**USS Cole returns to Ingalls for repair by L-693 members**

Damaged by terrorists, destroyer returns home to Boilermakers for repairs

Almost two months to the day after suffering extensive damage in a terrorist attack in Aden, Yemen, the USS Cole came home on December 13, to the shipyard where she was built four years ago.

Members of Local 693, Pascagoula, Miss., built the Cole in 1996. Now the U.S. Navy is calling on their skills to repair the ship at Litton Ingalls Shipbuilding, a 640-acre facility on the west bank of the Pascagoula River.

The U.S. Navy estimates that repairs will take one year and cost $240 million. In announcing USS Cole’s return to Ingalls, the U.S. Navy called Ingalls’ selection, “the best solution for this unique and demanding situation.”

The Navy said Ingalls is “most able to effectively manage and complete the work in a timely fashion.” Major structural damage to the ship will present challenging engineering problems best handled by the land-level facility at Ingalls, they said.

Continued on page 3

**New SE Area contract will help members work closer to home**

New contract increases wages 25% over 2.9 years, doubles pension input

For more than a decade beginning in the middle 1980s, construction Boilermakers in the Southeast Area endured wage freezes, wage cuts, concessions, and only occasional, minor improvements in their contracts. By 1996, the wage-benefit package in the area was less than 80 percent of what Boilermakers were being paid further north.

Booming to locals in other parts of the country became a way of life for Southeast Area Boilermakers who wanted a livable income.

Those days are over. The Southeast Area Agreement signed in New Orleans November 1, 2000, will return wages and benefits to levels similar to those paid in the rest of the country by November 1, 2002.

The new contract raised wages more than eight percent effective Nov. 1, 2000. The rate will increase another seven percent in November 2001, and by 2002, the base wage will be nearly 25 percent higher than it was in 2000.

Contributions to the pension and annuity funds, a growing concern for our aging membership, will grow even faster. By 2002, the pension contribution will be twice what it was in 2000. The rate will increase another seven percent in November 2001, and by 2002, the base wage will be nearly 25 percent higher than it was in 2000.

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Boilermakers in office

Union members understand working families’ concerns

IN THE NOVEMBER 2000 elections, union members across the country ran for office. Here’s a look at some of the Boilermaker winners.

RANDALL K. BRIN, a 21-year member of Local 667, Charleston, W. Va., holds the office of Carter County Jailer, reports Jeff Lauzer, who used to hold office until he lost by 137 votes when he ran for a bigger seat. Don’t worry, though, he plans to run again.

RICK HORN, a 20-year member of Local 1A, Chillicothe, Ohio, is serving his second four-year term as a city councilman. He also serves on the Board of Works, Police Advisory Board, Board of Finance, and Planning Commission. Horn says, “Enjoy working with the public and serving the citizens who elected me. I look forward to making Chillicothe a better place to live.”

JAMES A. PATTERSON, a three-year member of Local 1393, Altoona, Pa., works as a mechanic at Norfolk Southern Railroad. He also serves his community as Logan Township supervisor and member of Local 1393, Altoona, Pa., the Boilermaker winners.

He took office in Washington to hold more than the paid commissioner post. He was just reelected to serve six more years as a Public Utility District commissioner, and last year, he was elected to a six-year term as the Port of Pasco commissioner. As a commissioner, Lathim lobbies on issues that affect public power and economic development. A Boilermaker welder, Lathim encourages other Boilermakers and union members to become more involved in politics. He says, “It is a rewarding experience.”

L-13’s PAC in action

MEMBERS of Local Lodge 13’s Political Action Committee (PAC) met with Pennsylvania House Democratic Whip Michael K. Veaun (14th District), to discuss campaign strategy to win back the state House in Harrisburg, Pa. Pictured standing, l. to r., are William Morgan, Rep. Veaun, L-13 Pres. William Hill Jr., and Granville Strachan. Pictured seated, l. to r., are Mark Strachan, Robert Greenwood, and Daniel Gushe.

Boilermakers in office

Local 146 is gaining political clout in Canada

After just four years, Local 146 is making a difference in provincial and federal politics

FORMED in 1996, the Political Action Committee (PAC) of Local Lodge 146, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, has already taken great strides in Canada’s political arena. They are in the forefront when it comes to lobbying for workers’ rights. They meet with legislative leaders to strengthen labour’s role in government. And they help worker-friendly candidates get into office.

One of Gerry Donnelly’s first challenges as the Local 146 PAC chairman was the election campaign of Hugh MacDonald, a Local 146 member who ran for public office in the Alberta Legislative Assembly in 1996. Donnelly, a Local 146 member since 1967, came to the campaign with experience. He had been active in politics before his move to Canada from Ireland, and his family had also played an active role, supporting parties that advance the interests of working people.

MacDonnald was elected, and recently helped Local 146’s PAC form a coalition of organized labour to help Ministries, Anne McLellan and David Kilgour get reelected. Both Parliament members were reelected, thanks in large part to the coalition of Boilermakers, Pipefitters, Carpenters, Ironworkers, Painters, Insulators, Teachers, Nurses, Teamsters, and others.

“As PAC chairman, I have encouraged anybody who would listen to become politically aware, telling fellow brothers and sisters that political decisions affect every aspect of our lives,” said Donnelly. “If our voices are not heard, we will be ignored.”

Local 903 trying to form state department of labor

Mississippi local working with state legislators and state federation of labor to create new office

FIVE MEMBERS of Local 903, West Point, Miss., and Intl. Rep. Warren T. Fairley Jr. visited International headquarters to discuss with Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones their joint efforts with the Mississippi labor federation to create a state department of labor in Mississippi.

The members are working with Mississippi State Representative James Evans, who authored a bill to establish a department of labor. Local 903 President Robert Shaffer testified as a representative of labor before the Senate in support of Evans’s bill. The bill is designed to accomplish the following:

◗ remove current maze of bureaucracy that attract new businesses to the state
◗ increase tax base through better jobs
◗ improve trained workforce availability
◗ enhance economic opportunities
◗ streamline government services for cost efficiency

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A prize-winning newspaper
**Boilermakers rally in Tacoma for Temp Workers**

**BCTD campaign works to provide temporary workers a voice at work**

**BOILERMAKER MEMBERS joined nearly 1,000 union activists in a march and rally, October 25, 2000, to put a spotlight on Labor Ready Inc. for exploiting its workers. Labor Ready is one of the nation's largest temporary construction worker agencies. Every day, temp agencies (such as Labor Ready) dispatch an average 250,000 construction workers, mostly to nonunion job sites. These temp agencies charge their clients as much as 30 to 50 percent more than they pay the workers they dispatch. Many of these firms charge their employees to cash their paychecks or to transport them to job sites. Too often, the workers are sent to unsafe job sites where they face safety hazards they are not prepared for.**

Members of Boilermaker local lodges, Local 72 (Portland, Ore.), Local 104 (Seattle, Wash.), Local 500 (Salt Lake, Ore.), and Local 502 (Tacoma, Wash.), joined Asst. to the Director of Organizing David Bunch and Intl. Rep. John Yeatts at the rally sponsored by the Building and Construction Trades Department (BCTD) in Tacoma.

Continued from page 1

L-693 repairing USS Cole

**BCTD President Edward Sullivan (back center extending hand) and BCTD Sec-Treas. Joe Maloney (front center, a member of Boilermaker Local 129) meet with members of the Boilermakers union before addressing Labor Ready stockholders.**

**Meeting in Scotland builds solidarity among British, American unions**

**BOILERMAKER VICE PRESIDENTS Jim Hickenbotham and Don Lacelere attended a conference co-sponsored by the International Chemical, Energy, Mine, and General Workers' Unions (ICEM) and the Electricity Supply Trade Union Council of the United Kingdom. Leaders from British and North American unions, representing workers employed at ScottishPower and its U.S. subsidiary PacificCorp, met in Edinburgh on September 18. The meeting is part of efforts by North American and British electric workers to build a trans-Atlantic solidarity network. Also attending were Boilermakers Director of Collective Bargaining Services Len Beauchamp and International Rep. Wade Davis.**

**Boilermakers meet with British counterparts**

**Including ScottishPower, have recently acquired power companies in the U.S. The union leaders discussed British Energy’s recent investment in two Ontario Power Generation nuclear power stations in southwest Ontario, and met with ScottishPower officials at their facility in Portabella. ScottishPower is an 811 billion company supplying electricity to seven million customers in the U.K. and the U.S. Its PacificCorp subsidiary operates in the states of Washington, Oregon, California, Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming. Members of Local 101 (Denver) and Local 182 (Salt Lake City) perform maintenance on all PacificCorp units under the Millennium Maintenance Alliance. This agreement was fashioned after contracts Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones devised when he was vice president of the Southeast area. It covers eight plant sites in four states, with 24 fossil fuel units. Local 101 members maintain seven units at the Wyodak and Dave Johnson complexes, and Local 182 members maintain 17 units at the Jim Bridger stations. Members of Local S1978 (Rock Springs, Wyo.), strip mine coal for the Bridger power plant.**

