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EDITORIAL STAFF
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Mary Echols
Publications Specialist

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Boilermakers play role in legal challenge to halt EPA monstrosity

THE U.S. SUPREME Court’s 5-4 decision February 9 to place a hold, or “stay,” on the implementation of EPA’s costly and overreaching Clean Power Plan is a critical, if temporary, victory for the Boilermakers union, the United Mine Workers of America, the coal industry and the future of power generation in the United States. It is also an extraordinary legal precedent.

Through the CPP, the EPA seeks to radically reshape the energy industry by forcing states to adopt plans that in effect would shut down numerous coal-fired power plants and replace them with lower-emission fuel sources, especially natural gas and renewables. It is the latest example of the EPA’s aggressive — and we believe illegal — interpretation of its limited authority to control carbon emissions in the energy sector. The Supreme Court already has acted to curb other excessive EPA greenhouse gas rules.

The Boilermakers union is part of a coalition of utilities, unions and other organizations that petitioned the top court to halt implementation of the CPP, pending action in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The D.C. Circuit is reviewing petitions by our coalition and others to rule on the legality of EPA’s aggressive overreach.

Among other groups seeking to kill the rule is a coalition of 29 states and state agencies, and allied organizations. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and dozens of utilities have filed petitions for review as well.

What makes the Supreme Court’s decision unprecedented is that the high court has never before issued a stay of a regulation while a case was before an appeals court. The stay is therefore an indication that those opposing the plan have offered compelling legal arguments.

However, the eventual outcome is far from certain. In fact, the D.C. Circuit denied a previous stay request in January. That decision led to applicants seeking relief at the high court.

Groups challenge CPP on many fronts

THE FACT THAT so many organizations have challenged the CPP reflects the sweeping scope and the potentially devastating impact of the EPA’s signature approach to deal with climate change. The rule would set emission limits for each state and allow states to develop their own plans using so-called “building blocks” identified by the agency. If a state fails to develop an approved plan, the EPA would implement one. The building blocks include such things as replacing coal-fired power units with natural gas and renewable alternatives and participating in regional carbon trading schemes.

The energy industry opposes the rule primarily because it would cause severe economic disruption to the existing electric energy structure and threaten grid reliability. Utilities have invested billions of dollars to build and upgrade plants, adding major environmental systems to reduce various kinds of emissions. Most of these plants have a decade or more of expected useful life remaining. Replacing these assets with entirely new energy sources would involve major new investments, which would ultimately be borne by customers.

Our union and others oppose the rule for the same reasons but mainly because it is a job killer for the building and
construction trades as well as mine workers. Under the CPP, the EPA is coercing states to get rid of about half of the coal-fired power plants that currently exist. Obviously that would severely impact the work of our members and would further devastate the coal mining industry.

The 29 states and state agencies are objecting to the CPP primarily because it tramples on states rights, interfering with the authority of state governments and agencies to regulate energy production and distribution. To the states, the CPP represents a power grab by the EPA and the Obama administration. State regulators have described the rule “as the most far-reaching and burdensome rule EPA has ever forced onto the states.”

The states also question EPA’s interpretation of the Clean Air Act, which forms the legal basis created by Congress to regulate emissions. Under the CPP, the agency seeks to go beyond regulating emissions at the source (at the power plants), instead expanding its reach “outside the fence.”

These and other objections have brought the energy industry, labor unions, state governments, utilities, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other organizations together in a common effort to block the EPA from implementing the CPP through a judicial determination that the rule oversteps the limits of EPA’s authority to regulate greenhouse gases.

**EPA plan is wrong-headed, Boilermakers urge CCUS investment**

THE LEGAL OBJECTIONS to the CPP are, we believe, valid and compelling. Beyond the legal arguments, however, there is the common sense objection to the rule that it — as well as the New Source Performance Standards rule targeting the construction of new coal-fired power plants — will do virtually nothing to slow global warming.

Former Energy Department Assistant Secretary Charles McConnell stated that the Clean Power Plan will, at best, reduce global temperature by a mere one one-hundredth of a degree Celsius.

The American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, using EPA’s own analysis for the CPP, estimates that the EPA’s rule would, by 2050, result in lowering the projected seal level rise by the thickness of three sheets of paper and reducing global average temperatures by a mere 0.016 degree Fahrenheit.

And for that miniscule impact, the EPA is willing to disrupt the nation’s electric power industry, destroy many thousands of good blue-collar jobs and push the nation toward more expensive and less reliable energy generation.

The Boilermakers’ position is that rather than seeking to regulate the fossil fuel industry out of existence, the federal government should expand its role in supporting technologies for carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS).

These technologies offer the best hope for reducing CO2 emissions not only in the United States but also around the world. Despite billions of dollars in subsidies for renewables, in 2014 wind power generated only 4.4 percent of U.S. electricity, solar power just .4 percent (source: U.S. Energy Information Administration). At a minimum, the federal government should subsidize CCUS at the same level it subsidizes renewables.

**Appeals court will take next step**

WINNING THE STAY is indeed an important step for the coalition in which we are involved as well as for the other entities opposing the CPP. But while we have prevailed with the stay request, the rule’s future remains uncertain, as the broader issue of whether the CPP is unlawful and exceeds EPA’s authority currently rests with the D.C. Circuit.

This court is expected to hear oral arguments on the CPP in June, with a decision likely to come in September or October. There are several scenarios that could develop once that decision is reached, depending on the D.C. Circuit’s ruling and the status of the Supreme Court (whether the vacancy due to Justice Antonin Scalia’s death has been filled).

The Supreme Court is currently divided on the issue at 4-4. According to Gene Trisko, our legal counsel in this petition, if this situation remains, the decision of the D.C. Circuit likely would become final, because an equally divided Supreme Court cannot reverse a lower court’s decision. We would need to persuade one of the Court’s liberal justices of the merits of our case in order to prevail in a 5-3 decision.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has vowed to block consideration of any Obama nominee to the Supreme Court. It’s possible that McConnell could relent, but for now there is uncertainty in how the process will unfold.

We believe the merits of our petition and those of others opposing the CPP are strong. It is our hope that the D.C. Circuit at least reminds it to the EPA to be rewritten.

The CPP is a bad rule on numerous levels: the unlawful trampling of states’ rights, the misreading of EPA’s authority under the Clean Air Act, the targeting of an entire industry instead of specific emission sources, and other issues.

The Supreme Court got it right by staying this costly, overreaching and farcical rule. It is our hope that the courts permanently kill the Clean Power Plan before it causes further and irreparable damage to America’s energy industry.
Clean Power Plan will hurt poor

LUKE VOIGT, L-647 BM-ST

L-647 BM-ST Luke Voigt takes EPA rule to task

Editor’s Note: The following editorial first appeared January 12 in the Duluth News Tribune.

RECENTLY, advocates for the EPA’s Clean Power Plan have tried to make the case that the plan would benefit low-income citizens. Do they really believe that? How is this going to make electricity cheaper? How can requiring utilities to shut down hundreds of millions of dollars of perfectly good equipment that is mostly paid for and then forcing them to buy hundreds of millions of dollars of new equipment going to save anyone money?

