

SPRING 2024

The official publication of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers & Helpers, AFL-CIO/CLC

REPORTER

THE

BOILERMAKERS



DEPARTMENTS

P. 32 Service Pins

P. 34 In Memoriam

P. 37 A Look Back

DEPARTMENTS



COVER STORY

10 Boilermaker precision ensures Monroe Energy's Trainer Refinery lift goes off without a hitch in Pennsylvania.

FEATURED

7



See why the Boilermakers and NACBE are "better together."

14



Read about significant gains in Siemens organizing efforts in California.

20



Tradeswomen Build Nations inspires Boilermakers and breaks attendance records—again.

THE REPORTER

Vol. 63 No. 1

WARREN FAIRLEY

International President & Editor-in-Chief

KATHY STAPP

International Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

J. Tom Baca, *Western States*

John T. Fultz, *Northeast*

Arnie Stadnick, *Canada*

Timothy Simmons, *Southeast*

Dan Sullivan, *Great Lakes*

EDITORIAL STAFF

Amy Wiser

Communications Director & Managing Editor

Timothy Canon

Director of Internet Web Services

Emily Allen

Lead Writer-Editor

Mary Echols

Lead Designer

Meghan Markham

Social and Digital Media Specialist



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.

Website: www.boilermakers.org

CanadaPost Agreement: PM 41892512

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

change.address@boilermakers.org

The Boilermaker Reporter

12200 N. Ambassador Drive, Suite 303

Kansas City, MO 64163

(913) 371-2640; FAX (913) 281-8110

Look for these icons throughout the issue for links to additional online content:



“ Women belong in our trade and in our union...
It’s up to us—as men, women and allies in the
union—to welcome our sisters as equals. ”

Warren Fairley
International President

A woman’s place is in our union

By the time you receive your copy of the Boilermaker Reporter, Women’s History Month will have concluded its annual March observance. That doesn’t mean we stop considering and celebrating the vital role of women in our Boilermaker workforce—their role in shaping our history and, more importantly, their role instigating our union’s future success.

As women have proved throughout our union’s history, they are a quality, dependable labor force ready and equipped to weld, rig and work as equals alongside their Boilermaker brothers. Consider women’s impact in the trades in World War II—particularly in shipbuilding. Women stepped in to fill the gaps in industrial and manufacturing work as the men who traditionally held those jobs entered the armed forces efforts. Notable in our union’s history, women helped build the nearly 750 WWII ships produced at Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond, California. You can read more about that in this issue’s “A Look Back.”

In fact, that era was the catalyst for the Boilermakers’ decision to officially begin admitting women members in 1942. Some 80 years later, however, women in our union’s construction sector make up just a small percentage of membership.

Yet, among the women who join our union, we often hear stories about how their Boilermaker career positively impacted their lives. From members like Marissa Collins who, before joining Local 549, struggled financially as a single mom. And members like L-146’s Kayla Vander Molen, who talks with a contagious enthusiasm about the spark she felt for her new career when she struck her first arc.

We hear these stories time and again and know that women belong in our trade and in our union. We also know that while our union contracts ensure equal pay, women sometimes face a disproportionate amount of harassment and unnecessary challenges on some jobsites.

It’s up to us—men, women and allies in the union—to bring more women into our trade, welcome our sisters as equals in our Boilermaker family, help them—as we would any new Boilermaker brother—to excel on the job, advocate for them and defend them—again, as we would our Boilermaker brothers, and give them the paths to leadership they deserve.

The Boilermakers union is in a prime time of great opportunity. With an increase in infrastructure projects amplifying the demand for a skilled and trained workforce, our contractors and employers need more Boilermakers to fulfill the glut of prospective work materializing in the United States and Canada. We need *all* hands on deck. And in this critical moment of opportunity, women are imperative for our union to take full advantage to the benefit of all Boilermakers.

Now, Boilermaker work isn’t for all women. It’s not for all men, either. But the women we call our sisters are as dedicated to the safety and quality of work they do as is any man on the job. They are as committed to our union and the labor movement as is any union brother.

They are, after all, Boilermakers.

In solidarity,



Warren Fairley
International President



CSO tackles recruiting and emerging technologies

Construction Sector lodge leaders and members of the National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers met in Marco Island, Florida, for the annual Construction Sector Operations Conference Feb. 24-29. Under a banner with the theme “Better Together,” the conference highlighted the essential relationship between the Boilermakers and NACBE contractors. Session speakers offered deep dives into existing and emerging technologies, organizing and recruiting, and updates from across the union.

International President Warren Fairley opened the conference, first addressing the relationship between Boilermakers, contractors and owners.

“We want to prove to you, our contractors and owners, that we

can come together, we can work, and we can do our best for both the industry, our members and your organizations,” Fairley said.

He quoted the proverb: If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.

“That’s NACBE,” Fairley said. “For too many years it has been the neglected part of this organization. NACBE should get a little more credit than they do. Simply put, we’re better together.”

Fairley said that union leadership is abiding by the principle of only acting on things that improve the lives of rank-and-file members. If something doesn’t serve the membership, it won’t happen. He also stressed the need for organizing and recruiting.

“And as important as organizing is, that’s not the only way to add members to our union,”

he said, noting there are a lot of smaller, independent unions that aren’t associated with a national union. “Organizing was neglected far too long in this organization. That ended in August, and the IEC has done nothing but support this.”

Existing and emerging technologies

Vice President of PBF Energy José Dominguez gave an overview of refining, PBF Energy’s story and working together with the Boilermakers.

PBF Energy is a downstream, independent, domestic merchant refiner with subsidiaries owning and operating six highly complex refineries. Dominguez said that PBF Energy acquired small-to-medium refineries

that were unattractive to large corporations.

“The mighty PBF. We took over refineries the big ones didn’t want,” he said. “We have a very strong company now with 3,700 employees and a million barrels a day.”

They also have a very strong relationship with the union building trades. Torrance was the first refinery to contract with 100% building trades’ workers and a project labor agreement effectively implemented through California’s SB 54. PBF is a friend to labor as they’ve testified in support of skilled workforce legislation in Ohio. They’re also working with building trades in the Gulf of Mexico to increase a union presence in refining.

“I really want to emphasize we’re partners,” he said. “What we do together really is special. We play beyond our weight with the help of labor. We feel we have a good voice across the country.”

IR Chris O’Neill offered a comprehensive look into the emergence of hydrogen and its jurisdiction, while Director of



Warren Fairley, International President



Chris O’Neill, International Rep



Jonathan White, International Rep

Government Affairs Cecile Conroy shared an overview of the U.S. government’s hydrogen tax credits.

O’Neill said there’s huge investment being put into utilizing hydrogen as a fuel source for transportation and for electric grid infrastructure. Hydrogen can be used in a variety of sectors including cement, chemical plants, refineries and renewables. And there are Boilermaker man-hours in all the industries where members currently work.

“What does this change mean for the Boilermakers? I see change as an opportunity,” O’Neill said. “We need to get ahead of it this time. Natural gas was a boon for some, but we missed it.”

He said the equipment that’s going to be installed for hydrogen production is no different from what Boilermakers currently use. “Our jurisdiction needs to be protected,” he said.

Conroy said both the U.S. and Canada have introduced tax credits for hydrogen but in the U.S., there are some governmental tangles around specifications

“ I really want to emphasize we’re partners. What we do together really is special. We play beyond our weight, and with the help of labor we feel we have a good voice across the country. ”

José Dominguez
Vice President, PBF Energy



on those credits. She said they need to be further defined, especially now that the Department of Energy picked seven clean hydrogen hubs last fall.

IR Jonathan White gave a deep dive into the rise of small modular reactors across Canada. They're poised to grow to a \$150 billion industry by 2050. SMRs are small in size and capacity, which allows units to be added when there's a need for increased electricity, process heat or process steam. White said SMRs are versatile, providing applications for remote sites. And they're shop-assembled, allowing for higher quality control.

Up to now, there's been no North American grid-sized development of SMRs but that's changing. Ontario Power Generation is building the future home of the first grid-scale SMR on an existing nuclear site in Darlington, on the north shore of Lake Ontario in Clarington, Ontario.

Local I28 (Toronto, Ontario) forecasts nuclear work over the next three years to total 2.5 million man-hours, 55% of all the work that L-128 will see over the next three years.

"All that work is performed union," White said.

Updates from across the Union

CSO Executive Director Marty Stanton gave a rundown on CSO employees that support CSO members and acknowledged the work that went into preparing for the annual CSO conference. He also discussed the CSO database—a one-stop shop for everything a business manager might need including bylaws, referral rules,



Marty Stanton, Executive Director, Construction Sector Operations



j'Amey Bevan, Canadian Director of National Training

the jurisdiction database and contracts.

Stanton mentioned a new energy initiative with IR Chris O'Neill and consultant Mike Murphy. It's an initiative to get involved in the newer technologies on the horizon such as hydrogen and SMRs.

IVP-Canada Arnie Stadnick shared lodge-by-lodge information on man-hour forecasts, noting most of Canada is at full employment.

"Our primary focus is on recruitment," Stadnick said. "We can, and we try to, supply the demand. Here's an opportunity for the American brothers

and sisters to come north, and some in Canada may want to come south."

He said Boilermakers continue to lobby the government on pension matters. And now they have a friend of government to help, Monte McNaughton, the previous minister of labor.

"Before he resigned, he was active in unions and a friend of Boilermakers," he said, noting past IVP-Canada Joe Maloney started the relationship with McNaughton and others have embraced it.

"Monte has agreed to sit on our pension committee. He's very influential as a former labor minister."

MOST Administrator Mark Garrett gave an update on training and safety numbers including drug testing, OSHA, steel erection, scaffolding and supplemental rigging. He said the new mental health program has been well-received among contractors and owners. MOST is also looking at training programs on the local level on how to identify mental health issues.

Jason McInnis, Director of Health and Safety Canada also raised the issue of mental health and occupational health and their importance in the workplace. The goal with both is to improve Boilermakers' long-term health, well-being and quality of life.

"Stigma is the number one reason why people don't get help," McInnis said. "We need to end the stigma. Know the numbers to call. Plaster them in your lodge, bathrooms and jobsites."

Canadian Director of National Training j'Amey Bevan gave an overview of training in Canada,

noting that training center coordinators meet quarterly to share information across training centers.

“We really have a phenomenal collection of training coordinators.”

She said in Canada, they’ve focused on fostering the next generations through project management and field supervisor training, which helps new journey people know what they’ll face in a supervisor role. They’re also focused on apprentice training, with 86% of apprentices in Canada completing their apprenticeship program. Canada has recognized its top graduates since 1994 and is bringing back the national apprenticeship competition.

BNAP Coordinator Mark Wertz announced the National Instructor Conference and shared updates to training, including EPRI. The Learning Management System is continually being updated. BNAP is working on version 3.0, adding new training materials including financial literacy, operating a forklift, AutoCAD, aerial platform operation and clean energy. They’re also removing outdated and repetitive content.

Marketing Manager Johnny Baca talked about strategic planning and the importance of data, especially involving growing the union. He said the union has lost 35,000 members since 2002 and that now is the time for strategic planning. That involves making goals and creating concrete steps to achieve those goals.

“Don’t make the mistake of thinking your union will grow without thoughtful strategic planning; it won’t,” he said.