Joining the Boilermakers at the meeting were representatives from Local 693 (Portland, Ore.), the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union (AEEU), the Electrical Union (AEEU), and the GMB of the United Kingdom. **Members of the Boilermakers union participate in a march and rally in Tacoma, Wash., October 25, to spotlight the poor treatment of workers by temporary worker agency, Labor Ready Inc.**

**Members of the Boilermakers attend a conference co-sponsored by the International and British labor federations in Scotland. From left in front: AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, BCTD President Edward Sullivan, BCTD Sec-Treas. Joe Maloney, member of Boilermaker Local 129; and International Rep. Wade Davis. Also attending were representatives from British, American unions—the Engineers’ and Shipwrights’ Association of the United Kindom (ESWA), Scottish Boilermakers Association (SBA), ScottishPower's Power Workers Union of America (UWUA) and the Power Workers Union of America (PWU), and United Kingdom unions—the Engineers’ and Managers’ Association (EMA), the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union (AEEU), and the GMB of the United Kingdom.**

**In the BCTD’s organizing campaign, “Temp Workers Deserve a Permanent Voice at Work.” Temporary employment agencies are a multi-billion dollar industry with over 450 firms operating in construction. Their workforce is growing at an annual rate of 15 percent. If these workers are not organized, in ten years there will be as many temp workers as there are union workers. To find out more information, contact the temp campaign hotline at 1-888-458-8133.**

**The Blue Marlin brings the USS Cole home, so L-693 members at Ingalls Shipyards, Pascagoula, Miss., can make her feel right. L. to r., are L-693 BM-ST Frank Ludgood, Intl. Rep. Women Faithly, Intl. Vice Pres. Newton Jones, and Intl. Rep. Dennis King.**

**http://www.IBB.workingfamilies.com http://www.boilermakers.org**

**http://www.boilermakers.org**
L-744 helps IC Construction win Build Award

Local 744 members use unique rigging procedures to meet deadline

IC CONSTRUCTION Co., Inc. won the Heavy/Industrial Sector Build Ohio Award for replacing a combustion hood at LTV Cleveland Works. Employing members of Local 744, IC Construction completed the replacement in 21 days—a tight time frame compared with a similar project that took six months for another contractor to complete.

The hood replacement project at LTV Cleveland Works is one of the most difficult projects that we have been involved with over the last 30 years,” said IC Construction Pres. Tom Kerr. “The company employed rigging procedures that have never been used before on such a project to meet the seemingly impossible deadline. This was all done while even completing the project under budget.

“Our division manager Rick Kreal, and our Boilermaker superintendent Larry McCaffrey, did an excellent job of estimating and project managing,” said Kerr. “IC Construction would like to thank them and the members of Boilermakers Local 744 in Cleveland for the outstanding job they did on this project.”

The replacement had to be completed in extremely tight working quarters in and around the confines of a combustion hood. A harsh environment of extremely high temperatures, coupled with dirty environmental surroundings, added to the project’s complexities.

The Ohio Build Heavy Award recognizes excellence in project management, innovation in construction techniques or materials, excellence in client service, and meeting the challenge of a difficult job. Projects are judged upon performance as it relates to schedule, innovation in construction techniques, excellence in client service, and craftsmanship.
Boilermakers earn kudos from client, contractor

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 73, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, have earned high praise for yet another job well done. Inf. Vice Pres. Sandy MacDonald said the local’s pre-job meeting with the client and contractor played a big part in their success at Kimberly-Clark.

"Information and communication are the keys to success," said MacDonald. "This is certainly indicative of the work ethics of Local 73 Boilermakers."

Sherman G. Hurst, president and general manager of Kimberly-Clark Nova Scotia, was so pleased with the job performance of 40 Local 73 members, that he sponsored a barbecue to celebrate their success.

"Boilermakers played a pivotal role in the repair and maintenance work of our recovery boiler and digester," said Hurst. "From our initial orientation process through the successful completion of the shutdown, the boilermakers demonstrated their abilities as skilled tradesmen, and took pride in their work."

Hurst was especially pleased with the Boilermakers’ safety performance. "We recognize that the very nature of the work Boilermakers perform is hazardous, and I am very pleased that the Boilermakers employed during our shutdown suffered no serious injuries. This attests to the involvement in our overall safety process that included a pre-job walk down where Boilermaker safety representatives made valuable observations and displayed a helpful attitude."

Valmont Bourignon and Mike Pouliot share Hurst’s sentiment. Working as site superintendent and project manager for TIW Steel Platework at the Dresden Nuclear Power Station in 60 miles southwest of Chicago.

Dresden Nuclear Power Station in Commonwealth Edison’s (ComEd) Dresden Nuclear Power Station in Downers Grove, III., and at Exelon Nuclear’s Braidwood Station, located 60 miles southwest of Chicago.

ComEd’s Unit 3 came off-line on Sept. 1 for its 16th refueling outage. While the unit was shutdown and used fuel in the reactor was replaced, 20 condenser bottom assemblies were also replaced, improvements to the Unit 3 electro-hydraulic control system were made, and upgrades were installed to the unit’s moisture separator vanes. In addition, a wide range of other maintenance and inspection activities took place to ensure that plant systems and equipment were in better condition than when the unit was taken off-line.

Seventeen days, 23 hours, and 55 minutes later, the Unit 3 reactor began generating electricity, breaking the previous record of 18 days, two hours, and 29 minutes set last spring by the Browns Ferry Nuclear Station in Athens, Ala. Not only did members of Local 455 (Sheffield, Ala.) set the previous record at Browns Ferry, but they completed weld testing, and GET (plant access) training with ComEd so that Local 455 members arrived ready to work at the Dresden Station, where they helped Local 1 members set the new refueling outage record.

"Teamwork was clearly evident throughout the station during this outage," said Dresden Site Vice President Preston Stafford.

Local 455 BM-ST Ed Vance said, "This job came at a time when Local 455 members were needing work. We were glad to get the man-hours, plus it was a bonus to work with Local 1 members to successfully complete these projects.

General Electric’s project director James Olin thanked the Boilermakers for their contribution to the record outage. "Even though General Electric is not the employer of the Building Trades Craft, we provide training and technical direction for refueling operations during the outage: General Electric’s goals of (personal and radiation) safety and quality while working to a very aggressive schedule were met or exceeded by the Boilermakers."

Boilermakers break their record at Braidwood

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 1 and Local 455 not only beat their own best time, but they surpassed all other U.S. records when they completed a refueling outage for the Newberg-Perini Stone & Webster Joint Venture at the Exelon Nuclear Braidwood Station.

They completed the refueling outage—a shutdown period when the reactor is re-fueled and equipment is serviced throughout the station—in 15 days, 16 hours, and 45 minutes. This beats their last record by two days, seven hours, and ten minutes, and sets a new record, not only for all Exelon Nuclear facilities, but also for all U.S. pressurized and boiling water reactors.

"The Boilermakers played a pivotal role again by working smart, safe, and productively," said site manager Pat O’Connor. "There were no OSHA-recordable or lost-time injuries recorded for any Boilermaker, and radiological dose exposure was the lowest ever.

On behalf of all the members of the Braidwood Team, please accept our gratitude and appreciation for all the hard work done by the skilled local and traveling members of the Boilermakers. Their dedication to quality and service continue to set the standards," said O’Connor.

The work scope at the Braidwood outage included scaffold erection, electrical and mechanical modifications, steam generator maintenance, radiological decontamination, and various other activities ranging from insulation and painting to structural work. Accomplishments included just one OSHA-recordable injury in over 120,000 man-hours worked, exceptional schedule adherence, the lowest recorded radiological exposure ever for a Braidwood outage, no identified quality or significant rework issues, and below-budget expenditures. Over 1,200 schedule tasks were completed in an 11-day period.

Local 1 BM-ST Kent Oliver said the Dresden and Braidwood outages were just two of six refueling outages in Illinois his members completed between September and November 2000. The other four sites were in Local 66’s area, at the Byron, Clinton, Quad Cities, and LaSalle stations.

