the Western (or Stag) Brewery in Belleville sometime during the 1940s.

The *Journal* ran several issues during the early 1930s that offered advice on how members could make their wages stretch as far as possible, but much of the focus of its articles was either on calling on the government to take action to help people or on trying to offer some hope and encouragement to the U.A. membership. Meanwhile, as its overall international membership declined and the U.A. held no conventions between 1928 and 1938, "the union held it together," the U.A. history declares.

In Belleville, occasional employment during the Depression included some Local 101 members working in 1933 on two school jobs. Then after Prohibition ended in December of that year, members returned to the reopened Western Brewery and **Star Brewery** (which



would close permanently in the late 1950s), although in late 1934 the local had to "put up a real fight" against the brewery workers' union, U.A. General Organizer George Masterson reported in the December 1934 *Journal*, to have a pair of its fitters employed on maintenance work at Western.

By the following year, Local 101 had shaken the effects of the Depression to the point



MEETING LOCATIONS AND UNION HALLS OF LOCAL 101

(All locations are in Belleville.)

<None listed>
1898 – 1904

Lonles Hall
1904

Budweiser Cafe
1904

Byer's Hall
Richland and C Streets
1904 – 1922

Bartenders' Hall
Main and High Streets
1922 – 1925

Laborers' Hall
High and Main Streets
1925 – 1941

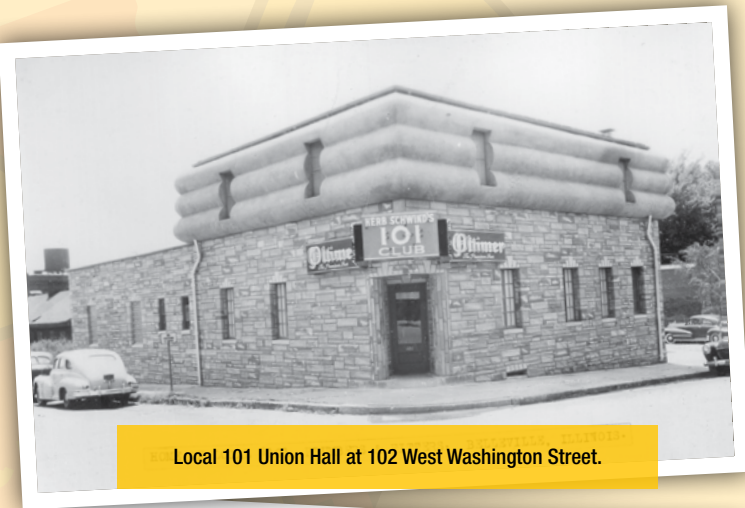
B & C/Turner's Hall
North First and A Streets
1941 – 1945

Stark's/Chouinard's Hall
Third and Washington Streets
1945 – 1952

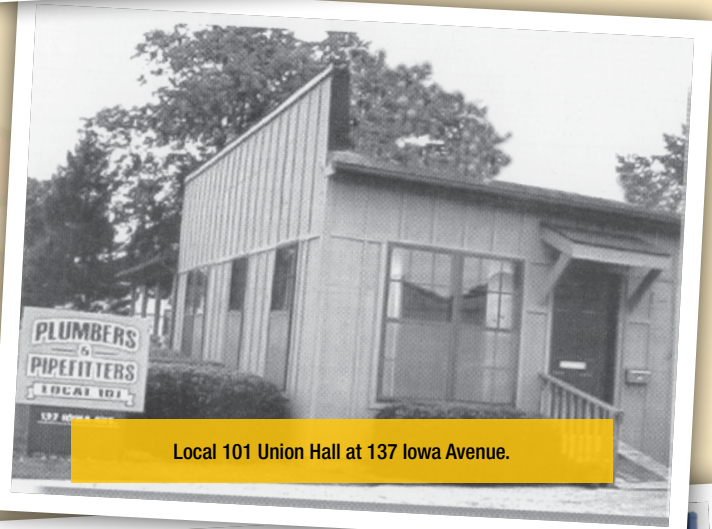
Local 101 Union Hall
102 West Washington Street
1952 – 1984

Local 101 Union Hall
137 Iowa Avenue
(Meetings at Swansea
Improvement Association Hall)
1984 – November 2009

Local 101 Union Hall
8 Premier Drive
November 2009 – current



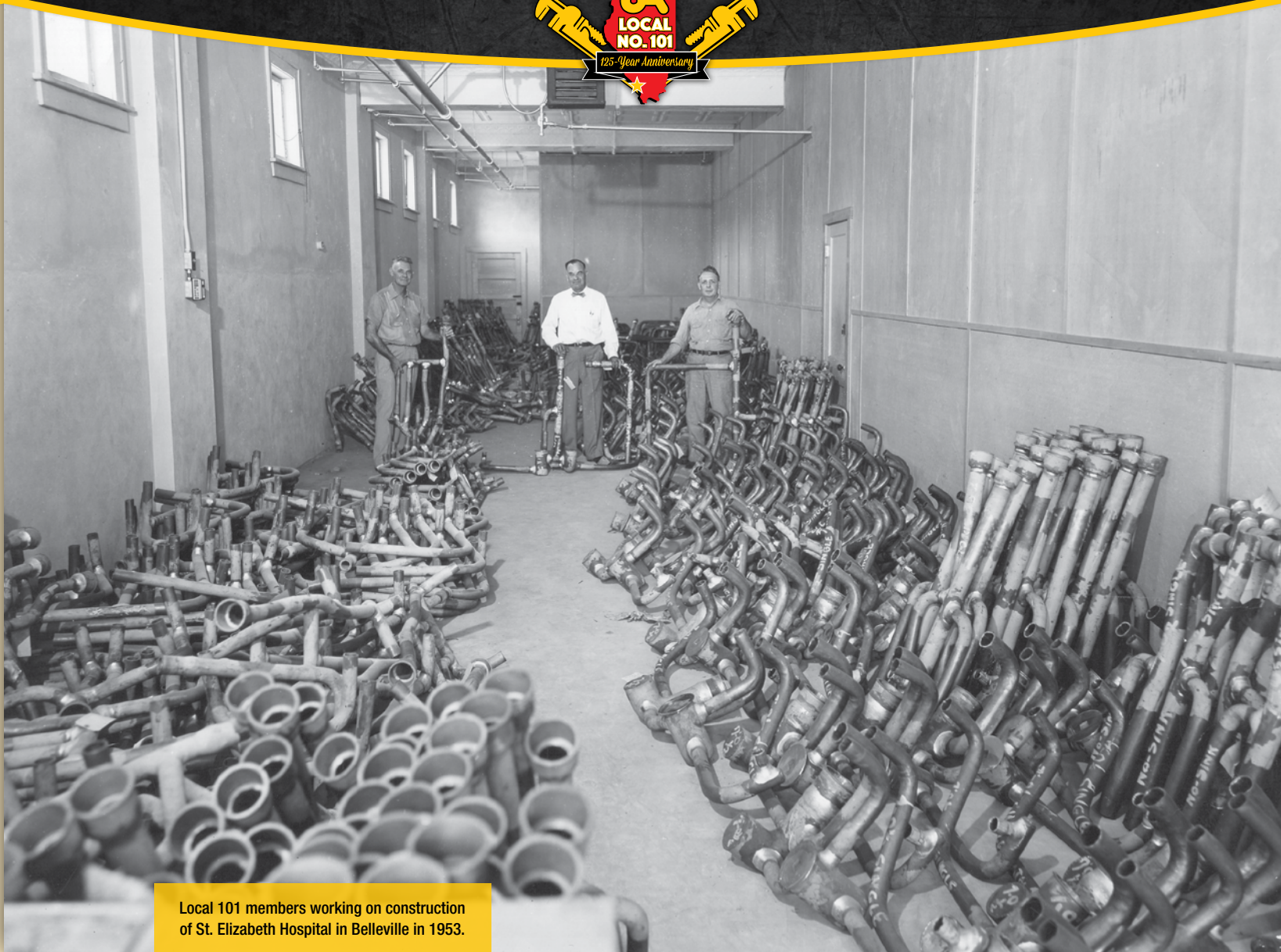
Local 101 Union Hall at 102 West Washington Street.