Daniel Hogan, Impartial Secretary and CEO of National Maintenance Agreements Policy Committee

“Growth will never occur by accident.”

National Coordinator of State Legislative Affairs Martin Williams brought lodge leaders up to date on happenings across U.S. statehouses and efforts to pass safety and apprenticeship requirements for refineries, ethanol and chemical plants.

The thorn in the side of the Northeast, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, is slow walking through the courts to its hopeful end. RGGI is a multi-state compact of Northeast and mid-Atlantic states established to lower carbon emissions in the power generation sector. Boilermakers and others argued that RGGI lacked environmental or economic benefit. Litigation against RGGI was filed in April of 2022, with a preliminary injunction issued in November against RGGI. Williams said Boilermakers rejoiced for a hot minute before Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro appealed the decision to the State Supreme Court.

General Counsel David Rosenfeld talked organizing and recruiting, and the law. He taught extensively on 9 (a) status in the construction industry and why unions should establish section 9 (a) status over 8 (f) in agreements. In essence, 9 (a) in contracts bars an employer from hiring another union or the nonunion, but 8 (f) doesn’t. Under 8 (f) there is no duty to bargain with a successor. An employer can make union workers leave a job site and then hire nonunion or a different union.

Daniel Hogan, Impartial Secretary and CEO of National Maintenance Agreements Policy Committee looked at future opportunities for the industry.

“We would not be here today if we did not know how to roll with the punches,” Hogan said.

He said with 110 megaprojects that broke ground in 2023, and over \$1 billion in investments, the future looks bright. And 2024 is adding to that number, bringing it to 144 megaprojects. These include microchips, semiconductors, batteries, refining and energy generation.

“Nearly every state in the union will have construction projects,” he said.

There’s a trend in reshoring manufacturing as well and no shortage of work opportunities. But to meet the opportunities, the union needs members.

“It is everyone’s responsibility in this room to find their replacement,” Hogan said. “Be a mentor. We must open our doors to future brothers and sisters.” 🙌



Local 13 BM-ST Brad Mickatavage accepts the John F. Erickson NACBE Safety Award on behalf of his local. From l. to r. IP Warren Fairley, Mickatavage, IVP-NE John Fultz and NACBE Executive Director Ron Traxler.

Philadelphia Local 13 earns top NACBE safety award

Northeast Area Local 13 (Philadelphia) earned the John F. Erickson NACBE Safety Award, announced Feb. 26, during the 2024 Construction Sector Operations Conference. The National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers recognizes local lodges annually for their members' dedication to making and keeping workplaces safe. NACBE names one nationwide winner and one winner from each of the remaining U.S. sections. The awards are determined by the lowest injury rates followed by the highest percentage of Boilermaker man-hours worked for NACBE contractors participating in the NACBE safety index.

Top sectional winners were Western States, L-549 (Pittsburg, California); Great Lakes, L-107 (Milwaukee) and Southeast, L-433 (Tampa, Florida).

NACBE Executive Director Ron Traxler said that safety is paramount for both contractors and Boilermakers. "A jobsite that has a safety culture is a well-run site. Belief in safety is a core principle

that guides everything we do and create," Traxler said. "When we have everyone looking out for each other, we all reap the benefit to return to our families."

Since NACBE's formation in 1975, safety has improved under the organization's watch, when compensable and OSHA-recordable injuries were much higher than they are today. Across the U.S. every day, NACBE carries out its mission to reduce injuries on jobsites and reduce the cost of workers' compensation claims for NACBE contractors.

Traxler also presented the 2023 safety index with 28 contractors reporting on 32.5% of all Boilermaker work from NACBE contractors. Lost-time injury rates were up from .24 in 2022 to .40 for 2023. Compensable injuries were up from 2.72 in 2022 to 3.22 for 2023. The OSHA recordable injury rates were up slightly from 2022's .78 to .92 for 2023, with OSHA recordable eye injuries up significantly from one in 2022 to seven in 2023. Compensable eye injuries were nearly unchanged from 30 in 2022 to 31 in 2023. 🙌



“ If we can’t work together, we can’t get anything accomplished. ”

Ron Traxler
NACBE Executive Director

NACBE partnership provides data, dialog and solutions

Open communication and working well together are the keys to any successful relationship. And when it comes to winning more work opportunities and putting prepared Boilermakers on the job safely, those are imperative components in the relationship between union Boilermakers and the contractors who employ them.

That’s the premise that built NACBE—the National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers—back in 1975 and what keeps the partnership between NACBE and the Boilermakers union relevant and vital today, nearly 50 years later.

“If we can’t work together, we can’t get anything accomplished,” says NACBE Executive Director Ron Traxler. “We’re nothing if we don’t work together.”

Traxler explains that in the mid 1970s, as the anti-union movement tried to gain footing, no forum existed for Boilermakers and contractors to bring forth issues, discuss them and work together to solve them. Charles “C.W.” Jones, who was then IVP of the Southeast Section and had worked to establish the Construction Division, recognized the need and had an idea to bring the two entities together to do just that.

“There was infighting back and forth and there was really no communication from local business managers to the Executive Council and contractors or drilled down to members,” Traxler says. “It was time for us to get together and say, ‘Look: We’ve got these issues; you’ve got these issues. The only way we’re going to fix this problem is to work together and talk about these issues.’”

So NACBE was created—and just in time, as the anti-union movement began surging in the 1980’s, making joint problem solving critical. There are currently about 80 NACBE contractor members, and over the decades, the NACBE partnership has increased safety, created efficiency and solved quite a few headaches along the way.

Alan Howkin, who is retired from PMC, joined the NACBE board of directors in 1995 and was one of the longest serving board members, retiring from that role two years ago.

“What I’ve always enjoyed,” he says, “is the ability to sit and meet with people who from time to time are almost opposed to your way of thinking. When NACBE was formed it brought us all into the same family.”

As much as it is a discussion-based group, NACBE is data driven. Members are encouraged to share specific injury report data points, which allows the group to home in on priority problems and measure the success of programs, comparing statistics year over year. The more members share their data, the better the analysis to inform decisions. Members also get exclusive access to data they can use to highlight Boilermaker workforce safety as a means of winning work with employers.

Safety is a top-priority issue for NACBE, which is why the organization’s Safety Committee is a top-priority program. Each contractor member sends a representative to Safety Committee meetings, which take place three times a year. The Safety Committee brings in relevant speakers, representatives from organizations such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and safety-gear vendors. The group has roundtable discussions to talk about what’s happening on jobsites, share concerns, identify ways to make positive change and create programs that increase safety.

“They may be competitors as contractors, but when it comes to safety, there are no secrets,” Traxler says. “If you’re doing something on your site that will help another contractor with better safety on their site, there’s no reason not to share it.

“We all have the same issues. Our issues are people issues: How do we work safer and not get hurt.”

Data proves the Safety Committee model works. Recorded injuries and lost-time injury rates have generally decreased—sometimes dramatically, plummeting from 13.54% in 1990 to 1.23% in 1998 and down to .24% in 2022. While there was an uptick in 2023 injury rates, the overall trend remains downward. (See *Philadelphia Local 13 earns top NACBE safety award, page 6 for the latest stats from 2023.*)

Just one of the big safety wins from the committee is the prescription safety eyewear program created in 1992, which remains in practice. Traxler explains that data showed an increase in recordable eye injuries, which made it a priority for NACBE to address.

While standard eye protection is available from contractors and on site, it was previously up to workers to provide their own prescription eye protection if needed. The program makes prescription eye protection available at no cost twice a year to construction Boilermakers.

“Before, about a third of injuries reported were eye injuries,” says Mark Garrett, Director of Health and Safety. “We can still improve, but we’re doing a lot better now.”

Eye injuries have shrunk 62% since the program’s inception, with 31 compensable eye injuries (according to NACBE members’ reported data) and seven OSHA eye injury reported in 2023 (up from just one reported in 2022).

The program is funded by MOST and contractors. In fact, MOST, which is the Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization and Training trust, is itself a product of NACBE’s handiwork. The



LOST-TIME
INJURIES
↓ 97%



EYE
INJURIES
↓ 62%

Boilermakers union and NACBE formed MOST in 1989 in a joint effort to create a funding mechanism to develop and implement the programs and solutions they, along with the National Tripartite Alliance, identified and continue to develop today.

“This is such a good alliance with open conversations about what’s needed,” says Garrett, who is also the MOST Administrator. “Communication is the foundation for everything, and it’s refreshing to have that open communication with contractors.”

New mental health resources are the latest in the works from the Boilermakers, NACBE and MOST (see “Boilermakers embrace mental health awareness to support members,” page 30.)

Common Arc is another important NACBE-conceptualized program—one that saves time and money for Boilermakers and contractors.

In 1988, NACBE created Common Arc as a centralized welding test program, which essentially “prescreens” Boilermakers through mass testing events that qualify and certify those whose work passes the scrutiny of contractors representing multiple companies. The concept was based on a testing and certification program established by Local 169 (Detroit) in 1986.

Before Common Arc was created, Boilermakers had to perform a jobsite administered welding test and additional training every time they went to work for a different employer—sometimes taking the same welding test for different contractors in the same week at the same facility. Traxler says it wasn’t uncommon that contractors would wind up with 20-25 who couldn’t pass the test, wasting time and money.

According to Grace Under Pressure, the delays caused by testing and test failures also meant facilities sat idle: “An electric utility, for example, could lose as much as \$5 million per hour during periods of peak energy needs.”

“Common Arc creates efficiency financially and with timing. When Boilermakers go into the gate, they can go right to work,” Traxler says. “It’s a big cost savings to have men and women ready to go to work right away on the jobsite.”

The program has resulted in a 95% annual average cost savings, not to mention reducing frustration for Boilermakers who had to endure redundant testing—or drive hours only to potentially fail a test on site and be turned away.

“NACBE is an integral partner to the Boilermakers union,” says International President Warren Fairley. “Through the data NACBE members provide and the dialog we have together, we’ve solved some important problems that have protected Boilermakers’ safety on the job and helped us provide the ready-to-work manpower our contractors need to be successful with the employers we both serve.

“Everyone wins through our partnership with NACBE. We’re just better together.”

Adds Howkins: “I think NACBE just brings us all closer and makes the table a little smaller to sit around to have a deep discussion—a deep conversation about what we’re facing. When things are clearly put on the table and friendship and respect are built, we achieve amazing things together.” 🙌



Check out NACBE’s new website, and learn more about their programs: nacbe.com
Learn more about MOST programs: mostprograms.com

OUT WITH THE OLD...

Boilermakers lift out the old reactor.



Boilermakers execute flawless lift at Trainer Refinery

Last fall, around 2,000 union craftsmen completed a significant, multi-million dollar turnaround at Monroe Energy's Trainer Refinery, located close to Philadelphia. With 400 Boilermakers on site, Philadelphia Local 13 led the work with Local 28 (Newark, New Jersey) and travelers also on site for the September shutdown. During the turnaround, Boilermakers executed three impressive 450-ton reactor critical lifts, made possible by one of the largest crawler cranes in the world.