"Local 66 Bus. Mgr. Mike Wood and his staff met numerous times with ComEd and Local 1 to coordinate this unprecedented effort to provide manpower to successfully complete these projects," said Skernott. "With the help of our members, these projects continued to set the standards, and special mention to Boilermaker Locals 455, 454, 374, and the NTL—we were able to man these jobs with extremely capable Boilermakers to complete these refueling outages in record time."
2000 election shows unions get out the vote

Union efforts motivate working families to vote

UNION MEMBERS WERE one of the most significant factors in the elections of November 2000. Political education programs and get-out-the-vote drives motivated voters in union households to learn about the issues and vote for pro-worker candidates. In many of the most important national races, the union vote determined the winner. Although union members make up less than 14 percent of the workforce, they accounted for more than one-fourth of the votes cast, and they voted for pro-worker candidates by large margins.

Campaign victories by several union-backed candidates for the House and Senate severely weakened the hold that anti-union legislators have on Congress and created one of the most pro-labor Congresses in history.

The presidential race was also very nearly decided by union voters. An AFL-CIO analysis shows that without union members voting, Bush would have taken only 52 percent of the popular vote and 363 electoral votes.

Instead, with two-thirds of union members voting for Gore, he received 540,435 more votes than Bush, and only lost the election in the Supreme Court. Unions carried states with high percentages of union workers, such as New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Illinois. Bush won states in which the union presence is not strong, such as South Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, and his home state of Texas.

Union voting power was also felt in the rejection of anti-union and anti-worker ballot initiatives in many states.

In Oregon, voters rejected two proposed Constitutional Amendments attacking the right of working people to use payroll deductions to pool their resources and vote on issues of their concern. In the political process, Oregon voters passed an Amendment preserving collective bargaining rights to home-care workers. And in both Oregon and Colorado, voters rejected right-to-work laws.

Communication was the key

THE STRONG TURNOUT of union members is well recognized. For months, local lodges had been contacting members, educating them on the issues and candidates, and motivating them to vote.

Surveys after the 1998 elections showed that informing members about the issues works. In 2000, local lodges increased their efforts to reach their members with vital election information. In a post-election survey, 83 percent of union members said they received election information from their union.

Locals also improved their methods of communicating with members, offering more heavily on methods with proven results. The 1998 survey showed that workplace flyers are the single most effective method for motivating members to vote, yet in that year only 11 percent of union members reported receiving a workplace flyer. In many of the workplaces, flyers—nearby four times as many.

Political analysts have publicly recognized the union impact. On election night, CNN’s William Schneider said, “If Gore becomes president, he’ll owe organized labor big time. Labor mobilized on his behalf. He lost among nonunion voters.” Senator Joseph Biden said the same thing: “If Al Gore wins, he’ll win for one simple reason: organized labor.”

Increased Member Contact 1998-2000

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>1998</td>
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In many of the traditional shipyard states, the union presence is quite valuable to the U.S. shipbuilding industry. In 1996, when the Title XI program was first implemented, it was barely enough to cover one ship. The Title XI program gives companies that build or repair vessels at U.S. shipyards authorization to receive federal loans, thus generating hundreds of jobs for skilled American shipyard workers.

In 1996, Congress approved $434 million, which was enough to cover $800 million worth of applications. The $2 million origination fee requested by the administration was barely enough to cover one ship. The Title XI program has proven itself to be quite valuable to the U.S. merchant fleet, to U.S. shipyards and their workers, and to the nation. The Maritime Administration is currently reviewing many more requests for loans and grants—most of the applications are from small ports, and the Maritime Administration is carefully reviewing each one.

The International Brotherhood of Shipwrights (MTD), MTD President Michael Succo said, “The Title XI program has proven itself to be quite valuable to the U.S. merchant fleet, to U.S. shipyards and their workers, and to the nation. The Maritime Administration is currently reviewing many more requests for loans and grants—most of the applications are from small shipyards.”

Ruling protects U.S. cement industry from unfairly-priced imports

ON OCTOBER 5, 2000, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) voted four-to-one to retain the U.S. antidumping orders on clinker and ground cement from Mexico and Japan for the next five years, but terminated Venezuela’s agreement to stop its dumping.

“Dumping” is the practice of selling goods at unreasonably reduced prices in order to increase market share. It results in an oversupply, lowering prices and making domestic producers unable to invest in the growth and modernization of the industry, reports Joe Doris, legal counsel for the cement industry.

In 1998, the ITC voted to retain the orders. In 1999, the ITC voted to terminate the orders. In 1999, the ITC voted to retain the orders.

The antidumping order on gray portland cement (the binding agent used to make concrete) from Mexico was first imposed in August 1990. Japan’s was imposed eight months later. These orders are reviewed every five years. If revoking the order would likely lead to more injury to American cement producers, the ITC votes to retain the orders.

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The domestic industry may appeal to the U.S. Court of International Trade regarding the suspension agreement on imports from Venezuela.

The International Brotherhood of Shipwrights, the PACIE International Union, and the International Union of Operating Engineers support the continuance of the antidumping remedies to protect U.S. jobs from unfair competition. The Shipwrights represent about 8,500 members in the cement industry.

Senate increases shipbuilding supports

Law change raises shipbuilding loan program by $48 million

THE SENATE COMMERCE, Science, and Transportation Committee has approved an amendment to S. 2487, the Maritime Administration Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001, that raises authorization levels for the Title XI shipbuilding loan guarantee program from $50 million, from the $2 million authorized by the administration.

Revived in 1993 to breathe life into the shipbuilding industry, the Title XI program gives companies that build or repair vessels at U.S. shipyards authorization to receive low-cost financing, thus generating thousands of jobs for skilled American shipyard workers.

When adequately funded, Title XI is one of the most successful programs of its kind. Every federal dollar invested generates $20 worth of private investment in shipbuilding. In 1996, when Congress approved $434 million, it was enough to cover $800 million worth of applications. The $2 million origination fee requested by the administration was barely enough to cover one ship.

Title XI does not involve direct loans. The Maritime Administration is currently reviewing many more requests for loans and grants—most of the applications are from small shipyards, and the Maritime Administration is carefully reviewing each one.

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Corporate spending edge increases to 15 to 1

LABOR’S IMPACT on the 2000 elections is all the more remarkable when you look at campaign contributions. In 1996, they gave 11 dollars for every one dollar that came from a labor union, but labor-supported candidates still managed to take a few seats away from corporate-backed candidates.

In the 2000 elections, corporations increased their spending to 15 times what labor unions spent, but lost even more seats. When President Bush met with the GOP talk about keeping unions out of politics, keep in mind that business PACs and corporate executives gave Bush $192 million in this election cycle, 150 percent more than the union vote.

Campaign finance reform should not be used as an excuse to take away the political voice of working families.
A message to Southeast Boilermakers, contractors, and customers we serve

FOR THE LARGER part of the past 20 years, Southeast Area Boilermakers, like many other tradesmen in the region, have endured a continually eroding way of life. With years of wage freezes and cuts, along with reduced work opportunities, the Southeast Region’s skilled Boilermaker workforce also began to show signs of erosion through retirements, members traveling north for higher wage and benefit rates, and problems graduating enough apprentices.

While some may say that the rate increases our recently negotiated wage and benefit package prices our craft out of the market, it is our belief that these increases will actually keep us in the market. We see this as a market correction to wage and benefit rates that will help ensure that we are here, now and in the future, to serve the needs of our contractors and customers.

Had our craft continued without this correction, we would have continued to lose 25 to 35 percent of our members to higher paying jobs in the marketplace, and we would have continued to lose far more apprentices than we could graduate. With upwards of 25 percent of our membership in this region eligible for retirement within five years, the impact to our contractors, our union, and to the customers we serve would have been severe.

After several years of researching membership, man-hour, apprentice, and wage data, comparing the Southeast to other Boilermaker regions, we concluded that our only choice was to correct our wage and benefit rates to what they would have been had the freezes and cuts of the 1980s and 1990s not taken place. We have, for the most part, achieved that goal.

We have done this over a period of three years. While each step is significant, each step helps bring our Southeast members back home to work. Each step brings us closer to attracting and graduating more apprentices in our race to train replace-ment Boilermakers for those who retire. Each step helps to ensure that our con-tractors and the customers we serve will have the skilled Boilermakers they need today and into the future.

Boilermaker members and their families have endured a great hardship over these past 10 years. That, now, is part of our 120-year history. There are better days ahead for the Boilermaker craft so much good—by simply doing what we do best.

Newton B. Jones
International Vice President
Southeast Region

But the Southeast Region can best thank all of those who have put their trust and confidence in us—and do our craft so much good—by simply doing the job we are hired to do to the very best of our abilities. Our reliability factor can be our greatest strength and advantage... or it can be our greatest weakness and, ultimately, our defeat.

Our reputation for reliability depends on our meeting the expectations of our mission statement to the customers we serve on every job, every day: “Our mission is to complete your project on time or ahead of schedule, safely, within or under budget, with high quality work and without any trouble.” This is the word of our craft.

