Boilermakers cap off Laramie River Project
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Boilermakers add voice to Women Build Nations Conference

Hilary Peach, L-359: poet, writer, sculptor, filmmaker, artist, Boilermaker

Graduate apprentices test their skills at BNAP competition

Local 101 members work against the clock to cap an SCR ahead of gale-force winds at Basin Electric’s Laramie River Station in Wyoming.

SEE STORY

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THE REPORTER

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2018

Volume 57, Number 4

NEWTON B. JONES
International President and Editor-in-Chief

WILLIAM T. CREEDEN
International Secretary-Treasurer

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The Boilermaker Reporter ISSN No. 1078-4101 is the official publication of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers, and Helpers, AFL-CIO/CLC. It is published quarterly to disseminate information of use and interest to its members. Submissions from members, local lodges, and subordinate or affiliated bodies are welcomed and encouraged. This publication is mailed free of charge to active members and retired members holding a Retired Members Card. Others may subscribe for the price of $10 for three years. Standard Mail (A) postage paid at Kansas City, Kan., and additional mailing offices.

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THE REPORTER 1
IBB documentary makes powerful case for carbon capture

“People know what a windmill is, they know what a solar panel is; they don’t know what CCS is. They’ve never seen it.”
— Julio Friedmann, CEO, Carbon Wrangler

Union aligns with advocacy groups to promote CCS

A NEW IBB-PRODUCED video documentary “CCS: Bridge to a Cleaner Energy Future,” breaks ground in our quest to bring carbon capture and storage into mainstream conversation and to promote its development and deployment. The video and its companion website (www.cleanerfutureccs.org) offer a much-needed platform for viewers to learn about CCS and advocate for it around the world.

In producing the video, we aligned with topic expert and support organizations that — like our union — see CCS as essential to heading off the worst effects of climate change by capturing carbon dioxide emissions and storing CO2 safely underground or using it in commercial products.

The documentary includes interviews with thought leaders and activists in this arena, including Julio Friedmann, CEO of Carbon Wrangler; Brad Page, CEO of the Global CCS Institute; Mike Monea, President and CEO of the International CCS Knowledge Centre; Ian MacGregor, Chairman and CEO of North West Refining, Inc.; Sandra Odendahl, CEO, CMC Research Institutes; Beth Hardy, Vice-President for Strategy and Stakeholder Relations, International CCS Knowledge Centre; Tim Wiwchar, Athabasca Oil Sands Project (Shell Quest); Erik Nickel, Director of Operations, Petroleum Technology Research Centre; and Alison Cartier, Marketing and Communications Manager, Inventys Inc.

Two of our International reps — Cory Channon and Richard MacIntosh, who are engaged in advocating for CCS, especially in Canada — are among those featured.

Promoting CCS (often used interchangeably with CCUS, for carbon capture, use and storage) has been a priority of our union for more than a decade. In the United States, our Department of Government Affairs lobbies for legislation and regulations favorable to CCS funding and development, among other responsibilities. DGA Director Cecile Conroy carries on this work by forging alliances with like-minded labor unions, companies and coalitions such as the Carbon Utilization Research Council (CURC).

Through these relationships, we strengthen our voice and our role in the global effort to address climate change while also building the potential for an extraordinary amount of work for our members and other trades.

Educating the public about CCS

ONE OF THE biggest challenges we and other CCS proponents face is educating the general public about what CCS is, how it works and why we should all care.

That is exactly what our video is designed to do. It is intended for a general audience that may or may not understand the significance of global warming or how CCS can help avoid its worst effects. It also addresses the need for government support as well as the importance of preserving good jobs and creating more work opportunities for healthy communities through CCS-related projects.

As Julio Friedmann says in the video, “People know what a windmill is, they know what a solar panel is; they don’t know what CCS is. They’ve never seen it.”

We need to change that information deficit. We want this video to be shared broadly around the world. The more people are aware of CCS and its benefits, the more quickly we can generate support for it — and the more quickly CCS technologies can be implemented.
The need for CCS has never been more urgent

HUMANITY IS RUNNING out of time to avoid catastrophic impacts of global warming, including rising sea levels; species extinction; the loss of sea ice and coral reefs; and more frequent and more severe floods, droughts and wildfires. That’s the message presented by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in a new report issued October 8.

According to the IPCC, which is the leading international body on assessing climate change, we have just 12 years to prevent global warming levels that will be disastrous. The report (at www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/) says unprecedented changes must be made across global economies, especially in the production and use of energy. And, alarmingly, the IPCC is doubtful that nations around the world have the will to make those changes.

The federal government’s Fourth National Climate Assessment, released November 23 to the White House and Congress, echoes the dire warnings expressed by the IPCC. (See nca2018.globalchange.gov/.)

Unfortunately, President Trump has been skeptical of human-caused climate change. He pulled the U.S. out of the Paris climate accord shortly after taking office, drawing widespread criticism for not taking the dangers seriously. While the Boilermakers do support his positions on several key energy-related priorities — especially pertaining to fossil fuels — we maintain that withdrawing from the Paris accord was a mistake, as the United States must remain engaged globally. Climate change is, after all, a global problem that requires a global solution.

We need leadership from the White House and Congress to rapidly advance CCS. The recent tax incentive regarding CO2 capture, storage and use, 45Q, was a good start — but just that, a start. We need strong, ongoing advocacy at the highest levels of government.

We know that CCS has the potential to positively mitigate global warming by removing CO2 from power generation and other industrial emissions — and even directly from the air. Scaling up CCS in North America and around the world will take an enormous investment. But that investment has to be weighed against the extreme cost of global climate disasters and irreversible damage to our planet.

Moreover, we know that capturing and storing carbon dioxide works. Our members have been a part of such projects: at the Shell Quest upgrader in the Canadian oil sands, at the Sturgeon Refinery in Alberta and at SaskPower’s Boundary Dam coal-fired plant in Manitoba.

In the United States, NET Power’s new Allam Cycle technology promises zero emission, while NRG Energy’s Petra Nova plant is capturing 90 percent of CO2 at a coal-fired plant near Houston.

Of course, just as with any emerging technology, there are hurdles. (Consider, for example, the first computers, which were enormous and expensive beasts of machines!) The history of technological evolution tells us that the more we apply new technology, the more repeatable and less costly it becomes. CSS Knowledge Centre’s Mike Monea describes the early CCS applications as “first movers that are demonstrating the path for cost reduction.” Monea says, “Thousands of plants are needed to meet global GHG (greenhouse gas) reduction goals.”

Major investments by companies, substantial government subsidies and continuous public relations efforts to build public support have been necessary for the successful application of wind and solar globally. We need those same components to make CCS equally successful.

Let’s get the word out on CCS

I ENCOURAGE ALL our members to take an interest in promoting CCS. Visit the cleanerfutureccs.org website. Share the site and our video with family, friends and acquaintances. Write a letter to your legislators (there’s a form letter on the site). We need everyone to do his or her part in advocating for CCS.

The coalitions we build are critical to moving CCS forward, but so is the grass-roots effort of individuals. We must build the case for CCS as soon as possible, especially considering the dire warnings of the IPCC and the U.S. Fourth National Climate Assessment.

A quote from Brad Page in the video, I think, states the case for CCS very well: “At the end of the day, if what you care about is our planet and our home, then really you want to embrace everything that can get this problem solved.”

“At the end of the day, if what you care about is our planet and our home, then really you want to embrace everything that can get this problem solved.”

— Brad Page, CEO, Global CCS Institute
It’s time to end oil sands shaming

ENOUGH WITH THE GUILT TRIP. I’m proud to represent people who work in the oil sands. They’re proud of the jobs they do. And they should be.

As a union leader, I represent thousands of oil sands workers. These people are extremely skilled at keeping our oil plants and refineries operating. And guess what? They care just as much about the environment and global warming as the people who want to shut the industry down.

It might not be popular to say so, but the people who work in our oil sands are crucial to our way of life. Nearly 200,000 Canadians depend directly on the oil and gas industry for their jobs, almost three-quarters of them in Alberta. Hundreds of thousands more in just about every industry in Canada couldn’t work without refined oil products.

Our lives depend on Alberta oil — and I’m not just talking about the oil and gas that lubricate and power our vehicles. Even if we could electrify every car in Canada overnight, we’d still need oil, and lots of it.

Most people don’t realize how much oil is used to make the asphalt and cement in our roads and buildings. They forget that plastic is a petroleum product. They don’t even think about industrial lubricants, pharmaceuticals, fertilizer, refrigerant, food preservatives and dozens of other commodities. Without oil, modern life would be unsustainable.

