

PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS

OC NEWS



JUNE 2026

SKILLED LABOR ISN'T CHEAP



CHEAP LABOR ISN'T SKILLED



ELEVATE THE STANDARD

MANAGER'S REPORT



Robert "Bobby" James



Is it me, or is this year flying by? We have been extremely busy here at the Local, so busy in fact that I have not been able to attend a Union meeting for the last few months. The May meeting was canceled due to an organizing blitz in Utah. As many of you know, work-wise things are slow, it seems, when the economy takes a dive, we are the first to feel it and the last to get going again. Hopefully, this doesn't last long. We have been here before, and it sucks. This kind of thing on. I know it seems easy to say, most of us have lived it; it's part of the trade. We are strong people, union people, and we don't give up.

We would love to hear from you and your spouse. I would like to know if you would be interested in having the trust fund come down here, maybe on a Saturday morning, so you or your spouse can be better informed on the best way to deal with the Trust Fund office. I know in my case, for the most part, any of the medical stuff was put on my wife's shoulders because I was at work. I think this is pretty common, especially if you are new to dealing with our insurance. Anyway, I think something like this could be helpful, plus maybe some of our spouses would like to know they are not alone in dealing with us. But I need to hear from you. I would hate to have them come down and have no one show up. Summer is here, don't forget the sunscreen, just ask some of us older guys at the hall about our many trips to the Dermatologist. Ok, rant over. I hope everyone has a great summer. Take care of each other at home and on the job. Remember, the best day at work is when you teach someone something, and they get it; they will also remember who showed them.

Respectfully,
Robert "Bobby" James
Business Manager/FST

Robert James



PLUMBERS & STEAMFITTERS NEWS
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REPORT

ADAM ELLIOTT



Brothers and sisters,
Organizing efforts remain moving forward in Orange County as we continue to talk with workers and contractors. We are seeing increased interest from workers looking to learn more about the benefits of Union representation, apprenticeship training, pension security, and healthcare coverage.

Our apprenticeship training programs continue to play a major role in strengthening our market position. Contractors consistently recognize the value of a highly trained workforce capable of meeting the demands of complex Plumbing and Pipefitting projects.

Moving forward, our priorities remain clear: organizing new members, quality contractors, gaining market share, and ensuring long-term opportunities for the next generation of Plumbers and Pipefitters. Thank you to all members who continue to support organizing efforts, attend meetings, and represent the trade with professionalism and pride.

In solidarity,

Adam Elliott
President



REPORT

KIRK HALONEN

Brothers and Sisters,
Since our last newsletter, I have been working closely with Organizer, Adam Elliott, who has been a big help in bringing me up to speed since I was hired in October. We have been hitting non-signatory jobs and shops, stripping their qualified manpower, and growing our ranks. I would like to thank those members who have taken the time to contact me and let me know when they see non-signatory workers doing our work. These tips do help! Lastly, I'd like to thank everyone here in the Local 582 office for their help and supporting me as I take on my new role as your Organizer.

Fraternally,
Kirk Halonen
Organizer



NORTH Mid-Year REPORT

BRIAN KRUEP

The work picture across Orange County is thriving, and the outlook for the next few years promises an incredible wave of opportunity. While manpower needs remain steady overall, local work has experienced a recent slowdown, particularly on the plumbing side. However, this lull is expected to be short-lived given the major developments on the horizon. Optimism is high, driven by massive upcoming initiatives including the DisneylandForward expansion, extensive hospital construction, and ongoing pre-fab shop projects that are set to revitalize the local industry.

To meet this demand, we need to ensure our membership is fully geared up. We see an immediate need for pipe welders and certified med-gas installers to cover a high volume of upcoming Southern California projects. Now is the time to invest in yourself, upgrade your skills, and ensure all of your certifications are up to date so you are ready when the calls come in. Every day on the jobsite, our craftsmanship defines the reputation of Local 582—do your job to help us stay elite.