Local 101 Union Hall at 137 Iowa Avenue.



Officials including Local 101 Business Manager Bill Adrian (with scissors) and (from his left to right) U.A. General President William P. Hite, Illinois Pipe Trades Association Executive Director Larry Swope and Belleville Mayor Mark Eckert cut the ceremonial ribbon for the grand opening of the new (and current) Local 101 Union Hall and Training Center at 8 Premier Drive on November 8, 2009.



Local 101 members working on construction of St. Elizabeth Hospital in Belleville in 1953.

at which Organizer Masterson was able to announce in the June 1935 *Journal*, “This local, while small in number, maintains an excellent condition throughout its jurisdiction.” Then in early 1936, Local 101, Local 360 and Local 439 held a meeting with General Vice-President Quinn during which “plans to properly control several air-conditioning jobs in southern Illinois were agreed upon.”

As Local 101 continued to progress through the second half of the decade despite the lingering Depression, in 1937 a new contract with Illinois Power & Light Company paid the local’s gasfitters employed by the utility company a wage of \$160 per month. An agreement with Western Brewery in 1938 stipulated that it would only employ “such

persons as are members in good standing with the Union, and being in possession of a valid Union Working Card.”

Refrigerator servicemen in Belleville then organized on June 2, 1938, and affiliated with the local as **Service-Fitters Branch, Local 101** with 11 charter members who were “employed in installing and repairing electric refrigerators,” the *Belleville Daily Advocate* reported the following day. Later that year, a new working contract between the branch and its employers that went into effect on August 15 stipulated that “all work done on domestic and commercial refrigeration, oil burners and cooling air-conditioning devices will be classified as service-fitters work,” for which it also set wages at \$1 per hour for 48-hour workweeks.



LOCAL 101'S FIRST PENSIONERS

After Local 101 established a new Pension Fund in its July 1, 1959, working agreement with contractors and then initiated its Pension Plan the following year on October 1, 1960, the local presented its first pension checks during its Christmas meeting in December 1961 to 10 members:

Anton Adrian (19 years of service to the U.A.), Edward Brennfleck Sr. (46 years), Edward Duecker Sr. (22 years), Charles Fischer (53 years), Roland Nebgren Sr. (31 years), Ben Perrin (35 years), E. J. Raeber (10 years), Waldo Rodenhayer (38 years), Edwin Schuetz (23 years) and John Sohramm (19 years).

Meanwhile, Local 101 itself grew to about 200 members by 1939, at which time its journeyman plumbers and steamfitters were earning \$1 per hour in wages.

Helping Win Another War Then Thriving Afterwards

With the outbreak of a second world war in Europe and Asia in 1939, the U.S. Army expanded and rebuilt its World War I-era **Scott Field** air base in St. Clair County near Belleville. Using Local 101 plumbers and fitters, the facility was reverted to its former role as a training installation, after which various technical schools moved to Scott and its Radio School opened in September 1940 – beginning Scott's era as a communications training center. *(According to United States Air Force: Scott Air Force Base History, "After September 1940, the primary wartime mission of Scott was to train skilled radio operator/maintainers to produce, as the Radio School's slogan proclaimed, 'the best damned radio operators in the world!'" The facility would be re-designated as Scott Air Force Base on January 13, 1948, after the U.S. Air Force became a separate service on September 18, 1947.)*

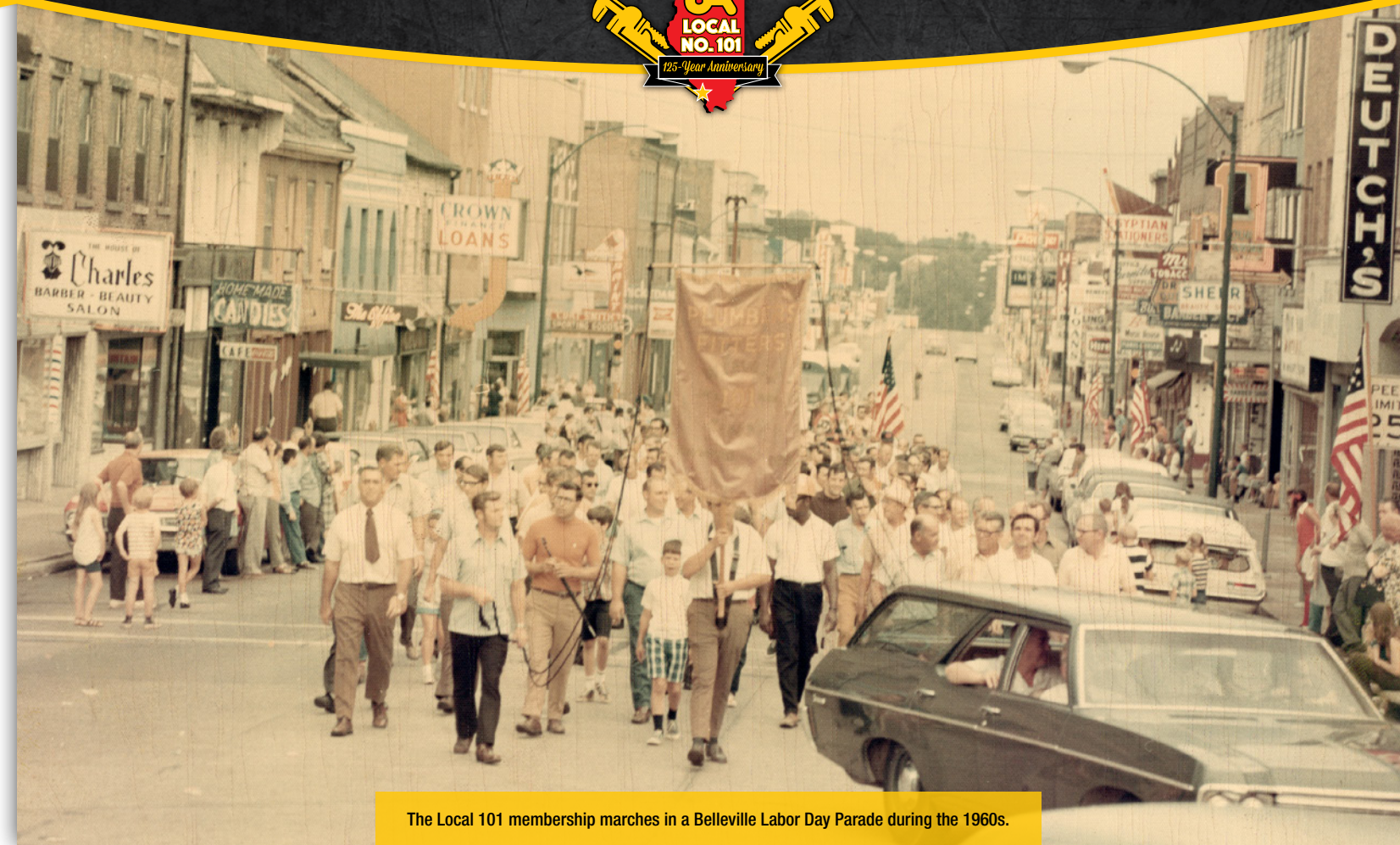
After the United States entered World War II following the Japanese surprise attack on U.S. Naval Base Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941 – which future Local 101 member and president **Brother Herbert L. Schwind Sr.** survived as a U.S. Navy lieutenant commander aboard the U.S.S. Chew destroyer – its members helped win the war on its battlefields and at home producing military materiel and facilities. Subsequently, the busy wartime economy pulled the nation and unions completely out of the Great Depression, and U.A. membership across North America swelled from 81,000 in 1941 to 210,000 members, many of whom worked in shipyards, weapons plants, aircraft factories and other facilities to support the war.