Monroe Energy is a wholly owned subsidiary of Delta Air Lines, so one of their main products is jet fuel for the airline's East Coast operations. Jet fuel production is the reason Monroe Energy purchased the refinery from ConocoPhillips in 2012, after it sat idle for almost a year. As one of only four East Coast refineries, it also produces

other products including home heating oil, gasoline and diesel.

The decision to install a new FCC reactor took five years of planning, beginning shortly after the previous shutdown in 2018, according to Monroe's Vice President of Reliability, Maintenance and Projects Mike Menosky. Planning advanced smoothly, working out staffing, the location of the lift and all the hundreds of details that go into installing a new reactor. Even when the specialty crane Monroe planned on using fell through due to a scheduling conflict, the team stepped up and prepared new plans using a different crane less than a year before the reactor's scheduled installation.

When the day finally came, the crew arrived in the pitch dark of 3 a.m. to dress the new reactor. Boilermakers on site had certainty all would



IN WITH THE NEW.

The heavy rigging required to lift the reactor is one of the biggest challenges Boilermakers face on a lift like the one at the Trainer Refinery. Chokers weigh thousands of pounds and shackles are 1,300 pounds each.

go according to plan, as did Monroe Energy. As Menosky said, “I have some of the best, if not the best, union craftsmen here in the Northeast.”

L-13’s Scott (Red Dragon) Haig, Nooter foreman and one of the signalmen on the ground during the lift, said one of the biggest challenges Boilermakers encountered was managing the heavy rigging required to lift the reactor. Chokers weighed thousands of pounds and shackles were 1,300 pounds each. The rigging was so massive, it required a second crane just to lift the rigging onto the reactor. And during the summer, in preparation for the lift, Boilermakers erected and installed a new 75-ton structural steel frame to support the reactor at a new, higher elevation.

Local 13’s Ryan Stauffer, Nooter general foreman, said another challenge during the lift was making sure the reactor went where they wanted without it swinging all over. With two

signalmen on each crane, Boilermakers worked in tandem to move the reactor to a vertical position. They then removed the smaller crane’s rigging before proceeding to lift the reactor.

“At that point we secured the unit, made sure it was safe and that there was no one around,” Haig said. “Then we brought the reactor into the unit.”

After the crane eased the reactor down, and Boilermakers positioned it into place, engineers made sure the alignment was correct. Within an hour all the bolts were secured, and the lift was complete.

“Some guys went above and beyond,” Haig said. “That’s what made everything smooth. Everybody doing their job and going above and beyond. Everybody working together as a team.”

“It’s no question that our local trades bring an unmatched level of talent and attention to detail to the table every day. Most importantly, they have the same focus on safety that we do. They care about people in the union and want them all to have a long and safe career.”

Regan Howell
Monroe Energy
Chief Operating Officer

Stauffer agreed. “We ended up with a good crew. Everyone worked together and looked out for each other.”

According to Kevin Hughes, a project manager for Nooter, foremen are valuable during a lift as heavy as the reactor. They reviewed the lift plans, understood the rigging and were as prepared as possible. “[Boilermakers] have better experience with heavier lifts,” Hughes said. “The experience is just there with seasoned mechanics that have done this before.”

Monroe Chief Operating Officer Regan Howell said the new reactor is more efficient than the old one, using less catalyst and producing more yield from the same amount of feedstock. It was also designed with one feed nozzle for renewable feedstock and another nozzle for recycled plastic feedstock to be more prepared as the future unfolds. Even before the new reactor, the refinery’s greenhouse gas emissions were trending lower than when the refinery was purchased in 2012.

“We feel like we’re really good at making liquid transportation fuels. When you look at the team here, you’re looking at hundreds of years of experience,” Howell said. “The old [reactor] lasted us 70 years, so we tried to design this for the next 70 years. We think we’re the right people—us and all our partners—to continue to provide energy and transportation fuels for this market.”

Howell said Monroe Energy is grateful for its partnership with the local trades and for the opportunity to produce the fuels the nation needs. He said that hiring local tradespeople will help to ensure that quality people are performing quality work.

“It’s no question that our local trades bring an unmatched level of talent and attention to detail to the table every day,” Howell said. “Most importantly, they have the same focus on safety that we do. They care about people in the union and want them all to have a long and safe career. The training is good and the craftsmanship—I haven’t seen better.” 🔥

REACTORS

A reactor is called the same thing in a refinery as in a nuclear power plant, but they employ different processes. Refinery reactors are used in the chemical transformation of hydrocarbons to produce fuels and chemicals, whereas nuclear reactors harness the energy released from nuclear fission to generate electricity.

SHUTDOWN

A shutdown in a refinery, also known as a turnaround or outage, refers to a planned and systematic cessation of normal operations in specific units or across the entire facility. They are complex endeavors that require meticulous planning and coordination to minimize downtime and economic impact. Shutdowns are conducted periodically to perform essential maintenance, inspections, repairs and upgrades to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the facility. These planned stoppages are critical for maintaining the integrity of equipment, complying with safety and environmental regulations and optimizing overall operational performance.

WATCHING & LEARNING OTJ

While an apprentice doesn't have the same experience as a journeyman, first year apprentice Jack Tromatore landed at Trainer Refinery for his second Boilermaker job. He said working with skilled Boilermakers helps guide him through his workday, including working the lift and performing the welding needed inside the reactor following the lift. "It's been awesome. I try to take home something new that I learn every day," Tromatore said. "It's really helpful to have a journeyman by your side."

UNION LABOR

Besides Boilermaker travelers and members at L-13 and L-28, a variety of union tradesmen and tradeswomen worked on the Trainer Refinery turnaround including:

- Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
- Carpenters
- IBEW
- Insulators
- Ironworkers
- Laborers
- Millwrights
- Operating Engineers
- Painters and Allied Trades
- Steamfitters
- The United Steelworkers represent over 35% of Monroe Energy employees.



“We’re Building The Next G

Boilermakers drive organizing gains at Siemens

Boilermakers joined forces with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to organize hourly workers at Siemens in Sacramento, California. Siemens is an international company producing everything from hospital equipment to transportation. The facility in Sacramento manufactures light rail vehicles for various transit agencies across North America.

Boilermaker campaign organizers Pablo Barrera and Eddie Rodriguez have a challenging task ahead of them. The Siemens campus is huge, with over 60 acres and 11 buildings, 45-50 departments and 1,500 hourly employees.

“We’re talking the U.N. of workers,” Barrera said, noting the facility has a mix of workers from many different cultures.

It’s a daunting task connecting with workers so spread out and so diverse. While the parent company in Germany is not anti-union, the Sacramento location is union allergic, having fought off union drives in the past.

The workers, however, need help. They want help. While Siemens is receiving billions of dollars in contracts, workers endure an overabundance

of serious issues at their workplace including abysmal health and welfare benefits, low pay, pay disparity and gender inequality.

“They pay everybody poor wages,” Barrera said. “People are barely making it. They’re on government programs with the state. They’re just trying to make ends meet.”

It’s a multifaceted job to organize the facility. Organizers began by gathering handfuls of hourly employees for small worker meetings last year to understand workers’ pain and the issues they’re facing on the floor. Those small groups have grown to upwards of 30-plus workers. Through painstaking work, organizers cobbled together a list of employees’ names and addresses and are now knocking on doors with authorization cards in hand. Once the Boilermakers and the IBEW file with the NLRB, after acquiring 30% of workers signed cards, they can ask Siemens for an up-to-date employee list that includes all workers from the company.

Organizers from both unions debrief often and coordinate home visits with Action Builder, a campaign organizing program built by organiz-



eneration Of Boilermakers”

— Manny Valenzuela, Boilermaker organizer

ers. Down the road, after a successful vote in favor of unionizing, Boilermakers and the IBEW will determine in which unions the new members belong.

As the campaign kicked off last year, the Boilermakers, IBEW and Siemens signed a framework agreement in which both sides agreed to “play nice.” But Siemens has already violated the agreement, prompting the Boilermakers and the IBEW to file two unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board.

“Going down that path of the framework agreement was a good idea,” Barrera said. “The agreement gave us more time to get acquainted with the workers. If we would have just gone straight to the NLRB at first, we would have always wondered if we should have done the global agreement. They hid behind that agreement. But now we’re going to take them on.”

Despite the challenges, there have been wins for the organizers and workers, including a holiday turkey giveaway. Organizers wanted to gift holiday turkeys to workers, raising the profile of the unions and helping workers who are living paycheck to paycheck. After organizers sought permission to give away turkeys inside the gate,

Siemens used bogus reasons to deny them entry. So, the organizers moved the operation outside the gates. That’s when management showed up, hassling them and surveilling workers.

“They made a big mistake with that one,” Barrera said.

However, Siemens workers were impressed with the event, grateful that the unions would do a kind deed for them over the holidays, opening more doors for organizing.

In February, organizers and union volunteers trained with the California Labor Federation on best practices for conducting a door-to-door organizing outreach to Siemens employees. Following the training, volunteers from a dozen different unions canvassed Siemens workers at their homes, resulting in significant interest in unionizing.

Around 28-32 organizers knocked on doors for five days and spoke with people from all different cultures during the organizing blitz. Union volunteers from SEIU, Sacramento Central Labor Council, Workers United, UDW/AFSCME, Unite Here, United Domestic Workers of America, Coach Assembly, California Association of Professional Scientists, the California AFL-CIO and direct Siemens employees made note-worthy

impact moving the organizing campaign forward with “a lot of buzz and a lot of interest,” Boilermaker organizer Manny Valenzuela said.

Boilermaker and IBEW members also volunteered time to reach Siemens employees. In addition, L-549 (Pittsburg, California) BM-ST Randy

Thomas came out for a day and thanked the unions participating, as did IR Tim Jefferies.

“We had really good days on the doors. Right now, we’re doing call backs,” Valenzuela said. “We’re building the next generation of Boilermakers.” 🔥



IVP-WS J. Tom Baca rallies support for Siemens organizing in Sacramento.

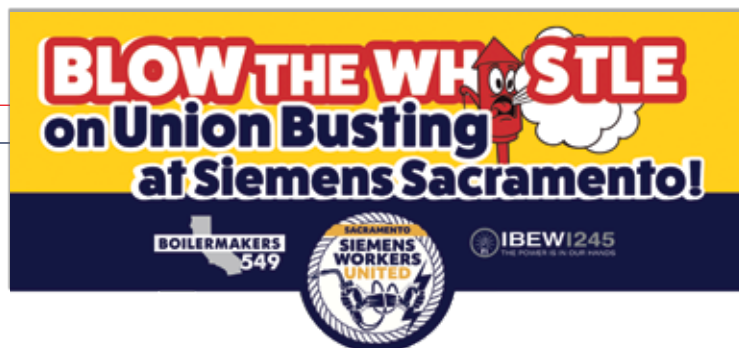
Unions blow the whistle on Siemens

Siemens workers, Boilermaker organizers and members were on stage at Unionize California: Labor’s Joint Legislative Conference in Sacramento, California, March 17-19. The California Labor Federation and the State Building and Construction Trades Council hosted the three-day conference, which included a day of lobbying state lawmakers.

Organizers detailed Siemens’ anti-worker hostilities as the company’s hourly workforce seeks union representation. They informed hundreds of union members in attendance about the union-busting activity at the

facility and asked for support on applying legislative pressure on Siemens. The company signed an MOU, agreeing to remain neutral throughout the unionizing effort but has failed to do so.