Oh, it will have many effects, but saving money would not be one of them. It’s like claiming we’re going to save you money by destroying your car and making you buy a new one with slightly better gas mileage.

Minnesota’s all-of-the-above energy strategy, including coal, is the reason Minnesotans enjoy some of the most competitive electricity rates in the country. That leaves far more money in consumers’ pockets for other needs. And no one benefits from that more than low-income citizens. We simply cannot leave the less fortunate in the cold and dark.

And we haven’t even discussed what the Clean Power Plan would do to our economy on the jobs front. While Minnesota’s economy has made improvements the past few years, 50 percent of workers remain underemployed. The jobs provided to those in the electrical-generation industry are good-paying, middle-class jobs, thousands of which would disappear under this plan and be replaced with far-less-lucrative careers. We can’t afford to lose those positions, all the while making our region less globally competitive by increasing energy costs. We would be doing no Minnesotans any favors by decreasing average incomes while increasing average expenses.

Furthermore, Minnesota already enjoys some of the cleanest air in the country; over the past 20 years, emissions from our electric utilities have decreased, and our air quality has improved. Our state consistently earns high grades on clean air from the American Lung Association. We already are where other states want to be.

I urge policymakers in St. Paul to take a hard look at the impact their implementation of the Clean Power Plan would have on families and consider that continuing our diverse energy portfolio is good for the economy and good for hard-working Minnesotans.

Luke Voigt of Ramsey, Minn., is business manager for Boilermakers Local 647, which has union halls in Grand Rapids; Ramsey, Minn.; and Bismarck, N.D. L-647 members build and maintain major capital projects, including power plants operated by utilities in Minnesota and North Dakota.

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Community group honors IP Jones with top labor award

President’s tribute draws standing ovation

THE INSTITUTO LABORAL de la Raza presented International President Newton B. Jones with its International Labor Leadership Award March 3 in San Francisco. Some 500 labor leaders, community activists and sponsors attended the event, including a large contingent from the International, local lodges and Bank of Labor.

The Instituto is a community support group that provides labor rights education and legal advocacy to the working poor in California, especially immigrants from Mexico, Central America and Southeast Asia.

J. Tom Baca, International Vice President – Western States, introduced IP Jones, calling him a “great labor leader who cares about all working families, whether they be union or nonunion.”

Jones described several key initiatives the Boilermakers union is undertaking. He explained how the MOST trust has pioneered numerous programs to promote safety, advance Boilermaker skills and add value to contractors and owners, highlighting two of the newest programs: the Boilermaker Code and the recruitment of Latinos.

He spoke about the Boilermakers’ involvement in global unionism and how that effort helped one of our cement lodges during contract negotiations with a multinational corporation. He added that raising wages around the world narrows the economic gap between North American workers and those in third-world countries, blunting the “race to the bottom” by multinational corporations.

He also described the importance of Bank of Labor in offering the Labor Movement an option for placing union investments in a financial institution that won’t betray unions like the big Wall Street banks did in 2008.

IP Jones closed his remarks with a special tribute to Betty Reid Soskin, who at 94 is the oldest National Park Service ranger in the United States. Employed at the Rosie the Riveter Museum in Richmond, Calif., at the site of the former Kaiser Shipyards, Soskin was a member of a segregated Boilermaker “auxiliary” lodge during World War II.

Jones told the audience, “In her capacity as a National Park Service ranger, Betty not only recounts the history of the Kaiser Shipyards and the women and men who worked there — she tells the story of inequality, bigotry and segregation that existed during those times.

“She reminds all who listen of the important lessons that history teaches us, so that we can become a better people, better unions and a better America.

“On behalf of my organization, I offer Betty and all former Boilermakers who at one time belonged to an auxiliary local, an apology for what must have been a demeaning life experience.”

Jones invited Soskin to the stage in an emotional moment that brought the audience to its feet in a prolonged ovation.

Soskin embraced Jones and acknowledged his remarks, stating, “I forgave you [the Boilermakers union] long ago, but I’ve never really had the feeling . . . that we were on the same page until just a few moments ago. Thank you very much. Thank you.”
Scientists make history by detecting gravitational waves

BOILERMAKER-BUILT STAINLESS steel vacuum tubes at advanced scientific test facilities in Washington and Louisiana have contributed to a major breakthrough in physics and astronomy. On Feb. 11, scientists announced that for the first time ever mankind has detected gravitational waves that were postulated by Albert Einstein 100 years ago as part of his general theory of relativity.

Gravitational waves are evidence of a rippling effect in the fabric of space-time caused by massive cosmic events such as exploding stars or black hole activity, according to Einstein’s theory. It is thought that the ability to detect and measure those waves could lead to a greater understanding of the origin and operation of the universe.

To prove that gravitational waves exist, twin observatories were built at the end of the 20th century, one in Hanford, Wash., the other in Livingston, La. The work was funded by the National Science Foundation and administered by the California Institute of Technology.

Working for CB&I Services, Boilermakers from Local 242 (Spokane, Wash.), 582 (Baton Rouge, La.) and the National Transient Lodge manufactured and built 10 miles of specially fabricated, close-tolerance, stainless steel tubing to contain laser beams in a vacuum (See accompanying story). By monitoring changes in those beams, scientists believed they could detect the presence of gravitational waves. After years of testing and upgrades, they were successful.

The scientific facilities and the program are referred to as LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory). More than 1,000 scientists worldwide are engaged in the research.

Reacting to the historic announcement, International President Newton Jones, said, “This is an extraordinary achievement for mankind, and the fact that the Boilermakers and our signatory contractor CB&I played such a crucial role in building the twin observatories makes us very proud.”

“THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT FOR MANKIND, AND THE FACT THAT THE BOILERMAKERS AND OUR SIGNATORY CONTRACTOR CB&I PLAYED SUCH A CRUCIAL ROLE IN BUILDING THE OBSERVATORY MAKES US VERY PROUD.”

— IP NEWTON B. JONES
Spiral tubes required special mill, clean room environment

Editor’s note: The information below is excerpted from the May-June 1998 issue of The Boilermaker Reporter

One unique aspect of [the LIGO] project is the fabrication of 800 tube sections, each 65-feet in length, utilizing a spiral tube mill. The spiral mill forms a one-eighth-inch thick stainless steel coil material while simultaneously welding the inside and outside spiral seam of the formed tube. Boilermakers fabricate the tubes at speeds of three feet per minute at an existing warehouse facility at Pasco, Wash., and at a newly constructed facility near Denham Springs, La.

After the spiral tubes are formed, stiffeners are welded at two-and-one-half foot intervals. Pump ports for subsequent equipment installation and support stiffeners are then added to the welded tubes, and the ends of the tubes are expanded and machined to a high tolerance to ensure a near perfect fit-up in the field.