Why then, is this industry being demonized? I’m not talking about people who want to see a cleaner oil industry that makes less of an impact on our carbon emissions. I am talking about the people who claim Alberta’s oil is “filthy” and want to leave it in the ground.

These folks would rather see us buy oil from Russia and Saudi Arabia than employ Canadians. They don’t want Canadian tankers in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, but don’t mention the ones from Alaska and Russia that supply oil for B.C. drivers. The refineries of Washington state could get their oil by pipeline from Canada far more safely.

Certainly, the oil and gas industry has a lot to answer for. But in Canada, people do care about the environment, and our governments have listened. They’ve made regulations over the years that have made the industry cleaner, safer and more benign in its environmental impact. They’ve forced the industry to adopt and embrace practices that are anything but common in other parts of the world.

As a result, we have exhaustive hearings before major projects are undertaken. The industry has bolstered its role in environmental protection with new technology and procedures that make the extraction and shipping of Alberta oil cleaner all the time.

The examples are many. Shell’s carbon capture project north of Edmonton and one of similar scale in Saskatchewan will soon pass the two-million-tonne mark annually in carbon reclaimed. The newest technology makes oil from the sands as clean as intermediate crude from Texas. A major new refinery in Alberta collects and reclaims carbon by pipeline from industries as much as 100 kilometres away. Two proposed new refineries in B.C. claim they will be carbon neutral.

Canada is leading the world in developing new ways to extract and ship oil sustainably and safely. We’re certainly doing more than Donald Trump, who wants to turn back the clock to the 19th century. And as far as the other big oil exporters, like Russia, Saudi Arabia and Nigeria, let’s not even go there.

Far from dwindling, worldwide demand for oil is forecast to increase until about 2050. The countries where that demand is growing will buy their oil from somewhere. Why shouldn’t it be from us?

Canada and Canadian oil workers have nothing to be ashamed of. In fact, they can be proud of the environmental, labour and human rights regulations and protocols under which our oil is produced. Canada needs to sell the world more oil, not less.
Tradeswomen roar at Women Build Nations conference

Over 50 Boilermakers attend eighth annual event

THEY’RE LOUD, THEY’RE proud, and they want their union brothers to know they’re capable on the job. That was the mantra of 52 Boilermakers along with 2,200 other skilled tradeswomen and union representatives who gathered for the 2018 Women Build Nations conference in Seattle October 12-14, sponsored by the North American Building Trades Unions.

The weekend conference offered plenary sessions, breakouts with topics germane to women in the construction trades and a caucus for Boilermakers that focused on apprenticeship training. Tradeswomen also flooded downtown Seattle for a Saturday afternoon rally promoting women in the trades. The march demonstrated the growing number of women in skilled trade unions and the growing attendance at the conference.

Sean McGarvey, NATBU president, said that if the WBN conference growth continues at its current pace, it will quickly become the third-largest gathering for the North American Building Trades. He called women in the building trades “trailblazers.”

“Tradeswomen, you do build nations! Your contribution is essential, and your impact is mighty,” he said. “You are leading change to diversify the building trades.”

Moving ahead in the face of challenges

GAINING DIVERSITY in the trades isn’t without a few growing pains, according to the work stories of numerous women at the conference. The construction trades have been a male bastion for decades. With more skilled women on job sites, men are learning to make room in an industry that has been largely theirs for over a century.

Local 13 (Pittsburgh) apprentice Amanda Mortillite said she indentured into the Boilermakers intending to be put to work. But when she first started, she’d show up on a new job site and hear the older men call, “Your dad let you out?”

She said she knows it was a protective reaction, but when she first started as an apprentice, she felt frustrated.

“They’re here for the same reason as everybody else: to earn a good living and support a family, which is the same challenge facing each and every member.”

— Scot Albertson, L-83

during the rally, apprentices Jessica Bruneau from L-647 (at left) and Angel Greer, L-549, talk about solidarity on camera with representatives from NATBU.

continued on next page
“Journeymen are afraid I’m going to get hurt. I get that. But I want to work.” — Amanda Mortillite, L-13

**WOMEN BUILD NATIONS**

continued from previous page

“They’re thinking of their daughters,” said Mortillite, with a slight smile and knowing nod. “Journeymen are afraid I’m going to get hurt. I get that. But I want to work, and they push me aside.”

That is, until her latest job where her foreman — and a male advocate on the job — started telling everyone to put her to work. “Now I’m actually getting to do things. Not just watching.”

And while women still aren’t the norm on construction sites, Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) BM-ST Scot Albertson said it’s better than it was two decades ago. He remembered that in 1998 a woman walked on the job and several men made the comment, “This is a man’s world and she doesn’t belong.”

Today, Local 83 has 16 women journeymen and six apprentices. “I would work with any of them any day,” said Albertson.

As far as challenges for women in the trades, he believes the industry has become far more understanding. “They’re here for the same reason as everybody else: to earn a good living and support a family, which is the same challenge facing each and every member.”

**Piquing interest in the trades**

WOMEN IN TRADES are here to stay. When more women decide on a career in the construction trades, it demonstrates to younger women choosing a vocation that the trades are an option. Conference speaker Dr. Patricia Greene, director of the U.S. Department of Labor’s Women’s Bureau, said women make up 47 percent of the workforce, and there are indications of increased interest in the trades among women.

“Being in the trades changed my life. That’s why I’m so passionate to go into schools and work with youth. My folks wanted me to be a ‘real’ missionary, and now I’m a skilled trades missionary.”

— Jamie McMillan, L-146
We’re starting to get a lot more attention on apprenticeship programs,” said Greene. “The trades can be a great path for careers.”

That’s something Jamie McMillan, Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta), discovered in her 20s. The trades, she said, transformed her life. “All of a sudden, I went from wanting to die to loving my life.”

That’s why, after over 10 years on the tools, she now takes six months off the jobsite and goes into schools to tout the trades through Kick Ass Careers, a program she founded. She shared her story in a morning breakout session.

“Being in the trades changed my life,” said McMillan. “That’s why I’m so passionate to go into schools and work with youth. My folks wanted me to be a ‘real’ missionary, and now I’m a skilled trades missionary.”

Female role models and mentors are important — another reason McMillan is committed to being in the schools. “I started to see a difference with students who were dropping out of high school, and now, they’re doing really well in skilled trades,” McMillan said.

Nydia Daley, a helper-turned-apprentice from Local 549 (Pittsburg, California) agrees there is a need for more mentors.

“We need more women in the trades, because representation matters,” said Daley. “When I entered the trades, I didn’t have [any female role models] to look up to. When I got to the union hall, it was all men. When I got to the job site, it was all men. If there were more women to look up to, there’d be more women in the trades.”

McGarvey said he welcomes more women into the construction trades. “We will continue to break down challenges for women in our industry. That’s what we’re all about in the building trades. Equality for all.”

Boilermakers attending Women Build Nations conference join over 2,200 other tradeswomen for a rally in downtown Seattle.
Three-month standoff ends with new contract

LOCAL D239 BOILERMAKERS are back to work in Three Forks, Montana, after a more than 90-day lockout by multinational Imerys Talc. The massive French-owned company locked out workers August 2, after the union refused to ratify a new contract that would have gutted key benefits and work practices.

Imerys may have underestimated the determination of the lodge’s 35 union members. For more than three brutal months, L-D239 members proved they wouldn’t give up or be ignored. Despite going months without paychecks or employer health insurance, they manned a picket line day and night, every day, no matter the weather, steadily gathered allies and advocates, and made it clear they were in it for the long haul. At the same time, pressure against Imerys gained momentum; while extra security, plus scabs Imerys brought in from out of state in its attempt to temporarily replace the locked-out workers, drove up the company’s costs.

“This was a hard-fought victory, and it’s a victory to be sure. In this lockout, the workers from L-D239 endured extreme hardships: no paychecks, no insurance, the daily stress of the picket line, constant uncertainty and the disappointment of a failed mediation attempt,” said J. Tom Baca, IVP-Western States, who, along with IVP-Southeast Warren Fairley and International Rep Miguel Fonseca joined L-D239 for negotiations in October.

“But they stuck it out. They didn’t give up. They stayed with their plan and commitment to man the picket line until the end.”

It worked. Imerys agreed to go back to the negotiating table October 25, where the two parties reached an agreement to end the lockout. Days later, L-D239 ratified a new three-year contract that reclaimed most of the benefits and work conditions the union initially sought to preserve from previous contracts, including seniority and overtime provisions. Imerys agreed to a one-year extension before health insurance will no longer be available as a benefit to new retirees. The union agreed to drop unfair labor practice charges it filed against Imerys with the National Labor Relations Board.

“I would like to especially thank IVP Fairley for his immense contributions during the negotiations,” said IVP Baca. “His experience, counsel and participation were integral to a successful outcome.

