

IN THESE

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Local 169 members replace historic Douglas Fir pipeline

Boilermakers use coated steel to replace wooden penstock in Wisconsin

WOOD AND WATER don't mix, and water usually wins. These two principles have been put to the test the last few years by a deteriorating, mile-long wooden pipeline (penstock) that feeds into the Victoria Hydroelectric Station in Rockland, Wis.

There were so many leaks that project manager Jim Mennes said, The old pipe looked like a sprinkler. There were thousands of leaks every year.

Since the ten-foot diameter penstock was made of Douglas Fir, workers would use wooden shims to seal the leaks. They would wear rain jackets while working, which wasn't too bad in the summer, but Mennes said in the winter, It was not a fun job.

The leaks were so bad, that the penstock's support saddles and foundation were also deteriorating.

So in the summer of 2001, 18 Local 169 members, Detroit, Mich., began building a 9.5-foot diameter, spiral-welded steel pipeline to replace the wooden penstock, which was installed in 1959 to replace the original one built in 1929. The penstock's steel bands, set 3.5 inches on center in 1929, had stayed in service for 72 years.

Mike Pederson, project manager for Azco, Inc., the pipeline installation contractor, said he was a little sentimental about seeing it go. It was an engineering marvel, the way the wood would expand under pressure and enhance the seal. It was really neat to



THE DAYS OF repairing leaks in the old wooden Victoria pipeline (at right) are history. Above, Local 169 members working for Azco Inc. install the first section of new pipeline below the surge tank at the bottom of the pipeline, above the Upper Peninsula Power Co.'s Victoria Hydroelectric Station.

see. I don't think there would be too many people who have the skills to make something like that today.

But don't worry, this was not the last wooden penstock. According to Local 169 business agent Babe Jenerou, the Upper Peninsula Power Co. (UPPCO), a subsidiary of Wisconsin Public Service, owns numerous penstocks in 15 countries, with several located in the U.S. q

Source: Marty Mulcahy, editor, Detroit Building Trades



Drug firms spend big money to keep prices and profits high

Lobbying, campaign donations, advertising add up to huge profits

IN TEN YEARS, the typical senior citizen will be spending one-third of his or her income on prescription drugs, if they have no assistance from the government. That's what the latest projections from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) imply.

Drug prices rose more than 17 percent last year on average, and have been climbing at double digit rates for more than a decade.

So have profits for drug companies. Last year, companies in the pharmaceutical sector had average profits of 18.5 percent more than four times what other industries earned.

Meanwhile, neither Congress nor President Bush seems particularly interested in finding an effective way to make prescription medicine more affordable. Perhaps that is because drug companies have the best weapon for influencing legislation: money.

Drug companies spend more on political influence than any other industry. In the 1999-2000 election cycle,

they paid nearly \$200 million for lobbying expenses and campaign donations. The drug industry has 625 registered lobbyists on its payroll in Washington, D.C. That's 90 more lobbyists than there are members of Congress. And drugmakers are not afraid to engage in a highly deceptive tactic called astroturf lobbying, in which a corporate

campaign is disguised as a grassroots effort.

Meanwhile, American consumers pay an average of 30 percent more for prescription medicines than Canadian consumers do even though those drugs are manufactured right here in the United States.

Continued on page 2

WHO SPENDS THE MOST IN WASHINGTON

1999-2000 POLITICAL SPENDING (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)		
INDUSTRY		
DRUG COMPANIES	\$177	\$20
INSURANCE COMPANIES	\$128	\$41
TELEPHONE COMPANIES	\$123	\$21
ELECTRIC COMPANIES	\$120	\$19
COMMERCIAL BANKS	\$66	\$25
		LOBBYING EXPENSES CAMPAIGN DONATIONS

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Drug firms spend big to keep prices high

Continued from page 1

Drug companies negotiate these lower prices with Canada's national health care service, which provides health care to all Canadians. In the U.S., there is no large organization to negotiate low prices, and patents and advertising keep boosting prices up.

Patents push up drug prices

PATENTS GIVE INVENTORS a temporary, government-enforced monopoly on the sale of their products, providing an incentive for innovation.

Patents are important so important the Constitution provides for them. Without patent protection, drug companies would have little incentive to spend the hundreds of millions of dollars on research that prescription drugs cost to develop.

But drug companies have learned ways to manipulate patent protection to increase their profits, while providing little or no medical improvement for consumers.

According to a report by the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM), more than 60 percent of the new drugs approved by the FDA from 1989 to 2000 have been so-called me too drugs, slightly reformulated versions of drugs already on the market. Though they do not offer any significant improvement over the old drugs, drug companies advertise them heavily to get consumers to switch to the new, more expensive versions.

For example, Nexium, a recently approved ulcer medication, is a modification of Prilosec, a big selling drug slated to lose its patent protection soon. Clarinex is a reformulation of the allergy drug Claritin. Sarafem, now being sold to treat premenstrual irritability, is the same drug as Prozac, but has been renamed and repackaged, with a new patent for this new use.

Reformulated drugs cost more than the drugs they replace, even though they are no more effective.

The NIHCM study reports that much of the increased spending on drugs over the past decade is for drugs that offer no benefits over those on the market. Only 35 percent of the drugs approved from 1989 to 2000 were new chemicals acting in new ways to treat disease.

In their report *Bitter Medicine*, ABC News tells how Bristol-Myers Squibb extended their monopoly on their anti-anxiety drug BuSpar just hours before its patent was set to expire. In order to keep generic drug companies from putting a generic form of the same drug on the market at a much lower price, they applied for and were given a patent on the chemical that BuSpar becomes as soon as you swallow it.

They did nothing to improve the drug, yet their monopoly stayed in place for

four months before a judge ruled that the new patent couldn't keep lower-cost generics off the market. In that time, they made about \$200 million selling the drug, far more than the attorney's fees they spent fighting to keep the patent.

Advertising raises consumer demand, driving up prices

ADVERTISING DIRECTLY to consumers is also given as a reason for higher drug prices. The AARP reports that the drug industry spent \$2.5 billion on mass media advertising in 2000, more than three times what they spent in 1996.

This rapid increase started in 1997, when the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) relaxed its rules about direct-to-consumer drug advertising. Drug companies say these ads provide valuable education for consumers, but critics charge they are the main reason for such rapid growth in drug prices.

One thing is certain. They work. A study by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation shows that 30 percent of patients ask their doctors about a specific drug they have seen advertised. Nearly half of those who ask go home with a prescription for the drug or a free sample. An NIHCM study shows that six of the seven most heavily advertised drugs in 2000 are among the drugs most prescribed to older Americans for chronic conditions: Vioxx, Celebrex, Prilosec, Claritin, Paxil, and Zocor.

The most heavily promoted drug in 2000 was Vioxx. Merck spent \$161 million advertising Vioxx in 2000 more than Pepsi or Budweiser spent promoting their products. And it paid off. Sales of the arthritis medicine quadrupled to \$1.5 billion.

Those promotion costs include the free samples and commercial gifts drug companies routinely give to doctors. Robert Goodman, M.D., assistant professor of clinical medicine at Columbia University in New York, believes both direct-to-consumer and to-doctor promotions lead to increased use of more expensive drugs that are not significantly better than cheaper ones.

In an article published by AARP, Goodman compared two heavily advertised and expensive arthritis medicines, Celebrex and Vioxx, to the nonprescription and much cheaper drug, ibuprofen.

Many people, as a result of direct-to-consumer advertising, think they're more effective at treating pain than [over-the-counter] ibuprofen. That's absolutely not true for pain, he says.

Goodman explains that Vioxx and Celebrex have less gastrointestinal side effects, so they are better for people with ulcers. But he goes on to say that they are being prescribed as

painkillers for everybody, even young, healthy people who could be treated with over-the-counter medications.

What happened to the drug benefit for Medicare?

WHATEVER THE CAUSE, rising drug prices affect senior citizens more adversely than younger consumers. Seniors not only consume more drugs, most of them are on fixed incomes and cannot afford to see prices continue to increase. About 27 percent of the 40 million Medicare beneficiaries have no drug benefit insurance.

In his presidential campaign in 2000, George W. Bush promised he would enact a prescription drug benefit for Medicare. This spring he has again raised this issue, but he has not yet proposed a viable program.

Bush's only proposal so far is a bill that would encourage drug companies to offer senior citizens the opportunity to buy discount cards, intended to reduce the cost of drugs by 10-25 percent. The government would not monitor the discounts these drugs provide, nor would they establish price limits to ensure that the cards actually reduce the cost of drugs.

Similar discount cards are already available from a variety of sources. They reduce the price of drugs less than ten percent, according to a study conducted by the Government Accounting Office (GAO). In some cases, the GAO found that people using discount cards paid more for a drug than consumers without cards. For example, the average price for Prilosec, a top-selling drug for heartburn and ulcers, was \$115.79 for peo-

ple using discount cards, but at some pharmacies it was available for as little as \$110.69 without the card.

Discount cards are more effective in reducing the cost for generic drugs than in reducing costs for brand-name patent-protected medicines. They appear to be more of a sales gimmick than a legitimate way to ensure that senior citizens can afford to buy the drugs they need. Something needs to be done, because without government intervention, either to regulate drug prices or provide seniors with assistance, the average retiree will be spending one-third of his or her income on medication within ten years at the current rates of increase.

A report by Dana P. Goldman, Geoffrey F. Joyce, and Jesse Dylan Malkin, in *Topics in Economic Analysis & Policy*, shows that at present, the average retiree spends \$642 out of pocket on prescription medication every year, and 8.2 percent pay more than \$2,000.

Several proposals before Congress would reduce costs significantly. A zero-deductible plan that caps out-of-pocket expenses at \$4,000 per year would lower average out-of-pocket costs to \$442, while reducing the percent of persons paying over \$2,000 to 5.5 percent. A zero-deductible plan that does not cap out-of-pocket expenses would reduce those expenses to \$449 on average, while lowering the percent of retirees who pay over \$2,000 to 5.3 percent.

Either plan would go a long way toward solving the problem. Because President Bush's plan is largely voluntary, it is unclear how much it would do to lower drug costs for retirees. q

Rising health costs lead to increases in Plan M rates

DUE TO INCREASES in both health care costs and inflation, the trustees of the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund are raising the premiums for Plan M coverage effective July 1, 2002, for all units in Plan M as of April 1, 2002, and effective May 1, 2002, for all units entering after April 30, 2002.

The chart below compares the new rate with the April 1, 2002 rate.

The increase is necessary to maintain continued participation in the plan at the existing level of benefits.

The Board of Trustees will continue to review the fund's experience and keep all parties apprised of any additional changes that may be necessary to assure the continued strength of the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund. q

	SINGLE		FAMILY	
	April 1, 2002	July 1, 2002	April 1, 2002	July 1, 2002
Medical	\$204.50	\$261.00	\$456.50	\$576.00
Dental	20.00	25.00	49.10	62.00
Vision	3.25	4.00	6.90	9.00
Life Insurance	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50

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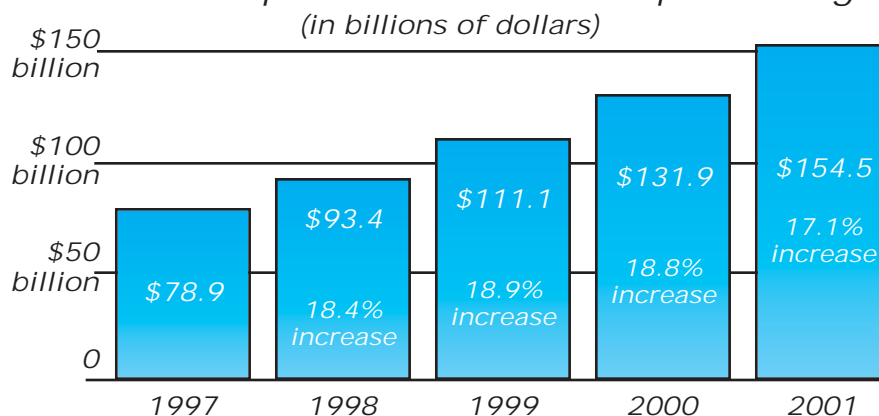
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Total U.S. Expenditures on Prescription Drugs



Americans are buying more prescription drugs and paying more for the drugs they buy, driving total expenditures up — along with drug industry profits. SOURCE: National Institute for

Boilermakers meet manpower needs

Boom in new powerplant construction reveals nation's shortage of skilled workers

THANKS TO THE Boilermakers Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training (MOST) Programs, and the great working relationships developed through our tripartite conferences between the Boilermakers, owners, and contractors, we have been able to meet industry demands for skilled workers.

For over a decade, the boiler industry was in a repair mode. Field construction Boilermakers were hard pressed to find work. Then the U.S. construction market began expanding. In 1998, power producers anticipated electricity shortages and started building new powerplants. Suddenly, the Boilermakers were struggling to supply labor to our contractors. Scheduling work to meet manpower needs became an art form.

According to the Engineering News-Record (ENR), the recent boom follows a bust in powerplant activity from 1993 to 1998, when the uncertainty of deregulation drove annual new contract awards to an average of \$3.6 billion.

In 2001, new contracts totaled \$17.5 billion; contracts are predicted to surpass \$20 billion in 2002.

It's been a difficult roller coaster ride for Boilermakers as the industry's manpower needs go up and down.

The boiler industry and boiler craft over the last ten to 15 years had been in repair work mode with fewer jobs for fewer people, reports Boilermaker Construction Division Director Dale Skip Branscum.

Labor was migrating to other fields or retiring when the market was hit with the double-barrel shots of Clean Air Act retrofit deadlines for coal-fired powerplants and new plants ordered by owners to meet the looming energy shortages. Our manpower was being pulled in two directions.

Suddenly welders were in high demand and were most often the craft shortest in supply.

Pressure welders are probably the most specialized and the most cov-

eted by contractors, said Branscum. We focus and pay particular attention to welders in both training and recruitment.

And when Boilermakers arrive on the job site, they are trained, certified, and ready to work.

The Boilermakers union certifies its welders through the Common Arc Welder Certification Program that was jointly created in 1988 by the National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers (NACBE) and the Boilermakers union, and placed under the umbrella program of the Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training (MOST) Fund.

The Common Arc Program provides precertification with multiple contractors for specific processes, eliminating the need for retesting at each new job. It saves the Boilermaker services construction industry millions of dollars each year, making Boilermakers a more competitive craft.