Individual tubes are then placed inside of a test cylinder and tested at a high vacuum level for leaks by means of a helium mass spectrometer. This is done in an isolated cleanroom environment. The final fabrication step is to clean and seal the completed tubes, once again in a cleanroom environment.

The tubes are then shipped from the fabrication facilities to the job sites where Boilermakers, working in field installation crews under portable clean room conditions, position the tubes based on high precision survey work, fit critical girth seams, weld, vacuum test, and install customer-provided internal baffles. Modules measuring 1.25 miles in length and four-feet in diameter are then tested at high vacuum levels.

The Hanford site is completed and the Livingston project is over half way done. So far, there have been no vacuum leaks detected during the testing of over 33 miles of spiral welding and 930 circumferential weld seams. The entire project is scheduled for completion in June, well ahead of Caltech’s schedule.

Thanks to the talented efforts of these Boilermaker craftsmen, the U.S. will enter the 21st century in the forefront of a worldwide effort by physicists to study new information about the universe.
Local unions pushed together for statewide law to improve dangerous worksites


SINCE IT WENT into effect in 2014, a law requiring private refineries to pay prevailing wages and employ a percentage of workers who have graduated from an apprenticeship program has made its impact in ensuring that Southern California refineries have skilled, safe and well-trained workforces, members of the Building Trades say.

SB 54, which was signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown in October 2013 and went into effect in January 2014, applies to workers engaged in construction and maintenance work at oil refineries. Ultimately, it requires 60 percent of refinery contractors’ workers to be journeymen who have graduated from a state or federally approved apprenticeship program.

The legislation has had an effect on operations at most of the refineries in the greater Los Angeles area, including the Exxon Mobil facility in Torrance and the Chevron refinery in El Segundo.

“It’s given the union contractors a better opportunity to work in the refineries; it’s opened up some doors for us,” said Tom Richey, a Southern California construction manager with industrial construction services company Performance Mechanical Inc.

Richey said that thanks to apprenticeship programs, trainees are “very well qualified” when they begin working at a refinery.

“It has been a huge benefit to my local,” said UA Local 250 Steam & Pipefitters Business Manager Glenn Santa Cruz, whose headquarters is in the heart of the refining district. “It’s creating a lot of jobs; it’s also bringing a skilled workforce to the refinery. It’s a win-win for everybody.”

Ben Clayton, assistant business manager with Local 250, said SB 54’s goal is to have a skilled workforce in the refinery. “Not just people off the street,” he said, “people that are well trained.”

The key issue is safety, with a number of California refineries suffering explosions in the past. That’s what led State Sen. Loni Hancock to sponsor the bill in 2013.

“SB 54 will ensure that the contractors at refinery facilities use skilled and qualified workers to reduce public health and safety risks,” Hancock said when the bill passed.

“In addition, extending prevailing wage to this contract work will ensure that there is an economic incentive to use qualified workers for these high-hazard jobs.”

Her predictions have come true. As 2016 begins, there’s a wide and diverse number of Trades at the refineries, and locals have dozens or hundreds of members working at a site during any given time.

“We’ve got Pipefitters, we’ve got Boilermakers, we’ve got Carpenters, we’ve got Laborers, we’ve got all crafts out here,” Clayton said. “The sky’s the limit when you get yourself skilled up and trained and have a good attitude and good work ethic.”
An example of this, he said, is the success of Crystal Lewis, a 15-year Local 250 member who’s been working at the Chevron facility for several months and recently became its first female general foreman. Lewis, who was previously a non-union worker, went through a five-year apprenticeship program, and said the difference between union and non-union work is clear.

“I can see a difference in the craftsmanship, the unity within the union, they do it right the first time, they’re safe. There’s a big difference,” she said. “I’m thankful that they saw my potential and gave me the opportunity to show that women can do construction well and we’re capable of being general foremen and running jobs and crews.”

One of her colleagues, Ed Bernal, a project superintendent who has 42 years with Local 250 and has worked at the Chevron site for several months, said that SB 54 has changed things for the better.

“I have noticed a complete makeover of refinery procedures and tactics. It’s much more intense, it’s quite an improvement overall,” he said. “The industry as a whole has taken safety to a higher level.”

Local 250 President Pete Wohlgezogen, who’s worked at the Chevron plant for a few months and has also worked at other refineries, said that thanks to the additional job training, things run smoother.

“Everyone’s on the same page, because we’ve gone through the same program. It definitely makes things easier; when you communicate, the understanding’s there,” he said.

WITH REFINERY SAFETY records in trouble in California — and with skilled Boilermakers and other trades only marginally involved in refinery work in the state — IVP J. Tom Baca knew it was time to set things in motion for a union labor comeback in the industry.

Baca, who was unanimously re-elected in February as Secretary-Treasurer of the State Building and Construction Trades of California, worked closely with SBCTC President Robbie Hunter and California legislators concerned about refinery accidents to craft legislation known as SB 54 (Senate Bill 54). The measure set higher standards for workers involved in refinery maintenance. The law now requires that at least 60 percent of those doing maintenance must be graduates of or active apprentices in a state-approved apprenticeship program. In addition, to avoid bringing low-skilled workers into the refineries, refiners are required to pay prevailing wages for the industry.

“Getting SB 54 through the state legislature and signed by Governor Jerry Brown was a major success for the trades in California and for the citizens who live near refineries,” Baca said.

“Boilermakers were a big part of that effort. I commend International Rep Jim Cooksey for his extraordinary lobbying efforts and our construction lodges in the state for their commitment and participation.”

Baca noted that Boilermakers helped build the California refineries years ago and that the union has continued to maintain and upgrade refineries across North America with an exceptional safety record.

“Our performance levels in refineries and in other industries have been elevated through decades of industry-leading training programs, a mandatory drug testing program initiated and enforced by our union, and a total commitment to working safely.”

Baca added, “California refineries need a workforce with exceptional skills and one that places safety as the number one priority. That’s exactly what we bring to the California refineries. It’s great to be back.”

“CALIFORNIA REFINERIES NEED A WORKFORCE WITH EXEMPLARY SKILLS AND ONE THAT PLACES SAFETY AS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY. THAT’S EXACTLY WHAT WE BRING TO THE CALIFORNIA REFINERIES. IT’S GREAT TO BE BACK.”

— IVP J. TOM BACA
said. “I’m happy with SB 54. It’s definitely going to increase the skillset out here a little more.”

Peter Santillan, Business Manager of Laborers Local 1309, said two new contractors have signed with the local in order to win refinery work. Non-union workers are approaching the local about joining, and the Laborers are including more safety and refinery-oriented training in their apprenticeship.

“This industry is practicing what they preach, and creating a better environment for everyone,” Santillan said.

Mitch Ponce, a business agent with Iron Workers Local 433, said that one of the great aspects of the apprenticeships is they’re open to people living in the Southland communities.

“A lot of people that grow up in the shadow of these refineries now have a chance to work at these refineries,” Ponce pointed out. “Before SB 54, a lot of the workers were coming from out of state and the refineries were employing out-of-state contractors, which would ship in workers from Texas, Louisiana and other Gulf states, undercutting the wages of the Building Trades. SB 54 is going to ensure that local people will be in these refineries.”