“Workers showed great courage attending the conference in the face of potential retaliation from Siemens,” said Marketing Manager Johnny Baca, noting the crowd offered overwhelming support for Siemens employees. “Having the audience champion them made them feel less alone.”



IBB joins petition to restore U.S. shipbuilding capacity

The Boilermakers union joined with several other labor organizations in a coalition led by the United Steelworkers union in filing a Section 301 petition March 12, calling on the United States Trade Representative to initiate an investigation of Chinese commercial shipbuilding. The goal is to restore the United States' shipbuilding capacity, ultimately safeguarding national security, providing good paying jobs and ensuring consistent access to needed goods.

The U.S. was once dominant in commercial shipbuilding, boasting nearly 30 major shipyards at one point. The nation's standing began falling several decades ago and continues to shrink, now ranking 19th globally and accounting for just .15% of global commercial ship construction. The loss of shipyards and commercial ship construction work has translated over time to a loss of more than 70,000 shipyard jobs—which doesn't account for the additional loss of secondary jobs the industry supports, said the USW.

Meanwhile, the People's Republic of China enacted a comprehensive strategy over the past two decades to dominate global transporta-

“The PRC is using commercial shipbuilding to dominate the full spectrum of global trade, choking out all competitors.”

David McCall
International President, USW

tion and logistics networks, including employing “an array of non-market policies.”

“The PRC is using commercial shipbuilding to dominate the full spectrum of global trade, choking out all competitors,” USW International President David McCall said in an official press release. “If we do not act quickly, we will soon be dependent on China not only for the products their vessels bring into our ports but also for the ships themselves.”

The Boilermakers union, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Maritime Trades Department, AFL-CIO, joined with USW in filing the trade petition. USTR Katherine Tai has 45 days (beginning with the March 12 filing) to consider and determine if she will pursue an investigation of Chinese shipbuilding.

“As our nation takes great strides toward rebuilding infrastructure, manufacturing and critical supply chains, we also need our policymakers to turn their attention to shipbuilding,” said International President Warren Fairley. “It is vital for all of us in the U.S. labor movement—regardless of whether or not we work directly in shipbuilding—to implore all policymakers in our nation's capital to support our fight to save the United States shipbuilding industry.” 🙌



Boot camps and recruiting work together for a stronger union

It's been nearly six years since the initial boot camp program kicked off in July of 2018, and the success of the program is evident. Dozens of local lodges have hosted the camps throughout the United States, completing 258,730 training hours in over 105 boot camps, teaching 1,244 students with an overall pass rate of 86%. In just the first two months of 2024, seven boot camps trained both new recruits and apprentices.

The Boilermaker training facility on the Tennessee Valley Authority grounds in Hartsville, Tennessee, runs boot camps year-round. Because of its central location—about an hour outside Nashville—the facility isn't just for recruits and Boilermakers in the Southeast. It's also easily accessible to those in the Great Lakes, Northeast and Western States.

The boot camp program has faced obstacles, according to National Director of Training Services Jeffrey Hughes. The COVID-19 pandemic caused early setbacks. People signing up for the boot camp then pulling a no-show when it convenes has also been a frustration. And Hughes said he's noticed young people have a different work attitude than the generations that came before them.

"Not everyone wants to travel anymore or go into the trades like they used to," Hughes said. "And parents aren't kicking kids out of the house at 18 anymore. Opportunities are out there, but you're only going to get out of it what you put into it."

Because of hurdles encountered in reaching and retaining younger generations, Hughes, along with Director of Recruiting Services Monte Causey, are looking at different options to reach





Gen Z and other young workers, as well as opportunities to bring in nonunion workers. But name recognition is another hurdle. When people hear “Boilermaker” they may not be aware of the scope of skills and variety of jobs members perform.

“We’ve always been a great kept secret,” Causey said.

He said members must put themselves in an environment to entice people to check out the Boilermaker craft—especially since other crafts are also trying to attract welders. Local ads, including TV spots, seem to work for recruiting on a local level.

“Pound the ground and make yourself known,” Causey said. “Make yourself known to the welding programs at the high schools. Find those guys working nonunion and inform them about the possibilities.”

He said touting union benefits including higher pay, retirement security and union job security can draw in more nonunion workers. And word-of-mouth recruiting to friends and family is also effective.

“Really, it’s just getting the word out and getting people to understand,” Causey said. “If you can build relationships with instructors, whether high school or community colleges, you’ll be the first person that instructor calls when he has people he thinks will fit into the union. You’ve got to put yourself in an environment to entice people to check out your craft.”

Causey said the union is in “dire need of skilled people. Not just welders, riggers too. And we’re not the only one in that boat.”

He’s been to schools and finds every craft is also there in search of workers.

“Recruiting is one of the most important things for the survival of our craft,” Causey said. “We’ve got to get people, and we’ve got to spark interest in our organization.”

Hughes agreed. “Every member in the organization is a recruiter. It’s in the constitution that it’s everyone’s job to recruit.” 🧑‍🔧



From l. to r: Miranda Cook, Alexis Paradis, Rylie Knopp and Monette Brownlee carry their L-146 banner. Joining the parade for the first time, behind the L-146 members, is IST Kathy Stapp.

Path to leadership headlines tradeswomen conference

Thirty-two Boilermaker women and allies were among participants who once again shattered attendance records at the Tradeswomen Build Nations conference Dec. 1-3 in Washington, D.C. More than 3,900 tradeswomen from the United States and Canada attended the conference, which is hosted by North America's Building Trades Unions.

"Tradeswomen Build Nations has grown exponentially, and we know it will continue to grow," said NABTU President Sean McGarvey, who made good on his promise to have the Tradeswomen Build Nations logo tattooed on his leg during

the event if the conference exceeded attendance expectations.

"NABTU is proud to host the largest gathering of Building Trades members and tradeswomen... [We're] committed to continuing to support them and increase opportunities for our sisters in the unionized skilled trades."

The most recent conference, which was the 13th TWBN gathering, featured a heavy hitting lineup of plenary session speakers. U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Emerita/ U.S. Rep (D-CA-11th) Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Department of Labor Acting Secretary Julie Su,

Stanley Black & Decker executive Maria Ford and AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler were among those who addressed attendees.

Pelosi reminded everyone that the TWBN event began as a state-level “Women Build California” conference in 2002.

“This gathering is a powerful voice for shaping our economy, one worker at a time,” she said. “By including and training women in the trades, we’re helping women build good paying, lifelong careers... Not only are we welcoming women into the trades, but we’re helping them to take on leadership roles in their unions as well.”

Pelosi called 2023 the “year of the union worker,” as evidenced by many successes in labor negotiations throughout the United States.

“And I’m particularly proud of the leadership roles women in labor have played, from the picket lines to the bargaining tables, building power for working families,” she said. “Thank you for all that you’re doing to pave new pathways to the middle class in every corner of America... When women succeed, America succeeds... As I look out at you, I see America’s future, and our future is bright.”

Su, who joined via video message, stressed the importance of connecting women to jobs in the construction trades.

“These good union jobs excluded women for too long,” she said. “Too many women are made to think ‘That’s not for me.’ Too many women—even if they get trained—don’t get the same hours as their male counterparts. Too many women—even when they get the work—have to endure



Photo by Bill Brouillette

“Everyone wants to be in a union right now. It’s an incredible moment of solidarity—and you are a part of it.”

Liz Shuler
President, AFL-CIO

“Everyone wants to be in a union right now. It’s an incredible moment of solidarity—and you are a part of it.”

She went on to talk about the importance of recruiting, organizing and building union leadership to seize on the pro-union moment.

“We need leaders who understand the challenges coming our way,” she said. “We need leaders who reflect the diversity and the future of our workforce. We need leaders who don’t lift up the ladder when they climb up—we need leaders who will actually pull up the next person who’s climbing up that ladder behind them.”

“You are those leaders, and this conference is the place where you hone those leadership skills.”

Erica Stewart, Boilermakers National Coordinator of Women in the Trades Initiatives, MORE-WIF, co-emceed the event with Ironworker Vicky O’Leary. Stewart, who is a member of L-693

harassment or even violence on the job. To that, we say, ‘Not this time.’”

She said Trades-women Build Nations is not just a conference, but a statement of hope. “It’s an aspiration that as good union jobs are created across this great nation, more women should get them.”

Shuler, who has long been a champion of women advancing as labor leaders, talked about the current labor environment and the need for women to help other women achieve leadership.

“We are in an incredible moment in our country right now. Working people are waking up, and they are finding their power after so many years of being taken for granted,” Shuler said.

(Pascagoula, Mississippi), is on the TWBN committee and has co-emceed for several years with O'Leary. The two are popular for bringing contagious energy to rally the conference crowds.

After the plenary sessions, attendees had a choice of workshops covering issues such as childcare challenges, mentoring programs for women, federal policies, jobsite conflicts and communication, health and safety resources, ally networks, money management, wellness and LGBTQ in the workplace.

Each union also had the opportunity to meet in caucus to discuss issues specific to their union. In the Boilermakers caucus, the group moved chairs into a circle to inspire camaraderie and promote helpful dialog. Union members chose issues and led the discussions. Key topics included how to find paths to leadership in local lodges and on jobsites, how to advocate and speak up for oneself (and other Boilermaker women), forming affinity groups and personal protection equipment.

Boilermaker women shared frustrations and concerns, but also asked questions and gave one another meaningful and practical advice from their own experiences. In discussing paths to leadership and speaking up, all agreed that attending local lodge meetings is vital.



Photo by Bill Brouillette

“When women succeed, America succeeds.”

Nancy Pelosi
U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Emerita/
U.S. Rep (D-CA-11th)



Boilermaker women and allies bring spirit, breaking through the dreary D.C. drizzle at the TWBN banner parade.

“You have more power than you think you have—because you attend meetings,” Stewart commented.

Several who were active in affinity groups or women’s committees in their local lodges gave advice about best practices for setting up successful groups. They also talked about how the groups benefit them as women—and how they benefit the local lodge in boosting membership.

“It’s not just about getting women into the trades,” said Jess Bruneau, who is an affinity group leader for her lodge, L-647 (Ramsey, Minnesota). “It’s about keeping them—retaining these smart women who know how to weld.”

As in past years, the annual parade of trades was a highlight of the 2023 TWBN conference.

Boilermakers proudly carried local lodge banners, chanting and cheering as they marched the route, representing their union and trade well. Despite dreary, chilly weather, Boilermakers kept the spirit going, inspiring cheers from other trades and spectators.

“What I want to know,” said L-549 (Pittsburg, California) Boilermaker Angel Greer, “is how can we get more Boilermaker women to attend this event.” 🙌



See highlights from the 2023 TWBN and get details about the 2024 conference at nabtu.org/twbn



Watch a Boilermakers video from the 2023 event: www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMAErE_EvBk



Alexis Mundt, L-128, introduces herself to her Boilermaker sisters and allies.



Rylie Knopp, L-146, cheers during the TWBN opening plenary session.



From l. to r., Elaine Ogawa, L-92; Myranda Cook, L-146; Charlie Fernandez, L-90 and Nickie Lavoie, L-128 share ideas during the Boilermakers caucus.