“Thirty-two workers [three workers left Imerys for other jobs] getting their jobs back and with an agreeable three-year contract in a tiny town in Montana might not seem like much to some, but the reality is, this is a major win not only for the Boilermakers, but for all unions. What L-D239 achieved is proof that solidarity works.”

Beginning in the first hours of the lockout, union members were joined on the picket line by their families, the community, politicians and other unions. In addition to support from local businesses and Boilermaker brothers and sisters nationwide, IndustriAll Global...
Workers at EP Minerals join the Boilermakers

EMPLOYEES OF EP Minerals in Fernley, Nevada, voted 22 to 3 to join the Boilermakers. The National Labor Relations Board certified the result shortly after the Aug. 22 vote, and contract negotiations will begin in January.

“Workers at the EP Minerals plant in Fernley wanted and deserved a voice in their workplace, and they’ve found that with the Boilermakers,” said Steve Adair, who is an ISO organizer. “They work hard every day to make EP Minerals a success. Being represented by the Boilermakers will give them input into their benefits, wages and working conditions.”

EP Minerals produces engineered materials developed from industrial minerals including diatomaceous earth (DE), clay (calcium bentonite) and perlite. In particular, the Fernley plant produces CelaPool® Diatomaceous Earth Low Dust Swim Pool Filter Aid, Floor-Dry granular absorbent and Blue Ribbon Cat Litter.

The company is headquartered in Reno, Nevada, and has seven plants across the United States. The EP Minerals Clark, Nevada, plant is also represented by the Boilermakers union (DNCL).

“We’re happy to welcome the new EP Minerals Boilermakers to the Brotherhood,” said Adair. “We look forward to securing a contract that fairly represents their voice at the bargaining table.”

Workers secure first union contract with Mexican-owned plant

WORKERS AT THE Cemex plant in Brooksville, Florida, voted to join the Boilermakers on Oct. 18 after a three-month organizing campaign. The National Labor Relations Board certified the 63 to 41 vote in favor of joining the union shortly after workers cast their ballots.

“Boilermakers work hard every day to improve Cemex,” said Jody Mauller, Director of Organizing Services, noting that seven other Cemex plants are represented by the Boilermakers. “The newest Boilermakers at the Brooksville plant decided they needed and deserved a voice in their workplace, and that’s exactly why they voted ‘Union Yes!’

“Cemex is a good place to work, and many of the crew have said that joining the Boilermakers union will make it even better,” Mauller continued. “They are excited to be a part of the Brotherhood and part of an organization that advocates for their interests.”

Cemex is a Mexican multinational building materials company headquartered in San Pedro, Mexico. It manufactures and distributes cement, ready-mix concrete and aggregate in more than 50 countries and is the second-largest building materials company in the world. The union represents the majority of workers in eight Cemex plants as well as in two additional Cemex facilities. With the organization of the Brooksville plant, all workers in Cemex cement plants across the United States are represented by a union.

“I’ve enjoyed working side-by-side with the workers at the Brooksville plant to help them secure their important first contract,” said International Rep Jeff Campbell. “The contract will help establish and protect safe working conditions, fair wages, good benefits and reasonable schedules, among other items.”

“We’re glad to have the new Cemex Boilermakers on board and look forward to building a good relationship with the plant in Brooksville,” said Mauller.
President Jones highlights M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund

THE MOST NATIONAL Tripartite Alliance brought together Boilermakers, owners and contractors in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, August 27-30 for the 33rd annual conference of the industry partnership. International President Newton B. Jones, conference chairman, opened the event with a discussion of the M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund.

President Jones told the conference M.O.R.E. is the union’s strategic plan to deal with lost work opportunities. “There is no greater issue impacting us today than the dramatic shift away from coal over the past 10 years,” he said. To address that shift, he explained that M.O.R.E. — an acronym for Marketing, Organizing, Recruitment and Employment — will provide assets to expand into industries and geographic areas where Boilermakers need a greater presence. He said that in addition to securing new work opportunities, the fund will help grow the membership and enhance workforce availability for contractors and owners.

Jones also spoke about the need to embrace carbon capture and storage technology as essential to mitigate climate change impacts and provide job opportunities. He introduced a new video, “CCS: Bridge to a Cleaner Energy Future” (at CleanerFutureCCS.org), produced by the Boilermakers to promote greater understanding and acceptance of CCS technologies.

Gephardt announces push for new clean air act

THE CONFERENCE KEYNOTE speaker, former House Democratic Leader Richard Gephardt (MO-3rd), expressed the need to treat climate change seriously, whether or not people are convinced of the science. He described the “zig zag” shifting of the federal government’s approach to CO2 emissions, energy and the environment, considering the starkly different policies of the Obama administration and the Trump administration.

Gephardt announced that he is working with stakeholders in government, business, labor, the environment and other groups to develop and promote a 50-year environmental and energy plan that would provide more certainty for policy and regulations going forward. Gephardt said the United States needs to take the lead on dealing with climate change, noting that the U.S. and other wealthy countries will face major issues if the more than three billion people in the world living in poverty don’t get access to affordable, clean energy.

“If we want to live in a world that is safe for us, then we need to solve the emissions challenge [and share that technology with other countries],” he said.

After Gephardt’s speech, President Jones presented him with an honorary Boilermaker membership in Local 27 (St. Louis).

MacGregor gives update on ground-breaking refinery project

IAN MACGREGOR, PRESIDENT and CEO of North West Refinery, provided an update on the Sturgeon Refinery project in Alberta that processes bitumen into diesel fuel while emitting less CO2 than the light crude refining process.

“This is the first refinery with carbon capture designed in from the get-go,” he said. Captured CO2 will be used for enhanced oil recovery and will be transported via the Alberta Carbon Trunk Line, another enterprise he is involved with in Canada’s oil sands region.

MacGregor said the Sturgeon Refinery is nearing completion of startup for Phase 1 and has employed more than 5,000 union tradesmen and women working more than 50 million man-hours.
Economist says turbulent industry makes for unique labor shortages

DR. PETER PHILIPS, professor of economics at the University of Utah, gave an overview of how extreme turbulence unique to the construction industry impacts labor availability during “boom” and “bust” periods. He explained how Boilermakers over the years have adapted to supply and demand volatility through the use of travelers, planning for and anticipating outages, flexibility in work hours, the use of helpers and other initiatives.

“The chemical plants and refineries cannot talk to one another about when their outages will take place (for legal and competitive reasons),” Philips noted, “but they can talk to the union. That puts the union in a position to think about how to most efficiently allocate workers across those outages. That is one of your core competencies.”

Philips urged the union to take advantage of today’s economic stability, ahead of future economic downturns, to build its strength.

“You’ve got to meet the needs of owners and contractors,” he said. “You’ve got to use the resources flowing your way now to finance the reforms you need to make today for the problems of the future.” He said those resources are necessary “to recharge your apprenticeship program, to refill that missing generation of Boilermakers, to recruit new contractors and take your industry into new sectors of the economy.”

Allam Cycle offers emissions-free power generation using fossil fuels

DAMIAN BEAUCHAMP, a principal and chemist at 8 Rivers Capital, LLC, provided an update on the progress of a demonstration project in LaPorte, Texas, that employs a revolutionary technology to produce emissions-free electricity using fossil fuels. The project is being developed and operated by NET Power, a portfolio company of 8 Rivers Capital.

Beauchamp said the LaPorte plant is based on the Allam Cycle, a process that uses oxy-combustion of carbon fuels and a high-pressure, supercritical CO2 working fluid to generate electricity. The only byproducts are liquid water and a stream of high-purity, pipeline-ready CO2.

“This has superior total economic advantage to any existing fossil-fuel-fired generation that currently exists, while inherently capturing all the CO2 at no additional cost,” Beauchamp said.

He added, “For far too long, renewables have been trying to [mitigate climate change] alone. We decided to address the problem not with renewables but with something that’s better for the worker, the customer and the climate.”

The NET Power plant has successfully completed testing on combustion and is expected to go online in 2020.

Ullico CEO says recruiting, more work, is recipe for success

“THERE’S NOTHING LIKE employment that fixes America,” said Ed Smith, president and CEO of Ullico, Inc. “When our members and people are working, when they have good paychecks, we all win.”

Smith praised the forward-thinking M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund, stressing the need to market the union and recruit more members — especially younger members.

“Recruiting new members and getting more work opportunities is the exact recipe for success for contractors and for your union,” he said.

Smith went on to discuss Ullico’s J for Jobs fund and how it ties to Bank of Labor and the Boilermakers’ National Funds. He explained that J For Jobs provides construction loans and requires that projects be 100 percent union. The Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust invested in J for Jobs, which has returned more than $10 million to the trust, he noted. In addition, the projects financed through J for Jobs have an escrow of $45 million, which Ullico has set up at Bank of Labor, which, in turn benefits Boilermakers and other unions receiving financing through Bank of Labor for union halls and training centers.

