

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

# BE THE BOILERMAKERS



**BOILERMAKERS**





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# DEPARTMENTS



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## THE REPORTER

Vol. 63 No. 3

TIMOTHY P. SIMMONS

*International President & Editor-in-Chief*

CLINTON J. PENNY

*International Secretary-Treasurer*

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

J. Tom Baca, *Western States*

John T. Fultz, *Northeast*

Arnie M. Stadnick, *Canada*

Dan Sullivan, *Great Lakes*

Jeff Campbell, *Southeast*

EDITORIAL STAFF

Amy Wiser

*Communications Director & Managing Editor*

Timothy Canon

*Director of Internet Web Services*

Emily Allen

*Lead Writer-Editor*

Mary Echols

*Lead Designer*



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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:





Now is the time to recruit new members and organize new industries, contractors and employers. Now is the time to research new Boilermaker work opportunities and stay on the cutting edge of technology.



## Now is the time to press forward. Now is the time to act.

It is an honor and privilege to have been elected by the International Executive Council as the International President of our union, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve each and every member of this distinguished organization.

It is no secret that the past 18 months have not been pleasant for our union as we address the consequences of past mistakes. I want to reaffirm that the International Executive Council is continuing to work together as never before to ensure fiscal responsibility, foster transparency and make certain all Boilermakers are provided the service they so deserve. We have worked hard over the past months to implement new systems and accountability while focusing on new efforts to educate, recruit and organize, and we will continue to make necessary changes focused on service to members as our top priority.

But now is not the time for just words. Now is the time to press forward. Now is the time to recruit new members and organize new industries, contractors and employers. Now is the time to expand into new Boilermaker work opportunities and regain lost marketshare.

I am calling all Boilermakers to action. We need you to get involved. We need you to go to your union meetings and let your voices be heard—tell us what we can do to better serve you. Be the change you want to see in our union.

Every union Boilermaker needs to focus on recruiting and organizing. It is the duty of each and every Boilermaker to recruit and train two new members: one to replace you when you finally lay down the tools of your trade and enter into your well-deserved retirement, and another to grow the organization. Our union's future and the future of our pensions depend on it.

Boilermakers are, and will remain, the most versatile, skilled and hard-working crafts-persons our nations have ever seen. The rich history of our union reminds us of how Boilermakers in the United States and Canada worked to expand our respective nations with steam locomotives and went on to power our nations with steam-generated electricity while building the largest fleets to supply and protect them. We will not let adversity stop us.

I will not promise the path forward will be easy, but we have faced storms before. Our union holds 144 years of dedication and unwavering unionism, and I look forward to seeing what we accomplish in the next days, months and years ahead. We are Boilermakers, there is nothing we cannot do, and we will come out of this stronger.



IST Clint Penny (left) and IP Tim Simmons discuss IBB policies.

## Simmons, Penny and Campbell begin new leadership roles

The International Executive Council announced significant leadership changes beginning upon the re-retirement of former International President Warren Fairley on Aug. 20. The IEC immediately elected Timothy Simmons to serve as International President until the next International Brotherhood Convention. Simmons had been previously elected to the office of International Vice President of the Southeast Section. The IEC then elected Jeff Campbell to serve as IVP-Southeast.

“It is truly an honor and privilege to have been elected by the IEC. As a second-generation Boilermaker, I began my career knowing God’s grace and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers brought my family out of poverty and into the middle class,” Simmons said. “I look forward to working with our members to make certain future generations of Boilermakers have the same opportunities.

“You have my word that I will diligently work with the IEC and the International Secretary-Treasurer to rebuild the trust and confidence in our Brotherhood by our members, our contractors and our employers. We must work together to put the past behind us and grow our organization.”

Simmons began his Boilermaker career on a boiler outage in 1999, working out of Boilermakers Local 108 (Bessemer, Alabama) at the Alabama Power Miller Steam Plant. He has served the union and his local lodge as a business agent/secretary-treasurer, a District No. 3 officer, Director of National Recruitment Services, Executive Director of Construction Sector Operations and Administrative Assistant to the International President. In October 2022, the IEC unanimously voted to elect Simmons as IVP-Southeast Section.

The IEC elected Clint Penny as International Secretary-Treasurer after accepting the resignation of former IST, Kathy Stapp, on Aug. 26.

Prior to his election as IST, Penny was Local 11 (Helena, Montana) Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer. He is a fourth-generation Boilermaker and joined the union on the tools a day after graduating high school, following the footsteps of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He describes himself as a “rank-and-file Boilermaker from a suitcase local,” having spent his years on the tools traveling to jobsites around the country.

He served his local lodge for three consecutive terms as BM/ST and has served as president of the Montana State Building Trades since 2021.



“I love being a Boilermaker,” Penny said. “I want to make sure everything is run right, and I want to make sure people like my dad have a pension.”

He said he encourages all members to read and understand the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers’ Constitution.

“We are confident Brother Penny will bring new accountability and transparency to the IST office,” Simmons said. “We look forward to working with him as he begins his service to our organization in this important role.”

Jeff Campbell previously was Executive Director-Industrial Sector Operations and Administrative Assistant to the International President. Prior to that, he was Director of Cement Lodge Services and Assistant Director-ISO servicing lodges in the Southeast, Great Lakes and Northeast sections.



IVP-SE Jeff Campbell

Campbell joined Local 726 (Owensboro, Kentucky) in 1991 while employed as a production technician with W.R. Grace. He held various positions in his local before becoming its president in 2005. He was appointed as an International Rep in 2015 and as Director of the Cement Division in 2022.

With Campbell changing roles as IVP-Southeast, Don Hamric is now Executive Director-ISO. Hamric maintains his position as Director of Research and Collective Bargaining Services. Anthony Howell is now Administrative Assistant to the International President, and he maintains his position as Executive Director-Construction Sector Operations.

“After the changes in leadership last year, the IEC endeavored to reform policies and make it clear that every employee of IBB must work for the betterment of the union,” Simmons said.

“We began to work together as never before to ensure fiscal responsibility, foster transparency and set the course so Boilermakers are provided the services they so deserve. We will continue to work together to ensure IBB is, and will remain, fiscally sound and that all officers and employees act in the members’ best interest.

“I look forward to a bright and solid future for our union and for our Boilermaker brothers and sisters.” 🙌



L-1622 members Dave Pratt, left, and Marc Thompkins take a shift on the picket line.

## L-1622 strike ends in Austintown

The Local 1622 (Austintown, Ohio) strike that began against T&W Stamping in March has ended with Boilermakers returning to work Sept. 3. After more than five months on the picket line, the workers received guaranteed yearly raises, along with weekly incentives, but no retro-active compensation.

“The members of L-1622 are grateful for the support of their community, Boilermakers from across the U.S. and Canada, other unions and so many people who reached out in solidarity and with supplies, gift cards and financial donations,” said Don Hamric, Executive Director-ISO. “This was a stressful time for them, and even as they stood together on the picket line, it meant a lot to know so many people were standing with them.

“That’s what union organizing and solidarity means: Even when we aren’t able to achieve our ultimate goal—even when we face something really tough—we stand together.”

L-1622 had been attempting to renegotiate a contract since November 2023, after the previous contract expired. The Boilermakers went on strike after filing unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board against T&W, protesting illegal actions by their employer.

More details about the cause of strike are available at: [boilermakers.org/news/1622-strike](https://boilermakers.org/news/1622-strike) 🙌



## ISO motivates all members to organize

**I**ndustrial Sector Operations members met in Las Vegas July 30 through Aug. 5 for the annual ISO Conference. This year's ISO Conference focused on the need for every member to organize. Breakout sessions taught lodge leaders essentials, including organizing, mental health, lodge finances, industry caucuses, steward training, contract negotiations, filing LM and 990 reports and much more.

With a push to grow the membership and help nonunion workers enjoy the benefits of being in the Boilermakers union, the conference stressed the need for every member to organize nonunion workers and engage current lodge membership.

Former International President Warren Fairley, now retired, said the union is stronger with more members and working together.

"Better together starts with organizing. We need to start everything with organizing," he said. "One hundred and forty-four years ago, workers in the industry knew what we know today: We can shake our fist at the wind, or we can organize."

Fairley detailed Boilermakers' organizing wins including Doppelmayer OAC. Better yet, he said, was the newly organized Doppelmayer OAC Boilermakers achieving a strong collective bargaining agreement quickly after their vote to unionize.

He also called out shipyard workers at NASSCO in San Diego who had a win in contract negotiations this year.

"Boilermakers in NASSCO know how organizing works," Fairley said.

They organized for a practice picket as contract negotiations commenced, arranging the picket for the day of a major ship's christening event. Fairley explained they were flexing their muscles to show NASSCO the union meant business and wasn't backing down. A few short weeks later, they negotiated a strong contract.

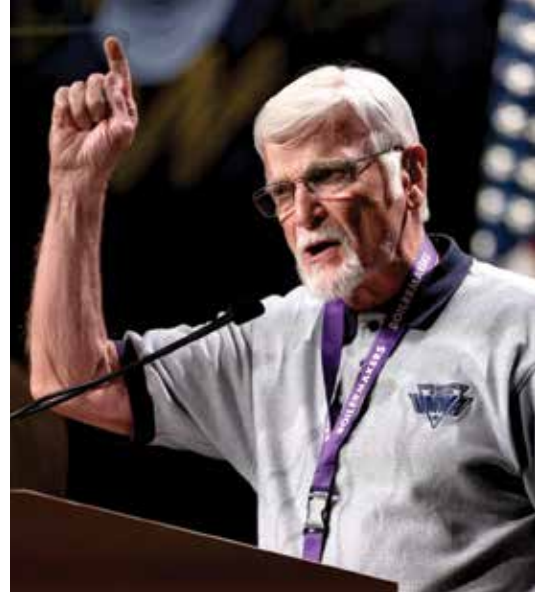
"We have but one choice, and that's to move forward," Fairley said. "Brothers and sisters, we're better together. When we organize, we unite the power of working people and ignite the power of our Boilermakers union."

Guest speaker United Mine Workers of America President Cecil Roberts fired up Boilermakers to organize and fight for their rights. He recalled the bloody history of the UMWA and their tragedies at the Paint Creek-Cabin Creek strike and the Ludlow massacre. He stressed that even though the owners crushed the workers, the tragic events emboldened the working class to fight for fair wages and treatment, which mine workers eventually fought for and won.



“The middle class wouldn't exist without labor. If we unleashed the full power of this movement, there's not a thing we can't do.”

Cecil Roberts  
UMWA President



“When coal was at its peak, coal miners were the most organized. We used to make fortunes working for those jobs,” Roberts said. “They were jobs that lifted up the communities.”

But now street drugs and poverty ravage those same communities, he said, and that coincides with the loss of union power.

“I hope you leave here with the understanding of what it means to be a trade unionist,” he said. “And what it means to be middle class. The middle class wouldn't exist without labor. If we unleashed the full power of this movement, there's not a thing we can't do.”

Also addressing the topic of organizing was Attorney David Rosenfeld, who represents the Boilermakers union at the union's legal firm of record, Weinberg, Roger & Rosenfeld. Rosenfeld's passion for organizing was clear as he detailed recent National Labor Relations Board decisions that favor unions over employers.

“Workers are pissed off at the boss,” Rosenfeld said in his plenary talk. “They see other workers pissed off. Since I started practicing, I don't think there's been a more favorable time in organizing.”

He said NLRB decisions under the Biden Administration made organizing more attractive. Certain states are passing laws more favorable to unions, and many new federal laws are positive for unions, such as the CHIPS and Science Act and Inflation Reduction Act.

“New rules make it much quicker to get an election. It makes a lot of difference how quickly

you get an election,” Rosenfeld said. “Management goons don't like it but that's too bad.”

