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Local Lodges 27 and 83 hold regional tripartite meeting

Union, owner, employers discuss common issues

REPRESENTATIVES OF 27 employers and owners met in Kansas City, Mo., on January 20, 2001, for the first regional tripartite conference sponsored by Lodge 83, Kansas City; Lodge 27, St. Louis; the Kansas City Power & Light Co. (KCPL); and Enerfab. Representatives of the Greater Kansas City Building Trades also attended.

These locals are carrying the tripartite concept to the local and regional level, ensuring that lines of communication remain open between Boilermakers, owners, and contractors.

Presentations made at the conference explained the Boilermaker apprenticeship program and the many cost-saving services provided by MOST, including employee verification, safety training, drug and alcohol



Delegates attend the first Missouri regional tripartite conference, January 20, 2001.

screening, pulmonary function and respirator fit testing, safety prescription glasses, and helping to meet manpower needs.

Roger Erickson, bus. mgr. Local 83, presided over the meeting. He offered these remarks: "Anytime owners, contractors, and labor come together to discuss problems that hinder our

industry and to seek solutions together, it is encouraging."

Contractor and owner representatives also addressed the meeting, discussing several areas of concern, including manning upcoming work. Demand for Boilermakers is expected to be much heavier this year than usual.

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Construction conference looks at manpower challenges, new work

NEARLY 200 BOILERMAKER Construction Division local lodge leaders and staff from all over the U.S. and Canada met in Miami Beach, Fla., Feb. 26 to March 4, to discuss upcoming work, safety, jurisdiction, the apprentice program, and recruiting members.

International President Charles W. Jones opened the meeting with remarks on the growing amount of work for construction Boilermakers and the need to ensure that we can man all of our jobs this year without diminishing our reputation for providing excellent work, on schedule, under budget, and safely.

Most lodges in the U.S. are experiencing a sudden increase in Boilermaker work after more than a decade of low demand. Although we are happy to see the work, the sudden jump is challenging. Over the past 20 years, some lodges have seen their membership base deteriorate because we did not have enough work to train apprentices.

Just as he did last year, President Jones exhorted local lodges to recruit skilled, experienced workers from the nonunion sector. "We have done an excellent job of increasing the number of apprentices now studying the trade, but apprentices are by definition still learning. In the nonunion sector, there are thousands of welders, riggers, and mechanics with several years and many thousands of manhours of experience. They can be valuable assets in our efforts to man our jobs."

After International Secretary-Treasurer Jerry Willburn briefly discussed the finances of the Brotherhood, Dan Everett, national coordinator of the Boilermaker Apprentice Program, gave an update on the number of apprentices currently in the program.

More demand for skilled Boilermakers has encouraged local lodges to be more aggressive in their efforts to

recruit apprentices. During the middle 1990s, the number of indentured apprentices had fallen far below the levels required to fulfill our journeyman/apprentice ratios in most area contracts. Aggressive recruiting has turned that around in the last year, and all vice-presidential areas reported having enough apprentices to meet those ratios in 2000 and 2001.

However, Everett warned that the drop-out rate is still high. Too many apprentices leave the program before graduating.

Everett also reported on our efforts to recruit apprentices from minority groups, including women. The number of female apprentices is rising somewhat faster than the total number of indentured apprentices, but the num-

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Joe Meredith retires

CONSTRUCTION DIVISION Director Joe Meredith retired Jan. 31, 2001, after serving the International Brotherhood for 27 years as an Intl. rep., asst. to the Intl. pres., and director of the Construction Division.

Joe was initiated into Boilermakers Local 453 on Dec. 22, 1964, and was the first graduate of their apprentice program in 1968.

The following year, he won the first Paul Wedge Award for Outstanding Apprentice in the Southeast.

In 1973, Joe graduated from the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering, and later earned a Masters in Labor Studies from Antioch University.

He was also appointed Intl. representative in 1973, and soon became the International's craft jurisdiction expert, representing the Boilermakers in dozens of jurisdictional disputes and arbitrations. On Oct. 1, 1977, Joe was named asst. dir. of the Construction Division, and on June 15, 1983, he was promoted to division director. On Sept. 1, 1996, Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones named him asst. to the International president.

Joe has taught Trade Technology to first and second-year apprentices at



Intl. Pres. Charles Jones (l) shares a laugh with Const. Div. Dir. Joe Meredith (c) and Francis McCarlin, the UA rep. on the Jurisdiction Directors Committee, at a UA-sponsored party celebrating their retirement.

the National Center for several years and has represented the Boilermakers on numerous boards, including the Building and Construction Trades Jurisdictional Directors Committee, the Common Arc Board of Directors, the National Board Inspection Code Committee, the National Joint Rules and Standards Committee, the Special Committee on the Construction Industry, and the Standing Advisory Committee on Construction.

Joe's good humor and agreeable personality made him popular with all of the people he worked with. □

Cancer survivor sends special thank-you

John Clendennen credits Health & Welfare employees with saving his life

WHEN NTL MEMBER John Clendennen was diagnosed with lung cancer in 1996, his first thought was to simply give up. It had been only two years since he'd lost his wife to cancer, and the doctors said his was inoperable. What was the point?

But his daughters convinced him to undergo chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Doing so would give him a 15 percent chance of surviving.

The next year was agony. Chemotherapy and radiation are harsh treatments. Sometimes he was so weak he couldn't get out of bed. Boilermakers Health & Welfare (H&W) assumed nearly all of the considerable cost involved, but he had the paperwork to deal with, and in his weakened condition, he often couldn't figure out where to start.

One of his many phone calls to the H&W office for guidance put him in contact with Cheryl Mosier. John says that was the turning point in his therapy.

"She guided me through piles of paperwork I could never have completed on my own," he said. "And she always had a wonderful attitude and a great sense of humor. Every time I phoned her, she made my day better."

Several times during his ordeal, John made Cheryl a promise: If he survived, he would come to Kansas City and take her to dinner.

In February of this year, he made good on that promise. His cancer has been in remission for several years, and he no longer requires treatment. So at the first opportunity, he stopped off in Kansas City to take Cheryl and her husband to dinner.

"You have no idea how special this woman is," John told *the Reporter*.

But Cheryl said she was just doing what everyone in the office does. "There's a lot of paperwork to be filled out. People often have trouble with it, and if they're sick and not feeling well, they can be cranky. You have to have a sense of humor about the job. That's why John and I hit it off. We have the same sense of humor."

John was quick to agree. "The entire staff was great," he said, "but Cheryl was special."

He is on full disability now and has moved to Idaho to start a new life with a new partner. His only complaint in the entire ordeal is that he had no income during the months between diagnosis and being declared disabled by Social Security. "We really need



Cheryl Mosier and John Clendennen — five years after he was diagnosed with inoperable cancer.

some kind of disability insurance to cover that gap," he said.

But at the moment, that seems like a small problem. His cancer is in remission, and he knows who to thank.

"I had great doctors," he said. "But if it hadn't been for the staff of the Boilermakers Health & Welfare — especially Cheryl Mosier — I wouldn't be alive today." □

L-696 member wins county seat

Elected by a wide margin, he's now chairman of board of commissioners

THREE YEARS AGO, Steve Gromala, an electrician at Marinette Marine Corp. and former president of Local 696, Menominee, Wis., heard Legislative Director Ande Abbott speak on the importance of having working people in public office. Ande's words struck a chord with him. Working people do not get enough representation in political circles.

So when his district seat on the Menominee County Board of Commissioners came open, he decided to take a chance. With the promise of support from his local lodge, Gromala started a "grass roots" campaign for the office.

The Republican Party selected a well-known businessman for their nominee, and pumped

thousands of dollars into his campaign.

Gromala walked door to door asking for the support of working families and spent \$146 of his own money, mainly on a newspaper ad.

When the votes were counted, he had more than 80 percent.

Once on the board, Gromala was quickly appointed chairman of the finance committee and the law enforcement committee. He also served on two other committees, becoming the only commissioner serving on all four of the most important committees. And he was selected to serve on the Airport Commission and the local hospital board.

In November 2000, when he ran for re-election, Gromala was



unopposed. This year he was elected chairman of the board of commissioners.

Steve Gromala is proud to serve his community in these and many other ways, and he encourages all union members to run for office. "Workers need to have a voice on city councils, county boards, school boards, planning commissions, and zoning boards," he says.

And the only way to get that voice is to get workers elected to those positions. □

Holt earns 50-year pin



International President Charles W. Jones presents a 50-year pin to Glenn Holt (r.), former International President of the Metal Polishers International Union and current Metal Polishers Conference Director since our unions merged in 1996.

GLENN HOLT has served Metal Polishers for nearly 55 years, ever since he helped organize the shop he worked in at Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company in Kokomo, Ind., in 1946, shortly after his discharge from the U.S. Army.

He had worked at the shop only a few months, but earned the respect of his co-workers by organizing the plant and getting the company to ratify their first contract. As quickly as the first contract was ratified, in August 1946, Holt enrolled in Local 24 of the Metal Polishers, Buffers, Platers, and Helpers International Union and was elected chairman of the bargaining committee.

He held that position until 1964, when he became an International representative. He continued as an International rep. until 1976, when he was elected International vice president.

When International President Jim Siebert retired in June 1984, Holt was elected International president, a position he held until October 12, 1996.

On that day, the Metal Polishers International Union voted at a special convention to merge with the Interna-

tional Brotherhood of Boilermakers. In accordance with the merger agreement, Holt was named director of the Metal Polishers Conference, which oversees all Metal Polisher lodges. He continues to serve in that capacity.

Along the way, Holt had time to marry and raise five children, four sons and a daughter. Three of his sons followed him into the Metal Polishers union.

Holt also managed to find time to become a Bluegrass music star. He was known as Chubby Lee and played with his Ramblin' Ridgerunners Band on WKMO radio in Kokomo.

Brother Holt continues to live in Kokomo with his wife Marilyn, but he has lost weight, given up playing and singing on the radio, and is no longer known as Chubby Lee.

At the LEAP conference, International President Charles Jones presented a 50-year membership pin to Holt and commended him for his lifetime of service to the working men and women in the Metal Polishers Union and now the Boilermakers union. □

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Construction conference looks at manpower needs

Continued from page 1

of minorities is rising more slowly. Our difficulty recruiting minorities may be a byproduct of low unemployment and the growing information industry. Like many vocations, we are losing qualified candidates to computer jobs. As growth in the information industry slows down, we expect to see more minority applicants for the apprentice program.

Construction Division Director Dale Branscum and International Rep. Michael DiCicco discussed work performed under the national agreements and answered questions regarding jurisdiction.

MOST safety training is showing good results

BILL PALMISANO, administrator of Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training (MOST), reported they performed more than 23,000 drug screenings in 2000. Of the 4,282 random tests performed in 2000, less than one-half of one percent were positive.

MOST also processed over 5,000 temporary work visa applications from Canadian members seeking work in the United States. MOST is able to streamline the visa application process and help our members from Canada work in the U.S. With unemployment in Canada now above seven percent, many Canadian Boilermakers are seeking work in the U.S., where many U.S. locals expect manpower shortages throughout the year.

Safety instructors Dave Haggerty and Bridget McManamon discussed the MOST safety training programs. These programs continue to be an effective way to keep our members from suffering injuries, as has been proven by the NACBE safety index (see story page 4). More than 4,000 construction members went through the construction safety and health class in 2000, and another 435 went through the new class on scaffold safety. In addition, MOST trained and certified 204 Boilermaker safety trainers in their OSHA 500 course. Palmisano pointed out that grants from the Center for the Protection of Worker Rights (CPWR) pay for Hazardous Waste Operations (HAZWOP) training.

Two locals were singled out for their success in safety training — Locals 74 and 154. Ron Keck, bus. mgr. of Local 74, discussed training done in his local. Both the owner, Reliant Energy, and the employer, B&W, were strongly committed to safety. In addition to providing special training, they distributed

numerous incentives each day to members who worked safely.

Local 154 Bus. Mgr. Ray Ventrone said, "I am very proud of how Local 154 members have taken to this training. They have worked hard and it is making a difference on the job."

He said that his members have gone out of their way to get the safety training, even coming in on weekends during the busy periods of the year. Local 154 has put 98 percent of their members through the MOST safety course, and about 35 percent through the scaffold course. They expect that number to go up substantially as soon as they can schedule another training session.

Owner representatives discuss new work

KEN PHY, OF ENTERGY, presented a detailed discussion of the construction and transport of nuclear fuel casks, which are used to move and store spent nuclear fuel.

As nuclear power plants around the country age, they will need to store their spent fuel. The federal government has not yet named the site they intend to use for long-term storage of spent nuclear fuel. Nuclear power plants will need to store this material onsite or at a short-term facility until the long-term storage is available.

Phy projects that nuclear power plants will be doing a great deal of work in this area in the near future. Much of that work will be done by Boilermakers. Phy's discussion centered on the technical aspects of building and moving the storage casks, specifically those made by Holtec.

Entergy is already involved in the FitzPatrick project, which will provide dry storage facilities and transfer 200 spent fuel assemblies by October 2002.

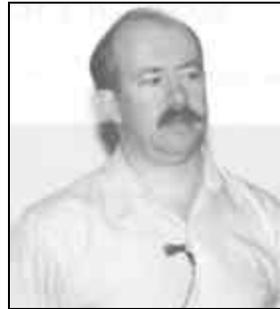
Doug Kieta, representing Calpine, stirred a great deal of discussion with his presentation. Calpine employs nonunion contractors on several of their sites. Kieta's indifference toward unions was evident in a remark he made regarding union Boilermakers working for nonunion contractors.

Financial advisors explain trust fund investments

PAUL ERLENDSON of Callan Associates discussed investments made by the national funds and the possibility of modifying the pension and annuities programs we now have to allow for individual investment. He provided a table that lists the average returns for different groups of stocks over the past



MOST presents safety excellence awards to Locals 74 and 154. Left to right, MOST Safety Instructor Dave Haggerty, Local 74 Bus. Mgr. Ron Keck, MOST Executive Administrator Bill Palmisano, MOST Safety Instructor Bridget McManamon, and Local 154 Bus. Mgr. Ray Ventrone



Ken Phy, Entergy, discusses the process of moving and storing spent nuclear fuel.



Intl. Pres. Charles Jones took the opportunity at the Construction conference to present membership pins to Central States IVP George Rogers (top), Building & Construction Trades Secretary-Treasurer Joe Maloney, a member of Boilermakers Local 128, Toronto (middle), and former director of the Construction Division Joe Meredith.

ermakers on the annuity program would be enormous. That expense would be borne by the members holding the annuities, so they would be more likely to lose than to gain from directing their own investments. □

Locals 27 and 83 hold regional tripartite meeting

Continued from page 1

While addressing the meeting, Ralph Boehm, manager of maintenance services for KCPL, surprised the group by suggesting a way to report upcoming manpower needs that will help all three groups — owners, contractors, and the Boilermakers — a plan for future work without revealing any company's confidential information.

Attendees endorsed the plan as a good way to avoid manpower problems caused when several companies schedule major maintenance projects at the same time. They agreed to ask their companies to try out the plan.

Between the two of them, Locals 27 and 83 represent Boilermakers in all of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and

Iowa. Tracking proposed work in the entire area will be a big job, but the rewards could be great for the contractors and owners we serve — not to mention our overworked dispatchers. This proposal is more proof that the tripartite approach is worth the effort.

Because most Boilermaker work takes place in the months with agreeable weather — the spring and fall months — manpower shortages have always plagued our industry. If this reporting method works in this small arena, other areas may try it.

Erickson closed the meeting with the observation that it had been "extremely successful." He urged all parties to "keep these lines of communication open." □



Ralph Boehm, manager of maintenance services at KCPL, addresses the regional tripartite meeting, flanked by Local 83 Bus. Mgr. Roger Erickson, at left, and Jim Prothe, superintendent of construction services at KCPL, at right.

Local Lodge 132 wins NACBE safety award

Twenty-two locals have no lost-time injuries in 2000

MEMBERS OF LOCAL Lodge 132, Galveston, Tex., won the national safety award for 2000 presented by the National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers (NACBE). They finished the year with no lost-time accidents, but even that didn't guarantee the title, because 22 out of 56 locals did the same thing. To determine the winner, NACBE had to compare compensatory accident rates.

NACBE also presented awards to the lodges with the lowest lost-time accident in each vice-presidential area. The following lodges won:

Western States:

Local 182, Salt Lake City

Great Lakes:

Local 374, Hammond, Ind.

Southeast:

Local 69, Little Rock, Ark.

Northeast:

Local 7, Buffalo, N.Y.

NACBE presents this award each year to encourage Boilermakers to keep safety foremost in their minds. The award has helped. Since NACBE began tracking injury rates in 1990, the Boilermakers have reduced their lost-time injury rate by 90.1 percent.

"This is one competition with a desirable outcome for employers as well as Boilermakers," NACBE Executive Director John Erickson said.

Comparing each year's injury rate with the rate in 1990, Erickson calculates that by working more safely, Boilermakers have avoided 12,519 lost-time injuries since 1991. Avoiding those accidents has enabled employers and owners to avoid over \$375 million in direct costs and at least \$1.878 billion in indirect costs.

How much money is \$1.878 billion? It would employ more than 3,000 Boilermakers for 1,500 hours a year over the ten-year period in question.

And although the benefit to Boilermakers is not that direct, when we save money for our employers by working safely, they can win more bids and we will get more work.

Better still, we ensure that every Boilermaker goes home safe and whole every day.

A key reason our injury rate is declining is that more lodges and more members are participating in safety training

classes provided by MOST. No one goes to work intending to get injured, but inattention to details or lack of knowledge of safety procedures can lead to accidents.

MOST programs teach practical safety methods, ones that are successful on the job. They teach Boilermakers to recognize conditions that may lead to accidents and take steps to correct them before an accident occurs.

For information on MOST safety programs, contact Bill Palmisano, 913-281-5036. □



Central States International Vice President George Rogers, second from right, accepts the 2000 NACBE National Safety Award on behalf of members of Local 132. Presenting the award is International President Charles W. Jones. Also pictured are NACBE President Wendell Bell (second from left) and NACBE Executive Director John Erickson (far right).



Local 374 Bus. Mgr. Chuck Vanover (far right) and Great Lakes IVP Larry McManamon (second from right) accept the NACBE Safety Award for the Great Lakes on behalf of L-374 members.



Dale Branscum, former Local 69 bus. mgr., Southeast Area IVP Newton Jones, and International Rep. Bill Elrod accept the 2000 NACBE Award for the Southeast on behalf of Local 69 members.



Local 7 Bus. Mgr. Pat Lyons (far right) and Northeast IVP Michael S. Murphy (second from right) accept the 2000 NACBE Safety Award for the Northeast on behalf of Local 7 members.



Intl. Rep. Tony Gallo (far right) and Western States IVP Don Lacefield (second from right) accept the 2000 NACBE Safety Award for the Western States Area on behalf of members of Local 182.

Unions join civil rights community to celebrate Martin Luther King Day

Working families honor King's legacy

ON MONDAY, JANUARY 15, over 600 union members and leaders in Greensboro, N.C., participated in an annual parade on Martin Luther King Day. The parade followed five days of King Day celebrations, including educational seminars, community service events, rallies, and religious services. Boilermaker Intl. Vice Pres. Jim Hickenbotham joined AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Richard Trumka, Exec. Vice Pres. Linda Chavez-Thompson, Vice Pres. Clayola Brown, and Civil and Human Rights Director Richard Womack at the festivities to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his civil rights and workers' rights legacies.

"The AFL-CIO King Day celebration is a unique opportunity for the union movement to show that our goals are the same as Dr. King's — to ensure that all American workers

have the right to come together to improve their lives and to be treated with dignity and respect," said Brown.

The community service activities were a high point in the five-day celebration of King's legacy. Working families participated in several community service projects in the Greensboro area on January 13, including the Poplar Grove Head Start center, where they moved and repaired playground equipment, painted the building's interior, and did general landscaping. While one crew worked at the center, another group sorted, packed, and distributed more than \$20,000 worth of clothes, paper, and canned goods to local charitable groups. Others counseled families at a local shelter and landscaped a faith-based health center.

"Dr. King combined his love of the community with a commitment to progressive change. We want to show people that change is possible if you organize," said Womack. □



ABOVE: L to r., AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Richard Trumka, AFL-CIO Civil and Human Rights Director Richard Womack, and Boilermaker IVP Jim Hickenbotham at a breakfast honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

AT RIGHT: IVP Hickenbotham with AFL-CIO Exec. VP Linda Chavez-Thompson, Thompson and AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Richard Trumka led the Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade and voter rights rally in Greensboro.



33rd Annual LEAP Conference

March 19-23, 2001

Washington, D.C.