Let’s keep our word—one every job, every day—and work together to strengthen the Boilermaker craft for our journey into our next 120 years.

http://www.ilo.org/workingfamilies.com
http://www.boilermakers.org

New Southeast Area agreement should keep members closer to home

This disparity in wages drove many Southeast Boilermakers north in search of the income they needed to feed their families. Boilermaker contractors in the Southeast were beginning to have difficulty manning their jobs.

Jones immediately began looking for ways to increase those wages without reducing the competitiveness of our contractors. A wage hike does nobody any good if the contractor can’t win bids.

He began a concerted effort to explain to our clients the advantages of using Boilermaker contractors, who benefit from our superior apprenticeship training and the many MOST programs that improve safety, reduce cost, and increase productivity. These programs offer great value to clients, and Jones knew that marketing Boilermaker members would lead to more work.

In 1997, Jones was able to sign a better agreement than the Southeast had seen in quite a while. But he knew it wasn’t enough, and he immediately began planning for the 2000 negotiations.

Wage and Benefit Comparison, 1973-2002*

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<thead>
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</table>

Wage and Benefit Comparison, 1973-2002

At the 1999 Tripartite Conference in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Jones spent an hour explaining the problems facing the Southeast unless wages were raised. Using charts and graphs, he showed in detail how much Southeast Boilermakers had lost from 1985 to 1996.

Even with the improvements he’d won in 1997, Southeast Boilermakers were being paid significantly less than Boilermakers in other areas of the country. The result was easy to predict—more competition.

Boilermaker manpower was already being pushed to its limits by a rash of projects to build more pollution control devices in power plants. New regulations issued by the Environmental Protection Agency mandated significant reductions in NOx emissions by 2003. Pressures on manpower increased.

Jones convinced many people at that meeting that unless something was done to raise wages, many construction jobs in the Southeast would be understaffed.

Not everyone was pleased with his message. Contract details are not usually discussed at this meeting, only problems that face the industry as a whole—safety, productivity, and training.

Jones reasoned that a wage structure that contributes to the creation of a skilled Boilermaker shortage over an entire region of the country affects contractors and clients nationwide. His presentation forced many participants to face the disparity in wages between the different areas and to recognize that it is a problem—a problem that can only get worse as manpower demands increase.

That problem is several steps closer to being solved with the signing of the new Southeast Agreement...
From championship boxers to decorated war heroes, the Boilermakers union has a proud history

by John Heuertz

Jeffries is not the only Boilermaker to win a match

OTHER BOILERMAKERS were also noted boxers and wringers. Brother L. C. Hughes from Lodge 57 in New Orleans (a heavyweight), Brother Young Bridges of Lodge 51 in Indianapolis (a welterweight), and Brother William Calvin among them.

Calvin, a railroad Boilermaker in the Southeast Area, was also the International’s president from 1954 to 1962.

He was born in New Brunswick, Canada, in February 1898. He started his career with the Canadian Pacific, following in his Boilermaker father’s footsteps.

Lake Jeffries, “Big Bill” Calvin grew to be six-foot, two inches, and was renowned for his physical strength and athleticism. His life took an adventurous turn in 1915. The First World War had broken out the previous August, and Calvin joined the Canadian army as an infantryman.

He was sent to the Hamilton, Ontario area for combat basic training. Recruits were sometimes allowed to settle their differences in the ring. Calvin’s first fight resulted in a third-round TKO.

A former professional boxer refereed this fight. After seeing Calvin in the ring, he persuaded him to accept instruction. The army then agreed to let Calvin represent Hamilton in a heavyweight tournament in Toronto, where Calvin won on points. He went on to win by knockouts in Montreal, Quebec City, and Halifax, and on board a troop ship en route to England.

Calvin became an army captain at age 19, set a bolt-action rifle marksman record good enough to gain him a handwritten note of congratulations from King George V of England, was seriously wounded just a month before the Armistice and hospitalized for eight months, and after the war, resumed his life where he had left off—as a railroad boilermaker and professional heavyweight boxer.

Calvin fought off and on through the 1920s, getting and defeating better and better opponents, until eventually he faced Young Strebler, the teetotalling, Bible-reading, Georgia heavyweight who knocked down men in the ring than any boxer in his history except Archie Moore (even though he died in a motorcycle accident at age 28). Calvin was famed to be one of these men.

But his rise in the Brotherhood continued unabated: from the Seaboard Airline Railroad’s West Jacksonville (Florida) shops, to jurisdiction over the entire railroad system in District Lodge 40 just a few years later, to stints back and forth between International headquarters and Washington, to eventually heading Charles MacGowan as International president in 1954.

As Jeffries had done just a few years before him, Calvin died peacefully at home in 1962, after presiding over unprecedented expansion of the International’s services to its members.

From championship boxers to decorated war heroes, Boilermakers and their families have always been proud members of the union community—and of the larger worlds of sport and service to their country.

http://www.boilermakers.org

For more information on visiting the Archives, or to discuss how you can donate time, money, or materials, contact Wands at 931-621-1880.

Get a souvenir watch when you donate $15.

National Archives offers watches as fundraiser

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY, the Boilermakers National Archives is offering a limited edition watch to anyone making a donation of at least $15 (U.S. currency). This watch, available in Men’s or Women’s styles, carries a 100 percent replacement guarantee, is water resistant, and boasts a quality leather strap. It has been custom-designed for our union, with the face painted in blue, white, and red. The watch features a Boilermaker emblem; 753 State Ave., 8705; Kansas City KS 66101. Please indicate style: Men’s or Women’s.

A ‘work in progress’

WANDS, A THIRD-GENERATION boilermaker and retired administrator of the Boilermakers’ national funds office, began working on the Boilermakers National Archives in January 1991. He calls the museum “a work in progress,” as it is growing and improving daily.

He describes the archives as a way to “visually preserve and enhance the history of the Boilermakers union, through displays of artifacts, souvenirs and tools of the various trades.” Future plans include documentation of local lodge and international history, archiving of all local lodge officers, and a “how-to” manual featuring old “Boilermaker” how-to articles. Plans include opening the museum to the public, with a grand opening on May 12, 2002. This project was made possible through generous contributions to the museum.

For more information on visiting the Archives, or to discuss how you can donate time, money, or materials, contact Wands at 931-621-1880.

TO RECEIVE YOUR SOUVENIR WATCH, send your minimum donation of $15 (U.S. currency), made payable to the National Archives, to Tom Wands, Archivist; Boilermakers National Archives, 753 State Ave., 8705; Kansas City KS 66101. Please indicate style: Men’s or Women’s.

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New laws addressing emissions from power plants threaten our economy

We must find a balance between environmental action & economic needs

ELECTRICITY IS PROPELLED — America from the Industrial Revolution to the technologically-advanced world we live in. Access to affordable and reliable electricity is central to our quality of life, helping us to live in comfort and safety. In fact, The Washington Post once stated in an editorial that electricity has become as essential to life in this country as food and water.

Data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) show that U.S. electricity generation has increased more than 135 percent since 1970. More than half of this electricity is generated from coal.

Over the past 30 years, America has added 560 million tons of coal per year to generate electricity to more than 80 percent of our power. At the same time, coal has come under increased scrutiny because of its potentially negative effect in the environment.

Yet, while coal use has increased, the environment has actually improved. This is due to increased use of pollution-control equipment, according to statistics from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Emissions from coal generation have decreased by one third while coal use has tripled. This trend is expected to continue in the near future. By 2015, more than 1.1 billion tons of coal will be used to generate electricity in the U.S., but we continue to improve our pollution-control equipment, emissions should be far less than today.

Using coal means low-cost electricity

**Average electricity production costs**

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<td>Wind</td>
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Coal is cheap and reliable

As a source of energy, coal is abundant and affordable. America has coal reserves sufficient to last more than 250 years. Our coal reserves are 34 times the known domestic reserves of natural gas, and 45 times the known domestic reserves of oil, according to statistics. This abundant reserve reduces our need to depend on foreign fuel sources.

Coal is inexpensive when compared to other forms of energy used for power generation. Coal-based generation averages about half the cost of natural gas-fired generation. Because we burn coal to generate power, American consumers pay nearly 40 percent less for electricity than most Europeans, with no chance of moving away.

While prices have dropped, generating electricity with coal has become increasingly clean. Electric utilities that use coal have invested tens of billions of dollars in technology to help protect the environment and improve the air we breathe. Between 1970 and 1997, sulfur dioxide emissions dropped 20.7 percent and particulate matter emissions declined 44.2 percent. Those dark yellow clouds that used to hang over every major American city are gone.

Even with these reductions, coal-fired power plants face many potential environmental requirements over the next decade. Most of the policies are aimed at continued reductions of air emissions, primarily nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur dioxide (SO2), mercury, and carbon dioxide (CO2).

