Great Lakes apprentices win national apprenticeship awards

Local 647’s Voigt captures individual prize, joins with L-85’s Imre for team prize

AFTER A WEEK of reeving, welding, rigging, CPR testing, tool identification, and other events, the Boilermaker National Apprenticeship Program named Luke Voigt, Local 647, Minneapolis, the winner of the National Apprenticeship Award.

Voigt and his partner, Joseph Imre, Local 85, Toledo, Ohio, received the team award, and Imre earned second place in the individual competition. Voigt and Imre each received a cash prize and welding machines for themselves and their locals donated by Lincoln Electric and Miller Electric.

Voigt grew up on a ranch in Mandan, N.D., the youngest of nine children. He joined the apprentice program in 1999 at the coaxing of family friend Joe Mittelsteadt, a 20-year Local 647 field construction Boilermaker. Over the last two years, he has also assisted with welding classes at Bismarck State College in Bismarck, N.D.

Voigt and Imre met at regionals and spent June preparing for the national competition and developing a rapport. Voigt credits his victory to a combination of local training, National Training Center (NTC) coursework, and talking with his fellow Boilermakers, especially those who are nearing retirement. “That is where I learned over half the things I know,” he says. “Everybody

Unions rally for Gephardt in Iowa

Alliance for Economic Justice gets active in Iowa primary

FIFTEEN UNIONS, representing five million working men and women, have joined together as the Alliance for Economic Justice. This group will work together to promote the crucial issues of fair trade, job creation, and affordable health care.

One of their first actions was to endorse Richard A. Gephardt for president of the United States in 2004.

In November, the Alliance held a rally in Des Moines, Iowa, to kick off the presidential primary campaign in that state. Hundreds of Boilermakers, Ironworkers, Laborers, Teamsters, and other union members heard speeches from union representatives, then heard from the candidate himself what

Local 191 members build rescue boats

British Columbia members ahead of schedule building 24 motor lifeboats

USING A LARGE, well organized assembly line, members of Local 191, Victoria, British Columbia, are producing 24 motor lifeboats at remarkable speed for the Canadian Coast Guard at Victoria Shipyards Co. Ltd.

Worth over $50 million, the four-year contract calls for 16 lifeboats to be delivered to Coast Guard stations on Canada’s East Coast and eight to stations on the West Coast by 2006.

According to Local 191 BM-ST William Morrison, 51 Local 191 members are employed on the lifeboat project — 23 welders, 20 fitters, and eight apprentices.

“To date, there have been no lost-time accidents,” Morrison reported. “Before this contract, employment at the shipyard was limited to ship repair work, creating only short-term work for our members. The lifeboat project gives our members steady work and enables Victoria Shipyards to hire more apprentices.”

Preparation for the project began in September 2001, with Local

See LOCAL 191, page 2
International can help when bargaining gets difficult

Economy, foreign competition make contract bargaining tough for manufacturing locals

WHEN MEMBERS of Local 1603, Alliance, Ohio, were asked to sit down to negotiate a new contract a year early with T&W Forge, they didn’t like what they heard. T&W was asking for givebacks in wages and benefits, plus more flexibility in the work rules.

Companies often strike hard bargain- ing positions when the economy is weak, but T&W was taking action. Layoffs had already begun, dropping the workforce from 80 to about 30.

Still, the members believed they could do better, so they rejected the offer. The company was adamant. Without givebacks, they would have no job at all.

While Local 1603 members discussed what to do, the company kept laying off their members. From 30 to 18. From 18 to 11.

T&W Forge makes high-quality metal products such as blades for jet engines. No one faulted their ability to make a fine product, but demand for these items was low, and competition from Korea, Japan, and Spain was growing.

Indp. Rep. Ron Lynn is an experienced negotiator with a good knowledge of how companies operate. He didn’t want these members to take cuts they could avoid, but he also didn’t want to see another employer go out of business.

The U.S. manufacturing sector has been losing jobs for three years. Even in those rare months when other sectors gain jobs, manufacturing continues to lose.

Because the company was claiming financial inability, Lyon was able to look at their books. He forwarded the information to the International’s internal auditor Bryan King, who confirmed what the company claimed.

Armed with better knowledge about what the company could and could not afford, Lyon helped the local negotiate a contract they could live with.

“We had to give back a dollar an hour in wages, but we get that back over the course of the contract,” Lyon explained.

“We also loosened up some work rules. No one likes givebacks, but the alternative was sending everybody home with no job at all.”

The new contract became effective July 1. Already, the company is showing signs of coming back.

“Easing their financial burden has helped them get a few more orders,” Lyon said. “They’re starting to hire back some of the people they laid off.”

Because of our weak economy and growing competition from overseas, many manufacturing lodges will face similar circumstances in the next few years. It’s good to know the International has resources to help. For assistance with tough negotiations, contact your International rep. or the International’s Department of Research and Collective Bargaining Services.

L-P3 mourns Tom Chastain

LOCAL P3, OWENSBORO, Ky., extends its deepest sympathy to the Chastain family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Tom was many things to us: teacher, mentor, union brother, and even more, our friend. The things he taught us make us strong today and will sustain us in the future. Therefore, his spirit lives on.

I do not believe this local would be here today if not for his dedication and tenacity. He took a bunch of irate EMTs and paramedics and made us a force to be dealt with.

It hurts to say goodbye, but we will think of Tom and smile and say, “Thank you, Brother. We were fortunate to know you."

DENNIS C. WADE, President
L-P3 Owensboro, Ky.

Local D381’s Dave White praises retiring members

I WOULD LIKE YOU to give Leroy Gaddis and Roy Boyes praise. They have both spent a career at Chemical Lime Apes in Las Vegas Local D381. Leroy has spent 30 years, Roy has spent 25, and I have worked with both of them for eight years. They are both great guys, and I want to thank them for the lessons and wisdom they taught me.

DAVE WHITE, Local D381 Las Vegas

Cozart proud to be fourth-generation graduate apprentice

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK Paul Maday and Sean Burke for their help and support. I was an NFL member, Paul helped me transfer into the Local 374 apprenticeship program.

I grew up in a union family of boilermakers, iron workers, teamsters, electricians, and operators, but when I went through the apprenticeship program, I learned even more about unions than from Sean.

Sean was an excellent instructor and really helped me out during the four-year program. Young apprentices need to realize there is more than going to work and getting a paycheck.

I am now a fourth-generation Local 374 apprentice graduate; the first generation was my great-grandfather Franklin Bonnie Lynn. My grandfather, Virgil O. Lynn, and my uncle, William Lynn, are also Local 374 members.

Thanks for your support.

TODD COZART, L-374 Hammond, Ind.

Family grateful for support

THE FAMILY of Kenny Ball, Local 60, Peoria, Ill., would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who provided support, prayers, and help during Kenny’s battle with cancer. Thank you all so much!

MONICA, KASEY, AND KASSIDY BALL
Peoria, Ill.

L-502 members discover true spirit of brotherhood

TWO MEMBERS of Local 502, Tacoma, Wash., Keith Stewart and Larry Kirkey, traveled across the U.S., hoping to find work through Local 28 in Newark, N.J. But before they could be dispatched, they needed to complete an OSHA 10-hour class.

They heard Local 199 was sponsoring the class, so they drove another 943 miles to Jacksonville, Fla. Upon arrival, they discovered the class was for apprentices only.