Fraternally,
Brian Kruep
Business Agent North



SOUTH Mid-Year REPORT

HENRY HILLEBRECHT

Brothers and Sisters,
I am not going to sugarcoat this paragraph because, as I write this, we have 64 journeyman plumbers on the out-of-work list. This is probably the worst we have seen in several years. On the plumbing side, many of the major projects have been completed, and it appears that ACCO and the plumbing division of Southland have both experienced a significant slowdown. Southland does have upcoming work at Mission Hospital, Saddleback Hospital, and the California Emergency Center, but those projects are still months away from starting. We have been told that the Southland shop will be picking back up soon. On the pipefitter side, work is going very well, with only five pipefitter apprentices and 21 pipefitters currently out of work. The Southland and AO Reed shops continue to produce outstanding work. I am also thankful to the 27 Local 582 members who have recently made the sacrifice to travel out of town for work and represent our Local by working hard and getting the job done. Thank you to all Local 582 members for allowing me to represent you.

Fraternally
Henry Hillebrecht
Business Agent South



 **Providence**
Mission Hospital
Laguna Beach



 **MemorialCare**
Saddleback Medical Center





UA LOCAL 582 2026 GRADUATION

On Saturday, March 21, Local 582 held Graduation Night at the Sheraton Park Hotel at the Anaheim Resort for three graduating classes from the A&J Training Center in El Monte. It was a fantastic evening filled with great food, drinks, and a live DJ with dancing. Local 582 had 56 graduates from three classes: the Class of February 2025, the Class of August 2025, and the Class of February 2026. Congratulations to all of our new journeymen and journeywomen. We appreciate each of you and wish you continued success and plenty of work in the future.



Class of FEBRUARY 2025, AUGUST 2025, SPRING 2026



CLASS of AUGUST 2025



CLASS of SPRING 2026



CLASS of FEBRUARY 2025

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR SOLID WORKFORCE FOR O.C.'S FUTURE





UA LOCAL 582 2026 GRADUATION

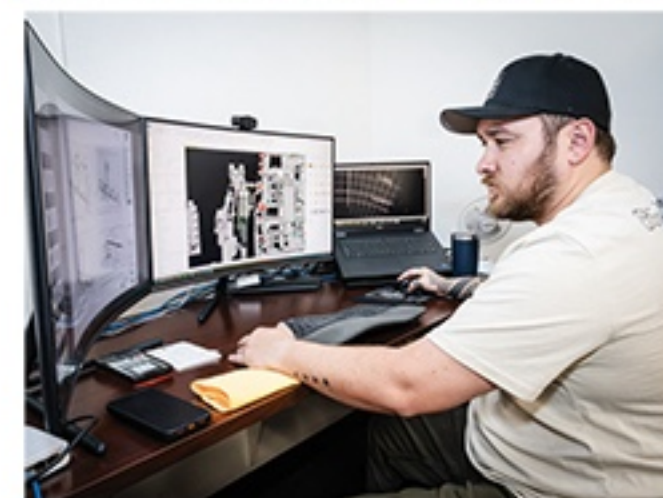
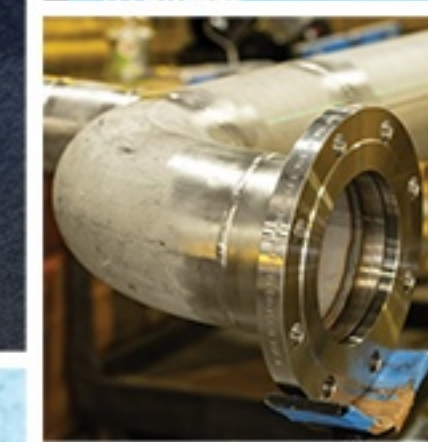
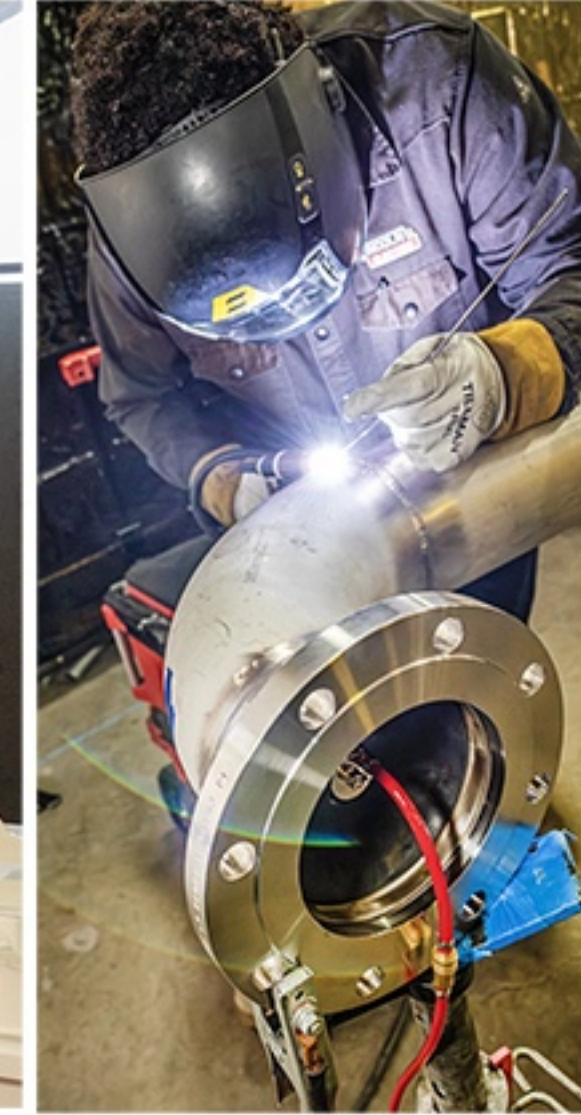
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