Johnny Bernal, a business representative for Boilermakers Local 92, said that the law has been a big help in bringing skilled labor back to the plants.

“It’s the main tool for getting us back in the refineries,” he said.

Oscar Davila, also with Local 92, expanded on Bernal’s comment.

“SB 54 really has opened the doors a little wider for us when it comes to the oil refineries,” he said. “Before, the non-union contractors were stronger at these facilities because of a lack of regulations. Now that SB 54 is taking place, it’s required for 60 percent of the manpower to go through the apprenticeship program. Now the guys are more prepared and ready to do the work than before.”

Davila, who serves as a field/shop instructor, said that so far, about 800 Boilermakers have gone through new training to fulfill the requirements of SB 54.

Fernando Martinez, a journeyman with IBEW Local 11, has worked at the Exxon Mobil refinery in Torrance about 10 months. He said he’s pleased by the training requirement for apprentices.

“The whole electrical field will be elevated, especially at refineries,” he said.

Bob Milanovich, IBEW Local 11 member since 1982 who’s worked at the Torrance refinery about nine years, said he’s also pleased by the training requirement.

“In the past some of the non-union shops had a lot more work out here. The people working for them weren’t as trained,” he said. “Now it’s coming back to union. Better-quality work, I think. Better-trained people.”

Robert Corona, a representative of Local 11 who works specifically on refineries, said that about 100-150 members of his local are working at an area refinery at any given time. As a result of SB 54, he said, the union is implementing an industrial Electricians certification-type course specifically for refineries.

“That way, our Electricians who haven’t been in this industry for a while have that training and when they come out to our contractors, they’re better prepared to do this type of work,” he said.

Tom Gutierrez, Business Manager with Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5, said another effect that SB 54 has had is aiding collective bargaining.

“We’d been in the refinery for 20 years and we’d had a wage freeze for at least 10 years because we were one of the few unions in the refinery. So when SB 54 came in, we were able to get a six or seven dollar wage increase an hour,” Gutierrez said. “This effect has really helped out the Insulators and Fire Stoppers as far as hours, money and manning the work.”

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Rio Tinto’s Kitimat plant ups production, cuts pollution

THE ALUMINUM INDUSTRY has been a primary economic driver for the town of Kitimat, British Columbia, for some 60 years. But the Rio Tinto Alcan smelter located there — featured in National Geographic as the largest in the world when it was built in the 1950s — was due for an upgrade to modernize its operations and reduce environmental emissions.

The Boilermakers, one of the key trades involved in the original construction of the smelter along with a dedicated hydroelectric plant, were called on again to play a significant role at the site, this time in a $4.8 billion upgrade referred to as the Kitimat Modernization Project (KMP). The upgrade is expected to increase smelter output by 48 percent, to 420,000 tons per year, and reduce overall emissions by 50 percent.

Work began in 2011 and was completed in July 2015. At its peak, the project employed 3,600 construction workers. Local 359 supplied over 300 journeymen and apprentices for the KMP and the associated Kemano hydroelectric power plant. In total, the project required 23 million man-hours to complete.

San Francisco-based Bechtel Corporation served as general contractor. Among the local subcontractors were CIMS Ltd., Bantrel Corp. and HB Construction Company Ltd.

“We had Boilermakers from 22 to 55 years old,” recalled HB General Foreman Chris Matheson. “We had the apprentices working with the experienced journeymen, teaching the younger crew members the tricks of the trade.”

Ken Stenfanson, a Boilermaker general foreman for Bantrel, said, “We had a crew that was focused on safety. We had a lot of heavy lifts that required teamwork. Heavy objects were lined up correctly, because we have people that have the skills to do the job. We had challenges, but the Boilermakers and Bantrel came together to get the job done for our client, which is what this is all about.”

Boilermakers at the Kitimat upgrade installed more than two kilometers (1.24 miles) of ductwork to carry waste gases to pollution control systems, which will effectively halve the smelter’s overall emissions. They also lifted complex ducting components and vessels weighing up to 146 metric tons into precise position.

“Most of the ducting installations were unique, with some difficult runs that allowed the Boilermakers to shine with their layout talents,” said Neil Biddlecomb, a 40-plus-year member of the Boilermakers and the CIMS general superintendent.

“We [had] an excellent crew of Boilermakers,” noted Brent Pennington, Boilermaker steward for the Bantrel crew. “Each piece [of ductwork] had a unique shape, size and weight, creating a different center of gravity. With proper planning and teamwork, we got the job done.”

Thirty-year member J’onn Giese, working for CIMS, noted, “The Boilermakers’ safety record was great. The job was enjoyable, and we got along great with the other trades. We have the same view: let’s get the client their smelter. We have the hurdles we had to clear, but we did it. One reason for that was the good management we had. They worked to get us what we needed to do the job.”

Mike Young, steward for the HB Boilermakers, said it was a “very good crew. Everyone looked forward to going to work each day to do the big lifts. And it has been a real joy working side by side with the other trades, everyone just wanting to do a good job each day.”

The teamwork demonstrated throughout the Kitimat Modernization Project culminated with the contractors, Boilermakers and other trades working together to provide the client with a best practices list for use with any future investments at the smelter.
THE RIO TINTO ALCAN ALUMINUM SMELTER at Kitimat, British Columbia. Courtesy Rio Tinto Alcan

L-359 CREW at the Kemano hydroelectric power plant.
EIGHTEEN MEMBERS OF Local 169 (Detroit) are among the building trade workers constructing a $240 million combined cycle plant in Holland, Mich., a community of 28,000 in the state’s western Lower Peninsula. The new plant, situated on about 26 acres, will replace and double the output of the aging James DeYoung coal-fired facility, which was completed in 1939.

Several aspects of the project make it rather unusual. First, it will operate as a combined heat and power (CHP) plant, generating 125 megawatts of electricity in summer and 145 megawatts in winter, when surplus heat from the circulating water system will be diverted to the city’s existing snow melt system under downtown city sidewalks.

Since the new Holland Energy Park will be located near an area of neighborhoods and businesses, the plant will also have an aesthetic design, including a glass, concrete and insulated metal panel skin with sound retention qualities.

Barton Malow is the prime contractor for the project. Work began in earnest on the plant in March, and completion is set for February 2017. The facility will include two gas-fired 50-megawatt combustion turbines and recovery steam generators, and one 45-megawatt heat recovery steam turbine.

Natural gas will be brought into the Holland site via a seven-mile-long pipe. Compared to the DeYoung plant it is replacing, the new combined cycle gas plant is projected to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 50 percent, nitrous oxide emissions by 66 percent and sulfur dioxide by 99 percent.

“This is a fairly simple, smaller gas plant design,” said Mike Wolski, site manager for Barton Malow. “We’ve seen very
good progress; we're very pleased with the West Michigan group of trades."