In particular, Local 101 members worked on many of the \$18-million worth of military projects at Scott Field before the war ended with the surrender of Nazi Germany on May 7, 1945, and the Japanese Empire on September 2 to the U.S.-led Allies. *(Over the next eight decades through to the local's 125th anniversary in 2023, Scott Field and Air Force Base would remain a regular and at-times substantial employer of Local 101 craftspeople.)*

Following the war and a brief post-war boom in construction throughout the nation, by the local's 50th charter anniversary in 1948 it had dwindled to 120 members. Regardless, the local celebrated the landmark occasion with a dinner/dance party on August 22 of that year in Belleville's Turner Hall.

As construction work rapidly increased with the expansion of its city and, in particular, Scott Air Force Base during the 1950s, Local 101 likewise thrived. In fact, during the local's December 21, 1955, regular membership meeting, President Rudolph Strothmann Sr. gave a talk comparing the local's previous years to "the present prosperous and progressive times."

Entering the decade, the local was down to just 112 members, including 11 apprentices,



The Local 101 membership marches in a Belleville Labor Day Parade during the 1960s.

at one point in 1950. But with work on the horizon and the Illinois Power & Light Company that year awarding contracts to install water mains and gas-distribution lines throughout the local's jurisdiction, Local 101 elevated **Business Manager William G. Adrain** to full-time status and set the position's salary at \$125 per week.

Early the following year, many of the local's members were employed on construction of the new Wherry Housing at Scott, which was a major part of more than \$25-million in construction work underway on the base. The \$8.5-million project, for which the Air Force broke ground on January 5, 1951, provided more than 1,000 living units for the base, the first of which were completed in early 1952, under federal legislation sponsored by Senator Kenneth S. Wherry of Nebraska that provided for an extensive military housing construction project under provisions of the new National Housing Act (the "Wherry Bill").

Meanwhile, Local 101 became the first labor union in Belleville to acquire its own real estate when on October 12, 1951, it purchased the two-story brick building at the southwest corner of First and Washington streets for its new headquarters and union hall for \$13,000. Formerly occupied by the Kiddie Korner Nursery and before that the Club Congress tavern and restaurant, the local completely remodeled the building and built a 40-foot by 60-foot addition on its south side for an additional \$12,000 before it officially opened the new **Local 101 Union Hall** on October 26, 1952.

Among a growing number of projects on which the expanding Local 101 membership

Local 101 hosts its Annual Golf Tournament to support its **Political Action Committee (PAC) Fund**, which assists local politicians who support the local, its union and labor.



Local 101 retired business manager William G. Adrian (center) received a plaque marking his 50 years of U.A. membership from his son, Local 101 Business Manager William K. Adrian (right), and President Herb L. Schwind Jr. on November 19, 1969.

worked at that time was construction of the City of Mascoutah power house in 1951. Then many of its plumbers and steamfitters helped build the new, modern **St. Elizabeth Hospital** in Belleville in 1954 and 1955 and the new **Carling Brewing Company brewery** in 1954 (after which it would close just 21 years later).

Additional substantial manhours for the local's members came with the groundbreaking on December 4, 1955, for construction of the new **Memorial Hospital** in Belleville, as well. The \$2.5-million, 62,500-square-foot, 154-bed medical facility was completed with the skills of the U.A. craftsmen in May 1958.

Local 101 also gained a new, one-year contract in 1955 with the "Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning and Piping Contractors" in its jurisdiction. The agreement increased the local's journeyman plumbers and steamfitters wage scale to \$3.60 per hour, but it still did not include any fringe benefits.

The local received another wage increase in a new working agreement that went into

effect on July 1, 1956 – by which time it had been re-designated by the U.A. as a "**plumbers and pipefitters**" local. The pact provided an immediate raise to \$3.70 per hour and another boost to \$3.75 per hour on December 28 until it expired on July 1, 1957.

The local and four of its 16 employing contractors in Belleville signed a new, two-year agreement on July 2, 1957, after the local's roughly 140 members refused to work the day before after the previous contract ended. Following another week of negotiations during which the local's members did not work on jobs that were under the remaining contractors, all 14 signed onto the agreement that provided a 37-1/2-cent-per-hour total increase to the wage scale over the two-year period.

The local's members working in Belleville's breweries also received a new contract on June 19, 1958, after they had been on strike along with union electrical workers and closed down the city's largest industry since June 8. The two-year agreement provided a 10-cent increase in wages to \$3.57 per hour for the first year retroactive to June 1 and an additional 10 cents for the second year. It further included two additional paid holidays, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, for a total of 11 paid holidays each year, and three-week vacations after five years of working with the breweries and four weeks after 10 years.