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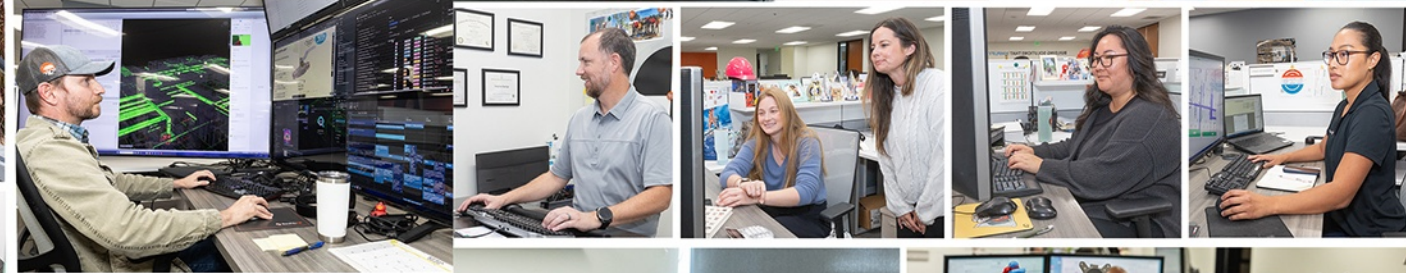
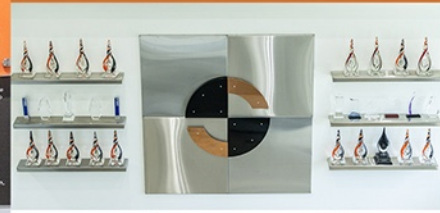
We create sustainable, environmentally-friendly plumbing solutions