The Boilermakers’ scope of work includes the air inlet filter house, inlet duct, heat recovery steam generator (HRSG), stacks and condenser. Seven Boilermakers working for Chattanooga Tank constructed the project’s stainless steel tank.

L-169 Business Agent Jim Kaffenberger said members are working four shifts of 10 hours and are several weeks ahead of schedule. “We should get about 23,000 man-hours on the project,” he said.

At press time, the trades had worked around 180,000 man-hours without a recordable injury.

Source & Photos: Marty Mulcahy, Editor, The Building Tradesman
EXELON PRAISES L-5 ZONE 175 FOR NUCLEAR OUTAGE WORK

Editor’s note: The letter below was addressed to Local 5 Zone 175 members Dan Gentile (day shift foreman) and Nicolas Carusone (night shift foreman) regarding the spring 2015 outage work performed by Boilermakers on unit 1 at the Nine Mile Nuclear Generating Station in Scriba, N.Y.

DAN AND NICK, I want to personally thank you and your team for the excellent support you provided to my team this outage. I cannot tell you how impressed I am with the way you and your team worked safely and error free. This was the first time I did an outage utilizing boilermakers (I used to work the outages in the east, and we used in-house workers) and cannot be more happy with the results.

In reviewing our outage performance indicators, in addition to having zero first aids and one PCE, the disassembly and reassembly sections of the outage were both performed ahead of ... schedule. Transitions were very well [done] as were look-aheads.

Thanks for your support, and I look forward to working with you next year on unit 2. Also I am looking for any feedback from you or your team on how we can improve next year in either equipment or process. Please email with any comments you have.

Thanks.

WILLIAM J. PINKHAM
Sr. Manager
Reactor Services North East
Exelon Generation

Boilermakers union wins eight ILCA awards

Group cites IBB for publishing, photography, website work

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR Communications Association has announced that creative work produced by the Boilermakers International has been selected for eight awards of excellence.

The Communications Department received four first place awards: Best Design and Best Front Page/Cover in the print category; General Excellence in the website category; and Best Photograph in the visual communications category.

Two second place and two third place awards for design, writing and photography rounded out the accolades.

All awards were for work performed in 2014, with the exception of websites, which were judged live in 2015. The Boilermakers International competed at the national/international level. Competition was also held at regional, state, and local levels.

Founded in 1955, the ILCA is the professional organization of labor communicators in North America. The organization’s several hundred members produce publications with a total circulation in the tens of millions.

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Web 10/08
A MINE RESCUE team from Local D-27 (Sugar Creek, Mo.) and eight other teams from across the Midwest tested emergency tactics and equipment during a drill at Eagle Materials’ limestone mine in Sugar Creek, Mo., Nov. 6-7. The event was sponsored by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), Central Plains Cement Company and the Missouri Department of Labor.

Eagle Materials owns and operates the mine and the adjacent cement plant located near Kansas City, Mo. L-D27 members are employed at both facilities.

The drill involved four simultaneous exercises: underground communications, surface and mine emergency operations, rescue in a smoke-filled environment, and injury triage involving a simulated vehicle accident. MSHA’s new communications system was a key element of the drill. The system tracks the movement of underground mine rescue teams on digital maps, uses cameras to transmit critical information to a command center and monitors the presence and levels of underground gases.

MSHA Chief of Mine Emergency Operations John Urosek demonstrated the latest emergency response equipment and technology for media representatives and other observers.

Joseph A. Main, Assistant Secretary of Labor for MSHA, also attended the event. He said, “Mine rescue will become safer and more efficient thanks to new technology that enables real-time communication between rescue teams underground and officials in the surface command center.”

Local D-27’s mine rescue team trains regularly to stay current with the latest procedures and equipment and takes part in four competitions each year, said Russell “Rusty” Woods, the lodge president. He called the equipment and technology demonstrated at Sugar Creek “eye-opening.” Especially impressive, he said, was the Dräger MRV 9000, a high-tech mine rescue vehicle designed to safely transport rescuers as close to an incident as possible, even traveling inside the mine.

Also taking part in the drill were teams from Doe Run, Martin Marietta, Vulcan Materials, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Lyons Salt, South Dakota School of Mines and Fred Weber Inc.

Observing the exercise on behalf of the Boilermakers International were Tyler Brown, Chief of Staff and Executive Director, ISO; and Tracy Buck, AD/AAIP.

For more information and a video please visit labor.mo.gov/DLS/workplaceSafety/minecave

THIRTEEN MEMBERS OF LOCAL 83 (Kansas City, Mo.) along with lodge officers completed Boilermaker Code training Feb. 15. Pictured above are, front row, left to right: Tony McKinley, Ron Hoopes, Mike Tucker, Mike Hodges, Dennis Matticks, Marty Gravett, Alex Hunter, Robbi Ussery and Nathan Fouks. Back row: Jim Vogrin, MOST Mobilization and Training Representative Jay Brophy, MOST Instructor Ed Hebert, Cody Maize, Apprenticeship Instructor Tom Burgess, Ed Hunter, President Scott Campbell, Robert Lawson, Dispatcher Bill Chambers, Nebraska and West Iowa Rep Scot Albertson, Vice President Tom Dye, MOST Instructor Chuck Clancy and BM-ST Joe Lewandowski.

Sixteen Construction Boilermakers completed the MOST project management course held in Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 10-15. The course teaches members how to manage a project in a business-like manner, enhancing the value that Boilermakers bring to contractor and owner communities as well as to the union.

Launched in 2004, the MOST Project Management Program was developed in conjunction with management consultant FMI and Cornell University.

Pictured above are, front row, left to right, Skipper Branscum, instructor, IBB; Shannon Thompson, L-502 (Puyallup, Wash.); Adam Howard, L-169 (Detroit); Adam Mueller, L-1 (Chicago); Charles Stobaugh, Local 502; Bridget Connors, MOST; Mike Suplizio, instructor (retired contractor); middle row, Timothy Heider, L-83 (Kansas City, Mo.); Jeremy Stinehelfer, L-85 (Toledo, Ohio); Kevin Griffith, L-40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.); Kenneth Cress III, L-363 (East St. Louis, Ill.); Jason Sandusky, L-363; James Smith Jr., L-83; Jeremy Norris, L-83; and back row, Gerald Klimo, instructor, L-154 (Pittsburgh); Gerald Calvert, L-83; Allan Violett, L-11 (East Helena, Mont.); Tony Donahue, L-647 (Minneapolis); Jay Foster Jr., L-744 (Cleveland); Paris Caudill, L-105 (Piketon, Ohio); and Mark Schneider, instructor (contractor with Madison Industrial Services Team).
L-11 president attends Obama State of Union

Jason Small recalls impression of Capitol event

JASON SMALL, PRESIDENT of Local 11 (East Helena, Mont.) enjoyed a bird’s eye view of one of the nation’s top political events when he attended the annual State of the Union (SOTU) at the U.S. Capitol January 13.