Smith said: “That’s the power and the leverage of using union members’ money and your employers’ money to not only protect your pension and grow your pension, bring work for your members and your contractors, but also to leverage it even more through Bank of Labor so Bank of Labor can loan the money out to further strengthen the labor movement.”
Union, the AFL-CIO (and the Montana AFL-CIO), the Montana Federation of Public Employees, the Montana Nurses Association and other unions championed L-D239, elevated awareness of the situation and stoked the pressure against Imerys. The International provided support for local members with signage; food; tents, a stove and wood; a trailer; a portable toilet; public relations help; a lock-out fund; and more. Boilermaker lodges and members gave generously to the fund.

Beyond spurring support for L-D239, the lockout also prompted possible new legislation. U.S. Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) and Montana Governor Steve Bullock both visited the picket line multiple times, and the lockout inspired Tester to introduce a bill that would eliminate corporate tax breaks for companies like Imerys that lock out workers.

“Despite Imerys’ selling their workers downstream, hard-working families remained strong and united during this unjust lockout,” Tester said in a post-lockout news release praising L-D239.

“We’re glad to be back at work,” said L-D239 president Randy Toccì. “And we’re focused on doing what we’ve always done: working hard and producing the best possible product for the mill’s customers. The picket line was not where we wanted to be.

“We cannot thank everyone enough for supporting us over the past few months: our families, the community and so many others who stood with us. This was a tough and tense time, and we appreciate those who joined us on the picket line, who sent emails and letters of support, who donated food and supplies and funds for us, and who encouraged us to stand strong.”

Charles W. Jones Award presented to Local 26

LOCAL LODGE 26 (Savannah, Georgia) was presented with the Charles W. Jones Award, during the 2018 MOST National Tripartite Alliance Conference in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, this past August. The award honors the local lodge demonstrating the highest use of specified MOST programs during the preceding year. International President Newton B. Jones presented the award to L-26 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Johnathon Bates. Recently, L-26 Boilermakers and other crafts were praised for achieving 53 million man-hours with no lost-time injuries at Vogtle nuclear plant’s units 3 & 4 in southeast Georgia.

 Shooters shatter USA fundraising and attendance records

IBB-sponsored sporting clays event raises more than $200K

THE UNION SPORTSMEN’S Alliance 10th annual sporting clays shoot, sponsored by the Boilermakers and held in Lenexa, Kansas, September 22, set a new fundraising record for all USA shoots across the nation, bringing in over $200,000, easily topping last year’s record (also set by the Boilermakers) of $184,000.

Set at the Powder Creek Shooting Park, the 2018 event drew 223 participants, also a record.

“Our event has consistently been the USA’s top fundraising shoot because of the generous support we receive from our local lodges, affiliate organizations, contractors and International staff, along with participation from other unions in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area,” said Mark Vandiver, the Boilermakers Executive Director for Construction Sector Operations. Vandiver coordinates the event along with Eugene Forkin, Executive Director of the Boilermakers’ Quality Control Council of the United States.

The 2018 sporting clays shoot also served as a platform for other worthy causes. Bank of Labor and the Boilermakers jointly showed their support for a newly formed youth shooting group (Piper High School Trap Club, near Kansas City, Kansas) with a donation of $10,000. The USA and the Greater Kansas City Building and Construction Trades Council matched that with their own $10,000 gift. In addition, the USA donated union-made shooting vests and a shotgun to be used by the club as a raffle item to raise additional funds.

The Boilermakers also sponsored a raffle for locked-out members of Local D239 in Three Forks, Montana, collecting $5,700.

The Union Sportsmen’s Alliance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated “to unite the union community through conservation to preserve North America’s outdoor heritage.” The Boilermakers union is a charter member. Free membership is available to all IBB members. Visit unionsportsmen.org/take-action/join.

"USA EVENT MANAGER CHRIS PILTZ announces a record $200,000-plus raised by the Boilermaker-sponsored event."

"BOILERMAKER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – QCCUS GENE FORKIN blasts a clay pigeon."

"THE PIPER HIGH SCHOOL TRAP SHOOTING CLUB receives two $10,000 checks, one from Bank of Labor and the Boilermakers, another from the USA and the Greater Kansas City BCTC."
Boilermakers side-step 70-mph wind

IN THE FOGGY pre-dawn calm at the Laramie River Station, a coal-fired power plant east of Wheatland, Wyoming, Boilermakers working for contractor Graycor hustled to lift a 176-ton SCR (selective catalytic reduction) cap and fly it to top the new unit. Eight members worked against time to place the cap and beat the gusty Wyoming wind that usually kicks up around dawn.

Ray Linzee, Graycor’s Boilermaker superintendent for the job, and also a member of Local 363 (East St. Louis, Illinois) called the wind relentless. “I’ve never experienced consistent 70-mph wind. It’s an impressive force to even walk against.”

He shook his head at the thought of a pick that size swaying in the wind during a lift. “That’s something I never want to see.”

The pick of the SCR cap in July crowned an equally successful job building the SCR unit at Laramie River Station. The plant is operated by Basin Electric for the Missouri Basin Power Project and delivers electricity across Wyoming, Nebraska and Colorado.

With Local 101 (Denver) leading the job, an average of 40 members — with a high of around 80 — worked outages and fabricated the SCR, which Linzee calls the “Cadillac of emission reduction units.”

The local has a history at the Laramie River Station. In the early ’80s, union labor — including L-101’s current business manager/secretary-treasurer, Tim Ruth — helped build the plant. Nearly 30 years later, Local 101 Boilermakers, along with a few travelers and several other unions, returned.

Members were onsite in June of 2017 to fabricate 254 tons of air heater inlet and economizer outlet ductwork for the upcoming fall outage and for the SCR. Then, during the fall outage, Boilermakers demolished 204 tons of existing ductwork and successfully replaced it with new ductwork fabricated in the summer, finishing the job 10 days ahead of schedule.

continued on next page
Boilermakers worked with ironworkers, laborers, carpenters, insulators, operating engineers, sheet metal workers and a few pipefitters.

“We had a lot of cooperation with the ironworkers, insulators and management of all the crafts,” says Jason Taliaferro, L-101, and a foreman on the job. “We were all on the same project going toward the same goal, finishing this product for the customer. Everybody had that mindset. It worked out great.”

In August of 2017, Boilermakers began a solid year of work on the SCR. First they modularized the ductwork — using 21,500 square feet of fabrication tables — then they hoisted the sections into position. Placing 1,046 tons of ductwork required 19 major lifts. Boilermakers welded approximately 30,000 linear feet of duct, completing the work an impressive two months ahead of schedule.

“It’s a testament to the quality of work and craftsmanship of Boilermakers Local 101,” says Linzee. Matt Bero, Graycor’s project manager for the build, agrees. “The welding . . . has been fantastic on this job. Very minor rejects, if any. That speaks to the quality of craft we’ve been receiving.”

Mike Davis, L-363, and Graycor’s site quality control manager said, “Local 101 did a hell of a job on this with their craftsmanship in rigging and their attentiveness to detail.”

Boilermakers talk job highlights

VINCENT CASTILLO, a helper out of Local 101, started working the Wheatland job in August of 2017. He helped rig the SCR cap, and he says he’ll always remember watching it fly in the air, grabbing the tag line, being on the top and then setting the piece.

“It was a lot of hard work, but fun,” he says. “And I found out I like to rig, a lot.”

For Gregg Nichols, Local 101’s chief steward, the highlight was the people he worked with every day.

“The people made this job. That’s been my greatest enjoyment,” he says. “As a whole, everybody out here was premium grade. I spent 12 years in the Marine Corps and have been all over the world. I feel honored to be here.”

LOCAL 101 DISPATCHER Robert Gallegos — as well the dispatchers from other Boilermaker construction locals — have an important role to play in staffing a construction job. Their responsibility involves more than fielding phone calls from contractors and finding people to fill the work. Each owner has its own special requirements, and it’s essential for dispatchers to know their needs.

“If I send a worker and that person doesn’t have what the owner needs, they’ll be turned away at the gate,” says Gallegos. “No one is happy with that result.”

He has to determine what type of welding process is required, if certain welds or wires are needed and also safety certifications and site rules.

In preparation for the SCR build, Local 101 brought members together for a skills brush-up and two rounds of testing for the job. They even invited Graycor’s Boilermaker superintendent, Ray Linzee, to the local for two days to complete Graycor’s certification requirements before the job.