Due to the NLRB's Cemex decision, employers are somewhat more cautious now as workers organize, he said. If they intervene in a union election, the employer is forced to recognize the union. Though employers are arguing the case in court trying to get it overturned, right now it's the law.

“Employers should not be able to benefit from unlawful conduct,” Rosenfeld declared. “If they do anything that affects the election, we're not just going to order a new election, we're going to force them to bargain and recognize the union. Organizing is a fabulous opportunity because things have never been better for organizing.”

During the breakout sessions, there were several sessions on how to organize new plants, the Boilermaker's In-Plant Program as well as bringing more members into established locals.

“Organizing is a unique opportunity,” said Western States Director of Organizing Manny Valenzuela. “It's a driving force [of unions]. And internal organizing is the way unions secure a strong and solid future for the organization.”

Boilermaker organizers stressed that an employer can file for decertification at any time the union has 50% or fewer people in active membership.

“When a unit is weak, employers can take advantage of it,” said Southeast organizer Walt Westfield. “If the union isn't doing anything, the union isn't needed in the employees' eyes.”

He said one weak unit inside a shop can hold back other potential targets from unionizing—and that strong units help to organize other facilities.

“We are losing membership faster than we are gaining,” Westfield said. “The future is in jeopardy if we continue down this path. We’re missing out if we’re not recruiting and mentoring people.”

The organizers offered steps on how to make a lodge successful in bumping the numbers higher, with the Boilermakers In-Plant program being one tool. In-Plant is an internal organizing incentive program. Volunteer organizers earn \$40 for each recruit and \$10 for the local’s program organizer. Since its inception in 1990, more than 26,000 members have been enrolled as Boilermakers through the In-Plant Program. Currently only 13 locals participate in the program.

**E**nsuring balanced mental health for Boilermakers was a hot topic at this year’s ISO conference. Canadian Director of Health and Safety Jason McInnis and Canadian Health and Safety Rep Blair Allin led members through the Healthy Mind workshop, detailing how to help brothers and sisters in need.

Mental health problems are often only noticeable when a person acts out, said Allin. Mental health exists on a complex continuum, and statistics show that 40% of people will have a mental health issue at some point in their lifetime.

Most common mental health issues in the United States and Canada fall into four areas: depression, anxiety, social phobia and substance use. These all come with stigma, which explains why many people never seek help. Yet social support from direct supervisors and coworkers is a protective factor against stress and anxiety. It’s important to look out for coworkers and reach out if their behavior has changed. For example, maybe they’ve become



Former ISO Executive Director Jeff Campbell, now IVP-SE, encourages delegates to share what they learned with their locals.

withdrawn where before they were extroverted.

During the closing conference remarks, former ISO Executive Director Jeff Campbell, now IVP-SE, encouraged delegates to take what they learned and disseminate it to their local lodge members.

“If you do that, you have made your local lodge stronger and in turn you’ve made the whole Boilermaker organization stronger,” he said, reiterating the need for union members to organize. “As I hope it’s become clear to you, our conference theme,

‘Better Together,’ is about the importance of organizing and union solidarity. I hope it’s also become clear it’s not just a theme of this conference: Organizing is the primary focus and heart of our union’s priorities.”

He pointed out that the strike action that took place at Local 1622 in Austintown, Ohio, is a form of organizing. Members were involved in an unfair labor practice strike due to the owner’s illegal activity during negotiations. Campbell noted that strike action is a last resort, but sometimes necessary.

“We obviously prefer to keep everyone working and maintain positive relationships with our employers,” he said. “But sometimes, if a stand needs to be taken, we have no other choice.”

In that area of Ohio, production workers already make less than the national average for similar jobs, and T&W was paying even less than the local average.

“T&W knows this, and they continued to exploit them,” Campbell said. “And when our brothers asked at the bargaining table, the boss told them a raise would only happen over his dead body.”

But, he continued, when Boilermakers stand together as brothers and sisters, the future is bright. “There is nothing a Boilermaker cannot do, and together, there is nothing the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers cannot do.” 🙌







# Canadian Filling the Gap program teaches essential pressure welding skills

In 2021, the Boilermakers, in partnership with CWB Welding Foundation and the CWB Group, applied for and received a multi-million dollar grant from the federal government's Union Training and Innovation Program (UTIP) to create and operate the Filling the Gap Pressure Welding Training program for five years. The Canadian government recognized the need for highly trained pressure welders across the country and knew that funding this program would be the most effective way to ensure that need could be met. Boilermakers have always held a firm commitment to continuous improvement, and the success of this program shows exactly why the union continues to lead the industry.

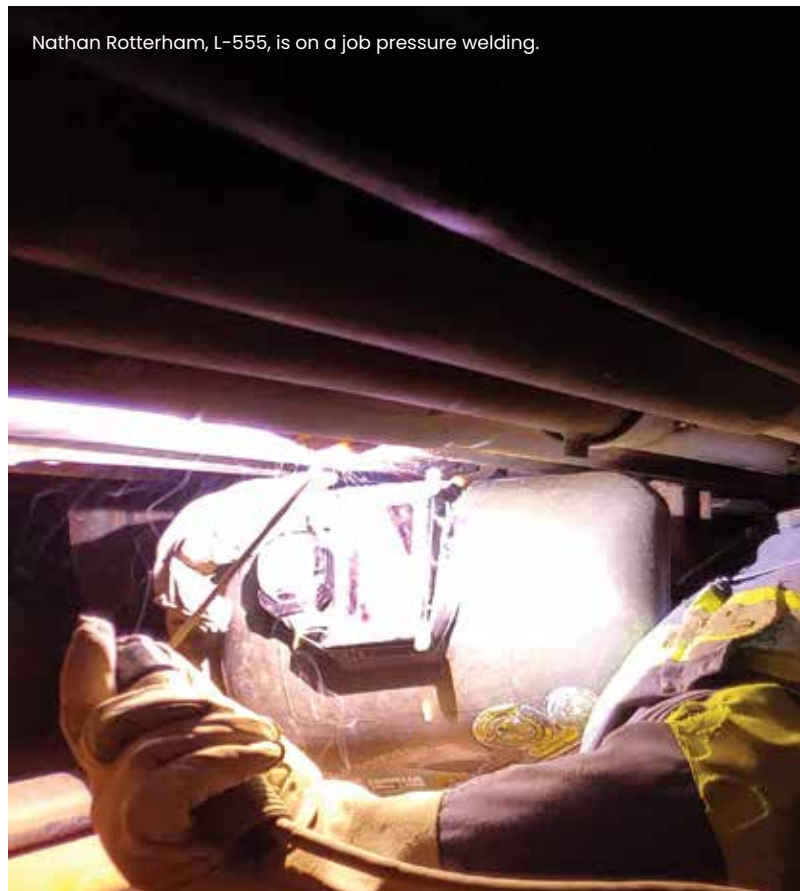
After three years of operation, it's clear that not only is the program successful at developing the pressure welding skills of Canadian tradespeople, but Filling the Gap is also helping ensure there are enough highly skilled pressure welders to keep Canada's industry growth moving forward.

The program's training sessions span eight weeks, and there were 36 sessions held across Canada in the first three years, with a total of 306 participants and a 92% completion rate. Almost all program graduates, 96%, were employed immediately after completing the program, and every one of them obtained their industry-required safety certifications.

Participants in the program included both apprentices (51%) and journeypersons (49%), demonstrating the commitment to continued learning. Notably, 32% of the program graduates came from groups traditionally underrepresented in industry, such as Indigenous Peoples, women, new Canadians, visible minorities and people with disability. This increase in workforce diversity can only benefit industry and communities by providing a larger potential workforce from which to draw and by encouraging a broader range of perspectives to participate in the planning, construction, maintenance, and operation of Canada's power plants, refineries and other sources of energy, innovation and growth.



L-146's Riley McElroy practices welding.



Nathan Rotterham, L-555, is on a job pressure welding.



Riley McElroy had worked in industry for two years when she signed up for the Filling the Gap program through Local 146 in Calgary, Alberta, in 2023.

“As an apprentice we don’t get much welding time in the field. Being able to spend all day welding under guided supervision was an asset,” McElroy said, “It gave me the foundation to progress my skills and competency in the trade. Through this course I was able to obtain the necessary skills to successfully pass my B pressure test with ease when I became a journeyman.”

A little over a year after graduating from the Filling the Gap program, McElroy is a Red Seal, B pressure welder working the shutdown at the Suncor Base Plant in Fort McMurray. She is one of the stainless steel welders for the PSC (primary separation cell) in extractions and loving her work.

In 2022, Nathan Rudderham attended the first Filling the Gap program offered through Local 555 in Regina, Saskatchewan. Rudderham has been welding since 2018, and upon completion of the program, he earned every ticket—F3/F4 up to the Inconel TIG/stick.

According to Rudderham, “Inconel isn’t a ticket a lot of people carry, so I’ve been called for jobs just because I have that ticket as well.”

The structure of the program facilitated his learning.

“Once you get your Red Seal, it can be hard to get booth time to practice and get ticketed in between periods of work,” he said. “This was the issue I had. I was often busy with jobs, so finding time to get to the hall to ticket up was very difficult. Being subsidized on top of that, as well as the hall allowing the time off for the program, made it a very easy process.”

Today, Rudderham works at Poplar River Power Station in Coronach, located in southern Saskatchewan near the Canada and U.S. border, putting his advanced training to use welding tubes, doing pad welds and shielding.

The need for pressure welders across Canada is showing no signs of slowing down, and the Boiler-makers are in position to lead the way in providing the skilled labor required in industry. 🔥



For more information visit:  
[pressureweldertraining.com](https://pressureweldertraining.com)

## Filling the Gap: By the numbers

36

Number Of 8-Week  
Sessions In 3 Years

96%

Program Graduates  
Immediately Employed

51%

Apprentices

306

Total Participants

100%

Graduates Who  
Obtained Required  
Safety Certifications

49%

Journeypersons

92%

Completion Rate

32%

People Traditionally  
Underrepresented  
In The Industry

## New York City runs on Boilermaker brawn

From rails to ships, boilers to tanks, Boilermakers were part of the workforce that built the United States. They also maintain the country, especially the Boilermakers across New York City. One member, blacksmith Frank Kotnik Jr., worked for the New York City Department of Transportation Maspeth Central Shops in Queens for over 26 years before his recent retirement.

Kotnik is proudly old school when it comes to education and the trades. His grandfather was a Blacksmith and his father, an ironworker. So it made sense that he attended Thomas Alva Edison Technical High School in Jamaica, and the Board of

Cooperative Education for structural welding in Westbury, New York, during his formative years.

“We were taught by former tradesmen,” he said. “They weren’t just book smart, but they were out in the field. Do we need more people with a Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree, or blacksmiths? If you have a trade and know what you’re doing, you’re going to have a good job for yourself.”

And that’s exactly how Kotnik’s life has progressed. Through his job at the DOT, he designed, manufactured and installed highway sign brackets for the Brooklyn Bridge, custom traffic signal brackets, pedestrian and bike lane decorative





fencing, and he performed a multitude of repairs around New York City. When a part or a bracket was missing and no one knew how to fix a problem, they'd call Kotnik, who could design and fabricate a solution, like he did for the New York City DOT Division of Collections.

Because the coin collection carts were in such poor condition and the Division of Collections didn't have a blacksmith, they asked Kotnik to come up with a fix so city employees could collect coins from the parking meters.

"My claim to fame at the DOT are the 250 coin collection carts I redesigned and hand made out of scraps to collect hundreds of millions of dollars a year from the 65,000 parking meters throughout the five boroughs of NYC," he said. "Over the years they brought in billions of dollars to the city of New York because of what I did."

