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The Shipyard Workers Union votes to affiliate with the IBB

Affiliation offers strength and security to former members of independent union

MEMBERS OF THE SHIPYARD WORKERS UNION (SWU), an independent union established in April 2000, voted to affiliate with the Boilermakers International Union, effective March 27, 2003. The new lodge will maintain the name Shipyard Workers Union, but will be known internally as Local Lodge 1998.

The SWU represents over 1,700 employees in the San Diego, Calif., port. SWU represents workers at Hopeman Brothers Marine Interiors and has organized 70 percent of the workforce at the National Steel and Shipbuilding Company.

Robert Godinez, former president of the independent union, will continue to serve as the new local's president. Intl. Pres. Charles W. Jones has assigned Intl. Rep. Steve Eames to service the lodge and has also appointed Godinez as an International rep. and general organizer for this new unit.

"The future of shipbuilding and ship repair in San Diego is very good," said Godinez. "Both of our employers have contracted work until the year 2013, and we plan to continue organizing about 2,000 more employees on the waterfront."

Joseph A. Stinger, who became International vice president of the Western States Section on April 7, wrote Godinez to welcome him and SWU members into the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers union.

"I look forward to working with the members of the Shipyard Workers Union," wrote Stinger. "I know the SWU will become a powerful local union, and we are all looking forward to working with these members, offering training programs, and establishing a new union hall for this local lodge."

Work performed by members of the Shipyard Workers Union at the National Steel and Shipbuilding Co. (Nassco) was recently featured in the *American Ship Review 2002-2003*, an annual special issue of the *Professional Mariner*.

The article by Brian Gauvin features construction of two Orca-class roll on/roll off ships: *Midnight Sun*, floating and nearing completion; and *North Star*, taking shape in the graving dock.

The vessels are the first Jones Act liners built specifically for the Alaska trade. Though the ships have not yet logged a single nautical mile, they have already received environmental awards from Washington and Alaska, and a U.S. Coast Guard Bronze Star for incorporating a double-hull fuel-oil tank system, a contained freshwater-ballast system, a gondola-aft hull form to minimize oil pollution from shaft-seal systems, and a reduced-emissions diesel-electric plant.

The 839-foot vessels have a strengthened bulbous bow, as well as a 20-foot wide band (from the 13-foot to the 33-foot marks) extending from the bow back almost amidships. These areas have 1.25-inch plate and double stiffening for icebreaking. □



When SWU members built the *Midnight Sun* (top) they reinforced the bow (above) for icebreaking. Photos by Brian Gauvin

L-502 members are working on the railroad, Engine #1

Volunteer members retube 1899 engine for park

LOCAL 502, TACOMA, Wash., may represent construction workers in Alaska and Washington, but since the summer of 2000, L-502 members have been working on the railroad.

That's not entirely true, but they have been working on the first steam locomotive to travel in the Yukon Territory — Engine #1.

Built in March 1899 by H. K. Porter & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., Engine No. 1 is a 0-4-0 steam locomotive that ran in the Yukon Territory from 1899 to 1905. In 1905, the Tanana Valley Railroad

brought the locomotive to Fairbanks, Alaska. It was retired in 1922.

In the summer of 2000, the Friends of the Tanana Valley Railroad, a non-profit organization of volunteers, decided to bring Engine #1 out of retirement. Working with JAFFA Construction, Local 502 members donated their time and effort to help restore Engine #1 to its original condition. Members retubed the engine and rebuilt the coal car.

Engine #1 now operates on selected dates during the summer at Pioneer Park, formerly known as Alaskaland, in Fairbanks. Local 502's Charlie Winston is one of the part-time engineers. □



LOCAL 502 MEMBERS, l. to r., Richard Pope and Charlie Winston, stand in front of the Yukon Territory's first steam locomotive, Engine #1, built in 1899.

The Boilermakers Reporter
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



L-13 members take worker issues to state capitol

EACH YEAR, MEMBERS of Local 13's political action committee (PAC) travel to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania's capitol, to discuss issues of importance to workers with state legislators.

This was the seventh year the members of Local 13, Philadelphia,

have made the journey. PAC members going to the state capitol city this year included Local 13 BM-ST James Banford Jr., Local 13 President Bill Hill, Rich Crouse, John Gushue, Jim Heron, Bill Morgan, Mark Strachan, and Granville Strachan. □

Letter shows anti-union aim behind new DOL rules

Gingrich said new rules will 'weaken our opponents'

A FREEDOM OF INFORMATION Act request has uncovered a letter written in 1992 by then-Republican Whip Newt Gingrich that reveals the true reason behind Labor Secretary Elaine Chao's new LM reporting rules.

Gingrich wrote to the first President Bush's labor secretary, Lynn Martin, and Clayton Yeutter, the president's domestic policy adviser, urging them to institute changes in the LM-2 union reporting and disclosure form exactly like the ones Chao wants to implement this year. These changes, he explained, would "weaken our opponents and encourage our allies."

Chao insults union presidents

GINGRICH'S LETTER reveals that these changes have nothing to do with helping workers and everything to do with weakening unions. Perhaps that is why Labor Secretary Martin advised the first President Bush against them.

Eleven years later, DOL Secretary Elaine Chao had no such qualms about insulting the heads of dozens of unions at an AFL-CIO meeting in February. In answer to a question from IAM President Tom Buffenbarger, she began

reading aloud from a list of seven criminal cases involving IAM locals.

What she did not say — and did not let Buffenbarger say — was that all seven cases had been brought to the attention of the Department of Labor by the IAM itself, as a result of internal audits in compliance with the current LM-2 reports, which are adequate to uncover wrongdoing. The amounts of the misused monies were \$218, \$377, \$744, \$780, \$13,175, \$13,500, and \$14,067.

Chao is using isolated cases like these to justify new rules that will cost unions millions of dollars.

Bush administration shows pattern of union-busting

THESE REVELATIONS are the latest in a long series that suggest the Bush White House is actively working to destroy union representation for workers. Bush's appointments to agencies that oversee workers have consistently gone to antiworker candidates, his executive orders have rolled back worker protections, and he has used the cover of national security to deny federal workers the right to be represented by labor unions.

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney has called this "the most antiworker administration in recent times." □

GOP senators stand up for unions

IN APRIL, 28 Republican senators signed a letter to Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, asking her to withdraw her proposed changes to the LMRDA reports, saying they are "unduly burdensome" and would divert unions from "representing members." Please take the time to thank these senators for standing up for workers.

Spencer Bachus (Ala.)
Sherwood Boehlert (N.Y.)
Lincoln Diaz-Balart (Fla.)
Jo Ann Emerson (Mo.)
Phil English (Pa.)
Mike Ferguson (N.J.)
Mark Green (Wis.)
Amo Houghton (N.Y.)
Timothy Johnson (Ill.)
Sue Kelly (N.Y.)

Peter King (N.Y.)
Ray LaHood (Ill.)
Steven LaTourette (Ohio)
Jerry Lewis (Calif.)
Frank LoBiondo (N.J.)
John McHugh (N.Y.)
Tim Murphy (Pa.)
Jack Quinn (N.Y.)
Dennis Rehberg (Mont.)
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (Fla.)

James Saxton (N.J.)
John Shimkus (Ill.)
Rob Simmons (Conn.)
Chris Smith (N.J.)
John Sweeney (N.Y.)
James Walsh (N.Y.)
Curt Weldon (Pa.)
Don Young (Alaska)

Mississippi one step closer to having labor department



MISSISSIPPI AFL-CIO members show support for creating a state department of labor at a Senate committee hearing. The measure was passed by the committee.

THREE DELEGATES from the Mississippi AFL-CIO testified for passage of a bill to create a state department of labor at a Senate Labor Committee meeting in Jackson, Miss., with dozens of other delegates showing their support in the gallery. The speakers included Mississippi AFL-CIO President Robert Shaffer, former president of Boilermakers' Local 903 in West Point.

Their efforts bore fruit. The Senate Labor Committee voted to send the bill to the Appropriations Committee for further action. The testimony occurred during the Mississippi AFL-CIO's

annual legislative conference.

Two Boilermaker representatives taught classes at the legislative conference. Intl. Rep. Howard Cole presented a steward's training course and Pam Dumler, asst. to the director of the Boilermakers' research and collective bargaining services department, conducted a class on the Family Medical Leave Act. They were well received.

Shaffer told *the Reporter*: "The delegates were very impressed and would like to have taken another day for both of the instructors." □

'Rule clarification' will end overtime pay for 644,000

MILLIONS OF AMERICAN workers who rely on overtime pay may be in for a pay cut under a "clarification" of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) being considered by the Labor Department.

Victoria Lipnic, assistant secretary for employment standards at the U.S. Labor Department, says the proposed changes are intended to "protect workers who were not being protected."

Labor leaders see it differently. The new rule would deny overtime pay to workers making over \$22,000 a year, including those who supervise other workers or perform work "of substantial importance." Those at risk of being reclassified under the new rule range from administrative assistants to factory machine operators, health care lab technicians, and firefighters.

The Labor Department says the rule would affect about 644,000 workers, but critics put the figure much higher. Mike Leibig, general counsel for the International Union of Police Associations, says nearly half the nation's police forces could be negatively affected.

The rule is open for public comment through the end of June. The Labor Department does not need congressional approval and expects to put the rule into effect next year.

In addition to this rule change, the Bush administration hopes to get a bill through Congress that allows employers to substitute compensatory time off for overtime pay. Both of these proposals weaken the most important worker protection law on the books (FLSA), to the substantial benefit of employers. □

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Local 696 says 'no' to concessions



LOCAL 696 MEMBERS participate in a six-week strike against Marinette Marine. Their efforts led to a four-year contract with no concessions and wage increases each year.

Six-week strike softens company demands

FOLLOWING A SIX-WEEK strike, 449 members of Local 696, Marinette, Wis., voted to accept a four-year agreement with Marinette Marine on March 6, 2003.

"This was a very difficult negotiation," reported Intl. Rep. Len Gunderson. "It was the first contract with Marinette Marine and the Manitowoc Corp. I hope the next one goes better."

Negotiations began with the company demanding concessions on vacation, health insurance premiums, overtime, and the workweek.

"The company wanted to eliminate overtime during the week, and only allow it on the weekend after 40 hours of work. They wanted to eliminate double-time and retest all our journeymen and reduce the pay for any who did not pass," said Gunderson. "They also wanted to eliminate two weeks of vacation and eliminate two holidays.

This left only ten holidays, of which the company wanted five to be floating holidays to be designated at the company's discretion.

"The company also wanted to be able to change the workweek on a weekly basis; i.e., working four ten-hour days, or three 12-hour days, or any combination within the shipyard. Another issue was time off for union business. The company wanted to restrict this to only five days off a year for union business for local lodge officers, stewards, and committee members. They also wanted to eliminate the right to honor a sanctioned strike.

"But the biggest issue was health insurance," Gunderson said. "The company had been paying 100 percent of the premium. They proposed eliminating insurance for retired employees

Continued on page 7

Going home alive should be a job requirement



WORKERS LEAVE A JOBSITE in Lebanon, N.H. Photo by Ferguson & Katzman Photography. Submitted by Susan Garitano, McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., St. Louis, Mo.

WHEN THE DAY is done, all those in construction have the right to head home in the same shape as they arrived at work — or better.

But as everyone knows, reality is not so forgiving. Each year, the industry kills or injures its people in numbingly familiar ways and 2002 was no exception. Falls, electrocutions, falling objects, trench cave-ins, equipment mishaps, and vehicular accidents combined to kill hundreds of people on the job.

In its reporting, ENR tries to call the industry's attention to best practices as well as to the tragic results of even a

moment's inadvertence. Many industry organizations and companies make safety the highest priority because it is the right thing to do and, more so, makes good business sense.

In 2003, we hope that the construction industry is just as dedicated to making a bigger dent in accidents, injuries, and fatalities.

A good place to start is not letting the press of schedule push people into unsafe practices.

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Solidarity is winning factor for L-449

Darrin Pavlik secures right to recall, Scott Delarwelle and Theodore Brauer receive cash settlements

SOLIDARITY PREVAILS at Local 449, Sturgeon Bay, Wis., where members banded together to ratify an agreement and secure a settlement for three of their own.

On January 22, 2003, Local 449 members reached a settlement with the Bay Shipbuilding Company that secured a one-year leave of absence with right to recall for one member and confidential monetary settlements for two others.

In exchange for these undertakings, the union agreed to withdraw all charges and dismiss a complaint pending before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) filed by Local 449 and the Pipefitters and Carpenters unions.

The unions had filed a joint complaint against Bay Shipbuilding accusing the company of changing grievance and vacation policies and discriminating against workers for union activity.

Local 449 had also filed charges against the shipbuilder for failure to bargain in good faith on October 11, 2001, and March 8, April 12, and December 30, 2002.

Additional charges were filed by Local 449 on February 4, 2002, for failing to offer recall to Darrin Pavlik because of his union activities; on February 14, 2002, for refusing to make contributions to the employee health plan and threatening termination of health insurance in retaliation for employees engag-



MEMBERS OF LOCAL 449 picket Bay Shipbuilding for unfair labor practices.

ing in concerted protected activity; on March 8, 2002, for, among other things, disciplining Theodore Brauer for his concerted protected activities; and on April 29, 2002, for discharging Scott Delarwelle in retaliation for his union membership and activities.

Problems began almost two years ago, when the collective bargaining agreement expired on August 31, 2001. A new contract was finally ratified in May 2002, after the union filed several NLRB charges against the company and the workers participated in solidarity programs, informational pickets, and a four-day strike.

"The members used the solidarity program very well," said Intl. Rep. Len Gunderson. "They met at the gate in large numbers, pressed the grievance procedure to the max, worked to the rule, etc. Members of Local 696, who work at another Manitowoc-owned shipyard in Marinette, Wis., took a bus on their own time and traveled to Sturgeon Bay to participate in an informational picket line with Local 449."



LOCAL 696 MEMBERS show solidarity by joining L-449 members on the picket line.

Unions only strike as a last resort. When negotiations came to an impasse, the members initiated a four-day unfair labor practice (ULP) strike. Their efforts did not go unnoticed.

"The ULP strike had a great effect on the bargaining committee," said Gunderson. "They came back to the table ready to revote and vigorously sell a proposal."