Piecemeal regulation is costly

The current environmental regulatory system takes a piecemeal approach to achieving air quality objectives, with no overarching plan. This approach creates uncertainty for affected businesses, resulting in unnecessary expenditures and potentially stranded investments. It could also overly burden some on the states, resulting in litigation that delays quality improvements, and seriously affects the nation's energy security.

Since 1970, numerous major EPA air quality programs have targeted electric power plants. Down the road, we expect more, such as rules arising out of various programs for acid rain, ozone, regional haze, and fine particulates.

In addition, the proposed New Source Review (NSR) rule would hamper utility maintenance activities by subjecting even minor projects to an NSR applicability determination before they can be undertaken.

The Waxman-Boehlert Bill, introduced in the 106th Congress, threatens to add more restrictions to the already heavy burden of regulations currently facing the coal industry. This bill would require utilities to install pollution control equipment, as if it were on a new plant.

This bill will require that all coal-fired power plants reduce SO2 and NOx emissions to 75 percent below 1997 levels, and mercury emissions to 90 percent below 1997 levels by 2005. It then caps the emissions at these levels. The legislation also requires a reduction in CO2 emissions to 1990 levels by 2050. In addition, all plants will be required to meet new source performance standards at 30 years of service, or five years after enactment if they are already 30 years old.

Collectively, these environmental regulations are setting energy policy by limiting fuel options. They will also result in sharp increases in electricity prices, threatening our economic growth and causing hardships for millions of Americans.

CO2 deadlines are unrealistic

At present, the technology needed to meet the CO2 requirements makes clean power too expensive for many consumers. Coal-fired plants will lose their market share to more expensive gas-fired power. The investments these plants have made in reducing NOx emissions will be stranded.

Gas-fired generation can meet these levels now, but gas-fired electricity is more expensive than coal-fired plants. In addition, natural gas reserves cannot be sustained for very long.

A study conducted by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) concludes that only by synchronizing generation and demand reductions with technological advances can we hope to make this large scale reduction without disrupting the U.S. energy system or seriously affecting the economy.

The EPRI study says that the current policy direction will have wide-ranging adverse effects on the U.S. energy sector and economy between 2001 and 2050. It would impair our ability to ensure economic progress and maintain diversity in energy sources.

Using estimates of potential future emission reductions from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the EPRI study showed that the current policy direction could lead to large investments in fuels used to generate electricity, an unsustainable rate of natural gas use, and unproductive use of generating assets and infrastructure.

The resulting impact on the U.S. economy could be disastrous. Electricity prices could jump 43 percent by 2020. Consumer prices may average about two percent higher over the period of 2005-2020. The gross domestic product (GDP) could drop almost two percent by 2010. And coal-producing regions would be severely impacted.

By 2020, under the current policy direction, coal would represent just seven percent of the fuel mix rather than 56 percent under today's conditions. Natural gas use would almost double from 31 percent to 60 percent. Industrial productivity needs in 2020, gas production would have to increase 75 percent over today's levels. This increase in gas production would be unprecedented and possibly even unsustainable.

The National Petroleum Council has concluded that gas supplies will be adequate in the next ten years to meet currently projected demand without new environmental controls, but if certain criteria are met.

The gas industry would have to spend an estimated $1.2 trillion on infrastructure enhancements. Prospective resource areas would have to remain open for exploration and development with no new restrictions. Ample reserves in those areas would have to be discovered and produced. All these developments would increase the price of natural gas 50 percent in real dollars. Keep in mind that it already costs twice as much to generate power with gas as with coal.

In about 2030, gas supplies would be depleted, and the nation would return to coal-fired generation. Ironically, the rapid build-up of new natural gas plants will slow the pace of pollution technology development by sapping industry capital, so emission control in coal-fired plants in 2030 will not be as advanced as it would be if we continue to use coal.

In addition, this swing toward, and then away from, gas use could be costly and disruptive. Coal mines and coal delivery systems would have to be redeveloped. Many coal-fired plants would be retired. Reviving these would be costly.

There is a better way

As a nation, we can enjoy clean air and cheap electrical power at the same time. If we take the right steps, we can achieve comprehensive, flexible, coordinated multi-pollutant control strategy that is developed and implemented over the next 15 or 20 years could provide regulatory certainty to utilities, lower compliance costs, accomplish air quality objectives, and maintain diversity of fuel for electricity production.

Retrofit and repowering technologies exist that can improve environmental performance and the efficiency of existing coal-based generation plants. Advanced technologies can be developed and deployed to significantly reduce emissions and substantially improve efficiency.

Aggressive coal technology goals have been set for ongoing improvement of environmental performance and efficiency. Goals set to be achieved include a 20 percent increase in capital costs, a 50 percent increase in efficiency, more than 99 percent sulfur capture, 90 percent NOx removal, and 100 percent combustion byproduct utilization. More importantly, the Department of Energy's ultimate goal beyond 2020 is unattainable.

There is little doubt that electricity from coal is a key driver of the growing energy economy of our nation. America will need to continue to depend on affordable and increasingly clean coal to meet growing energy needs.

But we must reach a balance between economic growth and the preservation of our environment that ensures energy diversity and sustainability within a realistic timeframe.

Talks are ongoing with the environmental community and other stakeholders to determine if a consensus can be reached.

A comprehensive approach can achieve environmental results faster and cheaper than a piecemeal approach, while fostering technological innovation and maintaining a reliable and affordable supply of electricity.

As discussions continue, the coal and electric utility industries remain committed to developing new policies that will protect the environment and public health, and will continue to search for innovative ways to survive environmental guidelines and rules.

Dale Hedgpeth is senior vice president of environmental affairs for American Electric Power.
L-363 members negotiate settlement in accident suit

Jury determines power plant owner to bear 95 percent of damages

HOW MANY TIMES have you had a nightmare about falling? That nightmare became reality for 24 members of Local 363, Belleville, Ill., who fell while riding in an elevator at a power plant owned by Ameren CIPS in Newton, Ill. In 1996, Local 363 members, employed by the Phillips Getschow Co., were working on a boiler about 250 feet above the ground, when an elevator they were riding in plunged 15 floors. All but one worker was injured.

The other 23 suffered a variety of injuries, mostly to the feet, legs, ankles, knees, and hips. Four years later, only half of the injured workers have been able to return to work.

In November 2000, a jury decided that Ameren CIPS should bear 95 percent of the nearly $50 million in damages negotiated by the 23 workers.

Dover Elevator Co., a Delaware company that sold and installed the elevator, was found liable for five percent. The damages were negotiated before the trial, leaving the jury to determine liability. An agreement between the parties prevents disclosure of the settlement amount, but sources familiar with the case said the total was between $45 and $50 million.

Ameren spokeswoman Susan Galagher said the company was disappointed with the 95-5 split, as they believe the elevator was improperly installed. She said the settlements, however, “won’t have a material impact on (Ameren’s) finances.”

The Boilermakers union takes pride in its safety courses. We are a leader among unions in teaching our members how to work safely on the job. But what do you do when equipment fails?

According to a story in the Post-Di- patch, the exact cause of the malfunction is still not known.

MAKE IT SAFE

Asbestos Safety Awareness

Hazard recognition and control

FOR MANY YEARS, asbestos was considered a “miracle material” because it is fireproof and resistant to acid and corrosion. But today, workers are suffering from health problems resulting from exposure to asbestos. Therefore, it is very important to know how to work safely with asbestos.

The VA has a special interest in asbestos because it is fireproof and resistant to acid and corrosion. But today, workers are suffering from health problems resulting from exposure to asbestos. Therefore, it is very important to know how to work safely with asbestos. That’s why asbestos fibers are so tiny you need a microscope to see them. You can breathe them in easily without knowing it, whether they are in the air or on your clothing.

Asbestos can cause serious lung and breathing diseases, which can take as long as 15 to 35 years to show up. Smokers who are exposed to asbestos are as much as 90 times more likely to get certain lung diseases such as nonsmokers.

Finding asbestos

BEFORE THE 1970s, asbestos was used in schools, homes, factories, and public buildings. It was sprayed on ceilings, where it often took the form of a white powder. It was also sprayed on roofs, where it often looked like white popcorn. It was used in construction and on walls to help “deaden” sound.

Asbestos was used as wrapping for steam and water pipes, duct systems, and boilers. It was used to wrap pipes in buildings. These beams may be found in false ceilings.

Asbestos is still used in cars and truck brakes and clutches. It is also used in some floor tiles and linings.

Safe procedures

WHENEVER YOU WORK with asbestos, your goal is to prevent breathing it in. There are a number of safe procedures which can help.

Some people are specially trained to work with asbestos. If you are not, do not sand, scrape, remove, or drill into walls, ceilings, or floors where asbestos might be present.