International Reps join training

Twenty United States International Reps attended training in Kansas City, Missouri, March 12-14 to learn in depth about research, collective bargaining, contract language, financial audits and other detailed topics to best prepare them for success in serving local lodges. Pictured are, bottom row l. to r.: IR Mitch Brown; IR Mike Autry; Steve Adair, Director of Cement Lodge Services-ISO; Gary Powers, Director of Shipbuilding and Metal Trades Services-ISO; Don Hamric, Director of Research and Collective Bargaining Services; Jeff Campbell, AAIP and

Executive Director-ISO; IR Erica Stewart; IR Gloria Larrondo; IR Ryan Mroz; IR Dan DeCarlo and IR John Clark. Top row, l. to r. are: Courtney Wheeler, Administrative Secretary; IR Miguel Fonseca, IR Justin Mundy, IR Mitchell Beasley, IR Jake Ludeman, IR David Gaillard, IR Stephen “JR” Bowen; IR Don Brown; IR Anthony “Cornbread” Howell; IR Blane Tom; IR Luke Voigt; IR Fran Richardson; Organizer Walt Westfield and Debbie Goodwin, Research Assistant-ISO. 🙌



MOST hosts project management class

Boilermakers representing eight local lodges from the United States and Canada met in Kansas City, Missouri, in early February along with instructors and staff for project management training sponsored by MOST programs. Pictured are, bottom row l. to r.: Bridget Connors, MOST representative; Mark Garrett, MOST Administrator; j’Amey Bevan, Director of National Training-Canada; Mike Suplizio, instructor; Eddie Cruz, L-107 (Milwaukee); Russell Dellwo, L-242 (Spokane,

Washington); Herman Gibbs, L-26 (Savannah, Georgia); Guillermo Oseguera, L-92 (Los Angeles); Gregory Bradley, L-169 (Detroit); Alfredo Leyva, L-92; Marty Stanton, Executive Director-CSO; and Jay Brophy, MOST representative. Top row, l. to r. are: Gerry Klimo, instructor; Jose Sanchez, L-1 (Chicago); Steve Gerwin, L-85 (Toledo, Ohio); Michael Kavanaugh, L-1; Kirill Bochkarev, L-242; Hugo Castaneda, L-92 and Tommy Tucker, L-69 (Little Rock, Arkansas). 🙌

IVP Arnie Stadnick thanks Local 271

On Oct. 28 and 29, I had the privilege of attending an orientation seminar hosted by Local 271 (Montreal, Quebec) Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer Bruno Guilmette and International Rep Michel Trepanier. This event brought together members of L-271 to engage in discussions about training, negotiations and recruitment. It was a great honor to be in the company of Local 271 members and to listen to their insights as well as to receive valuable feedback from Bruno and Michel regarding any concerns they raised. As the orientation seminar concluded, I was genuinely appreciative of the opportunity to receive a group photograph from BM-ST Bruno Guilmette, symbolizing the significance of our shared experience.

– Arnie Stadnick, IVP-Canada



L-271 BM-ST Bruno Guilmette gives IVP Arnie Stadnick, left, a group photograph.



Attendees and presenters attend the Local 271 Orientation Seminar.

Local 146 receives humanitarian award

Late in 2023, Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) received the Ukraine Crisis Humanitarian Aid Award from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Alberta Provincial Council, for their extraordinary commitment to helping the Ukrainian community in Alberta. Local 146 provided warehouse space in Edmonton for donated furniture to aid Ukrainian newcomers. Members helped serve 80 families per week over the past 20 months and distributed over \$6.4 million in furniture. 🙌



Read more in The Boilermaker Reporter about Local 146's early and continued efforts to support Ukrainian refugees www.boilermakers.org/news/L146ukrainianrelief



Business Manager Mack Walker, center, accepts the Ukraine Crisis Humanitarian Aid Award from Danyleiko Oleksandr, Cousul General of Ukraine in Edmonton, with Assistant Business Manager Jason Speer.



UNION SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE **ALL-NEW** YOUTUBE SERIES

SHEET METAL | AIR | RAIL | TRANSPORTATION

SMART

TIPS & TRICKS 1,000-YARD GUN FOR UNDER \$1,000

Want to hit a target half a mile away without breaking the bank? Precision shooting at long range isn't too hard, IF you have the right equipment and know how to use it. In this video series, we'll cover everything you need to know to ring steel at 1,000 yards—from choosing the equipment to mounting and zeroing your scope to calculating ballistics. The best part? This gun is **100% U.S. made!**



 **WATCH ANYTIME AT** [YOUTUBE.COM/UNIONSPORTSMEN](https://www.youtube.com/unionsportsmen)

Subscribe to the Union Sportsmen's Alliance YouTube channel to receive notifications when new videos are posted.

New York Boilermaker wins local election

Boilermaker Ryan Taylor, L-5, Zone 5 (Oswego, New York), unseated a five-term incumbent to win election as the city of Fulton, New York's 6th Ward Common Councilor this past November.

Taylor, who had previously served the city on the zoning board of appeals, ran on a platform focused on attracting more people to Fulton and organizing residents at a grass-roots level to enact low-cost community improvements. He says his local lodge supported his campaign with a \$1,000 donation, which he used to buy T-shirts and signs.

"Brother Taylor is an excellent Boilermaker, and I've known him since he first came along," says Northeast Area IVP John Fultz. "We were 100% behind him."

After being sworn in on January 2024 and now with several months in office, Taylor describes working and governing as "like having three full-time jobs." But he is no stranger to hard work. Before his 17-year career in the Boilermakers, he was a U.S. Army veteran who served in Afghanistan and received the Bronze Star Medal for valor. He joined the Boilermakers through the Helmets to Hardhats program.

"I used the work etiquette I have learned and used as a union man to achieve my goal on the petition portion and the campaign trail to achieve a remarkable victory over a long-term incumbent," he says.

Taylor ran on two party lines as a Democrat and a local independent party called "Seek Common Ground," which he said was integral to his 2.5 to 1 win.

"He's going to be a good advocate for us, and I'm really proud of him," IVP Fultz says. "I'd encourage any Boilermaker to run for office." 🙌



L-5's Ryan Taylor, center, is congratulated by IVP Fultz, right, after his swearing-in ceremony. To Taylor's left is his father, Floyd Taylor, a retired Boilermaker also from L-5.

“I used the work etiquette I have learned and used as a union man to achieve my goal on the petition portion and the campaign trail.”

Ryan Taylor
Boilermakers L-5/Zone 5



Read about Taylor's bravery and the Bronze Star Medal:
boilermakers.org/news/L175BronzeStar

Learn more about Helmets to Hardhats at
www.helmetstohardhats.org

Teens ‘Experience the Trades’ across Ontario

Teens across northern Ontario learned about Boilermaker work and tried their hand at MIG welding and rigging, thanks to the innovation of the Women’s Committee at Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario) and a mobile welding trailer they obtained through a government grant. When the committee first formed over a year ago, leadership identified recruitment and retention as its foremost concerns and it’s no surprise they achieved both objectives.

They wanted to target high schools for recruitment and hands-on education about Boilermakers, but distance between schools and lack of appropriate welding and rigging equipment posed a problem, one an outfitted trailer could solve. That’s when L-128 Women’s Committee President Kim Quinn wrote a grant proposal to raise funds for an educational mobile welding trailer for their hands-on program “Experience the Trades.”

They received \$250,000 from the federal government for the new venture, which covered the cost of the trailer and equipment, as well as funding for another Women’s Committee member, Leah McIntyre, to travel and visit schools across northern Ontario. Quinn said it wasn’t easy navigating the grant world, but they found an advocate in the government who helped to shepherd them through the process. After securing the funding and ironing out all the details, McIntyre worked with the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program to book visits at schools across northern Ontario for the “Experience the Trades” hands-on program.

The biggest hurdle the group overcame was in purchasing and registering the trailer in time to meet the grant deadline. Before buying the trailer,

they had to find their organizational VIN number and the name of the Boilermaker who first requested it for the union back in the 1970s. They searched, made urgent calls for help and eventually, they found what they needed languishing on microfiche, buried in a government office. With the clock ticking down, they met the deadline with only one hour to spare, according to Quinn. They’d finally obtained an empty trailer but had only two days before school visits were to begin to prepare it for students.

McIntyre needed to hit the road for her first school on Monday, so she outfitted the trailer with lightning speed, over one weekend, with a helping hand from her husband. The wood-lined trailer wasn’t fire retardant, so McIntyre lined the floor with steel plate then bent it up to cover the walls. To power the trailer, she created a through-the-wall electrical system, so a generator could run on the outside of the trailer to protect students from carbon monoxide. She also fabricated and mounted a burn table, mounted MIG welders to the walls, and added a ceiling fan to ventilate the trailer. Then she fabricated an outside structure for the students to practice rigging.

Even with tight deadlines, the committee’s hard work paid off. During the 2023 spring semester,



After listening to L-128’s Leah McIntyre give a presentation about the Boilermaker trade, students try their hand at welding and rigging.



McIntyre visited the eastern border first, then she worked her way to all the schools from northeast Ontario to the border of Manitoba. “The North is an untapped resource and no one knows what the Boilermakers are. I do a half-hour presentation for up to 300 students. It was extremely intimidating at first,” McIntyre said.



During the presentation, she talked apprenticeship, pay, pension, travel, welding, rigging and everything that makes Boilermakers best in their field. Then students lined up to strike an arc and weld their name on a plate, which they kept.



Both students and faculty praised McIntyre and the mobile welding unit. Construction technology teacher, Martin Heidinga, from

Roland Michener Secondary School sent a letter of thanks to the lodge before McIntyre had even finished teaching at his school.

“[McIntyre] gave an amazing talk to our students about welding, the Boilermaker trade, and the pathways to apprenticeship,” Heidinga wrote. “The students were very impressed with Leah and they were pretty much blown away by the opportunities and experiences she presented. As I write, some of them are still outside with her, learning rigging and MIG welding hands-on. We had a great conversation in class after the presentation about apprenticeship, the need for more tradespeople and what a rewarding career the trades is.”

After her first round of school visits during the spring semester of 2023, McIntyre hauled the trailer back home and reworked the entire inside to improve the flow of the trailer before completing another successful round of school visits during the fall semester of 2023. In total she reached over 1,200 teens in 23 schools with the skilled trades message—sometimes going back to certain schools two and three times. Out of the 1,200 students, 500 older teens indicated they were hoping to indenture with the Boilermakers upon graduation.

Unfortunately, the grant money ran out, so the school visits ended at the conclusion of the fall semester. However, the local is considering their options for what comes next with high school outreach. With L-128 building a new training center, both McIntyre and Quinn hope their work with “Experience the Trades” will help fill it with new indentures.

“I’m so appreciative of the opportunity to do this job,” McIntyre said.

And it’s evident the schools were grateful as well. 🙌

With recruitment and retention being the top priorities for the L-128 Women’s Committee’s first year, they also applied for an additional grant to retain new apprentices. Women’s Committee President Kim Quinn said they were dealing with a lot of apprentices dropping out because they had families and bills, preventing them from attending the three-week required indenture training. The grant allowed L-128 to give each indenture \$2,000, which helped to stop apprentices from dropping out.