33rd annual LEAP conference stresses bipartisanship

THE NEARLY 200 Boilermaker local lodge leaders who attended this year's Legislative Education-Action Program (LEAP) conference in Washington, D.C., March 19-23, learned the true meaning of a word the president has been using a great deal lately: bipartisanship.

The word wasn't spoken all that often, but the idea was evident. Two of the six members of Congress who addressed the meeting were Republicans and four were Democrats.

Speakers included congressmen in leadership positions from both parties. Minority Whip David Bonior (MI-10) and Minority Leader Dick Gephardt (MO-3) represented the Democrats, along with Rep. Neil Abercrombie (HI-1) and Rep. George Miller (CA-7).

The Republicans were represented by Rep. Frank LoBiondo (NJ-2) and Rep. Don Young (AK-at-large), who is the chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Young was also chosen as the Boilermakers Legislator of the Year for 2001

(see story page 9) because of his work with us on legislation involving our railroad and shipbuilding members.

These congressmen and all of the speakers at the conference repeated an important refrain: we need Republican votes to get our bills through Congress. Republicans hold a five-seat majority in the House of Representatives, and although the Senate is split directly down the middle, with 50 Democrats and 50 Republicans, the tie-breaking vote (if needed) will be cast by Republican Vice President Dick Cheney. Clearly, if workers hope to pass any legislation in 2001 or 2002, we will need support from moderate Republicans.

That support will not be easy to get, but dozens of Republicans in Congress have expressed their willingness to work with us when our interests coincide. And our interests may coincide more often this year than in others.

Although President Bush entered the office under a cloud of illegitimacy because of uncounted ballots in Florida and the fact that his opponent got more than half a million more votes than he

did nationwide, the new president immediately abandoned the moderate pose he had held through his campaign and began an unprecedented attack on unions and working families.

He issued a series of executive orders intended to weaken unions, including an order banning project labor agreements on federal construction projects and one that reversed a Clinton order intended to ensure that companies doing business with the federal government abide by the law. Now companies that break labor and safety laws can get federal contracts again.

Congress seemed powerless to stop the president. In fact, they helped him. One of their first orders of business was to block the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) new ergonomics rule.

This rule was originally proposed by Elizabeth Dole when she was Secretary of Labor under the first Bush, but business interests managed to delay its implementation for ten years. Then Congress used a power they had granted themselves in 1996, to revoke rules made by government agencies to set aside the ergonomics rule.

Bush signed the order, saying that it was too burdensome to businesses. Revoking the rule lets businesses ignore the ergonomics needs of their

workers. President Bush would rather see that burden borne by the 1.6 million workers who develop carpal tunnel syndrome, trigger finger, back problems, and other repetitive stress disorders each year.

In the first two months of Bush's administration, Congress seemed willing to pass any legislation Bush sent them. In recent weeks, their attitude has begun to change. First the Senate passed a campaign finance reform bill that the president opposed (he spent a record \$185 million getting elected and raised countless millions in soft money for the Republican Party).

Then the Senate attacked his \$1.6 billion tax cut, paring it down to \$1.2 billion. This action not only drags out the process for approving the bill, leaving it open for more detailed scrutiny, but it also sends a message to the White House. From the moment he proposed this tax cut, the president has been very firm about what he wants. Although he has avoided saying he would veto an altered tax cut bill, he has stated more than once that he will only accept a \$1.6 billion cut — no more and no less.

The McCain-Feingold Campaign Finance Reform Act passed 59 to 41, with 12 Republicans voting against the

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Annual LEAP conference stresses importance of continuous political action

Continued from page 5

wishes of their party leader, the president. This fact alone spells hope that workers can find moderate Republicans to support us on some issues.

Delegates to the LEAP conference didn't have to go that far, though. They only had to listen to the speakers.

The first congressman to speak on Tuesday was Rep. Frank LoBiondo, a Republican from New Jersey. He was very clear regarding his support for working families.

"If we do what is good for working men and women," he told the conference, "we do what is good for America. Being FOR workers doesn't mean being AGAINST business. Both parties have their share of people who don't understand the issues, but we have the ability to come together and work together."

Rep. LoBiondo belongs to a group of Republicans who meet regularly with labor leaders and representatives of working people to learn our problems and our issues. He and other moderate

Republicans are reaching out to labor. They recognize that the Republican Party has alienated unions to the extent that nearly every candidate endorsed by the AFL-CIO is a Democrat.

For their part, unions are reaching out as well. Bipartisanship seems to be just a slogan for President Bush. He has made no real effort to accommodate Democrats in Congress or to amend his radical legislative agenda to include legislation that protects workers. But for unions, bipartisanship is a reality, as our LEAP conference and political activity have demonstrated.

The comments excerpted on these pages reflect the thoughts of a wide variety of people from different backgrounds and political parties, but they all share a commitment to ensuring that whatever legislation comes out of Washington will be good for the working men and women of this nation. □



George Pinkerman of Local 667, and Garry Ledford of Local 105, at right, join delegates from all across the U.S. for the opening day of the 33rd LEAP conference.

Excerpts from Speeches to the LEAP Conference



CHARLES W. JONES
International President

Charles W. Jones
International President

"PRESIDENT BUSH has a great speech writer. He's going around the country telling people that he wants to give your taxes back to you, to give you more money to spend so you can improve the economy.

"Yet the *New York Times* says more than 40 percent of the tax cut will go to the richest one percent of Americans. The bottom 80 percent, which includes nearly all workers, will have to share less than one-third of that cut. And the bottom 20 percent will get less than one percent of that cut.

"The surplus he wants to spend is mainly Social Security money. He'll throw it all in one pot to make it look like he has enough money for a huge tax cut for his rich friends. Then we'll run out of money for Medicare.

"Bush said he didn't want seniors to have to choose between food and prescription drugs. But under his prescription drug plan, a widow making \$15,000 has to pay \$6,000 for prescription medicine — that's \$500 a month on prescription drugs — before she can get a dime from Bush's plan. That leaves her \$9,000 to pay for housing, utilities, and everything else, including food. I have a feeling she would be choosing between food and her medicine.

"We need a rail system and to get our roads in better shape, but there won't be any money for that. He has to give those taxes back to the rich to repay them for getting him elected to office.

"Bush may have snuck into office under the coattails of his daddy's friends on the Supreme Court, but your vote did count. We split the Senate and have almost 50 percent of the House. Without those people in office, Bush would run right over us. Those are the people you will be talking to all of this week and those are the people you need to keep talking to all year."



ANDE ABBOTT
Legislative Director

Ande Abbott
Legislative Director

"THE BOILERMAKERS LEAP conference is the longest running legislative conference in town. We do have impact, people on the Hill know us and they remember us.

"If we don't stand up for working people, no one will. There are all kinds of nonprofit associations that watch out for the environment and government waste and animal rights and God knows what else, but the only groups watching out for workers are the unions. If we don't do it, nobody will.

"What the government gives, the government can take away. A lot of people think the government gave them the 40-hour week and safety regulations and Medicare, but we had to fight for them. It was unions who did the fighting. Unorganized workers have no way of being politically active.

"If the Bush tax cut goes through, our social safety net will fall apart. We are heading for a recession. A tax cut for rich people won't help that. With a five trillion dollar debt, we shouldn't be talking about a surplus. We should be talking about making Social Security stronger, about a real prescription drug plan for Medicare, one that helps low-income retirees.

"We need to get active now for the 2002 elections. We could lose some seats. We need to activate areas that have never been active before. In the districts where our members work hard, we elect pro-worker candidates. But there are a lot of districts where unions are not active at all or are doing very little. We need to get them active, to register voters, and get out the vote.

"The most effective way to get your message across is leaflets at work."

Bridget Martin

Deputy Director of Government Affairs

"IN THE 2000 ELECTIONS, union voters made a difference. Labor stayed focused on the issues.

"Union voters as a percentage of the total vote is going up. It was 19 percent in 1992, 23 percent in 1996, and 26 percent in 2000.

"Now what do Boilermakers do? We raise money for pro-labor candidates. We increase union voter registration. In 1999 and 2000, candidates spent \$2.5 bil-

lion getting elected. Labor was outspent by businesses 15 to one in political donations. In 1998, it was only eight to one.

"Boilermakers are doing a good job raising money for CAF — the Campaign Assistance Fund. That's the money we donate to candidates for their campaigns. Donations have been going up for several years. We raised over \$700,000 in 1999 and 2000.

"But LEF contributions are going down. That's the Legislative Education Fund. That's the money we use to put on this conference, print the LEAP manuals, and do other things to educate our members about politics and the political process. We need to get those contributions back up.

"Right now we have one of the biggest union busters in the country in the White House. Dick Cheney. When he was in Congress he opposed everything labor brought up. I can show you the list. It's too long to read aloud. His company, Halliburton, is also a notorious union-busting company.

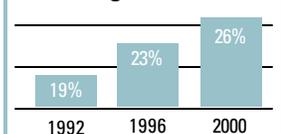
"In Bush's first 30 days in office he has pursued a fierce anti-union agenda. Nearly every executive order he has signed has been an effort to weaken and silence unions."

Continued on page 7



BRIDGET MARTIN
Deputy Director of Government Affairs

Union Members As Percentage of All Voters



Continued from page 6

Rep. Neil Abercrombie
Dem. — 1st Hawaii

"LABOR WAS OUR [Democrats] biggest supporter. It's no surprise that the first thing Bush did was take away labor-management committees and project labor agreements. That he put zero dollars into the maritime industry. That he is right now going after Davis-Bacon. All those things are good for unionized workers. He had to pay back the corporate backers who bought him his job.

"They [Republicans] use the NRA as a wedge to get between working people. The NRA board is not for working people. We need to form our own gun association that would be pro-worker and use it against them.

"There will be no shipbuilding program because that money is going to the tax cut. They are going to use up our Medicare money, too.

"We spent 13 years getting out of that hole, 13 years figuring out a way to have a surplus instead of a deficit so the national debt could go down instead of up, and the first thing they do with the surplus is give it to the rich guys. It's not a tax cut, it's a tax grab.

"There's no way labor can compete with the hard money that Bush brought in. We can compete with votes.

"Never forget the basics, the fundamentals. That's what wins. Organizing people one-on-one. An injury to one is an injury to all. The fundamental underlying principle of unionism. We stick together so that nobody gets left out, everybody gets a piece of the pie.

"When we win, when labor wins, America wins."

Rep. George Miller
Dem. — 7th California

"IT IS VERY CLEAR that this administration is going to be hostile to working families. They've already reformed bankruptcy, done away with the ergonomics rule and project labor agreements, and

forced government contractors to post Beck notices.

"After ten years of study on the ergonomics rule, the House would rather go into recess than allow us more than one hour of debate.

"We picked up four seats in California because of the union coalition. They weren't won with big money. They won because they had union members on the phone, going door-to-door.

"When the election is over, labor's efforts have to be stronger. It can't be done 30 to 60 days in even-numbered years. It has to be an ongoing campaign.

"We have to have a pact that works both ways. After they are elected, candidates must follow through. They must remember where their support comes from — not get in office and say, I didn't realize the rich had these problems.

"I want to use my position of leadership to educate members of Congress about the labor movement."

Rep. Frank Lofiondo
Rep. — 2nd New Jersey

"MY FAMILY WAS in the trucking business. We had a good working relationship with the Teamsters. That's where I learned about unions. When there was a problem, we had a way to sit down and work it out. We had a way to communicate.

"I have tried to continue that here in Washington. I meet with union leaders. I am part of a group we call Republicans Working with Labor. We listen, we talk, and we find common ground.

"If we do what is good for working men and women, we do what is good for America. Being FOR workers doesn't mean being AGAINST business. Both parties have their share of people who don't understand the issues, but we have the ability to come together and work together.

"Thanks to our friendship, [AFL-CIO President] John Sweeney comes in and talks to us when there's a problem so we understand your needs better. But what means most to

sooner, if President Bush's tax plan gets adopted. That's because Bush wants to shift non-hospital costs from the general tax fund to the Medicare trust.

Doing so leaves more money in the general tax fund, so the tax cut seems easier to afford. But it also drains money out of the Medicare fund, so that Congress will need to address the shortfall sooner.

What the president would be doing is transferring resources from Medicare recipients to mostly well-off taxpayers.

SOURCE: *Washington Post* editorial, March 14, 2001



REP. NEIL ABERCROMBIE
(D — 1st Hawaii)



REP. DAVID BONIOR
Minority Whip
(D — 10th Michigan)



REP. DICK GEPHARDT
Minority Leader
(D — 3rd Missouri)

me are the contacts from my congressional district. Those are the people I answer to. I don't answer to anyone in Washington. I answer to the people back home."

Rep. Dick Gephardt
House Minority Leader
Dem. — 3rd Missouri

"ORGANIZED LABOR as a whole turned out better than it had in all of history, because you encouraged your members to vote and informed them of the issues. If you keep doing what you're doing, we'll have the House back in 2002.

"Two weeks ago, Congress struck down the ergonomics rule. Efforts started ten years ago to write that rule. Clinton finally got it in place in his last few months in office. Then the business interests pulled it up for review, no warning, and they allowed only one hour of debate. One hour of debate on a rule that took ten years to write. They don't want the public to know.

"When Reagan asked for his tax cut of \$750 billion over five years, we thought it would lead to deficits and high interest rates. I was getting calls from home to give the president a chance, we need a tax cut, so against my better judgment I voted yes.

"The deficit climbed every year. By 1992, we were \$5 trillion in debt, interest rates were sky-high, unemployment was high, and we were paying \$235 billion a year in interest.

"No one liked what Clinton had to do to get rid of that deficit. But it was right for the country. We got the deficit down and have been talking surplus for the last three years.

"I don't want to give Bush a chance. I gave the last one a chance and we've been cleaning up the mess ever since.

"I want a tax cut for the middle class and those who aspire to the middle class. I want lower interest rates to boost the economy, not lower tax rates for the rich."

Rep. Don Young
Rep. — At-Large Alaska

"I BELIEVE IN building with union workers.

"The infrastructure of this country is way behind the country's economic and population growth.

"If we want to compete in the global economy, to get goods to market and receive



REP. FRANK LOFIONDO
(R — 2nd New Jersey)



REP. GEORGE MILLER
(D — 7th California)

goods, then we need to build highways and railroads and ships. We need to use all of our resources, and that includes the petroleum resources in the Alaskan wilderness."

Rep. David Bonior
House Minority Whip
Dem. — 10th Michigan

"THERE WILL BE reports coming out in a few weeks that show Al Gore won in Florida by 10,000 votes. He won nationally by over a half a million votes. We've got to change our antiquated laws so that people's votes count.

"There are real workers in D.C., but there are those who come here who don't live in the real world.

"There's only one way people of this country have ever gotten ahead. That's by standing up and fighting. For working people, fighting back has never been more important than now.

"Bush talks about being a compassionate conservative. Yet he is cutting project agreements, breathing life back into Beck, and looking away from Mexican transports that don't meet our safety standards but come into the country because of NAFTA.

"He wants to give the richest one percent 42 percent of the tax cut, while a widow with two kids working as a waitress will get no tax relief at all.

"Everyone wants a tax cut. But we need to make sure those who need it get it. And we need to leave enough money in the Treasury so we can get programs for prescription drugs and keep Social Security strong.

"Yes, put money back in people's pockets. But do it responsibly.

"If we join with President Bush, then we won't have to worry about workers' interests, because they'll be on the endangered species list.

"Does it worry you to think that with Dick Cheney's bad heart, Bush is only a heartbeat away from the presidency?"

"As labor leaders, you need to do five things to fight back against Bush:

"1. Educate and mobilize your workforce.

"2. Build coalitions.

"3. Organize new members. Think about this — with five percent more union members, Gore would be in the White House right now.

"4. Take action at the state level. We need to gain control of state legislatures.

"5. Speak out about our vision for America.

"There are some fights we can't win, but if we work together, there are many we can win. We owe it to our children to fight to make our vision of America a reality."

David Medina
Legislative Representative
AFL-CIO

"BUSH DOESN'T LIKE the idea of campaign finance reform, but he knows it's coming. His people in Congress will tack on amendments intended to harm unions and working families.

"They'll tack on a 'paycheck deception' amendment. In fact, Bush has said he'll veto the bill if it comes to his desk without this provision. Paycheck deception requires union member approval before proceeding with any political activity. This amendment is intended to tie our hands. If we have to wait for member approval for every

How President Bush's tax cut will give your Medicare funds to the rich

HE REPEATEDLY DENIES it, but President Bush's tax cut will drain money from the Medicare trust fund, and most of that money will end up in the pockets of rich people.

Medicare is divided into two parts. Hospital costs, which make up the bulk of the program, are paid from Medicare's share of the Social Security payroll tax — the money in the Medicare trust fund.

The rest of Medicare costs are paid from a combination of general tax funds and patient premiums.

The hospital trust fund is now enjoying a surplus, but that is expected to disappear in about 15 years — much

Continued from page 7

political action, we'll never be able to get anything done.

"Another amendment raises the individual contribution limits from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Less than one percent of all Americans gave \$1,000 to a candidate in the 1999-2000 election cycle. The richest one percent. This amendment is intended to make them three times as powerful.

"Bush says his tax plan will cost \$1.6 trillion, but it will really cost \$2.6 trillion. He has hidden a lot of costs and put off the biggest part of the cuts for five years from now, when he will no longer be in office and someone else can take the heat for the problems it creates.

"The Bush administration wants to use all of the surplus for tax cuts. There will be no money left for prescription drugs or education."

Judy Mazo

Sen. Vice Pres. - Dir. of Research
Segal Company

"HR 10 WOULD FIX the problems in Section 415 of the IRS code without creating any new problems. It was passed by the House last year, but was attached to unacceptable Senate bills and died with them.

"This bill gives multi-employer pension plans [like the Boilermakers pension] the same exemptions that federal employees get.

"It would apply to those already retired as well. They could get back benefits in increments.

"Congress needs limits for the top earners like doctors and CEOs, not union construction workers."

Dennis Boston

Vice Pres. - Dir. of Legislation
Bco. of Railroad Signalmen

"LAST YEAR OUR railroad retirement bill passed the House 391-25. We had 83 sponsors in the Senate. But it never got to the floor for a vote.

"This year we're working with every major railroad and retiree organization to plan a strategy to get railroad retirement improvements through.

"We want to bring the age for full annuity down from 62 to 60 with 30 years of service. We want to give surviving spouses the full Tier II annuity, not just 50 percent. We want to reduce vesting from ten years to five, reduce caps



CINDY BROWN
Am. Shipbuilding Assoc. Pres.

that penalize employees who leave the industry.

"We want to reduce carrier taxes and require the carriers to ensure that the Railroad Retirement Account maintains a sufficient fund-to-benefit ratio in the future by agreeing to automatic future tax hikes if necessary.

"Three senators are in our way. [Sen. Pete] Domenici [Rep.-NM], [Sen. Don] Nickles [Rep.-OK], and [Sen. Phil] Gramm [Rep.-TX]. They want to take half of the railroad retirement money for the federal government."

Stanley Kolbe, Jr.

Director of Legislative Affairs
SMACNA

"THE SO-CALLED Skilled Workforce Enhancement Act promotes training by companies unable to meet federal standards. It offers \$15,000 per trainee, per year.

"Meanwhile, companies that meet federal standards in most cases would be ineligible to receive any tax advantage.

"The federal government keeps track of bidders with fines for violations. Felons do not get federal jobs.

"Union contractors support this. They don't want to do business with crooked companies. But the Bush administration wants to let everyone bid, regardless of how many laws they've broken.

"We can't let government abandon their standards."

Cindy Brown

President
American Shipbuilding Assoc.

"The U.S. Navy has 316 ships in its fleet — the smallest fleet since 1917. They are procuring six ships a year, the lowest level of ship purchases since 1932. Yet the number being called on has increased 300



DAVID MEDINA
AFL-CIO Leg. Rep.

percent — putting a strain on our ships, our sailors, and maintenance crews.

"The Navy says they need 360 ships. If you figure a ship's life at 30 years, we need to build 12 ships a year just to maintain a 360 ship navy.

"The Congressional Budget Office says we need to spend \$12.5 billion to build ships. That's twice what is in the current federal budget.

"There is also great demand for commercial ships, especially double-hull tankers. For the first time in over 40 years, the U.S. is building cruise ships. But commercial customers have to find affordable financing.

"That's where Title XI comes in. It provides loan guarantees so customers can get the loans they need to build ships. The demand for ships is \$4 billion.

"President Bush has zero-budgeted Title XI. He doesn't want to give this program a penny. Other countries have loan programs. These ships will be built overseas."

Roger Blacklow

National Political Coordinator
Laborers Union

"UNION DENSITY was the key to the 2000 presidential election. Bush lost every state that has a high percentage of unionized workers, except Ohio, where he won by only three percentage points.

"Two things are needed to win an election: money and votes. We don't have much money, but we do have a lot of votes.