When you work with asbestos, always wear the right kind of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), making sure it fits. This will include a filtered respirator. On the job, your company will probably measure the air and let you know the proper kind to wear. Dust masks or disposable respirators will not usually protect you enough. You will also want to cover your entire body with a hood, goggles, coveralls, gloves, and boots.

Wet asbestos before working on it, if it is safe to do so. With some jobs, you will need to use a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filtered vacuum cleaner. You may also need to use a sealed glove bag. When you are done, label and dispose of asbestos products and containers according to company procedures.

Shower with your respirator on, remove it after you are done washing. Change clothes in an area separate from the work area.

If you must work with asbestos, you should not smoke. Remember, smokers who work with asbestos are much more likely to get serious lung diseases than nonsmokers.

It’s up to both of you

WORKING SAFELY with asbestos depends on both you and your employer. Your employer provides you with the right protective gear and equipment. Your part includes wearing your PPE, and using safe practices as you work and clean up. You can help protect yourself when you work with asbestos.

Reprinted by permission of the Amos Ogdon Medical Center.

DON’T TAKE UNNECESSARY RISKS. ALWAYS PLAY IT SAFE. AND WHEN YOU ARE AT WORK, MAKE IT SAFE!

Red Cross honors BNAP

Instructor Crawford gets special recognition

THE BOILERMAKERS National Apprenticeship Program (BNAP) taught life-saving skills to over 400 people in 1999, earning the American Red Cross Business Partnership Award, and BNAP instructor David Crawford received the Exceptional Volunteer Service Award for Health and Safety Services. He became a Red Cross instructor in 1996, and is now a member of the Red Cross Disaster Action Team.

Accepted awards from the American Red Cross are BNAP instructors, l. to r., David Crawford, Carl Oliver, Standish, and Austin Dale Dunham.

Vietnam veterans and Agent Orange—the story continues

THE DEPARTMENT of Veterans Affairs (VA) is concerned that Vietnam veterans may regard a disease associated with the aging process, such as prostate cancer, as just another illness rather than the result of their military service in Southeast Asia. The VA wants these Vietnam veterans to know that they may be eligible for compensation and health care for certain diseases associated with Agent Orange, the defoliant sprayed to unmask enemy hiding places in the jungles throughout Vietnam.

Special health care and compensation benefits are available to the 2.6 million men and women who served in Vietnam between 1964 and 1975, 3,300 of whom remain in uniform today. Those discharged during that period, regardless of where they served, are the largest group of veterans receiving VA health care and monthly disability compensation. Yet, a relatively small percentage of their service-connected disability claims are for illnesses scientists have listed as related to Agent Orange.

Based on clinical research, the following diseases are on the VA’s Agent Orange list of presumptive disabilities: chloracne, Hodgkin’s disease, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, porphyria cutanea tarda, respiratory cancers (lungs, bronchus, larynx), and trachea), soft-tissue sarcoma, acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy, and prostrate cancer. In addition, monetary benefits, health care, and vocational rehabilitation services are provided to Vietnam veterans’ children with spina bifida, a congenital birth defect of the spine.

Veterans who served in Vietnam during the war also are eligible for a complete physical examination. If a VA physician suspects a disease might be related to Agent Orange, the VA will provide free medical care. Those who participate in the examination program become part of an Agent Orange Registry and receive periodic mailings from the VA about the latest Agent Orange studies and new diseases being compensated under VA policies.

Vietnam veterans and their families can contact the VA for more information about these benefits. For the Agent Orange Registry physical examination, call a local VA hospital or clinic listed in the government pages of your phone book. To file a compensation claim for a current disability related to Agent Orange, veterans can call 1-800-827-1000 for an application form or visit the VA’s Web site (http://va.gov/vetbsa.va.gov/svc/).
Local 83 members help brother in need

Boilermakers build access ramp, collect funds, and raise injured member’s spirits

MARK SUTHERS, who joined Local 83 in 1979, was seriously injured while helping to replace the roof of his in-laws’ house. “I had just started to nail down a piece of wood when the scaffold jack pulled out,” explained Suthers, who fell 18 feet and landed on a concrete driveway. The fall knocked out his teeth and broke his left elbow, hip, pelvis, ribs, and kneecap. One rib punctured his lung, just missing his heart. Suthers spent five days in ICU before his transfer to a rehab center, where he was told he would have to return when his bones healed.

Learning he would need ramp access built to his house before his hospital release in two days, Suthers called his brothers of Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.) for help. When 23-year members Richard (R.D.) Downs and Rick Delay heard about Suthers’ situation, they designed and completed a deck with a 30-foot ramp, side railings, and a non-slippery surface. Not only did Downs and Delay meet the two-day deadline, but they also paid for all the supplies out of their own pockets!

“They planned and built this wonderful ramp and deck so I could go home,” said Suthers. “It has railings and a surface so I won’t slide down the ramp. I’m very proud of Local 83, and I hope and pray for unity and pride in all Boilermakers to help each other in their time of need.”

At the local’s Labor Day picnic a few days later, Local 83 members came through again by collecting funds for Suthers’ family. A letter from the local lodge also generated some much-needed help, and Suthers’ spirits have been lifted even further by E-mail messages he receives from Boilermakers and their spouses.

“I have received the most wonderful support from my fellow brothers and sisters,” said Suthers. “Too often we hear of what is wrong or bad in our trade. But my story shows the other side. I want to thank everyone from Canada to Florida, and especially the members of Local 83.”

Getting the Christmas spirit

Members of Locals 34 and 154 brighten holidays for less fortunate

JIM STEIGERWALD, a member of Local 34, Topeka, Kan., was asking people to donate toys to a Marine Corps’ Toys for Tots program. “When I heard about the Marines, I decided to get involved.”

To promote “Made in America”

L-5 graduates fourth-generation apprentice

WHEN WILLIAM Henry Stello joined Local 24 in Brooklyn in 1934 at age 47, he started a family tradition that has continued for four generations.

In 1939, at age 26, his son, William Jr., joined Local 24. (Local 24 members consolidated with Local 5 in 1962.) His grandsons, Thomas, James, and William III, who joined Local 5 in 1974 and 1976, all graduated from Local 5’s apprenticeship program in New York City.

Now his great-grandson, Thomas II, who joined Local 5 in 1994, has completed his apprenticeship through Local 5. Thomas II is also the first fourth-generation Boilermaker to graduate from Local 5’s apprenticeship program, reports L-5 BMST Jerry Connolly.

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 1252, Chicago Heights, Ill., participated in their first night parade on September 29th in Montona, Ill., to promote “Made in America.” Their entries included a Dodge truck, two 1968 Chevelles, and a new Harley Davidson.

“I was in the truck leading our group,” reported L-1252 Rec. Sec. Daniel Frealey. “We were stopped by police. The cops asked us to go to the back of the parade.”

L-1252 members promote ‘Made in America’

With the evening parade beginning to get out of control, they decided to move to the other side of the street. “I said, ‘Does anybody know this man?’” Frealey added.

When they finally reached the man, he was walking on the sidewalk with a surface so I won’t slide down the ramp. I’m very proud of Local 83, and I hope and pray for unity and pride in all Boilermakers to help each other in their time of need.”

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Annual summary reports of national funds

Boilermaker – Blacksmith National Pension Trust summary annual report

THIS IS A SUMMARY of the annual report for the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust. Employer Identification Number 48-6160820, for the plan year through December 31, 1999.

The annual report has been filed with the Internal Revenue Service, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic financial statement

BENEFITS UNDER THE PLAN are provided by the trust fund directly to participants or their beneficiaries. Plan expenses were $291,601,814. These expenses included $25,526,110 in administrative expenses and $265,075,694 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

A total of 67,274 persons were participants or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year. None of all these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $6,460,657,479 as of December 31, 1999, compared to $5,592,307,636 as of December 31, 1998. During the plan year, the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of $856,349,843. This increase includes an operating increase of $593,958,837 and transfers totaling $87,358,595 from CMA-Metals Pension Trust.

The operating increase includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan’s assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year, or the cost of assets acquired during the year.

The plan had total income of $880,585,421 (including employer contributions of $620,288,101 from the sale of assets, earnings from investments of $265,995,905, and other income of $76,064).

Minimum funding standards

AN ACTUARY’S STATEMENT shows that enough money was contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Fund summary annual report

THIS IS A SUMMARY of the annual report of the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund, Employer Identification Number 36-6090694, for the Multi-Employer Plan, for January 1 through December 31, 1999. The annual report has been filed with the Internal Revenue Service, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The Board of Trustees, Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund, has committed itself to provide medical, dental, vision, and prescription drug claims incurred under the terms of the plan.