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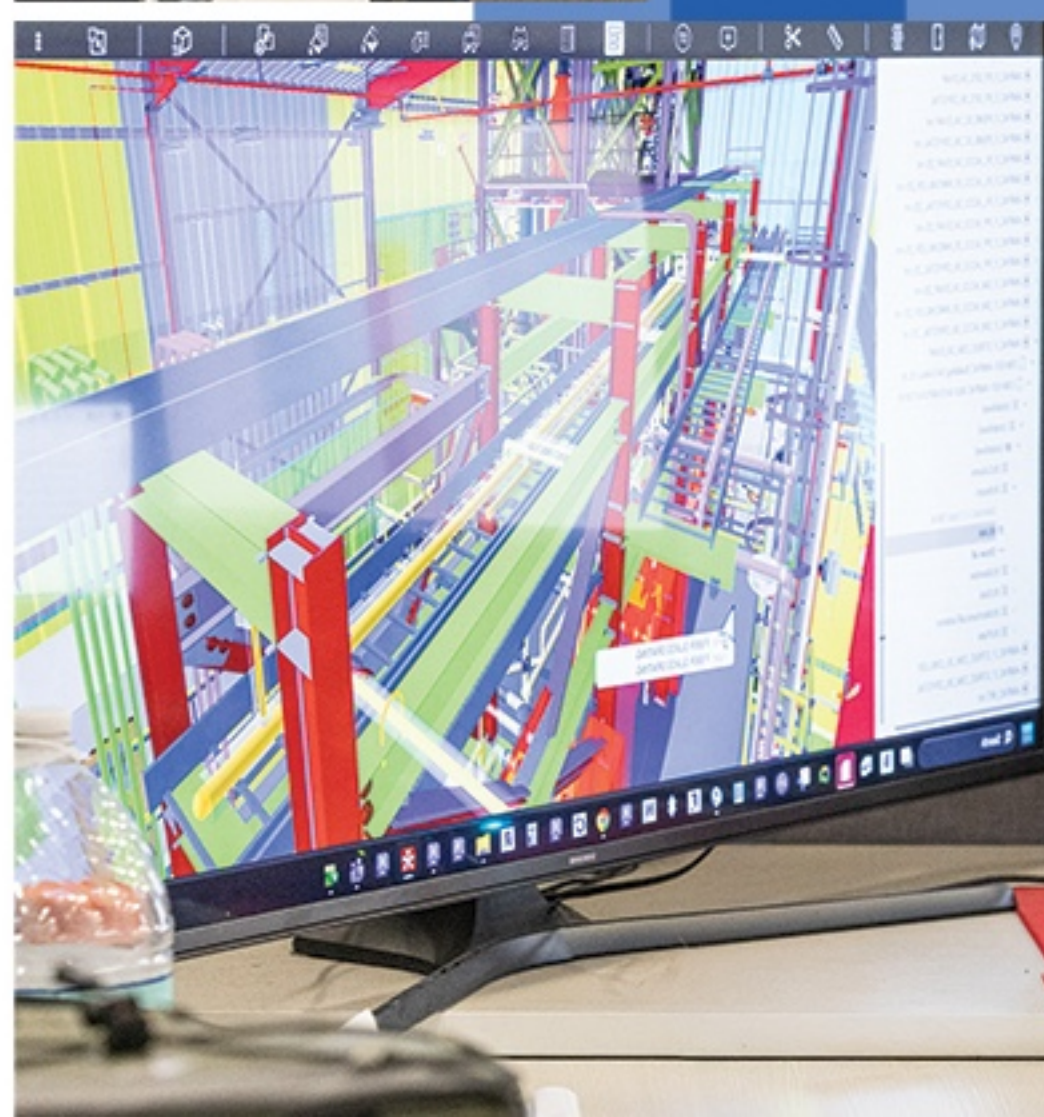