Local 449 members ratified a four-year agreement with no concessions and several language gains. They secured wage increases in each contract year, an \$800 signing bonus, an annual \$50 clothing/tool allowance, more vacation days, and increases in their annual shoe and prescription glass allowances, accident & sickness benefit, and lead-man and second-shift premiums.

Chartered in 1942, Local 449 has represented workers at Bay Shipbuilding for over 30 years. Manitowoc Company is the parent company of Bay Shipbuilding. □

Local 28, Nooter complete FCC revamp

Boilermakers revamp the world's largest catalytic cracking unit and make Nooter's largest single lift ever

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 28, Newark, N.J., have successfully completed an FCC revamp project for the Nooter Construction Co. at the ConocoPhillips refinery in Bayway, N.J.

This 14-month project on the world's largest catalytic cracking unit, culminated with the mechanical portion of the turnaround being completed in just 35 days — ahead of schedule, under budget, and with no safety incidents.

The pre-turnaround work for the project began in Aug. 2001, with the fabrication of a new 1.625-inch by 50-foot stainless steel regenerator air grid, which was successfully completed in Jan. 2002.

The balance of the pre-turnaround work included fabricating a new one-inch-thick hemispherical regenerator head with four-inches of refractory; installing the plenum and 20 pairs of cyclones; constructing the crane foundation; and setting up the crane — a Lampson LTL-2600, known as "the world's largest mobile crane."

Furnished by Lampson Intl. LLC of Kennewick, Wash., it took 178 trucks to deliver the crane. A Nooter subcontractor built the crane's foundation, which took 13,850 tons of stone and 600 cubic yards of concrete. Nooter and ConocoPhillips engineered this

construction to accommodate the crane's rear crawler, which carries 5.4 million pounds of counterweight.

During this turnaround, Nooter made its largest single lift ever — 704 tons at a 287-foot radius, by combining Nooter's rigging engineering with the capabilities of the Lampson crane.

Besides setting a new lift record, Nooter was able to cut the owner's downtime in half by fabricating the replacement head, plenum, and cyclones during the pre-turnaround.

Historically, all the components are assembled in place during the turnaround, resulting in downtime that lasts 70 to 80 days. By fabricating these components as a single unit during the pre-turnaround, the mechanical portion of the turnaround was completed in just 35 days, enabling ConocoPhillips to be back in production in half the time.

During the turnaround, one high-pressure water cut was made around the vessel's 55-foot, 10-inch diameter to remove the old regenerator head and cyclones. The Lampson crane was then used to place the new head and cyclones as a single unit. When the unit was back up, L-28 members scrapped out the old grid, cyclones, and temporary stands, while helping to dismantle



LOCAL 28 MEMBERS use the world's largest crane, a Lampson LTL-2600, to complete Nooter Construction Co.'s largest single lift ever — 704 tons at a 287-foot radius — while working a turnaround at a ConocoPhillips refinery in Bayway, N.J.

and ship out the Lampson crane.

Nooter Construction VP Pete Cimino wrote, "This was a very impressive job by the Boilermakers

and Nooter. The customer is very pleased. Nooter wants to thank all of the Boilermakers who contributed to this very safe and successful job." □

L-169 members retrofit Michigan boiler

Boilermakers participate in 77-day pollution control project with over 260,000 accident-free man-hours

THE KARN-WEADOCK Generating Complex hasn't seen this much construction activity since the D.E. Karn plant first came on line in 1959.

Owner Consumers Energy, general contractor Babcock & Wilcox, subcontractors, and the building trades are in the midst of a major outage affecting D.E. Karn Unit 2, a coal-fired boiler that is being retrofitted with federally-mandated, pollution-control upgrades.

On Jan. 11, more than 900 workers working two shifts, Local 169 members, Detroit, Mich., among them, began the 77-day outage, taking Unit 2 off line.

To reduce pollutants, Consumers Energy is installing a Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) reactor in both of its coal-burning Karn units.

Constructing the SCR's involves building a multi-story support structure, induction draft fans, ductwork, and a

significant upgrade to the plant's existing electrical system, which couldn't handle the increased load of the SCR's.

The outage work also includes a partial overhaul of Unit 2's two turbines, installation of a dust removal system, upgrades to the plant's digital control system, installation of a 4160 bus extension and transformers, condenser tube replacement, and replacement of reheat inlet tubing.

The safety record thus far is phenomenal, with over 260,000 man-hours worked without a recordable safety incident.

"There's been a lot of planning for this project," said Chuck Westphal, an asst. bus. mgr. for Boilermaker Local 169 and president of the Tri-County Building Trades. "I think they've thought of everything — even down to having a snow removal company on call to make



IN THE BOWELS of the selective catalytic reactor, Local 169 members install a series of catalyst blocks, which weigh a ton each. (Source: *The Building Tradesman*)

sure we have a place to park. A lot of companies talk about teamwork, but Consumers Energy actually practices what they preach. We couldn't have asked for a better situation."

Speaking of planning, there's

already an 86-day outage scheduled for retrofitting the Karn Unit 1 boiler — the tie-in is scheduled for the spring of 2004, and L-169 members are expected back to do the job.

Source: *The Building Tradesman* □

Working together for a safer job site

KCP&L, Enerfab, and Local 83 strive for zero accidents

SPRINGTIME 2002 for Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) brought a new and different approach to safety, as well as to the owner, contractor, and union (tripartite) relationship.

Ralph Boehm of KCP&L, representing the owner, Greg Purdon of Enerfab, representing the contractor, and Local 83 BM-ST Roger Erickson, representing the union, met before a four-week scheduled outage to address a tripartite commitment to safety that would reduce accidents to

zero, enhance safety awareness, promote worker participation, and serve as a benchmark for tripartite relationships and safety programs.

These individuals, along with committee members Jim Prothe (KCP&L), Mitch Cauley (Enerfab), and Larry Horseman (Local 83), planned and adopted several methods to accomplish their stated goals:

- Rewards for zero accidents and best attendance (awards included gift certificates, power tools, and a grand prize — a 27-inch television).
- A clear explanation of safety rules and emergency procedures communi-

cated to the employees prior to starting the repairs.

- Completion of daily JSA checklists to review new activities for potential hazards and encourage safety pre-planning.
- A mid-outage safety break for everyone on site, with the committee distributing donuts, cookies, and a reminder of the importance of safety.
- A final post-outage review.

The result — 56,935 man-hours completed with only one recordable accident, no lost-time injuries, and a 3.51 OSHA incident rate. From these results it would appear that this tripartite approach to safety was a success.

The committee, however, is not resting on its laurels. They intend to continue to meet, plan, adopt, and implement whatever it takes to achieve their goal of zero accidents.

Each committee member recognizes that safety benefits all parties through reduced labor costs, increased productivity, a better work environment, and improved morale.

Most important, this tripartite safety program ensures that workers will return home safely to their families — healthy and whole!

Source: *Ralph Boehm, KCP&L* □

Locals 92, 104 build award-winning sphere



PSF Industries earns fabricated product of the year award from Steel Plate Fabricators

PSF INDUSTRIES, INC. combined the talents of two Boilermaker local lodges to win the 2002 fabricated product of the year award from the Steel Plate Fabricators Association, Inc.

PSF utilized members of Local Lodge 104, Seattle, Wash., for the shop fabrication, and members of Local Lodge 92,

Los Angeles, Calif., for the field erection of an experimental project to test an airborne laser system.

The project was completed ahead of schedule, within budget, and with no accidents.

According to PSF President Stanley R. Miller, the members built an 87.5-foot, self-supporting vacuum sphere that is 1.375 inches thick. The sphere has 13 legs, an internal high-pressure spray system, and 84-inch ductwork. It was built to ASME Code Section VIII, Division 1 requirements for the Edwards Air Force Base in California. □

Local 502 members build FCCU converter

Crew's motto comes true — not one Band-Aid

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 502, Tacoma, Wash., have completed 25,000 man-hours — working in confined spaces — completing a quality job on time and accident free.

Working for J. H. Kelly, Local 502 members successfully installed an FCCU converter, designed by TOYO USA, for Phillips Conoco in northwest Washington.

After they erected a 580-ton pressure vessel — the heart of the new unit — they began installing over 720,000-pounds of cyclones, dip legs, piping, and other internals into the converter's shell.

Work began in August 2001 and was completed one year later. At peak, 40 Local 502 members were on the job. All of the installation was performed in confined spaces and required the execution of complicated rigging procedures. Components required multiple rigging transfers inside the converter,

with the largest cyclones weighing over 20,000 pounds each.

Internal welding included 304H stainless and post-weld, heat-treated chrome Molybdenum steels. Over 800 welds were radiographed, PT, MP, PMI, and Ferrite-tested with only one weld repair required during the entire installation.

All 25,000 man-hours were performed in confined spaces without one first aid incident.

"Considering the complicated rigging procedures and the ever-present potential for injury working in a restricted environment, this result is a credit to the professional approach and teamwork demonstrated by the converter construction crew," reported Local 502 BM-ST Randy Robbins. "Great pride was achieved in the quality result, and, more importantly, during the execution of the work, the crew's motto was realized — 'Not One Band-Aid.'"

"This is truly an example of a good job, very well done," said Robbins. □

Good Job!

Letters of Praise from Owners & Employers

Quality of L-647 crew makes contractor more competitive

I AM WRITING TO thank you for the quality of men you furnished to Criner Companies for the construction of the fabric filters and scrubbers at the Olmsted County waste-to-energy project in Rochester, Minn.

The entire crew received great praise from our site superintendent and the management of the owner, as well as Hannon Research Cottrell, the equipment supplier.

Both the quality and the productivity of their work were outstanding, as was their attitude and cooperation with all parties on site.

Criner Companies won this project competing against both nonunion and union air pollution specialty contractors. This kind of performance from union craftsmen is a must, and has to be constant for Criner Companies to continue to make in-roads with nonunion projects.

We at Criner Companies would welcome the following Local 647 craftsmen on our projects, anytime, and anywhere: **Michael Abts, Curtis Bendickson, Phillip Bendickson, Dennis Frank, Timothy Fuller, Douglas Helwick, Harold Kirchberg, David Nivala, Richard Poukka, and Duran Sailor.**

We will bid future projects with the confidence that you can supply this type crew, or an equal quality crew, to perform the work. Thanks for a job well done.

JM MOSS, vice pres. of sales
Criner Companies, Inc.

ARB praises Local 4 for high quality work & productivity

I AM A THIRD-generation Boilermaker from Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif. I completed the Boilermaker apprenticeship program in 1971. I spent 28 years with Chicago Bridge & Iron, the last 20 years as a project superintendent/site manager. I went to work for ARB, Inc. in 1998 as a project manager on various power plants and refinery projects. My experience covers all facets of boilermaker construction, so I think I am a good judge of construction talent.

I started a project in Moss Landing, Calif., that was going to peak at 200 workers and the local hall could not supply the needed manpower. I contacted Nate Begay of Local 4, and he not only had welders, but fitters and riggers as well.

I started hiring Local 4 members. The Moss Landing project not only finished ahead of schedule, but under budget as well.

ARB, Inc. would not have accomplished this without the major contribution from the quality hands dispatched from Local 4. Frank Secret of Local 549 was very helpful in clearing the Local 4 members through his hall and mixing them in with local members and other travelers to make an outstanding crew.

I want to thank the Boilermakers for organizing this vast pool of con-

struction talent in the Navajo Nation that makes up Local 4. It is reassuring to know that when we bid work in any area, manpower shortages will not be a problem as long as we have this source of quality manpower to draw from.

GEORGE NEAHR, ARB project mgr.

Fluor Constructors receives champion of safety award

FLUOR CONSTRUCTORS International, Inc., celebrated a record-setting year in 2002. Our partnership with the AFL-CIO's Building and Construction Trades Department and the local building trades councils in the United States and Canada has proven once again that the industries' best performance comes through labor / management cooperation.

We want to thank the men and women of the building trades who not only helped amass the record-setting number of man-hours, but also established the record-setting safety performance within Fluor Corporation. We believe these records* stand out as benchmarks in the industry.

With the dedicated leadership of building trades like you (the Boilermakers union), we look forward to many more years of safe, quality construction and maintenance for our employees and clients throughout North America.

R. P. CARTER, executive director of labor relations, Fluor Constructors

** The Fluor Corporation presented Fluor Constructors with a Champion of Safety Award for completing 30 million direct hours and 14 million subcontract hours in 2002, with no fatalities, significant improvements in safety performance, active safety promotion, visible safety participation, firm management accountability for safety performance, and safety leadership by example.*

Dakota Gasification Co. credits Local 647 members for successful restoration

ON NOV. 28, 2002, AN explosion related to the Donna gasifier occurred at the Dakota Gasification Co.'s (DGC) synfuels plant. Fortunately, no one was injured during the incident, but there was significant damage to equipment and piping.

I am pleased to inform you that on Jan. 9, 2003, the Donna gasifier was successfully returned to service. The required restoration work was completed ahead of nearly everyone's expectations by at least ten days. In addition, the work was performed in a safe manner.

The outstanding performance of members from the Boilermakers union — Local 647 (Minneapolis, Minn.) — played a large part in the successful restoration. By working cooperatively with other crafts and with DGC personnel, a quality job was delivered in a time-effective manner.

Thank you for the quality craftsmanship, excellent work attitude, and concern for safety in completing this project.

FRED R. STERN, DGC plant manager

The Role of the NLRB

ULPs ensure company complies with NLRA

The NLRB does not solve grievances, but makes sure everyone—companies & unions—complies with law

ONCE UPON A TIME . . . Goldilocks formed a union. Instead of just hoping she'd get what she wanted from the three bears, she entered into a collective bargaining agreement with Three Bears, Inc.

The agreement requires Three Bears to supply three bowls of porridge, three chairs, and three beds. It goes on to say that at least one bowl of porridge, one chair, and one bed must be "just right."

One day Goldilocks shows up for work, finds the just-right porridge, sits in the just-right chair, and goes to lie down. When she does, she discovers that all three beds are too hard.

Immediately she knows that Three Bears, Inc., is in violation of their collective bargaining agreement, and she tells Mama Bear that she wants the just-right bed she is entitled to.

Mama Bear tells Goldilocks that all beds are the same, so she's just going to have to pick one and call it "just right."

That's when Goldilocks decides to file a grievance.