Insurance information

The PLAN HAS an experience-rated contract with Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company to pay all life and accidental death and dismemberment claims.

Because it is an experience-rated contract, the premium costs are affected by, among other things, the number and size of claims. Of the total insurance premiums paid for the plan year ending December 31, 1999, the premiums paid under such experience-rated contract were $23,269,417, and an adjustment to net assets of $8,082,785 to reflect the plan’s current experience is included in net assets.

Plan expenses were $111,936,066 (including employer contributions of $96,085,799, employer and retiree contributions of $9,683,057, an insurance expense of $264,041, and earnings from investments of $5,903,169). Plan expenses were $180,242,474. These expenses included $6,670,992 in administrative expenses and $151,371,482 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

Boilermakers National Annuity Trust summary annual report

THIS IS A SUMMARY of the annual report for the Boilermakers National Annuity Trust, Employer Identification Number 48-1829545, for January 1 through December 31, 1999. The annual report has been filed with the Internal Revenue Service, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic financial statement

BENEFITS UNDER THE PLAN are provided from trust assets or through insurance or annuity contracts. Plan expenses were $27,157,440. These expenses include $6,670,992 in administrative expenses and $25,082,424 in payments to participants and beneficiaries.

A total of 46,190 persons were participants in the plan at the end of the plan year.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $182,620,072 as of December 31, 1999, compared to $178,230,879 as of December 31, 1998.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $8,082,785 to reflect the plan’s current experience. Plan assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year, or the cost of assets acquired during the year.

The plan had total income of $111,936,066 (including employer contributions of $96,085,799, employer and retiree contributions of $9,683,057, an insurance expense of $264,041, and earnings from investments of $5,903,169). Plan expenses were $180,242,474. These expenses included $6,670,992 in administrative expenses and $151,371,482 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

L-92 retiree Dennis Whatley celebrates his 105th year

A REQUEST FOR a change of beneficiary form prompted a Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust employee to pull the records of a retiree. To her surprise, she discovered that one of our retirees has reached the age of 105 years.

Born in Colorado on November 19, 1885, and now living in Bellflower, Calif., Dennis S. Whatley joined Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif., on June 30, 1943, at the age of 48. He retired on September 1, 1965, and so far has enjoyed his retirement benefits for 35 years.

4. Insurance information including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.

5. Actuarial information regarding the funding of the plan.

And the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Annuity Trust summary annual report will include:

3. Transactions between the plan and parties in interest (that is, persons who have certain relationships with the plan);

4. Transactions in excess of five percent of plan assets.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, of these reports with no charge.

The charge to cover copying costs of the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust Summary Annual Report will be $32.25 for the full annual report, or $25 cents per page for any part thereof.

The charge to cover copying costs of the Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Fund Summary Annual Report will be $4.75 for the full annual report, or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

The charge for copies of the Boilermakers National Annuity Trust Summary Annual Report will be $3.75 for the full annual report, or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report from the plan executive administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the funding of the plan, the plan’s financial statements, and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of each plan and accompanying notes, or both.

If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan executive administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual reports at the main office of the plan, 254 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 522 (Suite 400 and Zip Code 66101-2762 for the Annuity report), Kansas City, KS 66101-2766, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C. or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to Public Disclosure Room, N5507, Pension and Welfare Benefit Programs, Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.
New contract summaries
A brief listing of recent agreements signed and ratified by Boilermaker local lodges

S4—Belleville, IL
INTL. REP. Gary Mey reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 1, 2000, for 54 Local 27 members working at Mataire Safety Corp.
L-45—Richmond, VA
Frank Waters reports contract ratification, effective Oct. 4, 2000, for 12 Local 45 members working at Kentucky National Tanning, Inc., and Kentucky National Tanning, Inc., effective June 27, 2000 to June 27, 2001, for 54 Local 27 members who make ABS-certified safety rafts for the marine industry at Marine Safety Corp.
L-146—Edmonton
Dean McLean, BM-ST of Local 146, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, reports contract ratification, effective March 1, 2000 to Feb. 28, 2001, for 20 Local 146 members who work in the production and maintenance of vessels at CESSCO Fabrication Limited. The average is $0.55 per hour.
L-159—Peoria, IL
INTL. REP. Howard Cole reports contract ratification, effective Aug. 28, 2000 to Sept. 1, 2001, for 321 members of Local 159, Peoria, Ill., who make heating equipment, trucks, and buildings at Komatsu Mining Systems.
L-175—Osweyo, WI
INTL. REP. Rocco DeRallo reports contract ratification, effective Oct. 6, 2000 to Oct. 5, 2001, for 29 members of Local 79, Lake Charles, La., who work in the production and maintenance of heat exchangers at Ohmsite, Inc.
L-85—Toledo, OH
INTL. REP. Rich Lox reports contract ratification, effective Sept. 3, 2000 to Sept. 2, 2001, for 16 members of Local 85, Toledo, Ohio, who work at H. Hansen Industrial, effective July 30 to July 31, 2000, for 18 Local 85 members who work at RM Industrial (formerly known as Philip Services); and effective Sept. 3, 2000 to Sept. 4, 2001, for 32 Local 85 members who work for the outside service division of the Toledo Steel Repair Co.
L-287—Salt Lake City

Avondale Shipyards signs first union agreement for over 4,000 workers
Asst. to the Dir. of Organizing Devon Bunch (standing, l.) and Avondale employees to discuss negotiating strategies at Avondale Shipyard owned by Northrop Grumman Corporation.

Negotiating a three-year agreement for Local 128 members at Komatsu Mining Equipment, an agreement that provides for a two-week paid vacation, an additional week of paid leave, and a four-week paid leave. The agreement includes a $165.65 per week, a second-year premium of $21,600, and a $17,000 paid vacation. One U.S. facility participates in a Profit Sharing program, and one Canadian facility participates in a Profit Sharing program.

A summary analysis of these contract settlements

UNION LEADERS, like those pictured here, work long hours to negotiate the best benefits they can for Boilermaker members.

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A summary analysis of these contract settlements

UNION LEADERS, like those pictured here, work long hours to negotiate the best benefits they can for Boilermaker members.
Buying or refinance now, while mortgage interest rates are low

Union Plus Mortgage first-time buyers plan asks only three percent down

You can save as much as $850 (that's more than one month's house payment for many people) when you use the Union Plus Mortgage and Real Estate program to buy and sell your home. Call 1-800-848-6466 to receive a $350 credit toward closing costs, when you use the program to buy your home. (This credit typically covers the credit check and home appraisal.) And you can save one-half of one percentage point off the commission paid to the real estate broker, if you use the program to sell your home. (That's an average savings of $500 on a $100,000 home.)

In addition, the program features savings at every stage of the home buying process. If the mortgage lender has branch offices, you might save by shopping there. The program also includes several union-members-only features such as assistance fund benefits for members who are laid off or disabled.

Of particular help to members just entering the housing market are the program’s first-time buyers features. These options allow qualified applicants (including members, their parents, and their sons and daughters) to put as little as three percent down when buying a home. (The typical down payment required by many lenders is a minimum of five percent.)

With the first-time buyers benefits, members who previously were shut out of the housing market may now be eligible for the loan they need to purchase a home. Union Plus Mortgage and Real Estate helps make the American dream of owning a home a reality.

Finding value in a dot.com world

Savings Bonds are still a great way to save money

Once upon a time (okay, it was actually just a few short months ago) it was thought that the quickest and easiest way to get rich quick was to invest in your friendly, neighborhood Internet startup. Fortunes were there to be made—in fact, many had been made, at least on paper—on dot.coms as flexibly as passbook accounts, and short-term CD's, are tax advantaged and safe (I Bonds are tax advantaged). The easiest is to buy through payroll allotments offered by thousands of companies, or through the Social Security Administration's Retirement Services office. Internet startup. Fortunes were there to be made—on dot.coms as flexibly as passbook accounts, and short-term CD's, are tax advantaged and safe (I Bonds are tax advantaged). The easiest is to buy through payroll allotments offered by thousands of companies, or through the Social Security Administration's Retirement Services office.

Savings Bonds

Savings Bonds are still a great way to save money

The money-saving programs listed below are available only to Boilermaker members and their immediate families.