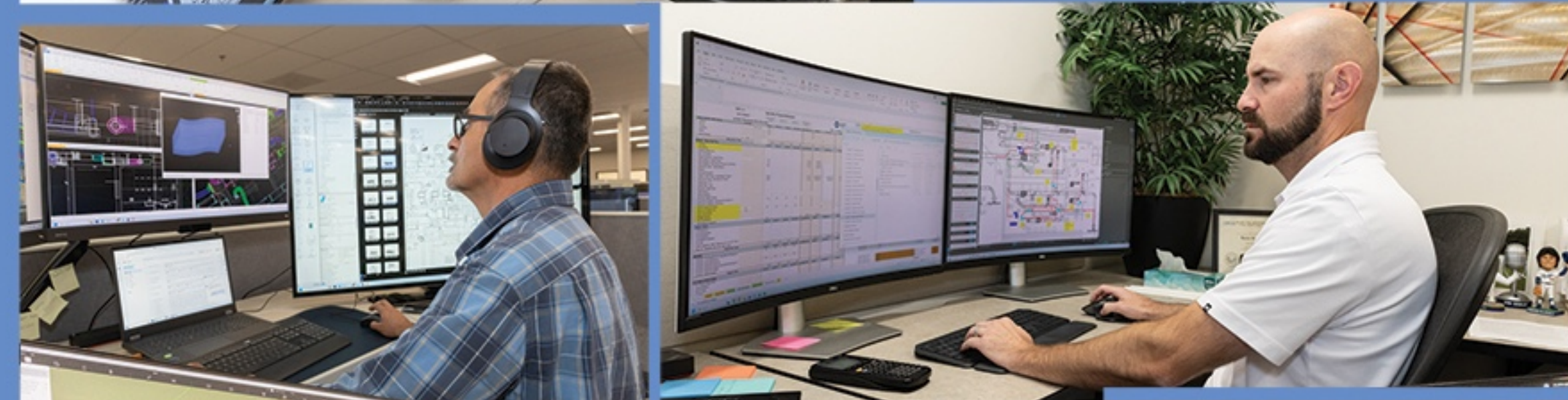
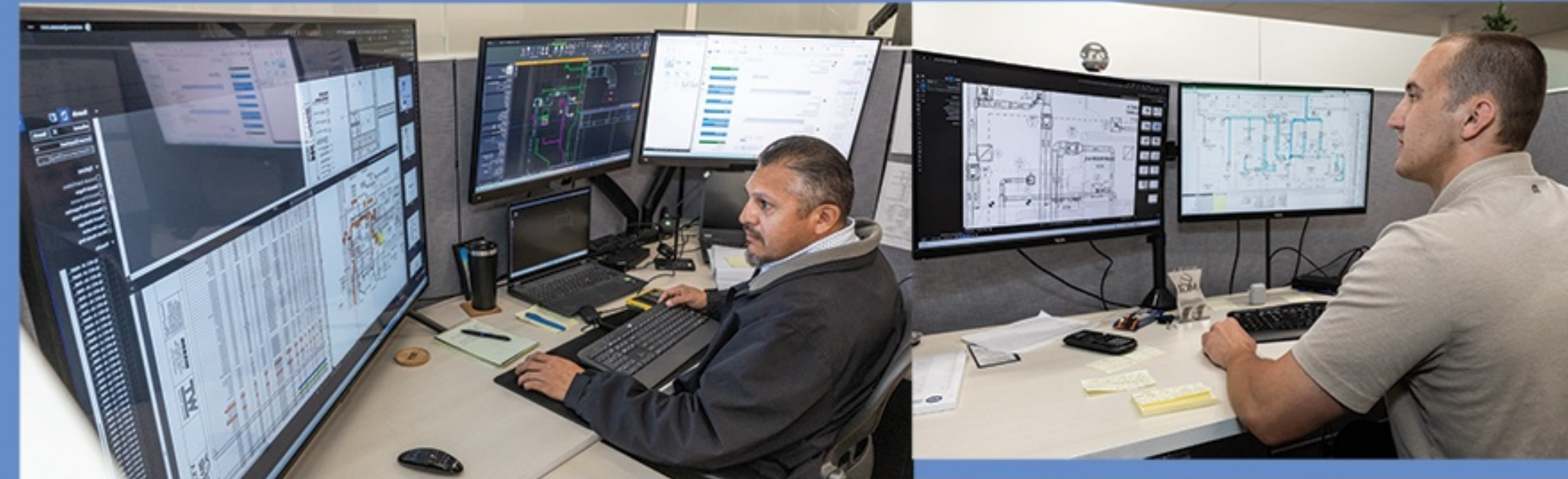