"Talk to your members who voted Republican. Ask them to write the president and say, 'I voted for you and you've taken away the ergonomics rule so now there will be more pain-related injuries.' See what he says to them."



KEN GROSSINGER
AFL-CIO Field Coordinator

Ken Grossinger

Field Coordinator
AFL-CIO

"OVER THE PAST 30 years we have seen a huge decline in union density. The first impact is weekly earnings. There's a direct correlation. Real wages declined from 1973 to 1993, as union membership declined.

"It also impacts politics. Unions give workers a voice in government. Without that voice, they lose faith in the process. From 1964 to 1996, the number of people who said they generally trusted government dropped 41 percent." □



DENNIS BOSTON
BRS - VP, Dir. of Legislation



ROGER BLACKLOW
LUUNA Natl. Political Coord.

Bush's radical tax cut is reckless and unfair to working families

IT IS BASED ON FUZZY MATH. BUSH WANTS TO pay for his tax cut with the budget surpluses projected for the next ten years. But economists warn that there is little chance the money available from budget surpluses will be enough. Citizens for Tax Justice calculates that unless they use the Social Security and Medicare surpluses, the government will fall at least \$300 billion short.

See their report: <http://www.ctj.org/html/surp0301.htm>

IT COULD LEAD TO A RECESSION. WRITING IN *the New York Times*, Franco Modigliani and Robert M. Solow, Nobel-Prize winning economists, warn that the tax cut, combined with our record trade deficits, will put the U.S. at a serious disadvantage to the rest of the world. They say, "If Congress is acting responsibly, the least it can do is to postpone a deep permanent tax cut until this trade balance has turned positive."

IT BENEFITS THE RICH, NOT WORKERS. SIXTY percent would go to the richest ten percent of households, with only 13 percent coming to the bottom 60 percent of us.

IT SHORTCHANGES VITAL SERVICES. BUSH'S tax cut eats up every penny of the non-Social Security surplus plus part of the Medicare surplus. Rather than put \$960 billion in the pockets of the wealthy, we could provide full prescription drug coverage (\$400 billion), safe, modern schools for all children (\$185 billion), and health care for 12 million uninsured children and adults (\$315 billion). □

Bush budget's dirty trick — hidden costs

PRESIDENT BUSH'S tax cut is deceptively expensive. It delays much of the cost of the tax cut into later years, so that the revenue shortfalls will be another president's problem.

Bush has played this dirty trick before. He duped the Texas legislature to the tune of \$110 million with a cheap accounting trick. His budget for 2000-2001 provided Medicaid funds to nursing homes for only 23 of 24 months. That knocked \$110 million off the debit column he submitted to the legislature.

Now legislators will have to add that \$110 million to the 2002-2003 budget. But of course, G.W. is in Washington now, so it isn't his problem.

When Texas lawmakers realized the swindle Bush had pulled, they were not pleased. "I might have voted a little differently on all those tax cuts had I realized that we were only funding 23 months of these programs," Republican state senator Chris Harris told the Associated Press.

Now Bush is trying to pull a fast one with the federal budget. Don't let Congress force his budget through without a debate, the way they did with the ergonomics rule. The longer people study this budget, the more likely they are to discover hidden costs that will pop up to hurt us later.

LEAP delegates miss Al Cafrelli

FOR THE FIRST time in 33 years, Al Cafrelli was not at the Boilermakers' annual legislative conference.

A member of Local 154, Pittsburgh, Pa., for 54 years, Cafrelli, 74, was chairman of the local's LEAP committee and was known on Capitol Hill as a lobbyist for working families.

His death on Feb. 21, saddened Boilermakers all across the U.S., and was felt by congressional members and community leaders alike.

Cafrelli first served his country as a U.S. Marine, then continued that service as a community leader, holding a variety of public positions in Ambridge, Pa.

The day he found out he had bone cancer and not long to live, he told his son to get his

suit cleaned and his shirt pressed so he could attend an Ambridge Water Authority meeting.

"He insisted he get out of the hospital. . . he was a hard worker, a community servant," said his son, Richard.

Cafrelli told his daughter, Janet Morelli, that he loved life.

"I know the doctors said I don't have long, but God is probably upstairs saying 'I'll take it from here. He knows when he wants me.'" □



Boilermakers can go a long way toward ensuring that our economy stays at number one

Urge Congress to open ANWR — it will sever our umbilical cord with the Middle East, ease gasoline and heating costs, boost our economy, and create more jobs

IT'S A WHOLE NEW ball game in Congress this year. We have a new president in the White House and a lot of things to get done for this country. Two projects in particular are near and dear to my heart, and the Boilermakers have a role to play in both of them.

The number one problem facing our nation today is not education, or health care, not Social Security, or guns. They are all important issues, but the number one problem facing this great nation of ours is gridlock and congestion in our sagging transportation infrastructure. This is hurting all sectors of our economy.

American workers, consumers, and our economy would benefit if we moved our goods and freight quicker and more efficiently. Roads are clogged with too many vehicles and big trucks intimidate Sunday drivers and on into the week. We can use rail to move goods quicker and waterways to ship more efficiently.

The Boilermakers can get on the horn in every state and let their representatives know that updating our transportation infrastructure is not only urgent, but smart, too.

Relieving traffic congestion in the air, and on water, roads, and rail helps American workers, creates new jobs, and constructs a better traffic system.

I'm working with the Transportation Committee to construct legislation, but I need your help because I cannot do it alone.

As important as transportation is, the number one problem on my mind is energy and our dwindling domestic supply.

We are at the crossroads of a crisis in this country. Energy is the lifeblood of American construction. There's a little piece of land in my home state of Alaska that can help our energy crunch and it's called the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

ANWR is about severing our umbilical cord with the Middle East. It's about easing gasoline prices and heating homes during the winter. It's about boosting this great economy of ours. Most importantly it's about jobs, jobs, jobs.

An economic analysis by Wharton Economic Forecasting Associates, a leading economic forecasting firm, calculates 736,000 American jobs would

be created by the exploration and development of ANWR.

The jobs created would produce employment opportunities for American workers in every state in the U.S. Plus, jobs in the oil and gas industry offer some of the highest wages and best benefits available to working men and women.

The Wharton study found that jobs would be created in the manufacturing, mining, trade, services, construction, finance, real estate, and insurance sectors. If ANWR were to be opened, a new pipeline would need to be constructed, tankers would be needed to transport the oil, and more refineries would need to be built.

In fact, shipyards in San Diego and New Orleans are constructing state-of-the-art tankers specifically to carry Alaska oil. Those purchasing orders, with options for more, are worth more than one billion dollars.

ANWR is potentially the largest untapped domestic oil source we have. It would stimulate billions of dollars of U.S. investment — salaries and wages, engineering and construction services, materials, and design services. Such investments would stimulate economic development throughout the U.S.

Given our past experiences we know that \$50 billion was spent on wages, materials, design, engineering, and construction services for development of Alaska's North Slope.

Recently, a new coalition of business and labor leaders launched an aggressive campaign to urge Congress to open ANWR. The new organization is called JobPOWER.

The Boilermakers need to be on board this important coalition because it's in your best interests. The coalition has begun a drive to educate members of Congress who may not fully understand the implications of drilling in ANWR on American workers and our economy.

ANWR is vital for our national defense and economic security, as well as to working men and women of this country.

The Alaska Federation of Natives supports ANWR leasing because it will provide needed revenues to help impoverished rural villages escape third-world living conditions.

Numerous other state and national organizations support our proposal because they know that ANWR leasing can be done in a manner that pro-

retirement, and the Jones and Title XI acts, earned him this award.

Young is the 12th highest-ranking member of the House, and the 6th highest-ranking Republican member. He serves as chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and is vice-chairman of the committee on resources.

He was elected to the 93rd Congress in a special election March 6, 1973, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Congressman Nick Begich, and was reelected to each succeeding Congress.

Prior to serving as Alaska's only member of the House of Representatives, Young served as an elected member of the State senate, 1970-73; as an elected member of the State House of Representatives, 1966-70; on the Fort Yukon City Council for six years; as mayor for four years; as an educator for nine years; as a river boat captain; and two years as a member of the U.S. Army's 41st tank battalion. □



DON YOUNG (R - Alaska)
Legislator of the Year

protects the environment and the economic health of our nation.

It has been more than 20 years since the time that Prudhoe Bay on Alaska's North Slope was opened to oil and gas drilling. In that time vast advances in exploration technology have been made. The North Slope's caribou herds that were once the subject of much concern have flourished near Alaska's pipeline.

When drilling began, the caribou herd numbered 3,000. They now number 27,000. Scientific studies show that populations, physiological health, and calving success of caribou have not been harmed by responsible oil development.

It's time to start relying on our own energy resources again. After decades of turning a blind eye to the necessity of building an energy infrastructure to handle a vast population and productivity boom, California is now wondering who turned the lights out.

Other western states are balking at coming to the state's rescue. The reason is they're hoarding their own precious energy supplies in anticipation of the same thing happening to them.

It's time to stop this nonsense. Exploration for new sources of energy is critical to our nation's economic expansion. There's no better or smarter place to start than in the Arctic coastal plain of Alaska.

Congress can help facilitate that progress, but I need your help.

The Boilermakers can go a long way toward ensuring that our economy stays at number one, where it belongs.

DON YOUNG
Congressman for all Alaska

Boilermakers name Don Young Legislator of Year



International President Charles W. Jones presents the Legislator of the Year award to Rep. Don Young (R-AK) at the Boilermakers' 33rd annual legislative conference.

Rep. Don Young's support of working men and women earns him award

DON YOUNG, a 15-term member of the U. S. House of Representatives, is the Boilermakers' Legislator of the Year.

Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones presented Young his award during the 33rd annual conference of the Boilermakers' Legislative Education Action Program, March 20, in Washington, D.C.

Legislative Director Ande Abbott called Young "a true friend of the American labor movement." He said, "The labor movement could not find a stronger ally in the 107th Congress than Don Young."

Abbott pointed out that Young's support of such bread-and-butter working family issues as Davis Bacon, rail worker protections, ergonomics, NAFTA cross-border transportation, infrastructure investment, railroad retirement reform, building trades

Add a CAF check-off to your contract

THE BOILERMAKERS CAMPAIGN ASSISTANCE FUND (CAF) is made up entirely from money voluntarily donated by members, staff, and the families of members. We use this fund to make donations to the campaigns of candidates who support the Boilermakers union on issues important to our members.

Federal law prohibits unions from using dues money to help finance the campaigns of candidates for office. Unions must create a special fund called a PAC. CAF is the Boilermakers PAC.

Candidates who support workers rarely have as much money for their campaigns as candidates who support large corporations. Businesses routinely outspend labor unions. Every penny we put into the campaign of a candidate who supports our agenda is a penny well spent. And the only way our union can make these contributions is if our members donate money to and raise money for CAF.

If we want our union to support candidates for office, we need to raise money for CAF. Most lodges that donate to CAF rely on occasional contributions from members or special fund-raising activities, such as raffles, T-shirt and cap sales, or other events. The best way to raise money, though, is to negotiate a CAF checkoff into your collective bargaining agreement. In this way, members who wish to give to CAF can have their contributions deducted directly from their paychecks. This money adds up quickly.

Local 744 earns awards for fund-raising efforts

Northeast wins area award for CAF donations

MEMBERS IN THE Great Lakes and Northeast areas went home with three awards given to local lodges and a vice-presidential area for their success in raising funds for the Campaign Assistance Fund (CAF) at this year's LEAP conference.

Each year, awards are presented to the local lodge contributing the largest amount of money to CAF and to the one having the highest CAF contribution per member. Local 744, Cleveland, Ohio, earned both of these local lodge awards. In 2000, Local 744 members contributed \$33,222.65 (an average of \$84.54 per member) to CAF.

It was the fourth year in a row that Local 744 members have earned an award for their fund-raising efforts. They now have a total of seven CAF awards. In 1993, 1998, and 2000, they earned both CAF awards (highest total and highest per member); in 1999 they earned the highest total award.

An award also goes to the vice-presidential area contributing the most money to CAF. The Northeast Area earned this award by raising \$100,845.89 in CAF contributions.

Who contributes to CAF?

TOTAL BOILERMAKER contributions to CAF in 2000 were \$388,563.09. That total is 15 percent more than 1999's total of \$337,591.86.

But our union's potential for raising money to support candidates who will work for us is much greater than these numbers show. Only 53 local lodges participate in the CAF program, out of nearly 300 lodges in the United States. Local lodges which are not raising money for CAF, should consider setting up a program to allow them to participate in this important endeavor.

If we want our union to support candidates for office, we need to raise money for CAF. It is illegal to use union dues to support candidates for federal

office. Contributions to federal candidates must come from a political action committee (PAC) fund. CAF is our PAC. All CAF contributions are voluntary. Most lodges that do donate to CAF rely on occasional contributions from members or special fund-raising activities, such as raffles, T-shirt and cap sales, or other events.

The best way to raise money, though, is to negotiate a CAF checkoff into your collective bargaining agreement. In this way, members who wish to give to CAF can have their contributions deducted directly from their paychecks. This money adds up quickly. Local 744 uses a CAF checkoff, as does Local 193, the local with the second highest dollar amount contributed in 2000 — \$29,675.39, and Local 85, with the third highest dollar amount contributed in 2000 — \$29,145.63.

Most International officers and staff members use the payroll deduction method to give to CAF. Staff members donated \$31,097.50 to the fund in 2000.

Retirees are also using payroll deduction to contribute to CAF. Many of them have a small amount deducted from their pension checks each month. In 2000, retirees donated \$94,658.56 in this way. They know that we use CAF monies to help elect candidates who will help us keep our jobs and our pensions, and who will protect Social Security and Medicare.

CAF monies are also raised through sales of raffle tickets and other activities at the Construction, Railroad, CLGAW, and SFEAW division conferences.

Legislative Director Ande Abbott uses for us is much greater than these numbers show. Only 53 local lodges participate in the CAF program, out of nearly 300 lodges in the United States. Local lodges which are not raising money for CAF, should consider setting up a program to allow them to participate in this important endeavor.

To learn how your local lodge can raise money for CAF, consult the *Boilermaker LEAP Manual* or call Legislative Director Ande Abbott at 703 560-1493. □



Intl. Pres. Charles Jones (l.) presents CAF awards for the highest contribution by a local lodge and the highest average contribution per member to Local 744's James McManamon. At right is Great Lakes Intl. Vice Pres. Larry McManamon.



Intl. Pres. Charles Jones (l.) presents the CAF award for the highest contribution for a vice-presidential area to Northeast Area Intl. Vice Pres. Michael Murphy.

One member's message to President Bush

Don't make us dependent on foreign power, too

IT IS NO SECRET that the United States is dependent on foreign oil. Why does President Bush feel that we need to become dependent on foreign electricity as well?

We know what happens when OPEC decides to pull the puppet strings. If we become dependent on foreign power, we are at the mercy of foreign power generation companies. They can increase prices or turn off the switch and cripple our economy.

There are three reasons for the power crisis in the United States: our society has become electronic junkies requiring more power each year, corporate greed, and the "not in my backyard" syndrome.

Inexpensive, reliable power production will make an economy grow. Expensive power, or a limited supply, will undermine an economy.

George W. Bush wants to shift the generation of power to Mexico, where they have no environmental standards, no health and safety laws, and a cheap workforce, so he can exploit their people onto prosperity.

In the United States, we know and understand the ramifications of industrialization. We act responsibly. U.S. citizens enact laws and policies to protect the people and the environment. Why don't these same principles apply when you cross a border? They cost money.

Coal is a relatively inexpensive power source. We have an abundant supply, enough for hundreds of

years. This will buy us time to come up with viable alternatives.

Fossil fuel burning generators are not the villains they are made out to be. We have proven technology to produce generators that are clean-burning and efficient. Big business does not want to spend the money to construct and maintain these systems that will clean the emissions.

Conservation alone will never reduce our power consumption to offset our ever-growing demand.

We must also get rid of the "not in my backyard" mentality. As Americans, we must accept the responsibility that if we use the electricity generated by these power plants, we must accept everything that goes along with it. We can't have it both ways.

President Bush should come up with an energy policy for generation in this country that addresses not only the short-term problems, but the long-term problems as well. His proposed solution will have a tremendous negative effect on the millions of American working families who are directly and indirectly affected by this decision.

The jobs related to the power industry generate billions of dollars to the United States government. How does President Bush plan to replace these lost revenues?

MARTIN D. SPENCER, JR.
Local 7 Recording Secretary
Buffalo, N.Y.

Ingalls honors President Jones



With photo of *USS Cole*, l. to r., L-693 Pres. Junius Criddell, L-693 Bus. Mgr. Frank Ludgood, Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones, L-693 LEAP Delegate Sammie Cole, Ingalls Vice Pres. Dan Knecht, Intl. Vice Pres. Newton Jones, and Intl. Rep. Warren Fairley.

Local 693 joins Ingalls in presentation of photo, documents of *USS Cole*

AT THE BOILERMAKERS' 33rd annual legislative conference in Washington, D.C., March 19-23, representatives of Local 693 and Ingalls Shipbuilding, both located in Pascagoula, Miss., presented photos and documents about the return of the *USS Cole* to Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones.

The *Cole*, originally built at Ingalls by Local 693 members, was attacked by

terrorists on October 12, killing 17 and injuring 39 crew members.

In January, the ship was rolled back on land from the Ingalls' dry dock, less than 1,000 feet from where it was built. Ingalls has been contracted to make \$105.5 million in modifications. The work should take 12 to 15 months to complete. Repairs will include decks, bulkheads, shell assemblies, and equipment foundations — all Boilermaker work; most of both engine rooms, the machine areas, and the galley also need repair.

For more information on the *Cole*, visit Ingalls' Web site at www.ingalls.com □

Congressmen, public officials attend LEAP reception

THE MAIN PURPOSE of the LEAP conference is to put local lodge leaders in contact with the people in the federal government who may be able to do their members some good. The Tuesday night congressional reception is an important part of that.

The first-day-and-a-half of the conference is devoted to education. After opening remarks by Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones, legislative director Ande Abbott, and deputy director of government affairs Bridget Martin, talk about upcoming legislation that we may want to support or oppose. They give advice

on ways to make your meeting with your congressmen go smoothly. They distribute bulletins describing our positions on potential legislation.

Included in this year's educational sessions were presentations by a number of labor activists in Washington from the AFL-CIO and affiliated unions.

Talks by members of Congress are a high point of the educational meetings. These invited speakers give insight into what is really happening in Congress and what members of Congress feel about the direction the country is headed. Sometimes, as in the case of

Rep. Neil Abercrombie (Dem.-HI), these talks can be very motivating.

Delegates spend the rest of the week meeting with individual congressmen in their offices. These meetings are the heart of the LEAP conference — a chance to talk directly with a congressman or aide about issues that concern Boilermaker families.

The reception provides a chance to talk to public officials in a more relaxed setting. These photos are a record of which congressmen took the time to come to our reception and meet our delegates. □



SECRETARY OF LABOR ELAINE CHAO, center, with, left to right, Intl. Rep. Bob Heine, IVP Mike Murphy, Intl. Pres. Charles Jones, IVP Larry McManamon, Chao, her Staff Chief Steven Law, IVP Newton Jones, Attny. Mike Stapp, and Intl. Sec.-Treas. Jerry Willburn.



NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD (NLRB) with, l. to r., Org. Dir. Bill Creeden, NLRB member Peter Hurtgen, IVP Larry McManamon, Attny. Mike Stapp, Intl. Pres. C.W. Jones, NLRB Chrmn. John Truesdale, NLRB Counsel Leonard Page, NLRB Exec. Sec. John Toner, NLRB member Dennis Walsh, and IVP Mike Murphy.



INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION Chairman Stephen Koplan, center, with Bridget Martin, Boilmakers deputy director of government affairs, left, and Intl. President Charles W. Jones, right.



REP. ROBERT ADERHOLT (D-4th AL), represented by Mark Busching, fourth from left, with, l. to r., Bob McGahey, L-455; Ron Dexter, L-108; Danny Phillips, L-112; Busching; Intl. Pres. Jones; John Helvin, L-108; Ed Vance, L-455; and Ken Crenshaw, L-112.



REP. JAMES BARCIA (D-5th MI), center left, with, l. to r., Ken Vergowven and Joseph Geyman, L-D408; Ed Wiodyka and James McDonnell, L-169; Barcia; IP Jones; IVP McManamon; Tony Jacobs and Jaime Schulte, L-169; and Steve Gromala, L-696.



REP. LLOYD DOGGETT (D-10th TX), center, with Intl. Pres. Charles Jones at left, and Peerless Jefferson, NTL, at right.



SEN. DANIEL AKAKA (D-HI), second from left, with, l. to r., Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones, Peerless Jefferson of the NTL, and Legislative Director Ande Abbott.