While Gallegos is modest about his role in the SCR build, Local 101 BM-ST Tim Ruth says he was essential to what ended up being a successful project.

“Dispatchers are vital in every job; but for this job, finding Boilermakers who would agree to work limited overtime — even when major overtime is available someplace else — was a challenge,” says Ruth. “Robert did a remarkable job dispatching Boilermakers during outage season to a site that doesn’t always work major overtime.”
“Your workers make or break the job. I consider this a very successful job — and it takes everybody to make it a success.”
— General Foreman Mike Wann, Local 27 (St. Louis)

“Local 101 did a hell of a job on this with their craftsmanship in rigging and their attention to detail.”
— Site Quality Control Manager Mike Davis, Graycor

“We had a lift plan. Everybody knew what they were doing that day, and then we did it. As an apprentice it was all new to me. I loved it and learned a lot.”
— Brian Rose, Local 101 (Denver)

“This was my first chance being foreman, and it was a learning experience. I learned the other side of things and how everything needs to line up for the project to be successful.”
— Justin Williams, Local 101 (Denver)
Hilary Peach’s first poetry book out now

BOILERMAKERS AND ARTISTS have quite a bit in common says Hilary Peach, a Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia) member who wields a welding torch as well as a pen. She finds that many artists acquire day jobs in the trades. As an artist who is skilled in several mediums, and as a Boilermaker, she understands why.

“Boilermakers are welders and mechanics, fabricators and riggers,” Peach says, noting that likewise, interdisciplinary artists master a variety of different art forms. That’s something that drew her to the union.

Peach discovered the Boilermakers after she finished her undergraduate degree in theater and literature at the University of British Columbia. That’s when she realized she needed a parallel career.

“If you have an art practice, you learn pretty fast that you’d better get another job to make a living,” Peach says.

In addition to traveling out of Local 359 doing pressure welding and other jobs in confined spaces, Peach is a sculptor, poet, filmmaker and writer — her debut poetry book “Bolt” came out in July. She’s also a spoken word performance artist who has graced stages all over the globe.

If that’s not enough, Peach has her own blacksmith shop on Gabriola Island in British Columbia, where she lives. In her 12-by-12 shop, she teaches beginning classes in blacksmithing, introducing seven different techniques during a three-hour session. She also uses the shop to complete small repair jobs for the island’s locals. And, she founded the Poetry Gabriola Society in 2000 and launched the Poetry Gabriola Festival — the island’s yearly arts festival.

Combining her craft and her creative mind, Peach has used her work as a Boilermaker to influence her art. In the early 2000s, she worked for five months across the U.S. on a travel card. She describes her time in the states as “interesting, challenging and eye-opening.”

“There’s something about traveling a long way from your comfort zone alone as a young woman,” Peach says. “There were a lot of narratives — stories attached to those different adventures.”

That five-month journey turned into a spoken recording titled “Suitcase Local,” performed with a live band. The recording features four pieces that were named after the different states where she worked. Eventually, she took “Suitcase Local” on tour as a live show.

Peach fits her interdisciplinary art practice around her work as a Boilermaker. After 20 years in the field, she believes her two professions pair well.

“Someone gave me some good advice once: Follow your curiosity. It will lead you to unpredictable places. It might be a short story, a song, directing a film … you don’t always have to know,” Peach says. “Boilermakers have that. We’re all about problem solving. When I started in the union, I had a sense that ‘I can’t do this. I don’t know what to do about this.’ I now believe in my bones that I can fix anything. I can figure it out. Artists do that, too.”

AT RIGHT is one of many poems found in her new book, “Bolt,” published by Anvil Press, available now at www.anvilpress.com. Listen to Hilary Peach’s recordings of her performance art and discover her writings at www.hilarypeach.ca

Photo at right: Hilary welds tubes to a header at a paper mill.
(courtesy of Gord Kappel)
The Anvils are Restless
by Hilary Peach

and ramble out onto the main road rumbling the moonlight their square hooves slow as handwriting deliberate as ice

in older times they roamed more freely in greater numbers were less guarded and so were we scarred with chiselmarks scorched with hope

anvils remember everything every thing that they have ever made every blow and ring

and we will make everything or we say we will or we want to or we want to say we will make everything out of everything seamless and heavy tender hammerblows ringing bright as stone

anvils live for two hundred or three hundred years if they live at all if they aren’t captured during the dark times confiscated and rendered into arms

that was a long time ago tonight they are skittish and on the move making a break for it they angle swaybacked down the main road swinging their great horns from side to side their breath cool as smoke the scent of something tenderly uncertain on the air.
Local lodge leaders attend summer institute

THIRTY-FOUR BOILERMAKERS from the United States and Canada attended the 61st annual School for Workers Summer Institute in Madison, Wisconsin, August 13-24. Over the two-week period, the institute offered basic and advanced courses. Participants received training from School for Workers professors as well as International staff on topics geared to broaden understanding of the labor movement and skills that are essential to union leadership development.

Attending the Basic Class were: Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) Christopher Mueller and John Mueller; Local 374 (Hammond, Indiana) Mark Kmiecik, James Turner and William Turner; Local 614 (New London, Connecticut) Michael Bushek, William Licciardi and Jorge Morales; Local 696 (Marinette, Wisconsin) Ben Blazek, Lawrence Dessart, Jeremy Erickson and Nathan Velazquez; Local D174 (Louisville, Nebraska) Brandon Bantz, Mike Fischer and Ryan Smith; Local D414 (Pryor, Oklahoma) Ralph Neice and Carl Stein; and from the International, Madison Everson and Amy Wiser.

Attending the Advanced Class were: Local 19 (Philadelphia) Alex Biddy and James Hall; Local 146, Mitchell Gagne and Stennie Noel; Local 344 (Ridgecrest, California) Anthony Arndt, Melissa Baxter and Eddie Ezell; Local 696, Lawrence Alger, Joyce Allgeyer, Alan Archambault, and Marvin Elkins; Local D93 (Humboldt, Kansas) John Hill and Rodney Sigg; and Local D239 (Three Forks, Montana) Tyler Oehmcke.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE 2019 BOILERMAKERS SUMMER INSTITUTES, watch for more information in upcoming Reporter issues or visit the SFW website at SCHOOLFORWORKERS.WISC.EDU

In addition to the Boilermaker-specific programs, the school offers many other useful labor classes throughout the year.
NEW BUSINESS MANAGERS and others from across Canada attended a training course in Toronto August 1 to prepare for their lodge leadership roles. International Vice President - Canada Joseph Maloney called for and hosted the training.

The instruction focused on the International’s structure and service; policies and procedures; membership and financial reporting; grievance handling and duty of fair representation; steward training; the Canadian Boilermaker website; National Maintenance and General Presidents’ agreements; jurisdictional assignment plans; project labor agreements; the owner-client contact database; and Boilermaker craft jurisdiction. The business managers completed an additional day of training in September.

Business managers attending were: Roy Grills, L-128 (Toronto); Hugh MacDonald, L-146 (Edmonton, Alberta); Robert Taylor, L-191 (Victoria, British Columbia); Jerry Flaherty, L-203 (St. John’s, Newfoundland); Mike Feiffer, L-555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba); and Tony Andrade, D10 (Eastern Canada). Also attending from L-128 were Stirling Munn, Dalas Santavy and Rob Hache.

International staff attending and presenting were: IVP Joseph Maloney, IR Kent Oliver, AD-CSO/CAN Cory Channon, D-CAISOLS Arnie Stadnick, D-JS-CSO Marty Stanton, ED-CSO Mark Vandiver and IR Richard McIntosh. Also presenting were Jason McInnis and Blair Allin from the National Health & Safety Department and Jonathan White and Jim Beauchamp from National Training.

Check out the following links for Boilermaker education opportunities

**TRAINING RESOURCES**

boilermakers.org/education_training

MOSTprograms.com

BNAP.com

boilermaker.ca
Runner-up spot goes to L-29’s Davis; Northeast Section takes team honors

JOSHUA SLATER, a member of Detroit Local 169 (Great Lakes Area), won top honors at the 2018 National Apprenticeship Competition held at Local 28 (Newark, New Jersey) August 20-23. This was the fourth straight year a graduate apprentice of L-169 took top honors, and it was the local’s sixth top finish in the last 10 years.

Andrew Davis, a member of Local 29 (Boston), was named runner up. Team honors went to the Northeast, which paired Davis with Joshua Roupe, Local 154 (Pittsburgh).

“There were no losers here,” said BNAP Program Coordinator Mark Wertz at the awards dinner held at the Hilton Philadelphia Penn’s Landing. “Fifty points separated places one through eight, which tells me the training is even across the country. But we’re going to keep developing and raising the bar.”