Established in 1934
ACCO Engineered Systems has grown into the largest private mechanical firm in the Western United States and a top 5 mechanical contractor nationwide. ACCO ensures single-point accountability through their cradle to grave delivery system: in-house Design & Engineering, specialized Fabrication & Installation, and comprehensive Service & Maintenance. ACCO's expertise covers the total lifecycle of essential systems, including Commercial/Industrial HVAC, Refrigeration, Plumbing, Process Piping, Building Automation, and Fire/Life Safety. ACCO has completed complex projects both throughout the US and internationally.



Orange County

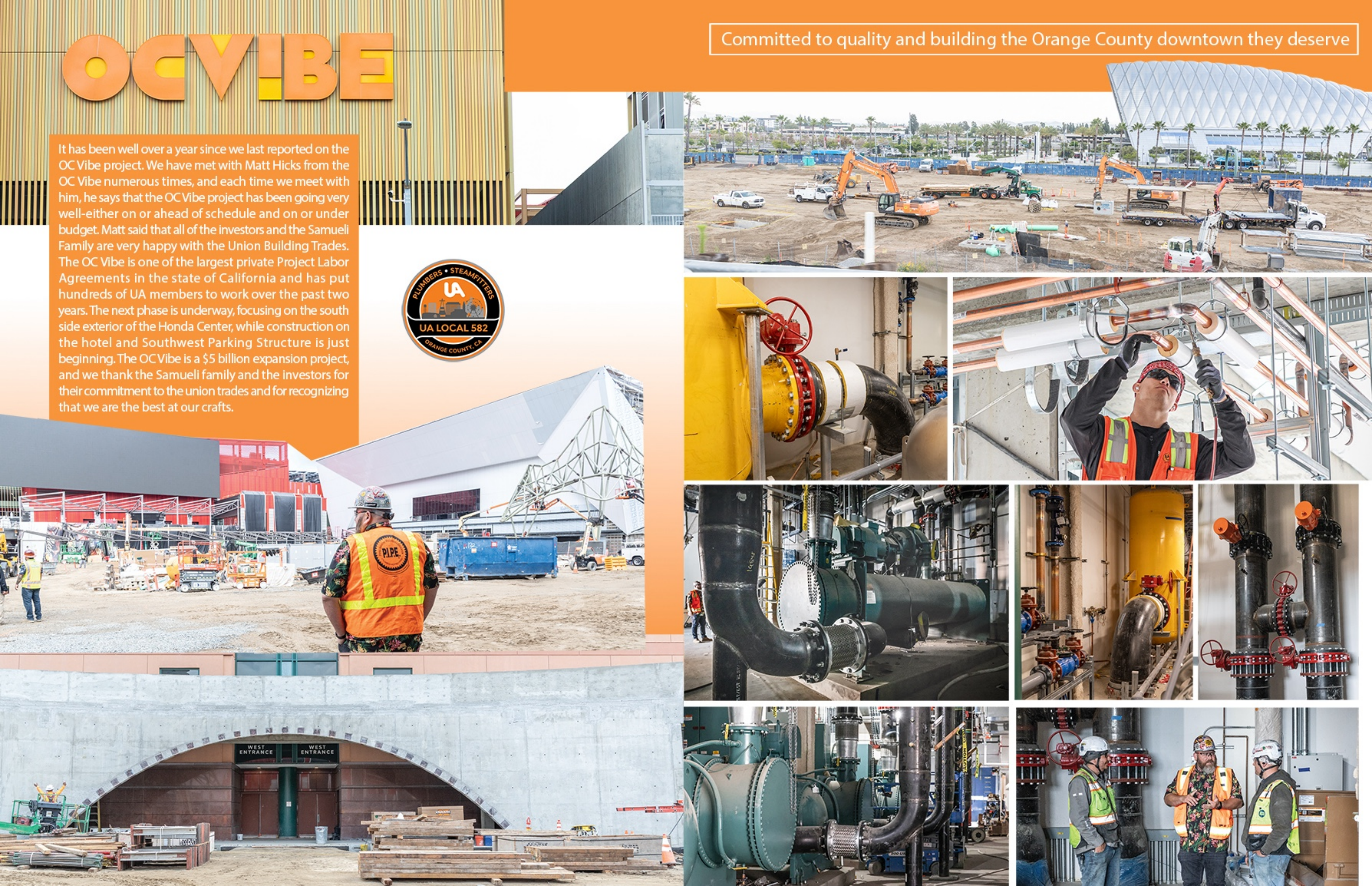


OCVIBE

It has been well over a year since we last reported on the OC Vibe project. We have met with Matt Hicks from the OC Vibe numerous times, and each time we meet with him, he says that the OC Vibe project has been going very well—either on or ahead of schedule and on or under budget. Matt said that all of the investors and the Samueli Family are very happy with the Union Building Trades. The OC Vibe is one of the largest private Project Labor Agreements in the state of California and has put hundreds of UA members to work over the past two years. The next phase is underway, focusing on the south side exterior of the Honda Center, while construction on the hotel and Southwest Parking Structure is just beginning. The OC Vibe is a \$5 billion expansion project, and we thank the Samueli family and the investors for their commitment to the union trades and for recognizing that we are the best at our crafts.