When Local 199 BM-ST Larry Snellgrove and instructor Jerry Rhoden learned about their problem, they offered to conduct a special class just for them the next day.

I wish to sincerely thank Larry and Jerry for arranging a special training session for our members who were so far away from home.

This is the true spirit of brotherhood.

RANDY ROBINS, L-502 BM-ST Tacoma, Wash.
Representatives of owners, contractors, and the Boilermakers union met in Myrtle Beach, S.C., October 7-9, to address issues within the industries served by construction Boilermakers. These three groups have been meeting annually for this purpose for 18 years.

“During that time,” International President Newton B. Jones said in his opening remarks, “with cooperation from all three partners in this endeavor, we have joined together across diverse ranges of programs to make our efforts more productive and our employers more competitive — MOST, national mandatory drug testing, Common Arc welder testing and certification, safety training, craftsmen identification, and manpower reserve.

But the most important thing we have been developing is relationships,” he said.

Those relationships continue to pay off as owners, employers, and Boilermakers work together in such areas as absenteeism, project management training, gain sharing, project scheduling, respect in the workplace, and manpower recruitment. Jones pointed to the 38 million man-hours worked in 2002 and said, “We have met the manpower challenge.”

IP Jones gave credit to Local 906, Domora, Pa., in the Northeast, Local 4, Page, Ariz., in the Western States, Local 55, Houston, in the Central States, and Local 37, New Orleans, in the Southeast as being special resources for manpow-
er in times of exceptional need. He also praised the “vigorous local recruitment that has resulted in a tripling of apprentices since 1998,” giving special credit to the Southeast Section for improving their apprentice numbers.

“Our wages and benefits represent not just a cost of doing business but an investment in skilled, reliable craftsmen,” Jones said. Addressing the current economic downturn, he pointed out that it is beginning to hurt our customers, who are looking for ways to control costs.

“Uncertain economic times only magnify what we already know,” he told the crowd. “The best way to get and keep jobs is through good, reliable service.”

Jones made three announcements that illustrate the importance he places on the Tripartite Alliance. He officially named AIP Jim McCormick as director of Tripartite Alliance programs so that he will be able to fully dedicate himself to tripartite activities. He announced that as the Boilermakers update the International’s Web site, we will also be building a Tripartite Alliance Web site to specifically address our joint efforts with employers and customers.

He also announced that retiring International President Charles W. Jones, with 20 years of experience as president and 60 years of service to the Brotherhood, has agreed to serve as International president emeritus so he can offer counsel, when needed, to International officers and staff.

L TO R, IVP Sam May, Day & Zimmerman VP Tim Reddington Sr., and TVA VP Bob Summers explain how the tripartite approach helped to solve their manpower needs.

Larry Wargo, contractor services consultant for First Energy.

Wargo wants reliable employees with increased technical comprehension and increased training requirements.

“The tripartite approach is growing, and what we do here at the national level is making an impact on the local level,” he said.

Joe Veselka, turnaround and maintenance contract services manager for Sunoco, Inc., echoed Wargo’s remarks. He said that challenges on the horizon include more cost reduction, increased safety requirements, pre-employment background checks, and new environmental regulations.

“In order to meet these challenges,” Veselka said, “we need teamwork, an alignment of goals, to refocus on our key issues, and to build upon our successes.”

Robert Tenney, senior safety specialist of APComPower, illustrated how the national affects the local. “Lost-time rates dropped by 90 percent from 1990 to 2002, after members completed the MOST safety training,” Tenney said.

The Boilermakers’ Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, Training (MOST) program in job safety and job hazard analysis and other MOST programs have resulted from these national tripartite meetings.

According to Local 105 ABM Paul Kern, Chillicothe, Ohio, MOST benefits the union member by increasing their access to jobs, providing training opportunities, and making it possible for them to qualify for several contractors through one test.

Jim Cook, general manager of major projects for Cinergy, offered a striking example of how MOST’s safety programs contribute to success.

“Cinergy had two major projects in 2003 with over two million man-hours and no lost-time accidents,” he said.

“The Boilermakers’ national average for recordable incidents is 4.46, compared to an industry average of 7.81. Local 105 averages 2.53. But at one of our projects, Local 105’s recordable incident rate was 0.08, compared to the overall craft rate on that project of 3.8 percent.”

The most important thing we have been developing is relationships.

Newton B. Jones
International President

Working relationship key to tripartite success

Owners, contractors, union representatives assess achievements, challenges at annual conference

INTL. VICE PRESIDENT Sam May, joined by Day & Zimmerman Vice Pres, Tim Reddington Sr. and Bob Summers, vice president of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), discussed how the tripartite approach solved problems for all of them.

TVA is America’s largest public power company, generating 30,365 megawatts at 11 fossil plants, 29 hydroelectric dams, and three nuclear facilities. Their spring and fall outages require significant manpower. Because those outages were all being scheduled during the same four-to-six week period, Reddington was having trouble finding the skilled Boilermakers to do the work. Meanwhile, May was having trouble keeping skilled members when they could only work one outage in the spring and one in the fall.

So they got together with Summers and found a better way.

“We now schedule work together — the partners (contractors), TVA, and the Boilermakers . . . so we will have the manpower needed,” Reddington explained.

“We now have the most reliable plants and we’ve saved money with a 10.2 percent reduction in capital costs and an 89 percent reduction in overhead and service costs,” he continued. “Good Boilermakers don’t cost you money, they make you money because the job gets done and the plant runs.”

TVA’s Summers agreed. He said there has been an increase in manpower support from 850 to 1,500, he said, with Boilermakers working over two million hours with no lost-time injuries.

“The Tripartite Alliance works,” he said. “We’ve improved safety and have a stable workforce. We’ve identified issues and resolved them outside the job site, and productivity is up. We have a senior leadership commitment in each organization, shared vision and goals, a cooperative not combative relationship, honest communication, and trust.”

“It works for us,” May said. “If you go home and put this together, it will work for you.”

National initiatives promise strong local impact

Throughout the conference, speakers emphasized the need to build on successes.

“Our initiatives remain the same — substance abuse testing, absenteeism, safety, outage scheduling, recruitment, respect in the workplace, and gain sharing,” said owner representative Wilkinson, accountabil-
ity is part of a responsible workplace.

“Everyone needs to understand what it takes to make it work,” he said. “Hire people who agree to be accountable. But remember, people aren’t accountable unless their leaders are accountable, too. The choices we make dictate the life we lead.”

BCTD to model tripartite initiative on Boilermakers’

THE TRIPARTITE ALLIANCE works so well for the Boilermakers that the AFL-CIO’s Building & Construction Trades Department (BCTD) is beginning their own tripartite initiative with the Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) and contractor associations.

Announcing their plans, BCTD President Ed Sullivan told the conference that the industry cannot improve significantly, let alone change for the better, without all three parties at the table working together.

“Separately, union, owners, and contractors can identify problems,” he said. “Together, in tripartite cooperation, we can address those problems and help our industry reach its great potential.”

The BCTD’s tripartite initiative will pursue programs to increase recruitment, advance skills training, and improve security and safety at construction sites.

Demand for skilled craftsmen will increase

Jerry Golden, TVA’s general manager of environmental compliance and technology applications, discussed environmental challenges in the utility industry.