But first, she needs to know more about the beds, so she writes a letter to Three Bears, Inc., requesting information on all beds in stock, particularly information as to whether they have been tested for just-rightness.

Papa Bear reads the letter and calls Goldilocks into his office. He says he isn't going to give her any information about what beds are in stock or how close they are to just right.

"That's company business," he says. "We run this company, not you, and we don't have to tell you anything."

Goldilocks does not give up easily, so she writes a second letter. In the second letter, she reminds Papa Bear that there are two parties to the collective bargaining agreement. She says she is entitled to a just-right bed and the only way she can determine whether there is, in fact, a just-right bed available is to examine the records. Papa Bear tells her to eat her porridge and go to bed.

So Goldilocks takes her problem to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) for help.

What does the NLRB do?

THE NLRB CAN BE a valuable ally, if used properly. But if you don't understand the role of the NLRB, you won't be able to take advantage of their help.

Here is where many locals go wrong. They expect the NLRB to step in and solve their grievance.

That's not what the NLRB does. The NLRB's role is to ensure that companies and unions comply with the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA).

They do not get involved in grievances themselves — nor contract negotiations. They step in when the union or the company charges the other party with failing to abide by the NLRA. If a company or union strays from the provisions of the NLRA, it is committing an unfair labor practice (ULP).

How can that help Goldilocks?

The NLRA requires the company to bargain with the union elected by its employees. Refusing to give Goldilocks the information she needs to investigate a possible breach of the contract

shows an unwillingness to bargain. What good is a contract if the company can block your attempts to make them stick to it?

So the NLRB issues a complaint, saying that the way they see it, Three Bears, Inc., is committing an unfair labor practice by withholding information necessary to the grievance process.

If Three Bears, Inc., and Goldilocks can't come to some agreement about this information, the complaint will go before an administrative law judge (ALJ), who will hold a hearing and issue an order.

In this case, the judge orders Three Bears, Inc. to give Goldilocks the information she requested. When they do, she can proceed with her grievance.

Don't confuse the grievance with the unfair labor practice

THINGS WENT WELL for Goldilocks because she understood what the NLRB does and was able to make the proper request.

What would have happened if Goldilocks had simply told the NLRB that the company was violating the contract by not giving her a just-right bed? In that case, the NLRB would have said they couldn't help her and deferred the case (sent it back to the company and the union for resolution).

Too often, an inexperienced steward or union rep. will have good cause for a ULP, but will make the wrong argument to the NLRB. When the case is deferred, they go away grumbling that the NLRB is useless. In truth, they have simply not yet learned how to use ULPs to get what they want.

Just because what the company is doing seems unfair doesn't make it an unfair labor practice. Only violations of the NLRA are grounds for a complaint.

In general, the NLRB files complaints for refusal to provide information, interference with employees' Weingarten rights, company retaliation for union activity, refusing arbitration, or creating barriers so the grievance/arbitration process cannot go forward. Nearly everything else gets deferred.

When the NLRB defers a case, we say it has been "Collyerized," after a 1971 case involving Collyer Insulated Wire Company, in which the NLRB established the criteria for handling cases.

Proceed with your grievance while waiting for NLRB decision

ANOTHER COMMON mistake is filing with the NLRB, then forgetting about the grievance. Filing a ULP does not stop your grievance clock. Once your deadline has passed, you have lost your chance to file.

If the NLRB issues a complaint after you have already lost your grievance because of the unfair practice, you may be able to revisit the grievance. But you cannot win a grievance you haven't filed. There's usually no recourse once the time limit has passed.

Keep in mind, too, that winning the complaint does not mean you'll win the grievance. In the Goldilocks case, for example, the ALJ could order Three

★ ★ ★ Star Stewards ★ ★ ★

L-92's Alf Kargaard keeps morale, productivity up

Steward earns respect of members & management

WORKING FOR PSF Industries, Inc. at the Edwards Air Force Base, Alf Kargaard is serving as a job steward for the airborne laser project, where Local 92 members are building a vacuum sphere.

Kargaard, a 22-year member of Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif., has not only earned the respect of his fellow workers, but he's impressed the on-site superintendent and general foreman so much that they nominated him for our Star Steward column.

Superintendent James Franklin and Foreman James Lamont wrote that Kargaard "keeps the morale of the men in good spirits, which ultimately allows the job to continue functioning effectively."

They also praised Kargaard's ability to multi-task and successfully pri-

oritize his work. "He is rational in his decision making in regards to the crew he oversees, and fair-minded when dealing with any negotiations or disputes," wrote Franklin and Lamont. "He is even tempered and never allows his frustration or anger to deter him from making the proper decisions."

Kargaard has been serving as job steward for this project since March 2002. (For more information about this award-winning project, see page 5 of this issue.)

Do you know a Star Steward?

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

Send info to this address: *Star Stewards, The Boilermaker Reporter*, Boilermakers International, 753 State Ave, Suite 570, Kansas City KS 66101.

Bears to open their records. But what happens if Goldilocks' investigation shows that one of the beds she said was too hard, had tested just right. She would lose her grievance.

The courts have given unions broad access to information

THE GOLDILOCKS case involves the single most common ULP charge stewards make: refusing to provide information. Whether through ignorance of the law or plain arrogance, many employers deny union representatives the information they need to process grievances or bargain a new contract.

The NLRA and subsequent court decisions have given unions broad access to company information that is necessary for the union to do its job.

You may request relevant information at any point in the grievance process — during your initial investigation, when preparing for a grievance meeting, when deciding whether to drop the case or go up another step, and when preparing for arbitration.

You can't go fishing — that is, you must request specific information that applies to your case — but nearly any information the company has must be made available to you if it applies. Attendance records, company memos, disciplinary records, job assignments, payroll records, personnel files, reports, studies, and supervisors' notes are all fair game if relevant to your case.

You may also make a general request of a type: "Please supply all documents or records which reflect the factors causing us to reject this grievance." Though it doesn't name the documents, it specifies an identifiable group of records.

Often, the company will deny a request because the information is "personal." For example, if you're investigating a member's claim that he is not getting the overtime hours he

deserves, you may ask to see the company's payroll records. That is, indeed, "personal" information, but if those records are key to determining whether your grievant is being treated unfairly, the company must open them up.

However, some information — e.g., medical records and aptitude tests — is truly confidential. In these cases, the law protects the privacy of the records, and the company does not have to provide you this information.

In "right-to-work" states, employers often incorrectly believe they do not have to provide information on nonmembers. If the union needs that information to conduct its business, the company must supply it.

For example, one local asked for the names and addresses of all bargaining unit employees prior to a contract negotiation. The company said they would provide only the union members' names and addresses, saying nonmembers are not the union's concern.

But the NLRB sided with the union when the local argued that they needed to be able to contact all bargaining unit employees in order to learn what changes they wanted in the contract. Although nonmembers do not get to vote on the contract, they must live under it, and the union must consider their input when negotiating.

ULPs are useful — used wisely

THE VALUE OF ULPs is clear. If companies were able to derail grievances by refusing information, threatening employees with retaliation, or simply refusing to enter into arbitration, we could never win any grievances.

But they must be used correctly.

If you're thinking of filing a ULP, it's a good idea to check first with your International rep., attorney, or the International's Department of Collective Bargaining Services — 913-371-2640. □

L-502 stewards meet in Alaska, Washington



LOCAL 502 MEMBERS attend one of the steward programs the lodge sponsored in Washington in Sept. and Nov. 2002. Classes were also held January 10 in Anchorage.

Over 50 stewards attend programs held in fall and winter of 2002-03

LOCAL 502, TACOMA, Wash., has sponsored three steward-training classes for its members in Washington and Alaska.

Conducted by Len Beauchamp, director of research and collective bargaining services, Asst. to the Intl. Pres. Tony Gallo, and Intl. Rep. Steve Eames, the classes were held at the local's offices in Puyallup in September and November 2002, for members residing

in Washington, and in Anchorage, January 10, 2003, for members who live in Alaska.

The classes covered such topics as duties of fair representation, focused on what it takes to be a union leader, and included an in-depth review of Local 502's contract language.

Local 502 BM-ST Randy Robbins was pleased with the turnout at each of the programs and will be planning additional training in the future.

"The education of members and job stewards plays a key role in helping the local develop a strong and committed membership," said Robbins. □

Eastern Canada hosts steward class

Members attend two-day program for ship, shop, cement, and construction workers in New Brunswick

ON MARCH 29 AND 30, 2003, Local 73, Halifax, Nova Scotia, hosted a steward training program designed for members in the cement, construction, and shipyard industries, as well as for those who work in shops.

In attendance were members who live in Eastern Canada and belong to the following local lodges: Local 73, a shop and construction lodge; Local 203, a shop and construction lodge in St. John's, Newfoundland; Local D324, a cement lodge in Havelock, New Brunswick; Local D406, a cement lodge in St. John, New Brunswick; Local D454, a cement lodge in Brookfield, Nova Scotia; Local D579, a cement lodge in Lantz, Nova Scotia; Local 580, a federal shipyard lodge in Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Local 680, a shipbuilding and marine lodge in St. Catharines, Ontario.

Instructors included Len Beauchamp, director of research and collective bargaining services, and Dale "Skipper" Branscum, director of the Construction Division, who was assisted by Mark Vandiver. Intl. Vice Pres. Sandy MacDonald, Asst. to the Intl. Pres. Stan Petronski Jr., and Intl. Rep. Mike Watson were also in attendance.

Nearly 55 members participated in the two-day program. Beauchamp conducted a joint session covering the structure and services of the International

Brotherhood, then the group divided into two sessions.

Branscum led a construction seminar, discussing craft jurisdiction and dispute resolutions. He reviewed boilers (water & steam cycle, conventional, and heat recovery steam generators), and single cycle and combined cycle power generation/emissions control. This session also included discussions of emerging technologies, with the attendees viewing a video on boiler erection.

While Branscum led the break-out construction seminar, Beauchamp continued the stewards training program for the remaining delegates discussing the importance of knowing your collective bargaining agreement and providing an in-depth review of effective grievance handling as well as other steward duties.

Local 73 BM-ST Kent Oliver was pleased with the seminar. "I'm glad we were able to host this training program for our members in Eastern Canada. Not only did members of Local 73 get a chance to continue their education, but members from surrounding locals were able to take advantage of this service," said Oliver.

"I want to thank Intl. Vice President Sandy MacDonald for making this happen and extend our appreciation to the instructors for the tremendous job they did." □

Locals P1, 344 attend collective bargaining class

Members learn how to prepare for negotiations

ON JANUARY 10, 2003, members of Local P1, Denver, Colo., and Local 344, Ridgecrest, Calif., attended an eight-hour collective bargaining class in Denver. Conducted by Intl. Rep. Howard Cole, the seminar focused on what to expect in negotiations.

Cole helped the attendees prepare for negotiations by covering such topics as what information to request and how to request it, how to cost-out holiday, sick time, and wage increases, and how to prevent an impasse.

He also reviewed bargaining tactics used by both the union and the company and discussed how to avoid company traps.

Normally this class is taught in two eight-hour sessions, but Cole was able

to condense the program into one session to accommodate the members' limited time and schedules.

Intl. Rep. Mike Zordani attended the session to help him prepare for training programs he hopes to conduct in his area.

"Negotiation preparation may not be the most exciting part of this, as a matter of fact it is quite time consuming and tedious, and sometimes down right boring, but it is all worthwhile when you walk out of negotiations with what you were asking for and then some because the company came in unprepared," said Zordani. "All of the attendees left with a much better sense of what to expect when they reach negotiations and are looking across the table at their respective company representatives."

Participating in the class were Local



MEMBERS OF LOCALS P1 and 344 attend a one-day training program on collective bargaining, Jan. 10, 2003, in Denver, Colo.

344 President Ralph Legler and Vice members Mike Beattie, Kim Lockwood, President Les Dykes, and Local P1 Walter Moore, and Jason Coleman. □

Local 696 members say 'NO' to concessions

Continued from page 3

and charging employees \$28.55 per week for single coverage and \$72.44 per week for family coverage."

The company never got around to discussing wages, pension, or contract duration, instead focusing on these concessions. Members overwhelmingly voted to go on strike at midnight, January 21 — of 600 members in attendance, only one member voted against the strike.

"The members were very supportive. They congregated by the hundreds and the solidarity committee worked vigorously to put pressure on the company," reported Gunderson.

The result — no concessions were made in the contract, with the exception of health insurance. However, Gunderson said, "We kept the retiree insurance for all employees hired prior to ratification, and ended up with very low, locked-in premium rates and a frozen-plan design." □

Wages will increase by five percent in the first and fourth year of the contract, and by four percent in the second and third years.

In October 2000, the Manitowoc Company Wisconsin purchased Marinette Marine, one of the largest shipyards on the Great Lakes. Chartered in 1952, Local 696 represents over 700 employees at the shipyard, where workers build mid-sized commercial, research, and military vessels. □





House votes to make bankruptcy more difficult for individuals

ENRON, WORLDCOM, and other multinational corporations bankrupted and their top executives escaped liability. But don't try it at home.

In March, the House of Representatives passed a bill making it harder for people to use bankruptcy to eliminate debts. Supported by the credit card industry and the White House, the bill passed 315-113.

As passed, this bill includes a loophole that allows wealthy debtors in five states to shelter income in luxury homes, yet strips many working families of the protections they currently have under bankruptcy law, making it harder for them to make a financial fresh start. It also forces parents who are owed child support from someone who declares bankruptcy to compete with other creditors for whatever money is available. Senator Orrin Hatch said he intends to bypass a committee vote and ask the Senate to act directly on the bankruptcy bill, reported Reuters.

Ninety percent of individuals who resort to bankruptcy have come to the financial crisis because of job loss, medical emergency, divorce, or other catastrophic event, according to the American Bankruptcy Institute. □

U.S. consumer borrowing rises \$3.5 billion in March

CONSUMER BORROWING through credit cards and auto loans is creeping higher, *Bloomberg News* reports. Con-

Checkbook Economics

Economic developments that may affect your family or personal budget

sumers took out \$3.5 billion more in loans in March, following an increase of \$1.5 billion in February. □

59 million Americans lack health insurance some time during year

NEARLY 60 MILLION people lack health insurance at some point in the year, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) said in a report issued May 12. Members of Congress, administration officials, lobbyists, and advocates often cite the Census Bureau when they declare that 41 million people have no health insurance. The CBO says this figure understates the number who are without insurance for at least part of the year, usually because they change jobs or are laid off.