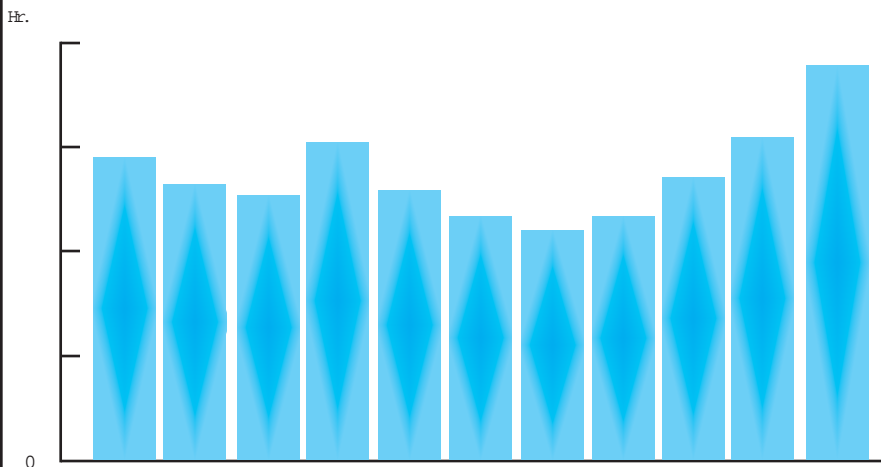
With Common Arc, the Boilermaker arrives at the work site already tested and ready to perform productive, quality work that gets the owner's facility back into production in a shorter time and more cost effectively. Such a commitment to performance has made the Boilermakers the most progressive union in America in the eyes of its employers and the industries we serve.

The ENR calls our certified boiler-tube welders kings among welders because of their high level of skill, difficult working conditions, and tremendous demand at peak times in the spring and fall when utilities traditionally shutdown plants for maintenance.

The surge of new powerplant construction may taper off toward the end of this year, and the Boilermakers roller coaster ride may start its decline, once again. But as technology changes, so do the Boilermakers. Our roller coaster ride may still be on the rise. q

Source: William G. Krizan, Engineering News-Record

Hours worked by union Boilermakers show



* Estimated

Source: National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers

Unemployment hits

Job market may get worse before it gets better

WHILE CONSTRUCTION Boilermakers have been enjoying a boom, most workers are feeling greater pressure than ever from layoffs. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported in April that the unemployment rate had reached six percent. Prior to the April announcement, only the most pessimistic economic forecasters were predicting a six percent rate, and even they didn't expect it to arrive until next fall. According to the AFL-CIO, the consensus among economists was a 5.6 percent rate for the second quarter, April-June.

This unemployment rate increase comes even as the economy shows some signs of recovery. The economy grew at an annual rate of 5.8 percent during the first three months of this year, faster than it has grown since 1999. However, growth in the economy does not guarantee job growth or a reduction in the unemployment rate.

Growth in productivity expands the economy without creating new jobs. During the 1990s, productivity grew at a

rate of about 2.8 percent a year. If productivity continues to grow at that rate, the economy can grow 2.8 percent without the need for more workers.

The pace of layoffs also increased in April, and more layoffs are projected. According to the outplacement firm Challenger, Gray, and Christmas, U.S. companies announced 112,645 layoffs in April 2002, up from the 102,315 layoffs in March 2002, but nearly one-third below the 165,564 layoffs announced in April of last year.

Areas hardest hit by the economic slowdown are those whose economies depend strongly on manufacturing, tourism, or computer software production. They include areas of both high union density and low union density.

The economic slowdown is also squeezing state budgets. Seventeen states and the District of Columbia reported budget shortfalls for fiscal year 2002 above five percent. Taken together, these states face shortfalls totaling \$27 billion. Alaska tops the list, with a budget shortfall equal to nearly one-third of their entire budget. q

Good Job!

Letters of Praise from Owners & Employers

Chattanooga Boiler commends members of Local Lodge 110

I WOULD LIKE to take this opportunity to commend the Boilermakers you (Ralph Havard, bus. mgr. of Local 110, Hattiesburg, Miss.) sent to the Enterprise Generating Facility. The pride and professionalism in achieving the goal of a safe and quality job, while maintaining a tough schedule, were evident in the way they performed at the site. The Local 110 Boilermakers jumped right in with our NIB Boilermakers with a can-do attitude. Chattanooga Boiler and Tank would like to say thank you for a job well done.

RANDY J. MURPHY, construction mgr. Chattanooga Boiler & Tank Co.

Local 193 members meet schedule despite delay

ON DEC. 19, 2001, we completed the work on the installation of the Indian River water condenser. Due to problems outside the Boilermakers' control,

the project had been extended, but the Boilermakers met the challenge and were able to meet the schedule.

As an owner, I want to make sure that the members of Local 193 are aware that I recognize the professionalism, craftsmanship, and personal commitment that each man put into helping us meet our goal on this project.

JOHN P. BREWSTER, NRG vice pres. North American Operation

Alstom looks forward to working with Local 30 again

ALSTOM INTEGRATED C-E Services, Inc., was contracted by the Weyerhaeuser Corporation to perform maintenance on two power boilers.

The first, Riley Boiler, started on August 20, 2001. The second, the #2 Hog Fuel Boiler, began on September 10, 2001. Local 30 (Greensboro, N.C.) supplied the manpower to accomplish the work.

This letter is to thank those who participated in these outages. Both outages resulted in approximately 18,000 man-hours with no reportable acci-

dents, little or no rework, and within the time frame allotted. As a matter of fact, both outages were completed ahead of schedule.

Speaking for my staff and myself, it was both a pleasure and honor to be part of the team.

Weyerhaeuser and Alstom are looking forward to upcoming outages with the expectations that the results will be the same as the last time.

G. D. EDWARDS, construction mgr. Alstom Integrated C-E Services, Inc.

Contractors Cargo praises Local 92 members

I WOULD LIKE to take this opportunity to thank you (Ed Marquez, bus. mgr. of Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif.) for your assistance in helping Contractors Cargo be successful at the project here in Shafter. As you know, we are about to wind up here and within the next few weeks this highly successful job will pass into history.

It is with great pride as a brother Boilermaker that I can thank you and the Boilermakers who worked here over the last 14 months for being a major contributor to our success. Our craft people stood at the forefront of most of our receiving and material withdrawal crews by being meticulous in record keeping, extraordinarily safe, using their rigging skills to load and

unload trucks with loads ranging from several hundred pounds to over 300,000 pounds, and providing good care and custody of some very expensive machinery and equipment for the four power plants at La Palma.

In particular, thanks to Bob Traister, who functioned as my assistant superintendent here and prior to this job at the Rye Canyon Wind Tunnel Project. He shouldered a good portion of the responsibilities here and did them well. He will be an asset wherever he goes in the future.

Also, hats off to the Boilermakers who served as foremen here, supervising mixed craft crews, some with little or no training at rigging, with a superb safety record. Chris Frumento, Vince Marcucella, Pat Foley, Jim Holland, and Tim Barker filled these positions here at various times during the course of the job. Joe Collins and his crew did a great job on the stacks and then moved into the material handling job as one of the foremen.

Danny Salazar served well as the steward and the rest of the Boilermakers and apprentices you dispatched to us were top notch. Brian Ortiz, in particular as an apprentice, did some good research for us, saving the customer lots of headaches.

Thanks, Ed. I really appreciate being associated with the Local 92 Boilermakers.

L-13 members meet with Pennsylvania reps.



IT'S A THUMBS-UP meeting between Local 13 members and Pennsylvania Governor Mark Schweiker. L to r., Mark Strachan, Bill Morgan, Granville Strachan, Gov. Schweiker, Jim Heron, Rich Crouse, Bill Hill, and (partially pictured) Robert Greenwood.

IN JANUARY, MEMBERS of Local 13's political action committee, Philadelphia, Pa., met with members of the Pennsylvania state legislature about their concerns.

While there, they also met with Pennsylvania Governor Mark Schweiker. As you can tell by the above photo, the meeting went very well. q

L-455's McGahey chairs area Democratic Party



Local 455's Bobby McGahey, center, meets with former Vice President Al Gore (l.) and Doug Jackson, state senator from Tennessee's District 25.



Local 455's Bobby McGahey (r.) meets with former Vice President Al Gore (l.) and John C. Tidwell, state representative for Tennessee's District 74.

BOBBY MCGAHEY, a 21-year member of Local 455, Sheffield, Ala., is a member of his local lodge's legislative committee. Each year he attends the Boilermakers' annual conference of the Legislative Education-Action Program (LEAP) in Washington, D.C. But he is also active back home, serving as chair-

man of the Democrat Party in Humphreys County, Tenn., where he resides.

As chairman, he recently joined former Vice President Al Gore to show his support for Tennessee state legislators up for re-election: Senator Doug Jackson (District 25) and Representative

AFL-CIO to invest \$750 million to aid New Yorkers

THE AFL-CIO INVESTMENT Program is putting \$750 million in New York, N.Y., utilizing union pension capital to generate \$250 million in homeownership mortgages for union members and public

employees, \$250 million to finance multifamily housing for working families in the five boroughs, and \$250 million for commercial development in Manhattan and across the city. q

MAKE IT SAFE

HAZARD ALERT:

A summer rainstorm can prove deadly if lightning strikes you

LIGHTNING KILLS ABOUT 80 people in the U.S. each year and injures hundreds. Construction workers, laborers, machine operators, engineers, roofers, and pipefitters have been struck by lightning most often on the job.

And your chances of getting hit by lightning are even greater if you live in or work in Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico, and Wyoming.

In most places, lightning hits most often in late afternoon in spring and summer. But lightning can hit anyone in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Lightning can hit the same place many times, too.

Lightning can stop your heart and kill you. But you can also get burns, nervous system damage, and other health problems. Some of these you may not notice until months after a lightning strike.

Protect Yourself

WHEN TO ACT

IF YOU HEAR THUNDER and see lightning, act right away especially if you count 30 seconds or less between the thunder and lightning. If the thunder gets louder or you see the lightning more often, the storm is getting closer. (Sometimes lightning will strike out of a sunny sky ten miles or more from a storm.)

Lightning hits tall things, metal, and water—or a person standing on open ground or a roof.

Your work site should have a plan for what to do in a lightning storm. (OSHA does not allow work on or from scaffolds in storms in some cases. See the Code of Federal Regulations: CFR 1926.451(f)(12).)

IF A STORM IS NEAR

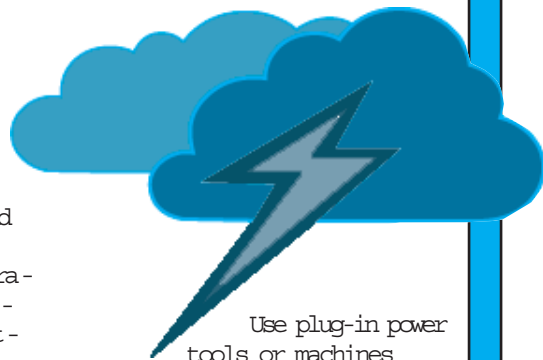
Do NOT:

Be the tallest object in an area.
Stand out in the open.
Stand under a tree. (If the tree is hit, you can be, too.)

Stand in a gazebo or open shelter, like a baseball dugout or bus shelter.

Stand next to metal objects pipes or light poles or door frames or metal fences or communication towers indoors or out.

Stay next to water ponds or running water indoors or out. (Do not take a shower.)



Use plug-in power tools or machines indoors or out.

Use a plug-in telephone (or a computer with a modem) indoors or out.

Do:

Get into an enclosed building like a house or shopping center, or school or office building.

Get into a car, van, truck, or bus with the windows closed all the way. Do not touch the doors or other metal inside. (Open cabs on heavy equipment will not protect you. A convertible with the top up will not protect you. Rubber tires will not protect you.)

If you are out in the open and have nowhere to go, squat down with your feet together and only let your feet touch the ground. Put your hands over your ears (to protect against noise). That way, you are so low the lightning may hit something else. And by not touching much of the ground, you have less chance that the lightning will move across the ground to you.

Do not lie flat on the ground.

Do not go back to work outdoors until a half-hour after the lightning and thunder stop.

IF SOMEONE IS HIT:

CALL emergency services (911).

A victim does not stay electrified. You can touch him/her right away. If the victim has no pulse, try CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation). If there is a portable defibrillator, follow the instructions. But be careful about staying in the open in a storm to take care of the victim or you can get hit, too. If you can, move the victim to a shelter.

For more information, call your local union, the Center to Protect Workers Rights (CPWR) (301-578-8500 or www.cpwr.com), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (1-800-35-NIOSH or www.cdc.gov/niosh), or OSHA (1-800-321-OSHA or www.osha.gov). Or check the website www.elcosh.org.

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Safety tips in Spanish

THIS ISSUE'S SAFETY COLUMN, Weather can be dangerous, too: A summer rainstorm can prove deadly if lightning strikes you, is also available in Spanish. CPWR

has supplied us with a number of safety columns in both English and Spanish that we can make available in camera-ready form to any lodge that believes they may be useful. For

The New Domino Theory

Barry Lynn believes globalization may make some key industries vulnerable to the whims of tyrants — or weather

IT DOESN'T TAKE MUCH to convince American and Canadian workers that globalization is not the goose that laid the golden egg. To economists in Washington, corrections of the global labor market caused by shifting production offshore are abstractions, just numbers in an equation.

To workers, they take the form of a pink slip.

Now Barry Lynn, writing in *Harper's* (June 2002) suggests another reason to distrust the globalization of production. The collapse of production in one country could, in the right circumstances, topple industries like dominoes worldwide.

As Lynn explains it, We now live in a world where a single earthquake, or terrorist attack, or embargo, could in a moment bring our economy to a halt, and, if played right by some smart state, might well threaten our national wealth and power.

The supply chain for many products is spread wide & thin

DURING THE 1980s and 1990s, U.S. companies sold off their production facilities to raise stock prices. Now, instead of manufacturing the products they sell, they rely on a network of providers in various countries. For example, television may be assembled in Mexico from parts manufactured in dozens of countries in Europe, Asia, and South America. If any one of these suppliers goes down, the company is unable to bring their product to market.

Lynn refers to our dependence on these chains of vendors as new forms of foreign dependence for U.S. companies and the U.S. economy.

The world has changed enormously since Henry Ford built his River Rouge plant in Michigan. In its day, River Rouge was the largest single manufacturing complex in the United States, with peak employment of about 120,000 during World War II. Yet even at its peak, Ford could walk from one

end of the plant to the other. If the production of door handles slowed, he could assign more workers to that area until it caught up.

It is unlikely that anyone who works for Ford today has even seen all of their plants, and the newer technologies are even more spread out.

Dell is one of the world's largest computer sales companies. But they don't actually manufacture the computers. They rely on suppliers and sub-suppliers around the globe to manufacture the 4,500 parts they need, then ship them to Dell for assembly.

Because they have reduced inventories to reduce overhead, computers are assembled just before they're shipped from parts that have been delivered only a few days earlier. If a single shipment goes astray, the entire operation gets held up. This vulnerability has already delayed shipments for Dell and many other computer and high technology products, as purchasers of those products can tell you.