Winning Landmark Gains At The Bargaining Tables

Perhaps one of the most significant moments in the history of Local 101 came with the signing of a new, one-year agreement with 33 employers in and around Belleville that went into effect on July 1, 1959. In addition to providing a 20-cent pay raise to \$4.32-1/2 per hour for the local's nearly 200 member journeymen, the contract also put

into place the local's first-ever **Pension Fund**, which would go toward providing retirement benefits for its members.

Because the local did not yet have a pension system in place, it first had to set up a plan before the fringe benefit became active. The local subsequently established the **Local 101 Pension Plan**, the first retirement benefit instituted by any union in the area, for which contractors initially contributed 20 cents for each hour worked by a member into the Pension Fund beginning October 1, 1960. Just over a year later, the local issued its first pension checks to 10 members during its Christmas meeting in December 1961.

The local also collectively bargained for another new, two-year working agreement that was in effect from July 1, 1960, through June 30, 1962. The contract increased the



Local 101 longtime Financial Secretary Pete Rust (seated) receives a plaque commemorating his 20 years of service in that position from Business Manager William K. Adrian in 1975 – the year before the local combined its offices of business manager and financial secretary.

local's plumber and pipefitters journeymen's wage scale to \$4.27-1/2 per hour the first year and \$4.42-1/2 per hour the second year, while also providing pension contributions.

But the Local 101 membership went on strike and shut down millions of dollars in construction projects beginning July 1, 1962, after that agreement expired and it could not reach a new deal with 16 employing contractors constituting the **Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors Association of Belleville**, which was offering a 12-1/2-cent per-hour pay increase while the local was seeking 25 cents per hour. With many of its members working out of town with sister U.A. locals, particularly in St. Louis and St. Louis County, the local rejected another wage offer from the Contractors Association on July 17 while it was also signing several individual contractors to agreements. The local ended the 8-1/2-week strike when it settled on a new, two-year contract on August 29, 1962, that was brokered by a Federal mediator and provided



Local 101 members (left to right) Mack Carl, Bud Kiefer, Business Manager William K. Adrian and Roy Kopf break during a job installing a boiler at the Military Airlift Command Building at Scott Air Force Base sometime during the 1970s.



During a ceremony in 1983, Local 101 members (beginning second from left and moving right) Brother Rudolph Strothman (45 years), Brother Roland Obst (60 years) and Joe Drovetta (55 years) pose after receiving their U.A. service awards from Business Manager William K. Adrian (far left), U.A. International Representative Oliver Dunn (second from right) and Local 101 President Herb L. Schwind Jr.

a 22-1/2-cent-per-hour raise over its length that would ultimately increase the local's journeyman wage scale to \$4.85 per hour and maintained the 20-cent hourly pension contribution from the employers.

In late 1964, the local peacefully bargained for its first-ever three-year contract with contractors after the previous agreement expired. The new contract, which went into effect on January 1, 1965, increased the plumbers and pipefitters hourly wage scale to \$4.75 immediately, \$4.95 on January 1, 1966, and \$5.15 on January 1, 1967, while also raising the Pension Fund contribution to 25 cents per hour for employers.

Another three-year agreement was then negotiated for January 1, 1968, that initially

raised Local 101 plumber and pipefitter wages to \$5.50 per hour while maintaining pension contributions of 25 cents per hour. Additional increases then boosted their pay to \$5.85 per hour for 1969 and \$6.10 per hour for the first year of the 1970s.

While making those significant contract gains, projects during the mid-portion and second half of decade that employed Local 101 members included construction of the **Red Bud (Illinois) City Power Plant** beginning in 1964 and the \$26.5million **Kaskaskia River Project** beginning in November 1967. The latter consisted of straightening the river and erecting the Kaskaskia Navigation Lock and Dam which would be officially opened on July 20, 1974.

From '70s Advancements To Early '80s Concessions

A large amount of work at Scott Air Force Base throughout the 1970s provided Local 101 members with a supply of steady work. In addition to the construction of several new buildings on the facility, the local's plumbers and fitters were involved in a program to change-out much of the base's plumbing to copper piping.

The decade was also highlighted for Local 101 by a continued series of contracts with which the local made additional significant improvements to its members' wages and working conditions. To begin, a new, three-year agreement increased the local's journeyman base wages to \$6.60 per hour beginning July 1, 1970, after which incremental raises eventually set the scale to \$8.65 per hour for the final six months of the pact beginning January 1, 1972, while Pension Fund contributions were also increased to 30 cents per hour.

A subsequent one-year agreement between the local and the contractors association then pushed the wage scale to \$9.25 per hour beginning July 1, 1973, for the ensuing year. The contract further elevated the Pension Fund benefit to 75 cents per hour from contractors.

A 70-cent-per-hour total wage-and-benefits increase in another one-year contract then set base pay for Local 101 plumbers and fitters beginning July 1, 1974, at \$9.41 per hour and the retirement contribution at \$1 per hour, while earmarking 29 cents per hour from contractors for the new **Local 101 Health & Welfare Fund**, a first-ever healthcare insurance benefit for members. With the additional contributions, the local's total

journeyman compensation package had reached \$10.70 per hour as it entered the second half of the decade.

Despite receiving those increases, they actually represented a compromise for which Local 101 backed down from its original demand of 85 cents per hour while the contractors offered 65 cents. "The contractors really believe the union bent over backward in order to give the people of Belleville a chance to keep down the cost of construction," Edward C. Rust, president of Rust Company, one of the city's major plumbing firms, stated in a June 20, 1974, article in the *News-Democrat*. "We think the union is to be commended for its action in view of the fact that some plumbers' locals are getting a \$2-per-hour raise and Teamsters in this area also are wanting \$2 an hour."

Also notable was the new **Industry Advancement Fund** that the agreement created. Financed initially by a 5-cent hourly contribution from contractors, the fund would help promote the union piping industry throughout the Local 101 jurisdiction.

Before the 1970s were out, a two-year contract beginning July 1, 1975, and then a

(Continued after following spread.)



The Local 101 Executive Board when the local celebrated its 100th charter anniversary in 1998 consisted of (left to right) members Ron Brennfleck, Dave Ham, Randy Cleveland, Tom Jolley, Harvey Seering, Skip Rathke and Tom Ott.



Local 101 Apprenticeship and Training

EDUCATING THE PIPING INDUSTRY'S

BEST-PREPARED WORKFORCE



Local 101 apprentices taking part in a welding class held in the local's training facility under the bleachers of the stadium at Belleville Township (Belleville West) High School during the early 1950s. Pictured are (left to right, first row: R. Bartlett (instructor) R. Drake, J. Becherer, H. Coleman (instructor), A. Winter, E. Duecker Jr. and W. Adrian Jr.; (second row) T. Tiemann, R. Strouthman Jr., N. Poirot, V. Baldrige, F. Southoff, R. Doty, D. Heely and R. Kopf; and (third row) Business Manager William Adrian, E. Munie, C. Ropos, V. Petri, H. Falk, A. Knablekamp Jr., J. Fischer, R. Utz, G. Webster (instructor), L. Munie, H. Schwind Jr., L. Abegg, L. Rathke, A. Neuf (contractor representative); R. Obst (instructor), Ed Rust (contractor representative), J. Trabue (with Belleville Township High School) and J. Drovetta (instructor).