REP. SHELLEY BERKLEY (D-1st NV), center, with Intl. Pres. Charles Jones, at left, and Legislative Director Ande Abbott, at right.



REP. MIKE DOYLE (D-18th PA), center front, with L-154 delegates, l. to r., IP Charles Jones, Dan Quinn, IR Bob Heine, Ray Ventrone, Tony Smarra, Tom O'Connor, Doyle, Onorato Bucci, Michael Ventrone, Stanley Wolfe, and IVP Mike Murphy.



REP. JOHN BALDACCI (D-2nd ME), third from right, with L-29 delegates, l. to r., Joseph Biralini, Stephen Goodhart, Sharon Perry, Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones, Jeff Perry, Baldacci, Jack Meade, and Paul Meade.



REP. DAVID BONIOR (D-10th MI), second from right, with, l. to r., Intl. Vice Pres. Larry McManamon, Tony Jacobs of L-169, Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones, Bonior, and Intl. Sec.-Treas. Jerry Willburn.



REP. BOB ETHERIDGE (D-2nd NC), second from right, with, l. to r., International President Charles Jones, Zack Givens, L-905; Albert Meadowcroft, L-905; Etheridge; and Gary Stone, L-30.



REP. TAMMY BALDWIN (D-2nd WI), second from left, with, l. to r., Steve Gromala, L-696; Baldwin; Dale Carlson, L-696; Intl. Pres. Charles Jones, and Al Barnard of Marinette Marine.



REP. WILLIAM COYNE (D-14th PA), fourth from right, with L-154 delegates, l. to r., Ray Ventrone, IVP Mike Murphy, Dan Quinn, IR Bob Heine, Tony Smarra, IP C. W. Jones, Tom O'Connor, Coyne, Onorato Bucci, Mike Ventrone, and Stan Wolfe.



REP. FELIX GRUCCI JR. (R-1st NY), second from left, with, l. to r., Thomas Klein, L-5; Grucci; Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones, and Jerry Connolly, L-5.

LEAP CONFERENCE



REP. JANE HARMAN (D-36th CA), at left, with International President Charles Jones.



REP. CAROLYN MCCARTHY (D-4th NY), second from right, with Local 5 delegates, I. to r., Intl. Pres. Charles Jones, Thomas Klein, McCarthy, and Jerry Connolly.



REP. DAVID PHELPS (D-19th IL), fourth from left, with, I. to r., John Perkins, L-58; IR Howard Lyon; IP Charles Jones; Phelps; IVP Larry McManamon; IVP Othall Smith Jr.; Ed Hebert, L-60; and Wayne Moore, L-58.



REP. JESSE JACKSON JR. (D-2nd IL), represented by George Seymore, eighth from right, and REP. BOBBY RUSH (D-1st IL), represented by Nkosi Bradley, fourth from right, with Illinois delegates.



REP. MICHAEL MCNULTY (D-21st NY), third from left, with I. to r., Thomas Klein, L-5; Martin Spencer, L-7; McNulty; Jerry Connolly, L-5; Intl. Pres. Charles Jones; and Joseph Brown, L-7.



REP. JACK QUINN (R-30th NY), second from right, with Local 7 delegates, I. to r., Joseph Brown, Intl. Pres. Charles Jones, Quinn, and Martin Spencer.



REP. JAMES LANGEVIN (D-2nd RI), center, with, I. to r., Lee Morse, Electric Boat, John Welch, Michael Toner, General Dynamics; IP Charles Jones; Langevin; Ken Delacruz, L-614; John Casey, Electric Boat; Jeff Perry, Stephen Goodhart, L-29; and James Papa, L-614.



REP. ALAN MOLLOHAN (D-1st WV), third from right, with I. to r., Michael Baker, Local D208; IR Raleigh Eversole; Ronny Vanscoy, NTL; Ray Smith, L-667; Mollohan; IP Charles Jones; and George Pinkerman, L-667.



SEN. JACK REED (D-RI), center, with I. to r., Jack Meade, L-29; Paul Meade, L-29; Tom Anderson, L-614; Reed; Intl. Pres. Charles Jones; Ken Delacruz, L-614; and James Papa, L-614.



REP. SANDER LEVIN (D-12th MI), fourth from right, with, I. to r., Ken Vergowven, Joseph Geyman, L-D408; Ed Wlodyka, James McDonnell, L-169; IP C.W. Jones; Rep. Levin; Tony Jacobs, Jaime Schulte, L-169; and Steve Gromala, L-696.



REP. JIM MORAN (D-8th VA), center, with I. to r., George Hanks Sr., L-45; Intl. Pres. Charles Jones; Johnnie Thomas, L-684; Moran; Michael Patterson, L-684; Wilber Brown Jr., L-45; and Michael Russ, L-45.



SEN. PAUL SARBANES (D-MD), center, with L-193 delegates, I. to r., Ernest Dorsey, Linda Konksi, Sarbanes, Intl. Pres. Charles Jones, and Michael Konksi.



REP. KEN LUCAS (D-4th KY), third from left, with I. to r., Intl. Pres. Charles Jones; Garry Ledford, L-105; Lucas; IVP Larry McManamon; Kay Phillips, L-P3; Intl. Sec.-Treas. Jerry Willburn; Gary Scott, NTL; and IVP Othall Smith Jr.



REP. WILLIAM PASCRELL JR. (D-8th NJ), center, with Local 28 delegates, I. to r., Raymond Cushing, International President Charles Jones, Pascrell, John Devlin, and Chris Murphy.



REP. THOMAS SAWYER (D-14th OH), center left, with, I. to r., J. McManamon, L-744; R. Moffitt, NTL; G. Ledford, L-105; IP Jones; C. Lemon, L-900; Sawyer, IVP McManamon; IST Willburn; J. Beitel, L-1073; IR Pressley; T. Heiser, L-1191; IR Lyon, and Jeff Lyon.



REP. FRANK MASCARA (D-20th PA), center left, with L-154 delegates, I. to r., Stanley Wolfe, Dan Quinn, IR Bob Heine, Tom O'Connor, Ray Ventrone, Mascara, IP C. W. Jones, Onorato Bucci, Tony Smarra, and Mike Ventrone.



REP. DONALD PAYNE (D-10th NJ), center, with Local 28 delegates, I. to r., Raymond Cushing, International President Charles Jones, Payne, John Devlin, and Chris Murphy.



REP. JOHN TIERNEY (D-6th MA), fourth from left, with Local 29 delegates, I. to r., Joseph Birolini, Stephen Goodhart, Intl. Pres. Charles Jones, Tierney, Paul Meade, Jeff Perry, Sharon Perry, and Jack Meade.

Boilermakers play major role in one of man's greatest achievements — The Panama Canal

The French failed in their efforts to build the canal in the 1800s — it took Boilermakers to get the job done

By John Heuertz

IT TOOK TEN YEARS for over 40,000 workers from 97 countries to build the Panama Canal. But without the fleets of steam shovels, locomotives, and stationary engines built and maintained by Boilermakers, "The Eighth Wonder of the World" would have taken much longer to build, and might not have been possible at all.

Europeans had dreamed of a waterway across the Panamanian isthmus since the 16th century. Americans had managed to build a very profitable railroad in 1855, mostly to serve people in a hurry to get to California's gold fields. Finally in 1881, the French made a heroic, concentrated effort to build a canal across Panama.

They were led by Ferdinand de Lesseps, a gifted civil engineer who had built the Suez Canal in Egypt. But the French made two critical mistakes. The first mistake was to try building a sea-level canal without any locks, straight through the Continental Divide. The second was to ignore the mosquitoes.

In 1881, almost nobody suspected that yellow fever and malaria were spread by mosquito bites. Panama's hot, humid climate and plentiful standing water meant that mosquitoes bred everywhere, and the results were disastrous. After seven years of great struggle, only about 20 percent of the French canal was dug, the company was bankrupt and over 19,000 Jamaicans, West Indians, and Europeans had died of disease. De Lesseps finally had to give up, and almost all work on the canal stopped for nearly 15 years.

The United States government had been interested in building a canal across the isthmus since the 1870s. In 1869, the U.S. had been joined from coast to coast by rail, opening up the American interior and spelling the end of the Panamanian railroad's glory days. But like the new locomotives, iron ships grew steadily larger, faster, cheaper to build, and more powerful. And like the big new locomotives now chugging across the heartland at speeds up to 15 mph, iron ship development was stimulated by the growing skill and sophistication of the men who built the new ships in the U.S. and Canada.

By 1900, there was a clear need for a better sea-route to the west coast than going all the way around two continents. It was 7,800 nautical miles around South America from Panama. In the U.S., the desire to be a world power with overseas dependents was also reaching its first full expression. So in 1903, the U.S. government negotiated a treaty with the government of the new Republic of Panama — the country had been a part of Colombia until just two weeks before the treaty was signed — to dig a canal the Americans would own and operate.

The Americans set up a commission in Washington to oversee the canal's construction, bought out the French for \$40 million, and in 1904, appointed a well-known civil engineer named John Findley Wallace to design the canal.

But Wallace hated Panama. Yellow fever broke out shortly after his arrival and killed the project's chief architect, among others. Project morale was dismal. Supposedly Wallace and his wife had even brought their own caskets to Panama, just in case.

Wallace resigned in 1905, and was replaced by railroad construction engineer John Stevens, who postponed digging until he could build new towns literally from the ground up for canal workers, developing their sewers and utilities from scratch. The mold, cobwebs, spiders, snakes, and scorpions were banished back into the jungle.

In 1906, he persuaded the Senate to build a canal with locks modeled on the Soo Canal between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. Skilled workers, including Boilermakers, began pouring into the isthmus for the new project.

Meanwhile, Col. William C. Gorgas had been appointed the canal's chief sanitary officer. Gorgas made war on Panama's mosquitoes for a year and a half. At one point he spent the enormous sum of \$90,000 on window screens alone. By comparison, U.S. Boilermakers were comparatively well paid at about \$2.50 per day in 1906. (Income tax didn't exist.)

By September 1906, yellow fever was gone from Panama, thanks to Gorgas' relentless efforts, and for a few years the Canal Zone was actually a healthier place for Boilermakers to work than any American city.

By 1907, there were three Boilermaker lodges in the Canal Zone — Local 463 at Empire, Local 470 at Gorgona, and Local 471 at Cristobal.

William H. Witmer, Local 470's first corresponding secretary, wrote to the *Brotherhood Journal*: "We expect to have a first-class lodge here soon. Nearly all have been old members in the states... Any brother coming to the canal zone to work should have his card and stamp book up to date and in good shape." Witmer also reported that Brother Robert S. Brady "placed a large American flag on top of a stack 100 feet high at Las Cascadas... that can be seen almost across the isthmus. This is the highest that 'Old Glory' has been floated to the breeze here."

Much of the Boilermakers' work on the Panama Canal was in railroad shops. Stevens saw the canal as a railroad project. He moved everything he could by train. To this railroad man, getting rid of the earth dug up from the Continental Divide at Culebra Cut amounted to constantly moving gigantic amounts of railroad freight. Stevens ordered locomotives and flat cars from the States built specially for the task. Their five-foot gauge, three-and-one-half inches wider than the U.S. standard, easily handled the nonstop loads of dirt, rock, and mud. Boilermakers kept all this equipment in service 24 hours a day and kept the steam shovels running that constantly fed the trains. The Panama Canal could not have been built without the special skills Boilermakers brought to the project.

Stevens did an outstanding job, but resigned abruptly in 1907, to return to the U.S., seeking cooler weather, shorter work hours, and better pay.

A very angry Teddy Roosevelt didn't want Stevens' successor to be able to quit like Stevens had, so the commander-in-chief appointed a soldier as the project's new chief engineer. If anything, Lt. Col. George Goethals proved to be an even better project manager than Stevens. He stayed on in Panama until 1916, after Roosevelt had been out of office for eight years and the Canal had been operating smoothly for two.



Members of Lodge 470, Gorgona, Panama, working on the Canal Zone in 1907.



The control house is near completion, and the lock gates are ready in this 1913 photo.



Tugs, dredges, and barges make the first lockage into Lake Gatun in 1913.



In 1913, these ships await the first lockage from sea level up into Lake Gatun, a surface elevation of 85 feet above sea level.

Over 43,000 men and women had worked to build the Panama Canal by August 15, 1914, when Goethals and Gorgas watched the S.S. Ancon, a tiny cargo ship belonging to the Panama Railroad, become the first ship ever to travel the Canal's 47-mile length. Both were made generals for their work on a project called "the greatest liberty man has ever taken with nature," by English historian James Boyce. And the Boilermakers in Panama, though a small part in numbers of the total workforce, were an indispensable part of it.

About 150 members of Boilermakers Lodge 463 still perform maintenance on

the canal's locks and equipment. The Canal may no longer be a topic of everyday conversation, as it was 90 years ago, but the Boilermakers who work there are as hard-working and proud of their contribution as ever. □

John Heuertz has been hired to write the history of the Boilermakers union. The expense of researching, writing, printing, and distributing this book will be paid through donations. Contributions to the History Book Project are tax deductible, and can be sent to: Boilermakers Archives History Book Project, 753 State Avenue, Suite 570; Kansas City KS 66101

Economic Trends In Brief

New contracts average 5.1 percent gain so far in 2001

DATA COMPILED BY Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) in the first 16 weeks of 2001 show an average gain of 5.1 percent on newly-negotiated union contracts. That figure is far above the average gain of 3.5 percent in 2000, and 3.2 percent in 1999.

It even exceeds year 2000 gains made in the industry with the highest weighted average increase — construction, with 4.2 percent. It is too early to tell how long this trend will last or how new contracts will be affected by the current downturn in the economy.

Canadian wage increases have not been as substantial, averaging less than three percent throughout 2000.

U.S. trade deficit hits record

THE CURRENT ACCOUNT deficit, the broadest gauge of the nation's global trade, reached a record \$115 billion for the fourth quarter of 2000, reports the U.S. Department of Commerce.

For the year, the gap widened to \$435 billion, more than a 30 percent increase over 1999's record deficit of \$331 billion.

According to Dean Baker, an economist with the Center for Economic and Policy Research, current account deficits drain future living standards in a way comparable to a budget deficit. In the future, the United States will either have to pay back the money borrowed to finance its current account deficit, or pay interest on this money indefinitely.

The news media have devoted extensive coverage to budget deficits of this size, but ignore or minimize the negative effects of our growing trade deficit — perhaps because they believe their jobs can't be shipped overseas.

Stock market's wild run is over

THE DOW JONES Industrial Average, one of the most commonly used ways of measuring performance of the stock market, ended the year 2000 at \$10,786.85, more than six percent below where it had started the year.

In the first quarter of 2001, it continued to decline, and by April was below \$9,500, nearly 20 percent below where it had started the year 2000.

The NASDAQ Composite Index, made up largely of high tech stocks, did even worse, finishing the year 39.29 percent below where it started. It has continued to lose ground, and in early April was closing near \$1,600, less than one-third of the highs it reached in March 2000.

These are good indications that the stock market's wild run of the last few years is over. Some investment analysts believe the market will begin another long run soon, but economic projections from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) indicate a more subdued future for stock prices.

The CBO projects that real corporate profits will decline by ten percent over the next decade. Lower profits generally mean lower stock prices.

The new technology has not increased entrepreneurship

NEW TECHNOLOGIES were supposed to usher in a golden age for entrepreneurs, but it never arrived. The slew of new dot-com companies that have appeared over the past few years, many with highly publicized initial public offerings, have distorted our perceptions. An article by David Leonhard in the *New York Times* (Dec. 1, 2000, page A1) reports that over the past decade the percentage of workers who are self-employed has actually declined.

How much would you save?

Bush tax cut is generous to wealthy, doesn't give much to low-income families

SINGLE MOTHERS STRUGGLING to pay the bills by working at \$9 and \$10 an hour jobs can just keep struggling, as far as George W. Bush is concerned. His proposed tax cut will not lift any of your burden.

According to analysis by H&R Block, the largest tax-preparation company in the U.S., a single parent with two children making a middle class income of \$19,500 a year will see no benefit at all from Bush's \$1.6 trillion tax cut.

Neither will a married couple with two children earning the same amount. Nor a retired widow earning a similar amount, mostly from Social Security income, according to the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). The AARP also calculates that the Bush tax cut will not provide any benefit to a retired couple, 69 and 67, making \$28,500 with no children in the home who get all or nearly all their income from Social Security and a pension.

While Bush's tax cut does little or nothing for taxpayers at the low end of the earning spectrum, it does a great deal for those at the top of that range. The top one percent of earners can expect to save an average of \$28,000 once the tax cuts are fully phased in five years from now, according to analysis by the Citizens for Tax Justice (CTJ).

Benefits to middle class are overstated

BUSH ALSO CLAIMS his tax cut benefits all Americans, especially middle income families, and would also stimulate the economy, reduce consumer debt, and increase savings and investment. It fails in all of these areas.

Taxpayers making the median income (about \$39,000) or higher will benefit from Bush's tax cuts, but Americans in lower income brackets receive no benefit. For example, a single parent working on a job that pays \$9 an hour gains nothing

from his plan. That's good enough pay to be called middle class. In fact, it's more than nearly 25 percent of what U.S. taxpayers earn. One-third of workers will see no benefit.

Taxpayers who see some savings will not get enough to pay off their credit card debt or make any substantial investments. In the first year of the tax cut, most two-parent families making near the median income can expect to save somewhere near \$400, while single-parent families can expect to save about \$300. But the average family now has

One-third of working people would pay the same amount after the tax cut as before.

\$8,000 in consumer debt; tax savings won't even pay the interest on that. And the extra you'll see on your paycheck will only be \$6-7 a week, so it isn't likely you can help stimulate the economy by purchasing a new car or buying stock.

Families making twice the median income (\$78,000) can expect to save \$600-700 on average, but fewer than one-fifth of American households earn over \$75,000 a year. If you're in this category, you'll see an extra \$13 a week — still not enough for a major purchase.

Economists don't believe you can stimulate the economy with tax cuts, anyway. The effect of a tax cut is too broad and takes too long to show up.

Many presidents have tried to stimulate the economy with tax cuts — Herbert Hoover, John F. Kennedy, and Ronald Reagan to name a few. They all failed. Hoover saw the country sink into the worst depression in our history. Kennedy saw no change at all, and after Reagan shifted more of the tax burden onto workers and gave a cut to his rich friends (as Bush is doing), he saw unemployment zoom to over ten percent for the first time since Hoover's Great Depression.

The only economy Reagan stimulated was the economy of the rich. More millionaires were created under Reagan than ever before. And more people were made homeless, too.

Learn how the tax cut affects you

MANY WEB SITES OFFER calculators to analyze how the Bush tax cut could affect your future taxes, but you need to be careful when using them. Many of them calculate how much your taxes will be reduced when all of the tax breaks have been phased in. That won't happen until 2006. Any reduction you see next year — if you see one at all — will be much smaller. The calculators at www.HRBlock.com and www.smartmoney.com both overstate the tax break in this way. The calculator at www.kiplinger.com is the best of the ones we tried. It shows you how much you can expect to save this year as well as in 2006.

But all tax calculators show very rough estimates only. Don't expect them to be accurate.

Calculators are also very superficial. They show you a dollar number, nothing more. For in-depth analysis of how this tax cut affects American families at all income levels, the federal budget, and future earnings, visit www.ctj.org — the Web site for the Citizens for Tax Justice.

An especially interesting article on that site is available on this page: <http://www.ctj.org/html/bushmarg.htm>

This article shows how low-income families who receive the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) may end up paying marginal tax rates of over 30 percent under the Bush plan — very similar to the marginal rate paid by millionaires. □

Who pays the "death tax"?

MANY WORKERS MISTAKENLY believe that they will benefit from a repeal of the so-called "death tax," the estate and gifts tax. This repeal accounts for about 20 percent of the total cost of Bush's tax cuts, but fewer than two percent of American taxpayers pay it.

People who want it repealed claim it causes families to lose their farms and businesses, but the Citizens for Tax Justice says Internal Revenue Service records show that isn't true.

If you die and leave an estate worth more than \$675,000, your heirs will have to pay taxes on their inheritance — the estate tax. A married couple can leave up to \$1.35 million before the taxes kick in, and family farms worth up to \$2 million are exempt. Life insurance doesn't count, and in 2006, the personal limit will go up to \$1 million.