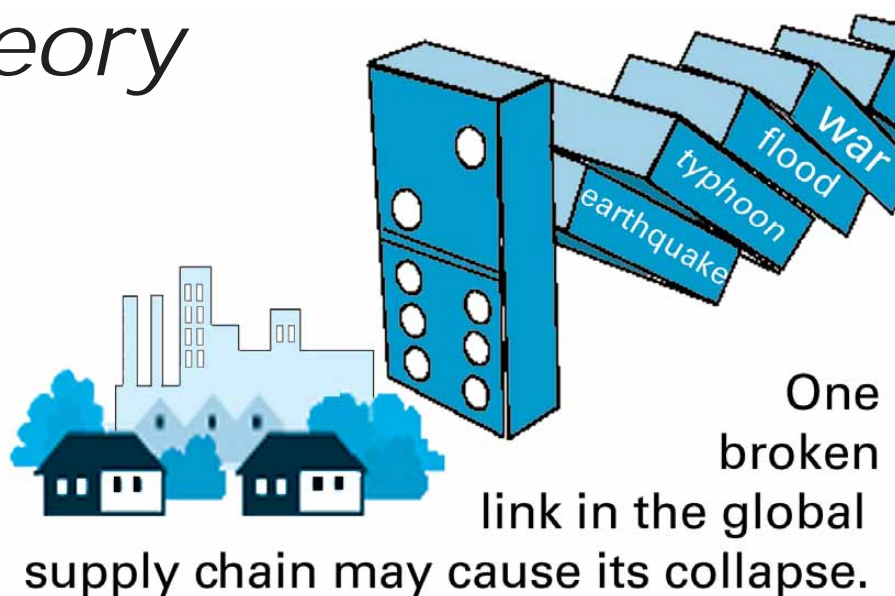
On Sept. 12, 2001, much of the manufacturing activity in the U.S. came to a halt because Bush had closed the borders and corporations could not get their supplies from overseas. Ford, DaimlerChrysler, Toyota North America, and many other companies had to shut down production.

Most of these delays have just been annoyances. At worst, they caused the affected companies to lose a few sales. But Lynn points out that as the world economy becomes more efficient, these delays could have worse results.

One country's advantage is the next one's Achilles heel

THE VERY ADVANTAGES that convinced U.S. corporations to move their production overseas may lead to disaster. While overall production has been distributed worldwide, the number of plants producing any single part has tended to shrink.

When all companies can sell their products worldwide, that also means that they are competing with every



other company making a similar product. That puts them under enormous pressure to grow so big no one can beat them or buy them out.

Vendors supplying parts are under the same pressures, so the number of plants producing any single product tends to shrink. As a result, GM, Ford, and DaimlerChrysler may unknowingly

A decade ago, no large U.S. company was dependent on China or Taiwan as a market or a place for production.

hire the same company to build their fuel injectors. In fact, that company may be the only one capable of building those fuel injectors, and they may build them all in one plant.

Countries follow the same path. To exploit their market advantage, they tend to specialize in producing a particular product or type of product. For example, Taiwan produces nearly 90 percent of the world's scanners. Were anything to happen to Taiwan's ability to produce these devices, companies that sell scanners worldwide would be adversely affected, not to mention the companies that use them.

And specialization gets even narrower than that. A majority of all computer motherboards manufactured worldwide are built in Taiwan, many of them in a single industrial park in Hsinchu. A typhoon or earthquake that

destroys this park could cripple computer production worldwide.

Sound far-fetched? It has already happened fortunately on a limited scale. On Sept. 21, 1999, an earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale killed 2,500 people in Taiwan and slowed production of computer chips and all electronics.

Within days, the stock prices of Dell, Apple, and Hewlett-Packard plummeted because these companies rely so heavily on Taiwan. Although most providers were back in production within a week, worldwide orders for electronics fell seven percent in October of that year.

Had the earthquake been closer to Hsinchu or more powerful, the computer industry could have been paralyzed for months.

As it was, the earthquake revealed a significant vulnerability in these large companies that rely on suppliers and sub-suppliers for their parts. Five days after the earthquake, executives at Dell did not even realize that their supply of computer chips was running low, because Dell doesn't purchase chips. Their vendors do.

And then there is China

AMERICAN COMPANIES were driven to globalize in order to outmaneuver the Europeans and Japanese for new export markets.

But that's not what happened. Instead, we shipped our manufacturing facilities overseas, making us more dependent on foreign markets and manufacturers than ever before.

A decade ago, no large U.S. company was dependent on China or Taiwan as either a market or a place for production. Now hundreds are.

Some people see no problem with that. Larry Wurtzel, director of the Heritage Foundation's Asian Studies Center, for example, believes that no large company would dare rely too much on sales in China and our economy in no way depends on manufacturing capacity located abroad.

But Andrew Grove, chairman of Intel, the largest manufacturer of semiconductors in the world, believes this interdependence of manufacturing activities has made war between the U.S. and China impossible.

Most major corporations have contingency plans for what they would do if a major supplier were destroyed. But when Barry Lynn asked them what they would do if China invaded Taiwan, no one had an answer. It's a problem for Washington, they said.

And it is a big problem. We have seen hints of what could happen if a natural disaster held up production in just one small area of Taiwan. A political leader can accomplish the same thing, holding his country's supply of vital components hostage to exact a price we cannot yet even imagine. □

A Few Words on the Pledge of Allegiance

IN THE WHIRL of flag-waving and singing of God Bless America that followed Sept. 11, some politicians are trying to turn every gesture into a comment on their opponent's patriotism.

Take the case of Santa Barbara, Calif., County Supervisor Gail Marshall. She is facing the threat of a recall election, not because she is doing a poor job or stealing money, but because she rejected a proposal to require the Pledge of Allegiance at a meeting of one of her community advisory boards.

Several Santa Barbara conservatives, funded by oil money, agribusiness, and land developers have been trying to unseat her for years because she supports the environmental regulation, affordable housing, and labor unions. Now they think they have a charge that will resonate with the voters: she's unpatriotic. In TV ads and newsletters, they claim that her reluctance to recite the pledge is clear confirmation that she is a socialist.

Apparently these patriots don't realize that the Pledge of Allegiance was written in 1892 by a leading Christian socialist, Francis Bellamy, who was

fired from his Boston ministry for giving sermons depicting Jesus as a socialist. Bellamy wrote the Pledge of Allegiance for Youth's Companion, a magazine for young people published in Boston, with a circulation of 500,000.

A few years earlier, the magazine had sponsored a successful campaign to sell American flags to public schools. In 1891 the magazine hired Bellamy to organize a public relations campaign for a celebration of the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's discovery of America. They hoped to sell more flags.

Bellamy had his own plans for the event. He saw it as an opportunity to speak out against the robber barons who were exploiting workers and to promote free public education. He concocted a plan to have all the schoolchildren across America recite his pledge of allegiance to the flag at the same moment.

Although he got the support of the National Education Association, President Benjamin Harrison, and Congress, it is unclear whether all American children recited the pledge at the same time in 1892. What is clear

is that when Bellamy wrote one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all, he was expressing his vision of a country where all people are treated equally, a basic tenet of socialism.*

It is also a basic tenet of unionism. Modern labor unions grew out of the socialist ideals of the late 19th century, from the teachings of people like Francis Bellamy. Though we have rejected some of their teachings, we still believe that workers must join together to ensure that we are all treated equally.

Since the Vietnam war, conservatives have often been quick to accuse liberals of being unpatriotic. But neither side seems to have an advantage in that area. Many union members are very liberal in their views, but you will not find a group that is more patriotic.

And though you won't find many socialists in American labor unions, when we recite the words one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all, we mean something very similar to what Francis Bellamy meant when he wrote them.

*The phrase under God was added by President Eisenhower.

The Steward's Sourcebook

Sexual harassment grievances are never

They can be really difficult when one member is accusing another one of inappropriate behavior

IN THE LAST installment of the Steward's Sourcebook, we discussed the difficulty of representing both members involved in a dispute, specifically a fistfight. In this issue, we're looking at another problem that frequently pits one member against another—grievances that arise from sexual harassment.

Even when they don't involve conflicts among members, these cases present a challenge, because people have many different emotional responses to this type of allegation. Responding to all of your members' concerns can get difficult. You can make it easier on yourself by never straying from your true objective: to ensure that all members are treated fairly.

Of course, that's easy to say in the abstract. It isn't as easy when a person you know claims to have been subjected to some ugly behavior; nor is it easy when a friend of yours is being accused of something you can't believe that person would do.

Two rock-hard principles should guide you in handling a sexual harassment grievance. First, the union does not condone or tolerate sexual harassment in any situation. Second, the union's role in any grievance is to make sure that all union members are treated fairly, no matter what they have been accused of or who does the accusing.

When members accuse you of taking the wrong side or trying to play both sides instead of taking a stand, you may have some success explaining your role in the grievance by drawing the analogy of the court-appointed attorney.

When a person is charged with a crime, the state offers to provide the accused an attorney if he or she can't afford one. In this case, the state is working on both sides. They have a prosecutor trying to convict the person, and they also pay for an attorney to represent the person.

The reason for the state-appointed attorney is to protect the accused person's Constitutional right to a fair trial. No matter what a person is accused of, he or she is entitled to a fair trial. In the U.S. and Canada, this right is sacred. It is sacred in unions as well.

A grievance is very similar to a legal case in court. Someone is accused of something, and the grievance procedure is used to make sure that the accused person is treated fairly. The grievance process determines guilt and assigns punishment. Your job is to protect every member's rights, regardless of what has happened.

Study the company's sexual harassment policy

ONE OF THE FIRST things you will want to look at when handling a sexual harassment grievance is the company's policy for handling sexual harassment complaints. Nearly every company has developed one.

The company's policy should provide a procedure for making these complaints that protects both the accused and the accuser. Unlike some other complaints, a person who accuses another of sexual harassment may become the subject of further abuse by other workers—sometimes inadvertently. For example, if details of an

embarrassing incident become known on the shop floor, other workers may gossip about what happened, causing more embarrassment for the accuser.

In other cases, workers may retaliate against the accuser for going against their friend. They may believe the accuser just has a grudge or is not telling the whole story. You may remember when law professor Anita Hill accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexual harassment during his confirmation hearing. Her motives were called into question. Some of Thomas's supporters even leaked phony stories about her romantic life. In the end, the truth was very difficult to discern.

The same sort of behaviors often come into play on the shop floor. Even if one of your members is accusing a supervisor of harassment, other members may not approve of his or her actions. And when two members are involved, one the accuser and one the accused, emotions can run very high.

That is why your company policy should provide a way for workers to make their complaints in private, to a person specifically designated to hear that type of complaint. These complaints should remain confidential, as much as possible.

And the company should guarantee that they, too, will not retaliate against an accuser, unless they can show that the person maliciously put forward a case just for revenge or other personal reasons and there is no doubt that no harassment ever occurred.

Most company policies include a zero tolerance clause, promising to deal with allegations quickly and to use drastic measures to stop harassment when necessary. Flagrant harassers or employees who engage in especially odious behavior are usually fired.

Whatever your company's policy, every worker is entitled to work in a harassment-free environment.

Sexual harassment takes many different forms

MANY DIFFERENT KINDS of behavior can be termed sexual harassment.

Supervisors are engaging in sexual harassment when they tie a company reward to any kind of sexual conduct. The clearest form is the boss who says he'll give you that promotion you've applied for if you slip into his office and satisfy him. This kind of offer is often called a quid pro quo, a Latin phrase meaning "this for that."

Sex does not have to be directly mentioned for this kind of offer to be sexual harassment. For example, if your boss says he'll move you to a better shift if you'll have dinner with him, he is making a quid pro quo offer. He has linked your going on a date with him to your gaining an advantage at work.

Another kind of sexual harassment does not involve a quid pro quo offer, but arises when a supervisor or a co-worker engages in sexually inappropriate conduct with a worker. Examples would be a boss who exposes himself to one of his employees, or a worker who touches a co-worker in a sexual way.

Sometimes this type of harassment can be difficult to discern, such as the supervisor who brushes against female employees when he passes them in the

H H H Star Stewards H H H

James Young uses lots of sources, including the Internet, in his duties as a L-151 steward

DEDICATION, DETERMINATION, and willingness to do his homework in order to properly represent his members have earned James Young his Star. In nominating him for this recognition, Local 151 Pres. Charles A. Goodman said he was impressed by Young's willingness to research a subject to help their members.

When some members asked him about FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act), he researched the laws in books and on the Internet, Goodman said.

Young, a 25-year member of Local 151, Erie, Pa., used several web sites as sources, including the Boilermakers web site (www.boilermakers.org) and the Department of Labor's. He also emailed the International's Research and Collective Bargaining Services Department for clarification.

He found that the new tool of a steward is the Internet, said Goodman. With all the work he did, he was able to help four members on FMLA with the information he received.



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,

line. Is his motive sexual, or does he just need to lose a few pounds so he can fit through the space?

Workers do not have to tolerate unwanted sexual advances or put up with a sexually oppressive work environment. For example, if the boss loves to tell dirty jokes, even though he knows that some of the people under him are offended by them, he is creating an oppressive environment.

The sexually oppressive atmosphere is a gray area. People like to have a good time at work, so sometimes jokes and casual conversation can get pretty spicy. It also isn't unusual for a worker to ask another one for a date. That raises the question, how do you know when someone has crossed the line from acceptable behavior to unacceptable?

The answer is that each person creates his or her own line, and when someone crosses it, he or she says so. If the person has been warned but continues to cross that line, then the behavior becomes sexual harassment.

Collecting & documenting evidence is essential

THE KEY TO GOOD representation is always to collect and document the evidence. In sexual harassment cases, documentation is even more important.

Let's say Trisha goes to her supervisor and tells him that Greg is touching her inappropriately when they pass closely, which they often have to do in their tight workspace. Trisha says that lots of other women have had the same experience. She offers to bring them forward, but the supervisor says he's too busy to bother with that; he'll just talk to Greg. Then he tells Greg in front of several witnesses that if he hears

one more time about Greg's roaming hands, Greg is gone.

Naturally, word gets around the shop floor pretty quickly. Greg puts up with a lot of teasing from his buddies, and there is a lot of speculation about who made the complaint to the supervisor. But a week later, there's a new topic for gossip, and Greg is forgotten.

Then Trisha goes to her supervisor with another complaint. She says Greg stopped touching her, but just before the lunch break he positioned himself where no one but she could see him and exposed himself to her.

The supervisor goes directly to Greg and tells him to clock out, that he is fired. When Greg asks why, the supervisor says the company has a zero-tolerance sexual harassment policy, which gives him the authority to fire Greg.

Now Greg is furious. He demands to know who has accused him. When the supervisor says that is confidential, Greg storms out of the shop, but not before telling his friends what he thinks of the supervisor and the boss who is telling lies about him.

After work, you find him and six of his friends in the parking lot. They demand that you get him his job back and get his accuser fired. They say there is no way he would harass anyone. Two of his friends are female. One of them tells you she knows who accused him and it's all a bunch of lies.