In 2011, the U.A. first introduced its new **Site-Specific Welder Evaluation** program, which provides highly qualified welders to fulfill the workmanship requirements governing specialized welding applications, at the **Prairie State Power Generation Facility** in the jurisdiction of Local 101 and the Harry Allen Generating Station in the jurisdiction of U.A. Local 525 of Las Vegas. The program puts into practice the concept that welders should be evaluated on a specific set of welding applications that are in place on a particular project; as such, both projects experienced an excellent record of welding quality and productivity.

From the time it was established in August 1898, Local 101 has trained its newest members to become piping-industry journeyman-level craftspeople through the system of apprenticeship, in which apprentices receive on-the-job training by working alongside experienced journeyman members on jobsites. The local's apprenticeship program has since evolved to supplement its hands-on training with classroom instruction to provide apprentices with the skills and knowledge needed to become journeyman plumbers, pipefitters, welders and heating/ventilation/air-conditioning/refrigeration (HVACR) technicians – while earning wages and fringe benefits such as healthcare insurance while they train.

But it was not until 1953 that Local 101 began providing formal, in-class courses to apprentices in a trade school that the local set up at **Belleville Township High School East**. In the 1970s, the local was hosting classes at **Belleville West High School** while providing refrigeration-technician training at its union hall.

Along with construction of its new union hall, Local 101 built and then opened its new, fully equipped and modern Training Center on Premier Drive in Belleville in 2009. From there, the local educates its apprentices throughout their five-year apprenticeships, and it also provides upgrade training to its journeyman members so they stay up-to-date on all of the latest industry techniques and certifications.

In 2015, Local 101 received three new pieces of equipment from **U.A. International Training Fund grants** for its Training Center: a hands-on Medical Gas Trainer to help in the certification of Medical Gas installers, a faucet-repair trainer and a freeze/thaw trainer. At that time, Local 101 had received more than \$308,000 in equipment and disbursement grants from the union for its training program.



Local 101 members take part in an HVAC training class at the local's Training Center in 2016.



Local 101 apprentice Mike Schrand Jr. competes in a U.A. apprentice competition in 2022.



Local 101 apprentice Bruce Rakers competes in a U.A. apprentice competition in 2017.

In 2023, **Local 101 apprentice base pay** (not including fringe-benefit contributions made by employers for each hour worked) is a percentage of the local's journeyman hourly wage rate, based on an escalating scale related to an apprentice's length of time in the local's five-year training program:

Up to 6 months: 35 percent
6 to 12 months: 40 percent
12 to 24 months: 50 percent
24 to 36 months: 60 percent
36 to 48 months: 70 percent
48 to 60 months: 80 percent



three-year contract that commenced on July 1, 1977, together thrust the local's journeyman plumber and fitter base wage scale to \$12.90 per hour for the final year beginning July 1, 1979, until that agreement ended on June 30, 1980. By that time, the agreements had also set contributions to the Pension Fund at \$1 per hour and the Health and Welfare Fund at 40 cents per hour, giving the local's journeymen a total wage-and-benefits package of \$14.30 per hour as they moved into the next decade.

However, the early 1980s was a period of struggle for Local 101 and its membership as they faced a poor national economy that severely stunted construction work in the local's jurisdiction. The local's diminished employment conditions were further enhanced by a growing national and regional anti-labor sentiment (proliferated in particular by the Federal government's anti-union policies that resulted in union membership nationwide decreasing by 40.8 percent during the decade, according to the Economic Policy Institute.)

In that atmosphere, Local 101 still gained a new, two-year working contract with the Contractors Association that began July 1, 1980, and a new, one-year contract beginning July 1, 1982. Together, the agreements ultimately increased the local's base wage scale for journeymen to \$17.60 per hour and fringe-benefit earnings to \$1.25 per hour for pensions and 80 cents per hour for healthcare over the final six months of the latter pact, which ended June 30, 1983.

But as poor employment for its members continued, on July 22, 1983, the local approved a new, one-year working contract that contained no wage increase and only provided for a 25 cents-an-hour raise in the contribution to the Local 101 Health and Welfare Fund because of increased insurance premiums. Again the following year following several weeks of negotiation between the local and the **Great Southwestern Illinois**

Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, wages were frozen in a new, one-year working agreement that ran from July 1, 1984, to June 30, 1985.

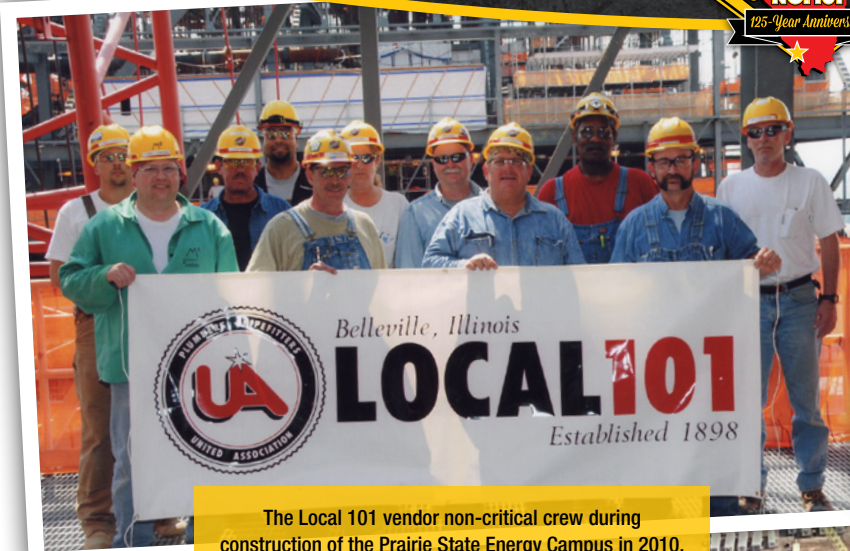
Local 101 also sold its union-hall building at 101 First Street, which also housed the 101 Club tavern, in May 1984 because it was getting too expensive to maintain and moved into rented office space at **137 Iowa Avenue** that was one-fourth the size of the former location. After the move, the local held meetings at the Swansea Improvement Association's hall that it rented on a monthly basis. "We decided we didn't need all the room that was there," **Business Manager Joe Nebgen** told the *News-Democrat* at the time. "And we decided it would be better if we relocated in a smaller, more efficient building."