The report said that "about a quarter of the nonelderly population" lacked insurance at some time in 1998, the most recent year for which reliable comparative figures were available.

The budget office conducted its study at the request of Representative Bill Thomas, the California Republican who is the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. Mr. Thomas said the report offered "some good news: fewer individuals are long-term uninsured than previously thought."

But Senator Jeff Bingaman, Democrat of New Mexico, said: "The report underscores how big a crisis our country is facing. On any given day, more than 40 million Americans live with the prospect of facing financial ruin in order to pay for their health care, or going without care altogether." □

Nearing bankruptcy, state governments cut programs

AT LEAST 34 STATES are facing bankruptcy this year or next because of the federal income taxes of 2001. This year's tax cuts and the slow economy make matters worse. Nearly every state

in the union is cutting programs or raising taxes to contend with shortfalls.

When the federal government cuts taxes, it hurts the budgets of states in two ways. First, reducing taxes means reducing the budgets of federally-funded programs. States must either make up the slack or eliminate much-needed services. Second, most states with a personal income tax tie their tax to the federal income tax. Reducing federal tax rates reduces the amount the state collects by a similar percentage.

With reserves depleted, many states are desperate. The governor of Missouri has ordered every third light bulb unscrewed to save money. In Oklahoma, teachers are doubling as janitors; in Oregon, they are working two weeks without pay. Connecticut is laying off prosecutors, and Kentucky is releasing prison inmates early.

Medicaid, which provides health care to 50 million Americans, and higher education have taken the brunt of most of the funding cuts.

Families with members in college will be hard-hit. When states cut their higher education budgets, state-run schools must raise tuition. All 50 states raised tuition at their state colleges and universities in 2002, some by as much as 24 percent. The national average was ten percent, nearly four times the nation's inflation rate.

Next year, many students will face additional hikes of 10-20 percent. Writing in *The Nation* (May 19), Stanley Aronowitz says, "The situation is so grave that for the first time since the end of World War II college may become a financial impossibility for a quarter or more of our nation's young people."

The National Conference of State Legislatures issued a report in April saying that the budget cutting of the last two years has not worked for most states. States also accuse Washington of forcing them to enact expensive programs, like Bush's No Child Left

Behind education act, without providing the money to pay for them. □

Pension proposal leaves older workers unprotected

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT has issued a set of guidelines opening the way for companies to convert their traditional defined benefit pension plans to "cash-balance" plans. The regulations offer no protections for older workers who often lose significant benefits from the conversions.

Companies often claim cash-balance plans are "more democratic" and allow greater flexibility. However, many long-term employees have stayed with their employers because of the defined benefit plan they would get on retirement. The conversion to a cash balance plan takes away money that these workers have already earned. □

Will deflation worsen economy?

SOME ECONOMISTS are worried that we are entering a period of deflation, that is, falling prices. Lower prices may not seem like such a terrible thing, but deflation can be harmful.

If prices drop over a long period of time, corporations will see their profits shrink, leading to more layoffs.

In addition, deflation hurts people with long-term fixed loans, like mortgages, because they will be paying back the loan with money that is worth more (can buy more goods) than current money. Lenders tend to benefit from deflation, but long-term deflation causes people to stop borrowing. There's no point in paying interest on a loan when you can just wait until the price of what you want to buy is low enough that you can pay cash.

Japan's ten-year economic slump is tied to deflation and a dramatic drop in real estate prices. If the U.S. housing market undergoes a similar collapse, we could be in for hard times. □



Tax-cut sunsets aren't pretty

When your tax cut 'sunset,' your taxes go back up

THE 2003 TAX BILL INCLUDED SUNSETS* for all but one tax cut — the one that lowers the tax rate in the highest income bracket, for families and individuals making over \$307,051 per year.

| Tax Cut Provision in 2003 Tax Package | Who Benefits Most from Cut** | Year it Sunsets |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| \$1,000 child tax credit | Middle class families | 2004 |
| 10% bracket expansion | Lower middle class | 2004 |
| Tax breaks for married couples | Middle class families | 2004 |
| Increase AMT exemption | Middle class families | 2004 |
| Bonus depreciation | Small businesses | 2004 |
| Expand business expensing | Small businesses | 2005 |
| Dividends & capital gains cuts | Income over \$1 million | 2008 |
| Top-bracket rate reductions | Income over \$307,051 | Never |

* Tax sunset refers to when a tax cut ends and the taxes go back up.

** Based on analysis of the tax-cut package by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

American Dreamers

A GALLUP poll might explain why so many working-class Americans vote for political candidates who promise tax breaks that only help the rich.

They hope to get rich. Only two percent of those surveyed said they are rich right now, but nearly one-third (31 percent) said they expect to be rich "some day."

Reality doesn't match the dream, though. Economists who study financial mobility say that earning just 20 percent more than your parents earned is extremely rare.

In fact, citizens in "old Europe" countries are more likely to move up the economic ladder than Americans. Only a handful of entertainers, professional athletes, and lottery winners rise to riches from the working class.

Yet more than half of survey respondents between 18 and 29 said they expect to get rich, and one-fourth of those between 50 and 64 are still holding onto that dream.

Even eight percent of those over 65 still believe they'll hit it big some day.

Workers at all income levels share this hope. More than one in every five persons earning less than \$30,000 a year sees wealth ahead, with the share climbing to 38 percent for those earning between \$50,000 and \$74,000, and all the way to 51 percent for those who make more than \$75,000.

How much do you need to qualify as rich? The average income of the richest one percent is well over \$1 million a year, but you qualify for this bracket making as little as \$373,000.

Is vast wealth in your future? You'll never make that much money punching a time clock, and you're more likely to get struck by lightning than to win the lottery.

But there's another version of the American Dream — a safe job, health care, a guaranteed pension, enough income to take care of your family, and time off to enjoy life with them.

That's enough wealth for most people. More important, it is truly attainable — not just a dream. And your union can help you reach it.

A Masterful Deception

The 2003 tax cuts aren't what Congress & Bush say they are — and won't do what they say they will do

JUST AS THE ANCIENT GREEKS gave the Trojans a gift of a wooden horse only so they could sneak into the city and destroy it, Bush talked of his tax plan as a gift to the American people so he could get their support.

But when you open up this gift, what jumps out is not lower taxes, more jobs, and prosperity, but higher deficits, fewer jobs, and tax cuts that mainly benefit the richest one percent.

Americans expect politicians to lie. Comedians have been poking fun at the dishonesty of politicians for 200 years.

But the lies and deception used to gain public support for the latest round of tax cuts are no laughing matter.

President Bush and Congress — with the silent collusion of the media — have enacted a tax package that is not what they claim it is and will not accomplish what they claim it will accomplish.

They used accounting tricks to hide the true cost of the bill, exaggerated the average taxpayer's benefits, and distorted the impact of the package's most popular and most expensive features.

Worst of all, they ignored reports from their own advisors — the Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation — that the tax cuts will not stimulate the economy, but will in fact have a negative effect. Instead of creating jobs, as Bush promised so many times on TV, it will reduce jobs.

Budget gimmicks hide true cost of tax package

NEWS REPORTS have repeatedly stated that this tax package will cost \$350 billion over the next ten years, but the true cost is likely to be from \$800 billion to \$1 trillion, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R) agrees. On May 22, he said, "The \$350 [billion] number takes us through the next two years . . . But it could also go up, because this stuff is extendable."

The problem is that all but one of the tax cuts will expire ("sunset") between 2004 and 2008. Because sunsetting a cut is the same as raising taxes, Congress will be pressured to keep them.

In the past, sunsetting has been used to hide the true cost of legislation, but only for relatively small costs. This bill hides potential losses of \$430 billion in its tenth year — 2.4 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

How big is 2.4 percent of GDP? It is triple the size of the Social Security shortfall over the next 75 years. Social Security trustees place the size of their shortfall at 0.73 percent of GDP.

The cost of extending all the cuts over the next ten years is nearly \$2 trillion.

Benefits for workers end in 2004, but not for wealthy

SUNSETTING SOME CUTS but not others is another trick. The cuts that benefit working families — the child tax credit, increased deduction for mar-



ried couples, expansion of the ten percent bracket, and reduced alternative minimum tax — all sunset in 2004.

Cuts in taxes on income from dividends and capital gains, however, don't sunset until 2008. These cuts mainly benefit the top one percent.

The reduction of the tax rate for the highest income bracket never sunsets.

If workers mobilize against future tax cuts (as we should, because increasing the budget deficit will probably raise unemployment), Congress may leave this tax law as it is, giving workers a tax increase in 2004 that the wealthy would not share.

Cuts not as big for working families as Bush claims

BUSH OFTEN CLAIMED that the average tax cut would be \$1,000. He got this figure by adding the total cost of the tax cut, then dividing by the number of American households — a deceptive way to calculate an average.

The reality is that more than half of all families (53 percent) will get less than \$100, while the top ten percent will get an average of \$18,571, and families making more than \$1 million a year will get an average cut of \$93,500.

Nearly 70 percent (69.5) of all benefits go to the top ten percent of taxpayers, while only 8.6 percent go to the bottom 60 percent of taxpayers, according to analysis by Citizens for Tax Justice.

A staggering 50 million households (36 percent of all taxpayers) will get no benefit from the tax cuts at all. For example, a single taxpayer with no children who owns no stock and is currently in the ten percent tax bracket will see no benefit from the legislation.

Some people argue that the wealthy deserve bigger cuts because, after all, they pay more taxes. The only way to judge fairness is whether the tax package treats income levels equally.

Fair enough. The Tax Policy Center analyzed how much this package

would raise after-tax income in 2003. Here is what they found:

- Bottom fifth by income: no increase
- Second fifth from bottom: 0.3 percent
- Third fifth from bottom: 0.8 percent
- Top one percent: 3.6 percent increase
- Income over \$1 million: 4.4 percent

As a percentage of after-tax (take-home) income, the richest one percent will get more than four times the increase that middle-income taxpayers get. People with million-dollar incomes will get five-and-a-half times as much.

That's in 2003. In later years, the figures become even more skewed toward high-income households.

Most workers will still pay tax on dividend income

THE CLAIM THAT the tax package will end the "double taxation" of dividends is a double lie.

First, it doesn't end taxation of dividends for most workers. Only people who use the stock they own for spendable income will see any benefit.

Most workers who own stock have it in a pension fund. Dividends increase the size of their fund. When they begin drawing pension benefit payments, they will pay tax on the entire benefit, including the portion created by dividend income.

Second, dividends are not taxed twice. Corporations pay income tax on their profits; stockowners pay tax on their personal profit from dividends. These are separate taxes, because corporations are separate entities from the people who own their stock.

If they were not separate, individual stockholders would be liable for the actions of corporations they own stock in. Being able to profit from a business without being personally liable is what makes stock ownership attractive. The income tax on dividends is a very small price to pay for this protection. And 36 percent of dividends come from companies that pay no corporate income tax.

Cuts will most likely lead to more tax sheltering

THE EVENTUAL COST of this tax package may go even higher because parts of it invite individuals and corporations to abuse tax shelters.

Nearly all individual tax shelters take advantage of the difference between regular income tax rates and the lower capital gains rate. Shelters turn income normally taxed at individual income rates into income taxed as capital gains.

By reducing the top capital gains rate from 20 to 15 percent, this package widens the gap between taxes on wages and taxes on capital gains, encouraging high-level executives to take more of their pay in stock options.

Eliminating the tax on dividend income sweetens the pot even more.

In a May 22 column, *Wall Street Journal* news analyst David Wessel predicted creative accountants and tax lawyers will find "clever ways to use the new law to help wealthy clients avoid taxes." Michael Graetz, a tax expert at the Yale Law School and former deputy assistant secretary for tax policy at the Treasury in the first Bush Administration, was quoted in this column as warning "[I]f's 'Katy, bar the door' on tax shelters."

Cuts will not create jobs

PERHAPS THE WORST lie told about the tax package is that its purpose is to stimulate the economy and create jobs. Anyone in the White House or Congress who believes that has not been listening to their own economic advisors.

The Joint Committee on Taxation released a study on May 8 that says the long-term economic effect of this package will most likely be negative. The Congressional Budget Office, headed by a former Bush administration economist, says it will most likely lead to slower growth, not faster.

Economists across the nation are nearly unanimous in this conclusion. As Dean Baker put it in *Economic Reporting Review*, "President Bush's tax cut proposal is actually unusual in that there is so little evidence or theory that suggests that it could make any positive contribution to growth."

Economists need complex models that perform thousands of calculations to reach their conclusions, but the underlying logic is not all that complex.

First, most of the benefits go to the rich, who are more likely to save or reinvest the money than to spend it. To stimulate the economy, you need to put money into the hands of people who will spend it — such as working families and the poor.

Second, the tax cuts will increase the federal budget deficit, forcing the government to borrow more money. All loans and investments come from the same pot, so increasing government borrowing reduces the money available to businesses. When their source of loans and investments shrinks, businesses can't expand and create jobs.

Third, debt must be repaid. When that happens, the government will need to raise taxes — and that future increase will have to be bigger than today's cuts to pay the interest the loans will have earned.

The president may call this bill an "economic stimulus" package, but in reality it is a transfer of wealth from tomorrow's working families to today's wealthy taxpayers.

It's a beautiful horse, though. □

ACH presents safe-driving awards to L-480 members

George Estabrook excels with 31 accident-free years

TWENTY-THREE members of Local Lodge 480, Jacksonville, Ill., received awards from ACH Food Companies for their years of driving without an accident.

Topping the awards list is George Estabrook with 31 years of accident-free driving. Awards went to these Local 480 members:

31 Years - George Estabrook

29 Years - Bill Foiles

26 Years - Ken Willis

25 Years - Rich Gaige

23 Years - Glenn Bristow and Billy Ruyle

22 Years - Doug Foiles, Rodney Mutch, Terry Surratt

18 Years - John Dirksmeyer

14 Years - Jim Atterberry

10 Years - Gary Lemons and Joe Kirbach

7 Years - Randy Rollins

6 Years - Jerry Ruyle

5 Years - Bruce Dietrich and Wayne VanBebber

3 Years - Tom Edwards

2 Years - John Kitselman

1 Year - Brian Dawdy, Steve Goodall, Chris Norris, and Steve Reed. □



LOCAL 480 MEMBERS RECEIVE awards for their number of years driving for ACH without an accident: l to r., Ken Willis (26 yrs.), Bill Foiles (29), Rich Gaige (25), George Estabrook (31).