He also designed, fabricated and installed 172 brackets to hold dozens of 36-inch round aluminum disks—the Avenue of the Americas medallions.

"I even went out with the highway crew. We'd modify things to keep the city moving. It was a Band-Aid, Band-Aid, Band-Aid," he said.

His younger coworkers called him "Uncle Frank" because he taught them old school ways of problem-solving. And while he's proud of the work he's done for the NYC DOT, his voice breaks when he talks about volunteering after the September 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center.

"I watched the towers grow from my grammar school classroom in Glendale Queens," Kotnik says. "And years later, I'm at the foot of the rubble."

“

I watched the towers grow from my grammar school classroom in Glendale Queens. And years later, I'm at the foot of the rubble. ”

Frank Kotnik  
Local 5

In the aftermath of the attack, he put in mandatory 12-hour days at work. He fabricated and installed brackets, took down certain directional signs on structures and roads and put up new ones to ensure people and traffic flowed around the rubble.

After a 12-hour shift for the city, he'd disregard how tired he felt to volunteer at Ground Zero through the night, cutting steel into 80-foot pieces to move them out of the way and doing whatever needed to be done in the moment. Often, he'd put in 22-hour days, existing only on the dream of sleep.

"The place was unbelievable," Kotnik says. "There are not words I can use to describe what dangers were down there. It was like a moonscape. People called it 'surreal.' It was really something indeed."

He admits he's one of the many who came out of 9/11 with post-traumatic stress disorder. He'll never forget when one of the firefighters walked over to him holding a plastic supermarket-type bag with the words "Human Remains."

"Everything was pulverized. The horror of the body parts," he says. "But we did what we had to do."

He's now facing a new issue—cancer. It hit him out of the blue around Thanksgiving 2023. Doctors attribute his cancer to his volunteer work at Ground Zero.

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks, workers at Ground Zero saw a significant increase in cancer diagnoses among first responders and cleanup workers who endured prolonged exposure to toxic dust and debris.

But Kotnik, who retired in the summer of 2024 just before his surgery for cancer, has responded well to treatment. Doctors are hopeful he and his wife can enjoy their golden years together.

Looking back over his career, he's content with the work he's done for his beloved New York City, both in his day job and in his work at Ground Zero. Kotnik knows he's from a generation that's slowly becoming extinct—the ones who use it up, wear it out, repurpose it or go without.

"There's certain satisfaction—turning shit into gold," Kotnik says with a laugh. "To repair something and make it new again without replacing it. When I was growing up, no one threw stuff out. You do what you got to do to repair something." 🙌



## Bike run unites Western States lodges in common interest

**O**n June 22, 20 Local 92 (Los Angeles) Boilermakers road out on their motorcycles from their hall in Carson, California, and began a 256-mile run up the coast—all in the name of brotherhood.

Meanwhile on the other side of the state, 20 members from Local 549 (Pittsburg, California), set out for a 255-mile run south from their lodge in the Bay Area. The Boilermaker bikers met up in middle in San Simeon, marking the first ever L-92/L-549 “Stronger Together” Bike Run and a full day of fun, food, karaoke—and unity.

Both lodges point to L-92’s Hugo Castañeda as the mastermind behind the event. L-92 had hosted two previous bike runs: The first took riders to Newport Beach and the next was a run to San Diego.

“Every year, we had a good turnout of members joining, and I thought, why not push it all the way up there and make it work,” Castañeda said. “Some of us don’t get to share things we enjoy outside of work. During work, everybody’s together and unified. Then we all go home, and that’s it. The bike run is a good thing outside of work where we can bring in real brotherhood.”

So, L-92 floated the idea of a bike run together with L-549. They liked it, and plans began. The lodges discussed possible meet-up locales, costs, how costs would be divided (right down the

middle) and what the union would cover vs. participants’ expenses.

After plotting a half-way point in San Simeon, Castañeda found a hotel that could accommodate the group and was a perfect setup with a bar and grill on the same lot. Once the Boilermakers arrived, they would be able to relax and fully enjoy the evening without needing to ride elsewhere for dinner and entertainment.

The locals covered the cost of the hotel and food, so participants only needed to pay for their gas and incidentals. Several Boilermakers who wanted to participate but aren’t motorcycle owners opted to rent Slingshots at their own cost.

“The way up there was amazing, and it was a beautiful, nice ride,” Castañeda said. “We took the coast—the long way there. L-549 did too, and we stopped at a couple spots to enjoy the view.”

“The entire Bike Run had several memorable moments, from the point we all met at the local the morning of the ride to every gas stop where members were able to stretch and express how much fun they were having riding down together to meet with L-92,” added L-549’s Osvaldo Troche Jr., who helped plan the event.

They stayed in touch with the hotel, alerting them of their estimated time of arrival, so dinner and drinks were ready when they got there. After



a meal together and a surprise birthday cake for L-549 member Angela Greer, evening activities turned to games of pool, lots of storytelling and karaoke.

“The night-time karaoke was pretty dope, and that lasted for hours,” said L-549 apprentice coordinator Che Rocchild, who also planned the run. “The singing and dancing was pretty contagious. But the morning after was also a chill time. Everybody eventually made it out to the parking lot after getting breakfast, and we spent a good amount of time just congregating, chatting, getting to know each other.”

Which was exactly the point.

There was a time when the relationship between the two California locals was a bit tense. Both locals acknowledge that—and they point to the work done by past business managers Oscar Davila (L-92, now deceased) and Tim Jefferies (L-549, now an International Rep) to re-establish unity and focus on the commonalities of all Boilermakers. L-92 and L-549 have continued the path forward together.

“We’ve continued that work among lodge officers, and we wanted to share that with all the members—to show that we all deal with the same issues and hurdles, we’re all on the same page, in the same state,” Castañeda said, noting that L-92 has emphasized how success grows when all Boilermakers work together as a team. He also pointed out that members of both locals travel to one another’s jobs to fulfill needed manpower.

“In L-92 and L-549, we deal with the same project headaches and contractors, so it makes sense to join forces,” he said. “It sparked my idea for, why not hang out outside of work.

Why not, as a joint international brotherhood, make that happen.”

While the event was a lot of fun for those who participated, the impact on team building is seriously important.

Toche said having the chance to break bread and let loose together, “fostered a bond which allows new members joining these two locals to hear a different narrative than when I joined nearly 18 years ago.”

Rocchild agreed: “We need more brotherly togetherness. We preach on how we are supposed to function, but I think the act of *actually* functioning together is sometimes left by the wayside.

“This event shows members we are past any and all of the previous bickering—and what better way to do so than a function that allows us to function, party and relax as one.”

Castañeda hopes the event will continue and grow.

“My vision is for this next year to push it even further and get more locals involved,” he said. “And who knows, maybe it will go across the country. We’ve got some real riders out there.” 🍷



L-549's Che Rocchild and L-92's Hugo Castañeda, welcome their lodges together for a group meal.

## Offshore wind, hydrogen take center stage at Northeast Tripartite

Members, owners and contractors met in Plymouth, Massachusetts, for the biennial Northeast Tripartite. With an ever-increasing demand for clean energy, Boilermakers are working to gain a foothold in hydrogen energy production and offshore wind. Work potential is looking brighter in the Northeast Section with support from the M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund.

“We’re looking forward to our future. And we will have a future,” IVP-NE John Fultz said as he opened the conference. “You’ll see the results as time moves on.”

Michael Murphy of Murphy Business Solutions is helping the Northeast secure more work for members through the M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund. In his NextGen update, he shared ways locals in the Northeast can increase work and man-hours.

“The Boilermakers have been at the forefront of energy,” Murphy said. “Boilermakers have always been involved in what’s coming next.”

He said offshore wind on floating structures is low hanging fruit because fabrication for the structures requires a skilled workforce. With a potential of five million man-hours, he said it’s an industry to watch.

“To me, that has the largest opportunity for Boilermakers because of the floating system,” he said. The first floating wind farm will need about 350 structures.

“We’re going to take shop work and put it on a barge,” Fultz said. “We’re building it here and then shipping it to where it goes.”

Murphy said Boilermakers must focus on getting the work now if these structures are to be built in the United States, or they will be built in Indonesia and floated to U.S. waters.

IR John Clark explained how the M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund can help gain work. He took attendees through its nuts and bolts, helping business managers, contractors and owners



IVP-NE John Fultz



Bernard Brown, Empire Diversified Energy, Inc.



Michael Murphy, Murphy Business Solutions

understand the process to request support from the M.O.R.E. Work program.

“For the employers, we want you to use M.O.R.E.,” Fultz said, noting that after an application is submitted, the request goes to a committee for review.

Bernard Brown of Empire Diversified Energy, Inc. detailed the company’s Anaerobic Digester project in Follansbee, West Virginia, for the Appalachian Regional Clean Hydrogen Hub or ARCH2. The U.S. Department of Energy selected the project as one of seven hydrogen hubs nationwide to receive funding from DOE’s Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations.

The Follansbee project is unique in energy production because it uses food waste and sludge to create hydrogen. Brown said the current cost to produce a kilogram of hydrogen is about \$7. But Empire’s process costs \$2.35, and that’s without a government subsidy.

“We’re taking food products that would be going to the landfill and making energy from it,” he said. “We get paid to collect the food waste.”

Empire will take food waste, which creates methane when it decomposes, put it inside a sealed, airtight digester and then capture the biogas.

Brown indicated that Empire would use Boilermakers to build the project from the ground up.

“You’re our allies. We need you to build a quality system that works,” he said. “If we get the unions involved and invested from the beginning, they’re going to build us a solid plant.”

He said whether or not the hydrogen hubs move forward, Empire is committed to building the plants.

“We want to be the best at clean energy,” he said.

Additional speakers included Director of Government Affairs Cecile Conroy, BNAP Coordinator Mark Wertz and NEAAC Administrator Jason Dupuis. 🍷



## Ohio Valley Tripartite tackles training and man-hours

Ohio Valley Tripartite members gathered in Lexington, Kentucky, Aug. 13-14, to discuss Boilermaker training, EPRI training and Ohio Valley agreements. Participants, including members, owners and contractors, explored strategies to increase man-hours and received an overview of services the National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers provides its members.

Adrian Hendren, Senior Technical Leader at EPRI, the Electric Power Research Institute, emphasized the importance of equipping workers with the necessary skills and knowledge to be effective in the field.

“Our goal is to make sure when members go out into the field, they’re efficient. They know what they’re doing and they’re able to do it with skills,” Hendren said.

This is achieved through STEs, standardized task evaluations designed to improve efficiency and reduce costs for both owners and contractors in the energy sector. Testing includes a written knowledge exam and hands-on performance exams.

To date, 16,585 EPRI STEs have been completed, resulting in \$1.74 million in annual training cost savings. Recurring qualification costs have been reduced by \$210 per repeat acceptance, highlighting the financial benefits of the program.

The STE program offers portability, allowing it to be applied across multiple sites, which ensures consistent quality and compliance. This flexibility is crucial for maintaining high standards across different locations.

Compliance with the AP3 standards (administration protocol for portable practicals) is a key aspect of the STE program. AP3 compliance ensures that STEs, administered by workforce providers (such as unions), are conducted systematically and meet industry standards.

EPRI’s commitment to maintaining high standards is unwavering. Hendren pointed out that EPRI does not accept testing exemptions or substi-



Adrian Hendren, Senior Technical Leader at EPRI



Ron Traxler, Executive Director of NACBE

tutions, as doing so could undermine the integrity of the program.

Through STEs and strict adherence to compliance standards, EPRI and its partners are shaping the future of energy, ensuring that the workforce is prepared, efficient and capable of meeting the industry’s evolving demands. Boilermakers across the union are becoming EPRI certified in Industrial Rigging and Signaling, Install and Torque Fasteners, Operate a Forklift and Operate an Aerial Work Platform.