While Quinn and Leah McIntyre were leads on the mobile trailer and apprentice payments, they’re quick to credit the entire Women’s Committee leadership, which also includes Gen Ellis, Christine Hahn and Nicole Lavoie, for their success.





MOST Programs offers 988 chips, posters and hardhat stickers to local lodges to address the mental health needs of members.

Boilermakers embrace mental health awareness to support members

In a significant move towards prioritizing holistic health, MOST Trustees voted to adopt a mental health awareness program for the Construction Sector at the National Tripartite Alliance last August. Since then, suicide prevention 988 chips, QR-code linked hardhat stickers, a QR-code linked pocket resource and posters with mental health resources for local lodges are the first initiatives of the new program.

MOST Programs Administrator Mark Garrett said business managers received calls from members about mental health issues that were affecting members' well-being, which prompted the trustees to act. He said traditionally, the culture among workers was to "rub some dirt on it and get back to work," a sentiment discouraging healthy balance and encouraging workers to dismiss what troubles them.

Garrett emphasized that the primary goal in creating a mental health awareness program is not to train lodge leaders to be counselors but to provide accessible resources they can share with members. In addition to resource-filled posters, 988 chips and hardhat stickers, a pocket-size version of the poster is the next resource in the works.

“As an organization, it is something we must be open to. It's as important as physical help. It's debilitating and a safety issue.”

Luke Voigt
International Rep

“The impact on helping people far outweighs the program's cost, which is minimal,” Garrett said, highlighting the union's commitment to making a difference in members' lives. “If we help save even one person's life, this is worth it.”

Garrett pointed out specific challenges faced by construction workers, including long hours, irregular schedules and the stress of being away from families. The stress brought on by the

COVID-19 pandemic intensified the need for mental health resources. Garrett also stressed the importance of self-care and how members must prioritize their own well-being, not only for themselves but for their families and their union brothers and sisters.

For over 12 years, IR Luke Voigt worked as business manager for L-647 (Ramsey, Minnesota) and saw firsthand the struggles members faced.

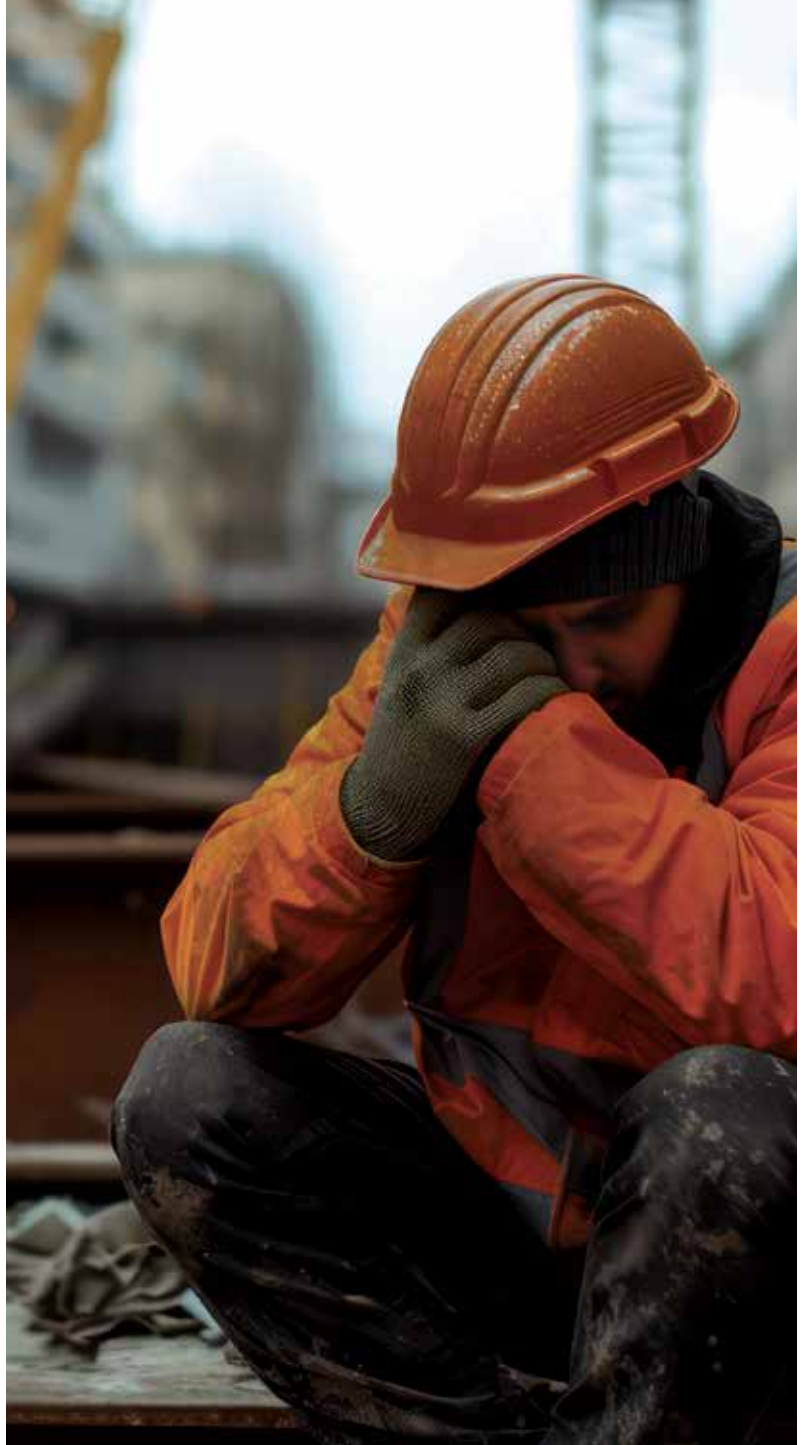
Voigt mentioned the old mentality of “buck up and take it,” highlighting the importance of evolving attitudes. He said he’s seen a positive shift in younger generations being more open to discussing mental health issues. And when members are willing to seek help, it’s imperative to have resources to offer. He said the program’s aim is to train people to recognize potential issues and point them in the direction needed to get help.

“We’re not mental health experts but we can have the tools to recognize when someone needs a hand,” Voigt said.

Drawing a parallel with safety protocols, Voigt compared recognizing mental health struggles to safety practices: Just as safety measures save lives, so can identifying and addressing mental health issues.

“As an organization, it is something we must be open to. It’s as important as physical help. It’s debilitating and a safety issue,” Voigt said. 🙏

STRUGGLING AND NOT SURE WHERE TO TURN?



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is a United States government agency addressing substance use disorder and mental health challenges facing millions of Americans.

Find resources and information at
www.samhsa.org

Know someone battling suicidal thoughts?

Call or text the Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **988** for immediate help.

Find additional resources at
988lifeline.org

For substance use disorder help, call the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund’s Substance Abuse Crisis Line at
877-244-3572

SERVICE PINS

The following pins have been presented in recognition of continuous years of service in the Boilermakers union as reported by local lodge leadership.

Local 1 • Chicago

55 YEARS	James Hagan, Robert Schwartz
45 YEARS	Edward Ryan
35 YEARS	Joseph Natzke
30 YEARS	Larry Combs, Larry Gould, James Perrin
25 YEARS	Steven Balsten, Thomas Donegan, Edward Downs, Patrick Summers, Michael Rothgeb, Joseph Wilhelm, Sr.
20 YEARS	Rosalio Rodriguez

Local 40 • Elizabethtown KY

60 YEARS	Gary B. Dorris, Vernon F. Hardeman, William L. Meredith, James R. Perry
55 YEARS	Hubert E. Calloway, Roy M. Day, James E. Donhoff, Wendell Embry, Craig L. Haney, Kenneth J. Jarrett, Jerry W. Jones, John T. Suttles, Freddie R. Young, Rudy L. Young
50 YEARS	Dennis L. Bartley, David M. Bishop, James T. Newman, James E. Patrick, Johnny M. Reedy, Thomas Richardson, Harold Glenn Riggs, Eric Rittman, Willis R. Rogers, Robert Stevens, Bruce W. Stinnett, F.C. Thompson
45 YEARS	Jimmy D. Arnold, William Bruner Jr., Roger D. Criswell, Todd M. Hardin, Richard D. Johnson, Stephen E. King, Charles B. Patton, James E. Porter, Gerald W. Reed, Gerald D. Sloas, Ronald C. Street, Michael A. Young
40 YEARS	Randy E. Bailey, Steven R. Carter, Joseph N. Demarsh, Benny R. Green, Brian F. Head, Philip S. Rose
35 YEARS	Harold Bush, Jeanette Calloway, John S. Clevenger, Mark S. Coleman, Billy Joe Collins, Douglas R. Collins, Paul Crisp, Don W. Embry, Mark S. Embry, Gregory A. Flaughner, Jeffrey Flaughner, Kendall M. Flaughner, David A. Gee, Thomas R. Gollihue, Jeffery M. Greer, Glenn T. McDavid, Mark D. McDavid, Keith Ratcliff, Robert R. Ratcliff, William A. Ratcliff, Charles L. South, Johnny D. Tackett, Stacey D. Tackett, Billy Joe Thomas Jr., William D. Walters, David E. Warman, David R. Young
30 YEARS	Ricky A. Baker, Christopher Bradford, Thomas R. Forsha, Kelly G. Free, Ronald L. Funk, Greg J. Griswold, Richard W. Hunt, Dana P. Johnson, Danny Jones, Ralph Ratcliff, Mikeal R. Reed, Charles J. Russell, James E. Segraves, Paul R. Sandusky, Paul B. Sisco, Thomas Swenney, Ryan E. Tussey, William C. Winstead
25 YEARS	Steven Bradford, Donnie K. Curnel, James Darnell, Russell Davis, Richard L. Hagan, Richard D. Hogue, Scott A. Lee, William Corey Link, Donald Propes Sr., Ricky D. Salyers, Paul B. Swearingen, Bryan K. Thompson
20 YEARS	Ricky Adams, Ronald K. Bauers, Etta Marie Carpenter, Darrell Carter Jr., William S. Dietsch, Marc L. Dingee, James T. Elswick, Michael W. Gibson, Joshua D. Greene, Charles "Shawn" Kelley, David T. Passmore, Wesley B. Penrod, Jason W. Stogner, Franklin R. Sturgill, Thomas J. Wilson
15 YEARS	Kathy Jo Collier, Barry C. Dotson, Bruce T. Gossett, Clinton E. Howard, Matthew T. Hughey, Guy M. Jackson, Jason S. Kramm, Colin J. Riley, George Mike Sparks, Bryan Scot Stuttles, Johnny L. Tackett, Tony M. Zeigler

Local 4 • Page AZ

50 YEARS	Robert Doty, Richard Lockyear, Bill McCall, Rocky Pearce, Gary Tibbs
35 YEARS	Kurt Herrera
25 YEARS	Christopher C. Josley, Kimberlyn Nockideneh, Lorado Yazzie
20 YEARS	Lolita Nez
15 YEARS	Gerald Lake, Dale Sandberg