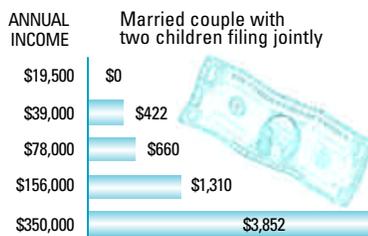
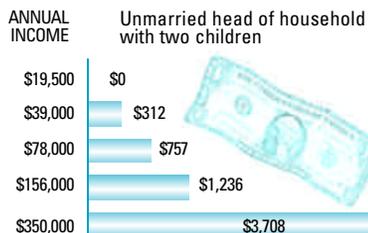
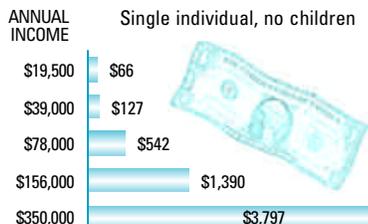
More than 98 percent of estates left by Americans in 1998 were under \$675,000, so the heirs did not pay this tax. Of the estates that paid the tax, fewer than six in 10,000 had more than half their value in farm assets or small-business assets.

Even when heirs pay this tax, they get a better deal than you do on the money you earn working. Since the first \$675,000 is exempt, an estate worth one million dollars would pay only \$125,000 in estate taxes — about 12.5 percent. In 1998, nearly half the estates that paid estate tax were under \$1 million. They paid an average rate of six percent.

By comparison, if your lottery ticket wins you a million dollars this week, you'll pay more than \$370,000 in taxes. □

Projected Savings for 2001

THE HYPOTHETICAL TAXPAYERS in this analysis all take the standard deduction, donate one percent of their income to charity, and, if married, each spouse earns half of the total income. Your actual savings may vary considerably. In addition, these **graphs overstate the taxes paid by higher-income families.** Those taxpayers rarely take the standard deduction because they can reduce their taxes by itemizing.



Economic Trends In Brief

The president gets a raise

CONGRESS GAVE PRESIDENT Bush a nice raise. They voted a pay raise for the president that took effect as soon as Clinton left office.

Clinton earned \$200,000 a year as president, the same as every president since Richard Nixon. Congress saw that \$200,000 doesn't go as far these days, so they voted a raise, but stipulated it take effect only after Clinton was gone.

President Bush will earn \$400,000 a year plus \$50,000 for expenses. Even adjusting for inflation, that's a lot more than the \$25,000 that was offered to George Washington — and which he refused. Presidential pay stayed at that level until late in the 19th century.

Adjusting for inflation, \$25,000 in 1800 is about \$244,000 today, so Bush's salary is generous by one measure.

Coincidentally, Congress gave the first raise in presidential salary to Rutherford B. Hayes, who, like Bush, took office after a contested election in which he got fewer votes than his opponent.

The stock market is down, will the budget surplus be next?

FUTURE BUDGET surpluses will pay for Bush's tax cut for the rich. That's the plan, anyway. But what happens if those surpluses don't materialize?

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projections that show large surpluses over the next ten years rely on significant amounts of revenue from capital gains taxes. They keep revising their projected surpluses upward because the stock market had an incredible run from 1995 through 1999. Stock sales profits skyrocketed, driving government income from capital gains to record heights.

CBO projections are based on the government continuing to collect capital gains taxes at those high levels. But now that stock prices are declining, income from capital gains taxes will decline as well. If the market continues to decline or stays flat for several years, the projected surplus will be seriously reduced.

And if Congress has already given that surplus away in tax cuts, the federal budget may again see huge budget deficits, as we had under the first Bush.

Tax cut? We don't want it

SOME 120 WEALTHY Americans, including investment guru Warren Buffet, George Soros, and Bill Gates's father, urged Congress to vote against Bush's proposed repeal of the estate and gift tax, even though it would give them or their heirs enormous tax breaks.

A petition drive organized by William H. Gates Sr., father of Microsoft founder Bill Gates — perhaps the richest man in the world — argues that "repealing the estate tax would enrich the heirs of America's millionaires and billionaires while hurting families who struggle to make ends meet."

What Republicans have been labeling the "death tax" applies to estates worth over \$675,000 (scheduled to go up to \$1 million in 2006). Although less than two percent of the richest estates pay this tax, repealing it will account for about 20 percent of the lost tax revenue.

In addition, as Warren Buffet, the fourth richest American according to *Forbes* magazine, points out, the estate tax plays a "critical role" in promoting economic growth by helping create a society in which success is based on merit rather than on inheritance.

Because President Bush owes everything he has to inheritance, not merit, it seems unlikely this argument will change his mind.

Record numbers of corporations and wealthy pay no income tax

Two new studies show that the corporations and wealthy taxpayers don't live by the rules we do

IF YOU'RE AN average taxpayer, you just recently sent in your income tax forms. And you probably qualified for a small refund. Maybe you'll even get back enough to buy that bass boat you've been dreaming about or take a short vacation. That can make a person feel good.

But just imagine how good you'd feel if your refund were really big — say, as much as one-half of your annual salary before taxes. Wouldn't that be a nice refund check?

Unfortunately, it's just a dream — unless you happen to be a multinational corporation. In 1998, Lyondell Chemical earned \$80 million in profit on sales of \$889 million. That's not a bad rate of profit — about nine percent. But their tax rate was even better.

Rather than paying the usual 35 percent corporate income tax on that \$80 million in profit — about \$28 million — Lyondell collected \$44 million in tax rebates, making their effective income tax rate a negative 55 percent.

And Lyondell wasn't alone. Twenty-three other profitable corporations had negative tax rates in 1998, including Texaco, Chevron, PepsiCo, Goodyear, and General Motors. Their combined profits totaled nearly \$12 billion, and they got rebates of nearly \$1.3 billion. Over the 1996-1998 period, 41 companies paid less than zero taxes in at least one year.

Just to clarify, when you get a refund, that doesn't mean you paid no taxes. Your refund comes from the excess withholding tax taken from your paycheck. It's your money; the federal government was just holding it for a while. If you paid no taxes at all, you'd get back every penny of that withholding tax. And if you had a negative income tax rate, you'd get back everything you put in and more.

Tax reform act had little effect

IT MAY SEEM outrageous that corporations making billions of dollars in profits would not only avoid paying taxes on those profits, but would also get refunds. But when the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP) studied income tax payments of the 250 largest corporations during the period 1996 through 1998, they discovered a lot of outrageous things.

Twelve years after the passage of the 1986 Tax Reform Act, which was supposed to close loopholes in all income taxes, these corporations were paying lower taxes than ever. Their average tax rate in 1998 was only 20.1 percent, far below the 26.5 percent they paid in 1988, and only slightly more than half of the 35 percent rate set by the act.

If you paid any income tax at all in 1998, you paid more than MCI Worldcom paid on its profits of \$2.7 billion, or Pfizer paid on their profits of \$1.2 billion, or J.P. Morgan paid on their profits of \$481 million.

"With significant help from Congress, corporations appear to be finding ways around the tax reforms adopted in 1986," said Robert S.

McIntyre, a principal author of both the new study and previous corporate tax studies in the 1980s. "We hope our findings will encourage lawmakers to reexamine this important area of taxation."

The impact of this tax avoidance is enormous. Had all 250 companies paid the full 35 percent corporate tax rate on their \$735 billion in pretax U.S. profits from 1996 to 1998, the federal treasury would have received \$98 billion in additional tax revenue. Who makes up for that lost revenue? You do — and every taxpayer who puts money into the treasury instead of taking it out.

Not all corporations avoid taxes

ANOTHER FINDING of the study was that tax rates vary widely by industry and by company. Almost half of those tax-break dollars went to just 25 companies, each getting more than a billion dollars in tax breaks.

Tax rates also varied widely by industry. Companies in the oil industry paid the lowest tax rates, averaging 12.3 percent. Other low-tax industries included electronic and electrical equipment manufacturers (13.1 percent), paper companies (13.9 percent), transportation companies (14.1 percent) and auto companies (17.1 percent). Publishers paid the most — 31.6 percent.

But within industries, rates also varied widely. For example, Maytag and General Electric both make kitchen appliances. But Maytag paid 35 percent of its profits in taxes from 1996 to 1998, while GE paid only 8.1 percent.

Likewise, Abbott Laboratories and Pfizer are both in the drug business, but the former paid almost 29 percent of its profits in taxes from 1996 to 1998, while the latter paid only 3.1 percent.

The Alternative Minimum Tax was adopted in 1986 to reduce these discrepancies and make sure that every company with substantial profits pays some significant tax. But legislation adopted in 1993 and 1997 has left the alternative corporate tax only a shell of its former self.

The methods corporations used to lower their federal income taxes include accelerated depreciation write-offs, tax credits for research and oil drilling, and tax breaks for doing business in Puerto Rico. GE continues to slash its tax bills every year through its leasing activities, where it essentially buys tax breaks from companies that have more than they can use.

One fast-growing tax break that had a very significant effect in lowering taxes involved stock options. When stock options are exercised, corporations can take a tax deduction for the difference between what employees pay for the stock and what it's worth — even though in reporting profits to shareholders, companies don't treat

stock-option transactions as business expenses. ITEP found that 233 of the 250 companies lowered their taxes using stock options — by a total of \$25.8 billion over the three years. Microsoft led the pack with \$2.7 billion in stock-option tax benefits.

None of these techniques is new; they are merely being pursued more aggressively than in the past — sometimes so aggressively they cross the line into tax fraud. An article published in the *New York Times* after this report was released reported that accounting firms are often paid with a share of the tax savings, giving them a strong incentive to suggest practices of dubious legality. Since IRS scrutiny has been significantly reduced in recent years, accounting firms can now pursue questionable tax shelters with little fear of punishment.

"The general public has a right to be concerned about how their taxes and services are affected by this resurgence in corporate tax avoidance," said McIntyre. "Companies that see their competitors paying much less in taxes than they do have a legitimate beef, too. And anyone who worries about our economy's long-term growth has to wonder why the tax code is being used to favor some industries and some kinds of investments over others, rather than letting market forces decide."

IRS says more rich Americans than ever pay no income tax

WHILE CONGRESS SEEMS ready to pass President Bush's tax cut which mainly benefits the rich, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) says the number of rich Americans who pay no income taxes at all is higher than ever. An IRS report released March 30 shows that nearly 1,500 Americans with incomes over \$200,000 paid no income tax in 1998, the highest numbers since they've been keeping track. The previous high of 1,253 was reached in 1991.

The report does not reach any conclusions about whether improper tax shelters are at work, but government officials are increasingly worried about tax-dodging among well-to-do individuals through off-shore trust arrangements and other schemes. Personnel reductions within the IRS have forced the agency to drastically reduce the number of audits they conduct each year.

A separate report from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) shows that the richest one percent of Americans, on average, increased their income by 40 percent between 1989 and 1998 after adjusting for inflation. The bottom 90 percent of taxpayers increased after-tax income by only five percent over the same period. □

See the full report from the CBPP at <http://www.cbpp.org/2-28-01tax.htm>

The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy is a non-profit tax policy research organization. This study was funded by grants from the Ford Foundation, The Shefa Fund, Stanley K. Sheinbaum, Tides Foundation and Working Assets Funding Service. The full 64-page report, *Corporate Income Taxes in the 1990s*, is available in PDF format at www.itepnet.org. Printed copies can be ordered by calling ITEP at 202-737-4315.

Texaco, Chevron, Goodyear, General Motors, and PepsiCo all had negative income tax rates in 1998 — instead of paying the government, the government paid them.

When a person or company avoids paying taxes, the rest of us end up paying more.

The Stewards Sourcebook

Educate your members regarding their contract

The more they understand, the easier your job will be

STEWARDS WHO continually educate their members not only reduce their own workload, but also build solidarity within their local. Education is important in a number of areas — safety, how unions work, and the union advantage — but no area is more important than the contract you work under.

The union contract is the single most important fact of union life. Your contract defines the relationship between your local and your employer. Without a written contract that is binding under law, we would be no better off than nonunion workers.

Yet many union members have no idea what is in their contract or how important it is. Many don't even truly understand what a union contract is or why union members have fought and died for the right to bargain collectively with their employers.

A union contract sets down in writing what an employer can or cannot do. It also defines what rights union members have and how those rights can be enforced. Members often overlook the most fundamental parts of the contract and focus on the economic parts — the wages, paid holidays, vacations, etc.

Those parts are important, and union contracts nearly always guarantee much better economic conditions than workers can get without a contract. But they can only be effective because the contract gives the union the power to negotiate with the employer.

The single most important aspect of any contract is the union recognition clause. It's usually the first thing in the contract, and it rarely changes, so we may overlook it. The union recognition clause gives your local jurisdiction over the classifications and type of work covered in the agreement.

You probably won't see this right through a union election certified by the appropriate labor board. But that certification really doesn't mean much until you sign a contract with the company which includes the recognition clause.

That's when you really begin to represent your members.

The grievance procedure is another aspect of contracts too often overlooked by the average member. This section of

the contract spells out exactly how the company and the union will work out problems that arise when a member believes he or she is not being treated fairly. Grievance procedures vary from contract to contract, but they usually include several steps, the final one being an appeal to a neutral third party.

The significance of that last part is easy to overlook. No businessman wants to let anyone else tell him how to run his business. And yet, because of the collective power of organized workers, virtually every union contract includes a clause that says if the company and the union can't agree how to handle a problem, the company agrees to let some outside person decide what should be done — and they will abide by that person's decision.

Teaching members about the contract also builds solidarity

THE CONTRACT WILL spell out the rules for the grievance process, including any time limits that apply and how each side is supposed to handle each aspect of the process. Your members may not have much interest in this part of the contract. That's why you need to make sure you educate them.

Members who do not understand their role in the grievance procedure may tie your hands by failing to notify you in a timely manner or committing some other oversight that ends their grievance before you can even get started on it. If that happens, they'll blame you, ignoring their own mishandling of the complaint.

Members who are unhappy with their representation often create divisions within the local. By making sure they understand their role, you can win more grievances and members will feel better about the union.

Likewise, a poor understanding of the grievance process may keep a member from realizing that there is a way to solve his or her problem. Some members will suffer in silence, building up resentment toward the union as well as the company, simply because they don't know how to get help.

You can't expect your members to know every detail of the grievance process — that's your job — but if they understand the basic parts, they can improve their chances of winning a grievance and make your job easier.

★ ★ ★ Star Stewards ★ ★ ★

L-744's Kenneth Sparling is a 'Star Steward'

KENNETH SPARLING has been a member of Local 744, Cleveland, Ohio, since 1948. He may have retired in 1994, but his good work is still remembered.

Paul Wiseman, a 25-year member of Local 433, Tampa, Fla., nominated Sparling as a star steward for work he did over 20 years ago.

"Back in 1976, I worked in Local 744. Sparling was one of the best stewards I ever met," wrote Wiseman. "He understood when you had a problem on the job and would always have it 'come to a head' real soon. He deserves to be a star steward for the outstanding services he did for Local 744 and for the way he negotiated the

only news we got on the job, which was day-to-day."

Do you know a Star Steward?

DROP US A LINE with the name of the steward, the local, the company, and a few words about why you think this steward is so special. Send a photo if you have one. We'd like the world to see what a good steward looks like.

Send info to this address:

Star Stewards
The Boilermaker Reporter
Boilermakers International
753 State Ave., Suite 570
Kansas City KS 66101

Another reason to educate your members regarding their contract is that it will improve their appreciation of how much the union has accomplished for them over the years.

Unless you are a brand-new local with your first contract, many of the benefits in the contract were negotiated long ago. Members, especially those new to the workplace, usually have no idea how difficult it has been to gain benefits over the years. They take your hard-won benefits for granted.

For example, vacations. Everyone gets them, right? And paid holidays? And sick leave? And emergency leave?

They're required by law, aren't they? No, they aren't, and not everyone gets them. Many of today's workers don't realize that until only a few decades ago, very few workers got paid time off for holidays and vacations.

The same is true for health insurance, pensions, time off for funerals, employer-supplied safety boots and glasses, and dozens of other benefits.

In fact, all of the benefits included in your contract are relatively new in the history of work. After they were added to union contracts, many nonunion employers began to offer them as well in order to compete for workers. But

without union contracts, it is unlikely they would ever have been offered.

It can be very instructive to sit down with your contract and make a list of all of the benefits your members get because of collective bargaining.

Seniority does not exist in nonunion shops. Employers dole out overtime, give promotions, and lay off workers based on their personal preferences.

Do your members get to keep their jury pay? Can they bid for schedules or for positions that come open?

Even the hours you work have been determined by collective bargaining and are included in the contract. Making sure your members understand that all of these items were negotiated is a great way to show them the advantage of union membership.

Below is a document created by Fred Hill, president of Local Lodge D465, to show his members exactly how many benefits they get through collective bargaining. As he names a benefit, he names the page of the contract that guarantees this benefit for the members. A similar document for your local lodge could be very useful for those members who wonder what the union does for them. When you write it up, you might even be surprised yourself. Union contracts do an awful lot. □

What has the union done for me today?

I WAKE UP at 6 a.m. to get ready for work at 7:30 (p. 22 of the contract), and put on my uniform (p. 46) and safety shoes (p. 50). On arrival, the safety glasses and ear plugs go on (p. 50).

Some workers have had persistent equipment problems, so I troubleshoot them myself (p. 52). I rely on my training (p. 33) to solve the problems, then sit down at the break table (p. 22).

Someone tells some old jokes, reminding me of Dad, who always told really old, stupid jokes. He could have used some as he wasted away. I'm glad I was able to take time off (p. 29) to help Mom through that difficult time.

Checking out a printer, I notice that the great weather I enjoyed on my vacation (p. 37) is holding on, and before I know it, it's lunch time (p. 22).

After lunch I go to the utilities room to see if the compressor that had been kicking off is still running. The new deck over the pumps looks good. I shudder to think what would have happened if the old one had remained

in place much longer (p. 49). The debris they called a supporting platform could have collapsed at any time.

Thinking about that accident waiting to happen, I remember mishaps that have occurred over the years. Most notable in my mind was the microfill silo. No one suspected there was a danger there. It was fortunate the usual shoveling out of the silo floor was not going on at the time. As other silos age, they require special attention (p. 51), as you see with the structural work being done now.

At afternoon break (p. 22), I overhear someone telling what they will be earning (p. 26) now that they were able to win a job bid (p. 6) for the position they had been seeking.

That brings back memories of the jobs I've held — especially the long stretches of night shifts (p. 23) worked after getting the bids, before I was able to get on days, sometimes by bidding (p. 6) and sometimes through bumping (p. 15) moves.

It took some patience and endurance, but we all knew how it was done if we really wanted to advance. I am thankful that over the years the wages have risen consistently (p. 59). Now even a high school graduate just starting in the job market can get a wage that exceeds most entry level jobs (p. 59) to be found, and can begin enjoying full benefits after only three months (p. 45). That was a long time coming.

Someone stops me wanting to know what to do about a subpoena he just received. He is worried about getting points for going to court. But that was taken care of in the last contract (p. 29). Last week it was someone who pulled jury duty. No lost wages for that (p. 28).

Just before quitting time I run into someone who just got back from an extended recovery from surgery. I'm sure the sick pay (p. 64) and unbroken insurance coverage (p. 43) brought about some peace of mind.

I'm glad I ran into him. He reminded me I have to pick up my wife's X-rays

by Fred Hill
Local D465 President

today. The surgeon she is seeing is going to need them for her evaluation for back surgery. By taking one vacation day (p. 39), I can be with her to finally understand what is causing her so much pain.

When the surgery is finally done, it will be nice to walk out of the hospital without worrying about settling a big bill (p. 63) before we check out.

It has been a lot of years and I feel pride in what the union has done for me. Aside from the principal function of any union, as "sole bargaining representative for all hourly associates" (p. 1), a lot of good work has been done by loyal people willing to give their time and effort for the good of all hourly workers.

The next time that question, "What has the union done for me today?" pops into your head, you might ask, "What can I do for the union someday?" □

Great Lakes Area council continues education



IN DECEMBER, MEMBERS of local lodges represented by the Great Lakes Area Industrial Council #1 attended a training seminar in Kenosha, Wis. Pictured above, an unidentified member participates in safety discussions led by Boilermaker Safety and Health Specialist Milan Racic. □

L-132 members attend foreman training

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 132, Galveston, Texas, attended a Leadership/Foreman Training seminar in December, at the Ramada Inn, cosponsored by Babcock and Wilcox (B&W), Reliant Energy, Houston Lighting and Power, the Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Program, and the Southeast Area Apprenticeship Program.

All 20 participants are employed by B&W on job sites owned by Reliant Energy and were paid their hourly wages by B&W, billed to Reliant Energy. This is only the second time that foreman training participants have received compensation for their attendance.

The National and Southeast apprenticeship programs provided all other

costs — materials, instructor wages, meeting rooms, and hotel accommodations, food, and travel expenses for all participants and instructors.

Conducting the seminar were instructors Dwain Smith and Douglas Vandiver, SE apprentice coordinator.