Ron Traxler, Executive Director of NACBE, emphasized the critical need for safety, collaboration and recruitment. Traxler highlighted the importance of increasing man-hours and the ongoing efforts to maintain a skilled workforce. “We’re all recruiters and safety professionals. It’s important we recruit, recruit and recruit because we need man-hours,” he stated.

NACBE plays a vital role in promoting safety through regular meetings, injury tracking and expert-led discussions on safety practices. The organization collaborates closely with the MOST program, particularly on mental health initiatives and safety programs, such as respirator fit testing and the eyeglass program.

Traxler addressed a rise in lost-time injury rates, urging collective action to create injury-free workplaces. He also stressed the importance of accurate man-hour projections and ongoing collaboration between contractors, reps and business managers to meet industry needs.

Other speakers included BNAP National Coordinator Mark Wertz, who gave details about training, grants and Boilermakers’ EPRI certification. MOST Trainer Jay Brophy detailed the Boilermaker Boot Camp program and highlighted how important the new MOST Mental Health program is for members. In addition, Director of Jurisdiction and National Maintenance Agreements Marty Stanton offered an update on project labor agreements and addendums. 🙌

# 2024 scholarship winners announced

The International Executive Council has announced the winners of the 2024 scholarship award program. The Boilermakers' scholarship committee was allotted \$100,000 to award in total, with \$74,000 earmarked for U.S. applicants and \$26,000 for Canadian applicants. IBB received 106 total eligible applications from Boilermaker dependents. The applicants were judged on their academic achievements, leadership skills, participation in extracurricular activities and a written essay.

## Edward Power Scholarship Award

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded the \$5,000 scholarship to the following Canadian applicant:



Kyhllle Cristie Felisilda

**Kyhllle Cristie Felisilda**, daughter of Local D359 (Edmonton, Alberta) member Peter P. Felisilda, graduated from St. Joseph Catholic High School and is studying biology at the University of Alberta.

## Canadian student receives \$3,000 scholarship

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$3,000 to the following Canadian applicant:

**Jo Tabithared Gripo**, daughter of Local D345 (Calgary, Alberta) member Michelred Gripo, graduated from All Saints High School and is studying engineering at the University of Calgary.

## Eighteen Canadian students receive \$1,000 scholarships

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to the following Canadian applicants:

**Keira Mae Barth**, daughter of Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario) member Eric K. Barth and granddaughter of Kurt Barth, graduated from Uxbridge Secondary School and is studying nursing at the University of Ottawa.

**Jasmine Scarlett Dawn Bencharski**, daughter of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) member Jason Bencharski, graduated from Indian Head High School and is studying elementary education at the University of Regina.

**Michelle Borovik**, daughter of Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario) member Vladimir Borovik, graduated from Bishop Allen Academy and is studying management at the University of Toronto, Mississauga.



Keira Mae Barth



Jasmine Scarlett Dawn Bencharski



Michelle Borovik



Eli Jonathan David Bradley



Mia-Bella Kadin Calderon



Shea Lynn Carr



Namara Anne Clarke



Kate Marie Dalton



**Eli Jonathan David Bradley**, son of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) member Jarediah Bradley, graduated from Victoria School of the Arts and is studying finance at the University of Alberta.

**Mia-Bella Kadin Calderon**, stepdaughter of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) member Ryan Sellar, graduated from Miles Macdonell Collegiate and is studying respiratory therapy at the University of Winnipeg.

**Shea Lynn Carr**, daughter of Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member Johnathon Carr, graduated from Dr. John Hugh Gillis Regional High School and is studying human kinetics at St. Francis Xavier University.

**Namara Anne Clarke**, daughter of Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member David R. Clarke, graduated from Northumberland Regional High School and is studying biology at St. Francis Xavier University.

**Kate Marie Dalton**, daughter of Local 203 (St. John's, Newfoundland) member Albert M. Dalton, graduated from Roncalli Central High and is studying nursing at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

**Caitlin Mae Delaurier**, daughter of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) member Terence S. Delaurier, graduated from Albert E. Peacock Collegiate and is studying real estate studies at the University of Calgary.

**Alyssa Teresa Ennis**, daughter of Local 203 (St. John's, Newfoundland) member Thomas R. Ennis, graduated from Roncalli Central High and is pursuing her Bachelor of Science degree at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

**Hunter Shawn Leslie Hall**, son of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) member Robert Hall, graduated from St. Francis Xavier and is pursuing his Bachelor of Science degree at MacEwan University.

**Jocelynn Kalee Hill**, daughter of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) member Dustin K. Hill, graduated from Albert E. Peacock Collegiate and is studying dental assistance at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

**Anna Noelle Jessome**, daughter of Local 580 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member Michael R. Jessome, graduated from Hants East Rural High School and is studying biology at Saint Mary's University.

**Samuel Zakary Leblanc**, son of Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member Mario S. Leblanc, graduated from Mathieu-Martin High School and is studying mechanical engineering at Université de Moncton.

**Elohor Jennifer Omoko**, daughter of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) member Joseph Omoko, graduated from Dr. Anne Anderson High School.

**Emma Alyssa Snow**, daughter of Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member George C. Snow, graduated from East Antigonish Education Centre/Academy.

**Alyssa Marie Suter**, stepdaughter of Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario) member Christopher Hurd, graduated from Great Lakes Secondary School and is studying nursing at Lambton College.

**Anaya Szabo**, daughter of Local D385 (Vancouver, British Columbia) member Jason Szabo, graduated from Panorama Ridge Secondary School.



Caitlin Mae Delaurier



Alyssa Teresa Ennis



Jo Tabithared Gripo



Hunter Shawn Leslie Hall



Jocelynn Kalee Hill



Anna Noelle Jessome



Samuel Zakary Leblanc



Alyssa Marie Suter



Edward Michael Andrews



McKenna Armstrong



Terryn Pyper Avery



Elley Jan Bennet



DenTalia Oceanda Betoney



Addison Brielle Bond



Ciara Taylor Bonner



Samantha Grace Borlie



Carina J. Brawdy



Lindsay Briggs



Shylah Ann Brogan



Sydney Catherine Bullock

## Charles A. Jones Scholarship Award

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded the \$5,000 scholarship to the following U.S. applicant:



Alexander J. Hogston

**Alexander J. Hogston**, son of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio) member James R. Hogston, graduated from Lawrence County High School, is studying mechanical engineering at the University of Kentucky.

## U.S. student receives \$4,000 scholarship

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$4,000 to the following U.S. applicant:

**Celia Elizabeth Parson**, daughter of Local 667 (Winfield, West Virginia) member Timothy E. Parson, graduated from West Greene Junior-Senior High School and is studying physical therapy at Duquesne University and plans to pursue a doctoral degree.

## Four U.S. students awarded \$3,000 scholarships

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$3,000 to the following U.S. applicants:

**Lindsay Briggs**, daughter of Local D239 (Three Forks, Montana) member Jeffrey C. Briggs, graduated from Whitehall High School and is studying child development at Brigham Young University, Idaho.

**Shylah Ann Brogan**, daughter of Local 697 (Marshfield, Wisconsin) member Kelly J. Brogan, graduated from Marshfield High School and is studying biology at St. Catherine University.

**Grace Ann Herford**, daughter of Local 587 (Orange, Texas) member Clay Herford, graduated from Vidor High School and is studying business administration and financial management at Texas A&M University.

**Chesney Brooke Johnson**, daughter of Local 454 (Chattanooga, Tennessee) member Jeremiah J. Johnson, graduated from Haralson County High School and is studying biology at Young Harris College.

## IEC awards eight \$2,000 scholarships to U.S. students

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$2,000 to the following U.S. applicants:

**Addison Brielle Bond**, daughter of Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Kentucky) member Christopher D. Bond, graduated from East Carter County High School and is studying biomedical science, pre-dentistry, at Morehead State University.

**Michael DiCicco**, son of Local 28 (Newark, New Jersey) member James DiCicco, graduated from Clearview Regional High School and is studying chemical engineering at Rowan University.

**Hanna Emma Fowler**, daughter of Local 627 (Phoenix) member Davis H. Fowler, graduated from Page High School and is studying astrophysics at Yale University.





Nevaeh Burdge



Makenna Burge



Keira Joy Cole



Curtis Andrew Cole Crockett



Michael DiCicco



Bryce T. Dunning



Matalvi Dypha



Jason Edward Dupuis, Jr.



Troy Adam Ewigman



Aliyanna Ariel Fernandez



Gabriel Foster



Hanna Emma Fowler

**Gabriela F. Locon**, daughter of Local 549 (Pittsburg, California) member Rodolfo G. Locon, graduated from Immaculate Conception Academy and is studying neurobiology, physiology and behavior at the University of California, Davis.

**Justin Dakota Nelson**, son of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) member Justin D. Nelson, graduated from Seneca High School and is studying mechanical engineering at Missouri S&T.

**Spencer Ray Taylor**, stepson of Local 502 (Tacoma, Washington) member Eric R. Varley, graduated from Prairie High School and is studying business administration at Clark College.

**Jacob Weber**, son of Local 45/Zone 193 (Richmond, Virginia) member Daniel J. Weber, graduated from Archbishop Curley High School and is studying sports business management at Leeds University.

**Brianna Elizabeth Wood**, daughter of Local 60 (Peoria, Illinois) member Jeremy C. Wood, graduated from Pekin Community High School and is studying nursing at Bradley University.

### Thirty-seven U.S. students receive \$1,000 scholarships

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$1,000 to the following U.S. applicants:

**Edward Michael Andrews**, son of Local 744 (Cleveland, Ohio) member Michael E. Andrews, graduated from St. Edward High School and is studying business at Baldwin-Wallace University.

**McKenna Armstrong**, daughter of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) member Jason H. Armstrong, graduated from Staley High School and is studying communications at Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods.

**Terryn Pyper Avery**, daughter of Local S1978 (Rock Springs, Wyoming) member Jeremiah M. Avery, graduated from Green River High School and is studying business management at Western Wyoming Community College.

**Elley Jan Bennett**, daughter of Local 363 (East St. Louis, Illinois) member John A. Bennett IV, graduated from Newton Community High School and is studying exercise science and pre-physical therapy at the University of Evansville.

**DenTallia Oceanda Betoney**, daughter of Local 4 (Page, Arizona) member Andrea Nez, graduated from Farmington High School and is studying health and kinesiology at the University of Utah.

**Ciara Taylor Bonner**, daughter of Local 374 (Hobart, Indiana) member Matthew Q. Bonner, graduated from Chesterton High School and is studying exercise science at Marian University's Ancilla College.

**Samantha Grace Borlie**, daughter of Local 1393 (Altoona, Pennsylvania) member Steven P. Borlie, graduated from Penn Cambria High School and is studying ultrasonography at Mount Aloysius College.

**Carina J. Brawdy**, daughter of Local 5/Zone 7 (Floral Park, New York) member Scott T. Brawdy, graduated from West Seneca West Senior High School and is studying law at the University of Buffalo.

**Sydney Catherine Bullock**, daughter of Local 28 (Newark, New Jersey) member Brandon J. Bullock, graduated from Point Pleasant Beach High School and is studying biology at Florida Atlantic University.



Isabelle Amerett Gomez



Grace Ann Herford



Hannah Jensen



Chesney Brooke Johnson



Camryn Marie Klingensmith



Reid Jason Landis



Gabriela F. Locon



Justin Dakota Nelson



Celia Elizabeth Parson



Danessa Jo Pride



Marissa Ray



Sean Joseph Ryan

**Nevaeh Burdge**, stepdaughter of Local 107 (Milwaukee) member Bradley Guizzetti, graduated from Cedar Grove-Belgium High School and is studying biology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

**Makenna Burge**, daughter of Local 502 (Tacoma, Washington) member Garrett R. Burge, graduated from Southridge High School and is studying forensic science at Arizona State University.