Local 83 • Kansas City MO

50 YEARS	Colonel O. Bengtson, David L. Johnson, Richard Maris
45 YEARS	Kenneth E. Berry, Dale L. Christian, Alvin J. Eastman, Douglas C. Griffin, Gary E. Merchant, John Musser, Donald F. Novich, Michael C. Sievert
35 YEARS	Rodney Hale, Ronnie E. Strickland
30 YEARS	Danial P. Conner, Jeffrey Fitzmaurice, Michael G. Lewis, Michael L. Swope
25 YEARS	Kyle J. Brewer, Jeffrey S. Burns, Rodney M. Burns, Daniel Czaplewski, Max L. Duncan, Jim Folk, Walt Forman, Jeffrey J. Jackson, Perrin D. Sheil, Gordon Dale Shuey, Danilo Vasquez, Aaron J. Wood
20 YEARS	Robert F. Delzeit, Adam Lake, Terry A. Norris Jr., Rodney McFarlin
15 YEARS	Darrell L. Beaman, Jason C. Curl, Joseph A. Detar, Oscar M. Hernandez, Norman D. Hilbus, Matthew J. Jury, Andrew K. Luther, Marty J. Nelson, Lori Riddle, Eric J. Spenner, Donny Ray Vetter

Local 108 • Bessemer AL

50 YEARS	Roger Blevins
40 YEARS	Steve Winnett
20 YEARS	Weston Aubrey Nelson
15 YEARS	William Adam Defoor

Local 359 • Vancouver BC

30 YEARS	Colin Anderson
25 YEARS	Duane Gouin, Richard Guenette, Ben Kirby, Peter Kvenich, Don Phillips, Jerry Ritchotte, Andrew Schmidt, Gordon Spink, Gordon Weel

Local 433 • Tampa FL

55 YEARS	Johnny S. Hemby Sr., Wesley G. McMillan Jr.
15 YEARS	Shane D. King

Local 555 • Regina SK

60 YEARS	Cecil Ross
55 YEARS	Robert Belcher, Anton Bilecki, William Ferguson, Cliff Graydon, Raymond Henry, Brian Pick, Glen Ruttle, Dennis Schick
50 YEARS	Delvin Bellrose, Edward Ducharme, Raymond Posehn, Rodney Ross, Joseph Roussin, John Terry
45 YEARS	Vern McKay, Antonio Serravalle, George Steeves, Tom Wagner
40 YEARS	Darrell Bray, Walter Dreidger, Keith Holt, Bruce McDonald
35 YEARS	David Gillon, Dave LeBlanc, Gerald Polischuk, David Brooks Ross, Chris Shepley, Rick Woods
30 YEARS	Numi Broadfoot, Darryl Delaurier, Brian Gillon, Kevin Glowatski, Dwight Grzybowski, Kevin Miller, Andrew Ogrodnik, Brent Welch
25 YEARS	Robert Atkins, Mike Duchominsky, Sheldon Forseth, Derek Hargreaves, Ron Hickey, Todd Jakubowski, Sheldon Kreiser, Calvin Morris, Reg Rivers, Shane Thom, Colin Weber

Local Lodge leaders can now submit service pins for fulfillment and inclusion in The Reporter online at boilermakers.org/leaders/resources/pins

Boilermakers mourn Ullico's Smith

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers lost a good friend when Ullico Chairman and CEO Edward “Ed” Smith died Jan. 3.

Brother Smith, who was a member of LiUNA, was a passionate champion of unionism and a wonderful advocate for working men and women. He often delighted in pointing out that he was just 13 years old when he joined the Laborers’ Local 773 in Illinois—and by age 21, he was business manager. As his career evolved, he eagerly accepted opportunities to learn more and any chance to apply new knowledge and skills to advance labor’s interests.

He led 40 organizing drives, and while he rose in the ranks, he compelled his union and those around him to take action to expand the union’s reach.

“Smith was a unique combination of experience, intelligence, and personality that produced success in everything he touched,” reads a tribute on Ullico’s website.

He well understood the importance of investing labor’s capital back into labor, which eventually led him to join Ullico in 2008. He is credited for the “bold leadership and strategic ideas” that

moved Ullico from a precarious position during that time period of the Great Recession, to a thriving, profitable company that favors unions and donates generously to community and philanthropic causes. He extended that same generosity to Ullico’s employees

and was known for building a company culture that put people first, saying “It’s all about the people.”

“Ed was a welcome and familiar face at our Boilermaker conferences, and a friend who is sorely missed,” said International President Warren Fairley. “He had a zeal for the labor movement

that seemed to come from the

very core of who he was. And he had an affable way of speaking and connecting through an uncomplicated and genuine passion that made it almost impossible to resist his enthusiasm.

“As many times as he addressed Boilermakers, he never failed to inspire each of us and remind us why the work we do in the labor movement is so important.”

The Boilermakers union mourns with Brother Smith’s wife, children, grandchildren and his friends throughout the labor movement.



Edward “Ed” Smith

Read Ullico’s full tribute here: www.ullico.com/ullico-inc-statement-on-the-passing-of-chairman-and-ceo-edward-m-smith



IN MEMORIAM

With deepest sorrow, the Boilermakers union records the death of these members as reported to the International Secretary-Treasurer’s office and extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families.

NTL Bomar, Luther F.	NTL Smitherman, Douglas W.	5 Parisi, Larry	6 Tobin Jr., Michael F.
NTL Boone, Ralland R.	NTL Stokley, James H.	6 Bailey, Stephen M.	6 Vasquez, George C.
NTL Boyd, Samuel A.	NTL Vaughn, Gene I.	6 Carl, David G.	6 Whitmire Jr., Andy R.
NTL Burns, Clyde W.	1 Ackmann, Steven C.	6 Collier, Leroy V.	7 Mann, Donald M.
NTL Denson, Timothy E.	1 Klem, Gerald E.	6 Crosby, Odell	7 Paszkiewicz, Robert J.
NTL Devries, James N.	1 Moore, Thomas J.	6 Fretty, Anthony L.	10 Morris, Ralph L.
NTL Dunphy III, Frederick V.	1 Oliver, David	6 Herrera, Rodolfo	11 Bell, Val G.
NTL Flynn, John J.	1 Stapp, Michael J.	6 McClain, Jerry C.	11 Chavez, John W.
NTL Fox, Julius W.	1 Wick, Eugene	6 Parkman, Michael R.	13 Bacci, Dominic M.
NTL Hughes, Terry B.	5 Desposito, Ralph	6 Spinoso, Thomas F.	13 Brandon, Scott D.

13	Davis Jr., Walter C.	83	Downs, Richard E.	128	McIntyre, John J.	263	Alexander Jr., Mansears
13	Johnson, Edward	83	Evans, Presley C.	128	Millward, John L.	263	Evans, Howard W.
13	Kern, William A.	83	Green, L. C.	128	Murray, Philip	263	Hudson Sr., Cecil L.
13	Kubilis, Robert E.	83	Haynes, Garland E.	128	Park, James E.	271	Gagnon, Jean P.
13	Morgan Jr., William H.	83	Huffman, Glen E.	128	Peer, Donald R.	300	Saurman, George
13	Smith Jr., William R.	83	Navinsky, Dale E.	128	Vahey, Dennis A.	357	Wolfe, Floyd E.
13	Waters, John L.	83	Vliet, Dean A.	146	Aguirre, Omar A.	359	Andreows, Archie
26	Branch, William T.	83	Wattenbarger, Larry M.	146	Banville, Paul	359	Bell, Peter L.
26	Jackson, William T.	83	Whisler, Fred L.	146	Brisebois, Joseph A.	359	Dobrensky, Barry
26	Little, Willie P.	84	Brown, Melvin L.	146	Broens, William B.	359	Ferlin, Keith
26	Spaulding, Glenn R.	85	Arent, Gregory L.	146	Candido, Jose	359	Freiburghaus, Christian
27	Barbieri, John A.	85	Avery, Allan J.	146	Cavanaugh, Mike	359	Tookey, Michael C.
27	Johnson, D. C.	85	Cornett Jr., Matthew	146	Cornelson, Jeff A.	363	Bauer, Steven R.
27	Oliver, Harold	92	Baker, David L.	146	Fanthorpe, Edward	363	Harrelson, Troy D.
27	Valdes, Anthony A.	92	Harper, Rollo A.	146	Faubert, Roger E.	363	Leach, Matthew J.
28	Folkman Jr., Charles H.	92	Maestas, Vivian	146	Gibson, Murray	374	Bradley Jr., Joseph W.
28	Hynes, Gary	92	May, Joseph R.	146	Gochanour, Kenneth D.	374	Eads, Bobby W.
28	Llanes, Angel	101	Pfau, Dewayne R.	146	Jantz, Brian	374	Ewing, Glenn F.
28	Lodge Jr., Herbert S.	104	Benally, Tommie V.	146	Leicht, Kerry	374	Fleming, George I.
28	Raube Jr., William J.	104	Blackburn, Jim R.	146	McLeod, Clay A.	374	Greer, Louis D.
29	Landsberg, Henry	104	Cyrus, Eugene R.	146	Porcina, David W.	374	Kleeman, Danny E.
29	O'Brien Jr., F. T.	104	Dolan, Gene R.	146	Spinelli, Michele	374	Knight, Larry A.
29	Pelletier, R.	104	Kelly, Chad J.	146	St. Arnaud, Marc R.	374	Lesniewski, Matthew
30	Jones, John C.	104	Kim, Yoon S.	146	Tasgun, Burhan	374	Looney, Dalphus
30	Strickland, Gerald N.	104	Lackman, Scott	146	Tiessen, Robert D.	374	Lynn, William H.
34	Farwell, Robert W.	104	Phillips, Leon W.	146	Walker, Scott D.	374	Miller, William J.
37	Barrilleaux, Medric J.	104	Primozich, Scott W.	146	Weston, Allan W.	374	Monroe, Aaron W.
37	Martin Jr., Carl N.	104	Ramsdell, Kelley J.	154	Douglas, Jack	374	Smith Jr., Raymond L.
37	Thompson, Thomas W.	104	Visconte, Patrick A.	154	El, W. T.	374	Will Jr., Bernard O.
40	Arnold, Lindel R.	105	Adkins, Ronnie L.	154	Gilmore, Daniel P.	374	Zinser, Merrill C.
40	Atwood, Clyde L.	105	Childers, David H.	154	Harris, Melvin C.	433	Crouse, Tollie C.
40	Blankenship, Herbert	105	Crabtree, Steven D.	154	Harris, Wilson E.	433	England, Irvin D.
40	Brown, Tommy R.	105	Frazer, Jeffrey P.	154	McAvoy, John M.	433	Gortman, Jerry R.
40	Bruner Jr., William H.	105	Wellman, Lynn M.	154	Osborn, Donald E.	433	Norris Jr., Norman N.
40	Hall, Kristopher L.	105	West, William J.	154	Sackett, Richard D.	449	Cooke, Kenneth A.
40	Johnson, Alan	107	Bliese, Dale F.	154	Sfakianakis, James	449	Maedke, Gary L.
40	Masterson, Douglas E.	107	Curtis, Bruce J.	154	Stauffer Jr., Charles H.	449	Smidel, Carl A.
40	Welborn, Terry L.	107	Deremo, Allen	154	Turnbull, Thomas W.	454	Canada, William A.
45	Hilton Jr., Martin L.	107	Keller, John M.	154	Valentine, William S.	454	Corder, Bobby W.
45	Kiser, Mickey D.	107	Pearson, C. J.	169	Founteas, Thomas	454	Dailey, Scott L.
60	Siemers, Verne E.	108	Burgin, Robert E.	169	Hoskin, Dennis W.	454	Denton, Ricky L.
60	Summers, Ronald J.	108	Carlito, Angel G.	169	Kriesel, John	454	Gardner, Carl R.
60	Voight, Robert D.	108	Edmonds, David B.	169	Tutten, Mark H.	454	Martin, Mickey D.
69	Greer, Dale W.	108	Hatley, Terry L.	169	Volpe Jr., Guido A.	454	Pate, Ernest M.
72	Baquera, Ted R.	108	Littles, Michael O.	174	Feltz, Frank	454	Tudor, Steven E.
72	Clark, Duwayne L.	109	Sexton, Robert E.	175	Sanderson, William J.	455	Brown, Ohlie C.
72	Fivecoats, Lloyd O.	110	Breland, Brian L.	175	Sereno, Samuel R.	455	Finch, Leonard A.
72	Johnson, L. C.	110	Perry, Buford T.	182	Andreasen, Val B.	455	Hannah, Kenneth R.
72	Ramsey, Wallace D.	112	Hayes, Burnice	182	Glazier, Thomas N.	455	Minchew, Robert S.
73	Atkins, James P.	112	Roberts, Rodney O.	182	Harvey, John C.	455	Ross, Bobby J.
73	Henwood, Frederick G.	117	Jacobson, Alan S.	191	Young, David W.	483	Roman, Juan R.
73	Munroe, Ian	128	Bigcanoe, A. L.	193	Armbrester, James E.	487	Bruemmer, James W.
74	Allen, Charles R.	128	Binns, Rodney D.	193	Rund, Dean E.	487	Dahlke, Ronald M.
74	Kesinger, Mark	128	Hastings, Jamie	199	Crews, Dettra F.	487	Karnopp, Kraigg S.
74	Unsell, F. W.	128	Johnson, Norman	199	Douglas, Harry T.	502	Carnahan, Daniel E.
83	Barker, Warren G.	128	Kovacs, Steven M.	199	Kelly Sr., W. A.	502	Cox, William H.
83	Burris, Roy E.	128	Langlois, Walter	199	Thomas, Randy G.	502	Gallion, Frank
83	Divelbiss, Billy G.	128	Matthews, Thomas	204	Garcia, Alexander	502	Winston, Charles C.