Making New Strides Into A Centennial Anniversary

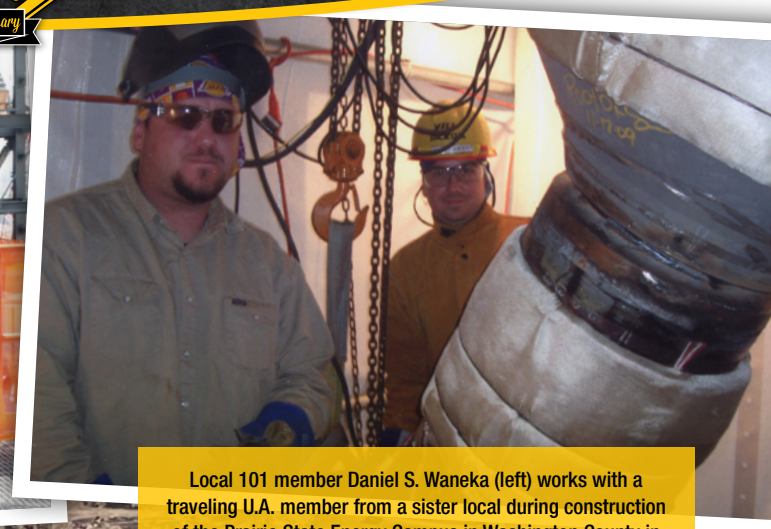
Following that period of contract concessions, declining membership and high unemployment during the first half of the 1980s, an improving economy during the balance of the decade allowed Local 101 to reassert its collective bargaining power. As such, the local negotiated a new, three-year working agreement that began on July 1, 1985, and ultimately increased the local's journeyman wage rate to \$20.50 per hour, Pension Fund contributions to \$1.75 per hour and Health and Welfare Fund contributions to \$1.25 per hour.

Business Manager Nebgen declared in a September 1, 1985, *News-Democrat* article that contractors agreed to the new contract and its favorable provisions because they "repaid us for being considerate then (in previous contracts when the economy was poor)."

The once-precarious decade ended for Local 101 with another new, two-year agreement with the contractors association that went into



The Local 101 vendor non-critical crew during construction of the Prairie State Energy Campus in 2010.



Local 101 member Daniel S. Waneka (left) works with a traveling U.A. member from a sister local during construction of the Prairie State Energy Campus in Washington County in 2010. Brother Waneka passed away in 2019 at age 36.



The Prairie State Energy Campus in Washington County within the Local 101 jurisdiction under construction in 2010.



The Local 101 instrumentation crew during construction of the Prairie State Energy Campus in 2010.



The Local 101 lay down yard crew during construction of the Prairie State Energy Campus in 2010.



Shortly after Local 101 apprentice Clayton Richter (center) was initiated into the local on July 23, 2014, he stands with his father, Local 101 member Richard Richter (right) and his grandfather, Jim Richter, who passed away on April 10, 2016, as a 67-year member of Local 101.

effect on July 1, 1988, with an increased base wage of \$20.50 per hour. The pact increased the pay scale to \$20.75 per hour for the final year beginning July 1, 1989, and ending June 30, 1990, while it also maintained pension contributions at \$1.75 per hour, raised contributions for healthcare to \$1.75 per hour and created a new Industry Advancement Fund employer contribution of 25 cents per hour.

But a nationwide recession in 1990, which was marked by high unemployment, again hampered construction and hindered Local 101 and its roughly 210 members. Business Manager Nebgen even compared the period to the “disastrous” year of 1982, as members were driving 60 to 80 miles to find work – “more than double the 25-mile radius they usually stay within” – as construction slumped in the Local 101 jurisdiction.

However, with a once-again improving economy and construction industry and service and maintenance work also providing manhours for its members, the local made substantial

advancements in successive collectively bargained working agreements with its employing contractors and their association throughout the decade. With those new contracts that went into effect on the first of July in 1990 (for two years), 1992 (one year) and 1993 and 1995 (two years each), and a three-year agreement that began on July 1, 1997, the Local 101 journeyman plumber and fitter base wage scale increased from \$20.90 per hour on July 1, 1990, to \$25.60 per hour for the last 12 months of the latter contract beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000.

What’s more, by that final year, members’ Health and Welfare benefits had increased to \$3 per hour, Pension benefits to \$2.95 per hour and Industry Advancement benefit to 45 cents per hour. Collectively, the total pay package for the local’s journeymen reached \$32 per hour as they entered the new 2000 millennium.

Meanwhile, Local 101 celebrated its 100th charter anniversary on October 3, 1998, with a gala banquet attended by over 400 guests. At that time, the local’s membership stood at 204 plumbers, pipefitters, service technicians and apprentices.

Thriving With The ‘Miracle’ Prairie State Power House

The “Y2K” millennium brought a new, three-year contract with the Great Southwestern Illinois Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors that began July 1, 2000, and steady employment for Local 101 as work on a range of commercial and residential construction projects and a large amount of service and maintenance jobs became available in the local’s jurisdiction. Among the projects on which the local’s

members were employed during the first half of the new 2000s decade was construction of Belleville’s new \$60-million **West High School** and **Whiteside Middle School** in 2001 and 2002; additions to Carlyle Grade School and Junior High School; and several new buildings and upgrades on Scott Air Force Base.

During the initial years of the second half of the decade, larger jobs that continued to provide the local with abundant manhours included construction of a **Walmart Supercenter** in Green Mount Commons at the intersection of Carlyle Avenue and Green Mount Road in Belleville in 2006 and 2007, which was built under an agreement between the city and the building trades that called for union labor to be hired for the work. Elsewhere, more school work, including the new **Waterloo High School**; an addition to St. Elizabeth Hospital; and continuing commercial and service work in H.V.A.C. (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) and plumbing were among the jobs that employed union plumbers and fitters during that time, in addition to members servicing and maintaining the natural-gas systems in the region for the utility company.

And as the Great Recession, a steep economic downturn that began in 2007 in the wake of the U.S. housing-market bubble “bursting” in 2005 and persisted into 2009, threatened to disrupt Local 101’s momentum, “something miraculous happened in Washington County (in Local 101’s jurisdiction),” as an article in the September 2010 *Journal* declared. That “miracle” was the start of construction in fall 2007 on the **Prairie State Energy Campus**, a 1,600-megawatt,

coal-fired electrical power station and coal mine near Marissa, Illinois – one of the largest and most technically advanced coal-fired power plants in the country.

Before Prairie State’s first of two 800-megawatt generators went online in June 2012 and the second went online in November 2012, with its Lively Grove underground mine constructed to produce 6 million tons of high-sulfur coal per year to fuel the power house, some 800 U.A. journeymen and apprentices worked on the \$4-billion construction project. In the end, they installed approximately 400,000 linear feet of pipe above ground and 140,000 linear feet underground.



Local 101 members march in the 2015 Belleville Labor Day Parade.





Local 101 members Lucas Mense and Jon Schwartz weld a bore casing under Illinois State Route 159 and Route 15 while working on the City of Belleville sewer-main extension project in 2016.