Meeting the regulations of the Clean Air Act will drive TVA’s emissions of nitrogen oxide (NOx) from 2.4 million tons in 1997 to around 400,000 tons by 2010. That means more work for Boilermaker members.

The EPA is also adding a new category of regulation, known as maximum achievable control technology.
Tripartite
Continued from page 3

(MACT standards), and will begin regu-
lating mercury from coal-fired plants. Still in
its proposal stages, the rule will be in effect by
2005, requiring plants to be in compliance by
January 2008-09. “Demand for skilled craft-
smen could reach critical levels as utilities
work to meet the EPA regulations, reduc-
ing their mercury levels by 2008, and their
sulfur dioxide and NOX lev-
lings by 2009-10,” Golden said.

Progress reports shape
future action
LIKE ALL LARGE GROUPS, much of
the work of the Tripartite Alliance is
accomplished through subcommittees.
The final day of the conference was
given over to their reports, which shape future tripartite actions.

Jones reported that the absenteeism
subcommittee recommends consider-
ing a penalty list for those who have
recent excessive absenteeism or quit
without notice. Jobs would be filled in
the following order — A list, B list, then
penalty list.

The gain-sharing subcommittee,
chaired by IVP George Rogers, used a
grant from the Federal Mediation and
Conciliation Services to hire Mike
Gaffney, a consultant from Cornell
University. Three model plans are
now being developed: a project bid
model, with gain developed by per-
forming a job in fewer man-hours; a
project goal model, with gain devel-
oped by meeting targets for each goal;
and a hybrid model.

Speaking for the recruitment sub-
committee, Thomas O’Connor,
O’Connor Contractors, Inc., said we
need apprentices of higher quality. The
only problem is making sure we can
get enough work to keep them.

Hickenbotham addresses
Cement Employers meeting
INTL. VICE PRES. Jim Hicken-
botham became the first labor leader
to address the Cement Employers
Association (CEA) conference, Sept.
24, 2003, in Hilton Head, S.C.

“The Boilermakers union is inter-
esting in creating a better working rela-
tionship in order that we all might
survive,” Hickenbotham said. He
thanked those employers “who have
taken the extra step and even gone out-
side the labor agreement at times to
draw up language that would better
benefit our members.”

The Cement Employers Association is
a nonprofit group dedicated to
improving labor and employee rela-
tions in the cement industry.

Local 40 dedicates
new training center

U.S. Boiler signs SE States
Articles of Agreement
IN AUGUST, Boilermakers in the
Southeast area added another com-
pany to their contractor directory
when U.S. Boiler Services, Inc.
signed the Southeastern States Arti-
cles of Agreement.

Jack Rankin, president, and Larry
Palacio, operations manager, attended
negotiations of the Southeastern States agreement in Tampa, Fla., on August
1, where they signed the new three-
year agreement, making U.S. Boiler
Services, Inc. a Boilermaker contractor in the Southeast area. Pictured at the
signing, l. to r., are Asst. to the Int.
Pres. Dennis King, Rankin, Local 37
BM-ST David Hegeman, Palacio, and
L-79 BM-ST Will Granger.

Hegeman spoke on behalf of all
Southeast members when he said they
are “looking forward to U.S. Boiler
bringing more work to our area.”

Trevor Brisson earns
top Canadian prize

L-146 member brings home the Whan-Banville award

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bringing more work to our area.”
Apprentice competition
Continued from page 1

travels. They have seen a lot. It’s amazing what you can get out of a guy and he doesn’t even know he’s telling you.”

Paul Pendergast, Local 647 BM-ST, says Voigt is the epitome of a great apprentice: “He always wants to step in and be involved rather than stand back and watch somebody else do the work. He is a confident young man who knows he has the skills.”

The 16th annual competition was held at the National Training Center in Kansas City, Kan., Sept. 28 to Oct. 2. Eight men participated in hands-on and written tests of their boilermaker skills and knowledge.

International President Newton B. Jones recognized the apprentices and their instructors at an awards dinner.

“What we are celebrating are the skills that set us apart from other crafts and that hold us together as a union,” he said. “Those skills are passed down from journeyman to apprentice — year after year. In this way, we protect both our union’s history and our future.”

Competitors included the first- and second-place winners from four regional contests: Voigt and Imre from the Great Lakes; Christopher Darnell, Local 154, Pittsburgh, Pa., and David Addison, Local 28, Newark, N.J., from the Northeast; Patrick Lara, Local 500, Salem, Ore., and Nick Souders, Local 549, Pittsburg, Calif., from the Western States; and Harry “Bud” Yost, Local 667, Charleston, W. Va., and William “Corey” Link, Local 40, Elizabethtown, Ky., from the Southeast.

Bill Elrod, retired assistant to the Intl. president and Construction Division International representative, was the testing administrator. He said that in addition to judging individuals and teams in test modules, the competition is also an opportunity to evaluate how effective apprenticeship programs are.

“All of [the contestants] excelled,” Elrod said. “There was no doubt in my mind at the end of competition: I was satisfied that we are producing outstanding boilermaker journeymen for the Brotherhood.”

Lead judge Tony Jacobs, Local 169, Detroit, oversaw testing in the rigging yard and in reeving, ropes, and knot tying. Employer judge Rod Earnest of Babcock & Wilcox supervised judging in welding, stud welding, arc gouging, and safety. Jack Multere, Local 7, Buffalo, N.Y., administered testing in small boiler and tool identification, layout, and CPR. Written testing included mechanical drawing and blueprints.

The awards banquet at Kansas City’s Marriott Hotel featured inspiring words from guest speaker L. Dwain Smith, Local 40 apprenticeship lead instructor, who reminded everyone that “there is more to this boilermaking than being behind a welding hood. It took a great deal of forethought, diligent work, and total focus on a goal for us to have the opportunity to have this kind of competition,” Smith said.

“It is about where [these men] are going, where they will carry this industry, and how they will make that road easier to travel.”

Smith cited self-confidence, patience, flexibility, honesty, compassion, responsibility, enthusiasm, communication, and personal pride as essential tools to a Boilermaker’s success.

Pat Smith, national apprenticeship coordinator, presented a National Recognition Award to co-nominees International President Newton B. Jones and J. Michael Carroll, national joint board and SAJAC chairman. The award honors those who have given unselfishly of their time and knowledge to future generations of Boilermakers. Intl. President Emeritus Charles W. Jones also received an award.

Guest speaker, L-40 Apprentice
Instructor L. Dwain Smith said there’s more to Boilermaking than welding.
Lara, Souders win Western States competition

Eight locals send top apprentices to 16th annual competition

PATRICK LARA of Local 500, Salem, Ore., won the James F. Precht Award as this year’s top apprentice for the Western States area. Nicholas Souders of Local 549, Pittsburg, Calif., placed second. Winning the 16th annual area competition entitled Lara and Souders to compete in the national contest, Sept. 29, in Kansas City.

Also competing were Shane Morse of Local 11, Helena, Mont.; Patrick Ryan of Local 92, Los Angeles; Vernon Velasquez of Local 101, Denver; Aaron Weyant of Local 182, Salt Lake City; John Bailey of Local 112, Mobile, Ala.; William A. Griswold of Local 83, Kansas City, Mo.; Scott D. Griffin of Local 112, Mobile, Ala.; William A. Kelly of Local 199, Jacksonville, Fla.; Michael A. Ward of Local 108, Birmingham, Ala.; Christopher M. Katou of Local 83, Kansas City, Mo.; and James A. Lindsey of Local 154, Savannah, Ga.