How do you handle this one?

Clearly, you're in for a lot of work, and you haven't even run into Trisha or her friends yet. You know that when you do they're going to be angry with you for taking up his case.

You start by looking at the company's sexual harassment policy and what

Continued on page 7

L-69 holds first-year apprentice training



An apprentice uses a cutoff saw to help him get a closer look at a root pass.



Two apprentices use a trac torch to cut bevels on a plate for weld coupons.



Harvey Randolph (l.) and an unidentified apprentice, prepare to weld the first



Todd Harris (l.) and Greg Cruise use a milling tube for coupon preparation.

After completing their in-class study, 17 apprentices stay for another 50 hours of welding instruction

FOUR APPRENTICES OUT of Local 37, New Orleans, La., joined 17 apprentice members of Local 69, Little Rock, Ark., in first-year apprentice field construction training classes at Local 69, January 7-16, 2002.

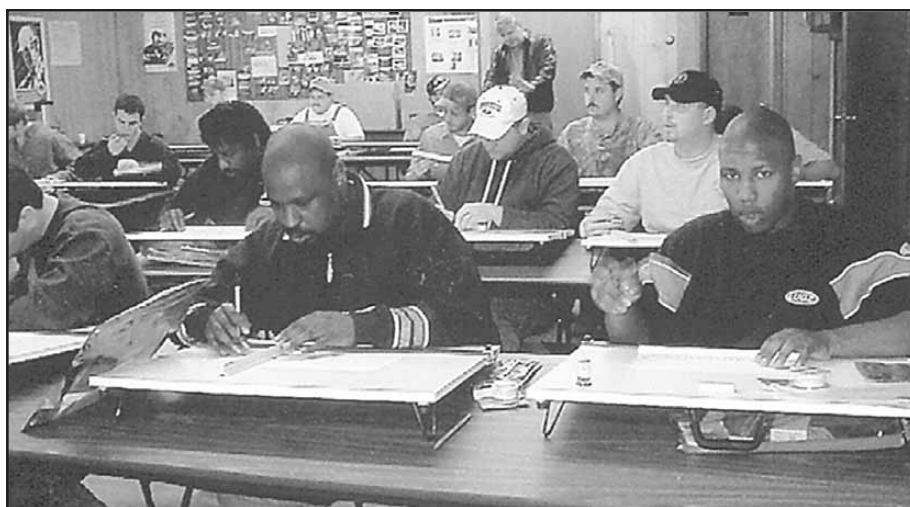
Durward Fagen and Mike McClusky, instructors with the Southeast Area Joint Apprenticeship Program, conducted the classes covering such topics as employee and safety orientation, blueprint reading, mathematics, layout, rigging, mechanical drawing, and drug awareness.

The apprentices gave 100 percent, said Local 69 BM-ST Don Jones. Their overall grade point average of 87.2 percent is the highest average ever for the Southeast Area.

And when the classes ended, 17 of the apprentices chose to stay for more, attending a 50-hour welding program conducted by Local 69 instructors Mark Tucker and Bill Cason.

With Tucker's and Cason's experience, they covered all aspects of tube and plate welding processes. As a result, Local 69 now has 12 new certified tube welders and six new certified plate welders.

We would like to thank all who participated in these classes, and a special thanks to those instructors who are helping the area apprenticeship program train and instruct our future Boilermakers, said Jones. We can take pride in these well-trained craftsmen of tomorrow. q



In addition to hands-on training, apprentices must spend time on classroom studies as well during their first-year field construction apprentice training.



Durward Fagen, an instructor with the Southeast Area Joint Apprenticeship Program, conducts a first-year apprentice class at Local 69, Little Rock, Ark.

BLS survey finds gaps in respirator training

MOST respirator program, safety training fill the gaps

A SURVEY BY the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) discovered some serious gaps in how construction companies prepare their employees to use respirators. Fewer than 40 percent of construction work sites where respirators are used reported that they assessed workers' medical fitness to use a respirator, and only about half reported training to ensure workers understand the use and limitations of respirators.

The study, which was based on a sample of 40,000 work sites nationwide, indicated that respirators are used on nearly ten percent of construction sites.

The MOST respirator program makes it easy for Boilermaker employers to ensure that Boilermakers on their jobs are medically fit to use a respirator, and the MOST ten-hour construction safety and health training class helps Boilermakers understand respirators' usage and limitations. q

Sexual harassment grievances are never

Continued from page 6

your contract says about discharging workers for misconduct.

The supervisor's actions may have been hasty. He should have inter-

viewed those women that Trisha talked about. He may have violated the contract or even the company's sexual harassment policy.

You'll need to take a statement from Greg, and you should ask his friends whether they would be willing to testify regarding his good character. Have them write their statements down and sign them. An unsigned statement is not worth much.

Of course, when Trisha hears that you're trying to get Greg's job back, she'll probably have a few things to say to you. But your job is to protect Greg's rights as well as hers.

And you'll be sure to interview those other women that the supervisor was too busy to bother with, along with the witnesses that heard the boss warn Greg to keep his hands to himself.

Now let's look at this same scenario, except that the supervisor doesn't fire Greg. Instead, he tells Trisha he thinks she's lying and maybe she made the whole thing up. She comes to you demanding that you make the company fire Greg or move him to another location.

What would you do differently?

Not much, really, because you still need to understand the company's pol-

Inability to hear does not keep L-500's Jeffries from becoming a Boilermaker

He learned skills from his dad, follows in footsteps

A SECOND-YEAR apprentice out of Local 500, Portland, Ore., David Jeffries has been deaf since birth. But he has never let his lack of hearing keep him from doing what he wanted.

He had been working as a laborer, but wanted to use some of the skills he learned growing up from his father, Bob Jeffries, a 30-year Local 500 member. He joined Local 500's apprentice program and attended the April 2002 class at the Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Program's (BNAP) training center in Kansas City, Kan.

Attending the training center is a challenging step for all apprentices, but

it was especially hard for Jeffries. It also challenged the center's staff, who had never taught a deaf student before.

BNAP instructor Austin Dale Dunham, who died unexpectedly April 6, arranged for Hans Liedtke, an interpreter with Deaf Expression, Inc., of Lenexa, Kan., to work with Jeffries; however, the interpreter wasn't available the first two days. But Jeffries did very well due to his ability to read lips and his willingness to work very hard, said BNAP instructor John Standish.

Jeffries commended all of the instructors, especially Dunham, for their help.

Dale bought a book to learn sign language, so I was able to help him, too, Jeffries said in a letter to the Reporter. He thanked Dale and all the instructors



David Jeffries, a second-year Local 500 apprentice, attends the BNAP center.

Who do you call when you need a



MEETING THE CHALLENGE of a unique rigging job are members of Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif., l. to r., James Colbert, foreman Ken Colbert, Adam Dinsmore, Craig Chubbuck, Rick Tiner, and (seated in front) Brian Ortiz.

Boilermakers disassemble, move, and reassemble \$1.2 billion space project

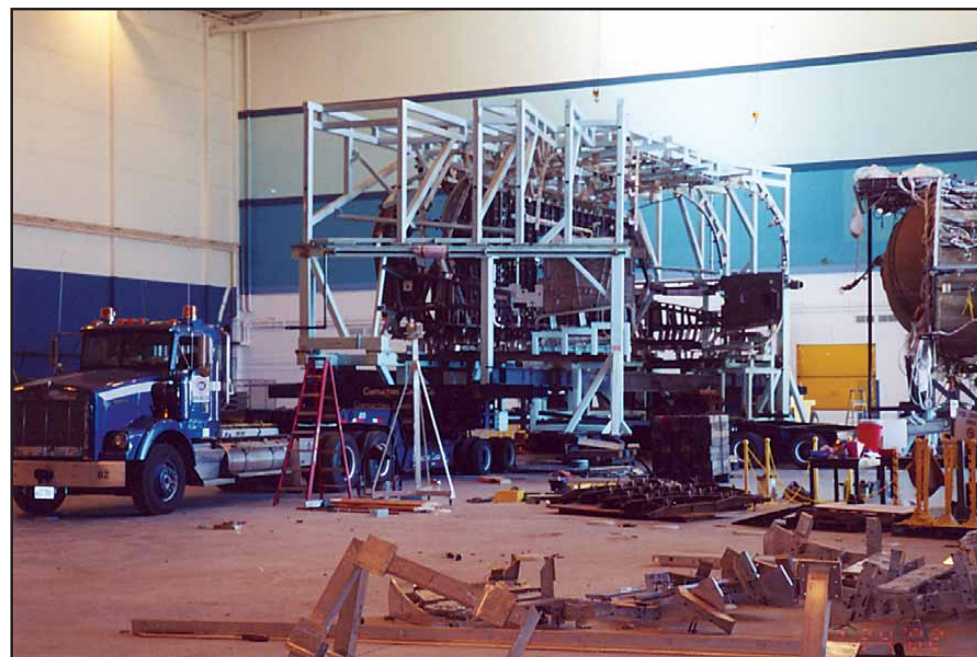
WHEN IT CAME TIME to move the X-33, the Contractors Cargo Company called upon its Boilermaker Division to relocate the space vehicle.

It seems job superintendent Craig Chubbuck would not trust anyone else. He chose members of Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif.,

due to the rigging skills needed and the value of the space vehicle (\$1.2 billion).

And he was right to make that choice. Not only was Chubbuck pleased with the Boilermakers' work, but so was Bill Lawrence, the Air Force liaison.

Your work was, as usual, outstanding, wrote Lawrence. The immediate response to our request for a proposal, the quick and flexible planning activity, and the rapid and professional work done by Craig Chubbuck and his crew made the move go smoothly, ahead of schedule, and within



LOCAL 92 MEMBERS HAVE to disassemble and reassemble the X-33 twice in order to move to its new location. Here they reassemble the motor mount rear section of the X-33 and its work stand so it can be moved as one unit.

budget. Thank you very much. As always it is a pleasure doing business with you and your teams. We will call on you again when we need heavy moving.

And when an owner says, We will call on you again, that is the best praise a Boilermaker can receive.

About the move

BECAUSE THE SPACE STATION now being constructed in space had many cost overruns, and funding was needed

to complete it, the X-33 project was put on hold and its funding diverted to the Space Station.

The X-33 is the unmanned craft that will fly into space from a vertical lift-off and land on its own, be refueled and ready for take-off again in four hours. It is the predecessor to VentureStar, the manned version. Until funding can be secured, the X-33, in its partial built state, had to be moved from Palmdale, Calif., to a storage site at its launch site at the Edwards Air Force Base, home of the Air Force Flight Test

Local 363 members team up with MoMo



LOCAL 363 MEMBERS, working with general foremen Bob Pennington and Bobby Jackson, complete a retrofit project at Ameren/Cips.

Boilermakers use world's largest mobile crane to set ductwork in Coffeen, Illinois

THEY CALL HER MoMo. She is the largest mobile crane in the world and is owned by Van Seumeren/Mommoot. She was shipped from Holland to Coffeen, Ill., so members of Local 363, East St. Louis, Ill., could set ductwork on Unit II during the retrofit project for Ameren/Cips.

With a 470-foot boom and a 2,200-ton lifting capacity, MoMo helped Local 363 members set 14 separate sections of ductwork, three dampers, and 11 expansion joints into place. Lifts ranged from 12 to 270 tons.

Working for the J. S. Alberici and Phillips Getschow construction companies, Local 363 members erected and welded over 2.3 million pounds of ductwork without a lost-time accident.

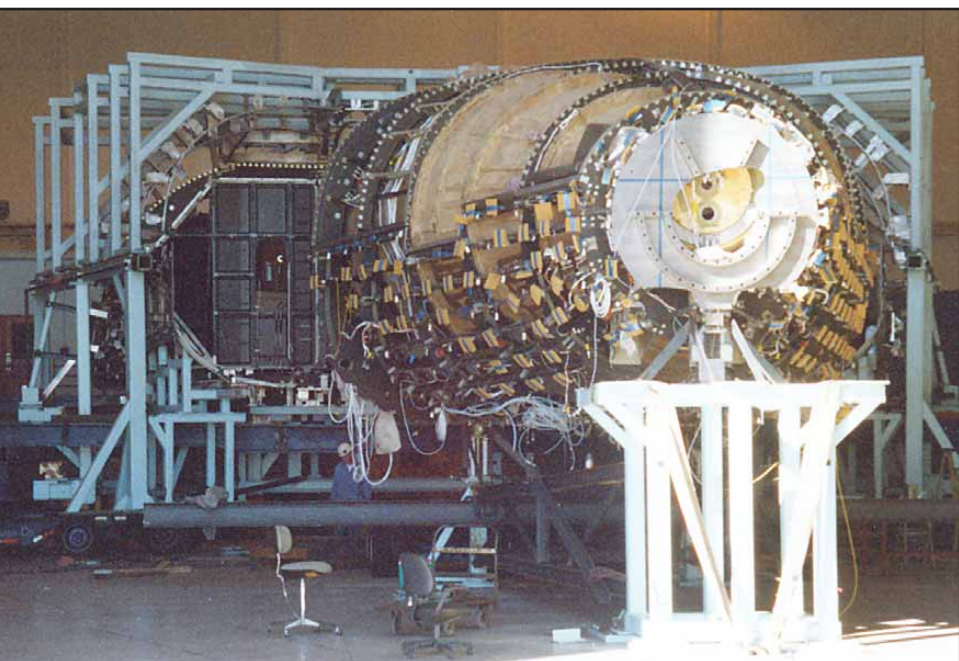


mobile crane, to set ductwork at a retrofit project for Ameren/CIPS.



AT FAR RIGHT: Local 363 members use MoMo, the world's largest

space ship moved? Local Lodge



THE NOSE SECTION (LOx tanks) of the X-33 space vehicle rests on a support stand at the Lockheed facility in Palmdale, Calif.

center, located on the western edge of the Mojave Desert, about 90 miles north of Los Angeles.

According to Chubbuck, who is also a member of Local 92, The disassembly, rigging, loading, and move went without a hitch, as did the reassembly.

What happens now to the X-33?

WITHOUT FUNDING, the X-33 project was put on hold. That's when the Boilermakers got involved in the space program.

Members of Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif., took the X-33 apart, moved it from Lockheed Martin to the Edwards Air Force Base, and put it back together in a rollback desert hanger. Ironically, the hanger was the same one in which the rocket plane was to be readied for flight and is part of the specially-built launch site from which the vehicle would have taken to the skies in a series of sub-orbital test shots.

Julie Andrews, with Lockheed Martin, calls the leftover framework, the remaining remnant of the structural X-33. She said that while the company is moving onward to the next generation of space transportation, having the X-33 remain somewhat intact is less painful for those who worked on the project.

Since 1996, Lockheed Martin and NASA worked together on the X-33, a single-stage-to-orbit prototype. Over \$1.2 billion had been spent when the space plane's funding was cancelled. Advocates for keeping the space plane in one piece lost their battle, and the decision to dismantle the experimental craft was made in December.