Lord Provost of Glasgow surprises Local 154 retiree



L-154 retiree John Littlejohn (r.) presents a Boilermaker jacket to Alexander Mosson, lord provost of Glasgow, Scotland, and brother's friend.

Glasgow's Lord Provost Alexander Mosson apprenticed as a boilermaker

JOHN "SCOTTY" Littlejohn, a 40-year member of Local 154, Pittsburgh, Pa., is a retired Boilermaker who makes his home in Ohio.

He read an article about an upcoming Celtic Celebration in Wheeling, W.Va., that would feature Alexander Mosson, the lord provost (similar to mayor) of Glasgow, Scotland, as a guest speaker.

"Glasgow is my hometown," said Littlejohn. "The article reported that Mr. Mosson had served his apprenticeship as a boilermaker. Since we were the same age, I thought I might know him.

"I went to the celebration the following week and met Mr. Mosson. When I started to introduce myself, Mr. Mosson interrupted me. He said he has a very good friend named Littlejohn — Walter Littlejohn, who he has known for 35 years. Walter is my brother.

"It really is a small world," said Littlejohn. □

L-60's Miskell restores cars



LOCAL 60 RETIREE Don Miskell poses with his custom 1954 Mercury.

40-year member still works with steel

SOME PEOPLE would call it the ideal job — getting a monthly check and spending your days restoring old cars.

Don Miskell, a 40-year member of Local 60, Peoria, Ill., probably wouldn't argue.

He may have retired from construction boilermaking, but he still works with steel — Detroit steel — restoring vintage cars, like his custom 1954 Mercury, shown at left. □

Members tour headquarters

AFTER WORKING on a job near Ashland, Ky., members of Local 4, Page, Ariz., and Local 92, Los Angeles, Calif., stopped by International headquarters for a quick tour before heading home.

In the top photo, Construction Division Director Dale (Skipper) Branscum (back to camera) chats with Local 4 members (left to right) Salena Dickie, Van Edward Tsosie, Rufus Dickie, MacDonald Sonny, and Johnson Poyer.

Posing with International President Charles W. Jones in the bottom photo are (left to right) Local 92's George Roanhorse, Intl. Pres. Jones, L-4's Quincy Gishal, L-92's Milton Gishal Jr., and kneeling in front, L-92's Will Gishal.

Members of Locals 4 and 92 have been helping Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) man a job in Louisa, Ky., at the American Electric Power Big Sandy Powerplant. □

Brotherhood Building gets facelift

Local 83 members repair facade of Brotherhood Building

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 83, Kansas City, Mo., working for Woodley-Griggs Boiler Repair, L.L.C., are making repairs to the front of the Brotherhood Building, 754 Minnesota Ave., in Kansas City, Kan.

Steve Locke and Bob Ramsey are removing an awning and marble facade in preparation of a new stucco finish. The Brotherhood Building houses the Brotherhood Bank & Trust and the offices of the Boilermaker National Funds. The International purchased the two-story structure in 1920, added three stories, and renamed the building the Brotherhood Block, known today as the Brotherhood Building.

In 1948, the International built the New Brotherhood Building, 753 State Ave., a ten-story structure adjacent to the Brotherhood Building, which houses the offices of the International. □

LOCAL 83 MEMBERS Bob Ramsey (l) and Steve Locke repair the front of the Brotherhood Building as Intl. Sec.-Treas. J. Z. Willburn (l) and Intl. Pres. C. W. Jones look on.



Send photos

GET YOUR LOCAL LODGE members in the Boilermaker Reporter! We are

now able to print in full color on all pages, and we need 35mm glossy prints. If you use a digital camera, contact us before you take the photo.

The Boilermaker Reporter
753 State Ave, Suite 570
Kansas City KS 66101
dcaswell@boilermakers.org

Local 13 members serve their country



LOCAL 13 MEMBERS, l. to r., Corporals Ben Coe, Ranzy Penn, and Joseph "Chris" Murray are marine reservists serving their country in Iraq.

Members have been home only 12 weeks in two years

THREE MEMBERS OF Local Lodge 13, Philadelphia, Pa., have been serving with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Force in Nasiriyah, Iraq, since the war began.

Corporals Ben Coe, Joseph "Chris" Murray, and Ranzy Penn are marine reservists serving with the 2nd Battalion/25th Marines Echo Company's weapons platoon.

This is the second time they have been called to active duty since terrorists attacked the U.S. on Sept. 11, 2001.

In the last two years, they have been home only 12 weeks to work at the

trade to support their families and are grateful for the support they are receiving from their Local 13 brothers.

Source: Joe Murray Sr., retired L-13 BM-ST

More Local 13 Reservist News

LOCAL 13 BM-ST Jim Banford Jr. reports that Corporals Coe, Murray, and Penn are not the only Local 13 members who have been called to duty to serve their country.

Local Lodge 13 apprentice Robert Shipe is serving on an aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf and Local Lodge 13 Rec. Sec. Paul Immordino just returned from Cuba, where he was guarding al-Qaida prisoners. □

L-363 celebrates 100



LOCAL 363 BM-ST JOHN PASSIGLIA (l.) accepts an award from Local 363 members honoring his 15 years of service as a lodge officer, and L-363 Pres. Bill Mulconerny (r.) accepts one from Dean Andrisevic, Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) honoring B&W's 100-year relationship with Local 363.

Local Lodge 363 has represented construction workers since 1903

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 363, East St. Louis, Ill., celebrated their 100th anniversary, March 29, 2003, at the Hyatt Regency-Union Station, St. Louis, Mo.

Active and retired members joined honored guests for a brief presentation, followed by dinner and dancing. Local 363 BM-ST John Passiglia hosted

the event. Guests included Intl. Vice Presidents George Rogers and Larry McManamon, as well as retired L-363 Bus. Mgr. Wm. Mulconerny and Bill Palmisano, administrator of the Boilermakers' MOST program and former Local 363 business manager.

Chartered March 22, 1903, Local Lodge 363 represents approximately 415 members who work in the construction industry. □

L-480's Don Slater retires

ACH forklift operator ends 36-year career, 28 years as local lodge president

DON F. SLATER, a 36-year employee of ACH Food Companies, Inc., retired Feb. 14, 2003, as a forklift operator and president of Local 480, Jacksonville, Ill.

Slater served 28 years as the local's president, 20 years on the credit union committee, and has been a member of the safety committee since its inception.

Before coming to ACH in 1966, Slater served four years in the U.S. Navy.

He has earned several 110 percent awards from ACH, where he worked in many positions before becoming a warehouse forklift operator in 1980. □



DON SLATER retires after 36 years on the job and 28 years as president of Local 480.

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:

25 Years — Rudolph Acosta and Walter Wielicki.

Local 101, Denver, Colo., presents membership pins

HENRY McCOY, BM-ST of Local 101, Denver, Colo., reports presentation of pins for continuous years of membership to the following:

35 Years — Edward Fernandez;
30 Years — Glen Dashner.

Local 169, Detroit, Mich., presents membership pins

JOHN MAREK, BM-ST of Local 169, Detroit, Mich., reports presentation of pins for continuous years of membership to the following:

60 Years — Clyde W. Ferebee, Robert Postlewait, Delmar Visser;
55 Years — Raymond W. Baur, Paul H. Haberkamp, Leonard H. Hetherington, Gernard LeBlanc, Alphonse Mercier, Kyle L. Robinson, Robert S. Showers;
50 Years — Willis J. Bass, Marvin L. Cartwright, Edward H. Etter, Charles E. Forbush, Lawrence R. Louzon Sr., John S. McLeod Sr.,

Ray R. Swistara, William M. Tishner, Carl C. Wanerus, Anthony Weimer, Robert West, James R. Wright;

45 Years — Marvin D. Stickney, Bobby G. Warman;

40 Years — Otis Byrd, Ray Dillingham, John M. Dyer, John J. Guertin, James Hartzog, William Kuntze;

35 Years — James W. Berg, Alfred L. Coghlan, Gregory J. Covetz, Giuseppe Grillo, John N. Hall, Jackie D. Hughes, Aldred (Babe) Jenerou, Stanley S. Lesiak Jr., James R. McCrum, Gerald T. McKinney, William R. Meissner, Bruce L. Neddow, Gerald R. Pedrys, Edward H. Richter, Stephen Salewsky, Jerry J. Starr, John R. Valiquette, Clayton J. Vanslambrouck;

30 Years — Donald C. Abbatoy, William V. Bass, Ivan S. Beal, James Berg, Thomas G. Booth, James C. Dodge, Dennis W. Etter, David B. Hagaman, Richard L. Hall, Steven R. Kosnik, John D. Martin, Charles C. Oyler, John L. Sample, William R. Schultz Jr., Darwin J. Scott, Robert H. Sharkey, Sherman R. Usher, John D. Watkins; and

25 Years — Joannes Bartels, James W. Berg, Larry Campbell, Richard L. Carlson, J. D. Garner, Paul Steve Germond II, Dale Goerbig, and posthumously John Degel.

Workers must act locally to defeat bad state laws

ALEC's 'model' bills undermine worker, consumer protections

MAJOR CORPORATIONS are operating behind-the-scenes in state capitols across the country to promote an industry-friendly agenda through the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

ALEC calls itself a membership association of state legislators, but corporations and trade associations finance virtually all their activities, including gifts and free trips for lawmakers, followed by heavy lobbying for a wide range of industry-friendly initiatives.

Issues ALEC supports include ending living wage laws, privatizing prisons and schools, and outlawing union security clauses in collective bargaining agreements. Though it has a carefully cultivated "good government" image, ALEC serves its corporate sponsors, a

veritable who's who of corporate America. Through ALEC, oil, tobacco, telecommunications, chemical, pharmaceutical, energy, and manufacturing companies can work in near secrecy to change laws affecting their industries.

ALEC boasts of seeing hundreds of its "model" state bills become law each year. Many of these bills undermine the public interest on issues like health care, employee benefits, worker protections, tax policy, and education.

The Boilermakers Legislative Education-Action Program (LEAP) does a good job of following legislative developments in Washington, but it is up to local lodges to get active in their state AFL-CIO in order to defeat anti-worker initiatives at the state level.

To learn how you can get active, contact Legislative Director Ande Abbott, (703) 560-1493. □

New contract summaries

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

L-5 – New York, NY

THOMAS KLEIN, vice president of Local 5, New York, N.Y., reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 1, 2003 to Dec. 31, 2004, for five members of Local 5 who work at Quickway Metal Fabricators, Inc.

L-6 – Oakland, CA

MICHAEL GRABOWSKI, BM-ST of Local 6, Oakland, Calif., reports contract ratification, effective Sept. 1, 2002 to Oct. 31, 2003, for 20 Local 6 members who work in the forge shop of the Western Forge & Flange Co.

M13 – St. Louis, MO

PATRICIA THOMAS-DAVIS, BM-ST for Local M13, St. Louis, Mo., reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 28, 2002 to Nov. 28, 2005, for eight Local M13 members who work in the production unit at the Diamond Plating Co.

L-27 – St. Louis, MO

DAVID SNEAD, BM-ST for Local 27, St. Louis, Mo., reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 1, 2003 to Jan. 1, 2006, for seven Local 27 members who work in production and maintenance at Jones & Lockhart Welding, Inc.

D50 – Catskill, NY

INTL. REP. RALEIGH EVERSOLE reports contract ratifica-

tion, effective Jan. 1, 2003 to Dec. 31, 2006, for 112 members of Local D50, Catskill, N.Y., who make Portland Cement at St. Lawrence Cement.

M67–Los Angeles, CA

INTL. REP. HENRY JUAREZ reports contract ratification, effective March 18, 2003 to March 17, 2006, for 77 members of Local M67, Los Angeles, Calif., who work for the Valex Corp.

L-83–Kansas City, MO

JOHN SEWARD of Local 83, Kansas City, Mo., reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 1, 2002 to Oct. 31, 2005, for 23 Local 83 members who work in the shop and perform field repair for Shamrad Metal Fabricators in the custom fabrication of steel, aluminum, and stainless steel, ASME code vessels, and the service of process and heating boilers.

L-88 – Essington, PA

INTL. REP. ROBERT HEINE JR. reports contract ratification, effective May 19, 2002 to May 19, 2006, for 34 members of Local 88, Essington, Pa., who work with custom polymer and acrylics at Esschem, Inc.

L-104 – Seattle, WA

CHUCK HUGHES, acting BM-ST for Local 104, Seattle, Wash., reports contract

ratification, effective Dec. 2, 2002 to Sept. 30, 2006, for six Local 104 members who fabricate metal for Wayron, LLC.

S105 – Effingham, IL

MICHAEL WILLISON, president of Local S105, Effingham, Ill., reports contract ratification, effective January 15, 2003 to January 15, 2006, for over 200 Local S105 members who make air conditioners at the Fedders Corporation

D140 – Knoxville, TN

INTL. REP. RALEIGH EVERSOLE reports contract ratification, effective March 1, 2000 to Feb. 28, 2005, for members of Local D140, Knoxville, Tenn., who make Portland Cement at Cemex.

L-154 – Pittsburgh, PA

AIP SEAN MURPHY reports contract ratification, effective January 1, 2003 to January 1, 2004, for 33 members of Local 154, Pittsburgh, Pa., who produce steel pressure vessels and small storage tanks for Witherup Fabrication and Erection, Inc.

L-182 – Salt Lake City

BRAD JOHN, BM-ST of Local 182, Salt Lake City, Utah, reports contract ratification, effective March 1, 2003 to Feb. 28, 2006, for 23 Local

182 members who make food and beverage tanks for DCI of Utah.

D208–Martinsburg, WV

INTL. REP. RALEIGH EVERSOLE reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 1, 2002 to March 31, 2006, for 155 members of Local D208, Martinsburg, W.Va., who make Portland Cement at Essroc Cement (formerly Capitol Cement).

L-242 – Spokane, WA

MARLIN McCURDY, BM-ST of Local 242, Spokane, Wash., reports contract ratification, effective Nov. 16, 2002 to Nov. 15, 2006, for 113 members of Local 242 who make boat and utility trailers for E-Z Loader Boat Trailers.