Smith extends his appreciation to Local 132 BM-ST Larry Turner for his help. In a letter to the editor (see page 24), he also credits B&W, Reliant Energy, Houston Lighting and Power, the National and Southeast apprenticeship programs, and every boilermaker who contributes to the apprenticeship program for making these educational seminars such a success and benefit for our members. □

Local Lodge 146 presents six apprentice awards



Four recipients of the 1999-2000 Rod Springer Apprentice Award include, l. to r., Local 146 apprentices Tony Prosser, Nick Balanko, Ron Damery, and Robert Bazzarelli.

Edmonton lodge names award for Rod Springer, a strong advocate of apprentice training

SIX LOCAL 146 members, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, have earned the Rod Springer Apprenticeship Award for their outstanding performance in the local lodge's apprenticeship program.

Local 146 BM-ST Dean Milton presented the \$500 awards for the 1999-2000 apprenticeship term to Darren Hoffman, Nick Balanko, Chris Sparks, Robert Bazzarelli, Tony Prosser, and Ron Damery.

Hoffman earned two awards for his marks in the entry level and first period Boilermaker classes. Balanko consistently leaves the rest of his classmates behind in the second period Boilermaker classes, and Sparks is

number one in his third-period class. In welding, Bazzarelli was awarded for his efforts in the first period class, Prosser for the second period, and Damery for the final period.

The entry level through third period Boilermaker classes each consists of six weeks of technical training and 1,500 hours of work experience. The three period welding classes each consist of eight weeks of technical training and 1,560 hours of work experience.

The award is named in honor of former Local 146 dispatcher Rod Springer, a strong advocate of apprenticeship training, who passed away in February 2000. While in office, Springer used his own money to award the top apprentices. In 1999, he paid \$500 each to the top apprentice in seven classifications. Following his example, Local 146 instituted the annual Rod Springer Apprentice Award so his dream never dies. □

Local 112 members attend steward training



An overview of Local 112 members of a steward's training program. Guests included business managers from Locals 79, 108, and 110.

Seminar includes tips on grievance handling, craft jurisdiction overview

TWENTY MEMBERS OF Local 112, Mobile, Ala., two Local 108 members, and business managers from Local 79 (Lake Charles, La.), Local 108 (Birmingham, Ala.), and Local 110 (Hattiesburg, Miss.), attended a two-day training seminar, August 21-22, at the Airport Ramada Inn in Mobile.

Len Beauchamp, director of research and collective bargaining services, devoted one day of training to duties of the union steward. Program topics included structure and service of the International Brotherhood; duties of a union steward; effective grievance handling, from investigation through analysis to presentation; steward rights under the National Labor Relations Act and the Duty of Fair Representation; and in-plant organizing.

Dale "Skip" Branscum, International representative — Construction Division, conducted a one-day program on craft jurisdiction. Program topics included a historical overview of craft jurisdiction; dispute resolution procedures; and a review of Boilermaker jurisdiction in the water and steam cycle of a boiler and a heat recovery steam generator (HRSG); HRSG components; and Boilermaker jurisdiction in selective catalytic reduction (SCR) systems.

Attendees included Local 112 members Billy Allen, Ricky Boyd, Jimmy Butler, Donnie Calloway, Ralph Greenlee, Perry Holmes, Bruce Jones, Ken Crenshaw, John Lacy, Jim Lough, Louis Luttrell, Sam Nichols, John Nolen, Roy Reed, Charles Reviere, H. E. Turner, H.



DRCBS Len Beauchamp reviews steps of the grievance procedure with union stewards at an August 21, 2000 seminar in Mobile, Ala.



CD Rep. Dale "Skip" Branscum discusses craft jurisdiction at a seminar in Mobile, Ala.

M. Turner, Joe Waldrup, Acy Wilson, and Marcus Wilson Jr.; Local 108 members Ronnie Dexter and Bob Henson; L-79 BM-ST Wil Granger, L-108 BM-ST John Helvin, L-110 BM-ST R. D. Havard, and retired L-110 BM Truman Havard; and International Representatives Dennis King and Steve Speed. □

Training held for new members of Local 1814



DRCBS Len Beauchamp conducts a steward training program, March 30-31, for members of Local 1814, Bridge City, La., who work at Avondale Shipyard.

THIRTY STEWARDS OF Local 1814, Bridge City, La., attended a two-day steward's training program conducted by Len Beauchamp, director of research and collective bargaining services, Safety and Health Specialist Milan Racic, and Intl. Rep. Warren Fairley.

In addition to the traditional program topics, the stewards discussed their first union contract with Avondale Shipyard, where they are forming a safety committee to address workers' concerns for a safe job site. A workshop on duties of an officer was also held. □

Job brings Canadian Boilermakers to KC



Members of Local 73 and 128 visit headquarters before starting a job at the Kansas City Power & Light's Hawthorn plant. Front row, l. to r., L-73's Gordon MacPherson, L-128's Dalas Santavy, and L-73 members David Decost and Tom Cormier. Back row, l. to r., L-128's Jim Watson and Kevin Dalton, Intl. Pres. C. W. Jones, L-128's Steve Jarvis and Mike McCabe, and L-73's Réal Boucher.

MEMBERS OF CANADIAN Local Lodge 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia); Lodge 128 (Toronto, Ontario); Lodge 146 (Edmonton, Alberta); and Lodge 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia) will be working six to eight weeks as welders and riggers at the Kansas City Power & Light's Hawthorn plant.

John Tindale of the Boilermakers' MOST program worked with Babcock & Wilcox Construction Company to get the Canadian members across the border (and through all the red tape) to help with this rebuild.

Local 83 BM-ST Roger Erickson said Randy Cruse's efforts as the Local 83

dispatcher have also been indispensable to this job. "Randy spoke to the local business managers to work out manpower needs. He even contacted border guards to make sure the Canadians' entry into the U.S. would go as smoothly as possible," said Erickson.

The Canadians came in response to a call for increased manpower at the power plant where they are helping to rebuild Unit #5, which was damaged in a February 1999 explosion. Over 300 Boilermakers from all across the U.S. are also working at the job site, under the jurisdiction of Local 83, Kansas City, Mo. □



Numerous groups tour the International while working in Kansas City, including these members who discuss health and welfare and pension issues with Jones.



Local 359 members meet Intl. Pres. C. W. Jones, center, before starting work at the Kansas City Power & Light's Hawthorn plant. Jason Shaw, at left, will be working as a rigger, and Giovanni Pagliardi, will be working as a welder.



Local 146 members, Jose Riffo (l.) and Enrique Salazar (r.), join Intl. Pres. Jones at International headquarters. Riffo is working as a welder and Salazar is working as a welder and fitter at the Hawthorn plant in Kansas City.

GOOD JOB!

Letters from Satisfied Contractors & Owners

Local 11 members set furnace record for Power Maintenance

I WANTED TO drop you a line and let you know how your Boilermakers did on the unit #3 scaffold

Both furnaces were completed to the dance floors in a little over six shifts. This is the best time ever in this size unit.

They did a great job and there were no recordable accidents.

We have a lot of work left and we hope to continue this safety and production rate with your Boilermakers.

F. E. MCKARNEY
Site Manager

Power Maintenance Resources, Inc.

Graycor Industrial praises Local 60 members on safe, fast work

I AM WRITING regarding the success of the AES Edward's Station reheat project. This project encompassed the replacement of 122 reheat elements and 1,240 welds in a five-week schedule. Similar projects at this station were completed in six weeks.

Graycor accepted this job and completed this project on schedule and to the owner's satisfaction through the combined efforts of Local 60 officers in manning and supporting this outage, the genuine efforts of the general foreman Gary Lusk and Jeff Innam, and Graycor superintendents Tom Stodola and Bruce Plowman.

This project worked two shifts of seven days per week and ten hours per day. Safety is Graycor's first and foremost priority. Due to the efforts of these members and the skilled local craftsmen, there were no recordable accidents. Out of 1,240 welds, there were less than five repairs on this project, which accounts for one-half off the one percent rejection rate. This is a major accomplishment for all involved — union members, owner, and contractor.

On behalf of Graycor and the AES plant, congratulations on a job well done. We look forward to future projects in your area and appreciate all of your efforts in completing a safe and on-time project for this owner, which is in everyone's best interest in today's industry.

Special thanks to the owner and their team — Tom Watson, Jeff Ferec, Mike Chinard, Mark Wilson, and Chad Weise — who helped to make this a safe and successful outage.

MIKE MURPHY and JOE GEORGE
Graycor Industrial Constructors, Inc.

Veteran crew brings World War II ship home



This LST-325, built by Boilermakers in 1942, is docked in Mobile, Ala., where it will be renovated to become a museum.

Built by Boilermakers in 1942, this warship will soon be a museum

THEIR AVERAGE AGE was 72, the ship was a rusting relic, and the Coast Guard warned them not to cross the Atlantic during the winter. But they were determined to bring home the ship that delivered troops to Normandy in the D-Day invasion.

The ship was an LST-325, built by Boilermaker union members in 1942. It was decommissioned in 1946, and lent to the Greek government. Last summer it came out of service, and a 29-member crew of veterans from World War II and the Korean War paid their own way to Greece and

donated \$2,000 to rehabilitate it and bring it home to become a museum.

The trip took two months. They hit storms, had problems with the steering, the engine failed, and divers had to fix a hole in the bow. And they lost a crew member to heart problems — he died after returning to the U.S.

But as hard as it was, they were glad to have done it. "This was the greatest thing I've ever done in my life," said crewman Jim Edwards of Canton, Tex.

Now that the 328-foot vessel is home, it will be turned into a museum.

Donations for the LST 325 Memorial Ship are tax deductible and can be sent to the USS LST Ship Memorial, 64 Ponderosa Drive, Oregon, OH 43616-2221. □



15th ANNUAL
**Dollars Against Diabetes
Father's Day Weekend**

June 15, 16, 17, 2001

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DADBCTD@AOL.COM

L-363's Douin is chairman of national boiler board

DAVIDDOUIN, a 27-year member of Local 363, East St. Louis, Ill., has been elected the 34th chairman of the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors in a special meeting held Feb. 6, 2001.

Douin was first elected to the national board in 1990, as one of its youngest members. With 27 years of experience in the boiler and pressure vessel industry, Douin oversees one of the largest professional staffs among national board jurisdictions.

Douin began his career as an apprentice boilermaker in 1974. He became a boiler inspector in 1982, the same year he earned his national board commission; assistant superintendent in 1986; superintendent in 1990; and the board's second vice chairman in 1997. □



These brother apprentices are just that — brothers



Left to right, L-74 Vice Pres. Dennis Smith, apprentice Chris Smith, L-74 BM Ron Keck, apprentice Mike Smith, and L-74 Pres. Herman Sullivan.

FOR THE FIRST TIME in Local 74's history, two brothers in the apprentice program have taken the Boilermakers' obligation together. Chris and Mike Smith, sons of 30-year Local 74 member and lodge vice-president Dennis Smith, are learning the trade through

the Local 74, Houston, Texas, apprentice program.

L-74 Bus. Mgr. Ron Keck says, "Dennis should be proud of his sons. They both are outstanding apprentices and will be great assets to the local and this organization." □

Julie makes dolls while her Boilermaker is away

MANY PEOPLE DON'T realize that Boilermakers provide a variety of products and services that we use every day.

My boyfriend, Raymond Klotz, is a proud 31-year member of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada). He, like many other Boilermakers, has to work away from home a lot. This means those left behind have to be understanding, patient, and appreciative for all the things they do.

While my Boilermaker is away, I make Boilermaker time-out dolls like the one pictured here.

JULIE ZUKIWSKY
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada □



Lodges present membership pins

Local 1 — Chicago, Ill.

JOHN SKERMONT, business manager and secretary-treasurer of Local 1, Chicago, Ill., reports presentation of pins for continuous years of membership to the following Local 1 members: 60 Years—Robert McDonough; 55 Years—Lee Gustafson; 45 Years—Robert Haavig; 30 Years—James Altman, Charles Brannan, Thomas Brennan, Stephen Goldman, Benjamin Kosiek, James McDonough, Alton F. Sanders, and Andrew Zaner; 25 Years—Thomas Barry, Sean Bills, Daniel Favia, Dennis Finnegan, Russell Flagg, William Hafner, Robert Hughes, David Nolan Jr., Patrick O'Malley, William Murphy Jr., Samuel Perez, Christopher Preble, Andrew Reid, John F. Riel, John Sharkey, Kevin Sheehan, and James Ward.

Local 374 — Hammond, Ind.

CHARLES VANOVER, business manager and secretary-treasurer of Local 374, Hammond, Ind., reports presentation of pins for continuous years of membership to the following Local 374 members: 55 Years—Clifford E. Duggan and John A. Satalic; 50 Years—Charles W. Bostick and Thomas R. Byers; 40 Years—Donald A. Petersen; 35 Years—David T. Flannigan, Larry D. Futrell, and Gene M. Stankovich; 30 Years—Dale A. Hubert, Richard Reeves, and Charles H. Webb; 25 Years—Michael Fedornock, William E. Gaines, Michael L. Linne, and John P. Son; 15 Years—Kevin J. Burnett, David W. Switt, and William A. Yazel. □

Local 531's Toler is retired, but still running

LIFE IS A RACE. It always seems you have to hurry no matter where you are going. But when you reach retirement, it's time to slow down.

Wrong. When Beacham Toler retired, he didn't slow down at all. In fact he's running more than ever.

At 73 years of age, Toler, a retired member of Local 531, Amarillo, Texas, is an ultra runner. He participates in races that are 26.2 miles or more.

Since he retired in 1988, he has finished 36 marathons, including the Boston marathons in 1999 and 2000, and has been in 42 ultra races. In July of 1995 and 1997, he participated in the Badwater races — 135 grueling miles from the bottom of Death Valley to Whitney Portal, the gateway to Mount Whitney. Four times he has finished the toughest race in North America — the Western States 100 — running 22 miles of the 1998 race in the snow.

The best of his three 24-hour runs covered 112.2 miles. Toler says he also runs in a lot of shorter races; however, he doesn't even keep track of those.

Toler joined Local 531 in 1948, and spent most of his career building boilers. Because he knew many Boilermakers with breathing difficulties, Toler started to jog for his health at the age of 40 years. When his wife, Zelma, suffered a stroke, he stopped running to care for her and their two children. It was several years later when he took up his hobby again, this time adding an old ten-speed bicycle



Local 531's Beacham Toler spends his retirement on the run.

to his training program. To get in shape for the ultra runs, he participated in bicycle events, like the seven-day, 500-mile FreeWheel from Marietta, Okla. to Noel, Mo.; the Almost Across Arizona, a 550-mile event from the Grand Canyon to Nogales; and a seven-day event from Paris, Texas, to Hominy, Okla.

Toler is not the only family member who runs. His daughter, Valen Harless, won the half-marathon for her age group in Amarillo last spring, and his 14-year-old granddaughter, Frankie Harless, runs track at her high school and has already run several 5k (3.1 mile) events in Amarillo. □

Taking flight with Schapansky

Retiree keeps active by building airplanes

WHEN JOHN (JACK) Schapansky retired, he didn't "hang up his tools," he just started using them for a different purpose.

Instead of working as a boilermaker, Schapansky now uses his skills to build radio-controlled airplanes.

That's one way to take your work to a higher level! □



Bush's tax cut and retirees

No provisions are tailored just for older or retired Americans

THE BUSH TAX CUT should affect retired Americans in pretty much the same way it affects working taxpayers. Because no provisions have been included specifically to benefit older Americans, those who benefit most will be the ones with higher incomes.

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) hired an independent accountant to calculate how the tax cut would affect a variety of retired Americans. That analysis shows that low-income retirees get no benefit, while retirees with incomes over \$100,000 a year do very well.

Below are some scenarios as calculated by the AARP's accountant.

\$21,000	\$28,500
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Widow, 72, living alone Main source of income: Social Security Estimated savings: \$0 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Married couple, 69 and 67, no children Sources of income: Pension and Social Security Estimated savings: \$0
\$74,000	\$115,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Married couple, 70 and 67, no children at home Sources of income: pensions, Social Security, some earnings Estimated savings: \$739 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Married couple, 55 and 54, both employed, two children 17 and 23 Sources of income: Earnings, capital gains, interest Estimated savings: \$2,092

New contract summaries

A brief listing of recent agreements signed and ratified by Boilermaker local lodges

L-5—New York City

GERALD CONNOLLY JR., BM-ST of Local 5, New York City, N.Y., reports contract ratification, effective October 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2002, for six Local 5 members who knock down heating boilers and tanks for the Delta Welding Corp.

L-13—Philadelphia, PA

INTL. REP. ROCCO DE ROLLO reports contract ratification, effective June 24, 2000 to June 23, 2002, for members of Local 13, Philadelphia, Pa. (formerly represented by Local 329), who work at the General Marine Refrigeration Corp.

M24—Kokomo, IN

INTL. REP. DAVID LAWRENCE reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 19, 2000 to Nov. 14, 2003, for 90 members of Local M24, Kokomo, Ind., who produce goods for artificial flowers at Syndicate Sales.

L-27—St. Louis, MO

DONALD LINK, BM-ST of Local 27, St. Louis, Mo., reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 1, 2000 to Nov. 1, 2003, for 70 Local 27 members at Continental Fabricators.

L-72—Portland, OR

R. D. LAZOTT, president of Local 72, Portland, Ore., reports contract ratification, effective Sept. 18, 2000 to Sept. 18, 2003, for six Local 72 members who rebuild electric motors and work in the machine shop at the Reliance Electric Industrial Service Center.

D75—Fredonia, KS

CHARLES HUNTBACH, CLGAW division director, reports contract ratification, effective May 1, 2001 to April 30, 2007 for 76 members of Local D75, Fredonia, Kan., who make Portland Cement at Lafarge.

L-104—Seattle, WA

TIM CARR, BM-ST of Local 104, Seattle, Wash., reports contract ratification, effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Oct. 1, 2003, for 12 L-104 members who manufacture conveyor screws at Austin Mac, Inc.; effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2003, for two L-104 members who fabricate steel at Brekke Brothers effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2003, for 12 L-104 members who perform weld fabrication and repair work at Commercial Weld & Fabrication; effective July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2003 for ten L-104 members who repair ships at Fishing Vessel Owners Marine Ways; effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Oct. 1, 2003, for one L-104 member who performs maintenance

work at Lisa Lee Enterprises; effective July 24, 2000 to Nov. 1, 2002, for ten L-104 members who perform tug and yacht construction at the J. M. Martinac Shipbuilding Co.; effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Oct. 1, 2003, for 22 L-104 members who fabricate tanks at the Morse Construction Group; effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2003, for eight L-104 members who paint tanks at San Juan Blast effective October 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2003, for 20 L-104 members who fabricate steel at T-Bailey Inc.; effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Oct. 1, 2003 for 20 L-104 members who do repair work at Tri State Construction Inc.; and effective July 31, 2000 to July 31, 2003, for 25 L-104 members who repair marine boilers for Walashek Industrial & Marine.

L-132—Galveston, TX

LARRY TURNER, BM-ST of Local 132, Galveston, Texas, reports contract ratification, effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2003, for 36 Local 132 members who work at Dunn Heat Exchangers, Inc.

D229—Springfield, MO

CLGAW Div. DIR. CHARLES HUNTBACH reports contract ratification, effective October 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2003, for 57 members of Local D229, Springfield, Mo., who make lime products for Ash Grove Cement.

D277—Bamberton, BC

ROB LAUZON, BM-ST of District Lodge D11, reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 1, 2000 to Oct. 31, 2004, for 80 members of Local D277, Bamberton, British Columbia, Canada, who produce cement for Tilbury Cement Limited.

L-359—Vancouver

DARRELL FLEMING, a representative of Local 359, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, reports contract ratification, effective March 15, 2000 to March 14, 2003, for 11 Local 359 members who fabricate steel at Gunn Industries Ltd., and effective January 2, 1999 to December 31, 2001, for two Local 359 members who work in the office of McAteer Employee Benefit Plan Services Ltd.

D375—Paulding, OH

INTL. REP. CAREY ALLEN reports contract ratification, effective Dec. 16, 2000 to Dec. 15, 2004, for 82 members of Local D375, Paulding, Ohio, who produce Portland Cement at the Lafarge Corporation.

D381—Las Vegas, NV

INTL. REP. MICHAEL ATCHISON reports contract ratification, effective Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2004, for members of Local D381, Las Vegas, Nev., who work at Chemical Lime.

D385—Vancouver, BC

ROB LAUZON, BM-ST of District Lodge D11, reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 1, 2000 to Oct. 31, 2004, for 57 members of Local D385, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, who produce cement for Lafarge Canada, Inc.

L-482—Wood River, IL

INTL. REP. JAMES PRESSLEY reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 1, 2000 to Oct. 31, 2003, for 88 members of Local 482, Wood River, Ill., who repair large and small diesel engines at Mikes, Inc.