Sponsored by the Western States Joint Apprenticeship Committee (WSJAC), the annual competition was held June 22-26 at the Local 627 training facilities. Union judges included Fred Borboa, Herman Garcia, and L. M. Tippling, all of Local 627. Three contractor judges also participated: Rudy Pariga of Desert Fox, Tony Burns of E.E.S.I., and John Baleika of LPC.

The competition also included presentation of the Greg Steblov Scholastic Award to contestant Chlarson and recognition of service awards to retired L-502 BM-ST Ed Eisenberger and retired IVP and WSJAC Sec. Don Laceyfield.

WSJAC Coordinator Rondy Crawford sends a special thanks to the judges who “contributed greatly by lending their time, knowledge, and expertise to the test scoring.”

He also thanked Local 627 BM-ST Allen Meyers, ABM Dave Caudill, Pres. Tank Peterson, and office manager Dora Loomis “for their assistance throughout the competition.”

Yost, Link earn top prizes in Southeast area

Apprentices from 10 locals compete for 35th annual Paul D. Wedge trophy

HARRY L. “BUD” YOST of Local 667, Charleston, W.Va., walked away with the first-place trophy at the annual Paul D. Wedge Outstanding Apprenticeship Award Competition, August 4-6. But he didn’t walk away alone. With him was William “Corey” Link of Local 40, Elizabethtown, Ky., who placed second.

Yost and Link earned the right to represent the Southeast at the national competition in Kansas City, Sept. 29.

Sponsored by the Southeastern Area Joint Apprenticeship Committee (SAJAC), the annual area competition tests the skills of fourth-year apprentices in rigging, welding, tube rolling, tube milling, block reeving, knot tying, rope splicing, and crane signals, as well as their knowledge of the boilermakers’ Constitution, local bylaws, related studies, and blueprint reading.

Also participating in this year’s annual competition were: Savannah, Ga.; Christopher M. Katou of Local 83, Kansas City, Mo.; Michael A. Ward of Local 108, Birmingham, Ala.; Scott D. Griffin of Local 112, Mobile, Ala.; William A. Kelly of Local 199, Jacksonville, Fla.; James A. Lindsey of Local 154, Savannah, Ga.; and James A. Lindsey of Local 154, Savannah, Ga.

Director Mike Peterson extends a special thanks to the judges who “contributed greatly by lending their time, knowledge, and expertise to the test scoring.”

He also thanked Local 627 BM-ST Allen Meyers, ABM Dave Caudill, Pres. Tank Peterson, and office manager Dora Loomis “for their assistance throughout the competition.”

Voigt, Imre win Great Lakes

The Great Lakes Area Apprentice Competition, 1. to r., Co-Coordinator Larry McManamon Jr., Brian Dipenti of L-744, Joe Imre of L-854, Ed Downs of L-1, David Willis of L-374, Aaron Santhuff of L-27, and Co-Coordinator Mark Gustafson.

LUKE VOIGT OF LOCAL 647, Minneapolis, and Joseph Imre of Local 85, Toledo, Ohio, placed first and second in the annual Great Lakes Area Boilermaker Apprentice Program (GLABAP) competition. They went on to represent their area at the national competition.

Also competing at the GLABAP contest May 12-15 were George Downs of Local 1, Chicago; Aaron Santhuff of Local 27, St. Louis; David Willis of Local 374, Hammond, Ind.; and Bryan Dipenti of Local 744, Cleveland.

The participants take a written exam on related study lessons from 13 different test areas and demonstrate their skills in rigging, air-carbon arc cutting (new this year), layout, tube rolling, reeving, welding, tools, scaffold, layout, and hitches. This year they added the OSHA 10 safety quiz.

The Great Lakes and Northeast areas hold their annual competitions together, with each area providing their own judges. This year’s contests were held at Local 154, Pittsburgh, Pa. Judges representing the Great Lakes area included L-374 Training Director /Instructor Sean Burke, Ron Homer of the RCM Corp., L-169 ABM Tony Jacobs, L-27 Instructor Mark Lester, L-85 ABM Bill Melcher, L-1 ABM Robert Schwartz, and L-647 Training Director /Instructor Tom Will.

According to Great Lakes Area Coordinators Mark Gustafson and Larry McManamon Jr., “The camaraderie, good sportsmanship, and brotherhood exhibited by the contestants at all levels of the competition is a true testament that unionism and apprenticeship go hand-in-hand.” Local 154 hosted the competition.

Darnell, Addison win in Northeast

Seven lodges send top apprentices to competition

CHRISTOPHER DARNELL, L-154, Pittsburgh, Pa., placed first in the Boilermakers Northeast Area Apprenticeship Committee’s (BNAAC) 2003 Apprentice of the Year Competition, May 12-15. David Addison, L-28, Newark, N.J., placed second. Both went on to represent the Northeast area at the national competition in September.

Also participating in the BNAAC competition were Roy Bruno of Local 5, New York; Timothy Jones of Local 27, Buffalo, N.Y.; Francis McGovern of Local 13, Philadelphia; Michael Pierce of Local 237, Hartford, Conn.; and Edwin Taylor of Local 29, Boston.

Northeast area judges included Matt Schmitt of the Simakas Brothers and Arnold Hershberger of the Stoddard Brothers.


Contestants were judged on their knowledge of the International Constitution, referral procedures, agreements, and local by-laws. Hands-on testing checked the competitors’ skills in rope and knot splicing, rigging and signaling, burning, carbon arc cutting, welding, tube rolling, equipment use, and tool identification.

“This year’s contest was particularly exciting because of the many improvements that were incorporated into all aspects of testing,” commented Area Coordinator David Dupuis. “We’re trying to raise the standards by which all apprentices are measured.”

Local 154 hosted the competition.
Local 549’s political action earns them victory even in defeat

Phone banks, precinct walks, mailings prove to be effective tactics in nine California counties

WITH ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER installed as governor of California, it may seem difficult to feel positive about the recall election results.

Not for Fred Fields and Tom Baca. The business manager-secretary treasurer and political director of Local 549, Pittsburg, Calif., see their efforts in defeating the recall as a victory.

“We really want to put that point forward that we did our best,” Fields says. “Our union voted to secure the rights of the working people.”

Fields and Baca understand staying positive is a major factor to success in political movements.

“We are cheerleaders. We have to motivate our members and keep them motivated. We have to look at it as a victory. We can’t look at it, ever, as losing,” Baca says.

Even if we didn’t win, if we turned out our people, we have more people registered, more people involved, then we still haven’t lost. We are building our base and it is getting larger and larger.

Baca and Fields are strong leaders, but they both agree that without the commitment of the membership, there would be no political action.

Members Brian Burrow and John Wilson, for example, volunteered many hours on phone banks and in precinct walks, organizing and motivating other members and the community.

“The success comes from our membership,” Baca says. “If they aren’t involved, we don’t do anything.”

Walk, talk, leaflet, phone

IN EARLY AUGUST, Contra Costa County’s Central Labor Council and Building and Trades Council approved a motion to deliver the message to their members: “No on the Recall, Yes on Bustamante, No on Proposition 54.” The groups agreed that the most effective way to win the election would be to Get Out the Vote (GOTV): walk and talk to supporters and potential supporters about the importance of their voice in this election.