D282 – Wind Gap, PA

INTL. REP. RALEIGH EVERSOLE reports contract ratification, effective Dec. 1, 2002 to Dec. 1, 2006, for 22 members of Local D282, Wind Gap, Pa., who make shingle-type home siding at GAF Premium Products.

D359 – Edmonton, AB

DONALD MAES, asst. bus. mgr. representing Local D359, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, reports contract ratification, effective Dec. 1, 2002 to Nov. 30, 2006, for 123 members of Local D359 who make Portland Cement at Lehigh Inland Cement Ltd.

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

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



NEGOTIATING A SEVEN-year agreement for Local D469 members at Holcim U.S., Inc., are, l. to r., Gary Morrow, Don Bellings, Intl. Rep. Carey Allen, Tommy E. Craig, Lonnie Robinson, and Charles Price.

D400–Vancouver, BC

ROB LAUZON, BM-ST for Cement District Lodge D11, reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 1, 2003 to Dec. 31, 2006, for 62 members of Local D400, Vancouver, BC, Canada, who make concrete roof tiles for Recon Building Products.

D469 – Clarksville, MO

INTL. REP. CAREY ALLEN reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 23, 2003 to Jan. 22, 2010, for 140 members of Local D469, Clarksville, Mo., who produce Portland Cement for Holcim U.S., Inc.

L-482–Wood River, IL

INTL. REP. JAMES PRESSLEY reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 24, 2003 to Jan. 23, 2004, for three members of Local 482, Wood River, Ill., who fabricate steel at Circle T Steel.

L-483 – Alton, IL

INTL. REP. JAMES PRESSLEY reports contract ratification, effective Feb. 1, 2003 to Feb. 3, 2007, for 106 members of Local 483, Alton, Ill., who make mining equipment at Joy Mining Machinery.

L-524–East Chicago, IN

INTL. REP. CLAYTON PLUMMER reports contract ratification, effective Dec. 9, 2002 to Dec. 8, 2005, for members of Local 524, East Chicago, Ind., who work at the Union Tank Car Company.

D533–Hagerstown, MD

INTL. REP. RALEIGH EVERSOLE reports contract ratification, effective Dec. 15, 2002 to Dec. 14, 2007, for 370 members of Local D533, Hagerstown, Md., who make vinyl siding and vinyl windows for the CertainTeed Corporation's vinyl siding group.

D596 – Chester, PA

INTL. REP. RALEIGH EVERSOLE reports contract ratification, effective March 1, 2002 to Feb. 28, 2007, for 50 members of Local D596, Chester, Pa., who make roofing materials for CertainTeed Roofing.

L-661 – Florence, NJ

INTL. REP. ROCCO DEROLLO reports contract ratification, effective Feb. 1, 2003 to Jan. 31, 2006, for members of Local 661, Florence, N.J., who work for D.C. Fabricators, Inc.

L-677 – Kingston, PA

INTL. REP. ROCCO DEROLLO reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 13, 2003 to Jan. 12, 2006, for members of Local 677, Kingston, Pa., who work for R & H Mfg.

L-725–Springfield, MA

INTL. REP. ROCCO DEROLLO reports contract ratification, effective Feb. 9, 2003 to Feb. 8, 2007, for members of Local 725, Springfield, Mass., who work in the Storms Forge Division of Doncasters, Inc.

L-744 – Cleveland, OH

PATRICK GALLAGHER, BM-ST for Local 744, Cleveland, Ohio, reports contract ratification, effective Sept. 1, 2002 to Aug. 31, 2003, for Local 744 members who work for RCR Services, Inc.

L-1600–St. Charles, IL

INTL. REP. HOWARD COLE reports contract ratification, effective March 31, 2003 to April 6, 2007, for 30 members of Local 1600, St. Charles, Ill., who make water purification machinery at Walker Process.

L-1664–Maple Heights

INTL. REP. RON LYON reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 1, 2003 to Jan. 14, 2005, for 61 members of Local 1664, Maple Heights, Ohio, who produce bar steel and wire for RCS Cuyahoga, LLC.

A summary analysis of these contract settlements

Prepared by the Boilermakers' Research and Collective Bargaining Department

THIS ANALYSIS of the 30 agreements outlined above is based on information provided in the Contract Summary and Transmittal Report forms, covering approximately 2,465 employees.

Wage Increases

TWENTY-TWO facilities received pay increases in 2002, averaging \$0.48 per hour or 3.30 percent. Twenty-four facilities will receive pay increases in 2003, averaging \$0.47 per hour or 2.66 percent. Twenty-two facilities will receive pay increases in 2004, averaging \$0.38 per hour or 2.72 percent. Sixteen report wage increases in 2005, averaging \$0.40 per hour or 2.96 percent. Eight report an increase in 2006, averaging \$0.35 or 3.14 percent. One contract reports wage increases in 2007, 2008, and 2009, not enough for an average.

Pension

TWENTY-NINE facilities participate in some type of pension program. Ten facilities participate in the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust. Nine have a cents-per-hour contribution, ranging from \$0.25 to

\$2.50 per hour in the first contract year. Average cents-per-hour contributions are \$1.28 for the first contract year, \$1.31 in the second year, and \$1.33 in the third year.

Twenty-six facilities offer a 401(k); nine have company-sponsored plans; one has a profit sharing plan, one has an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), and one has the Registered Retirement Savings Plan in Canada (RRSP). The RRSP is similar to the IRAs found in the United States.

Shift Differential

TWENTY-NINE agreements report a second-shift premium, of which 27 report a cents-per-hour premium ranging from \$0.10 to \$0.90; the average is \$0.42 per hour.

Twenty-seven agreements have a third-shift premium, of which 26 provide a cents-per-hour premium ranging from \$0.10 to \$0.90; the average is \$0.50 per hour. The remaining agreements pay shift differential on a weekly or wage percentage basis. One reports a pay differential for a 12-hour shift.

Sickness & Accident

TWENTY-SIX agreements provide weekly sickness and accident indemnity. Of these, 20 pay a set dollar amount ranging from \$135 to \$440 per week; the average weekly rate in the first contract year is \$275.30. The most common duration of time off is 26 weeks found in 13 agreements. The remaining agreements pay a wage percentage or have a state-funded plan.

Life Insurance/AD&D

TWENTY-SIX agreements provide life insurance. Twenty-one report a set dollar amount ranging from \$2,000 to \$75,000; the average benefit for the first contract year is \$25,773.81. The remaining agreements calculate the benefit on annual salary.

Twenty-three agreements provide Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D). In 18 of the agreements, the set dollar amount ranges from \$2,000 to \$75,000; the average benefit for the first contract year is \$26,138.89. The remaining agreements calculate the benefit on annual salary.

Vacation

ALL OF THE agreements provide vacation. Twenty-five offer one-week; all offer two-weeks; 29 offer three weeks; 26 offer four weeks; 16 offer five weeks; four offer six weeks; one offers seven weeks of paid vacation. Four agreements offer vacation pay based on a percentage of their earnings.

Paid Holidays

ALL OF THE agreements provide for paid holidays, ranging from eight to 13; the average is 10.43 days.

Other Provisions

ALL OF THE agreements provide funeral leave. Paid leave for jury duty is found in 25 agreements. Union leave language is found in 20 agreements. Twenty-one agreements provide all or partial reimbursement for the purchase of safety shoes and 25 for prescription safety glasses. Four provide severance pay and six provide paid leave for those spending two weeks at military encampment each year.

Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Plan Summary of Privacy Practices

For participants in the Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Plan

THE BOILERMAKERS NATIONAL HEALTH and Welfare Plan (plan, or health and welfare plan) is committed to protecting the privacy, confidentiality, and security of your personal health information.

In the course of administering health care benefits, the health and welfare plan receives individually identifiable health information about you and creates records containing this type of information.

This article summarizes our privacy practices. To obtain a copy of the plan's full notice of privacy practices, contact the fund's administrative office at 1-866-342-6555 (913-342-6555 in the Kansas City area).

Copies of the privacy notice are also available from your local lodge and can be viewed at the Boilermakers' web site (<http://www.boilermakers.org>).

New federal regulations limit how the plan may use and/or disclose your protected health information (PHI) and provides you with certain, specific rights concerning your PHI.

PHI is your individually identifiable health information, including demographic information collected from you, that is created or received by a health care provider, health plan (such as this health and welfare plan), your employer, or a health care clearinghouse, that relates to your past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition; the delivery of health care to you; or the past, present, or future payment for the delivery of health care to you.

PHI includes information such as your name, address, telephone number, social security number, and information about your health or visits to a health care provider. The plan is **required by federal law** to maintain the privacy of your PHI.

You have the right to complain to the plan and to the secretary of the Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) if you believe your privacy rights have been violated. You will not be retaliated against for filing a complaint, and your complaint will be kept confidential. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about our privacy practices, or if you wish to make a complaint about a use or disclosure of your PHI made by the plan or by someone else acting on behalf of the plan, contact the plan's administrative office at:

Office of Privacy Practices
Boilermakers National Funds
754 Minnesota Ave., Suite 522
Kansas City, KS 66101
1-866-342-6555

Effective April 14, 2003, we are required to follow these published privacy practices. They will remain in effect until we replace or modify them.

Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information

UNDER FEDERAL LAW we are permitted to use and/or to disclose your protected health information, without your expressed consent or authorization, for **treatment, payment, and health care operations purposes**.

In order to administer the plan, we need to collect, maintain, use, and disclose certain information about you so that we can carry out the terms of your health plan.

In the regular course of operating the plan, **we may use or disclose your PHI for treatment purposes** such as First Health's case management services and to facilitate your health care provider's treatment of you; **for payment purposes** such as determining whether benefits are payable for your claims, determining your eligibility for benefits, coordinating benefits with any other health plan covering you, etc.; **and for health care operations purposes**, such as general fund planning, development, management and general administrative activities, business planning and development, and conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services, and auditing functions, including fraud and abuse detection and compliance programs.

Federal law also permits or requires us to use or disclose PHI without your written authorization in certain other circumstances.

Following are the types of uses and disclosures we may make.

1. The plan may disclose your PHI to the plan sponsor (the board of trustees of the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund, or a subcommittee of the board) as a matter of course for purposes specifically authorized in the plan documents, such as reviewing appeals of benefit determinations.

2. Other uses or disclosures which may be made as a matter of course.

A. We are required to disclose PHI to the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or her or his designee, when the secretary is investigating or determining the plan's compliance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

B. We are required to provide your PHI to you upon request, as described in the "Individual Rights" section of this notice. We are also required to provide you with the PHI of any individual on whose behalf you are acting as a personal representative.

C. The plan contracts with individuals and entities (called *business associates*) to perform various functions or to provide certain types of services, that would otherwise be performed by the plan, on behalf of the health and welfare plan. These entities use and disclose your information, and protect the privacy of your information, in the same manner as the plan does.

D. The plan may use or disclose PHI when such use or disclosure is required by law, so long as the use or disclosure complies with the law and is limited to the requirements of the law.

E. The plan may disclose PHI for certain public health activities to report and request protection and assistance for victims of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence (in certain circumstances), in the course of a judicial or administrative proceeding, **to a law enforcement official** for appropriate law enforcement purposes, **to coroners or medical examiners or funeral directors** to enable these individuals to carry out their duties with respect to the decedent, **for organ, eye, or tissue donation and transplantation purposes, to avert a serious threat to health or safety**, to comply with specialized governmental functions, **and to comply with workers compensation and related laws**. Specific limitations apply to each of these. Upon your request, you may review and be provided with a copy of the plan's detailed policies and procedures related to each of the above types of uses and disclosures.

3. The plan may disclose your PHI, provided that you are informed in advance and given the opportunity to agree to or to prohibit or restrict the use or disclosure, to a family member, other relative, close personal friend, or any other person you specifically identify, specific PHI directly relevant to that other person's involvement with your health care or payment for your health care. The plan will presume that your spouse, if you are married, is involved in any health care and payment for your health care unless you tell us otherwise.

4. Any other use or disclosure of your PHI requires your written authorization. The plan has authorization forms which you may use to authorize other uses or disclosures of your information. You may revoke any authorization at any time by sending written notice of revocation to the plan.

Your Individual Rights

1. You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use and/or disclosure of your PHI for treatment, payment, or health care operations.

2. You have the right to request that we communicate with you confidentially about your PHI, by communicating in an alternative means and/or by sending communications to an alternative location.

3. Subject to certain exceptions, you have the right to inspect and/or obtain copies of your PHI that we maintain in our records, and to request that we amend our PHI.

4. You have the right to receive a summary of all instances in which we have disclosed your PHI for purposes other than payment, treatment, health care operations, or pursuant to your authorization. This summary is also known as an *accounting of disclosures*.

MAKE IT SAFE

HAZARD ALERT:

Safe Work with Power Saws

THOUSANDS OF WORKERS are seriously injured each year by gas or electric power saws. Some are killed — most by electric shock.

The Hazards

YOU CAN BE badly cut or burned, using a power saw, if you are not careful. You can get sprains and strains and lose your hearing. Grit and dust from using the saws can hurt your eyes. Dust can hurt your lungs. If you dry-cut masonry or stone that has silica in it, you can get silicosis and it can kill you. An electric saw can electrocute you. A gas-powered saw can cause carbon monoxide poisoning and kill you.

Protect Yourself

READ THE OWNER'S manual before you first use a saw. Keep blades sharp, clean, and oiled. Inspect blades for cracks.

When you use a saw, wear goggles or safety glasses with side shields, even if you wear a face shield. Do not wear jewelry, such as chains. Do not wear loose clothes. If you have long hair, tie it inside your hard hat. Wear hearing protection.

Do not cut unless you have a clear work area and solid footing. Do not use a power saw when you are on a scaffold. Keep other people away from the saw when you are using or refueling it.

Training: OSHA says you must be trained in general workplace hazards, electrical hazards, and personal protective equipment (PPE). Here is how to protect against the main hazards:

Lung diseases. Do not dry-cut masonry or stone or you can get lung disease. Cutting brick, cement, concrete, or stone can make a lot of dust — and there can be silica in it. (Silicosis can kill you.) Wet-cutting is the best way to control dust. Local-exhaust ventilation can capture the dust at the blade. As a last resort, your boss may give you a respirator. If you use a respirator, OSHA says you must have a full respirator program. This means proper selection and fitting of respirators, medical screening to be sure you can wear a respirator, and worker training to use respirators.