**Keira Joy Cole**, daughter of Local 107 (Milwaukee) member Daniel J. Cole, graduated from Oconto Falls High School and is studying diagnostic medical sonography at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

**Curtis Andrew Cole Crockett**, son of Local 2060 (Great Lakes NTD) member Joshua J. Crockett, graduated from Ramsey High School and is studying business at Eastern Illinois University.

**Bryce T. Dunning**, son of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) member Kevin T. Dunning, graduated from Bennington High School and is studying critical facilities management at Metropolitan Community College.

**Jason Edward Dupuis, Jr.**, son of Local 237 (Hartford, Connecticut) member Jason E. Dupuis, Sr., graduated from Glastonbury High School and is studying biomedical science at Marist College.

**Matavi Dypha**, daughter of Local 92 (Los Angeles) member Samarn Dypha, graduated from Moreno Valley High School and is studying computer engineering at the University of California, San Diego.

**Troy Adam Ewigman**, son of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) member Adam L. Ewigman, graduated from Marceline High School and is studying mechanical engineering at the University of Missouri.

**Aliyanna Ariel Fernandez**, daughter of Local 5/Zone 5 (Oswego, New York) member Moises Fernandez, graduated from Walter G. O'Connell Copiague High School and is studying secondary education and mathematics at Stony Brook University.

**Gabriel Foster**, son of Local 110 (Hattiesburg, Mississippi) member Donnie L. Foster, Jr., graduated from Lawrence County High School and is studying diesel equipment technology at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

**Isabelle Amerett Gomez**, daughter of Local 92 (Los Angeles) member Ryan A. Gomez, graduated from Fullerton Union High School and is studying social work at California State University of Long Beach.

**Daniel Gorskikh**, son of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) member Genady V. Gorskikh, graduated from Knoxville High School.

**Hannah Jensen**, daughter of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) member Casey G. Jensen, graduated from Olathe North High School and is studying nursing at Baker University.

**Camryn Marie Klingensmith**, daughter of Local 85 (Toledo, Ohio) member Philip D. Klingensmith, graduated from Perrysburg High School and is studying dental hygiene at The Ohio State University.

**Reid Jason Landis**, son of Local 667 (Winfield, West Virginia) member Jason G. Landis, graduated from Ripley High School and is studying biochemistry at West Virginia University.

**Lila Grace O'Hanlon**, daughter of Local 28 (Newark, New Jersey) member Robert O'Hanlon, graduated from Holmdel High School.

**Leeah Peles**, daughter of Local 154 (Pittsburgh) member Robert J. Peles, graduated from Purchase Line Junior-Senior High School and is studying at Temple University.





Michael Ryan



Monique Montserrat Salinas



Alexis Nicole Shuttleworth



Spencer Ray Taylor



John Hart Turner



Emily Dawne Voigt



Jacob Weber



Jack James Whalen



Brianna Elizabeth Wood

**Savanna Marie Pfetzer**, daughter of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio) member Daniel Pfetzer, graduated from Campbell County High School.

**Rosamond Jacinta Goncalves Porter**, daughter of Local 1851 (Springfield, Massachusetts) member Jose G. Porter, graduated from South Hadley High School and is studying physics at Holyoke Community College.

**Danessa Jo Pride**, daughter of Local 374 (Hobart, Indiana) member Douglas V. Pride, graduated from Pike Central High School and is studying at Ivy Tech Community College, deciding between accounting and nursing.

**Marissa Ray**, daughter of Local 454 (Chattanooga, Tennessee) member Michael E. Ray, graduated from Rhea County High School and is studying occupational therapy at Cleveland State Community College.

**Michael Ryan**, son of Local 5/Zone 5 (Oswego, New York) member Thomas F. Ryan, graduated from Yorktown High School and is studying electrical construction and utility operation at State University of New York at Delhi.

**Sean Joseph Ryan**, son of Local 5/Zone 5 (Oswego, New York) member Thomas F. Ryan, graduated from Yorktown High School and is studying chemical engineering at Manhattan College.

**Monique Monserrat Salinas**, daughter of Local 549 (Pittsburg, California) member Jose L. Salinas, graduated from South Texas ISD Health Professions and is studying communication sciences and disorders at the University of Rio Grande Valley.

**Alexis Nicole Shuttleworth**, daughter of Local 212 (Geneva, Ohio) member Joseph A. Shuttleworth, graduated from Geneva High School and is studying sports management at Bowling Green State University.

**John Hart Turner**, son of Local 108 (Bessemer, Alabama) member William E. Turner, graduated from Oak Grove High School and is studying computer engineering at the University of Alabama.

**Emily Dawne Voigt**, daughter of Local 647 (Ramsey, Minnesota) member Luke A. Voigt, graduated from Mandan High School and is studying agribusiness and marketing at North Dakota State University, Fargo.

**Jack James Whalen**, son of Local 13 (Philadelphia) member John J. Whalen, graduated from North Schuylkill Junior-Senior High School and is studying nursing at Penn State, Schuylkill.

### Local Lodge 105 awards Don Storey Memorial Scholarships

Four dependents of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio) members each received a \$1,000 Don Storey Memorial Scholarship. Scholarships were awarded to:

- Alexander J. Hogston**, son of James Hogston
- Ellaina Grace Hutchinson**, daughter of Lloyd J. Hutchinson II
- Savanna Marie Pfetzer**, daughter of Daniel Pfetzer
- Reece Rich**, daughter of Lance J. Rich

# Scholarship essays focus on the rise of unions

Each year, Boilermaker scholarship candidates must answer an essay question and topic prompts as part of the application requirements. The question is different each year, and candidates must respond in 500 words or less.

The 2024 Boilermakers Scholarship Essay question was:

***What economic conditions fueled the rise of labor unions in the late 19th and early-to-mid 20th Century? Compare and contrast the economic conditions from that period in history with conditions workers face today. Include topics such as wages, housing costs, safety, child labor or others.***

Following are the essays\* as submitted by Khylle Felisilda, winner of Canada's Edward Power Scholarship, and Alexander J. Hogston, winner of the U.S. Charles A. Jones Scholarship.

## By Khylle Cristie Felisilda

daughter of Peter P. Felisilda, L-D359, Edmonton, Alberta

Five years ago, I was invited to preview a local high school's rendition of *Oliver Twist*, a story that encapsulates the atrocious working conditions of children in Victorian England—widely known as the plight of the poor during that time. While watching the play I felt a sense of outrage and sympathy as I witnessed the experiences of the young orphan children: neglected, abandoned, and tackling feelings of hopelessness and helplessness. It made me question, how did this happen? Why did this happen? How can we prevent this from further exacerbation?

The origins of the Industrial Revolution are rooted in the economic transformation of Great Britain in the 19th Century. At this time, the economic ideas of classical liberalism had escalated across Europe, leading to the development of factory systems, innovative technology, and rapid urbanization. However, while new methods and mechanizations introduced significant positive changes in producing goods and services, poor working and living conditions stimulated a deterioration of the quality of life for most of the population. Factory owners had little sympathy for workers who were simply seen as necessary components of the production process. Under *laissez-faire* capitalism, the government was not involved in the economy and therefore, placed no restrictions on economic production. As industrialization continued, workers began to call for reforms. Suffering from low wages, dangerous working conditions, and frequent unemployment, workers protested violently against corporations.

Workers sought an equal voice that represented their demands. They increasingly advocated for equal

opportunities and respect for all members of society, leading to the birth of labour unions. During the 19th Century, several labour laws were introduced to the public including freedom of association, outlining the right to organize and negotiate collectively. They strongly believed that if workers in a specific trade banded, they could advocate for better hours and wages and threaten to strike if their interests have not been fulfilled. This challenged the prevalent notion that labourers held a lower status in society.

Today, millions of workers are forced to accept inadequate working conditions. The global labour movement has witnessed a resurgence in recent years mainly because more and more employees are stipulating for better wages, benefits, and safety. Workers continue to suffer from unfair conditions such as being forced to work in hazardous environments with limited safety training resulting in physical and mental exertion. Hence, this proves that the modern-day world has yet to experience significant improvements concerning workers' rights. However, since the Industrial Revolution, there have been improvements including the prevalence of women and racial minorities in the workforce, enforcing stricter child labour laws, and implementing several employee benefits.

In summary, unions are largely responsible for stimulating growth in the economy. They were established to create better representation for individuals in the workforce by protecting employee rights and eradicating exploitation. Ultimately, there is still a profusion of room for improvement in today's economy; however, conditions today have drastically ameliorated since the 19th Century. ■



## By Alexander J. Higston

son of James R. Hogston, L-105, Chillicothe, Ohio

With the explosion of discoveries and inventions in the late 1800s, the United States underwent an unmistakable technological revolution. Mass production became standard for most businesses. There was an upsurge in steel manufacturing, electricity distribution, and railroad construction. As America's economy began booming from expanding markets, there was a growing issue behind the scenes. The class gap between the wealthy and the poor was growing exponentially. The rich were becoming more affluent and influential from the support of prosperous industries. The poor suffered financially and physically from their newfound conditions in the industrially dependent world.

It was no secret the working class was being exploited and abused for the benefit of companies who hired them. Annual salaries barely amounted to \$600. Employees could not support a family without working more than 12 hours daily. Working conditions were hazardous and deadly in many cases. Machine-related injuries and diseases from unsanitary workspaces were commonplace. Overseers of these workers completely disregarded employees' well-being. The worst practice in almost every mass-production factory was the use of children younger than 16 for textile jobs, along with paying them a fraction of what regular workers received.

One of the most horrific cases of worker neglect was the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire. Owners of the factory had locked the fire escape routes, and 146 workers, primarily young women, were killed. Accidents like this sparked widespread activism and protests against child labor and the disregard for low-class workers. Throughout the

1900s, whistleblowers exposed extreme and illegal practices. Over time, unions began to form. Employees were no longer allowing the abuse. The voice of one is faint, but the voices of many demand attention. With the help of union representatives, they started negotiating long-term contracts with the corporations. Unions helped ensure workers received superior benefits and guaranteed the safety and rights of every union member.

The advantages of these longstanding unions are still seen today. Employees can secure safe working environments with a considerable wage through collective bargaining and contract negotiations. They have benefits that 1900s workers could only dream of, including pensions and medical coverage. Union members can voice concerns and opinions without jeopardizing the security of their jobs or, worse, their livelihood. It has been the best resolution to fight the abuse of large businesses and corporate greed. However, even with the increase in workers' authority, some companies still run on exploitation.

Companies without union representation continue offering their employees little to no benefits, with working environments barely meeting health standards. The difference between these corporations and those in the late 19th century is their keen ability to hide disagreeable business practices. Fortunately, unions have made significant progress in attaining the rights and safety of all workers. Unions like the International Brotherhood have provided safe and lucrative jobs to members like my father and continue to fight against cruel enterprises that have no care for the working class, on whose backs this country was and is being built. ■

\*Editor's note: These scholarship essays are the original work and independent thought of student authors.



## How to apply for 2025 scholarships

Know someone who should apply for a 2025 Boilermaker scholarship? Visit [scholarships.boilermakers.org](https://scholarships.boilermakers.org) for full instructions, eligibility requirements and the online application form. The 2025 applications will open Jan. 1, 2025.