Andrews said, The component parts . . . anything on the vehicle that was of value have been removed. NASA, Lockheed Martin, and other contractor partners negotiated who got what hardware. But in an 11th hour decision, the Air Force chose to preserve the X-33 framework, making it a hanger queen that may be used later for a second-generation reusable launch vehicle or for military space plane work. q

Source: Leonard David, senior space writer for SPACE.com



THE X-33 IS ALL packed up and ready to move from the Lockheed facility in Palmdale, Calif., to the Edwards Air Force Base, located on the western edge of the Mojave Desert, about 90 miles north of Los Angeles.



AFTER MOVING THE X-33 to the Edwards Air Force Base, the crew replaces the last piece of the space vehicle's work stand.



AS THE FINAL piece of the work stand is set into place, Local 92 members complete the move of the X-33 space vehicle to the Edwards Air Force Base.

Boilermakers' work is vital to space program

Boilermakers work in areas that provide support for space program, defense

LOCAL 92'S WORK MOVING the X-33 was not the first encounter members of the Boilermakers union have had with space. Boilermaker members all over the nation work in industries that provide services or equipment to the U.S. space program.

Members of Local Lodge 1600, St. Charles, Ill., work for Toyal America, one of the world's leading manufacturers of aluminum powder, paste, and pigment. Their products are used in a wide variety of consumer goods, from automobile paint to candy wrappers. They also make an aluminum explosive used as solid rocket fuel.

Several locals in our Stove Workers division make metal parts for equipment used

by the space program. Members of M146, Kansas City, Mo., make equipment for the Allied Signal Corporation.

Members of Local 454, Chattanooga, Tenn., work for Jacobs Sverdrup at the world's largest aeronautical testing complex, the USAF's Arnold Engineering Development Center on Arnold Air Force base. Among other things, Sverdrup tests rocket engines for Arnold Engineering. Boilermakers at the Center work in production and maintenance. Some also operate testing equipment.

Testing is an area Boilermakers know well. Our construction members have built several wind tunnels used to test all kinds of aeronautic and space equipment.

Just as in other industries, the Boilermakers' contribution to the space program is in a support capacity, behind the scenes. Newspaper articles talk about the astro-

nauts in the space ships, not the rocket fuel that put them in space.

But without Boilermakers, those stories would never get written. Boilermakers build paper mills, after all, along with power plants and oil refineries. We manufacture everything from kitchen stoves and window air conditioners to golf balls, propeller blades, power tools, and beer taps. We make cement, bricks, wallboard, garage doors, and roofing shingles.

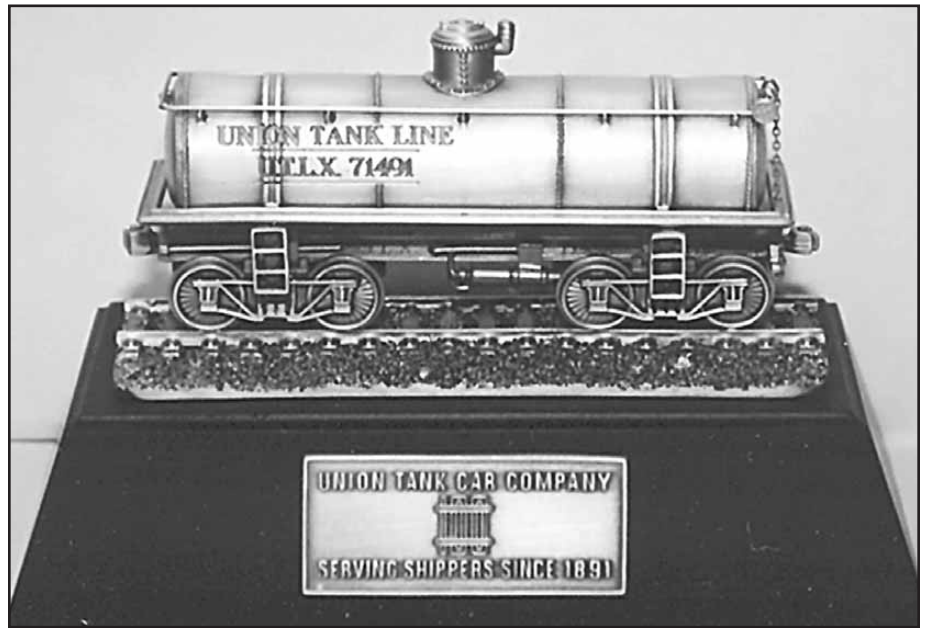
When you think about the space program, you probably think of the astronauts who walk in space or the scientists who do the calculations that get them there. But without Boilermakers and other workers quietly plying their crafts behind the scenes, those space ships would never leave the ground.

Boilermakers may not fly into space, but we make space flight possible. q

L-524 gives tank car replica to museum



Local 524 legislative delegates present a miniature tank reproduction for display at the Boilermakers' museum. L. to r., Leg. Dir. Ande Abbott, and L-524 delegates Terry Paris, Ed Carter, and David McCoy.



This miniature replica of the union tank line of the Union Tank Car Co. has been donated to the Boilermakers National Archives.

In business since 1891, the Union Tank Car Company is one of the Boilermaker's oldest shop contracts

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Boilermakers had been in existence for only 11 years when the Union Tank Car Company opened its doors for business in 1891 and hired members of our union.

Boilermaker lodges representing Union Tank Car employees have included Local 374, Hammond, Ind.,

Local 524, East Chicago, Ind., Local 482, Wood River, Ill., and Local 483, Alton, Ill.

To commemorate the beginning of their second century of service, the Union Tank Car Company created a miniature replica of a tank car from their earliest days of operation. As Union Tank and the International share so

much history, it seemed only fitting that one of the cars be on display at the Boilermakers National Archives.

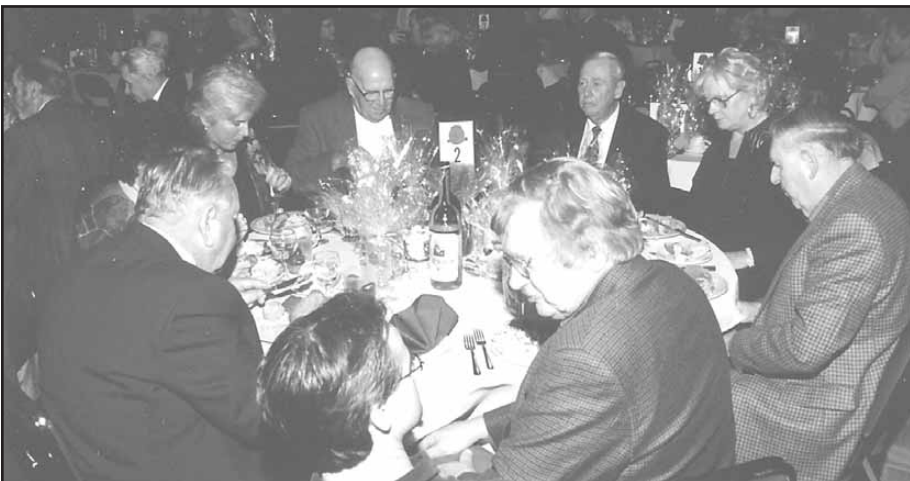
At our legislative conference in Washington, D.C., March 19, 2002, three Local 524 delegates presented the Boilermakers union with a tank replica.

Local 524 President Ed Carter, Sec.-Treas. Terry Paris, and member David McCoy, all representatives of Local 524's legislative committee, presented the tank replica to Legisla-

tive Director Ande Abbott for the Boilermakers museum.

The Boilermakers union has been organized since 1880. Since 1891, Boilermakers at the Union Tank Car Company have provided railroad tank and covered hopper cars to companies for shipment of such products as corn syrup, plastic pellets and resins, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), oils and acids, fertilizers, asphalt, sulfur, tomato paste, and beer. □

Local 191 retirees attend 50th reunion



The National Archives needs your support

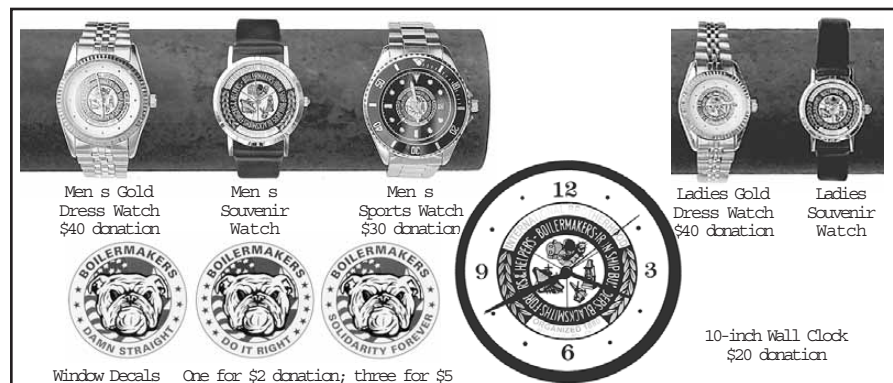
THE BOILERMAKERS UNION occupies an important place in the history of North America, and we are working to preserve that history through the Boilermakers National Archives.

Located one block west of International headquarters in Kansas City, Kan., the Boilermakers National Archives is a museum of artifacts dating back to the 1880s.

National Archivist Tom Wands has been working for over a decade, collecting and restoring items for display. He is also creating databases for a pictorial history, and to record dates of local lodge charters, names of local lodge officers, and biographies of International officers.

It is a time-consuming job and a costly adventure, but it is a great way to preserve the history of our union.

You can help us continue the work of the archives through your donations. To help raise much-needed funds, the National Archives is offering gifts featuring the Boilermaker logo to donors.



For a \$2 donation, you can receive your choice of three different-styled window decals. Each three-inch circle decal features a bulldog in the center with the word "Boilermakers" at the top. Language choices at the bottom of the decal include Damn Straight, Do It Right, or Solidarity Forever. For a \$5 donation, you can receive three decals of your choice.

For a \$15 donation, you can choose a man's or woman's souvenir watch with a black leather band as your gift.

For a \$20 donation, you can receive a ten-inch wall clock (needs batteries).

For a \$30 donation, you can receive a man's sports watch, featuring a stainless steel band.

For a \$40 donation, you can choose a man's or woman's dress watch, featuring a gold coin-die emblem face. (The face of each watch style and clock features the Boilermaker logo.)

Only U.S. funds can be accepted. Please make checks or money orders payable to the Boilermakers Archives, indicate your gift choice on

Charter members attend anniversary celebration

OUR APOLOGIES GO to Neil Hindle, a 50-year member of Local Lodge 191, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, whose name was left off of the list of Lodge 191's 50-year members attending their reunion. Brother Hindle not only served his lodge as a member for 50 years, he was elected business manager in 1966, served until 1975, was reelected in 1977, and served until 1993.

The good news is that this omission and our correction gives us the opportunity to publish two photos of some of the 50-year members with their spouses at Lodge 191's reunion. □

ABOVE LEFT: L-191 retirees (from top left), Sue and her father, 50-year member Art Holland, 50-year member Corkey Bryant, Jeanette Bryant, 50-year member Carl Miller, 50-year member Darrell Walker, Ken Plante, 50-year member Roy Gallop, and (partially hidden) Shirley Gallop.

ABOVE RIGHT: L-191 retirees (from left), Ken Burgoyne, 50-year member Howie East, 50-year member Ernie Smith, Loma Smith, 50-year member Wes Morhart, Joann Morhart, (IVP) Sandy MacDonald

Boilermakers earn membership pins

Local 1, Chicago, Ill., presents membership pins

JOHN SKERMONT, BM-ST of Local 1, Chicago, Ill., reports presentation of pins for continuous years of membership to the following: 40 Years Kenneth Malecki; 35 Years Bernard Stummer.

Local 13, Philadelphia, Pa., presents membership pins

JOSEPH MURRAY, bus. mgr. of Local 13, Philadelphia, Pa., reports presentation of pins for 55 continuous years of membership to John Huber Sr. and Jack Peiffer. Huber began his career in 1952 at Sun Ship working in the field and performing ship repairs. Peiffer recently received the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal for his service during World War II.

Local 29, Boston, Mass., presents membership pins

PAUL MEADE, ABM of Local 29, Boston, Mass., reports presentation of pins for continuous years of membership to the following: 60 Years Raymond Davis Sr.; 40 Years Roger Leveillee; 35 Years John Beaupre, Ralph Brewster, Larry MacAdams, John McPhee, Peter Munro, John Jones, Charles Hancock, Wilson Mull; 30 Years Gary Goodwin; 25 Years Daniel Balestrieri, Paul Butler, Joseph DelTufo, Edward Donahue, William Gilcoine, Edward Goodhart, Jerry Kissane, James Mansfield, Thomas McHugh, Paul Meade, Frank Picard, Frank Zagami.

Rudy Kovacevic has earned his 55-year pin from Local 60, Peoria, Ill.



RAYMOND DAVIS SR., seated, receives his 60-year membership pin from his son, Ray Jr. Both are members of Local 29, Boston, Mass. Ray Sr. began his career in the shipyards and retired as a superintendent for the Babcock & Wilcox Construction Co.

Local 169, Detroit, Mich., presents membership pins

JOHN A. MAREK, BM-ST of Local 169, Detroit, Mich., reports presentation of pins for continuous years of membership to the following: 60 Years Frank Wimmer; 50 Years Richard Little, Richard Heiden, Andrew Bryce; 45 Years Ira Jenkins Jr., Friedhelm Lux, Billy Sandifer; 35 Years Jay Cook, Cletus Meldrum, Donald Nault, Galen Tower, Gary Crispin, Charles Dickey, Fred Smales; 25 Years Michael Campbell (posthumously), Richard Castle, Steve Chapo, Gerald Coppock, Howard Gauthier, William Grumbley, Kenneth Heiden, Joseph Jackson, Harley Keeling, Gerald Kraenzlein, Ronald Maddock, James McDonnell, David Rabach, Lyle Reid, Donald Cochran, Robert Allison, Michael



LOCAL 1 MARCH PIN presentations (reported in Mar-Apr issue) - L. to r., L-1 Pres. Jack Benz, Ken Maloney (25 years), John Burns (45 years), Dick Hoigard (45 years), Dan Raggio (60 years), Jim Patterson (40 years), and L-1 BM-ST John Skermont. Raggio began his career as a helper at Chicago Steel Tank; he later became a foreman and assisted in writing welding procedures.



JACK HUBER SR. (r.) receives his 50-year membership pin from L-13 ST James Banford Jr. At left is John Huber Jr.

Doody, Timothy Corradin, Thomas Doerr, John McDonald, Albert Grassel, Mark Enright, Steven Harris, Dennis Mosher, Michael Steffes, Mark Nielson, Paul Zaszczurynski, Daniel Pelz.