Slater, who kept the L-169 winning streak going, first heard about the Boilermakers through the High School Welding Invitational hosted by L-169 every spring. The program, which began 16 years ago, gives high school students early exposure to the Boilermakers and the quality apprenticeship training the union offers.

“In Local 169, we think it’s very important to train our people to a standard that will keep our brotherhood going for another 125 years,” says L-169 BM-ST Bob Hutsell. “That’s what we work to do.”

Also competing were Michael Estes, Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri); Jason Eubanks, Local 549 (Pittsburg, California); Dwayne Martin, Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Kentucky); Matthew Stillson, Local 1 (Chicago); and Justin Williams, Local 101 (Denver).
To reach the national competition, which is sponsored by the Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Program, contestants had to finish in the winner or runner-up spot in their respective area competitions.

In addition to the hands-on competition, candidates competed on a written exam covering their four years of related studies and on-the-job-training, blueprint reading and safety. The hands-on portion included rigging, layout and fabrication, tube rolling, knot tying, hand signals, reeving, and equipment use, along with welding and cutting. Judges scored contestants on safety and on overall knowledge and demonstrated skills.

The lead judge for the competition was Michael Stanton (Local 154, Pittsburgh). Other judges for the event were Shon Almond, AD-NTDS; Craig Belfatto Jr., Shelby Mechanical; Monte Causey, IR-CSO; Jason Dupuis, NEAAC; Shaun Estes, Songer Corp.; Matthew Fink, Local 13 (Philadelphia); Chuck Harvey, Babcock & Wilcox Construction Co. Inc.; Jason Hettel, Local 27 (St. Louis); Col lin Keisling, WSJAC; Travis Laine, Local 242 (Spokane, Washington); Larry McManamom Jr., GLABAP; Stephen Murphy, NEAAC; Eric Olson, SAJAC; BM-ST Chris O’Neill, Local 237 (East Hartford, Connecticut); Darrell Rosson, Graycor; and Gary Talmadge, CBI.

The candidates were recognized and awards presented at a dinner. Presenters included International Vice President - Great Lakes Larry McManamon and Wertz, who also served as master of ceremonies.

“Fifty points separated places one through eight, which tells me training is even across the country. But we’re going to keep developing and raising the bar.”

— BNAP COORDINATOR MARK WERTZ

Judges for the competition pose with contestants after the awards banquet.
NORTH EAST TEAM

△ NORTHEAST TEAM MEMBER ANDREW DAVIS, L-29, stands inside the hopper discussing next steps with JOSHUA ROUPE, L-154, during the team rigging exercise. Davis and Roupe captured the top team spot.

▼ JOSH ROUPE, L-154, uses arc gouging to remove a flange from a previous project.

▼ INDIVIDUAL RUNNER-UP ANDREW DAVIS, L-29, measures during layout and fabrication.
L-549’S JASON EUBANKS shows off his knot-tying expertise.

JUSTIN WILLIAMS, L-101, cuts out a pattern of the New Jersey Devils ice hockey team logo using an oxy-acetylene torch.

DURING THE WESTERN STATES BUDDY WELD EXERCISE, L-549’S JASON EUBANKS, LEFT, welds in a new tube while L-101’s Justin Williams preps the membrane.
L-1’S MATT STILLSON welds a T-joint in the plate welding test using a 3/16-diameter electrode.

CONTEST WINNER JOSH SLATER, L-169, lays in a pass during the MIG welding exercise.

THE GREAT LAKES TEAM OF JOSH SLATER, L-169, LEFT, AND LOCAL 1’S MATT STILLSON buddy up on the waterwall exercise. The test requires contestants to cut out a section of a bad tube and replace it with a new one.
Dwayne Martin, L-40, rolls a tube for a water-tight fit during the tube-rolling competition.

The Southeast team of L-40’s Dwayne Martin, right front, and L-83’s Michael Estes, right back, review instructions for the team rigging exercise. Seated at the judges table are, l. to r. Jason Hettel, Local 27; Chuck Harvey, Babcock and Wilcox and Wilmer Rodriguez, a Local 28 volunteer.

Local 83’s Michael Estes works through a reeving test.

Dwayne Martin, L-40, rolls a tube for a water-tight fit during the tube-rolling competition.
WIN A
BIG CEDAR LODGE EXPERIENCE

Carhartt, Union Sportsmen’s Alliance, and Bass Pro Shops have teamed up to provide one lucky union member and a guest with a little piece of heaven on earth at the ultimate wilderness resort in the Ozark Mountains.

ENTER TO WIN
Deadline: January 31, 2019

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Must be a Union Sportsmen’s Alliance or AFL-CIO affiliated union member to qualify.

GRAND PRIZE PACKAGE – 1 WINNER
$8,400 value
- Domestic roundtrip airfare for two
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- 4 night stay at Big Cedar Lodge - Bass Pro Shops Cottage
- $500 meals allowance
- Bass Pro Shops Shooting Academy sporting clays package for two
- Dogwood Canyon wildlife tram tour for two
- Guided fly fishing for two at Dogwood Canyon
- Round of golf for two at Buffalo Ridge OR spa service for two
- Wonders of Wildlife Museum & Aquarium tickets for two
- $1,000 Carhartt gear package
- $500 Bass Pro Shops gift card
- $500 spending money

RUNNER-UP PACKAGE - 5 WINNERS
$580 value each
- Carhartt Buckfield package (field jacket and pants)
- Carhartt Storm Defender® fishing package (angler jacket and bibs)
Slater keeps the L-169 streak going

AT ANY TIME during the 2018 BNAP graduate apprenticeship competition, one could glance at winner Josh Slater and read the intense concentration and determination on his face — through flying sparks, up high rigging and even in consultation with his team weld partner. Concentration and determination, he says, are two things every apprentice at Local 169 (Detroit) learns early.

It’s evident his local is committed to training quality Boilermakers — Slater was competing to become the sixth Local 169 graduate apprentice to capture the top honor in the last 10 years. Throughout the 2018 competition, L-169’s winning streak pushed Slater to do his best.

“So far, he’s enjoyed his years in the Brotherhood, though he admits the time and training he put in to prep for the competition took dedication. It paid off.

“I hardly slept the first night knowing that when I’d gotten done with an event, I’d left some things undone,” he says. “At no point did I think ‘I’ve got this.’ Everyone was kicking ass.”

To gear up for the national-level competition, Slater focused on the written testing. “I figured as far as the hands-on portion, if you’re in the competition you’d better already know how to burn, weld and gouge. I really targeted the book work.”

While the written test was tough, he says, the rigging exercise was the most difficult. “In the rigging portion, there was one specific way that was the correct way. But you could do it 100 different ways. It made me think. And sweat.”

Slater appreciated the coaching from L-169 President Mike Card, who also coordinates training for the local. He also acknowledged the guidance he received from BM-ST Bob Hutsell and past winners Marcus Delo and Brandon Dormire, as well as many other members who helped him prepare. He says his wife (and high school sweetheart), Courtney Slater, offered ongoing support and encouragement.

Slater says it was a close competition where every contestant was top notch and where every detail mattered. “I didn’t want to leave behind a point anywhere, because I knew it could be the deciding one.”
APPRENTICES AT LOCAL 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) participated in the play “Eurydice” without ever setting foot on stage. Twenty apprentices, working in groups of five to eight, fabricated an elaborate staircase for the set of Olathe West High School’s fall play. Local 83’s BM-ST Scot Albertson said the 150-hour project was a real-life lesson in fabrication, because apprentices had to look at the drawing of the staircase, then build it.

“You read a lot of blueprints in the field and have to fabricate in real time,” said Albertson, noting that the community service project provided excellent, hands-on practice while also giving back to the community.

In addition, when students arrived to get the staircase, apprentice Jordan Gardner gave them a welding lesson.

Pictured with Olathe West drama students are Local 83 apprentices on the staircase, l. to r., Lance Pfeifer, John Stephenson, Gardner, Josh Dorrell and Mitch Renouf. Flanking the high school students are at left, Albertson and at right, apprenticeship instructor Chris Knox.
Boy Scouts earn badges, learn merits of being a Boilermaker

BOY SCOUTS AND Boilermaker goals matched up perfectly when Scouts from the Boy Scouts of American Grand Canyon Council met up with Local 627 (Phoenix) and the Western States Apprenticeship Program. The Scouts fulfilled a goal to provide its members with career-oriented programs in partnership with community organizations. The local got an audience of young, prospective apprentices to educate. And the Scouts themselves earned their Model Design and Building merit badges.

Eighteen Scouts, ages 13 to 18, and a few parents gathered in the union hall and apprentice training center in Phoenix on a Saturday morning to discover the multiple skills Boilermakers can acquire and the benefits of joining a trade union.