L-583—Birmingham, AL

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 583, Birmingham, Ala., have ratified a three-year agreement, effective Nov. 1, 2000 to Oct. 31, 2003, for workers who repair Guzzler vacuum trucks at Guzzler Manufacturing.

L-608—Baltimore, MD

INTL. REP. STEVE BEAL reports contract ratification, effective Sept. 8, 2000 to Sept. 8, 2004, for 35 members of Local 608, Baltimore, Md., who overhaul and repair ships at the U.S. Coast Guard Yard.

L-656—Chattanooga

GARY COOKSTON, president of Local 656, Chattanooga, Tenn., reports contract ratification, effective March 6, 2000 to March 9, 2003, for 375 Local 656 members who make boilers and boiler components at Alstom Power.

L-667—Charleston, WV

GEORGE PINKERMAN, BM-ST of Local 667, Charleston, W. Va., reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 5, 1999 to Nov. 4, 2004, for 14 Local 667 members who work in the production and maintenance of tank and pressure vessels for Sistersville Tank Works.

L-1162—Milwaukee, WI

INTL. REP. LEN GUNDERSON reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 16, 2000 to Oct. 16, 2003, for members of Local 1162, Milwaukee, Wis., who work at Interstate Forging.

L-1667—Marion, OH

RON LYON, Industrial Council representative, reports a one-year contract extension, effective until Dec. 2001, for members of Local 1667, Marion, Ohio, who work at Dana Corp.

L-2000—Chester, PA

PHILIPP EVANS, BM-ST of Local 2000, Chester, Pa., reports contract ratification, effective Oct. 4, 1999 to Oct. 3, 2004, for 260 members of Local 2000 who work at the Metro Corp.

You don't get what you deserve . . .
... you get what you negotiate

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



Negotiating a three-year contract with the greatest wage increase Local M24 members have enjoyed in over six years are, l. to r., Intl. Rep. David Lawrence, Debbie Grainger, Howard Wolfe, and Tina Riley.



Negotiating a four-year contract for Local D375 members of Lafarge Corp. are, front row, l. to r., Pres. Fred Workman and Intl. Rep. Carey Allen; back row, l. to r., Vice Pres. Terry Pastor and Rec. Sec. Dee Houter.



Negotiating a four-year contract for Local D381 at Chemical Lime, are, l. to r., Paul Levitt, John Suarez, and David White.

A summary analysis of these contract settlements

Prepared by the Research and Collective Bargaining Department of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

THIS ANALYSIS OF THE 33 agreements outlined above is based on information provided in the Contract Summary and Transmittal Report forms, and covers approximately 2,152 employees.

Wage Increases

TWENTY-NINE facilities reported pay increases in 2000, averaging \$0.69 per hour or 2.79 percent; 28 will receive pay increases in 2001, averaging \$0.58 per hour or 2.71 percent; 26 will receive pay increases in 2002, averaging \$0.58 per hour or 3.07 percent; seven will receive pay increases in 2003, averaging \$0.45 per hour or 3.2 percent; one will receive pay increases in 2004, 2005, and 2006.

Pension

ALL OF THE facilities participate in some type of pension program. Twenty-one facilities participate in the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust; contributions range from \$0.30 to \$5.00 per hour for the first year. Average cents-per-hour contributions are

\$1.45 the first year, \$1.54 the second year, and \$1.63 the third year.

Ten facilities offer a 401(k); 11 have company-sponsored plans; one facility offers a profit sharing program; one offers an employee stock ownership plan.

Shift Differential

TWENTY-SIX agreements provide a second-shift premium, of which 20 report a cents-per-hour premium ranging from \$0.10 to \$1.00. The average is \$0.45 per hour. Twenty-four agreements provide a third-shift premium, of which 19 have a cents-per-hour premium ranging from \$0.20 to \$1.00. The average is \$0.57 per hour.

The remaining agreements provide a percentage of pay or full pay for a partial shift; one provides a premium for 12-hour shifts.

Sickness & Accident

THIRTY-ONE agreements provide weekly sickness and accident indemnities. Of these, 21 pay a set dollar amount ranging from \$155 to \$400 per week. The average rate for the first year is \$240.47.

The remaining agreements either provide a percentage of the employee's weekly earn-

ings (60% average); a flat amount ranging from \$1,300 to \$12,000; or base times the amount off of the current unemployment insurance amount. The length of time off ranges from 13 to 52 weeks.

The most common is 52 weeks found in 13 agreements. Most Canadian facilities provide short-term disability (STD), then long-term disability (LTD), then the employee may receive Unemployment Insurance Commission (UIC) maximums until the age of 65. These amounts are paid on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis; therefore, an average is difficult to calculate.

Life Insurance/AD&D

THIRTY AGREEMENTS provide life insurance. Twenty-two have a set dollar amount ranging from \$5,000 to \$567,000. The average benefit for the first year is \$17,000. The remaining agreements use the annual wage as the benefit, or multiply wages by 2080 hours, for the benefit amount.

Twenty-eight agreements provide Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance. Twenty-four have a set dollar amount ranging from \$5,000 to \$150,000. The average benefit for the first year is

\$24,000. The remaining agreements use the annual wage as the benefit, double the life insurance amount, or multiply wages by 2080 hours, for the benefit amount.

Vacation

TWENTY-FIVE agreements provide a one-week paid vacation; 27 provide two weeks; 25 provide three weeks; 24 provide four weeks; 14 provide five weeks; three provide six weeks; eight provide vacation pay based on a percentage of the annual wage, or a per-hour contribution to a vacation fund.

Paid Holidays

THIRTY-TWO agreements provide paid holidays, ranging from eight to 13 days. The average is 9.94 days.

Other Provisions

TWENTY-SEVEN agreements provide funeral leave; 24 provide paid leave for jury duty; 16 have union leave language; 14 provide all or partial reimbursement for the purchase of safety shoes; 19 for prescription safety glasses; six provide severance payment packages; nine provide paid leave for persons spending two weeks at military encampment each year.

Congress kills ergonomics rule

Bush tells 1.6 million injured workers 'I can't feel your pain'

REPETITIVE STRESS INJURIES and illnesses affect 1.6 million workers and cost companies \$45-50 billion each year. For ten years, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) worked on developing an ergonomics rule to safeguard workers and guide companies in preventing these illnesses and injuries.

In their effort to create a rule that would be effective in solving the problem without overburdening businesses, OSHA held regional public meetings, where representatives from business, workers, and the health community testified.

The standard was finally completed

late in the Clinton administration. As their first order of business in 2001, Congress passed a congressional resolution of disapproval, killing the ergonomics rule before it could be implemented. When Bush signed the order, he said the rule was "unduly burdensome and overly broad."

Pundits in Washington, however, say it was simply pay back for the corporations that donated millions to his presidential campaign.

OSHA began forming the ergonomics rule when Bush's father was president. During his campaign, George W. Bush committed himself, as a "compassionate conservative," to doing something to address workplace injuries. When he had the opportunity, he decided corporate profits are worth any amount of pain — pain for the workers, that is. □

Coworkers honor victims of fatal construction accident

OSHA fines company for removing bracing, leaving generator vulnerable to collapse

MORE THAN 350 PEOPLE gathered Friday, February 2, 2001, to remember two co-workers who died exactly one year earlier in a construction accident that also injured two others.

Throughout the state of Connecticut, Boilermakers wore black armbands in memory of their Local 237 brothers, Kevin Winslow and Wayne Most, who lost their lives when a heat recovery steam generator collapsed while under construction.

During an on-sight ceremony that was closed to the media and public, Local 237 Business Manager Anthony DeFrancesco Jr. unveiled a plaque that was presented to the Milford Power Company.

This plaque will be displayed in the visitor's area of the administration building to remember both Kevin and Wayne, and to also give thanks for the saving of crane operator Robert Fitch and Local 237 member George

Scriviner Jr. Scriviner still remains under doctor's care for injuries and complications suffered in the collapse.

In its investigation following the accident, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration found Black & Veatch Construction Inc. had prematurely removed temporary bracing that reinforced the structure, thus leaving it vulnerable to collapse. The company was fined \$7,000.

On behalf of the families, Local 237 thanks those who participated and donated to the benefit golf tournament on September 24, 2000; for everyone's generous donations to both of the memorial funds; and for all the cards, letters, and support received from our sister lodges and their members.

For those who wish to contribute, please send donations to the following:

Winslow Children's Education Fund
c/o Webster Bank
1120 Main Street
Newington, CT 06111

The Wayne Most Memorial Fund
ATTN: Bill Rivenberg, VP
Fleet Bank
235 Main St.
New Britain CT 06051

Fireworks Safety Awareness

Have a safe 4th of July

TO HELP YOU celebrate safely this Fourth of July, the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Council on Fireworks Safety offer the following safety tips:

- ★ Always read and follow label directions
- ★ Have an adult present
- ★ Buy from reliable fireworks sellers
- ★ Ignite outdoors
- ★ Have water handy
- ★ Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks
- ★ Light one at a time
- ★ Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks
- ★ Never give fireworks to small children



- ★ Store in a cool, dry place
- ★ Dispose of properly
- ★ Never throw fireworks at another person
- ★ Never carry fireworks in your pocket
- ★ Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers. □

MAKE IT SAFE

Working safely in confined spaces

NIOSH offers tips to prevent occupational fatalities in confined spaces

THIS ALERT REQUESTS the assistance of managers, supervisors, and workers in the prevention of deaths that occur in confined spaces. Confined spaces may be encountered in virtually any occupation; therefore, their recognition is the first step in preventing fatalities. Since deaths in confined spaces often occur because the atmosphere is oxygen deficient or toxic, confined spaces should be tested prior to entry and continually monitored.

More than 60 percent of confined space fatalities occur among would-be rescuers; therefore, a well-designed and properly executed rescue plan is a must. There are no specific OSHA rules that apply to all confined spaces.

Background

THE DEATHS OF workers in confined spaces constitute a recurring occupational tragedy; approximately 60 percent of these fatalities have involved would-be rescuers. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) describes a confined space as one that has limited openings for entry and exit, unfavorable natural ventilation which could contain or produce dangerous air contaminants, and which is not intended for continuous employee occupancy. Confined spaces include storage tanks, compartments of ships, process vessels, and tunnels. If you work in a septic tank, sewage digester, pumping/lift station, sewage distribution, holding tank, silo, vat, duct, utility vault, reaction vessel, boiler, pipeline, pit, or similar type of structure or enclosure, you are working in a confined space.

Recommendations

NIOSH RECOMMENDS THAT managers, supervisors, and workers be made familiar with the following three steps:

1. Recognition — Worker training is essential to the recognition of what constitutes a confined space and the hazards that may be encountered in them. This training should stress that death to the worker is the likely outcome if proper precautions are not taken before entry is made.

2. Testing, evaluation, and monitoring — All confined spaces should be tested by a qualified person before entry to determine whether the confined space atmosphere is safe for entry. Tests should be made for oxygen level, flammability, and known or suspected toxic substances. **Evaluation** of the confined space should consider the following: methods for isolating the space by mechanical or electrical means (i.e., double block and bleed, lockout, etc.), the



You may need to wear a self-contained breathing apparatus (like those worn by fire fighters) to work in oxygen deficient areas such as silos or pits.

institution of lockout-tagout procedures, ventilation of the space, cleaning and/or purging, work procedures, including use of safety lines attached to the person working in the confined space and its use by a standby person if trouble develops, personal protective equipment required (clothing, respirator, boots, etc.), special tools required, and communications system to be used. The confined space should be continuously monitored to determine whether the atmosphere has changed due to the work being performed.

3. Rescue — Rescue procedures should be established before entry and should be specific for each type of confined space. A standby person should be assigned for each entry where warranted. The standby person should be equipped with rescue equipment including a safety line attached to the worker in the confined space, self-contained breathing apparatus, protective clothing, boots, etc. The standby person should use this attached safety line to help rescue the worker. The rescue procedures should be practiced frequently enough to provide a level of proficiency that eliminates life-threatening rescue attempts and ensures an efficient and calm response to any emergency.

Helpful NIOSH publications

NIOSH HAS PUBLISHED the following documents which contain further information:

- *Criteria for a Recommended Standard ... Working in Confined Spaces*, DHEW Publ. No. 80-106.
- *Guidelines for Controlling Hazardous Energy During Maintenance and Servicing*, DHHS Publ. No. 83-125.

For more information, contact the NIOSH Director of Safety Research at 1095 Willowdale Road, Morgantown, W. VA 26505; or call 1-800-35-NIOSH (1-800-356-4674).

DONT TAKE UNNECESSARY RISKS. ALWAYS PLAY IT SAFE. AND WHEN YOU ARE AT WORK, MAKE IT SAFE!

Facing some unusually **BIG** expenses?

Union Privilege offers a variety of loans, all with special union-only benefits

WHETHER YOU NEED money for college, to remodel your home, or to consolidate your credit card bills, Union Privilege has a loan program that can help you. And all Union Privilege loans have special union-only features.

Education loans

UNION PRIVILEGE and Sallie Mae have partnered to provide educational assistance to union members and their families. The Union Plus Education Loans program is uniquely designed to save union members time and money, providing financing for a range of education and training needs.

The program features an easy application process with a quick turnaround time for approvals.

Traditional college loans are available to students attending accredited colleges and universities at least half time. The



Job Skills Training Loan is designed for adults or part-time students attending technical, trade, or professional schools. Choosing the repayment plan that works for you is only one of the features of the program. The Union Plus Education Loans program provides options customized to meet the needs of union members today.

The program provides financial aid counseling via a dedicated toll-free phone line for those considering more education. One toll-free call to 1-877-881-1022 connects you to Union Plus Education Loans financial aid counselors to answer your questions and guide you through the application process.

Low-rate, long-term loans

A LOAN PROGRAM developed exclusively for union members, with special union-only benefits, this benefit lets union members apply for a low-interest, unsecured personal loan, a line of credit, or a home-equity loan. The Union Plus Loan Program is ideal for members who want to avoid paying high rates on finance-company loans.

Unsecured personal loans from \$2,500 to \$15,000 are available, depending on your credit rating, with repayment terms of up to seven years. Lower annual percentage rates and longer terms reduce your monthly payments.

You can choose between traditional fixed-rate loans or revolving variable lines of credit. And you can apply by phone or online at www.uploan.com.

Unsecured loans and lines of credit come with a convenient skip-payment option. Home equity loans provide up to six months of strike coverage.

On all loans, you can reduce your annual percentage rate by one-fourth of a percent by paying with automatic account withdrawals — a convenient payment method that ensures you never miss the payment deadline.

To apply or learn more about Union Plus Loans, visit www.uploan.com. Or call toll-free 1-888-235-2759, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time. □

Comparison of Benefits of Union Privilege Loans

	Unsecured Loan or Credit Line	Home Equity Loan or Credit Line
Union-trained loan specialist available to assist members	●	●
Skip-payment option	●	
Receive loan in 7 to 10 days	●	
Borrow up to \$250,000		●
Borrow \$2,500 to \$15,000	●	
Potential tax savings (consult your tax advisor)		●
6 months of strike coverage		●
Fixed monthly payments	●	●
Convenience of check access to line of credit	●	●
Longer repayment periods for lower payments	●	●
Convenience of applying by phone or online	●	●

Save money with Union Privilege

Members-only programs can save you money in many ways

USING THE BUYING power of the AFL-CIO's 13-million members, Union Privilege and the Boilermakers union can offer members significant savings on a wide variety of useful and necessary products and services.

Computer savings

SURF THE 'NET with internet service made possible by Union Privilege and the Boilermakers. For the union-negotiated low price of \$14.95 a month, you get high-speed service that is available anytime — day or night.

The service includes free email with your personalized union ID: your_name@yourunion.workfam.com. In fact, you get five free email addresses

and personal web site space of 5 MB, so you can build that home page you've been dreaming about.

Visit www.workingfamilies.com or call 1-800-806-2150 for more information and to sign up for service.

Vacation savings

WITH SUMMER RAPIDLY approaching, most people are planning a vacation. You can make driving safer and more enjoyable by joining the Union Plus Motor Club. In partnership with the National Motor Club of America, one of America's premier motor clubs, Union Privilege has created a convenient and affordable way to assure you and your family safety and security on our nation's busy highways.

For as little as \$39.95 per year (one driver), you are protected by emergency towing and locksmith service, \$500 travel assistance reimbursement, a \$5,000 stolen auto reward, legal assistance, and a \$25,000 bond. You can also get personal trip planning service.

Phone 1-888-235-2759 to get rolling. While you're traveling, take advantage of special members-only discounts. The Hotel Royal Plaza, located near Orlando, Fla., offers a special rate to Boilermakers through Union Privilege. Phone 1-800-248-7890 to get it.

Avis and Budget rental car companies also offer discounts through Union Privilege.

For the Avis discount, phone 1-800-698-5685 and mention discount identification number AWD#B723700.

For the Budget discount, phone 1-800-455-2848 and mention discount number BCD#V816100.

Health savings

UNION PRIVILEGE offers several programs to keep you healthy.

Union Plus Health Savings makes health and vision-care more affordable for union members and their families. For just \$29.95 a year, union members and their families (including parents) can save up to 40 percent or more on generic or name-brand prescription drugs at over 26,000 participating pharmacies nationwide — including Thrifty/Payless, Rite Aid, Safeway, and many others. You may save even more when they use the program's convenient mail-order service.

The program's vision-care benefits include substantial savings (usually about 30 percent) on frames, glasses, and contact lenses at over 9,000 independent optometrist shops.

Another benefit is direct access to a special Nurse HelpLine — experienced registered nurses who can offer personal health care advice and support as well as general health information 24 hours a day.

Try this program free for 30 days by phoning 1-800-228-3523. □

Members Only

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

UNION PLUS CREDIT CARD

Call: 1-800-522-4000

MORTGAGE & REAL ESTATE

Also open to your children and parents.

Call: 1-800-848-6466

EDUCATION LOANS

For college and job skills training.

Call: 1-877-881-1022

PERSONAL LOANS

Available for credit-qualified members.

Call: 1-888-235-2759

MOTOR CLUB

Towing and roadside assistance.

Call: 1-888-330-8801

LEGAL SERVICE

Discounted legal help — first 30 minutes are free.

Call: 1-800-452-9425

LIFE INSURANCE

For members, their spouses, and children.

Call: 1-800-899-2782

DENTAL & VISION

Discount fees

Call: 1-800-257-8352

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Call: 1-800-899-2782

HEALTH SAVINGS

Save on prescription medicines and vision care.

Call: 1-800-228-3523

DISNEY WORLD DISCOUNT

Call: 1-800-248-7890

CAR RENTAL DISCOUNTS

Call and give the ID number:

Avis: 1-800-698-5685
AWD #B723700

Budget: 1-800-455-2848
BCD #V816100

HEARING CARE

Call: 1-800-766-3363

UNION-MADE CHECKS

Call: 1-800-864-6625

FLOWER SERVICE

Call: 1-800-667-7779

NORTH AMERICAN VAN LINES

Call: 1-800-524-5533

For information on programs, phone

1-800-452-9425

**BOILERMAKERS UNION
PRIVILEGE BENEFITS**

*Includes retired members. Program restrictions apply to members outside the continental United States. Phone 1-800-452-9425 for clarification of eligibility.



IN MEMORIAM

WITH DEEP SORROW the International Brotherhood records the death of these members as reported to the Intl. sec-treas.'s office, and extends its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families.