# 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

<b>50 YEARS</b>	Richard Purdy
<b>35 YEARS</b>	Michael Hagan, Louis Benz, Charles Dobosiewicz, Richard Mooney
<b>30 YEARS</b>	John Beckwith Jr., David Buchanan, David Osuch, Robert Osuch, John Scott
<b>25 YEARS</b>	Justin Gustafson, Edward Pedraza, Ronald Samuel

## LOCAL 13 • PHILADELPHIA

<b>70 YEARS</b>	James Murphy, Arnold Suter
<b>65 YEARS</b>	William Dixon Jr., Ronald Passick, John Stickley
<b>60 YEARS</b>	Stephen Bristow, Charles Hudson Jr., Paul Kaylor, Leonard Kazmiroski, Ronald Long, James Morrison Sr., Raymond Strazdus
<b>55 YEARS</b>	Samuel Beachy, Terry Bender, Fred Bontrager, Robert Brochet, Ronald Brosius, Clyde Burkins Jr., Gary Carroll, Louis Deseta, James Dykes, David Evans, Robert Gilbert, James Heron Jr., Curtiss Jones, Delbert Jones, James Kaylor, Francis Keeney, Tadeusz Muc, Roy Murray, Joseph M. Murray, Marion Nester, John Orosz, Pail Pompeii, Gerald Robertson Jr., Frank Seiverd, Howard Sheffield, John Shingler, Leslie Smith, Samuel Smith, Daniel Stroka, Joseph Sweitzer, Basilio Veiga, Walter Weber, Robert Willard, Arthur Wilson, Carl Absher, Elmer Wood
<b>50 YEARS</b>	Scott Alvanos, Frank Applegate, Daniel Bailey Jr., Robert Bailey, James Banford Jr., Bernard Basalay Jr., Jeremiah Benjamin, John Borzell, Jr., Daniel Brennan Jr., Walter Bresnen, John Cagnoli, Joseph Cagnoli, Robert Carbone, William Cataldo, John Cinousis Jr., Kenneth Coleman, Thad Coleman, John Dambrowski, Joseph Dellapenna, Ralph Deputy, Michael DiCiccio, James Dimmerling, Edward Ducey, Albert Dziedzina Jr., Robert Finn, Richard Frederick, Michael Gallagher, William Garlic Sr., Ronald Garrett, Michael Gaughan, Richard Gaughan, Leonard Geraci Jr., Edward Golden, Thomas Golden, James Gorman, Shawn Gorman, Francis Gresko Jr., Robert Gresko, Edward Growchowski Jr., John Gunning, Nicholas Gushue, Robert Gushue, James Hall, Harry Haney, Michael D. Hartman, Michael Hayes, Larry Hoffman, Michael Humenick, William Jack, James Jordan, Stephen Keating, Albert Kern, Vincent Kern, Daniel Kirk, Frank Klina, James Laber, Stephen Laskowski, William Lavin Sr., James Lhulier, Charles Long, Joseph Long, James Lutz, Kevin Lynn, Lee Macknight, Leonard Mauri Jr., Michael Mallon III, Vincent Mangiamiele, John Mangiamiele, Michael McLaughlin, Joseph McGuigan, Frank McGuigan, Robert Melling, William M. Miller, Peter T. Mulligan, Daniel Murray, Kevin Niederkorn, Edward O'Neill, David Orcutt, Stanley Oshetski, Richard Parker, Walter Parlow Jr., William Peters, Gregory Portz, Joseph Ragan, Albert Ray, Tomas Reddington, Michael Reed, Jack Rhoades, Edward Richardson Jr., Harold Roos Jr., Robert Roshon, John Rowley, Edward Sawyer, Thomas Scanlan Jr., Timothy Sherman, Charles Shields, Kenneth Sieklicki, James Sigovich, Peter Sliwka Jr., Timothy Smith, Joseph Sparacio, Harry Storz, William Sweeney Jr., Thomas F. Sweeney, Louis Thompson II, Eugene Visneski, Richard Wallauer, William Weigle, Seldon Whyte, James Wilson, William Yocum

## 45 YEARS

Daniel Ahern, Earl Attix, James Babon, William Barrett Jr., Joseph Bartolacci, Frank Bendel, Richard Blitz, William Bradley Jr., Phillip Bristow, Patrick Brodeur, Robert Carrow, Leon Ciferni Jr., Roger Davis, Larry Davis, Joseph Dayton, Eugene Dodelin Jr., Raymond Drumm Jr., Michael Dzwonek, Robert Frisby, Kurt Fuhrman, Thomas Gaughan, Kevin Gaughan, Larry Gorgel, John Gresko, Gilbert Haney, Richard Hooper, Anthony Ingram Jr., Michael Kamauff, John Kappes, Michael Kitchen, Charles Klein, Paul Kupchick, Albert Lackus, Francis LeCompte, William Lyons, Jeffrey Manlove, Eugene Mannherz, Derek Matonti, James McElhaugh, William Miller Jr., Shawn Miller, Larry Mohring, Christopher Monahan, Patrick Mulligan, Michael Mulligan, Michael W. Murray, Lee Namiotka, James Neumane, Michael Pakela, Harry Palmer, Anthony Parente, James Prentice, Richard Ragan Jr., Timothy Reilly, Bradley Shultz, Brian Shultz, Robert Sieklicki, Larry Simms, Joseph Slavinski, Michael Smith, Dennis Smith, William St. John, Alan Stauffer, Edward Swiderski Jr., Alex Tallick, Joseph Tarnalicki Jr., Leo Ulicny, Bruce Verbit, Steven Verbit, Todd Visneski, Charles Welsh, Mark Wilson, Patrick Woodward, John Wyatt, Russell Zern, Michael Zink

## 40 YEARS

Stanley Benison, Richard Brent, David Burnett, John Cinousis Jr., Thomas Coleman, Michael Dellpriscoli, Cecil Estes, Bradley Everetts, James Flanagan III, Dominic Grizzo, Joseph Hogan, Richard Johnston, Daniel Keeney, Wayne Leister Jr., Michael Machutas, Steven Mallon, James Mulligan, Robert Paynter Jr., Robert Pearse, Vincent Redmond, Eugene Ritter, Mike Sakowski, Patrick Sharkey, Lyle Shipe, Elmer Smiga Jr., Joseph Smith Jr., David Sweeney, Charles Ulitchney, Paul Vogler Jr., John Whalen

## 35 YEARS

Larry Anders, David Anderson, Earl Beardsworth, Michael Bernotas, Robert Birchmeier, David Bobon, Edward Bott, Donald Caltvedt, Rusty Campbell, Daniel Cerasaro, Anthony Ciferni Jr., Joseph Ciferni Jr., Leroy Clark, Robert Cryder Jr., Todd Dreher, James Gieder, Mark Gosser, Gary Gresko, Clay Hartman III, Dana Jones, Robert Keating Jr., Jeffrey Kovalick, Charles Mallon Jr., Vincent Mangiamiele Jr., Mark Mangiamiele, Barry Martin, Sandor Ordog Jr., Eugene Perchinski, Barton Phelps, Thomas Ras, Dennis Reiprish, George Rhoades, Dominick Ricco III, David Rumbel, Mark Strachan, David Tomosky, Timothy Wiernusz, Timothy Wilson

## 30 YEARS

Thomas Bill, Robert Buchman Jr., Gerald Burge, James Canavan III, Anthony Cinousis, Bradley Coburn, Joseph Demeter, Anthony Fasanella, Kevin Gilmer, Robert Goheen, Thomas Green, Paul Immordino, Roger Jayne, Brian Keane, Leon Kern, William Klose, David Kreis, Frnaklin Mackay Jr., George McCook, Michael McDonough, Charles Murray Jr., Robert A. Nast, Bernard Nowak III, Joseph Oshetski, Alfonso Pale, Fred Penick, William Raeuber III, Jason Simmers, Howard Snyder, Mark Spak, Gregory Strazdus, David Tarnalicki, John Tierney, Thomas Tracey Jr., Scott Werkheiser, Ricky Whitehead, Charles Uhle

## 25 YEARS

Gerald Armstrong, Daniel Bailey III, Christopher Barker, Joseph Blair, Dennis J. Cinousis, Charles Downs, William Dvorak, Matthew Fink, Edward Fithian, Jerald Ford, Randy Fritz, Thomas Harvey, Charles Hudson J., Jeffery Johnson, Brian Kelly, Jay King, Robert Kling, Philip Kovilaritch, Robert Lutts St., Duane Matthews, Michael McDonough, Nathan Mellor, Raymond Meloni, Brad Mickatavage, Randall Monahan Jr., Seyed Moosavi, Mark Moyer, Joseph C. Murray, Thomas Neumane Jr., William Oesterwind, David Parson Jr., David Potts, Fred Robets, Mark Roman, Carl Slaughter, Wayne Smith Jr., Thomas Strohl, David Teetsel, Steve Turner, Robert Wolbert, Ralph Zaharias



## LOCAL 13 • PHILADELPHIA (continued from page 24)

### 20 YEARS

Anthony Bauer III, Michael Beck, James Belles, John Belles, Thomas Bosack Jr., John Breslin, Edward Burns, Chester Choplick Jr., Robert Churchill, Bruce Corley, Terrence Coursey, Robert Cryder III, Michael Cudd, Joseph Cusson, Robert Davies III, Michael DeBerry, Kenneth Ferguson, Michael Ferguson, Scott Fleming, Eric Fore, Paul Garvey Jr., Paul Gleba, Matthew E. Gushue, Robert J. Hall, Randy Hartz, Jr., Ken Hinds, David Hoffman, Wayne R. Hoffman, William Hollywood, Cyril Johnson, William Keefe III, Michael King, Bion Konya, Michael Lannen, Romeo Lariosa, Bruce Leap, George Lord, Matthew Lytle, Franz Malcom, Lawrence Meyers Jr., Raymond Meloni, William Miller Jr., Darren Morgan, Jamie Moser, Timothy Murray, Dean Olvaney, Michael O'Malley, Roberto Pacheco, John Phillips, James Purin Jr., Stephen Ray, James Robel, Jacob Roos, Shaun Schaeffer, Timothy Simmons, Frank Smith, Robert Soderlund, Jason Soika, Wade Stauffer, Joseph Tarnalicki III, Kyle Timbers, Charles Touchinsky, Melvin Traver, Lester Watts, Michael Wilcox, Martin Willis, Christian Wilson

### 15 YEARS

Michael Asa Atherholt IV, James Bailey Jr., Donald Barger, Daniel Barnhart, Francis Bartsch, Joseph Begis Jr., John E. Bland Jr., Brian Brode, Andrew Clemmons, Sean Coleman, Patrick Coleman, Thomas Cook, Donald Cox, Michael Delorso, Richard L. Delp Jr., Timothy Deveney, Michael Dixon, Timothy Dougherty, Harold Dunlap Jr., Harry Eggler, Philip Falat, Bruce Ford, Jack Franklin, Christopher Geld, Christopher Giles, James H. Green, Christopher Hall, Kenneth Heston, James P. Jordan Jr., Michael Kirk, Charles Kitchenman, Arthur Kling III, Anthony Leonard, Christopher Mansfield, Samantha Matonti, Joseph May, Christopher McCormack, Daniel McFadden, Patrick Monaghan, Scott Moon, Sean Murray, Russell Oldaker, Robert Packer, Gary Parkinson, Terry Payne, Joseph Phillips, Walter Reese, Roberto Reyes, Michael Romero, Brian Saier, Benjamin Samson, Louis Scarborough, Kenneth Smith, Samuel Standiford, Nathat Strausbaugh, Mark Szarkowski, Seth Traver, Kenneth Ulmer, Michael Webb, Joseph Welsh Jr., Kader Yahawi, Peter Young, David Zawadski

### 30 YEARS

Glen J. Birkheimer, John R. Brooks, Thomas (Brooks) Crews, Jeffery M. Feagin, Loyd H. Moreland, John Morton, William J. Myers, Gary A. Myers, John H. Oliver, Morgan R. Rush, Keith T. Vickers, Clinton A. Watts, Ricky C. Wilkes, Joel K. Winkles Sr.