Local 549’s program for getting the vote out is a model program that any local can learn from. It includes several approaches for reaching voters, and recruiting volunteers from membership, the Democratic Party, and other community organizations.

Phone banks, precinct walks, door hangers, voter registration, mailings, and work site programs are the focus of each political drive. According to Fields, the varied approaches to reaching voters are necessary.

“By doing different things you connect different people,” Fields says. “Some are home, some come home later. Some people, unless you contact them and talk to them, are not interested. Some you end up contacting three ways and some only one way.”

Talking to your family members, neighbors, friends, and others who know you is one of the best ways, Fields says, to get the vote out.

“Rally your members,” he says. “Get them to talk to their brothers, sisters, friends, and neighbors and try to get them fired up about why the election is important. Tell them how this [nominee] is going to possibly affect their way of life.”

Join forces

ONE OF THE MOST significant aspects of such a successful voter mobilization is the focus on the issue, rather than on individual agendas, Baca says. This technique allowed the Labor Council to join forces with such varied groups as NAACP, the Sierra Club, Peace Action, the Filipino-American Democratic Caucus, and local Democratic clubs.

Voter results in the San Francisco Bay area were opposite the trends in the rest of the state. The nine counties of the state’s second most populated area — Contra Costa, Napa, Solano, Alameda, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Sonoma — rejected the recall.

Baca credits labor and the Democratic Party’s cooperative grass-roots work for the success of their agenda in the Bay area. In all nine counties, more votes were cast against the recall than for Gray Davis in his reelection bid in November 2002. In the area’s most liberal county, San Francisco, 80 percent of voters opposed the recall. Yet even in the area’s most conservative county, Solano, the “no” vote captured 51 percent of the voters.

Size doesn’t matter

“We ARE PROBABLY one of the smallest unions of the 100 affiliated unions in this area, and yet we have taken the lead politically in the building trades,” Baca says.

The area’s Democratic Party approached Local 549 and their leaders to organize the GOTV campaign not because they have the most warm bodies, but because they know what to do with the volunteers they have.

In the five-week voter contact campaign in Contra Costa County, where Local 549 resided, a record number of 1,437 volunteers worked on phone banks, precinct walks, and mailings. During the last four days, 434 volunteer shifts were reported.

“We really expanded our reach and did more than we have ever done with other groups,” Baca says.

Learn from your losses

LOCAL 549’S POLITICAL efforts surrounding the recall election provide a learning opportunity worth sharing with other LEAP programs.

• Foster education. Labor needs to educate members immediately and make it ongoing, not just an election-time push.

• Promote constructive action. Members need to know when their politicians do good things, not just when they are not doing what we’d like. “That practice hurt Gray Davis with our folks,” Baca said.

• Take responsibility in your party. It is Labor’s job to drive the working peoples’ programs, values, and agenda, no matter what party you are affiliated with.

• Avoid clichés. When talking to members and other groups, find new slogans and terms that resonate with your members and working people, including their concerns outside of work life.

• Get busy in the local. Although participating with outside groups is necessary, internal communications with members is the number one most effective form of education. “Those concerted efforts with such varied groups as NAACP, the Sierra Club, Peace Action, the Filipino-American Democratic Caucus, and local Democratic clubs are critical,” Wilson added.

• Avoid feeling hurt. “It is a hassle to send in all that paperwork and it often costs more than we have,” Fields said. “Unfortunately, we have sometimes a tendency to think, ‘My vote won’t make any difference.’ That is definitely wrong. You have to vote.”

Money is necessary

LOCAL 549 did not have a political action committee (PAC) fund when Fields became BM-ST seven years ago. Since, according to Fields, “we live and die by politics,” he decided to change that.

“We could see the other unions were more influential with all the politicians even though we were involved,” Fields says. “We realized the difference was money.”

“Politically you can support these people but you don’t get the response until you start giving them large checks,” Baca says.

Local 549’s PAC is funded by contributions of one-half of a percent from field dues, which averages about 17 cents per man-hour. When the fund reaches $50,000, contributions cease until the executive board decides the fund is depleted. Additional funding is put to a membership vote. Fields says this method allows members to have greater oversight over the funds they are contributing.

The money is used to fund programs like GOTV and to pay for mailings, door hangers, and phone lines. And for some campaign contributions.

Baca says, “They (politicians) do respond to people who contribute money.”

From their seven years of experience managing their PAC, Fields and Baca can tell you, it isn’t easy. In order to use PAC funds properly, you must be a stickler for following the state regulations.

“It is a hassle to send in all that paperwork and it often costs more than we have,” Fields said. “Unfortunately, we have sometimes a tendency to think, ‘My vote won’t make any difference.’ That is definitely wrong. You have to vote.”
Why did we endorse Gephardt so early?

Early support helps us shape the campaign, earns candidate's loyalty

MANY OF OUR MEMBERS are asking why the Boilermakers have endorsed Gephardt so early. Most of our politically-active members realize that Gephardt has supported workers during his entire political career, but many still don't understand why we endorsed him so soon.

“The conventions are still months away,” they say. “Shouldn’t we wait to see who gets nominated?”

Well, as the saying goes, “He who hesitates is lost.” The Boilermakers don’t plan on getting lost in the crowd. Candidates begin asking groups to support them months before they officially announce their candidacy. Congressman Gephardt first approached the Boilermakers in January 2003. No other candidate was talking to us at that time. He asked for our support, but more importantly, he asked us what we wanted the next president to do.

Early backers influence how candidates view some issues

OUR LEGISLATIVE OFFICE gave Gephardt a list of our most important issues. A few weeks later, he told an audience that he was committed to using smokestack scrubbers to keep our air clean. That is an important issue for Boilermakers. Not only do we want our families to be able to breathe healthy air, but our construction Boilermakers build those scrubbers.

With that speech, Gephardt showed he was not only talking to us, he heard what we had to say.

“It was clear to us that Dick Gephardt was listening to us,” says Boilermaker Director of Governmental Affairs Bridget Martin. “That’s the biggest reason to endorse a candidate early — because if you’re there for him early on, he will listen to you throughout the campaign and after he is in office. You can help shape his stance on the issues.”

In April 2003, the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO brought all of their affiliated unions together for a forum at which candidates for president spoke.

At this forum, Gephardt was able to point to his long track record of 26 years of supporting workers. He has been on our side on nearly every vote ever taken in the House, including his very vocal opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and other such agreements that send U.S. jobs overseas and put our members out of work.

The other candidates did not have such good records. Many of them are Johnny-come-latelies who say they’re on our side now, but their voting records tell another story.

One more reason to back Gephardt.

But the clincher came in June, when the Brotherhood’s Government Affairs Office sent questionnaires to each Boilermaker asking which presidential candidate their members wanted the International to endorse. Gephardt was the winner by a large margin, with 57 percent of the vote. Second place was John Kerry, with 18 percent, and six more candidates shared the rest.

On hearing these results, the International Executive Council voted unanimously to endorse Gephardt. We were the fifth union to do so.

Endorsing early helps us build our base of support

“BY GETTING IN EARLY like we did,” Martin says, “we not only develop a strong relationship with our candidate, but we also raise our visibility with other unions. Gephardt now has 16 unions backing him, with a total of five million members. And they all understand that the Boilermakers are a very important part of that team.”