LODGE & NAME

NTL Brokaw, Paul	45	Logsdon, Anthony	104	Woodward, Elmer C.	182	Hansen, Melvin E.	549	Thompson, Curtis
NTL Faucett, Robert	45	Robertson, Timothy	105	Huck, Clarence P.	182	Sizemore, Allen	587	Gilcrease, Dan
NTL Greer, Eurie C.	60	Neiggemann, Frederick	105	Turcott, Benjamin	182	Wride, Wayne	592	Ellis, Merlin Q.
NTL Keller, Frank	60	Wofford, Ralph	107	Boerschinger, Peter	186	Trapani, Joseph	647	Simberg, Howard G.
1 Radtke, Richard	M68	Tranby, Roy	107	Cislo, Andrew	191	Lawson, George	667	Burton, Garlen
7 Mazzeo, Joseph	69	Self, Charlie	107	Kelley, Norman	191	Woods, William E.	667	McDavid, Ernest
10 Nordlinger, Don B.	72	Bjorkman, Axel A.	112	Bennett, James	193	Dehart, William F.	667	Miller, Roger
13 Rudawski, Walter	72	Rafferty, Lawrence E.	112	Booker, Elzy	193	Parsons, Ansell	667	Preat, Thomas
13 Verbit, Edward	79	Broussard, Otis V.	112	Hassan, John	199	Desorbo, Anthony	667	Sampson, Samuel
27 Bauer, Carl	83	Barnes, Randy	128	Leader, Thomas	199	Raulerson, Calvin	687	Hart, C.
27 Breedlove, Roy	85	Poindexter, Robert	128	Munro, Daniel	199	Tanner, Laurence	694	Nolan, Robert
27 Brueggemann, Alois	92	Dubich, Steve	128	Vansickde, George	204	Bustamente, L. J.	735	Neidhardt, Arthur
27 Cotner, C. M.	92	Elliott, William	128	Winiarski, Walter	208	Hansen, Walter E.	801	Romano, Nicholas A.
28 Blanchette, Fred	92	Hennis, Earl A.	146	Bidas, Kazimierz	271	Gauvreau, Robert	1086	Pariso, James
28 Ciriello, James	92	McGuire, Ashley	146	Johnson, Albert	290	Gourley, Richard	1130	Lind, Eugene O.
29 Andruskiewicz, Joseph	92	Pettner, Fay	154	Conti, Richard	290	Parkinson, Kenneth	1147	Benzelock, Peter
29 Boyko, Walter	92	Zonneveld, Dick	154	Hopkins, William	357	Ankeney, Samuel	1166	Burden, Allan
29 Draheim, John	102	Robinson, L. P.	154	Randolf, Richard	363	Gilreath, James	1614	Nibbio, Felix
30 Spruill, Cyril	104	Dolan, Edward A.	154	Thompson, Richard	374	Eichhorn, Jerome	1614	Winger, Marlin
37 Gipson, James	104	Eneberg, Stanley A.	158	Foster, Elmer C.	433	Hagedorn, Nicholas	1620	Johnson, Raymond W.
					433	Castillo, Conrad R.		
					433	Dean, Frank L.		
					453	Arnold, William		
					454	Beavers, Charles		

DEATH BENEFITS

THE DEATH BENEFIT PLAN under the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust has paid the beneficiaries of the following deceased members who were covered by the plan since the last issue of our publication.

LODGE, NAME & BENEFIT

Intl. Franklin, Lee	\$4,500.00	85 Spinello, Charles P.	516.00	154 Macklin, Leroy	4,500.00	487 Koehler, Elmer O.	4,500.00
NTL Boyd, Jack	2,477.32	85 Altmann, Alfred M.	4,500.00	154 Mulligan, Jerome V.	4,500.00	549 Carr, Clay E.	4,500.00
NTL DeSpain, Howard G.	3,000.00	85 Diaz, Albert E.	4,500.00	154 Weider, Robert W.	3,000.00	549 Huckaby, William H.	4,500.00
NTL Duffield, Howard H.	4,500.00	85 Jones, Gerald L.	4,500.00	154 Zaph, Warren H.	4,500.00	549 Marini, Alfred L.	4,500.00
NTL Duval Jr., Charles L.	4,500.00	85 Poindexter, Robert C.	4,500.00	159 Bazzarri, Nello	4,500.00	549 Swinford, Madison M.	4,500.00
NTL Faucett, Robert I.	4,500.00	85 Savoie, Emery	1,637.50	169 Bonnell, Dale L.	3,000.00	549 Thompson, Curtis E.	4,500.00
NTL Fitts, Chester E.	4,500.00	85 Savoie, Emery	818.76	169 Capps, Patrick G.	3,885.44	582 Boyette, Charles H.	3,000.00
NTL Mouglin, Richard T.	4,500.00	88 Bojarski, Theodore	4,500.00	169 McCloud, Robert L.	4,500.00	583 Grass, Richard W.	3,000.00
NTL Rackard, L.D.	4,500.00	92 Bolander, Clarence F.	4,500.00	169 Mitchell, Perry	4,500.00	587 Chavez, Rufus	4,500.00
NTL Rash, John H.	4,500.00	92 Cotney, Obert F.	4,500.00	169 Saxwold, Thomas D.	3,000.00	587 Gibson, Gaines W.	3,000.00
NTL Rutherford, James L.	4,500.00	92 Cravey, Royal B.	4,500.00	169 Smith, Richard E.	4,500.00	587 Kirkpatrick, Dale O.	4,500.00
NTL Stokes, Frank	4,500.00	92 Eastridge, Arthur F.	4,500.00	177 Ferrington, James	4,500.00	587 Monroe, Vessie L.	4,500.00
NTL Walker, Bradley M.	424.94	92 Hardy, Richard C.	4,500.00	182 Beverland, Dick A.	4,500.00	587 VanSchoubroek, Lee M.	4,500.00
NTL Walker, Marion T.	4,500.00	92 Luna, Manuel R.	4,500.00	182 Hansen, Melvin E.	4,500.00	627 Gunnell, Ernest W.	4,500.00
NTL Whaley, Richard L.	4,500.00	92 McLelland, Harry W.	4,500.00	182 Poyer, Thomas J.	1,642.25	627 Parkin, Alvin	3,000.00
1 Mack, Ronald M.	70.02	92 Reynaga, Manuel	4,500.00	182 Thompson, Marvin R.	4,500.00	627 Secody, Daniel R.	4,500.00
1 Mulvihill, William J.	4,500.00	92 Tufto, Arnold B.	4,500.00	182 Ward, Clarence J.	4,500.00	627 Stanley, Alvin L.	4,500.00
6 Albert, Louis J.	4,500.00	92 Willis, Kenneth R.	4,500.00	193 Shaffer, Jon B.	28.00	636 Reynolds, Frank E.	4,500.00
6 Alford, Curtis Lee	4,500.00	101 Mack, Raymond	4,500.00	195 Okerstrom, John W.	4,500.00	647 Anderson, Morris E.	4,500.00
6 Almojea, Benny	3,000.00	101 Steele, Darrel J.	3,000.00	199 Dean, Frank L.	4,500.00	647 Anderson, Vern R.	4,500.00
6 Alvarez Sr., Adam	3,000.00	104 Adams, Leonard R.	4,500.00	199 Forehand, Falmer	4,500.00	647 Bodovinitz, Mark	3,000.00
6 Baughman, Berken L.	4,500.00	104 Benson, John M.	4,500.00	204 Bustamante, Laurence J.	4,500.00	647 Himmelspach, Thomas	4,500.00
6 Brain, Robert L.	4,500.00	104 Brown, Charles D.	4,500.00	237 Cicarelli, James	4,500.00	647 Pool, Bonney C.	4,500.00
6 Fong, Ying S.	3,000.00	104 Cameron, Earl L.	4,500.00	242 Ainsworth, Elmer	4,500.00	647 Simberg, Howard G.	4,500.00
6 Gonzales, Marciano	4,500.00	104 Dolan, Ed A.	4,500.00	305 Gonsoulin, Evrard	4,500.00	647 Thompson, Neil F.	4,500.00
6 Hill, Lofty	3,000.00	104 Frack, Charles J.	4,500.00	358 Johnson, James	3,000.00	667 Boggs, William R.	4,500.00
6 Kayser, Robert W.	4,500.00	104 Jackson, Jean R.	4,500.00	363 Shepherd, Malloy H.	4,500.00	667 Brosten, Alf	4,500.00
6 Price, Lavell R.	4,500.00	104 Menard, Ronald E.	4,500.00	363 Williford, Carl W.	4,500.00	667 Kemp, John L.	4,500.00
6 Pritchard, Teila	4,500.00	104 Pizarro, Baltazar D.	4,500.00	374 Clontz, Homer J.	4,500.00	667 McDavid, James F.	4,500.00
7 Bentzoni, Russell L.	4,500.00	104 Rogers, Edgar A.	4,500.00	374 Colwell, Randal S.	6,152.49	667 Miller, Roger L.	4,500.00
7 Knott, Donald E.	4,500.00	104 Schultz, Paul H.	4,500.00	374 Eichhorn, Jerome J.	4,500.00	667 Totten, Roy E.	3,000.00
26 Martin, George E.	4,500.00	104 Taylor, John T.	4,500.00	374 Globke, Edward L.	3,000.00	679 Cannon, Edward H.	4,500.00
26 Roberson, David L.	1,500.00	104 Woodward, Elmer C.	3,750.00	374 Hammonds, David L.	4,500.00	679 Carr, Jesse B.	4,500.00
26 Wilson, Otis S.	1,882.88	105 Carpenter, William E.	4,500.00	374 Miller, Bernard H.	3,000.00	679 Hennessee, Robert L.	4,500.00
26 Burns, Max C.	4,500.00	105 Deerfield, Robert D.	358.88	374 Oakes, Stuart W.	4,500.00	696 Bawyn, Floyd J.	4,500.00
27 Huffman, Richard G.	4,500.00	105 White, Paul J.	4,500.00	374 Williams, Robert E.	4,500.00	696 Hrabik, Edward J.	4,901.76
27 Mason, Melvin L.	4,500.00	106 Van Ostrand, John	4,500.00	433 Douglas, Carl G.	2,250.00	697 Skrzypchak, Norbert E.	4,500.00
28 Cariello, Louis J.	9,500.00	107 Beal, Clarence E.	4,500.00	433 King, William C.	4,500.00	744 Dawson Sr., James H.	4,500.00
28 Potter, William H.	9,500.00	107 Cislo, Andrew J.	4,500.00	433 Melton, Smallwood	4,500.00	744 Lincicome, Claude E.	4,500.00
29 Andruskiewicz, Joseph	4,500.00	108 Ledbetter, Ray L.	3,563.41	433 Parish, Kerry R.	4,500.00	744 Merckle, Everett F.	4,500.00
29 Dunham, David C.	4,500.00	109 Rogers Sr., Towner H.	3,000.00	433 Price, Romie J.	4,500.00	744 Wilson, Taylor	4,500.00
30 Spruill, Cyril C.	4,500.00	110 Griffith, Charles	4,500.00	433 Putnel, Arlie C.	4,500.00	802 Anderson, Howard M.	4,500.00
37 Paretto Jr., Stephen J.	4,500.00	110 Morris, Walter C.	4,500.00	433 Ward, Nathan L.	4,500.00	802 Smith Sr., Clarence G.	3,000.00
37 Sanchez, Alvin P.	4,500.00	112 Bennett, James H.	4,500.00	449 Kramer, Lloyd E.	4,500.00	906 Huey, Glenn W.	4,500.00
40 Antle, James D.	4,500.00	112 Waldrup, Austin C.	4,500.00	453 Frye, Lester L.	3,000.00	1212 Villalovos, Adolph	4,500.00
40 Hudgins, Howard R.	4,500.00	128 Birch, Robert J.	5,873.91	454 Brown, Walter E.	633.58	1247 Knor, Joseph S.	4,500.00
40 Wells, Richard	4,500.00	132 Lara, Jessie G.	4,500.00	454 Keeskes, James S.	4,500.00	1509 Gray, Willie F.	4,500.00
40 Wilson Jr., Edward A.	4,500.00	132 Martin, John W.	4,500.00	454 Keesler Sr., Thomas L.	4,500.00	1509 Kotke, Dale E.	4,500.00
72 Andersen, Randal D.	353.26	154 Berardelli, Vincent A.	4,500.00	454 Kendricks, Archie E.	4,500.00	1509 Zeka, Henry J.	4,500.00
72 Boyer, Lyle	4,500.00	154 Carouthers, Thomas J.	12,000.00	455 Caine, Robert V.	12,000.00	1592 Hoeffcker, George	4,500.00
72 Cogdel, Joseph L.	4,500.00	154 Carr, Thomas Edward	4,500.00	469 Chambers, Travis W.	4,500.00	1603 Vicars, William R.	4,500.00
72 Creager, Byron D.	527.63	154 Fontana, John J.	4,500.00				
72 Fish, William A.	4,500.00						
72 Gunter Sr., Chester L.	4,500.00						
72 Hanson, Newt A.	4,500.00						
72 Kelsey, Roy T.	3,000.00						
72 Melhoff, Andrew C.	4,500.00						
72 Phillips, Lloyd A.	4,500.00						
72 Rafferty, Larry	4,500.00						
72 Smith, Herman Lewis	4,500.00						
74 Kaiser, Gene A.	4,500.00						
74 Lyle, James J.	4,500.00						
74 Terry, James A.	9,525.80						
79 Broussard, Otis V.	4,500.00						
83 Hernandez, Alexander	4,500.00						

IF YOU HAVE NOT yet been furnished this information, contact your local lodge, secure the beneficiary forms, complete the required information and forward to the Administrative Office of the Pension Fund, 754 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 522, Kansas City, KS 66101, at the earliest possible date. NOTE: These additional death benefits can only be derived for members who worked under a collective bargaining agreement with an employer contributing to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust.

Moving? Tell us where...

Name _____
 New Address _____
 City _____
 State or Province _____ Zip _____
 Local Lodge No. _____ Register No. _____

(Also please notify the secretary of your local lodge.)

Mail form to:

Publications Department
753 State Avenue, Suite 565
Kansas City, KS 66101

(Allow five weeks for change of address.)

We must stop Bush's rampage

His radical agenda and tax-cut budget weaken worker protections, rob Medicare to give the rich a big tax cut

IN THE FIRST HUNDRED days of his presidency, George W. Bush has been on an anti-worker rampage. Just look at a few of his deeds:

- He reversed a Clinton executive order that kept law-breaking companies from getting government contracts.
- He abolished federal labor-management partnerships.
- He banned project labor agreements.
- He issued an executive order requiring government contractors to post job site notices informing workers that they don't have to join unions.
- He delayed rules to help workers with black lung disease.
- He said he would not sign a campaign finance law unless it included "pay-check deception" language designed to weaken unions' political voice.
- He called for "fast-track" bargaining authority so he can extend NAFTA into all of South America.

● He killed a workplace ergonomics rule originally proposed by Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole under George Bush Sr. — a rule that OSHA spent ten years developing — to address the 1.6 million repetitive motion injuries workers suffer each year.

Watching Bush work, you'd never know this man slipped into the White House on a technicality, with half a million fewer votes than his opponent. He is acting as though he has the entire country behind him.

Now he wants to pass a \$1.6 trillion tax cut that is not only unfair to workers, but will also deplete the Medicare surplus and threaten the U.S. government's ability to take care of business.

You can bet that this tax cut will be followed by a tax increase just a few years down the road.

That's what has happened in Texas and Florida when the Bushes got in.

As governor of Texas, Bush forced through a property tax cut, even though fewer than eight percent of Texans said it was a high priority. Now they are dealing with their worst budget crisis in a decade.

Texas is so broke that Republican state senator Chris Harris, vice-chairman of the finance committee, has proposed a constitutional amendment to rollback property taxes to pre-Bush levels. Others say that isn't enough.

Texas is making desperate cuts in education, health care, and highway repairs. Already a low-service state (they spend the least per citizen of all

The governments of Texas and Florida are suffering their worst budget crises in decades — will the U.S. government be the Bush family's next victim?

states), when Texas cuts services, they cut to the bone. As state senator and finance committee member Eddie Lucio told *the New Republic*, "We are having to scrounge around for some very necessary funding."

The president's brother Jeb has done the same thing in Florida. When he was elected governor two years ago, he vowed to slash taxes, even though only three percent of the people said that was a high priority. They would have preferred he try to improve education, crime prevention, and health care, according to polls.

But the state government was enjoying large surpluses, thanks to eight years of fiscal prudence under Democratic Governor Lawton Chiles and a strong economy. Bush saw his opportunity and took it, lobbying hard for the largest tax cut in the history of the state.

Bush cut corporate taxes and the intangibles tax, leaving in place the

sales tax, which hits working people the hardest. One-third of the benefits from his intangibles tax cut went to the richest six percent of Floridians.

Then the bad news hit. Economists' projections proved to be wrong. Shortfalls began popping up. Because the state constitution will not allow deficit spending, Bush has had to cut much-needed funds for health care for pregnant women, juvenile detention centers, teachers, and more.

Even Jeb's fellow Republicans admit the tax cut was a mistake. Republican state senator Burt Saunders told *the New Republic*, "We should have gone a little more slowly . . . we have significant needs in Florida that have for many years gone unmet."

Don Sullivan, another Republican senator, admits, "I can't see where anybody will come out ahead." Jim King, Republican senate majority leader, says the 1999 tax cut "probably wasn't the smartest thing we could have done."

That is a masterful understatement. As the fastest growing state in the nation, Florida needs to increase spending just to keep up with demand. Instead, they are cutting. In a few years, they will be in serious trouble.

So will the federal government, if George W. is successful. His ill-conceived budget would slash programs in ten of the government's 25 agencies. Most of the cuts would be in programs important to families: money for police, environmental programs, energy conservation, pediatric training, and health services.

And of course he hasn't overlooked worker protections. He wants to cut the Department of Labor budget by nearly ten percent, gutting enforcement programs and the NLRB.

Perhaps worse than these cuts is what his budget will do to Medicare.

A March 14 editorial in the *Washington Post* explained that Medicare is divided into two parts. Hospital costs are paid for through payroll taxes. That's the money in the trust fund, which now shows a surplus. The rest of



Charles W. Jones
International President

the costs are paid with general tax funds and patient premiums.

Bush's budget would begin to use the payroll tax (trust funds) to pay for expenses other than hospital costs. As a result, the Medicare trust fund surplus would be depleted much sooner than projected. When that happens, **taxes will have to be increased to make up for revenue lost with Bush's tax cut.**

As the *Washington Post* editors say, "Judged by a realistic standard, the tax cut is more than the government can reasonably afford."

Bush calls himself a "compassionate conservative," but he acts like a self-absorbed radical. His tax cut, his budget, and his legislative agenda are all bad for working families — and for the entire nation. He must be held back.

Seeing the Senate reduce his tax cut by one-fourth was encouraging. This body may be able to resist his onslaught. The House of Representatives, with its five-seat Republican majority, seems inclined to pass his proposals on a strictly party-line vote.

Call your senators and congressmen and ask them to hold the line on Bush's budget and tax cut. We cannot allow him to ramrod his irresponsible fiscal agenda through Congress. □

Letters to the Editors

Give credit where credit is due

I WOULD LIKE to provide some additional facts to the article, "L-74 members at foreman training," which appeared in the Nov-Dec 2000 issue of *the Boilermaker Reporter*. While the participants, all employed by Babcock and Wilcox on Reliant Energy/Houston Lighting and Power jobs, were paid their hourly wages by B&W, billed to the client, all other costs — materials, instructor wages, meeting rooms, and hotel accommodations, food, and travel expenses for all participants and instructors (totaling around \$20,000) — were provided by the Boilermaker National Apprenticeship Program and the Southeast Area Apprenticeship Program.

Credit should be given to these programs — and the instructors: Carl Oliver and John Standish from the National Training Center, and Terry Barnes and Dwain Smith from the Southeast — for making this seminar a success. This seminar was co-sponsored, not only by Babcock and Wilcox/Reliant Energy/Houston Lighting and Power, but also by the National Apprenticeship Program, the Southeast Area, and every Boilermaker who has a deduction taken

from their check for the apprenticeship program. All of these things combined to make this seminar a great success and truly a benefit to the Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

L. DWAIN SMITH
Local 40 Instructor
Elizabethtown, Ky.

L-112's Phillips sends thanks to Southeast area's negotiators

ON BEHALF OF the members and families of Local 112, I would like to express the deepest gratitude to President Jones, the International staff, and Southeast Area IVP Newton Jones for their diligence and perseverance during our recent negotiations, which resulted in what is a historic and remarkable agreement.

This agreement will help to alleviate the disparity between different areas of the country and enable us to provide our contractors and owners the quality manpower for which we are renowned. High wage rate differences made our interstates have a one-way appearance, but the sunny South looks much better now.

As successful as our leaders were, we must never forget that without the support, hard work, craftsmanship,

and unity of Boilermakers on the jobs, all of these efforts would be in vain. Hats off to our brothers and sisters for a job well done!

DANNY G. PHILLIPS
Local 112 Bus. Mgr.
Mobile, Ala.

L-108's Brasher speaks out

THE ASSAULT ON the American worker has begun. Comp time instead of overtime? Give me a break! What can construction Boilermakers look forward to? Forty-hour paychecks and the promise of time off in the summer? We get the time off now.

Oh, and let's not vote on a minimum wage increase. Poor people don't need any more money on their check. We are going to give them a tax cut!

Do away with the OSHA ergonomics rule. It puts too much of a burden on business. Don't worry about the employees, we can get more of them.

Put our Social Security money in the stock market? The bottom can fall out of the market at any time — in fact, it just did. I want to put my retirement in something safer, like a mason jar buried in the back yard.

How about easing the restrictions on arsenic levels in the water we drink?

That way, working people will die before we reach retirement age. Isn't that what businesses would like to have, a work force that when it has out lived its usefulness just dies off???

ROGER BRASHER, L-108
Hueytown, Ala.

Got something to say?

KEEP IT SHORT and sweet. Avoid profanity and personal attacks.



SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

The Boilermaker Reporter
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Kansas City KS 66101
FAX: (913) 281-8104

E-mail: dcaaswell@boilermakers.org
or cdillon@boilermakers.org