### 25 YEARS

James M. Bailey, Shane J. Douglas, Arnold W. Farley, Jimmy Foster, Tracy N. Howell, Jeffrey S. Hughes, Lorne James. Johns, Timothy C. Johnson Sr., Thomas E. Knight Jr., John Grey. Lynn, Wallace E. McNeal, Michael McVay, Alexis E. Robbins, Mitchell L. Rushing, Lewis Shingler, Randall L. Smith Jr., Chris M. Taylor, Randall L. Taylor, Darrin F. Walker, Kenneth B. Walker, Danny G. Wommack, Bryan W. Youmans

## LOCAL 40 • ELIZABETHTOWN KY

### 20 YEARS

Karen L. Truett

## LOCAL 60 • PEORIA IL

### 65 YEARS

Jack Lewis

### 25 YEARS

Joseph Grennan, Dennis Willstead

### 20 YEARS

Nathan Pribble, Jason Pribble, Jeremy Rodda

### 15 YEARS

Lee Callahan, Christopher Dunne, Henry Gains, Nathan Miskell, Jeff Montgomery, Robert Morrissey, Justin Roth, James Slater

## LOCAL 83 • KANSAS CITY MO

### 35 YEARS

James D. Brichacek

### 25 YEARS

Robin J. Burianek, Brian D. Pettinger, Darren L. Stroder, Shannon J. Wiatt

### 20 YEARS

Aaron J. Waldrop

### 15 YEARS

Ralph Roger Bennett, James Vernon Brooks, Brandon M. Clark, Jonathan Fagan, Lynn T. Holmes, Robert Todd Imondi, Michael T. Mayotte, Clifford R. Noah, Daniel Stockwell, Jack Marshall Trent, John A. Wenzel

## LOCAL 108 • BESSEMER AL

### 55 YEARS

John L. Helvin

### 15 YEARS

William Adam Defoor

## LOCAL 359 • VANCOUVER BC

### 50 YEARS

Lothar Bruenig, Barry England, Lorne Grace, Mike Griffin, Gyula Hadarics, Leonard Horvat

### 45 YEARS

Palmer Allen, Paul Bliskis, Richard Brooks, Murray Brown, Randy Wallin, Rick White, David Woods, Glen Yanchuck

### 40 YEARS

Robert Andrews, Bob Fershau, Gordon Kappel, Ken Schwab, Robert Stauffer, Randy Wozencroft

### 25 YEARS

Phil Blanchette, Dean Cousins, Bernard Fall, Len Gladson, Chris Glover, Richard Holton, Stephen MacDonald, Sharma Shankar, Troy Sherstobitoff, Greg Simard

## LOCAL 26 • SAVANNAH GA

### 55 YEARS

Billy B. Blanton, Billy R. Bonner, Ronald L. Borders, Norman G. Chambers, John E. Chesser, Frank L. Leggott, Barry W. Maurer, Willard Sikes, Archie T. West, George E. White

### 45 YEARS

John H. Bailey, Daniel L. Barnum, Jack L. Barton Jr., Bobby R. Blanton, Wallace C. Boatright, Dallas G. Boothe Jr., Joseph W. Braddy, Gregory O. Bragg, Richard S. Burkhalter, Jack D. Burnette, William G. Burton, James D. Carver, Randall D. Clevenger, James F. Crews, Gary Eddie. Crews, Ernest M. Daniel, F. R. Faircloth Jr., Julian Roy Finch, Elvin E. Franklin, Dale R. Hanning, Ronnie N. Johns, Randall L. Mcleod, Mike A. Merritt, Larry D. Purcell, James L. Sapp, Charlie L. Strickland, William Wallace, Roy E. Wendelken, James (T.C.) R. Wolfe, James C. Yanner

### 40 YEARS

James A. Barefoot, David E. Beard Jr., Donnie R. Blanton, Jimmy P. Byrd Sr., David T. Cannon, Raldons S. Crumpton, Lannis Lynn Deal, Johnny D. Finch, Ronny R. Finch, Bobby D. Graham, William G. Griffin, Floyd H. Grahin, Robert T. Herrin, Gordon K. Hilton, William A. Hitt Jr., Donald R. Hunter, Winford A. Kelly, Michael W. Kitchens, Gerald P. MacDonald, Michael J. MacDonald, Ray H. Moon Jr., Mark B. Munn, Joseph D. Pettis III, Jack C. Richards, Carey D. Roberts, Robert E. Stephens, Benny G. Strozso, John H. Taylor, Darrell L. Wasin

### 35 YEARS

Bobby K. Crews, Wayne R. Cribbs, Joseph L. Delk Jr., Curtis L. Dixon, Paul A. Lefebvre, John F. Tate, Larry D. Williamson, Alan J. Wood, Max Wood Jr.

## LOCAL 374 • HOBART IN

<b>30 YEARS</b>	Stanley M. Edmister
<b>25 YEARS</b>	Tim R. Fetter, Casey R. Palichuk, William A. Pluskis, Jerry A. Ripley
<b>20 YEARS</b>	Timothy J. Basso, Paul A. Biggs, Jefferey A. Hanicq, Jon Morris, Robert E. Raley, Jason S. Shaw, Timothy J. Thomas Jr., Paul Yount
<b>15 YEARS</b>	Ricky Hall, David H. Olivia
<b>10 YEARS</b>	Britney N. Aaron, Jefferey R. Brown, Phillip D. Bullock, Cory J. Mabrey, Hunter W. Moore, Kenny E. Pinkstaff, Bradley M. Ross, James J. Zorn

## LOCAL 614 • NEW LONDON CT

<b>55 YEARS</b>	Dana Allen Sr.
<b>50 YEARS</b>	Richard Bellisle, Michael Chopp, Everett Ferguson, Hyde Harman III, Robert Isif, J. Lagrone, Michael Lajoie, Edmond Landry, Maurice Moreau, Ronald Poirier, Michael Samiagio, Palmer Tillman, John Zaks Jr.
<b>45 YEARS</b>	Josephine Dacosta, Charles Griswold, Richard Palazzo
<b>40 YEARS</b>	John Adamson, Patrick Casey, Kevin Kumpf, Thomas Lamoureux, Joseph Lemmon III, David Triplett, Steven Ward

## LOCAL 647 • RAMSEY MN

<b>70 YEARS</b>	Robert H. Wittsack
<b>60 YEARS</b>	Lowell E. Warnsholz
<b>55 YEARS</b>	Michael E. Flynn, Richard L. Foster
<b>50 YEARS</b>	William R. Adkins, Dennis H. Anderson, James R. Backer, Wayne E. Deyoung, James L. Esterbrooks, Kenneth J. Frie, Dalton E. Goetz, Allan F. Jones, Monte L. Kamps, Roger D. Ness, John R. Reed, Robert W. Rollins, David J. Schwab
<b>45 YEARS</b>	Timothy J. Carey, John A. Cherne, Michael J. Dockendork, Jerome P. Dullinger, Alphonse J. Fleck, Ronald J. Leeman, William J. Smith
<b>40 YEARS</b>	Robert S. Keiser, Mark Nathan
<b>35 YEARS</b>	Fredrick E. Crandall, Michael J. House, William J. Smith
<b>30 YEARS</b>	David R. Gerads, Timothy J. Sauter, Anthony J. Sonneman
<b>25 YEARS</b>	Craig M. Cook, William W. Herman, Wayde Reinhart, Thomas S. Rohl, Patrick J. Schmidt, Anthony M. Schoonmaker
<b>20 YEARS</b>	Chase D. Abernathey, David G. Frank, Shane Norman, Ezra Stutesman
<b>15 YEARS</b>	Bryon G. Bistodeau, Lee J. Gardner, Zachary R. Hatzenbihler, Riley E. Leman, Duaine J. May, Christopher C. Mills, William H. Newville, Lee M. Radaich, Richard J. Ulbrich, Billy J. Walker, Gregg A. Wallner, Christopher J. Zaleski, Thomas S. Zaleski

## LOCAL 667 • WINFIELD WV

<b>65 YEARS</b>	James C. Hurlow
<b>60 YEARS</b>	Richard R. Blow Jr., Fred C. Bussey, Russell E. Croscio, Charles I. Martin, Shirley D. Nibert
<b>55 YEARS</b>	Robert E. Adkins, Paul A. Dunn, James M. Farley, Harold L. Heugel, Thomas R. Kirk, Robert E. Long, James B. McCormick, Charles E. Parson III, Larry Romito, William W. Russell, Raymond E. Smith, Henry W. Strum, Bryan D. Tustin
<b>45 YEARS</b>	Joe E. Asbury, Robert C. Binion, Curtis P. Blue, Robert W. Bonnette, Stephen T. Bullman, Kevin D. Byers, William P. Carney, James E. Carr, Dalmer R. Casto, Larry J. Cheuvront, Ronald N. Clark, Billy H. Crane, Jeffrey L. Cronin, Jeffrey L. Cumpston, Thomas A. Dalton, Donald D. Dennison, William T. Dent, Stephen L. Dew, William L. Dew, James E. Dingess, Sammie L. Doolittle, Daniel W. Dougherty, Marvin D. Eakin, Mark E. Eddy, William R. Eller, Ronald R. Elliott, Charles R. Fisher, Michael Lee Foltz, Paul D. Frye, Ronald E. Fulkner, Robert Griffith, Roger D. Griffith, Curtis L. Hamrick Jr., Stephen W. Harrah, Michael P. Haught, Beryl A. Hescht, Darrell G. Hescht, John W. Hoffman, Mark Hopkins, Marlin D. Hughes, Randy L. Hughes, Richard A. Isaacs, William R. Jordan, Lyle D. Justice, Brian E. Knoch, Harold L. Lemaster, John P. Lemley, Kenneth R. Livingston, Roger L. Marion, Kevin W. Maston, Norman M. Meenach, Michael J. Mills, James P. Moffitt, Gary L. Moore, Ricky L. Morgenstern, Jeffery D. Morris, Richard K. Murray, David J. Nestor, Dale E. Oldfield Jr., Timothy W. Oldfield, William K. Oliver Jr., James E. Painter, David R. Parson, John E. Powell, John S. Prince, Johnny R. Prowse, Ralph L. Pugh, Mark T. Queen, Douglas E. Rexrode, Jerry L. Rhodes, James T. Russell, James R. Skeens, Ronald L. Skelley, Richard E. Slone, Harold E. Statler, Carl L. Tennant, Larry L. Thomas, William O. Thomas, Larry W. Thompson, Robert J. Tippins, William J. Twyman, Woodrow J. Twyman, Ronny E. Vanscoy, Robert D. Wallis, Charles S. Wedge, Edward D. White, Harold L. Williams, Stephen W. Williams, Richard W. Wilson, Ricardo J. Zwolensky
<b>40 YEARS</b>	Kenneth Lee Martin, Kenneth W. Richardson, Timothy I. Smith
<b>35 YEARS</b>	Ronald L. Cheuvront, Bradley D. Dennison, Oran S. Goff, Russell D. Howell, Thomas J. Kelley, Arthur D. Samples, James R. Smith, Douglas A. Swisher, Francis G. Swisher, Jeffery A. Szafran, Lowell D. Thomas, Paul E. Webb, James E. Wilson
<b>30 YEARS</b>	Steven D. Boswell, Douglas L. Bowie, Gerald D. Burgess, John C. Burnside, Earl Canterbury Jr., Steven B. Cogar, Larry S. Cunningham, James W. Durst, Steven S. Gabbert, Jon M. Gruesser, Morgan C. Gump, Jon H. Hall, Mark Hamrick, Roy W. Harrison, Mark S. Hoskins, Brian K. Hussell, Derrick G. King, Robert D. King, Michael C. Krise, Timothy Lamp, Paul McDaniel, Martin S. Moreno, William J. O'Neil, Roger J. Patterson, Richard R. Perine, John R. Peters, Timothy G. Porter, Michael J. Sayre, Donny R. Williams, Herbert T. Yoak
<b>25 YEARS</b>	Curtis L. Bell, Charles M. Bennett, Randall Byrd, John G. Cade, Ryan Church, Gregory Dailey, Michael E. Fox, Donald Lee Goodwin, David B. Hoffman, Keith A. Jordan, Benjamin M. King, James N. Knipp, David P. Lancaster, Stephen S. McGraw Jr., Jason Mullins, Steven W. Oliver, Gary M. Owens, Randall K. Painter, Robert B. Scott, Phillip Southall, Thomas Sutton