Small, who is politically active, especially on matters pertaining to the future of coal and opportunities for Native Americans (he is a member of the Northern Cheyenne Nation), attended the SOTU as a special guest of U.S. Sen. Steve Daines of Montana.

“I was actually out feeding my cows when I got a text from Senator Daines’ chief of staff, asking if I’d be interested in attending,” he recalled. “We live out in the boonies. I said, ‘Shoot, isn’t that next week?’”

Small had to rush to get his suit to the cleaners and make travel arrangements. On the appointed day, he met the senator for photos and a briefing and then rode the underground train from the Senate building to the Capitol.

“It was a grandiose event. I took my seat on the balcony,” says Small. “A lot of it was pretty neat. “

While Small enjoyed the experience, he says he is not a fan of President Obama’s energy policies, especially the Clean Power Plan, and in fact Small has testified against the plan at several EPA hearings.

Regarding Obama’s state of the union address, he says, “It was not good from our standpoint. He made it 100 percent apparent that we were going to get away from fossil fuels and everybody should get ready for it. He tried to make a humorous comment that it was asinine to think you can still work 30 years at the same place. You know, through the craft, you establish yourself in the middle class. You expect [the work and the benefits] to be there when you retire.”

Small says he met Daines, a Republican, when the senator, was a congressman, and over time the two developed a cooperative relationship. “He’s really pro-industry, pro-coal, pro-logging. Those are the things that matter up here.”

Small stresses that many Local 11 members rely on outage work at the 2,100-megawatt Colstrip power plant, located in the Montana city by that name. EPA regulations like the Clean Power Plan along with aggressive environmental activism threaten the continued operation of the four-unit facility, which employs more than 300 people full time. Utilities in Washington and Oregon are partial owners of the plant and sell Colstrip electricity to customers in those states. Both states are under political pressure to cut their ties with Colstrip. The state government in Oregon recently passed a bill to phase out electricity from all coal sources within the next 19 years. The state government in Washington is considering doing the same.
“I WAS A mean kid,” admits Don Rojem, 86, a Michigan native and retired member of Local 169 (Detroit). “I just wasn’t cut out for school.”

After being twice kicked out for being a rebellious student, Rojem, at age 12, put formal education permanently behind him and began an adventure that ultimately led him to become a Boilermaker, a job he grew to love and would one day write about in a newfound passion for poetry.

His early life was all about adventure and hard physical labor. He worked on farms and in logging with his father. He rode the rails from state to state in search of work and opportunity. In 1946, at age 16, his mother signed papers for him to become a union seafarer, and he traveled the Great Lakes on coal colliers, from Duluth, Minn., to Buffalo, N.Y., and points in between.

Rojem later did stints as a Laborer, Carpenter and Ironworker before a contractor impressed with his work opened a door to the Boilermakers’ local in Detroit.

“There was no apprenticeship program back then,” Rojem recalls.

Training was all on the job, and he taught himself to weld. But his early life working across multiple industries had served him well, and he picked up skills that made him capable of handling the varied assignments required of a Boilermaker.

Rojem boomed across the country, working on power plants, refineries, steel mills, iron mines and other industrial projects. On many of those travels, his wife, Joyce, traveled with him. They are still married after 61 years.

In 2008, Rojem, at age 78, completed his last job as a Boilermaker and retired with Joyce to their homestead in Alabama. He discovered his poetic calling by chance a few years later, after reading the works of British-Canadian Robert Service, known as “the bard of the Yukon.”

Always good at rhyming, Rojem took two weeks to complete his first poem. Others followed quickly, and he was soon writing about everyday life, boiler making, religion and other topics. He compiled a book of poetry, which he gives out freely to others.

Today Rojem reflects on the many advantages of a Boilermaker career. He is fiercely loyal to the trade and is quick to share his thoughts. His favorite piece of advice: “All you’ve got to sell is your labor, and if you break the company [by being irresponsible], you break yourself. You don’t have a job anymore.”

Rojem applauds the Boilermaker Code, the new MOST program that serves as a guidepost for excellence in the trade. He acknowledges the challenges that Boilermakers face from competition and from harsh environmental regulations like the Clean Power Plan.

“The last thing I want to hear,” he says, “is ‘I came on board too late, the last Boilermaker just went out the gate.’”
Boilermaker
By Don Rojem

Boilermakers is a brotherhood
That comes together
Like a brotherhood should
No job too big, no job too small
The Boilermaker can do it all
A group of people with a job to do
That have done their best
When the day is through
A people with a destiny
Not what the Boilermakers
Can do for me, it’s what I can help
The Boilermakers be
With gratitude, good attitude
Loyalty, honesty and integrity
I will work safely everyday
And preach the same along the way
I will love my brother
My sister, my neighbor too
And share the joys of life with you
A skill that’s taught, perfected and passed along
Like this old Boilermaker’s song
Boilermaker Boilermaker yes I am
Boilermaker am I
Boilermaker Boilermaker yes I am
Boilermaker till I die
Women in Trades honors L-290 BM-ST Cain

Award cites union activism

THE WASHINGTON WOMEN in Trades Association honored Local 290 (Bremerton, Wash.) Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Deanna Cain for union activism at the group’s 9th Annual Dream Big Dinner held Nov. 21 near Seattle. Cain was among six women recognized for their leadership roles.

Cain also serves as secretary-treasurer for the Bremerton Metal Trades, which represents workers at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. She previously served Local 290 as a steward and recording secretary.

The Women in Trades cited Cain as “a trailblazer for women in submarine repair, a job both physically and technically demanding.” The citation also noted, “... It’s her day-to-day activism that stands out. Her positive impact on workforce relationships and communication is achieved through an ever calm, respectful and honest demeanor.

L-159 defends Boilermaker-Blacksmith pension

Members stand firm, defeat employer’s 401(k) switch


The bargaining committee included President Kenneth Chamberlain, chief steward Carl Zielinski and first shift shop steward Tim Ehrhart.

Ashley had sought to withdraw from the union pension plan, which provides a defined benefit amount for participants, and replace it with a 401(k) plan, which only provides a defined contribution into the plan. L-159 members unanimously opposed the change, but did agree to contribute $12 per week towards their health care insurance.

The previous collective bargaining agreement had been extended for 30 days, and it took until the last day to reach a tentative agreement, according to International Rep Phil Evans.

“The guys fought very hard,” Evans reported. “They stuck together and just said ‘no’ [to the company’s regressive demand on the pension]. I am very proud of them for their courage and commitment and confidence in the system.”

Local 159 members employed by Ashley Machine & Tool manufacture structural components and assemblies for the military and commercial aircraft industries.
National Transient Lodge

MARK VANDIVER, Director, National Transient Division Services, reports presentation of a membership pin to the following:

40 YEARS  Timothy L. Thompson.

Local 1 • Chicago

JOHN F. RIEL, BM-ST of Local 1, Chicago, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

40 YEARS  William Hafner; and

35 YEARS  Steven Ackmann, Edward Kochaney, Thomas Langbehn, Simon Mezydlo, Jamal Shabazz, Duane Shue, Emerson Smith, Mary Lou Spencer.