Taylor Munton has earned his 55-year pin from Local 363, East St. Louis, Ill.

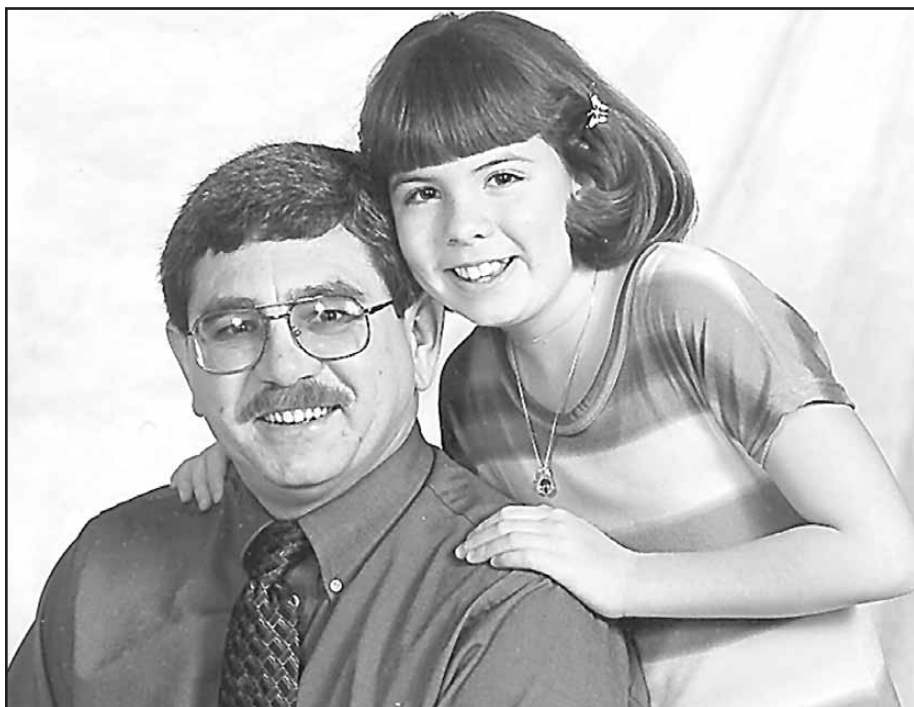
Local 374, Hammond, Ind., presents membership pins

CHARLES VANOVER, BM-ST of Local 374, Hammond, Ind., reports presenta-

tion of pins for continuous years of membership to the following: 45 Years

Kenneth Gehlhausen; 35 Years Chelsea Atkinson, Cecil Reams; 30 Years Terry Alvey, Charles Casey Jr., Richard Davis, Charles Gardner, Stanley Harpenau, Lawrence LaBuda, Gerald Nelson, Jim Rinck, Michael Schoettlin, Michael Starr, Chester Topper, Patrick Tuggle; 25 Years George Dunlap, Thomas Hagedorn, Robert Hall, Roland Jonas, Kent LaGrange, Brian Lasher; 20 Years Daniel Faucett, David Pennington, Robert Schreiber; 15 Years Charles Stin-

'This one is union-made'



RAYMOND "B.B." SMITH and his union-conscious daughter, Jenna.

WHEN RAYMOND B.B. Smith, a member of Local 667, Charleston, W.Va., took his ten-year-old daughter, Jenna, shopping for her dress for the annual Valentine's Day Daddy-Daughter dance, Smith didn't know he was going to learn an important lesson in consumerism.

Seven of eight racks of dresses were on sale at 50 percent off. Smith was getting frustrated because Jenna just wasn't satisfied. Jenna turned to the eighth rack where she picked out a bright blue,

yellow, and green florescent dress. Smith tried to tell her that the color wasn't right for Valentine's Day, but Jenna wasn't concerned about that. She looked up at her dad and said, But, Dad, this one is union made in the USA.

For Smith, that was the clincher. Sold. Wrap it up! he told the clerk.

Smith, who joined L-667 in 1968, is vice president of the West Virginia AFL-CIO.

Source: Label Letter, AFL-CIO Union Label & Service Trades Dept. q

L-169 members receive multi-craft send-off

BOB TRAPPER CARD and David Deblaey, 33- and 38-year members of Local 169, Detroit, Mich., have traded in their tools for a pension check. Both were working for Oscar Boldt, one of three Boilermaker contractors at the project in Covert, Mich., when they worked their last day on February 23, 2002.

Employees of all three contractors members of the Boilermakers and other trade unions contributed

toward a collection for the new retirees and participated in a lunch organized by Local 169 Steward Dan Southwell. Jonathon Davis of Local 37, New Orleans, La., did the cooking, and many of the workers brought a dish to share.

Southwell was pleased with the multi-craft send-off and hopes this type of celebration will become a Local 169 tradition. He and the entire crew at the Covert Project send their congratulations to Trapper and Dave, wishing them a long and enjoyable retirement. q

NTL member designs coin



DALE TRUCKENMILLER, a three-year member of the National Transient Lodge, has created a Boilermaker coin. With the approval of the International union, Truckenmiller designed and produced the coins depicting the Boilermaker logo on one side, and an American eagle on the other.



Each coin is made of one ounce of silver, is the approximate size of a U.S. Silver Dollar, is numbered and sealed in a plastic case enclosed in a display box, and includes a certificate of authenticity. For more information, contact Truckenmiller at truck@twotru.com or call 603 867-

New contract summaries

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

You don't get what you deserve . . .

. . . you get what you negotiate



NEGOTIATING A TWO-YEAR contract for members of Local 158, Peoria, Ill., at Teleweld, Inc., are Bill Cunningham (l.) and Donald Wilson. This settlement was reported in the Mar-Apr issue and is not included in this issue's summary analysis.

National Cement Lodge

CAREY ALLEN, working director of the CIGAW Division, reports contract ratification, effective June 1, 2002 to May 31, 2005, for 17 members of the National Cement Lodge who manufacture insulation products at Fibrex, Inc. in Joplin, Mo.

L-6 Oakland, CA

MICHAEL GRABOWSKI, EM-ST of Local 6, Oakland, Calif., reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 1, 2001 to Oct. 31, 2004, for nine Local 6 members who make light poles at Ameron International, and effective July 15, 2001 to July 15, 2004, for 15 Local 6 members who make miscellaneous steel products at the Diamond Mfg. Corp.

M6 Chicago, IL

INTL. REP. DAVID LAWRENCE reports contract ratification, effective May 1, 2002 to April 30, 2005, for six members of Local M6, Chicago, Ill., who work in the production department at James Precious Metals.

M18 Buffalo, NY

INTL. REP. ROCCO DEROLLO reports contract ratification, effective March 1, 2002 to Feb. 28, 2005, for members of Local M18, Buffalo, N.Y., who work at the Buffalo Metal Finishing Co.

L-28 Newark, NJ

WILLIAM CAREY, asst. to the Intl. Pres., reports contract ratification, effective Sept. 1, 2001 to Aug. 31, 2002, for members of Local 28, Newark, N.J., who work at the Marine Safety Corporation.

D331 Exshaw, AB

DON MAES, asst. bus. mgr. for Local D331, Exshaw, Alberta, Canada, reports contract ratification, effective Dec. 1, 2001 to Dec. 1, 2005, for 91 D331 members who make Portland Cement at Lafarge Canada, Inc.

L-449 Sturgeon Bay

INTL. REP. LEN GUNDERSON reports contract ratification, effective May 3, 2002 to April 30, 2006, for 250 members of Local 449, Sturgeon Bay, Wis., who build and repair ships at the Bay Shipbuilding Co.

D480 Charlevoix, MI

CAREY ALLEN, working director of the CIGAW Division, reports contract ratification, effective May 1, 2001 to April 30, 2007, for six members of Local D480, Charlevoix, Mich., who ship Portland Cement for Cemex in Manitowoc, Wis.

D486-New Westminster

ROB LAUZON, bus. mgr. for District Lodge D11, reports contract ratification, effective Oct. 1, 2001 to Sept. 30, 2005, for 27 members of Local D486, New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada, who produce lime for the Chemical Lime Co. of Canada.

D523 Sandersville, GA

JIM HICKENBOTHAM, Intl. vice pres., reports contract ratification, effective March 1, 2002 to Feb. 28, 2005, for 24 members of Local D523, Sandersville, Ga., who work at the Kentucky Tennessee Clay Co.

A summary analysis of these contract

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

THIS ANALYSIS of the 15 agreements outlined here is based on information provided in the Contract Summary and Transmittal Report forms, and covers approximately 915 employees.

Wage Increases

TWELVE facilities received pay increases in 2001, averaging \$0.39 per hour or 3.25 percent. Thirteen facilities will receive pay increases in 2002, averaging \$0.39 per hour or 3.28 percent. Thirteen facilities will receive pay increases in 2003, averaging \$0.39 per hour or 3.38 percent. Ten facilities will receive pay increases in 2004, averaging \$0.37 per hour or 3.31 percent. Two report wage increases in 2005 and 2006, not enough for an average.

Pension

FOURTEEN facilities participate in some type of pension program. Eight facilities participate in the

Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust, with contributions ranging from \$0.25 to \$2.45 per hour for the first year. Average cents-per-hour contributions are \$1.05 in the first year, \$1.08 in the second year, and \$1.20 in the third year.

Six facilities offer a 401(k); seven facilities have company-sponsored plans.

Shift Differential

TWELVE agreements provide a second-shift premium, of which 11 report a cents-per-hour premium ranging from \$0.10 to \$0.50. The average is \$0.32 per hour. The remaining agreement provides a percentage of pay as the premium.

Ten agreements provide a third-shift premium with a cents-per-hour premium ranging from \$0.15 to \$0.60. The average is \$0.39 per hour.

Sickness & Accident

TWELVE agreements provide weekly sickness and accident indemnities. Of these,

ten pay a set dollar amount ranging from \$175 to \$525 per week. The average rate for the first year is \$302.20.

Of the remaining agreements, one provides a percentage of the employee's weekly earnings as the benefit, and one pays the first week (if not payable under state compensation program).

The most common duration of time off is 26 weeks found in eight of the agreements.

Life Insurance/AD&D

THIRTEEN AGREEMENTS provide life insurance. Nine of the agreements provide a set dollar amount ranging from \$7,000 to \$30,000. The average benefit for the first contract year is \$14,944.44. The remaining agreements multiply wages by 2080 or 2900 hours for the benefit amount, or pay a benefit equal to the annual salary.

Thirteen agreements provide Accidental Death and

Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance. Ten of the agreements provide a set dollar amount ranging from \$7,500 to \$30,000. The average benefit for the first contract year is \$16,950. The remaining agreements multiply wages by 2080 or 2900 hours, for the benefit amount, or pay a benefit equal to the annual salary.

Vacation

FOURTEEN of the agreements have a vacation policy. Ten of the agreements provide a one-week paid vacation. Fourteen agreements provide two-weeks, three-weeks, and four-weeks paid vacation. Seven agreements provide five-weeks paid vacation. Of the above agreements, four provide vacation pay based on a percentage of the employee's earnings.

Paid Holidays

FOURTEEN of the agreements provide for paid holidays. The number of paid holidays ranges from eight to 12. The average is

L-651 Somerville, MA

INTL. REP. ROCCO DEROLLO reports contract ratification, effective

April 12, 2002 to April 30, 2005, for members of Local 651, Somerville, Mass., who work at the Westinghouse Electric Co. (formerly known as

ABB).

L-1012 St. Louis, MO

INTL. REP. JAMES PRESSLEY reports con-

tract ratification, effective Feb. 1, 2002 to July 31, 2003, for 87 members of Local 1012, St. Louis, Mo., who make military products at Engineered

Arbitrator rules Komatsu cannot outsource Local 158 paint work

Company must pay three employees back pay, vacation, and healthcare premiums

THREE LAID-OFF employees of Komatsu are sharing an arbitration award of \$11,300. Raymond Pankey and Johnny Miller, members of Local 158, Peoria, Ill., and former member Dru Pierce, are qualified painters. Historically, Local 158 members perform Komatsu paint work. But recently, Komatsu decided to outsource the work rather than recall the employees.

Local 158 filed a grievance, which went to arbitration. The company argued that they had the right to outsource whatever they wanted, whenever they wanted. However, Local 158 countered that three-qualified painters on layoff should have been utilized to do the work. An arbitrator agreed with the union.

In his award, the arbitrator stated, "Here there were no sound economic reasons for the subcontracting relied upon . . . employees lost work as a result of the subcontracting. He stated the company did not have the right to subcontract unfettered."

As support for his decision, the arbitrator referred to a landmark case, Dries & Krump: Were the right to subcontract unrestricted by any standard of reasonableness, the effect would be to render the contractually protected scope of the bargaining unit null and void.



LOCAL 158 PRESIDENT Kevin Kocher, center, presents an arbitration award to Local 158 members Randy Pankey (l.) and Johnny Miller (r.). Dru Pierce was not available for photo.

The award reimburses Pankey, Miller, and Pierce for back pay, vacation time, and healthcare premiums.

According to L-158 President Kevin R. Kocher, "This award would not have been possible without the expert grievance presentation by Intl. Rep. Howard Cole and the determined information gathering and assistance supplied by L-158 committeeman Steven (Mike) Damm." q

Might as well face it — most of us are terrible investors

We have unrealistic expectations of gains from stocks, and spend too little time managing our 401(k)

MOST U.S. WORKERS are not saving nearly enough in 401(k) accounts to fund their retirement, according to a survey from John Hancock Financial Services, and most of them have no idea how to manage the account.

More Americans than ever admitted on the survey that they know little about investing, and most of the ones who think they know something failed a test of basic financial knowledge.

The study found that the average person can expect to retire with only 50-60 percent of pre-retirement income, not nearly enough to maintain their current lifestyles. Experts suggest that most people should aim to achieve at least 75 percent of their pre-retirement income to avoid a major decline in living standards, said Gates.

To be fair, Gates says Americans never asked for the responsibility of managing their retirement savings on their own. They were forced to accept the burden when companies dropped their traditional defined-benefit pension plans in the 1980s and 1990s and changed to self-managed 401(k)

accounts, which give companies a way to boost stock prices, while relieving them of the burden of managing a pension fund.

During the booming bull market of the 1990s, many investors enjoyed double-digit returns and probably figured that

Workers never asked to manage their own retirement accounts, companies dropped defined benefit pensions

investing wasn't all that difficult. Then the dot-com bubble collapsed, tech stocks plummeted, and the economy entered a recession.

Now more investors are willing to admit that they may not be quite as savvy as they once thought.

In the latest survey, conducted early this year, 42 percent said they had little or no investment knowledge, while only 20 percent considered themselves relatively knowledgeable. But even those responses suggest workers are over-

confident. The real truth emerges when respondents answer survey questions designed to test their knowledge of basic facts about investing and financial markets.