Committed to quality and building the Orange County downtown they deserve





UA Local 582 is part of O.C.'s the next big thing.



MORRIS BROOKS LOCAL 582 MOST SENIOR MEMBER



On This Date
July 21, 1954
Disneyland Construction Begins



Morris Brooks worked at Disneyland in 1955



Morris Brooks is the most senior member of Local 582. Morris was born in November 1921 and joined Local 582 on February 12, 1947. Just two years after World War II, Morris joined the union and later became a UA Life Member in 1997. He is now 104 years old, and we celebrated with him at our March 2026 Local 582 Retiree Luncheon. Local 582 wanted to recognize Morris's 79th year of membership by creating a special 79-year award for him, which was presented at the Retiree Luncheon. Everyone here at Local 582 would like to thank Morris for his 79 years as a proud and dedicated member of Local 582 and have asked him to return next year so we can celebrate his 80 years as a UA Member.



RETIREE LUNCHEON

On Monday March 21st 2026, Local 582 held its Retiree Luncheon for all of its retirees and members who are in the process of retiring. There was great Italian food from Cortinas and a lot of soda and coffee. Local 582 handed out all the longevity pins to the members who could not make it to the March Union meeting. This year we had 26 retirees show up and all were telling great stories of years past. March is the UA Retiree month, and the Local 582 Retiree Luncheon is always in the month of March, so all you retirees out there, mark it on your calendar and try to make it to the next luncheon.



RETIREE/LONGEVITY AWARDS

On Wednesday March 18th, Local 582 held its annual Union Meeting with Retiree/Longevity awards. The UA has March as their month to honor long standing members and to give out pins and certificates showing the years of membership to the UA. The awards start at 25 years of membership and go up in 5 year increments. It was a good night with great food and members getting their awards.





CALIFORNIA STATE PIPE TRADES CONVENTION



Bob James, Henry Hillebrecht, Brian Kruep, Kirk Halonen, Val Rios and Adolph Novello represented Local 582 at the California State Pipe Trades Convention in San Francisco California in May 2026. Over the course of two days, there were 24 guest speakers. Mark McManus was unable to attend the convention, and in his place was Derrick Kualapai. Derrick reported that the UA has grown to a record number of 399,064 and we should break the 400,000 mark before the UA National Convention in August 2026.

Anthony Gallagher, Administrative Assistant to the General President, spoke about how the UA needs to start focusing on training of stainless-steel tubing bending and stainless-steel welding because he thinks small nuclear plants are going to be heading our way in the USA.

Chris Modello, UA International Representative, spoke about all of the Data Center Work in the US. He stated that more than 700 data centers are expected to be built across the United States, representing over \$2 trillion worth of work. We have not seen this level of construction and opportunity in the USA in decades.

Chris Hannon with the California State Building Trades spoke about the effort to eliminate the state moratorium on nuclear energy and emphasized that it is time to begin building nuclear power plants throughout California, which would create thousands of jobs for the UA. In addition, Chris Hannon spoke about the Building Trades getting close to securing a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) for all University of California campuses throughout the state of California.



May 2026, Marriott Marquis San Francisco



WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Brothers and sisters,
In April we started a Local 582 mental support group. This is a safe space where our members can go to talk, listen or support one another when going through a tough time. Meetings are being held at Local 582 on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 4:30pm. If you are interested, please give me a call or join us at our next meeting. Let's take time to check on each other and if you see someone who may be going through a rough patch take the time to ask if they are okay. Just that small gesture could make a difference.
Thanks,
Adam