The Local 101 membership enjoyed full employment during the five-year project, while 80 percent of the U.A. workforce on the campus consisted of traveling members from a total of 134 different U.A. locals working through Local 101, which was successful in filling 100 percent of Prairie State's manpower requisitions. What's more, H.V.A.C. technicians from the Belleville local were responsible for all of the H.V.A.C. units in the multitude of management trailers on the site.

"Local 101 stepped up and provided us with top-notch talent," Jim Betts, site manager for construction contractor Bechtel Corporation said during the project.

Many U.A. welders also educated themselves as Prairie State was being built, as they had to pass Bechtel's rigorous welding qualifications. In fact, many Local 101 members had not worked with piping as large as the 30-inch diameter and 3- to 4-inch-thick pipes that were installed at Prairie State.

Once completed, the Prairie State Energy Campus combines highly efficient pulverized coal and supercritical technologies with advanced emissions controls to produce 15-percent less carbon dioxide than comparable facilities. It also greatly reduces other emissions, making it one of the nation's cleanest coal-fired generating facilities, which will serve 2.5 million customers in nine states.

"Prairie State is an extremely complex project, and pipe installation is a critical path activity," Bechtel Corporation Project Director Mary McLaughlin also said during construction. "We knew we needed a strong partnership with Local 101 and the U.A. International to achieve success."

Going Strong To Year 125 Of Service To Its Industry, Members and Jurisdiction

With the Prairie State Energy Campus project underway and the Belleville City Council in May 2008 having awarded Local 101 economic incentives worth 6 percent of the project cost for a new union hall (since it would also include a training facility, which council saw as an asset that would improve the quality of life of city residents), that summer the local began construction of its new office building and training center. The \$2.85 million **Local 101 Union Hall and Training Center at 8 Premier Drive** in the city, which included a 500-person meeting and event room, was completed late the following year and then dedicated during a grand-opening ceremony on November 18, 2009.

The local also gained a new, three-year working agreement with the Great Southwestern Illinois Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors that went into effect on July 1, 2009, with an increased journeyman wage scale of \$33.75 per hour and fringe benefits



Local 101 members (left to right) Daniel McKenna, Scott Deitz, Tom Ott, Gage McCoy, Clayton Richter, Luke H. Gruchala and Gary DeFosset display their certificates for perfect attendance at the local's regular membership meetings in 2016.

of \$5.40 per hour for pensions, \$7.15 per hour for healthcare and 37-1/2 cents per hour for industry promotion. When the contract expired on June 30, 2012, the base pay had reached \$35.35 per hour and the total wage-and-benefits package being earned by Local 101 plumbers and fitters was \$49.30 per hour.

But after Prairie State was completed in 2012, employment lagged for the local's membership, which had ballooned to about 350 members during the project. Eventually, however, the local would revert back to about 300 members, which was a more-manageable number to employ in its jurisdiction.

That year, another new, three-year contract that went into effect July 1, 2012, ultimately increased the local's journeyman total wage-and-benefits pay package to \$52.30 per hour for the final year, which ended on June 30, 2015.

By that time, Local 101 employment was back to normal levels as well, as a large and steady amount of service work bolstered opportunities for its members.

The local threatened to strike that year before it reached a deal with its employing contractors

on a three-year agreement on July 30 – a full month after the previous pact expired. The new contract, retroactive to July 1, 2015, eventually set the local's journeyman total pay package at \$55.30 per hour on July 1, 2017, for the ensuing year.

The local gained another \$3 total hourly increase across three years in a new contract that went into effect on July 1, 2018. Subsequently, when it expired on June 30, 2021, the local's journeymen were earning \$58.30 per hour in wages and benefits – including the U.A.



Local 101 retirees pose during a monthly luncheon meeting of the Local 101 Retirees Club in March 2017.



Among the many charitable and benevolent efforts and causes in which Local 101 and its membership have participated throughout the local's 125 years, (top photo) members man a Salvation Army "red kettle" station to collection funds for the organization in 2019, and (bottom photo) in 2022, members donated food during the local's annual Christmas Party for the Interfaith Food Pantry in Belleville. The local also collects food throughout the year to donate to various pantries in the Belleville area.



Organization Fund, to which the membership voted to contribute 10 cents per hour.

By that time, however, the lethal coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, which would claim the lives of more than 1 million Americans over a three-year period, had struck the United States beginning in January 2020, causing statewide and national responses to the outbreak that

included prohibition and cancellation of large-scale gatherings, stay-at-home orders and school closures. With a COVID-19 mandate in place from the governor, Local 101 canceled meetings and training, and limited office accessibility during the following year.

The local was able to negotiate and ratify a new collective-bargaining agreement for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2021, for a total increase of \$5.50 per hour in increments of \$1.75 the first year, \$1.90 the second beginning July 1, 2022; and \$1.85 the third beginning July 1, 2023. With that, as the local celebrates its 125th anniversary in August 2023, its journeyman plumbers and fitters are earning a base wage of \$44 per hour and hourly benefit contributions of \$11.40 to the Health and Welfare Fund, \$7 to the Pension Fund and



Local 101 officers who were sworn into new, three-year terms on January 12, 2022, at the local's union hall in Belleville are (left to right) Jerome Radowski, examining board; Dale Schremp, finance committee; Zach Hawthorne, executive board; Gabe Prange, vice president; Kyle Sigman, examining board; Scot Luchefeld, recording secretary; Dan McKenna, business manager; Scott Deitz, retired business manager; Matt Biekert, business agent; Steve Buettner, executive board; Carl Birkner, examining committee; Corey Haggerty, executive board; Luke Gruchala, finance committee; Brian Poirot, executive board; and Harold Pajak, finance committee.

\$1.40 towards the local's training programs – for a total pay package of \$63.80 per hour.

After COVID-19 subsided and the local's members were able to return to jobsites in earnest, key construction projects that have provided them with full if not near-full employment during the early 2020s and into 2023 included construction of a new **Boeing manufacturing plant** next to MidAmerica St. Louis Airport at Scott Air Force Base beginning in late 2021. Scheduled for completion in 2024, the 300,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility will produce the MQ-25 Stingray, the U.S. Navy's first aircraft-carrier-based unmanned aircraft (or drone), which will assist with in-flight aircraft fueling missions.

Elsewhere, Scott has continued to employ a large number of Local 101 members for service and new construction, while U.A. labor has continued to maintain the Prairie State Energy Campus it built, helping the local attain full employment as it neared its 125th anniversary.