An early start will help us build our base of support for our candidate. The first primary — the Iowa caucuses — are more than a month away, but Boilermakers have been in Iowa for more than a month already, walking the precincts, talking to the public, and motivating members to stand up for Gephardt on January 19.

Most voters don’t realize how important the primaries are. Right now, any one candidate who wants to be the one. But on Nov. 2, 2004, the only names on the ballot will be candidates who have been nominated by their parties. And to get that nomination, you have to win in the primaries.

The impact is important for putting Gephardt in the White House, but it is even more important for state, city, and county offices. In many of these races, only one party puts up a candidate, so the winner of the primary wins the general election without opposition. In those cases, failing to vote in the primary leaves you with no choice in the matter at all.

Early results shape how the media portray a candidate

THE MOST IMPORTANT reason to get behind a candidate early is to attract media attention. The media have an enormous influence on the voting public. If they say a candidate doesn’t have a chance, millions of voters will stop watching him and start looking at the other candidates. If they say a candidate is gaining momentum, millions of voters will start thinking he is the one they should support.

Just as in a horse race, the ones with fast starts are more likely to win. By endorsing early and working hard during the primaries, we can influence how the media talk about our candidate. With eight candidates, Gephardt could get lost in the crowd. Early on, the media focused on Dean and Kerry, the two Democrats who have spent the most money. If Gephardt does well in the Iowa caucuses, the media will begin talking more positively about him, improving his chances in the next primary — New Hampshire — and other primaries.

Organizing for Gephardt — A redecorated Boilermakers organizing van will be rented to the Gephardt campaign on an occasional basis and will be used for the Boilermaker Get Out The Vote activities and other actions.

See GEHPARDT, page 9
Gephardt

Continued from page 8

Few of the men elected president in the past 60 years were clear front runners this early in the race.

Nationwide, Gephardt is a comfortable second. That’s a good position, but he needs to keep building his support in order to win the nomination.

And grassroots political action by union members and workers can help him get the support he needs.

You should never forget that the main reason we support Gephardt is that he has a lifetime record of supporting working people. In fact, he’s one of us, the son of a Teamster who has never forgotten where he came from.

We know that, as president, he will do more for workers than any president in recent memory.

But to help us, he has to get elected; to get elected, he has to get nominated; and to get nominated, he has to do well in the early primaries so he begins getting good media coverage.

Now that we have endorsed him, we need to give Gephardt our full support through all of the primaries.

That means registering to vote and voting in the primary in your state.

It is never too early to begin working for a candidate who is willing to stand up for workers.

2004 Presidential Primaries

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 19</td>
<td>Iowa Caucuses</td>
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Three states have not announced primaries in 2004 — Alaska, Nebraska, and Nevada.

On the Issues

Bush vs. Gephardt

Jobs and the economy

WHEN HE WAS promoting his tax cuts in February, George W. Bush said they would create 344,000 new jobs per month beginning in July 2003. But on October 21, Treasury Secretary John Snow revised that projection down to only about 200,000 jobs per month for the next year, according to a report in The New York Times.

American workers would probably be happy with a gain of 200,000 jobs a month. That is not as many as President Clinton averaged during his eight years in office, but it is better than the 81,000 jobs lost every month under Bush.

Any gain is better than a loss. But creating 200,000 new jobs a month is barely enough to keep the unemployment rate at its already high six percent level.

It takes 170,000 new jobs each month just to provide jobs for our expanding population and workforce, and 300,000 new jobs each month to lower the unemployment rate by one percentage point over the course of a year.

The Bush Administration called its most recent tax-cut package, which took effect in July, its “Jobs and Growth Plan.”

When the economy showed a slight upturn in the third quarter, he declared victory.

Bush ignored the fact that the tax cuts are not creating jobs, as he had promised. Instead, job losses are growing in every region.

Only one state has a lower unemployment rate than when the Bush recession started in March 2001.

In 33 states, the rate is higher, and in 10 of them, it is two percent or more higher.

Yet on November 8, Bush told an audience in North Carolina that “things are beginning to brighten up for people looking for work.”

He discounted negative effects from his economic plans, which include expanding NAFTA to the entire hemisphere with the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

He also ignored the fact that he has opposed unfair trade laws like NAFTA during his entire 26-year career in the House.

Richard Gephardt has a much better record on trade and job creation. He has opposed unfair trade laws like NAFTA during his entire 26-year career in the House.

While House Democratic leader Matthews, he said, “We’ve had a president who has been there for big business. We need a president who will be there for workers.”

Rally

Continued from page 1

he intended to do about trade issues, jobs, and health care.

“My administration will have three goals,” he told the crowd, “jobs, jobs, and jobs. My health care plan makes health care available to all workers. Full-time workers. Part-time workers. Retired workers. Disabled workers. And it will boost the economy.”

Boilermakers Intl. President Newton Jones gave a rousing speech at the rally, eliciting a cheer with the words, “I am reminded of George W. Bush’s phrase when he started the war in Iraq, and I am ‘shocked and awed’ by what this administration is doing to working families, to unions, and to this economy. It has to stop.”

Jobs created or lost under Presidents Clinton and Bush

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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Within two years of taking office, Bush reversed Clinton’s economic record and produced more than twice as many jobs as Clinton.

Full-time workers. Part-time workers. Retired workers. Disabled workers. And it will boost the economy.”

Bush has the worst job-creation record of any president since the Great Depression

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Bush has the worst job-creation record of any president since the Great Depression.
Boilermakers pension funds drop Putnam Investments

SEC charges cause board to sever relationship

IN NOVEMBER, the Board of Trustees of the Boilermaker-Blacksmiths Pension voted unanimously to drop Putnam Investments as a money manager. The global money management firm, with $277 billion in assets under management, faced criminal charges from the state of Massachusetts and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for questionable trading practices involving its mutual funds.

Before the board voted to drop them, Putnam managed about $100 million of the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths pension funds, less than two percent of the total.

In October, reports began to surface that the firm was being charged for allowing a small group of mutual fund investors to trade quickly in and out of their funds. Known as “arbitrage” or “market-timing,” this practice is not illegal but is discouraged because it raises costs and lowers investment returns for other shareholders. In Putnam’s case, it also violated language in their mutual fund brochures.

Damage done by this type of trading is likely to be minor for the individuals harmed, according to Terrence O’Dean, a business professor at the University of California, Berkeley. Because the loss is spread over so many investors, it “will cost a lot of people a little bit of money, but it’s not the sort of thing where one person loses their retirement savings.” However, he said, it is “shocking from an ethical perspective.”

The SEC charges alleged that Putnam allowed some members of the retirement plans of Boilermakers Local 5, New York, the Joint Industry Board of Electrical Industry, and Fluor Hanford Inc. to take part in market timing. Some board members said they did not know of a connection between Putnam’s involvement with the Local 5 retirement plan and its contract with the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths fund. Local 5’s retirement plan, separate from the Boilermakers-Blacksmiths fund, allows individuals to direct their own investments.

Since revelations of Putnam’s questionable trades surfaced, dozens of other mutual fund companies have come under investigation, including some of the nation’s largest — Bank of America’s Nations Funds, PHBG, AllianceBernstein, Janus Capital Group and Strong Mutual Funds.

Annual summary reports of national funds

Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust summary annual report

THIS IS A SUMMARY of the annual report for the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust, Employer Identification Number 46-4186800, for January 1 through December 31, 2002.