Electrocution. An electric saw needs to be double-insulated or have a three-prong plug in a grounded outlet. And the outlet needs a ground-fault circuit interrupter. Unplug a saw before you change a blade. Be extra careful when working in wet grass or near a puddle. If you are cutting toward

any wires, make sure they have been disconnected.

OSHA says you must not use worn electric cords or cables. OSHA says electrical equipment should not be used in damp, wet, or very hot locations — unless approved for such use.

Cuts and amputations. Make sure the saw blade is not touching anything before you turn on a saw. OSHA says a circular saw must have a guard above and below the base plate. Keep the blade guard and other safety devices on the saw. Make sure the blade guard goes back to the fully guarded position after you cut. Do not drop-start a chainsaw. To start a saw with a starter cord, put one foot on the back handle, put one hand on the top handle to keep the blade off the surface, and use the other hand to pull the cord.

Hold a saw with both hands. Do not use your leg to prop up a saw. To help prevent kickback, hold your forward arm straight and do not cut above chest height.

After you turn off a saw, hold it away from you until the blade stops turning. Do not prop the saw on your leg while the blade slows down. Turn off a saw before you carry it anywhere.

Burns. What you cut can catch fire from friction. A spark from a saw can ignite any gasoline leaking from the saw. Make sure there are no fuel leaks and the fuel cap is tight. Turn off the saw and let it cool down before you refuel it.

Sprains and strains. When you can, put your work on a solid surface at waist height. Try not to work bent over or in other awkward positions.

Carbon monoxide. If you use a gas-powered saw where there is not a lot of fresh air, carbon monoxide can kill you fast. This can happen even in a crawl space or a big parking garage. You cannot see or smell carbon monoxide gas. Fans can help keep fresh air coming in, but fans are not always enough. If you can, use an electric saw instead of a gas-powered saw. OSHA has special rules for controlling toxic gases in closed spaces and for PPE (personal protective equipment). A trained person should monitor the air with special equipment while the work is done.

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. © 2001, CPWR is the research and development institute of the Building and Construction Trades Dept., AFL-CIO: CPWR, Suite 1000, 8484 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Safety tips in Spanish

THIS ISSUE'S SAFETY COLUMN, "Safe Work With Power Saws," 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 more information, contact the Boilermaker Reporter at 913-371-2640.

Members Only

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

UNION PLUS CREDIT CARD

Call: 1-800-522-4000

MORTGAGE & REAL ESTATE

Also open to your children & 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

CAR RENTAL DISCOUNTS

Call and give the ID number:

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

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

UNION-MADE CHECKS

Call: 1-888-864-6625

FLOWER SERVICE

Call: 1-888-667-7779

NORTH AMERICAN VAN LINES

Call: 1-800-524-5533

Go to our web site for more information:

www.unionplus.org

**BOILERMAKERS UNION
PRIVILEGE BENEFITS**

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

Get great deals in the fast lane

FROM SECURITY TO savings, Union Plus offers everything union members need when they are on the road. Get behind the wheel of these popular union members-only programs: auto insurance, Goodyear discounts, auto buying service, and car rental discounts.

Auto Buying Service

WHETHER YOU ARE looking for a new or pre-owned car, van, or truck, turn to Union Plus Auto Buying to help you find the right vehicle for the right price. Plus you'll save and support your fellow union members when you buy a union-made auto.

Give Union Plus the details, and leave the car search to them!

JUST CALL 1-877-800-2924 and tell the Union Plus Auto Buying service what your vehicle needs and preferences are, then leave the research and negotiations to them. Your Personal Auto Advisor will help you get the car you want at a great price. The car buying service uses an extensive, up-to-the-minute database of vehicles and a network of authorized car dealers.

Your auto advisor will guide you through the car search process and provide you with all the information you need to make an informed decision.

When you are ready to buy, they will direct you to the contact person at the closest authorized dealer in your area that has the car you are looking for at a special pre-negotiated price.

All you have to do is visit the selected dealer, test drive the car, and decide whether or not you want to buy the vehicle. There is never an obligation to buy and they will continue searching until you're completely satisfied.

Call Union Plus Auto Buying at 1-877-800-2924 for more information about car buying.

Save 25% off vehicle history reports

CONSIDERING A USED CAR, but worried it may have been in an accident or been stolen? No problem, the Union Plus Auto Buying service can answer these questions through the Union Plus Consumer Guide™ Vehicle History Report (VHR). A VHR reports flood-damaged vehicles, salvaged titles, theft histories, and rolled-back odometers — problem areas that may lower the value or compromise the safety of the vehicle.

To protect your investment and buy with confidence, call Union Plus Auto Buying at 1-877-800-2924 before you make a new or used car purchase.

Auto Insurance

UNION MEMBERS AND their families can now save on auto insurance through the Union Plus Auto Insurance Program from AIG, a world leader in insurance. Call 1-800-294-9496 for your quote.

Reliability

- Coverage you can trust — underwritten by member companies of American International Group, Inc. (AIG)
- Rated A++, the highest rating, by A.M. Best Company (awarded to just 3.1% of all property and casualty companies as of July 20, 2001).

Flexibility

- Policies available for drivers with less than perfect driving histories

- Freedom of choice — union members can select body shop or mechanic if repairs are necessary
- Original equipment manufacturer replacement parts are available.

Round-the-Clock Service

- Call AIG companies at 1-800-433-8880 to report a claim. Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For changes to your AIG policy or to ask customer service a question, call 1-877-310-5687 — available Monday-Friday from 7:30 am-10 pm and Saturday from 8 am-4 pm.

The AIG program is available in all states except Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Learn what AIG affiliated company is in your state.

Goodyear Discount

REGULAR CAR maintenance and new tire purchases help stretch the longevity and value of your vehicle. Now, when you use the Union Plus Goodyear Discounts, you can help keep your car in good shape and save money — while also supporting your fellow union members.

Many Goodyear tires are made by members of the United Steelworkers of

America (USWA). Through an agreement with the company-owned Goodyear Gemini Auto Service Centers, Union Plus Goodyear discount tires and car service deals are now available exclusively to union members. So treat your truck, van, car, or motorcycle to some new Goodyear tires, wheels, and a tune-up — and give the thanks to your union membership.

Cash in on the following special union-member-only deals for Goodyear discount tires and more:

- \$15.95 oil, lube, and filter services
- 5% off all Goodyear tires, including car tires, snow tires, all-terrain & more
- 10% off service — including sale prices.

Car Rental Discounts

UNION MEMBERS CAN enjoy up to 25% in savings from Budget and Avis. Whether it's a car, van, or SUV, working families can drive in style for less. Avis and Budget rental car savings vary depending on vehicle, time of year, location, and length of rental.

To get your union discount, call Avis Car Rental at 1-800-698-5685 and reference ID# B723700, or call Budget Car Rental at 1-800-455-2848 and reference union ID# V816100. □

AFL-CIO offers home loans

THE AFL-CIO HOUSING Investment Trust is working with Countrywide Home Loans to make home financing easier and more affordable for hard-working families. Their HIT HOME program is supported by union pension funds and offers money-saving benefits, exclusively for AFL-CIO affiliated members. As a Boilermaker, you can take advantage of HIT HOME benefits:

- Save hundreds of dollars when your loan to purchase or refinance closes

- Flexible payment schedules let you reduce the length of your loan and save thousands of dollars in interest with no set-up or draft fees

- Homebuyer education, including information for first-time homebuyers.

Visit www.hithome.org for program details, call 866-HIT-HOME to start your application, or simply stop by your local Countrywide Home Loans branch today. □

Archives Needs 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, a museum located one block west of International headquarters in Kansas City, Kan.

National Archivist Tom Wands has been 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.

You can help us continue the work of the archives through your donations. To

help raise much-needed funds, the National Archives is offering the above pictured gifts to donors.

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

Tom Wands, Archivist
Boilermakers National Archives
753 State Ave., #570
Kansas City, KS 66101

All donations are tax deductible (less \$1 for each decal/sticker received; \$5 for ornament; \$7 for souvenir watch; \$10 for clock; \$18 for sports watch; \$20 for dress watch). Tax ID #48-114-537.

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 bereaved families.

| LODGE & NAME | | 28 | White Sr., Conrad H. | 104 | Cuccia, Johnnie C. | 169 | Kilpatrick, Herbert | 487 | Paplham, Maynard |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----|----------------------|------|-----------------------|-----|----------------------|------|----------------------|
| NTL | Bowman, James | 31 | Baker, Ray A. | 104 | Deleuw, Adrian J. | 169 | Yates, William | 500 | Weil, Robert |
| NTL | Byrd, Emmett E. | 32 | Westpfahl, Ernest W. | 104 | Holen, Wilfred A. | 190 | Kaltenberger, Thomas | 502 | Dumas, Richard |
| NTL | Cooper, Truman L. | 37 | Cowart, Willie J. | 104 | Larson, Charles | 191 | Allen, Edward W. | 502 | Eixenberger, Terry |
| NTL | Dennison, Daniel | 37 | Johnson, Charles | 105 | Davenport, Stewart | 191 | Cooper, Thomas W. | 502 | Larson, Jack |
| NTL | Pfeifer, Joseph C. | 45 | Battle, William | 105 | Dwyer, Donald A. | 191 | Hancock, Russell P. | 531 | Bristow, Jesse |
| 1 | Chaney, James W. | 45 | Hood, Gary | 107 | Collins, Martin | 197 | Melancon, James | 568 | Kubrista, Val G. |
| 1 | Fitzpatrick, Patrick | 60 | Burruss, Oatley | 108 | Milam, James | 197 | Oppedisano, Angelo | 582 | Schutzman, Clifton |
| 5 | Romaniuk, Theodore | 60 | Cottingham, Everett | 112 | Davis, Mark L. | 199 | Crews, Marvin | 587 | Lynn, Lester |
| 6 | Brovelli, Nathan S. | 60 | Mulligan, John J. | 112 | Watford, James | 199 | Shimak, Steven | 592 | Cloud, Roy |
| 6 | Depetrillo, Patsy | 69 | Giles, Joe | 128 | Dalziel, G. | 237 | Pelletier, Richard | 614 | Bartnicki, Edmund |
| 6 | Goodwin, Eugene T. | 72 | Brown, Francis R. | 128 | Docherty, Robert | 237 | White, Clive | 627 | Oldham, Robert |
| 7 | Malcolm, David | 72 | Johnson, Harold C. | 128 | Freethy, Kaye R. | 263 | Oswalt, Robert L. | 647 | Kaufman, John J. |
| 9 | Grossetti, Mario J. | 73 | Chisholm, William G. | 128 | Hall, Vincent O. | 357 | Hunt, Claude | 647 | Keefe, Robert H. |
| 11 | Cassidy, Monty | 74 | Cotton, Robert | 128 | Hefford, William | 359 | Allen, Peter J. | 647 | Kenney, James J. |
| 13 | DeMeter, William | 74 | Johnson, Albert L. | 128 | Jackson, Gordon | 359 | Beauregard, Roger | 667 | Wayne, William |
| 13 | Dipaolo, Aurelio | 79 | Alford, Edward | 128 | Malenfant, Gratien | 359 | Cook, Gilbert J. | 687 | Linville, William |
| 13 | Doyle, John J. | 83 | Boes, Lloyd F. | 128 | McKeown, Joseph | 359 | Cunningham, Walter | 696 | McGivern, Clyde |
| 26 | Helmy, Andrew | 83 | Bromley, Larry | 128 | Needham, Harold | 359 | Donaldson, Terry W. | S699 | Banaszak, Anthony |
| 26 | Mosley, Hubert | 83 | Reynolds, Paul | 128 | Nolin, Marc A. | 359 | Erickson, Norman L. | 744 | Barker, Joseph L. |
| 26 | Newman, Thomas E. | D83 | Schendt, Joseph | 128 | Preston, S. | 359 | Gaudette, Lawrence | 744 | Pennybacker, William |
| 27 | Bain, Ellis J. | 85 | Davis, Jeff | 128 | Shannon, A. | 359 | Harper, Edwin J. | 801 | Rink, Roy G. |
| 27 | Montrey Jr., Henry | 85 | Hernandez, Manuel | M128 | Limas, Domingo | 359 | Kelley, William H. | 900 | Daily, Vernon R. |
| 27 | Thielemann, Lucius F. | 85 | Kleeberger, Gerald | 132 | Sandoval, Marcus G. | 449 | Moreau, George | 900 | Liddle, Charles C. |
| 27 | Wille, Clinton O. | 85 | Mutchler, Albert | 146 | Brandingen, Norman J. | 453 | Morrison, John W. | 900 | Tornton, Willie A. |
| 28 | Bockis, Karl | 92 | Kinney, Delbert | 146 | Mackay, Robert | 453 | Young, Robert J. | 1509 | Citko, Tony |
| 28 | Crosby, Arthur | 92 | Kucera, Clarence | 154 | Vavra, Frank D. | 453 | Neddo, Kenneth D. | 1509 | Nowak Jr., John P. |
| 28 | Lamedica, Michael | 92 | Sleeker, Webster | 169 | Bushong, Earl | 453 | Banks, James | 1570 | Stewart, John B. |
| 28 | Pero, Charles | 101 | Roggow, Eldon L. | 169 | Heiden, Richard | 454 | Murphy, C. L. | 1592 | Ruth, George A. |
| | | | | 169 | | 455 | Murphy, Charles | 1600 | Cluchey, Joseph |
| | | | | | | 469 | Nichols, James | 1934 | Wagner, Fred E. |
| | | | | | | | Fisher, A. V. | | |