Local 40 • Elizabethtown, Ky.

MICHAEL AUTRY, BM-ST of Local 40, Elizabethtown, Ky., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

65 YEARS  Chas E. Maupin;

55 YEARS  Roger A. Coomes, Larry Heady, Moses Johnson, Edward J. Roberts, Edwin L. Thompson;

50 YEARS  Clyde L. Atwood, Robert L. Beasley, William M. Brown, Jesse A. Horsley, Robert O. Horsley, Tommy O. Hurst, Joseph L. Vornholt;


30 YEARS  James E. Hall, Danny James, Michael G. Johnson, Bernice M. Millard, Jimmy D. Young;


20 YEARS  Charles R. Albright, David W. Bartlett, Stacy F. Collyer, Danny Aaron Fowler, James D. Fraley, Kevin E. Griffith, James M. Halterman, Robert W. Hoffman Jr., Ronald Chad Webster; and

15 YEARS  Douglas A. Billings, Paul E. Crum, James P. Fields Jr., Glenn F. Horton Jr., M. Michael Mays, Dennis J. Weaver.

Local 60 • Peoria, Ill.

GARY L. LUSK, BM-ST of Local 60, Peoria, Ill., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

60 YEARS  Lydell Karrick, Earl Main;

55 YEARS  John Moss;

50 YEARS  Jim Chavez, Richard Smith, Randy Garrels;

45 YEARS  Rodney Lochbaum, Tom Naughton;

40 YEARS  Bill Laicoff, Dave Reink, Mark Huddleston;

20 YEARS  Gerald Wallis, Mike Webber, Bob Bryant, Jim Cantrall, Jaysen Hamann, Jeff Roberts, Justin Sadnick, Darryl Tedford, Jon Tortat, Jon Williams, Jason Wood, Brian Holford; and

15 YEARS  Charlie Evans, Denny Huizenga, Derek Barclay, Carl Beattie, Jason Burress, Curt Chapin, RJ Chapin, Dan Danner, Danny Freeman, Josh French, Chad Huizenga, Todd Johns, Jay Ledegerber, Justin Olson, Joe Scafl, Jerry Miskell, Ron Conklen, Bill Fargher, Bruce Hahn, Kris Hahn, Mike Milliman.

Local 83 • Kansas City, Mo.

JOE LEWANDOWSKI, BM-ST of Local 83, Kansas City, Mo., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

35 YEARS  Dave Vallacqua;

30 YEARS  William Eads Jr., Carey Ogleby, Michael Shelton;

25 YEARS  Shane Vanzuuk;

20 YEARS  Michael Brocker, Rickey Cook, John Dickens II, Donald Filbert, Mark Robinson, Bruce Smith; and


Local 106 • Cincinnati, Ohio

TIMOTHY A. PARSONS, PRESIDENT of Local 106, Cincinnati, Ohio, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

40 YEARS  Lee Jenkins, Tony McIntosh;

35 YEARS  Joe Lang, Mike McIntosh;

20 YEARS  Dave Coby, Lonnie Hickey, Tom Kunkel, Clarence McClure, Scott Newsom, Mike Rottinghouse, Reggie Weber; and

15 YEARS  Thom Ball, Aaron Clifford.
Local 169 • Detroit

ROBERT D. HUTSELL, BM-ST of Local 169, Detroit, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

65 YEARS  Ronald Hicks;
60 YEARS  Rudolf Gross, Arno Guske;
55 YEARS  Charles Heim, Sonny Zarb;
50 YEARS  Abraham Boulley, Richard Clish, David Gandy, James George, Mohammed Kaaied, Paul Laforest, Richard McEachran, John Miller, Gary Mitter, Gregory Morales, David Rylof, Roger Sylvester, Gerald Taylor, William Tessin, John Tighe;
35 YEARS  Michael Boyer, Lee Bushong, Bruce Harbenski, Larry Huber, Nick Inanuccili, Michael Legrand, John McLeod, Eric Rasmussen, William Roe, David Robb, Rudy Rotunno, David Salazar, John Yates;
30 YEARS  James Boulley, Lance Nedcow;
25 YEARS  David Burger, Gary Bublitz, Chris Campbell, Jerry George, Robert Hutsell, Jack McAlpine, Keith Paquette, Daniel Pentecost, Gerald Schultz, Robert Schultz, Robert Wilson;
20 YEARS  Jean Losier, David Harwood, Brian Kuntze, David Niven, Jeffrey Pietro; and
15 YEARS  Mark Behmlander, George Bryant Jr., Aaron Campbell, David Chambers, William Christy, Jeremy Collins, John Cox, Gary Ellis, John Emerick, Henry Felcoskie, Daniel Garza, David Gould, Steve Hinds, Joshua Klaus, Maurice Mays, Joseph Naborzy, Michael Neal, Gregory Robinson, Benjamin Ryers, Willis Stewart, Jacob Stoneburner, Clark Tagger, Adam Trousdale, Brandon Vermeech, Mark Wertz, Donald Williams.

Local 191 • Victoria, B.C.

CHARLES G. WHITE, BM-ST of Local 191, Victoria, B.C., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

65 YEARS  Stan Betts, Roy Gallop, Art Holland, Wes Morhart, Ernie Smith, Darrell Walker; 55 YEARS  David Emery;
50 YEARS  Ken Hancock, Norm Norby, Fernando Pereira;
45 YEARS  Joseph Barnsley, Gary Gagne;
40 YEARS  Keith Gray, Alan McGregor, Cliff Podgoreno, David Stringer;
35 YEARS  Steve Betts, Ray Clifford, Ray Corken, Mark Griffiths, John Hautauluoma, Steve Lanning, Peter Littlejohn, Rick Morgan, Wayne Sandsmark, Chris Thomas, John Vanderveen, Stan Walsh;
25 YEARS  Scott Phillips; and
20 YEARS  Joe Alexander, Rick Blanks, Ed Lumley, Jean Ooms, Kelly Reibin.

Local 454 • Chattanooga, Tenn.

RICHARD SCOTT MAY, BM-ST of Local 454, Chattanooga, Tenn., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

45 YEARS  Laurence D. Allen;
40 YEARS  Brian J. Thomas, Bruce W. Valentine;
35 YEARS  Cecil L. Brown Jr., Wayne D. Ferrell, Alfred L. Hartman, Anthony D. Jones;
30 YEARS  Kittrell W. Jacobs, Kenney R. Neumann, James L. Orr;
Local 647 • Ramsey, Minn.

LUKE A. VOIGT, BM-ST of Local 647, Ramsey, Minn., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

50 YEARS  Clarence D. LaFontaine, Alvin A. Savela;
35 YEARS  Ronal Aschenbrenner, Steve Lodermeier, Kevin Stein;
30 YEARS  Thomas H. Klein, Wesley Konsor, Robert L. McKay, Randy H. Monson, David M. Pilarski, Michael A. Reisinger, Richard A. Rice, Steven Schiller;
20 YEARS  Eric J. Carlson, Kirk P. Nelson, Thomas K. Wichmann; and

Local 667 • Winfield, W. Va.