The annual report has been filed with the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic financial statement

BENEFITS UNDER THE PLAN are provided by the trust fund directly to participants or their beneficiaries. Plan expenses were $931,349,446 in administrative expenses and $537,493,413 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

A total of 72,683 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $9,536,180,957 as of December 31, 2002, compared to $9,860,745,347 as of December 31, 2001. During the plan year, the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of $424,594,390.

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

The plan had a negative income of $43,235,542. This includes employer contributions of $210,402,223, losses of $213,402,223 during the sale of assets, investment losses of $7,594,716, and other income of $4,891,626.

Minimum funding standards

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

Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Fund summary annual report

THIS IS A SUMMARY of the annual report of the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund, Employer Identification Number 38-6091694, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2002. The annual report has been filed with the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

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

Insurance information

The PLAN HAS AN EXPERIENCE-RATED contract with Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company to pay all ill and accidental death and disability benefits.

Because it is an experience-rated contract, the premium costs are affected by, among other things, the number and size of claims. Of the total insurance premiums paid during the contract year which ended within the plan year ending December 31, 2002, the premiums paid under this experience-rated contract were $2,174,113 and the total of all benefit claims paid under this experience-rated contract during the plan year was $2,012,079.

Basic financial statement

THE VALUE OF PLAN ASSETS, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $160,969,252 as of December 31, 2002, compared to $180,762,268 as of December 31, 2001. During the plan year, the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of $19,793,008. This decrease includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan’s assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year, or the cost of assets acquired during the year.

The plan had a negative income of $43,235,542. This includes employer contributions of $210,402,223, losses of $213,402,223 during the sale of assets, investment losses of $7,594,716, and other income of $4,891,626.

How to apply for a Boilermaker Scholarship

ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR benefits of being a Boilermaker is the college scholarship program that helps dependents of Boilermakers get started with their college education. These one-year grants reward the hard work and success of members of Boilermaker families and encourage members of the next generation of college-educated workers to benefit from the union advantage.

Boilermaker scholarships are open to high school seniors who will be entering their first year of a two- or four-year college or academic program at a degree-granting, accredited college or university within one year of their high school graduation and who are dependent of an active, retired, disabled, or deceased member.

Winners are chosen based on a variety of criteria that include grades, standardized test scores, extracurricular activities, and a written essay on an assigned topic.

The 2004 essay topic is “How can the Boilermakers union be marketed more effectively?” Applications for the 2004 awards will be available from your local lodge at the end of this year and will be accepted from January 1 to March 31, 2004. Applications postmarked after the March 31, 2004 deadline cannot be considered for the competition.

Contact your local lodge to get an application. The International will not mail applications to individuals.

Some local lodges have their own scholarship programs. Scholarships are also available through the Union Plus credit card program and some state and regional labor councils.

For information on their scholarship programs, contact these organizations directly.
IN OCTOBER and November, International President Newton B. Jones announced several staff changes. "These promotions reflect my vision for the future of this organization," he explained. "In today's competitive world, we need experienced, intelligent, and caring leaders, and we also need talent and energy. These people have all those virtues."

Jim McCormick named director of Tripartite Alliance Programs

AT THE TRIPARTITE conference in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Intl. President Newton B. Jones announced that he was appointing Jim McCormick director of National Tripartite Alliance Programs. The Tripartite Alliance is an award-winning alliance between the Boilermakers union, contractors, and owners. It brings these groups together to help them deal efficiently with workplace concerns. Our Tripartite Alliance is responsible for such accomplishments as the Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training (MOST) program, mandatory drug testing, recruitment, Common Arc, and the nationwide referral network. McCormick has been involved in Tripartite Alliance for more than a decade. In 1966, directly out of high school, McCormick started working as a probationary member of Local Lodge 667, Charleston, W.Va., as a mechanic and welder. He was initiated into the National Transient Lodge in 1969. In 1970, he transferred into Local 667 and still remains a member of this local. In 1977, he was appointed assistant business manager of Local 667 and served through 1979. In 1984, he was elected business manager and secretary/treasurer, serving four terms. He was appointed International representative to the Construction Division in 1994. In 1995, then-International President Charles W. Jones appointed McCormick assistant to the International president (AIP). As AIP, McCormick represents District 57 on the Tennessee Valley Trades and Labor Council. Other duties include conference coordinator for the national Tripartite Alliance conference, secretary of the Ohio Valley Articles of Agreement, chairman of the Ohio Valley Manpower Committee, chairman of the MOST-Tripartite subcommittee on absenteeism, and International representative for Local Lodges 40 in Elizabethtown, Ky., and 105 in Piketon, Ohio. McCormick lives in Soddy Daisy, Tenn., with his wife. He has one daughter, a senior at West Virginia University, and two sons, one of whom is a Boilermaker. The other is self-employed.

Bryan King named administrative assistant to International president

BRYAN KING has been named director of internal auditing and administrative assistant to the International president. The department of internal auditing audits and verifies expenditures of the International and the two year remaining in the term of Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council (MBTC) President Sam T. Hart, who retired in September. Marek’s appointment was made by unanimous vote of the MBTC’s Executive Board at the council’s 46th convention. The appointment was announced to delegates July 31. The MBTC president chairs and appoints committees, moderates conferences, and offers input on the operations of the council. Marek will remain business manager of Local 169.

"I consider it a real honor to take over as president of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council," Marek said. "I think we’ve had a lot of success at the Boilermakers in the last 10 years. We’ve worked hard to improve how we operate, and we’ve worked well with the other crafts. I hope to be an asset to the Michigan building trades by representing all the affiliates."

Elizabeth Howard joins publications staff as editorial assistant

ELIZABETH HOWARD has been hired to assist with all Boilermaker publications, including The Boilermaker Reporter, the Web site, and training and support materials. Howard graduated in May with a Master’s in English Rhetoric and Composition from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. In 1993, she earned her degree in Journalism from Iowa State University and worked as director of a television news show at WDAF-TV in Kansas City, Mo. She left to develop her writing and editing skills as a freelance writer for The Kansas City Business Journal, The Kansas City Star, Review, and Square Publications. She also worked as a research associate and editor for Rose Research in Kansas City. A native of Davenport, Iowa, she has lived in Kansas City for nine years.

Jim McCormick

Jim McCormick

Bryan King

Bryan King

Elizabeth Howard

Elizabeth Howard

L-169’s Marek named to head Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

LOCAL 169 Business Manager John Marek has been named to fill the two years remaining in the term of Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council (MBTC) President Sam T. Hart, who retired in September. Marek’s appointment was made by unanimous vote of the MBTC’s Executive Board at the council’s 46th convention. The appointment was announced to delegates July 31. The MBTC president chairs and appoints committees, moderates conferences, and offers input on the operations of the council. Marek will remain business manager of Local 169.

“Consider it a real honor to take over as president of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council,” Marek said. “I think we’ve had a lot of success at the Boilermakers in the last 10 years. We’ve worked hard to improve how we operate, and we’ve worked well with the other crafts. I hope to be an asset to the Michigan building trades by representing all the affiliates.”

Bridget Martin

Bridget Martin

Elizabeth Howard
New contract summaries

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

DNCL – St Louis
INTL. REP. MICHAEL ATKINSON reports contract ratification, effective Sept. 1, 2003 to Aug. 31, 2009, for 10 members of the National Cement Lodge, St. Louis, who work at Monarch Cement of Iowa, Inc.