Union Plus Mortgage & Real Estate

**Union Plus Mortgage & Real Estate** is the only program of its kind created especially for union members to meet their specific home buying, selling, and refinancing needs. Union Plus Mortgage & Real Estate offers these advantages:

- An average savings of $350 on initial fees (varies by state)
- An average savings of $250 to $1,000 on closing costs (varies by state)
- An additional savings of $50 on closing costs when you use the real estate portion of the program to purchase
- Unemployment/disability coverage at no additional expense
- Financing for manufactured housing
- Special programs for first-time home buyers
- Availability to parents and children of union members
- Free and discounted legal services
- Includes a free consultation (up to 30 minutes)

For information call: 1-800-452-9425

Legal Services

Well-insured and free and discounted legal services. Includes a free consultation (up to 30 minutes)

For information call: 1-800-452-9425

Life Insurance

Term insurance is available for members, spouses and children. For information call: 1-800-899-2782

Dental & Vision

Offers predetermined discount fees for dental and vision services and procedures. For information call: 1-800-257-8332

Mortgage & Real Estate

Buying, selling, refinancing made easier, more affordable. Special savings on real estate agent services. For information call: 1-800-848-6466

Accident Insurance

Workplace accident death insurance is available. For information call: 1-800-257-8332

Union Family Savers

Savings on everyday consumer products and services—including Budget & Dole, Avis, car rentals, Disney World hotel stays, hearing aids, and more. For information call: 1-800-452-9425

For more information on these members-only benefits, call 1-800-452-9425

Boilermakers Union Privilege Benefits

Includes retired members, Parents and children of members and retired members, and members with retired member cards. Benefits are available through the mortgage program and union family savers directly; they are eligible for other programs through the Boilermakers Credit Union.

Promotions and restrictions apply. For more information call 1-800-452-9425 for information and eligibility. For more information on how you can apply, visit www.unioncreditusa.com

Members Only

Union Plus Credit Card

A credit card is available.

For information call: 1-800-522-4000

UNION PLUS CREDIT CARD

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## LODGE & NAME

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## D E A T H  B E N E F I T S

**THE DEATH BENEFIT PLAN under the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust has paid the beneficiaries of the following deceased members who were covered by the plan at the time of publication.**

<table>
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## Union Member Life Insurance

**Supplemental term insurance of low group rates**

**Even IF YOU ALREADY HAVE LIFE INSURANCE, it may not be enough to fully protect your family. For dollar for dollar, this program gives Boilermaker members more insurance for their money.**

Here is what the Life Insurance Program offers:

- Low rates—below comparable plans
- A broad range of coverage plans
- A skip-payment provision in the event of a layoff, disability or prolonged strike
- Special plans for children, seniors, and members with health problems

For more information on this program, or to enroll, Boilermaker members may call 1-800-899-2782.

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*With deep sorrow the International Brotherhood records the death of these members as reported to the Intl. sec.-national death benefits can only be derived for members who worked under a collective bargaining agreement with an employer contributing to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust.*

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*Supplemental term insurance at low group rates*
Companies lower benefits and use surpluses to make profits.

The NEXT TIME you hear a report on how much profit some large corporation has made in the past year, or how some corporate executive received a couple of million dollars by cashing in stock options, I want you to think of Jim Sanders.

Jim and his wife, Dorothy, used to work at the Inspiration mine in Miami, Ariz., where they were members of Local 187. When Cyprus Mines bought Inspiration, they refused to recognize the union and managed to convince a majority of the workers there to go along with their plan.

That was enough for Jim. He and Dorothy retired. Unfortunately, they no longer had the protection of a union contract, so they had no choice but to accept the terms Cyprus dictated for them.

Those terms included a provision for Cyprus to pay $210 toward the cost of medical insurance. That figure never gets larger. Any increase in the cost of insurance must be paid by the retirees. Even since his retirement, Jim’s portion has gone up. It is now $350 a month. His pension for the 22 years he worked at Cyprus only amounts to $362.25 a month, leaving him a whopping $12.25 to spend as he pleases. As he explained it in a letter to the local newspaper, at this rate he will soon owe more than he makes.

Jim and Dorothy are not alone. Thousands of retirees learn every year that the promises their employers “guaranteed” they would get when they retired have vanished. Medical benefits are cut back or eliminated altogether. Pension surpluses are sold.

An example of how employers are finding ways to get around federal regulations and manipulate pension fund surpluses is the story of one corporation—a minority of which report huge profits—are taking money out of the pockets of their retirees and adding it directly to their bottom line.

A series of articles by Ellen E. Schultz in the Wall Street Journal describes some of these practices and shows how multinational corporations like GE, Proctor & Gamble, Sears, Chiquita, and Sysco are manipulating the law and their ledger books to make their companies look more profitable.

For example, Chiquita got court permission to eliminate medical benefits for 3,300 Morrell Co. employees in its Ohio and Indiana plants without improving their benefits. It sold Morrell to Smithfield Foods Inc. for $88 million.

Lorraine Jastram, a Morrell retiree, 74, now pays $600 a month for medical coverage for asthma, blood pressure, arthritis, and bowel disorder. Her widow’s pension is $159 a month. She lives in government-subsidized housing.

Some companies change benefits instead of killing them. One method used is converting to a cash-balance pension plan shortly before the sale.

Cash-balance pensions can be good for younger workers who will stay with a company for many years, but they significantly reduce the pensions paid to workers who have already been with the company a long time.

When SmithKline Beecham sold their Clinical Laboratories unit for $1.3 billion, they had converted to a cash-balance pension plan only four months earlier. In the conversion, they agreed to subsidize the pension payments to long-term workers, who lose pension benefits this way of conversion.

But the sale violated that promise. Federal pension law allows companies to strip away benefits when employees are transferred as part of a sale. The new owners kept the cash-balance plan and its lower payouts, but weren’t required to subsidize older employees.

Many employees over 50 lost thousands of dollars in annual retirement income, while SmithKline was able to keep their pension fund surplus.

Other companies hold on to the pension plan for the unit being sold, but freeze the employees’ pension rights so they can pocket the earnings on pension fund investments.

When Merck sold its Kelco kelp-products unit to Monsanto for $1.07 billion in 1995, it kept the pension plan for the 1,000 transferred workers. Then they froze the plan’s benefits. Jerry Lucas, a 50-year-old chemical engineer at Kelco kept working at the same desk, doing the same work, after the merger, but his pensions stopped growing.

Owing to inflation, when he retired in ten years at age 65, his pension will be worth less than two-thirds what it was worth in 1995. Meanwhile, Merck continues to invest the pension fund and sock away the earnings, creating an ever-larger surplus to make their company look more successful.

Some day they may choose to sell the surplus. Technically, that’s illegal, because the pension fund and any surpluses in it belong to the beneficiaries of the pension plan, not to the company. But it happens all the time. According to Schultz, money in pension funds is considered just another asset that can be bought and sold in a sale, merger, or acquisition.

Companies have ways of keeping these transactions secret, but they make no secret of their desire to find ways to use pension funds for their own benefit.

At a meeting of corporate actuaries in 1996, Max Schwartz, a partner with the New York corporate law firm Sullivan and Cromwell, explained how to transfer pension fund surpluses during a sale without putting a price tag on those assets remaining.

By putting the price tag in writing, you would risk getting caught selling the surplus—an illegal transaction. So companies disguise the assets.

Charles W. Jones, International President

Schwartz testified that buyers typically pay 50-80 cents on the dollar for surplus assets. That’s a good price for something that doesn’t belong to you.

In a promotional letter last year, Financial Frontiers Corp. of Los Angeles exhorted clients to “turn pension surplus into cash.” They said that if you could structure transactions so their clients would reap as much as 70 percent of the value of their surplus. Where does that 70 cents on the dollar really come from? Out of the pockets of the retirees.

When a pension fund has a surplus, executives of the fund have an obligation to ensure that the excess money goes to the beneficiaries of the plan, not to the company. The trustees of the Boilermakers pension understand this obligation. That is why, nearly every year, they are able to raise retiree benefits and improve the payout formula for future retirees.

In the past, Congress kept companies from cashing in on pension surpluses, but the Republican Congress of the last six years has been reluctant to restrict businesses in any way—even when it comes to protecting the elderly.

We must change that. If President Bush is the “compassionate conservative” he claims to be, surely he can find some compassion for the thousands of retirees who are victimized by corporate maneuvers that raise profits regardless of the cost to the retirees of our country.

Andy J. Jones offers a warning

PLEASE BEWARE of old elevators. They can let you down way too fast.

L-154 retiree's Web search for "scabs" turns up Dick Cheney

RECENTLY I WAS surfing the Web to see if scabs had a page. I found crop diseases called scabs, a few musical groups, a definition by Jack London (http://dictionary.reference.com/definition/scab) and an article about our new Supreme Court-appointed associate Justice, titled “Cheney firm hires scabs” (http://www.cpusa.org/pastweeks/Beware%20L-115544%20reteee%20weeb%20search%20for%20scabs). This year, Phelps Dodge raised our insurance premium. Every year, the company has raised our pension. One of the terms said the company would pay the first $210 of our medical insurance premium. Every year, the company has raised our pension. Andy J. Jones offers a warning

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