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 | 104 | Mautino, Joseph | 6,000.00 |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Intl. Grossetti, Mario J. | \$6,000.00 | 104 Reed, Knute C. | 6,000.00 |
| NTL Bailey, Thomas D. | 15,000.00 | 104 Reichel, Carroll S. | 6,000.00 |
| NTL Bivins, Jeffery L. | 6,000.00 | 104 Young, Robert A. | 6,000.00 |
| NTL Bowman, James F. | 6,000.00 | 104 Young, Steve F. | 6,000.00 |
| NTL Edwards, Loyd H. | 6,000.00 | 105 Bayes, James G. | 6,000.00 |
| NTL Hubbard, Billy F. | 6,000.00 | 105 Davenport, Stewart | 6,655.23 |
| NTL Meade, Roy Giles | 6,000.00 | 105 Nichols, Walter C. | 6,000.00 |
| NTL Overfield, Lloyd E. | 6,000.00 | 105 Sweezy, Robert C. | 6,000.00 |
| NTL Samuel, Casmier | 6,000.00 | 112 Watford, James F. | 6,000.00 |
| 1 Courtney, Ronald L. | 6,000.00 | 124 Michek, Frank | 6,000.00 |
| 1 Hauser, Gus | 6,000.00 | 154 Hall, Gary D. | 6,000.00 |
| 1 Wills, Lyle L. | 6,000.00 | 154 Hopkins, Wallace G. | 6,000.00 |
| 6 Coffee, William H. | 6,000.00 | 154 Leive, Robert M. | 6,000.00 |
| 6 Hankins, Earl J. | 6,000.00 | 154 Milesky, Anthony | 6,000.00 |
| 6 Main, Joseph G. | 6,000.00 | 169 Bushong, Earl E. | 6,000.00 |
| 6 Middleton, John A. | 6,000.00 | 169 Koller, Fred | 666.00 |
| 6 Montoya, Jose R. | 6,000.00 | 177 Schleis, Albert A. | 6,000.00 |
| 7 Malcolm, David B. | 6,000.00 | 199 Reynolds, Douglas D. | 6,000.00 |
| 13 DeMeter, William R. | 6,000.00 | 300 Gatti, Daniel F. | 6,000.00 |
| 26 Helmy, Andrew L. | 6,000.00 | 305 Hill, Willie C. | 6,000.00 |
| 26 Taylor, John H. | 6,000.00 | 305 Wappler, Joe E. | 6,000.00 |
| 27 Hudson, William C. | 6,000.00 | 316 Ramsey, Edward T. | 6,000.00 |
| 27 Turner, Willard T. | 6,000.00 | 358 Hammond, Riley | 3,000.00 |
| 28 Crosby, Arthur S. | 11,000.00 | 374 Blue, Mack E. | 6,000.00 |
| 28 McNally, James F. | 11,000.00 | 374 Ritter, August W. | 6,000.00 |
| 29 Johnson, Harry H. | 6,000.00 | 433 Creech, Ramie L. | 10,568.16 |
| 37 Sheasby, Reynolds O. | 6,000.00 | 449 DeGrand, Donald M. | 6,000.00 |
| 60 Cottingham, Everett | 6,000.00 | 453 Banks, James W. | 6,000.00 |
| 69 Giles, Joe D. | 6,000.00 | 453 Campbell Sr., C. E. | 6,000.00 |
| 72 Brown, Francis R. | 6,000.00 | 455 Burks, George W. | 6,000.00 |
| 72 Harlow, Glen L. | 6,000.00 | 455 Dunn, William M. | 6,000.00 |
| 72 Johnson, Harold C. | 6,000.00 | 455 Ellis, Ellsworth O. | 6,000.00 |
| 72 Thomas, Clarence W. | 6,000.00 | 455 Nichols, James T. | 6,000.00 |
| 83 Bromley, Larry L. | 6,000.00 | 455 Tatum, Russell W. | 6,000.00 |
| 83 Jones, James O. | 6,000.00 | 500 Weil, Robert W. | 6,000.00 |
| 83 McKinney, Donald J. | 6,000.00 | 502 Pierce, Thomas C. | 6,000.00 |
| 83 Minier, Jose M. | 1,542.30 | | |
| 83 Nasalroad, Earl D. | 6,000.00 | | |
| 83 Woods, Norman E. | 2,893.50 | | |
| 85 Murrell, Vernon L. | 10,992.73 | | |
| 85 Mutchler, Albert J. | 6,000.00 | | |
| 92 Cerny, Jerry J. | 6,000.00 | | |
| 92 Cook, Francis W. | 6,000.00 | | |
| 92 Hall, Walter L. | 6,000.00 | | |
| 92 Kucera, Clarence | 4,000.00 | | |
| 92 Russelavage, Mike | 6,000.00 | | |
| 101 Johnke, Bruce D. | 3,403.85 | | |
| 104 Bren, Harvey E. | 6,000.00 | | |
| 104 Crum, Marvin | 6,000.00 | | |
| 104 Klein, Kenneth James | 6,000.00 | | |

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

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| 550 Kaszubowski, Alvin | 2,250.00 | 647 Piotrowski, Andrew | 1,269.43 |
| 549 Elinburg, Marvin E. | 6,000.00 | 661 Nott, Theodore A. | 6,000.00 |
| 549 Owens, Willie Lee | 6,000.00 | 667 Horne, Roy A. | 6,000.00 |
| 574 Bialecki, Felix | 6,000.00 | 667 Thompson, Richard | 6,000.00 |
| 577 Crawford, James M. | 6,000.00 | 679 Harvey, A. B. | 6,000.00 |
| 582 Hillard, Henry L. | 6,000.00 | 687 Schmonsees, William | 6,000.00 |
| 582 Schutzman, Clifton P. | 6,000.00 | 693 Vickers, Bobby D. | 6,000.00 |
| 583 Hyde, Clifton | 6,000.00 | 744 Lyons, Arthur J. | 6,000.00 |
| 583 Watson, Albert | 1,500.00 | 802 Sarcy, Dallas E. | 6,000.00 |
| 587 McLaughlin Sr., M. A. | 6,000.00 | 1086 Hill, Charles F. | 6,000.00 |
| 587 Rodriguez, Jesse J. | 6,000.00 | 1154 Pund, Anthony | 6,000.00 |
| 627 Oldham, Robert C. | 6,000.00 | 1234 Zilla, Daniel J. | 6,000.00 |
| 627 Young, Richard M. | 6,000.00 | 1248 Bednarski, Victoria M. | 6,000.00 |
| 647 Dressely, Robert L. | 102.38 | 1670 Cummings, William | 6,000.00 |
| 647 Keefe, Robert H. | 6,000.00 | 1670 Nameth, Mickel | 6,000.00 |

OBITUARIES

John J. Mulligan, Local 60

JOHN J. MULLIGAN, 53, was a Boilermaker and vice president of the General Power Construction Co., where he had worked for 22 years. He passed away on Jan. 20, 2003. Mulligan joined the National Transient Lodge on Oct. 16, 1974, and transferred his membership to Local 60, Peoria, Ill., on Oct. 31, 1984. "Not only was John a brother Boilermaker, but he was a friendly contractor," reported L-60 BM-ST Ed Hebert. "John would go out of his way to supply tools to make sure our jobs went easier or smoother, and he worked with his employees whenever they needed time off to attend to family needs," said Hebert. "He was influential in the development of Local 60's training and education fund and served on its board. John once told me that labor

had given him everything he had," said Hebert. "It's a shame that labor can't thank him now for everything he gave."

Keel Thomas Lane, Local 4

KEE THOMAS "TIGGER" LANE, 55, joined Local 4, Page, Ariz., on April 11, 2000. He passed away on Jan. 31, 2003.

Lane helped build the local's training facility. He donated his welding machine to the center and was there every day to help in any way that he could.

He was a team roper and led Democratic congressional candidate Roger Hartstone ride his horse, Window Rock, in a 2001 parade.

"We will always remember Lane for his smile, laughter, and jokes," said Local 4 BM-ST Nate Begay. "He made everyone feel good about themselves."

Moving? Tell us where...

Name _____
 New Address _____
 City _____
 State or Province _____ Zip _____
 Local Lodge No. _____ Register No. _____
 (Also please notify the secretary of your local lodge.)

Mail form to:

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

(Allow five weeks for change of address.)

Bush, Congress must like red ink

Tax cut, budget will raise deficits, slow down the economy, and benefit wealthy at expense of poor

IF YOU THINK the destruction of Saddam Hussein's regime was accomplished in record time, take a look at the U.S. federal government's budget and our country's economy.

In just two years, the U.S. has gone from having a long-term budget surplus, a strong currency, and a decreasing national debt into a country with a long-term budget deficit, a weakening currency, and soaring national debt.

We have gone from a surplus once forecast at \$5.6 trillion over ten years to an estimated deficit of at least \$2 trillion, a reversal of more than \$7 trillion. We haven't seen a reversal that big since the Great Depression.

How did it happen?

Don't blame the recession. These projections assume moderate economic growth. If we have another recession, the deficits will be even larger.

Don't blame Saddam Hussein. The \$100 billion Bush budgeted for invading Iraq is less than one-third of the 2003 deficit, and these projections do not include future invasions. Of course, if we invade Syria, Iran, or North Korea, the deficits will get even bigger.

Don't blame Osama bin Laden or the war on terrorism. Don't blame the French. Don't blame the weather.

Blame President George W. Bush and a compliant Congress — Democrats and Republicans alike. In 2001, Con-

gress passed Bush's tax cut that gave \$1.3 trillion in tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans. That was the first nail in the coffin, sending us from surpluses to record-high deficits in only two years.

Now Congress has passed a second Bush tax cut — one that will cost at least \$350 billion and will, according to nearly every economist who has analyzed it, have a negative effect on the economy over the next decade.

That's right: Negative effect. That means fewer jobs, not more.

President Bush keeps calling it an "economic stimulus package," but the only economies that will be stimulated are those of his wealthy backers.

The Congressional Budget Office, Congress's Joint Committee on Taxa-

Health care? Too expensive. Pension protections? Can't afford them. But we'll go into debt to pay for tax cuts.

tion, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and every independent economist in the country have warned that the tax cut will reduce jobs over the long haul — not create them.

We've been here before. Bush's 2001 tax cuts were supposed to create jobs,

too. Instead, we lost two million jobs over the next two years.

Sure, I am happy that the average middle income family will pay \$217 less in taxes next year. I wish it could be more. They need the money.

And I'm happy that some working families will get checks for about \$400 per child some time in July. I wish those checks could go to all working families with children, but Congress chose to leave workers at the lower end of the pay scale out of this tax cut.

They also chose to end this tax break in 2004, along with the tax breaks for married couples and lowering of tax rates for many working families.

Of course, the reduction of the tax rates for the highest income brackets will continue indefinitely.

But the worst part is that the federal government is going to have to borrow money to pay for these cuts. In 2003, the federal budget deficit is projected to be over \$300 billion — even higher in 2004.

Borrowing to pay for tax cuts simply shifts the burden of payment from today's taxpayers to tomorrow's.

When the bill for these tax cuts comes due, some future president will have to raise taxes. It won't matter whether he is a Democrat or a Republican.

And because debts earn interest, that future tax increase will most assuredly be more than the \$217 you get this year.

In the meantime, these tax cuts will give Congress and the president a convenient excuse to delay spending on programs that help working families.



Charles W. Jones
International President

Health care for everybody? Too expensive. Prescription drugs for the elderly? Can't afford them. Pension protections? We don't have the money.

And in ten years, when the full effect of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts becomes obvious, no doubt we will hear members of Congress say, "Social Security? Can't afford it. Medicare? We don't have the money."

We won't have the money because Congress and Bush will have spent it on tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans, while our economy was losing 2,700 jobs every day.

We're in a hole. Congress and the president should be helping us climb out — not digging deeper. □

Letters to the Editors



L-271's Raymond Levesque takes trip of a lifetime

THIS WINTER I realized one of my dreams when my granddaughters, Rachel and Sandra, both 18, accompanied me on a trip to Asia. After three months traveling in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore, I came back a changed man. I wish every grandparent could have the opportunity to live this wonderful adventure.

RAYMOND LEVESQUE, L-271
Beauport, Quebec

L-40's Combs says there is something wrong when . . .

THERE IS SOMETHING wrong when the president of this nation and our Congress become union busters; when they knowingly and willingly work toward destroying the Constitution of the U.S.; when they knowingly and willingly allow corporations to move offshore to avoid income tax; when Congress accepts an \$18,000 per year pay increase while refusing to raise the minimum wage.

There is something wrong when the people of the U.S. put up with these wrongdoings, and when only 40-50 percent of the registered voters vote.

There is a movement in this country to destroy labor unions. We don't want much, just a decent job so we can raise our children and grandchildren.

STANLEY D. COMBS, L-40 retiree
Jeffersonville, Ky.

L-5 retiree working on Vietnam Veterans reunion

THE FOURTH ANNUAL campout reunion for Vietnam Veterans will be held July 25-27, 2003, in Freehold, N.Y. For more information on attending or how to make a contribution, please contact me at 1-518-966-8503.

THOMAS G. MAY, L-5 retiree
Greenville, N.Y.

Curl wants to see more letters from owners, contractors

ON THANKSGIVING DAY 2002, the Dakota Gasification Co. in Beulah, N.D., had an explosion which damaged an exchanger. Boilermakers from Local 647 (Minneapolis) were asked to work 12-hour shifts to lift the vertical exchanger out of the gasifier building, then lay it down horizontally and retube it — including Christmas and New Year's days, if necessary.

As always, Boilermakers rose to the challenge and completed the project ahead of schedule and without injuries.

Plant manager Fred Stern wrote the local a letter (see p. 5), complimenting the Boilermakers on a job well done.

Boilermakers need to see more of these letters. Boilermakers are no different from anyone else. A simple thank you or a handshake makes all the difference in how one leaves a job.

TERRY CURL
Local 647 Rec. Sec.

Local 37 boomer wants a better way to get on 'B' list

A BOILERMAKER since 1980, I have seen good and bad times, as we all have. What we need is a plan for boomers to get on a "B" list without having to travel all over to sign a book. Who can afford this system?

Would our brother representatives please address this issue so we can all work and prosper at our trade?

DONALD W. BROWN, Local 37
Iron Mountain, Mich.

Local 128's Thomson regrets Canada's lack of war support

ON MARCH 17, 2003, Prime Minister Jean Chretien announced that Canada would not support the United States in its war against tyranny and terrorism.

Please be assured that he does not speak for those of us who respect and appreciate all the brave souls of your great country who so willingly gave their lives so that we may enjoy the freedoms of democracy.

I have instilled into my child's mind that the only reason we are not walking around doing the goose step with a bayonet up our backside is because of the courage of so many of you, your brothers, uncles, fathers, and friends.

The only way for my family and me to thank you for your sacrifices is to write this letter and say, "If you need my help, call, and I will come."

MATT THOMSON, Local 128
Toronto, Canada

Got something to say?

WE WELCOME LETTERS of less than 150 words on topics of interest to our members and their families.



SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

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