The five-hour class started with L-627 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Jacob Evenson giving a brief introduction to the career paths a Boilermaker can take, including how a person could participate in the Western States Helper Program and the Boilermakers National Apprentice Program. To bring his words to life, Evenson showed the Scouts two videos: “Boilermakers — This is Our History” and “Helper Program Innovates.”

Local 627’s Gary Bain and four apprentices led groups in a hands-on training exercise for a mock reeving project. The instructors went over job safety analysis, and each group got a blueprint of the project.

Scouts measured pre-cut building materials and matched them with the information on the blueprint. After each Scout suited up in personal protective equipment, they took turns tack welding and fitting up the block reeve.

“Besides learning a practical skill, it was good for the boys to work in a group toward a common goal. They had to negotiate who did what and when,” said Trish Sierra, mother to three Scouts.

“I was surprised how many things Boilermakers do,” said William Sierra, 13. “The class was great because it wasn’t just people talking — that’s boring. I liked the videos and working with my hands.”

“We provide an active way to teach youth and their parents about the many opportunities open to a Boilermaker,” said Evenson, noting the importance of regularly offering classes to local community groups, like the Scouts.

L-627 plans to offer three more Model Design and Building merit badge courses over the next year.
Quick action saves life

FOR LOCAL 154 (Pittsburgh) Boilermaker Jonathan Bach, making his way along the catwalk as he inspected compartments in the bag house was routine — business as usual at the William H. Sims, First Energy plant. Until it wasn’t.

Unknown to the 12-year Boilermaker, the door to one of the bag house cells was open, and as he approached, suction drawing through the opening yanked him into the dusty, pitch-black cell.

“At first, it didn’t seem like a big deal, but I realized pretty quickly that I couldn’t see the hole to get out,” says Bach.

He began yelling and trying to work his way toward an opening to get a foot out of the hole as suction and time worked against him.

“With all the dust, I knew I couldn’t last long, and if I couldn’t get out, I was thinking I would die.”

That’s when he felt someone snatch his ankle. What he didn’t know was that four of his fellow L-154 brothers were linked in a sort of human chain to pull him to safety.

John McClurg, secured by his belt-loop by Rick Derrick and anchored by Ethan Boyd, had plunged in to grab one of Jonathan’s ankles. Scott Weaver, who had wrapped his own leg around a rail for security, had grabbed Jonathan’s other ankle.

The four had been behind Bach on the catwalk, and as soon as they saw him disappear into the cell, they sprang into life-saving action. It took all of them working together to pull Bach out.

“Thank God they were there,” says L-154 Business Manager John Hughes. “If he had been there by himself, no one would have known where he went.”

Though they are reluctant to call themselves heroes, Bach thinks otherwise.

“We talk about brotherhood, and these guys’ actions show true brotherhood and what guys will do for each other.” – L-154 BM John Hughes
Local 169 apprentice pulls worker from burning ash

Boilermakers’ brotherhood bond is lifesaving

BEING FELLOW BOILERMAKERS, Patrick Morand and Bill Tyler already had a bond before the fateful night of August 10. But when 100,000 pounds of hot ash buried 15 Boilermakers, Morand’s heroic efforts to pull his coworker to safety made that bond lifesaving. The workers fell victim to a collapsed dust catcher at U.S. Steel’s Great Lakes Works Plant on Zug Island in the Detroit River.

“Everything came down on us,” said Morand, 22, a Local 169 (Detroit) apprentice. “We were immersed in ash... for a decent amount of time. Enough to scare you.” He estimates it took 40 seconds of struggle to get his head above the ash.

“I heard something break loose,” said Tyler, a 20-year Boilermaker out of Local 456 (Rock Hill, South Carolina). “Then ash started pouring all over my head. I couldn’t release myself. I remember asking God for forgiveness and to save my life.”

And then Morand was there to pull him out.

Morand was about five feet away from Tyler and suffering serious burns himself when he heard Tyler yelling. He unhooked his own tangled harness and pulled Tyler to safety.

“He said anyone would have done what he did,” said Tyler. “I told him, ‘No, you’re my hero.’” Tyler’s wife, Nancy, agrees, saying how thankful they are that Morand took action.

While both men suffered injuries, Morand has been released from the hospital — along with the other Boilermakers who were injured — and is anxious to go back to work. Tyler, who endured the worst injuries in the incident, spent many weeks in the intensive care unit and is now home with his family.

Other unions, as well as Boilermakers from other locals in Michigan and Wisconsin, contributed funds to help Tyler and Morand weather the storm.

“The Boilermakers, the hall, the officers, the job stewards and the building trades, they have been so nice... we just want to thank everyone for their generosity,” said Nancy. The Tylers also commended the Detroit community and the medical staff in the ICU at Detroit’s Receiving Hospital.

As the Boilermaker creed expresses, each member is part of a Brotherhood, and brothers watch each other’s backs.

Morand said no one would ever walk away from someone in Tyler’s situation. “I did what anyone would do to help someone who needed it.” And that selflessness is the true mark of a Boilermaker in action.

Adapted from a story by Marty Mulcahy, editor, The Building Tradesman. Photos by Marty Mulcahy.
L-S1978 president wins Wyoming AFL-CIO award

Humble leader honored for going “above and beyond”

ROY MOYER NEVER expected to be put in the spotlight during the Wyoming AFL-CIO’s annual conference this past September. Moyer, who is president of Local S1978 (Rock Springs, Wyoming), said he went from a moment of confusion to surprise to disbelief, as it registered that he was being presented with the 2018 Labor Leader of the Year Award, the state labor council’s top honor.

“I don’t think anyone expects to win an award. They were reading a letter about the person who would receive the Labor Leader of the Year award, and it wasn’t until about three-fourths of the way through that I realized they were talking about me,” Moyer says. “You never expect it for yourself. You see a lot of people who you’ve worked with for years and are maybe more deserving than me. It was hard for me to accept that I would deserve it more than anyone else.”

L-S1978 Recording Secretary Mario McKeever wrote the nominating letter on behalf of the local’s executive board.

“Roy is just a good president. He goes above and beyond what he needs to do as a union president,” McKeever says. “A lot of members don’t see all that he does, because he’s humble. He’s generous and has even given personally to help members. He goes to battle for everyone — and that’s even harder for a union president in a right-to-work state — but he does what he can for everybody. He’s got the whole board’s respect.”

Moyer has been a Boilermaker since 1998 and is a heavy equipment operator; though, he notes, serving as president is nearly a full-time job by itself.

“Being honored like this, it’s humbling,” he says. “Sometimes in a role like this, you hear a lot of the negative. It’s overwhelming when something like this happens. It makes all the hard work worthwhile — the time that goes into it. Your whole family is involved, and I’m in a right-to-work state, so it’s even harder.

“I’ve got the best executive board, and I give credit to everyone who’s involved with this local.”

Local S1978 represents two coal mines for Bridger Coal Company. ■
Members can sign up by submitting email address

THE INTERNATIONAL WILL soon launch email news briefs that will deliver headlines and short summaries of member/union news directly to member inboxes. To take advantage of the service, members will need to subscribe by submitting their email address at www.boilermakers.org/subscribe.

The briefs will include breaking news linked to the full stories online. Other content will include announcements, links to Boilermaker videos and tips and resources.

“Our goal is to improve communication to members by giving them direct and more frequent access to Boilermaker news and helpful resources,” says Mike Linderer, Communications Director and Editor of the Boilermaker Reporter. “We anticipate that the briefs will go out once or twice a month. Of course, members may opt out at any time and for any reason, but we see this service as a valuable addition to our efforts to keep members informed.”

The news briefs will not replace the Boilermaker Reporter or other communications.
Did you know that under the Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Plan, you have convenient and secure access to quality care, where and when you need it?

The American Well telehealth benefit offers a number of advantages over the traditional doctor's visit such as:

- **It’s FREE!** There is no cost to you or your eligible dependents for the visit under active and retiree coverage (not available under the Fund’s Medicare Advantage Plan).
- **Video visits** with doctors or therapists from the comfort of your home, on your phone, tablet or computer.
- **Peace of mind** with a doctor or therapist “on call” 24/7 to provide care for conditions such as flu, earache, skin rash or counseling for anxiety and depression.
- **Prescriptions (when appropriate),** referrals, and more.

To see a full description of your Plan’s benefits and limits, please refer to the 2018 Evidence of Coverage and Summary Plan Description ( SPD).

Enroll using Service Key BOILERMAKERS. Call 844-SEE-DOCS | Visit www.amwell.com | Download the app
Local 1 • Chicago
ERIC S. DAVIS, BM-ST of Local 1, Chicago, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

65 YEARS  Bobby Petralia, William Vogel;
50 YEARS  James Hagan, Thomas Patterson, Robert Schwartz, Robert Williams;
45 YEARS  Thomas Hartley;
40 YEARS  Christopher Pranger, James Shue;
20 YEARS  Larry Payton.