When asked what kind of annual return they expected from stocks over the next 20 years, the average response was 15.75 percent. In reality, stocks have shown about a ten percent return over the past 76 years, and some economists believe that future returns may be considerably smaller, at least for the next 10-20 years.

Investors also had unrealistic expectations of yields from bonds, saying they expected average annual returns of 10.31 percent. Historically, bonds have returned 5.77 percent.

Only eight percent knew what money market funds are invested in (short-term securities). Forty-seven percent thought money-market funds could include bonds and 40 percent thought they could include stocks.

Our ignorance shouldn't be surprising. Half of all Americans spend less than six hours a year managing their funds, according to the survey.

Gates blames human nature, saying, Unless investing genuinely interests you, it's not hard to think of things more



enjoyable or more pressing than studying investment options for a 401(k) plan that you won't need for another 20 or 30 years. q



Who is this man?

Pres. Jones (left) needs to know his name to send him a copy of this photo, taken at the 2001 Convention.

Letters to the Editors

L-37's Alan Melton on the Southeast Agreement

I AM A MEMBER of Local 37, New Orleans, La., and a member of the new Mississippi River District Lodge.

I have been employed by Fluor Constructors for nine years, and we have always had to struggle due to low wages and benefits. We have also complained because all three states in the contract had different wages and benefits, which caused a lot of animosity between our bordering locals.

Now that Fluor Maintenance Services has taken over, there has been a significant increase. If it had not been for Intl. Vice Pres. Newton Jones's persistence and determination to receive deserving wages and benefits, we would still be making \$15.02 an hour.

For myself and the members I have spoken with, we would like to thank Intl. Rep. Dennis King, District Mgr. John Simoneaux, and L-37 Bus. Mgr. David Hegeman for their persistence and determination to reach this goal. We would also like to give a special thanks to Vice Pres. Jones. Our hats are off to you!

ALAN C. MELTON SR., L-37
Slidell, La.

Local 7 members show the true meaning of Brotherhood

IN JANUARY 2002, Local 7 apprentice Derek Thompson and his newlywed wife, Katherine, lost all they owned to a fire that left them escaping, literally, with the clothes on their back. Due to circumstances beyond their control, their home and contents were uninsured.

We summoned the help of our brothers and sisters and their response was overwhelming. Financial aid came in from every source and I want to thank everyone personally, and on the Thompson's behalf, for their very generous support.

Their efforts not only put a young

family's life back on track, but taught them the value of belonging to the Boilermaker family.

Today, the Thompson's new home is under construction and they are well on their way to recovery.

Should disaster ever strike in your home local, we at Local 7 stand ready to answer your call.

PAT LYONS, L-7 EM-ST
Buffalo, N.Y.

Corky Avery wants to thank Local 85 members

DUE TO INJURIES I received in an automobile accident on my way home from work, I was unable to work for nearly 14 months. My local brothers and sisters immediately moved into action by building a wheelchair ramp for me at my home. Over the next year, I received job site collections, food donations, personal visits, and phone calls of moral support from brothers and sisters as far away as Boston, Mass. At times their generosity was overwhelming.

I know my family and I could not have survived without the help we received from Local 85, and I cannot express my thanks in words alone. I forever owe our great Brotherhood a debt of gratitude.

RICHARD CORKY AVERY, Local 85
Oak Harbor, Ohio

BMW director agrees that Amtrak needs funding

YOUR COMMENTARY ON Amtrak (Jan-Feb 2002 issue) goes to the heart of the problem—a lack of funding and investment by the U.S. government. Clearly, the ARC proposal to allow private operators to cherry-pick the most desirable routes while eliminating passenger rail service over great expanses of the U.S. does not serve to position passenger rail as an integral part of this nation's transportation network. It does, however, serve those private interests whose objective is to skim the cream from the top

while allowing the rest to spoil and be disposed.

I wholeheartedly agree with your assessment that a Railroad Trust Fund must be established to support Amtrak high-speed passenger rail much in the same way that the Highway Trust Fund and Aviation Trust Fund supports highway and airline infrastructure.

RICK INCLIMA, education & safety director, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees

P.S. It is truly unfortunate that many of our members who voted against the BMW/IBB merger do not have ready access to the Boilermaker Reporter and your Amtrak commentary. If they did, I am sure they would realize what many of us already know: we missed a golden opportunity to merge with another rail union whose leadership understands what must be done to capitalize on the unrealized potential of rail passenger service and its benefit to this nation's economy and security. I am still hopeful that our organizations may yet come together.

L-110's Blansett has written his own Boilermaker creed

I AM A MEMBER of the Boilemakers because it represents the organized efforts of victims of tyranny and oppression who liberated themselves.

I am a member of the Boilemakers because it places human dignity and personal worth above private profit, and because it tends to bring out and apply the nobler instincts of man.

I am a member of the Boilemakers because it enables those who work for a living to have a voice in determining the terms and conditions of their employment.

I am a member of the Boilemakers because the freedom I enjoy and the education and other opportunities that are available to me are made possible through the struggles and sacrifices of earlier generations who placed human worth and values above all else.

I am a member of the Boilemakers because of my faith in and respect for

my fellow workers and because of their faith in me.

Brotherhood is not a dream, but man's last passionate necessity; it lives on in Boilemakers.

BERNARD BLANSETT SR., L-110
Hattiesburg, Miss.

L-647's Rollins wants to add a category to the pension plan

I WOULD LIKE to add one more category to the Boilemaker-Blacksmith pension plan for those who work 30 years in the trade and/or have 40 or 45 years of pension credit hours; i.e., 48,000 or 54,000 hours.

Currently, the improvements and benefits stop at 35 years of pension credit. If a Boilemaker has achieved 42,000 hours by the time he/she has reached 55 years of age, he/she is fortunate, or unfortunate. Fortunate, in that they have been able to work that much and could possibly retire; unfortunate from working in the extreme hot

Got something to say?

WE WELCOME LETTERS on topics of interest to our members and their



families. Keep it short and sweet. Avoid profanity and personal attacks.

SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

The Boilermaker Reporter
753 State Ave. Suite 570
Kansas City KS 66101
FAX: (913) 281-8104

Members

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 & parents

Call: 1-800-848-6466

EDUCATION SERVICES

For college and job skills training. Education tools and resources.

Call: 1-877-881-1022

PERSONAL LOANS

Available for credit-qualified members.

Call: 1-888-235-2759

LEGAL SERVICE

Discounted legal help first 30 minutes are free.

Visit: www.unionplus.org

LIFE INSURANCE

For members, their spouses, and children.

Call: 1-800-899-2782

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Call: 1-800-899-2782

HEALTH SAVINGS

Save on prescription medicines, hearing, dental, and vision care.

Call: 1-800-228-3523

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Call and give the ID number:

Avis: 1-800-698-5685

AW D #B723700

Budget: 1-800-455-2848

BCD#V816100

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Call: 1-800-864-6625

FLOWER SERVICE

Call: 1-800-667-7779

NORTH AMERICAN VAN LINES

Call: 1-800-524-5533

Go to our web site for more information:

www.unionplus.org

BOILERMAKERS UNION
PRIVILEGE BENEFITS

Take advantage of low

IF THE RECURRING claims from the government that the economy will recover are true, then interest rates are almost certain to rise. With mortgage rates still low, now is an opportune time to think about refinancing your home loan.

But, oh, the paper work! The jargon! The numbers! Not to mention points, closing costs, and shifting interest rates.

Then there's choosing a lender. Competitive rates are important, but knowledgeable representatives and personalized service are just as integral. That means more research, more number-crunching, more paperwork. A runaround.

You can take the easy, direct route to refinancing your home by calling the Union Plus Mortgage & Real Estate program. Their experts can make refinancing simple (and painless) for you, while they work to get you a competitive rate.

Refinancing your mortgage could mean more than getting a lower interest rate. It could lower your monthly mortgage payments, consolidate debt, free up cash for major purchases, or change the interest deduction expense for tax purposes.

When interest rates drop two percentage points lower than your current loan rate, refinancing may be a financially sound decision. Even a difference of one percent could substantially reduce monthly payments over the term of the loan.

Through a cooperative arrangement with Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corp., the Union Plus Mortgage and Real

Estate program offers members of the Boilermakers union a full range of mortgage products. And if you use both the mortgage and real estate services to purchase your home, you will receive \$350 toward closing costs.

The Union Plus commitment to you doesn't stop with the purchase. They support you and the investment you have made. In case you are laid off, for example, the program offers built-in protections. Union Plus can help you with an interest-free loan through the Union Plus Mortgage Assistance Program to make your mortgage payments when you're out of work.

You may be wondering if now is really the best time to refinance. Union Plus provides tools at their web site to help you decide. At www.unionplus.com, the

online home finance center has handy calculators to help you determine whether refinancing would save you money. An overview of the loan process and a glossary of related terms also are available.

When you use the Union Plus Mortgage and Real Estate program for your lending needs, you can set your mind at ease knowing you'll receive the highest quality service and exceptional member value. Stop by a local Chase Manhattan Mortgage branch, or visit Union Plus online at www.unionplus.org, or call Union Plus at 1-800-848-6466. Union Plus representatives are ready to help you create the best loan package to meet your needs.

Take the hassle out of home buying and refinancing. Put Union Plus to work

Shopping for your first home?

Securing a mortgage can be a complicated and intimidating process, but don't let it stop you from reaching your goal of home ownership.

The Union Plus Mortgage and Real Estate program experts can make the loan and refinancing process as simple as possible, especially for a first-time home buyer.

Paperwork, points, closing costs, and interest rates can be confusing. First-time home buyers should look for a lender who will take the time to answer questions and work to secure the lowest interest rates possible. From application to approval, you should be comfortable with the experts working on your behalf.

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WITH DEEP SORROW the International Brotherhood records the death of these members as reported to the International Secretary-Treasurer's office, and extends its heartfelt sympathy to the

LODGE & NAME							
NTL	Giovingo, John	30	Sutphin, George	112	Burnham, Matthew	359	Kripp, Michael
NTL	McLelland, John	40	Williamson, William	146	Casey, Paul	359	McDonald, Thomas
1	Consiglio, S.	60	Meyer, Gerald D.	146	Mengler, Sidney	359	Neumann, Gery
1	Kopczynski, Casimir	69	Newell, Edwin	D174	Meisinger, Tom	359	Peace, Otto
1	Moore, James H.	72	Bittner, Edward A.	191	Dilba, Julians	359	Peters, John
1	O'Brien, John	72	Grove, Calvin J.	191	Lyle, Ernest	359	Taylor, Clifford
1	Patula, Charles	72	Mackey, Herbert B.	D328	Luczak, Norman	359	Wanchulak, Walter
1	Villicana, Florencio	D75	Holcom, Dwain	357	Hetzner, Fred	359	Wilson, Lorne
5	Demayo, John	D78	Martin, Donnie	359	Ahokangas, Veikko	363	Blazek, Alfred
5	Vanpelt, Robert	79	Powdrill, Vernon	359	Bartholomew, Ernest	374	Manis, George
6	Nicholson, Marion C.	83	Bronaugh, Jeffrey	359	Brown, Embert	374	Piasecki, Wayne
6	Rudoff, William	83	Comelius, Norton	359	Bruce, Barry	374	Roberts, Harry
6	Tonko, Michael L.	83	Harris, Larry	359	Collins, Edward	374	Watson, Jack
13	Stefanik, George	90	Manuel, Joseph	359	Demeester, Richard	378	Goguen, Alfred A.
26	Lively, Jasper	92	Burdick, Laveme	359	Gordey, Peter	433	Fields, Victor
26	Newton, Edgar	92	Kappus, Fred	359	Graham, George	443	Wells, Arthur
27	Blankenship, James	104	Korvell, Max	359	Griffith, Gwlyn	453	Viles, Marion
27	Ecker, Roland W.	104	Markham, Irvin N.	359	Guise, Ernest	487	Beaurain, Melvin
27	Gross, Adolph	104	Pike, Randy L.	359	Harjadene, Robert	500	Burdick, Ernest
29	Cassiani, Carl R.	105	Findley, Harold R.	359	Hook, Morris	500	Spangler, Warren
		105	Townsend, James	359	Kenny, John	528	Randall, William J.
						531	Garrard, Jack
						549	Pruett, Herman
						574	Proto, Andrew
						587	Manning, Bobby
						587	Rach, Irwin
						610	Sayre Jr., Charles
						627	Dupre, Paul
						647	Morton, Steven
						647	Olsen, Louis
						667	Boggess, William
						667	Matthews, Alfred
						667	McCormick, John
						667	McDavid, Ernest
						735	Davis, Darrell
						744	Davitt, Patrick
						744	Foster, Nelson
						744	Schaffner, Pete
						903	Myers, George
						1032	Rose, Russell M.
						1592	Hughes, Clark
						1620	Downing, James H.
						1622	Ellidtt, Iorin
						1633	Osburn, H.