531 Irwin, Richard H.	584 Lambert, Joseph A.	656 Spangler, William J.	744 Kohler Jr., William C.
549 Applin Jr., Ulmer L.	587 Boyd, Dwayne	656 Taylor, John W.	744 McPeck, Douglas E.
549 Cortese, Richard M.	587 Wagner, Emmett E.	667 Canterbury, Samuel L.	900 Beasley, Stephen
549 Fister, Harvey L.	590 Barton, Jewel R.	667 Robinette, Gregory B.	900 Slaba, Charles V.
549 Joy, James R.	590 Drummond, Linda J.	667 Smith, James R.	1012 Trotter, Aletta R.
549 Mitcheltree, Garth R.	592 Caudill, Clinton B.	667 Tustin, Vincent W.	1086 Beckrest, Justin W.
549 Parker, Jerry M.	614 Bray, John A.	667 Walker, James A.	1086 Dotson, Clifford R.
549 Steinlauf, Walter H.	614 Sedell, Charles G.	684 Walker, Charlie L.	1240 Hyden, William
555 Haley, Andrew T.	627 Adamson, Wilson E.	687 Holladay, Dean C.	1509 Harrell, Charles A.
555 Loffler, Noel	627 Joiser, Harry	687 Martens, Steven G.	1509 Middlestead, James E.
555 Nyhus, Mark E.	636 Schill, Lawrenc W.	696 Jensen, Jesse J.	1510 Dixon, James G.
555 Symenuk, Dan	647 Lafontaine, C. D.	696 Johnson, Duane R.	1592 Pecha, Clarenc E.
555 Williams, Thomas J.	647 Lee, Roger C.	696 Miller, Robert	1600 Spang, Brian J.
568 Cox, Harris E.	647 Mack, James V.	696 Wachowiacz, Gerald J.	1615 Crawford, William
582 Bueche, James K.	647 Nelson, Dean F.	696 Wanish, Dennis R.	1999 Riss, Emil W.
582 Crayon, Gerald W.	647 Pinks, Eugene W.	697 Kloehn, Richard	D140 Mitchell, Thomas T.
582 Kirkham, Joe	656 Bracken, Roger E.	727 Henderson, Earl J.	D366 Ball, Gerald D.
582 Marcotte, Elton	656 Gentry, Earl E.	744 Connors, Robert G.	D366 Hoby, John
583 Blackwood, Jeff	656 Pickett, Horace T.	744 Diehl, Robert A.	S251 Forman, Chuck D.
584 Kelley, Gary M.	656 Skyles, Grover L.	744 Hammerle, Ewald F.	S1978 Putnam, Gerald F.

RETRACTION

David Peer, Local 128, was mistakenly listed as deceased in the Winter 2023 issue of *the Boilermaker Reporter* instead of his brother, Donald Peer. Brother David Peer is very much alive, and we are saddened to report the death of his brother, Donald Peer, also of Local 128. We regret the error and any confusion or concern that may have resulted from this incorrect information.

Boilermakers win eight ILCA Awards

The International Labor Communications Association has announced that creative work produced by the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has won eight awards of excellence in its annual ILCA Labor Media Awards for work created and published in 2022. The Boilermakers Communications Department competes each year in the National/International category against other ILCA union communication affiliates.

First Place

- Electronic Media, Best Issues/Advocacy Video
"Boilermakers, CCUS, Hydrogen and the Future"
- Writing, Best Labor History Story
"Congress Punishes Workers with Taft-Hartley"
(*Spring 2022 issue*)
- Visual Communications, Best Photo Gallery
2022 Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Contest
(*Winter 2022 issue*)

- Visual Communications, Best Front Page/Cover, Magazine
The Boilermaker Reporter (Winter 2022 issue)
- Visual Communications, Best Design, Single-issue Publication
Build a Brighter Future recruitment postcards and posters
- General Excellence, Single-Issue Publication/Collateral
Build a Brighter Future Owner/Contractor Brochure

Third Place

- Visual Communications, Best Design, Magazine
The Boilermaker Reporter
- Writing, Best Series
A Look Back (History Section)

ZERO
AVERAGE YEARLY COST OF 4-YEAR COLLEGE TUITION
\$25,362
ZERO
YEARLY COST OF A 4-YEAR BOILERMAKERS APPRENTICESHIP

BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

WITH THE BOILERMAKERS, YOUR FUTURE'S SO BRIGHT YOU'LL NEED ONE OF THESE.

THE REPORTER

Congress Punishes Workers with Taft-Hartley

Labor Day tells a story of worker power

Employers' war on unions is nothing new

For a complete list of all winners, visit:
[laborcommunicators.org/news-updates/
ilca-announces-2023-contest-winners](https://laborcommunicators.org/news-updates/ilca-announces-2023-contest-winners)

BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

BOILERMAKERS

World War II opened the door to women Boilermakers

If you wanted to join the Boilermakers union in 1893, you had to be a “white, freeborn male, citizen of some civilized country.” The language of the organization’s constitution at the time was clear—and it wasn’t unusual.

To say that times have changed is, thankfully, an understatement. Today, men and women from all races, religions and manner of makeup are members of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers, AFL-CIO/CLC.

As with many industrial and manufacturing trades, World War II was a major catalyst to officially opening the Boilermakers’ membership door to women—and shipbuilding was key. Before World War II, there were about 3,000 union Boilermakers working in California’s Bay Area. By 1943, there were more than 150,000 in the Bay Area and over 300,000 on the West Coast in total. Around 20% of them were Rosies.

Though women had unofficially affiliated with the union for years, it was the growing number of women working in shipyards and other Boilermaker industries that finally pushed the issue of admitting women members into a formal amendment proposal. In 1942, the Boilermakers’ Executive Council passed the amendment, which was approved in a resolution by local lodge vote.

According to the Boilermakers’ history book *Grace Under Pressure*: “Local lodges immediately began admitting women. In fact, evidence suggests that some lodges may have been admitting women prior to the resolution of 1942, despite the constitutional ban.”

There were, of course, still many challenges.

“Women and people of color faced a hostile work environment and were victims of discrimination and prejudice,” said Western States IVP J. Tom Baca during a fundraiser for the Rosie the Riveter Trust in 2019.

“Boilermakers resisted change as much as any other union; and despite the Rosies being a big factor in the U.S. winning World War II, as soon as the men returned, women were laid off.”

The Boilermakers union—and Western States Section in particular—is a supporter of the Rosie the Riveter Trust, which is the official nonprofit



A view of the offices of the auxiliary Boilermakers A-36 Union, a segregated union hall for African American shipyard workers in Richmond, California. Photograph by E.F. Joseph. RORI 686

partner of the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California. A museum at the park, which is on the grounds of the former Kaiser Company shipyards, tells the stories of the tradeswomen who helped build nearly 750 WWII ships at the site.

Many Boilermakers are by now familiar with the story of Betty Reid Soskin, who was a file clerk for Boilermakers Local A-36, an all-Black auxiliary lodge. After learning about and later meeting Soskin, the Boilermakers union commissioned a film to capture and share her story as a woman of color who was relegated to an auxiliary local.

“Where we are now is a far cry from where we were in 1942,” Soskin says in the film. “But I think if we could go back and revisit those eras, the lessons are there.”

The Boilermakers union acknowledged its unacceptable treatment of Soskin and others and offered an apology. Soskin, who noted she had forgiven the Boilermakers long ago, went on to work for decades as a park ranger at the Rosie Museum and retired shortly after her 100th birthday in 2021. She remains an icon to tradeswomen and to the union’s history.

“The Boilermakers have never forgotten our history, thanks to great women leaders like Betty Soskin,” Baca said. “That’s why we want to help preserve our history—the good and the bad.” 🍷

Read more about Betty Reid Soskin:

www.nps.gov/rori/learn/historyculture/betty-reid-soskin.htm

Watch the video about Betty Reid Soskin and the WWII Rosies:

vimeo.com/203342642

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
OF BOILERMAKERS
753 STATE AVENUE, SUITE 565
KANSAS CITY, KS 66101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
OF BOILERMAKERS

®  382 M PRINTED IN THE USA

It **PAYS** To Reduce Risk

Positive Pay offers Fraud Protections.

Check Positive Pay

Does your organization need to write checks but has concerns about potential check fraud?

Check Positive Pay offers fraud controls to quickly catch alterations or duplicate statements, eliminate costly stop payment fees and set the amount of time checks remain outstanding. Plus, you're able to provide a file of issued checks to help ensure only authorized items are paid.

ACH Positive Pay

Get protection against unauthorized ACH electronic debit transactions with ACH Positive Pay.

Our Treasury specialists compare all incoming debits to your approved electronic payment list so you can decide whether the item is paid or returned, if unidentified transactions are presented.

Lock down protections against payment fraud. Call **855.24.LABOR** to learn how Positive Pay solutions can help your organization.

 **Bank of Labor**
BORN OF INTEGRITY

855.24.LABOR | bankoflabor.com |  Member  v01222024