As such, as it always has, Local 101 has continued to serve the needs of the plumbing and pipefitting industry in the Metro-East area, while remaining committed to maintaining the highest quality of craftsmanship in the industry and supporting training for its current and future plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, service-fitters and gasfitters. •





U.A. LOCAL 101 MEMBERSHIP YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE U.A. IN 2023

65 Years

Thomas M. Jolley
Hubert J. Nebgen

60 Years

Edward G. Schiwitz

55 Years

Louis F. Baumann
Michael E. Dahm
Arnold Friederich
Edward Luttman
Robert H. Matzenbacher
Roger L. Munie
Joseph Pour
Terry L. Stammer

50 Years

Gerard J. DeFosset
David Ham
Merle Minor
Thomas Ott
Donald J. Poirot
Donald R. Sutter

45 Years

Richard Bosen
Ronald Brown
Michael S. Ehret
Mark J. Gass
John Mamino
Steve E. Meister
Richard A. Richter
Michael E. Veath

40 Years

Gary Birkner
Michael L. Dayton
James R. Eichelberger
Lyle L. Eling
Curtis Fullmer
Bernard A. Gass
Kevin Hettenhausen
Donald L. Hinkle Jr.
John J. Lauf
Stephen J. Lotz
James L. Lugge
S. Keith Schuessler
James L. Simpson
Larry Stammer Jr.
David J. Terschluse
Gary L. Vasquez
David A. Voss

35 Years

Anthony J. Bergmann
Gerald L. Dunning
Mark G. Ehret Sr.
David A. Kampwerth
Daniel H. Kramper
David W. Leonard
Anthony Maniscalli
Daniel C. McKenna
Darrell L. Michael
David Mueller
David A. Nebgen
David R. Prost
Richard C. Sigman
Walter T. Simpson
Gareth Tiemann
Larry M. Wielgus

30 Years

Matthew J. Biekert
Scott R. Brasel
Randy W. Cleveland
Scott T. Deitz
Jerry Haas
Steve E. Lepold
Scot Luchtefeld
Mark E. Luttman
Patrick M. McKenna
Michael J. Schrand
Robert D. Vernier
Keith J. Wilson

25 Years

Wesley T. Alemond
Carl E. Birkner
Lucas J. Borrenpohl
Michael W. Cook
William A. Gregg
Dwight Harris
David M. Isselhard
Edward H. Marhanka
Brian A. McGee
Jeremy P. Miller
David E. Munie
Brian J. Poirot
Gabriel A. Prange
Daniel E. Prince
Darryl L. Reichling
Albert E. Roscow
Timothy J. Schrand
Dale R. Schremp

Patrick M. Schulein
Samantha Siadek
Jonathon S. Summers
Donald J. Voegtli
Brian M. Zurliene

20 Years

Timothy J. Abegg
Randy Baer
Mark L. Bertram Jr.
Duane Billhartz
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John W. Herzig
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Demetrius K. Aqil
Keith J. Athmer
James N. Atterberry Jr.
Kyle A. Baer
Curtis A. Blyzes
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Jacob C. Gass
Colby Haenny
Jared J. Hasheider
Garrett R. Koen
Nick P. Kokotovich
DeCarlo C. Lewis
Justin D. Litteken
Derek M. McKenzie
Lucas Mense
Alan J. Noll
Jordan L. Nollau
Eric L. Perdun
Keith Perkins
Michael L. Petrea
Rick A. Polacek
David A. Pritchard
Brad J. Quirin

Clayton T. Richter
Brian J. Rumler Jr.
John R. Schremp
Dustin M. Segal
Ronald K. Stark
Donald F. Stitzel
Ryan M. Veath
Antwainne Vinson
Matthew J. White
James B. Woods
Gilbert R. Yates Jr.

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Kyle Cowell
Caleb R. Davinroy
Blake A. Deering
Eric J. Deering
Jeffrey A. Dubach
Amy Ehret
Adam J. Fish
James L. Gauch
Luke J. Gebke
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Nicholas R. Gruchala
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Zachary J. Frerker
James F. Peters Jr.
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Dylan M. Richards
Randy Ross
Douglas Vanhooose

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Maxwell Louis Bach
Devon G. Becker
Austin W. Bruns
Reginald L. Clark Jr.
Justin A. Cusick
Jesse I. Dabbs
Evan D. Dorff
Thomas James Ferrenbach
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Devin Michael Knau
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Justin S. Kollmann
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From your friends at
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Ryan Marshall, Business Agent

Ryan Tracey, Business Agent / Organizer



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**Bill Allison, Business Agent
Gary Beer, Business Agent
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Dave Keefer, Business Agent
Mike Landon, Business Agent
Jake Nelson, Business Agent
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Congratulations On Your 125 Year Anniversary!!

Best wishes from the officers, members and staff of
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Business Mgr./Fin. Sec.

Jake Holbrook
President

August Kurtz
Business Agent

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AFL-CIO
P.O. Box 8091
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**The Officers and Members of Local 149 wish you
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***SPRINKLER FITTERS UNION LOCAL NO. 281, U.A. AFL-CIO
WOULD LIKE TO,***

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On behalf of Sprinkler Fitters Local Union No. 281 officers, members, and office staff, we would like to congratulate you on your 125th Anniversary. Your service, commitment and dedication to the Union Piping industry is admired and very much appreciated. We wish you many, many more years of continued success and look forward to continuing to stand and work with you!

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Jeff Kirby

***CONGRATULATIONS
&
BEST WISHES***

LOCAL UNION NO. 101

on your
125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

from the
OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

of

Steamfitters

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Brian J. Nichols
Assistant Business Manager



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125TH ANNIVERSARY

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RANDY GOODWIN
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Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 360

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The Officers and Members of Plumbers and Pipefitters U.A. Local #553 Congratulate U.A. Local #101 on Their 125th Anniversary



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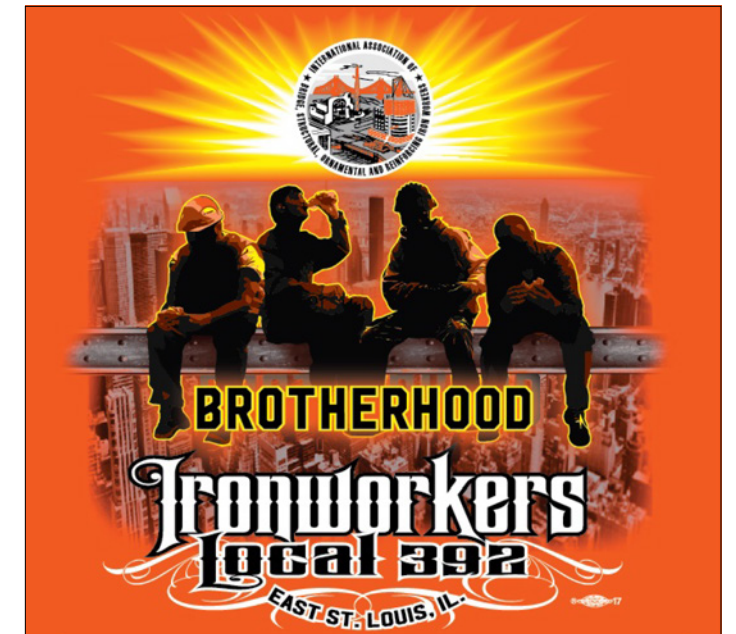
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