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											
NTL	Best, Robert	\$6,000.00	72	Hunbrid, William R.	6,000.00	169	Barnett, Ernest B.	636.07	549	French, Melvin N.	6,000.00
NTL	Davis, Thomas W.	6,000.00	72	Pointer, Robert T.	6,000.00	169	Campbell, Michael J.	4,000.00	549	Malone, Lyoris	2,250.00
NTL	Ezell, James V.	6,000.00	79	Ross, Leon G.	4,500.00	169	Sample, Leigh R.	6,000.00	549	Peacock, Jessie R.	6,000.00
NTL	Renell, Virgil	6,000.00	83	Mackey Herbert B.	6,000.00	169	Seat, Arthur L.	6,000.00	549	Pruett, Herman Lee	6,000.00
NTL	Geiger Sr., Robert L.	6,000.00	83	Bronaugh, Jeffrey J.	10,649.66	169	Swearingen, Leo A.	6,000.00	549	Terry, David	4,500.00
NTL	Hammock, George A.	6,000.00	83	Comelius, Norton L.	6,000.00	175	Dunsmore, Lawrence D.		549	Whitcomb, George B.	6,000.00
NTL	Jeffcoat, Janel T.	6,000.00	83	Harris, Larry L.	6,000.00	6,000.00			568	Boyd, Robert T.	6,000.00
NTL	Morrell, Joseph N.	6,000.00	83	Heckman, Lloyd E.	6,000.00	193	Hughes, John E.	6,000.00	568	Garrison, Allison B.	6,000.00
NTL	Bauley, Larry L.	14,202.51	83	Marshall, Charles D.	15,000.00	193	Pegago, Jay T.	1,252.14	582	Callender, Robert	6,000.00
NTL	Pugh, Jimmy C.	4,556.24	83	Wilson, Aden C.	6,000.00	204	Kepano, Philip S.	6,000.00	582	Iott Sr., Percy K.	6,000.00
NTL	Reemes, John	6,000.00	84	Fort, Richard L.	6,000.00	204	Kia, John N.	6,000.00	582	McCaffrey, James B.	6,000.00
NTL	Sosnowich, Alex A.	4,500.00	85	Taraniuk, Jerry	3,268.40	204	Kubota, Mamoru	6,000.00	583	Peterson, Henry	6,000.00
NTL	Tchill, Floyd E.	6,000.00	92	Barfield, Burl	1,609.62	242	Pollak, Edward A.	6,000.00	587	Willis, John T.	6,000.00
NTL	Wilson, Joshua C.	15,000.00	92	Bennett, Robert	6,000.00	242	Stephens, Payton F.	6,000.00	592	Cox, Floyd J.	6,000.00
1	Curtis, Walter Ray	6,000.00	92	Byng, Richard G.	6,000.00	263	Hurlburt, Edward P.	6,000.00	592	Dixon, A. J.	6,000.00
1	Dickerson, James	6,000.00	92	Carr, Robert L.	6,000.00	363	Coryell, Russell	6,000.00	592	Massey, Paul	6,000.00
1	Maloney, James E.	12,877.33	92	Doll, Herman	6,000.00	363	McMillin, Charles W.	6,000.00	620	Carlson, Jeffrey L.	6,000.00
1	Rushing, Lawrence	6,000.00	92	Keltner, Elmer R.	6,000.00	374	Kasubjak, Michael A.	6,000.00	627	Hatcher, Lee E.	6,000.00
1	Spencer, Michael W.	6,000.00	92	Mangrum, Frank D.	6,000.00	374	Keele, George W.	6,000.00	627	Kelley, William Glenn	6,000.00
1	Stinnett, Charles W.	6,000.00	92	Nicholson, Larry	6,000.00	374	Maitlen, Ritchie D.	273.00	627	Tuey, Wm. D.	6,000.00
5	Gambitsky, Joseph	6,000.00	92	Williams, Sherman A.	6,000.00	374	Monroe, Paul A.	6,000.00	627	Valdo Sr., John M.	6,000.00
5	Miller, John T.	6,000.00	101	Kadmas, Dorman E.	6,000.00	374	Nichols, Allen P.	6,000.00	636	Gratkowski, Wallace J.	6,000.00
5	Sobel, Frederick P.	6,000.00	104	Betts, Arthur J.	6,000.00	374	Phillips, Richard A.	1,146.56	647	Smith, Glenn V.	3,954.68
6	Abundiz, Manuel G.	6,000.00	104	Boyer, Chris E.	6,000.00	374	Piasecki, Wayne G.	2,062.03	667	Kuhens, Reames D.	6,000.00
6	Bezayiff, Fred J.	1,000.00	104	Fryett, Russell G.	6,000.00	374	Potts, Sterling E.	397.50	667	Matthews, Alfred E.	6,000.00
6	Bowman, Olen E.	6,000.00	104	Hoots, Robert H.	6,000.00	374	Britt, Gus	6,000.00	667	McConnick, John D.	6,000.00
6	Johnson, James M.	6,000.00	104	Main, James	6,000.00	374	Smith, Paul F.	6,000.00	667	Sams, William R.	6,000.00
6	Kennedy, Claude	6,000.00	104	Mercredi Jr., Joseph E.	6,000.00	433	Rentz, Robert L.	6,000.00	673	Bertram, James R.	6,000.00
6	Nadrchal, Charles R.	6,000.00	104	Weiland, Ben	6,000.00	449	Flock, Urban R.	6,000.00	688	Lizana, Lonnie E.	6,000.00
6	Pariot, Dennis L.	6,000.00	107	Bailey, Newreal L.	188.20	449	Peterson, Raymond G.	6,000.00	744	Amoroso, Joseph J.	6,000.00
6	Ruppert, Charles E.	6,000.00	107	Haack, Robert W.	6,000.00	449	Sacotte, Ellsworth D.	6,000.00	744	McMillan, William J.	6,000.00
6	Vallejo, Gregorio	6,000.00	107	Kopshe, Richard A.	6,000.00	453	Hadley, Ralph W.	6,000.00	744	Nicotero, Robert W.	6,000.00
7	Shane, Albert L.	6,000.00	107	Schneider, Louis F.	6,000.00	453	Johnson, John R.	6,000.00	744	Schaffner, Pete	6,000.00
13	Baxter, Harry	6,000.00	108	McLarty, Marion D.	6,000.00	453	Melton, Elbert L.	6,000.00	802	Hyson, Robert	6,000.00
13	Cameron, Frank S.	618.67	109	Jones, Willie James	6,000.00	454	Belk, James K.	6,000.00	807	Harper, James C.	6,000.00
13	Davis, Jeffrey C.	4,750.01	109	Kelly, Joseph	6,000.00	454	Jenkins, John W.	6,000.00	906	Franklin, Scott M.	1,638.47
13	DePasture, Douglas W.	601.87	109	Trant, James V.	6,000.00	455	Wood, Voris A.	6,000.00	1086	Roslen, Frank	6,000.00
13	Eriksen, Niels C.	1,059.77	110	Boudreaux, Herman D.	6,000.00	487	Beaurain, Melvin	6,000.00	1191	Arnold, Robert W.	6,000.00
13	Glosia Sr., Robert	6,000.00	112	Johnson, Wade	6,000.00	487	Besserdich, Raymond H.	6,000.00	1212	Romeris Jr., Peter E.	6,000.00
13	Keating, Dale F.	6,000.00	112	Walker, Gordon	6,000.00	487	Dopersalski, Norbert	6,000.00	1234	Calderone, James F.	6,000.00
13	Lane, Vernon B.	6,000.00	112	Littleton, Mary I.	6,000.00	487	Kuehl, Vernon E.	6,000.00	1240	Holbrook, Robert J.	6,000.00
13	Smith, Richard S.	6,000.00	113	May, Loy V.	6,000.00	502	Bacarro, Ben B.	6,000.00	1243	Cunningham, Fred E.	6,000.00
13	White, Warren E.	6,000.00	113	Speer, Reba L.	6,000.00	502	Robinson, Robert G.	6,000.00	1248	Clemens, Arnold J.	6,000.00
26	Eddington, Richard G.	6,000.00	132	Glass, Oneid V.	6,000.00	502	Ballard, Paul M.	6,000.00	1592	Moyer, Herbert G.	6,000.00
26	Roberson, David L.	1,500.00	132	Hughes, Billy Mack	6,000.00	549	Black, Warren	6,000.00	1600	Stewart, Donald E.	6,000.00
26	Turner Jr., Grady G.	6,000.00	132	Turner Jr., Grady	6,000.00	549	Daniels, Frank O.	6,000.00	1603	Alton, William S.	6,000.00
26	Ward, John M.	2,215.68	154	Baxter, Carl M.	6,000.00	549	Fercovich, Frank	2,250.00	1624	Turkmen, Karani	6,000.00
27	Hamlyn, Sylvane Earl	6,000.00	154	Haigh, Arnold F.	6,000.00				1627	Garrison, William C.	6,000.00
27	Nickelson, Raymond J.	6,000.00	154	Setley, William W.	6,000.00						
27	Peterson, Johnnie	6,000.00									
28	Bates, Francis R.	11,000.00									
28	Hughes, David C.	1,967.30									
28	Troglour, John W.	11,000.00									
28	Vinci, John	4,971.47									
29	Cassiani, Carl R.	6,000.00									
29	Kaklegian, Sam S.	6,000.00									
30	Bridges, Floyd D.	6,000.00									
40	Moore, Anthony W.	1,483.29									
40	Pace, Tremon R.	4,500.00									
60	Spraggs, Shane B.	181.50									
72	Bittner, Edward A.	6,000.00									
72	Grove, Calvin J.	6,000.00									

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We must build more Navy

Our fleet is shrinking to dangerously low levels, weakening our defense & shipbuilding

IN THE FIRST DAYS of the war on terrorism, the U.S. Navy amassed 50 ships in international waters in the Arabian Sea, 500 miles south of land-locked Afghanistan. From that distance, they were able to launch missiles and send jet fighters on sorties into the interior of Afghanistan 500 hundred miles away.

Without Navy ships to provide mobile bases, the U.S. could not have waged the war in Afghanistan, because we did not have access to land bases in neighboring countries. Navy ships enable our military forces to engage our enemies wherever we find them.

Without a Navy, we would have to rely on the cooperation of foreign governments to wage every defense initiative. That is why Cynthia Brown, president of the American Shipbuilding Association, told this year's LEAP conference, "Homeland security begins with naval forces."

Yet our Navy fleet is shrinking, even as the war on terrorism grows. We are not building new ships to replace those that are getting old and must be retired. In 1987, the U.S. Navy had 594 ships. Now we are down to 314, the smallest fleet since before World War I.

President Bush's 2003 budget will shrink our fleet even further. He is asking for only \$6.1 billion to buy U.S. Navy ships, significantly less than the \$6.5 billion he requested in 2002, and a whopping \$5 billion less than Clinton's request his last year in office.

Bush's reductions suggest a disturbing trend, both for national safety and for our shipbuilding industry.

The Department of Defense Joint Chiefs of Staff have told Congress we need 360 ships in order to meet all our obligations around the world. To maintain a fleet that size, we need to buy 12 ships a year. Bush's request will buy only five ships, a rate that puts us in line for a 180-ship fleet—half what the Joint Chiefs of Staff say we need.

Even before September 11, the U.S. Navy was complaining that their ships were spread too thin around the world. Modern warships employ sophisticated technology and can do far more than similar ships in the past. But no matter how evolved their technology, no ship can be in two places at one time.

When it comes to ships, numbers do count. And when it comes to budgeting for those new ships, timing is critical.

Ships require four to eight years to build. If you want a new aircraft carrier by 2010, you need to already be working on it. Bush's failure to buy new ships will leave our Navy with a severe shortage that will not fully show itself until long after he leaves office.

We can't have a U.S. Navy without a U.S. shipbuilding industry, and we can't have shipbuilding without a Navy.

Bush seems to have a knack for creating problems and leaving them for someone else to solve. Texas is still cleaning up after him, and the enormous tax cut for the wealthy he passed last year will create its largest budget deficits beginning in 2008, just in time for him to pass the problem along to the next president.

But thousands of shipyard Boilermakers can't wait eight years. The U.S. Navy and the American shipbuilding industry are intimately and intricately linked. We can't have a U.S. Navy without a U.S. shipbuilding industry, and we can't have a shipbuilding industry without a Navy.

Shipbuilding relies on a large, highly skilled workforce with specific experience building ships. We need to keep those shipbuilders working so they don't lose their skills or move into other industries. Most U.S. shipyards rely on

government business to supplement their commercial business.

Commercial shipbuilding has been in decline for 20 years. In 1981, there were 22 shipyards constructing large oceangoing ships for the U.S. government, the commercial market, or both. That number has dropped to only six.

Shipbuilding requires a broad base of support industries. The supplier base includes over 9,000 companies in 47 states. Each of these vendors also has multiple suppliers throughout the United States.

The shrinking shipbuilding industry has hurt this supplier base. In some cases, there are only one or two companies left that make critical components. If we do not keep our shipbuilding industry strong, those suppliers may soon be out of business, and we will have to purchase these components overseas, a security nightmare.

The federal government holds the keys to keeping our domestic shipbuilding industry alive. Making sure that the budget includes funding for a full 360-ship Navy is the first step, but steps that encourage companies to buy ships from U.S. shipyards are just as important.

In order to ensure that the U.S. has a viable shipbuilding industry with which to build Navy ships, Congress and the president should

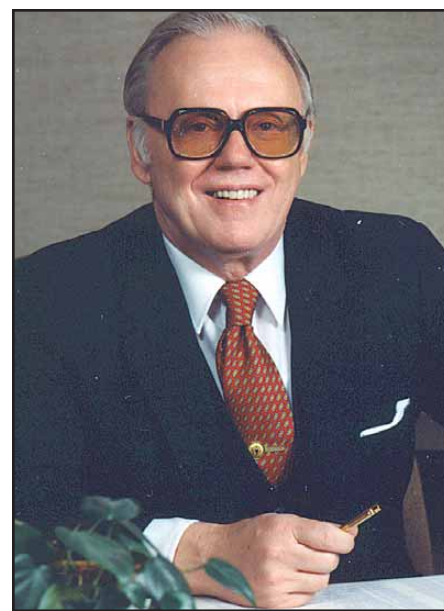
1 Support existing U.S. laws that require certain ships be built in the U.S., specifically the Jones Act, the Passenger Vessel Services Act, and Section 615 of the Merchant Marine Act

1 Support phasing out of single hull tankers as provided for in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990

1 Budget a minimum of \$50 million annually for the Title XI Ship Loan Guarantee Program so U.S. shipbuilders can get the loans necessary to build ships.

None of these recommendations requires a change to existing U.S. law. Rather, they affirm laws already on the books. And none of them is expensive.

Title XI guarantees are only paid if a shipbuilder defaults on a loan, and



CHARLES W. JONES
International President

unlikely occurrence. Ship operators participating in the program pay fees that cover much of the program's expense. Since Title XI was revived in 1993, these companies have paid \$160 million into the U.S. Treasury in Title XI fees.

Enforcing these laws will strengthen our shipbuilding industry, and maintaining the size of the U.S. Navy fleet will strengthen our national defense.

To ensure our Navy fleet stays at its optimal level, Congress and the president should

1 Provide funds to purchase 14 ships per year so we can rebuild our Navy fleet to 360 ships

1 Support current laws requiring all U.S. Navy ships to be built in the U.S.

1 Limit military leases of foreign-built ships to no more than 18 months, with the goal of eliminating them altogether.

Obviously, Bush's budget request of \$6.1 billion will not buy 14 ships. We need more like \$17 billion.

If anyone suggests we can't afford that much, point out to them that tax breaks for corporations will cost the government about \$171 billion over the next two years.

If we can find a way to give Microsoft \$22 billion in tax breaks, we can find a way to build enough ships to keep our nation secure. q

Labor artist paints the lives of workers

YOU MAY REMEMBER some of this artist's cartoons from these pages or other Boilermaker publications.

Rick Flores, a member of the United Auto Workers, has been providing cartoons on contemporary issues in the labor movement to labor unions for 25 years. His work is featured regularly in the Boilermaker Bulletin and has been used in the Boilermaker's LEAP manual and other publications.

Now he has expanded his efforts to include acrylic and mixed media paintings, along with prints of those paintings. Most of the scenes he paints are taken from his own life.

Flores was born and raised in Texas and worked as a migrant laborer. In his teens he began playing guitar and traveling throughout Texas with his own band, playing Texas-style blues.

Later, he moved north to work for General Motors, joined the UAW, and began drawing labor cartoons. His labor cartoon service is now widely used by unions to illustrate newsletters and other publications.

He says his art expresses what it means to be a union worker and my strong feelings about human suffering, poverty, and compassion.

You can see more of his paintings, prints, and cartoons by visiting his web site: www.laborart.com q



"OUR STRUGGLES," by Rick Flores, labor cartoonist and painter.