Local 4 • Page, Arizona
LOUIS DODSON, BM-ST of Local 4, Page, Arizona, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

45 YEARS  Richard Lockyer;
40 YEARS  Max Peterson;
15 YEARS  Andrew Jones, Lolita Nez, Lorinda Smith, David Stanley, Dwayne Yellowhair.

Local 83 • Kansas City, Missouri
SCOT ALBERTSON, BM-ST of Local 83, Kansas City, Missouri, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

50 YEARS  Nick Enzbrenner;
40 YEARS  Charles Bernt, Clay Zimmerman;
30 YEARS  Jase Barckley, Clifford Pryor;
20 YEARS  Scot Albertson, To Vo;
15 YEARS  Alan Keith, Nolan Kirkwood, Ronald Nash, Mat Probst.

Local 647 • Minneapolis
LUKE VOIGT, BM-ST of Local 647, Minneapolis, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

55 YEARS  Jay M. Anderson, Melvin M. Shilts;
50 YEARS  Gary L. Dart, Duane E. Malakowsky, Leroy Schriever, Jesse G. Zeman;
40 YEARS  Glenn Albright, David B. Baney, Patrick L. Morrison, Rodney L. Pilaraki, Timothy Schreifels;
35 YEARS  Richard A. Zoellner;
30 YEARS  Perry E. Nelson, Mike A. Olinger, Darcy A. Soltis;
25 YEARS  Paul E. Hoffart, Gaylyn Magner;
20 YEARS  Norman E. Erickson, Dale J. Jacobson, Travis J. Pearson, Anthony J. Sonneman, Brian R. Tyce;
15 YEARS  Travis H. Gullickson, Sami J. Heinonkari.

Local 744 • Cleveland, Ohio
MARTIN MAHON, BM-ST of Local 744, Cleveland, Ohio, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

50 YEARS  John C. Clark;
30 YEARS  Lawrence J. McManamon, Jr.;
25 YEARS  Danny D. Kurjian Jr., Jamie L. Rothacher;

Local D500 • Rogers City, Michigan
PATRICK S. SCHUCH, PRESIDENT of Local D500, Rogers City, Michigan, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

20 YEARS  Jeffery W. Hoedel, Anthony J. LaFleche, Gerald T. LaLonde, Ryan J. Schaedig;
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.

1 Cooper, Levi 37 Russell Jr., Cecil W. 104 Herlyck, Allen L.
1 Cravens, Huey H. 40 Frantz, Kenneth W. 104 McCulloch, Mark C.
1 Gilland, J. D. 40 McCain, Willis D. 104 Myers, Delbert W.
1 Gonzalez Jr., Humberto 40 Qualls, Rudolph 104 Walker III, Thomas L.
1 Heda, Theodore 40 Schnellenberge, Paul A. 105 Baxter Jr., Robert L.
1 Shadden, Earl A. 40 Stevens, George C. 107 Barningham, Jordan L.
3 Aurand, Wayne L. 40 Weaver, Dennis 107 Fasbender, Gerald D.
5 Farrell, Stanley W. 51 Anglin, Thomas L. 107 Lewellyn, Daniel A.
5 Sussman, Morris D. 57 Hinnant, Alvin E. 107 Moede, Guy R.
6 Harrison, Robert H. 72 Mason, Lowell B. 108 Winslett, James R.
6 Mustonen, Fritz I. 72 Miller, Robert L. 110 Barnett, Billy E.
7 Stocklosa, Joseph T. 73 La Pierre, Bernie 110 Mosley, Waymon G.
13 Hill, Phillip J. 74 Johnson, Lester V. 128 Furtlette, Alonzo
13 Kinnon III, James T. 74 Lewellyn, Loyce J. 128 Mitchell, Garnet W.
13 Ottey, William E. 74 Naley, Dean D. 128 Pavao, Paul E.
13 Roland, Gale B. 74 Tidwell, Billy D. 132 Guidry, Loyd B.
19 McGee, Robert 79 Morris, Roy G. 132 Swartzmiller, Michael J.
26 Collins, George 83 Baxley Jr., Frank E. 134 Watson, Fergus
26 Radford, Louis R. 83 Capehart, Larry D. 146 Arntzen, Heinz
26 Smith, Joe D. 83 Carman, Kevin L. 146 Kuerbis, Max
26 Waters, Michael W. 83 Davis, Billy R. 146 Lee, Tanner J.
26 Watts, Alvah R. 83 Garoutte, Daniel D. 146 Mcldoon, Edward
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27 Craft, Dewane 83 Martin, Jeremy W. 146 Shura, Allan N.
27 Depew, Raymond M. 83 Mattricks, Dennis D. 146 Yakimetz, Emil
27 Schmidt, Robert 83 Penny, Phil L. 151 Riesz, Steven
27 Wille, Roland G. 83 Read, William E. 154 Gillikin, Larry
28 Acker II, Carl F. 83 Watson, Mark W. 154 Hall, Jimmy E.
28 Ahern, Robert C. 85 Hebert Sr., Charles R. 154 Hurst, Alfred H.
29 Arruda, Edwin 85 Ruetz Jr., Roy 154 Lacross, Robert J.
29 Blake, William D. 85 Todd Jr., Robert J. 154 Mitchell, John R.
29 Campbell, Wayne P. 92 Baldus, Mark J. 154 Penatzer, James C.
29 Gayhart, James A. 92 Garcia, Mario L. 158 Allington, Charles E.
29 Palombi, Anthony 92 Sany, Isaac 158 Begner, Robert L.
29 Truckenmiller, Dale R. 104 Coulter, Wilbur S. 158 Hebb Jr., Ivan S.
34 Christiansen, Kris 104 Crane, Larry G. 158 Long, James R.
37 Authement Jr., George C. 104 Eng, Harry Y. 159 Lewis, Ronald K.
## 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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647 Christensen, Harold $6,000
647 Hanson, Marlan M. $6,000
647 Kears, Lyle T. $6,000
647 Peters, Randy $6,000
647 Risland, David A. $6,000
647 Schick, Rick A. $6,000
647 Wenzel, Victor A. $6,000
647 Yoakum, Lawrence J. $6,000
667 Bush, Bruce D. $6,000
667 Campbell, Randall A. $6,000
667 Griffin, Gregory D. $6,000
667 Harrison, Sebascot C. $6,000
667 Martin, Howard M. $6,000
679 Jennings, Willie C. $6,000
684 Brainard, William F. $6,000
684 Combs, Michael N. $6,000
687 Booth, Charles E. $6,000
687 Feagin, Raleigh $6,000
687 Knight, Wilfred E. $6,000
696 Baumler, Jeffrey W. $6,000
696 Bolen, John D. $6,000
696 Hafeman, Patrick J. $6,000
696 Ratayczak, Donald C. $6,000
696 Techmeyer, Martin W. $6,000
744 Eustache, William E. $6,000
744 Garabrandt, Kenneth D. $6,000
744 McCue, Larry E. $6,000
744 Vanderwyst, Ronald J. $6,000
802 Finger, Francis R. $6,000
802 Jennings, Thomas $6,000
802 Opet, Joseph J. $6,000
802 Williams, Bobbie R. $6,000
807 Smith, Howard L. $6,000
1086 Pigon Jr., Richard E. $6,000
1162 Morse, John W. $6,000
1212 Lopez, Hector C. $6,000
1212 McCormick, Howard N. $6,000
1234 Falconer Jr., Daniel $6,000
1234 Figueroa, Leoncio $6,000
1509 Doe, Thomas E. $6,000
1510 Metcalf, Joshua $1,716
1592 McGonigle, Hobart E. $6,000
1600 Behm, Gerald M. $6,000
1600 Knutter, Helen R. $6,000
1603 Pilmer, Robert E. $6,000
1603 Sells, Charles L. $6,000
1637 Lear, James W. $6,000
1934 Sljeko, Frank $6,000
1955 Pierce, Edward $6,000
1978 Uhls, James D. $6,000
2000 Casino, Fred T. $6,000
D500 Durecki, Chester S. $6,000

KEEP THE FUND OFFICE INFORMED of changes to your beneficiary, mailing address, telephone number, or marital status. This helps us make sure you and your beneficiaries receive all information and notices. Designate your beneficiary by completing the Plan’s Designation of Beneficiary Form.

You may request a Designation of Beneficiary Form from the Fund Office or download a form using the web address:
www.bnf-kc.com/downloads.aspx

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Also please notify the secretary of your local lodge.
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