## LOCAL 667 • WINFIELD WV (continued from page 26)

### 20 YEARS

Jason B. Axley, Donald K. Baker, James William Baker, Terry R. Berry, Robert S. Binion, Douglas L. Brown, William D. Cogar II, Matthew S. Deel, Carl R. Dolan, Jonathan E. Eddy, Vernon E. Efaw, David H. Elias, Dyer Frame, James D. Hawkins, Cole Hennen, Thomas W. Hoschar, Jerry B. Johnson, Anthony P. Kibbe, Loren L. Knotts, Troy Leek, Roger A. Legg Jr., Adam Lockard, Jonathan McLaughlin, Mark McWhorter, Norman D. Meenach, Travis L. Miller, Robert E. Mosteller, Robert H. Prim, Sherry Quinn, Linda J. Ratliff, Richard B. Richardson, Roy L. Sampson, Alan Schrack, William A. Seese Jr., Derek L. Sharpenberg, Charles Stillwagoner, Richard S. Thomas, Peter S. Waldeck, Darren Witham, Marshall W. Wooten, Michael K. Wylie

### 15 YEARS

Robert D. Adkins, John J. Arthur, Timothy R. Ashby, Roy D. Boley, Michael R. Bragg Jr., Ronald D. Brumfield, Ronald C. Brumley, Travis L. Clark, John Cooksey, Brett A. Crane, Dallas Davis, Larry G. Dent, Joseph Divincenzo, Robert D. Edens Jr., Cody A. Farley, Ronald R. French Jr., Jimmy Lee Frye, Robert Lee Gooden, Andrew J. Gorby, Lucas M. Grueser, Keith E. Hinrichs, Mark R. Jarrell, Thomas G. Jones, Robert A. Jordan II, Mark C. Justice, Tyler D. Kelley, Michael L. Kinder, Andrew C. King, Edward L. Kirby, Tony G. Leget, Virgil L. Leggett Jr., Kenneth Livingston II, Patrick A. Lovejoy, Jason M. Magruder, Timothy J. Malone, Martin A. McAngus, Shawn L. McCormick, Christopher McDaniel, Joshua M. Neff, Matthew S. Pallisco, Daniel Palmateer, Jerry E. Pinkerton, Mark N. Sabolsky, Jack E. Shaffer, Brian E. Short, David L. Shouldis, Robert E. Skinner, James R. Smith, John D. Smith, Chadrick L. Southall, Christopher S. Staats, Ronnie S. Statler, Joey L. Stewart, Ben O. Tackett, Gary E. Tillis, Charles Tolliver Jr., Jeffery S. Underwood, Matthew J. Velickoff, Lawrence O. Westfall, Matthew J. Wheeler, Marshall R. White, Bruce M. Wray, Howard J. Writesel

## LOCAL D480 • CHARLEVOIX MI

### 25 YEARS

Keith Parish

### 10 YEARS

Kandra Curtis, Stephen Kretovic



Local Lodge leaders can now submit service pins for fulfillment and inclusion in The Reporter online at [boilermakers.org/leaders/resources/pins](https://boilermakers.org/leaders/resources/pins)



let's all  
**Register**  
and **VOTE**

For more information visit [boilermakers.org/leap](https://boilermakers.org/leap)



# 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 Dykes, Johnny R.	92 Harriger, David M.	154 Thomason, John D.	627 Ivy, Jerome S.
NTL Holloway, Richard L.	92 Kargaard, Alf M.	154 Valentine, Warren W.	647 Demydowich, Frank
NTL Mcdonald, Johnnie E.	92 Machado, Victor	177 Laabs, Cletus C.	647 Heitman, Steven M.
NTL Slater, Brantle H.	92 Williams, Merrell E.	193 Fulmer, Leon R.	647 Mayavski, Richard J.
NTL Southerland, James E.	92 Yates, Robert W.	193 Haines Jr., William L.	647 Omdahl, Duane D.
NTL Stroud, Joe L.	101 Scott, Jerry D.	193 Johnson, Wayne H.	647 Shilts, Kenneth
6 Baker, Donald L.	101 Ware, Steven D.	193 Seabolt Jr., Doy D.	650 Glander, Gary A.
6 Ia, Asafo	104 Baker, William A.	263 Cox, David P.	667 Casto, Dalmer R.
6 Vieira, John J.	104 Griffith, George H.	263 Evans, Rodney S.	667 Clonch, Clarence C.
11 Hagberg, Edwin O.	104 Guthrie, Leonard L.	337 Veich, Curtis W.	667 Enoch, Charles L.
11 Schroth, William E.	104 Harrison Jr., Walter L.	359 Moropito, Daniel M.	667 Gillenwater, James W.
13 Cinousis Jr., John	104 Jalil, Kalam W.	359 Theriault, T. L.	667 Williams, Willis L.
13 Cook, Thomas W.	104 Johannesen, Chris R.	363 Jarvis, Kenneth W.	673 Trudgen, George E.
13 Markley, Dean V.	104 Lillie, Robert A.	363 Kaufman, Louis A.	684 Sizemore, William F.
13 Nester, Marion D.	104 Oh, David H.	374 Brumfield, Brian L.	688 Dubuisson, Robert A.
13 Sigovich, James	104 Perez, John	374 Estes, Rudey K.	696 Armstrong, Todd D.
13 Suter, Arnold E.	104 Vassdal Jr., Tom O.	374 Lock, Robert D.	696 Dahl, James R.
26 Ivie, Donald L.	104 Yen, Shiu P.	374 Nixon, Calvin J.	696 Ihander, Anthony J.
26 Strickland, Charlie L.	104 Zobbi, Harold F.	374 Scott, Bruce R.	744 Flack, Francis R.
27 Dunlap, John L.	105 Ball, Gary I.	374 Spaulding, Michael	744 Wilson, Russell
27 Hawthorne, Lavern L.	105 Colley, David K.	374 Talley, George A.	900 Sees, H. J.
27 Ignatz, James J.	105 Estes, Thomas G.	374 Vickers, Larry	1086 Majer, Joe
27 Lengenfelder, Hans J.	105 Hudnell, Daniel J.	374 Williams, Robert L.	1162 Radloff, Robert
28 Aumack, Donald	105 Ocull, David E.	433 Hooper Jr., William	1162 West, Micheal
29 Hattenbrun, David L.	105 Robinson, Dan D.	453 Bradley, James W.	1509 Augustynowicz, Thomas L.
29 McPhee Jr., John E.	105 Spradling, Samuel S.	454 Courson, Eugene	1509 Wenglewski, Jerome F.
30 Barber Jr., Richard B.	107 Gottbeheat, Victor E.	454 Keltch Jr., Charles L.	1600 Culver, Kenneth N.
40 Coburn, Michael E.	108 Forsyth Jr., Robert A.	454 Strickland, Frank G.	1603 Weimer, Paul F.
40 Jackson, Joseph L.	108 Lewis, Richard E.	455 Jones, Kenneth M.	1637 McNutt, Ira F.
40 Waggoner, Paul R.	108 Shedd, Carolin D.	455 Mansfield, Clyde A.	1668 Evans, Leslie
45 Carpenter, Kenneth A.	108 Young, Douglas W.	455 Reels Jr., Riley D.	D106 Boyd, Sherwood L.
45 Platt, Steven E.	112 Glass, James G.	487 Bertrand, Gary L.	D114 Bell, John S.
45 Simmons, Garry S.	112 Griffith, James F.	487 Stangel, Thomas V.	D192 Weaver, Kent L.
60 Lamkin, Mickey	154 Carson, Paul	500 Johnson, Gary R.	D472 Badder, Donna L.
60 Rodda, Alan E.	154 McCoy, Ralph E.	502 Knapp, Michael F.	D472 Kingsbury, Elaine J.
69 Minton, Billy D.	154 McFerren, Charles L.	502 Rice, Phillip W.	D472 Olsen, Marilyn A.
74 Hargrave Jr., Otto D.	154 Moore, John R.	549 Laulusa Jr., Tinoetasi	D500 Klingshirn, James J.
83 Christian, Dale L.	154 Moore, Robert P.	587 Russell, Charles R.	D500 Latulip, Donald
83 Colquitt, Robert E.	154 Nasim, Esper	587 Sossaman, Ronald L.	550 Campbell, Mark W.
83 Hedges, Ronald P.	154 Romey Jr., Michael A.	599 Klakken, Dennis A.	
92 Ashman, Eric R.	154 Stocks Jr., William T.	627 Galimba, Albert	



## Joseph Franklin: The iron-willed leader

Joseph Franklin's 36-year tenure as International President (1908-1944) stands as a demonstration of unwavering leadership during some of the most turbulent periods in United States history. From the Great Depression to wartime chaos, Franklin's leadership was characterized by resilience, adaptability and an unyielding commitment to the union and its members.

When members voted for Franklin as president in 1908, the Brotherhood was facing existential threats. Membership and income had plummeted to the point where many doubted the union's survival. Yet, under his leadership, the Brotherhood not only survived but thrived, weathering economic downturns, wars and shifting industries. His tenure saw the Brotherhood's transformation from a primarily railroad union to a shipbuilders' union during WWI, back to a railroad union in the interwar years, and again to shipbuilding during WWII.

Born in 1868, Franklin's early life was marked by hardship. His father died when Franklin was only six years old, and his formal education was brief. He entered the boilermaker trade in 1892. Seven years later, he joined the Boilermakers, becoming one of the charter members of Local 221 in Pittsburg, Kansas. His rise to the highest office was swift. By 1906, he was elected first International Vice President, and just two years later, members elected him International President.

Franklin's leadership style was shaped by his own experiences as a young man who'd been blacklisted for union activities. This experience instilled in him an intense determination to protect and advance the union and defend the working class. His efforts to improve conditions for Boilermakers extended beyond the union. In 1908, he was a key figure in founding the Railroad Employees Department, and in 1912, he co-founded the Federations of Railway Employees, which later became part of the AFL's Railway Employees Department.

Franklin's influence also reached the highest levels of government. In 1918, President Woodrow



IP Franklin at his desk in the Brotherhood Block, 1935

Wilson appointed him assistant director of labor for the United States Railroad Administration. This role, which he held until the agency's dissolution in 1920, demonstrated his ability to navigate both labor and management.

One of Franklin's most significant contributions was his focus on ensuring the union's financial stability. In 1914, he convinced convention delegates to establish a fund to purchase a headquarters building. Four years later, he was instrumental in founding the Brotherhood Bank, where he served as the first board chairman. These institutions proved crucial during the Great Depression, when membership shrank, and many banks failed.

His commitment to the Boilermakers earned him the unwavering loyalty of members, and his steadfast commitment to organizing and recruiting kept the union solvent and thriving throughout many turbulent years.

Franklin passed away in Kansas City on Feb. 18, 1948, at the age of 79. His legacy as a leader who never compromised his principles remains today. His successor, Charles MacGowan, eulogized him as "a man, rugged and wholesome but noble and lovable. The dominant urge in his whole being was to render a full measure of service to the cause in which he had dedicated even life itself." 🕯

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