JAMES KING, BM-ST of Local 667, Winfield, W. Va., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

45 YEARS  Franklin W. Cogar;
40 YEARS  Gary W. Casto, Roger E. Null, Ryan D. Tucker;

Local 1509 • Cudahy, Wis.

FREDERICK J. KAROL, PRESIDENT of Local 1509, Cudahy, Wis., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

35 YEARS  Glen Hall;
30 YEARS  Mark Brandt; and
15 YEARS  Kenneth Webber, Scott Schrank.

Local 1510 • Russellville, Ark.

TERRY G. HONEYCUTT, PRESIDENT of Local 1510, Russellville, Ark., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

20 YEARS  Walter B. Adney, Jerry M. Honeycutt, Donna Watkins.

DON’T SEE YOUR LODGE? We publish only those lists sent from local lodge officers for pins received in the current year. If you don’t see your lodge here, please ask one of your lodge officers to send us the list.

MAIL: The Boilermaker Reporter 753 State Ave. Suite 570 Kansas City, KS 66101
FAX: (913) 281-8110
EMAIL: reporter@boilermakers.org
With deep sorrow,

the International Brotherhood records the death of these members as reported to the International Secretary-Treasurer's office and extends its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families.

NTD Akers, William 13
NTD Atticks, Robert C. 13
NTD Bowen, Calvin 13
NTD Brady, Charlie E. 13
NTD Casas, Leopold 26
NTD Chavis, Willie A. 26
NTD Cherry, Drew F. 26
NTD Gaddes, Charles L. 26
NTD Guimares, Joseph R. 26
NTD Karpiak, William A. 27
NTD Klemaszewski, Joseph 27
NTD Pethel, Arthur W. 27
NTD Quick Jr., Elmont J. 27
NTD Segrest, Jack 27
NTD Snyder, Charles E. 27
NTD Thompson, Mickey L. 27
NTD Walker, James D. 28
NTD Wiseman, Patrick J. 29
1 Havis, Michael J. 29
1 Kowalski, Ronald R. 29
1 Litherland, Jerry L. 30
1 Raggio, Daniel E. 30
1 Roos, Michael A. 32
1 Ryan, Michael T. 32
1 Schultz, Julius 32
1 Snyder, Robert 32
1 Whitehouse, Joseph R. 32
5 Emmi, Egidio 34
5 Stelfox III, William H. 34
6 Busch, Robert G. 35
6 Diaz, Vicente M. 35
6 Graham, Henry C. 35
6 Hamer, Hondo J. 36
6 Hampton, Louis 36
6 Iniguez, Ramon 36
6 Kindred, Virgil 36
6 Moniz Jr., Raymond 36
6 Perez, Erasmo 36
6 Starnes Jr., Ralph D. 37
6 Stockton, Jerlee W. 37
6 Taesali, Enele P. 37
6 Whitney, Gerald E. 38
7 Borzelleri, Michael F. 38
7 Walsh, William E. 38
8 Baker, Thomas C. 39
8 Hansen, Leon E. 39
8 Ygnatowiz, Peter C. 39
11 Birchmeier, Howard 40
13 Jones, William W. 40
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## DEATH BENEFITS

The death benefit plan under the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust has paid the beneficiaries of the following deceased members who were covered by the plan since the last issue of our publication. If you have not yet been furnished this information, contact your local lodge, secure the beneficiary forms, complete the required information, and forward to the Administrative Office of the Pension Fund, 754 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 522, Kansas City, KS 66101, at the earliest possible date.

**NOTE:** These additional death benefits can only be derived for members who worked under a collective bargaining agreement with an employer contributing to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust.

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>January-March 2016</td>
<td>$5,025.10</td>
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<td>$6,000.00</td>
<td>January-March 2016</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
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<td>January-March 2016</td>
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**Note:** The table lists various names and amounts associated with them.
L-169’S HUTSELL APPLAUDS CODE TRAINING

RECENTLY, LOCAL 169 hosted Boilermaker Code training for about a third of our apprentices. Those who participated in the class were unaware of how absenteeism, unsafe acts, and poor workmanship can affect the bottom line when it comes to budget and job completion.

With the relaxed atmosphere created by trainers John Skermont [retired business manager of Local 1, Chicago], and Pat Gallagher [retired business manager of Local 744, Cleveland], the apprentices were soon asking questions that indicated they were truly grasping the importance of the message. I sat through the classes with the apprentices and was able to interject stories and scenarios that have played out in our own local, giving them a perspective on how these actions can directly affect our local, members and man-hours.

In my opinion, every union steward should possess the knowledge and ideals that are taught in The Boilermaker Code training. I commend President Jones for his foresight in initiating The Boilermaker Code and look forward to helping spread the message it conveys.

Bob Hutsell  
Boilermakers Local 169, BM-ST  
Detroit, Michigan

L-83’S LEWANDOWSKI HAILS FIRST CODE CLASS

We held our first Boilermaker Code class at Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.) Feb. 15. It was very informative, even for those who have been members for 20 years or more. It makes you think back on how many times you might have laid out a day or went in early, and how many man-hours were lost on your pension, annuity and health and welfare coverage! And now, we have to rebuild the relationship with the owners of the utilities we work in to show them our changing workforce, craftsmanship, professionalism and safety of our trade.

Joe Lewandowski, BM-ST  
Boilermakers Local 83  
Kansas City, Mo.

The strength of America’s labor movement rises from solidarity based on mutual support, real world craftsmanship and organization. With those three things, mountains can be moved – or parks can be improved, bridges can be built and trails can be made. The Union Sportsmen’s Alliance unites union members who love the great outdoors and are willing to volunteer their unique trade skills to help protect our outdoor heritage for future generations through hands-on conservation projects.

Be part of the movement.

Join the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance

www.unionsportsmen.org

Facebook Twitter Instagram /unionsportsmen
Introducing Apple Pay.

Your iPhone can now make your Bank of Labor Visa® credit and debit card transactions.

GET SET UP NOW—4 SIMPLE STEPS
1) Open the Wallet App on your iPhone 6 or 6s
2) Tap the Plus symbol
3) Add your Bank of Labor Visa card
4) Call the phone number populated in the Wallet App to activate your card for Apple Pay. In addition: PERSONAL CARD: You will be asked to verify the name on your card, card number, birth date and last 4 digits of your social security number. BUSINESS CARD: You will be asked to verify the name on your card, card number, amount and merchant name of a recent transaction.

*Visa® Debit and Credit Card is issued by Bank of Labor, Kansas City, KS pursuant to a license from VISA, U.S.A. Inc. Apple Pay is available at terminals and online where Apple Pay is accepted via iPhone, iPad or Apple Watch. Apple, the Apple logo, Apple Pay, iPhone, Apple Watch and iPad are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. © 2016 Bank of Labor. All rights reserved.