Local 1 – Chicago
John Snowman, BM-ST of Local 1, Chicago, reports contract ratification, effective July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006, for Local 1 members working at Boiler and Tank Contractors of Illinois and Houston Boiler and Tank Co.

M18 – Buffalo, N.Y.
INTL. REP. Rocco DiRollo reports a one-year contract extension, effective July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, for members of Local M18, Buffalo, N.Y., who work at Marlette National.

M24 – Kokomo, Ind.
INTL. REP. David Lawrence reports contract ratification, effective June 21, 2003 to June 20, 2007, for 100 members of Local M24, Kokomo, Ind., who process corn dogs and potpies at Olympos Foods.

L-28 – Newark, N.J.

D99 – Salinas, Calif.
IR Michael Atkinson reports contract ratification, effective July 1, 2003 to Dec. 31, 2006, for 25 members of Local D99, Salinas, Calif., who work at Chemical Lime of Arizona.

D106 – Mason City, Iowa
CAREY ALLLEN, acting director of the CLGAW Division, reports contract ratification, effective May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2007, for 106 members of Local D106, Mason City, Iowa, who make Portland cement at Lehigh Cement.

L-117 – Superior, Wis.
INTL. REP. Lin Guresh reports contract ratification, effective July 15, 2003 to July 15, 2007, for 15 members of Local 117, Superior, Wis., who perform fabricating work at Berko Hydraulics.

L-182 – Salt Lake City
BRAD JOHN, BM-ST of Local 182, Salt Lake City, reports contract ratification, effective May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2005, for Local 182 members at Harris Tube Services, and effective May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2004, for nine Local 182 members who work with structural steel at Western Steel Mfg.

S185 – Belleville, Ill.
INTL. REP. James Pressley reports contract ratification, effective June 20, 2003 to June 19, 2008, for 103 members of Local S185, Belleville, Ill., who manufacture boxboard at the Weyerhaeuser Co.

D342 – Plattsburgh, N.Y.
INTL. REP. Rocco DiRollo reports contract ratification, effective June 3, 2003 to June 2, 2007, for members of Local D342, Plattsburgh, N.Y., who work at Graymont Materials – Potsdam Stone & Concrete.

D49 – West Windsor, VT
INTL. REP. Rocco DiRollo reports contract ratification, effective May 12, 2003 to May 11, 2008, for members of Local D49, West Windsor, VT, who work at Luzerne America, Inc.

D465 – Oklahoma City
INTL. REP. Nick Adams reports contract ratification, effective May 31, 2003 to May 25, 2007, for 90 members of Local D485, Oklahoma City, who make plastic electrical boxes and conduits at the Lamson & Sessions Co.

D480 – Charlevaux, Mich.
INTL. REP. Mark Kelly reports contract ratification, effective May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2009, for 120 members of Local D480, Charlevaux, Mich., who make Portland cement at Cemex.

D590 – Rogers City, Mich.

INTL. REP. Mark Kelly reports contract ratification, effective June 1, 2003 to June 1, 2006, for 54 members of Local D508, Darlington, Pa., who manufacture clay bricks at General Shale Products LLC.

L-608 – Baltimore
INTL. REP. Steve Beal reports contract ratification, effective Jan. 13, 2003 to Jan. 13, 2007, for 25 members of Local D-608, Baltimore, who work in the warehouse and as material expeditors for the US Coast Guard Engineering Logistics Center.

L-687 – Marshfield, Wis.

L-1255 – Chicago
INTL. REP. Howard Cole reports a three-year contract extension, effective in February 2004, for members of Local 1255, Chicago, who work at Klein Tools.

L-1600 – St. Charles, Ill.
INTL. REP. Howard Cole reports contract ratification, effective May 5, 2003 to May 5, 2006, for 160 members of Local 1600, St. Charles, Ill., who make overhead garage doors at General American Door, and effective July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006, for 200 Local 1600 members who work with metal tubing at National Metalwares, L.P.

L-1603 – Alliance, Ohio
INTL. REP. Ron Lyons reports contract ratification, effective July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006, for 11 members of Local 1603, Alliance, Ohio, who work at T & W Forge.

A Summary of Analysis of these Contract Settlements

THIS ANALYSIS of the 23 agreements above, covering about 1,682 employees, provides a perspective of trends in Boilermaker collective bargaining. It is based on information provided by contract summary and transmittal report forms and was prepared by the Research and Collective Bargaining Services Department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payroll Items</th>
<th>Average Increase</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Wage Increases</td>
<td>3.29 % or $0.54/hr.</td>
<td>3.29 %</td>
<td>2.89 %</td>
<td>2.86 %</td>
<td>2.93 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shift Differential</td>
<td>2nd Shift + 5 or $0.25/hr.</td>
<td>17 facilities</td>
<td>16 facilities</td>
<td>16 facilities</td>
<td>12 facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Shift - 20 or $0.49/hr.</td>
<td>22 of 23</td>
<td>3 use percentage of wage (6.30%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paid Holidays</td>
<td>22 of 23</td>
<td>Provide average of 10.05 days</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>19 of 23</td>
<td>1 Week Paid</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20 of 23</td>
<td>2 Weeks Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 of 23</td>
<td>3 Weeks Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 of 23</td>
<td>4 Weeks Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 of 23</td>
<td>5 Weeks Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 of 23</td>
<td>6 Weeks Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 of 23</td>
<td>7 Weeks Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sickness and Accident</td>
<td>16 of 23</td>
<td>Provide sickness/accident indemnity</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 of 23</td>
<td>Set dollar amount – $598.07 avg., with 5 weeks average time off</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 of 23</td>
<td>Use percentage – 60% most common</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Insurance/AD&amp;D</td>
<td>20 of 23</td>
<td>Provide Life Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 of 23</td>
<td>Fixed – $19,392.86 avg. first year</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 of 23</td>
<td>Based on annual salary</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 of 23</td>
<td>Provide AD&amp;D Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 of 23</td>
<td>Fixed – $18,900.87 avg. first year</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 of 23</td>
<td>Based on annual salary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>23 of 22</td>
<td>Offer some kind of pension plan</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11 of 23</td>
<td>Fixed – $401(k)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 of 23</td>
<td>Company plan (defined benefit)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 of 23</td>
<td>Offer Boilermakers-Blacksmith National Pension Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 of 23</td>
<td>Offer profit sharing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Provisions</td>
<td>22 of 23</td>
<td>Paid Funeral Leave</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20 of 23</td>
<td>Paid Jury Duty Leave</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 of 23</td>
<td>Paid Military Leave (2 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 of 23</td>
<td>Safety Shoe Reimbursement</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 of 23</td>
<td>Prescription Safety Glasses Reimbursement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 of 23</td>
<td>Severance Pay Packages</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Health care costs rise sharply

Out-of-pocket costs for workers have more than doubled since 1998

The 90,000 grocery workers on strike at Vons, Albertsons, and Ralphs are fighting a battle that many workers may face soon. These Safeway-owned companies are insisting on eliminating health care benefits for new hires and cutting back on benefits to current employees. The companies’ proposal would eventually eliminate health care benefits for 70,000 workers.

These workers are not alone. As health care costs continue to rise faster than inflation, companies continue to adjust their insurance plans to keep pace, raising premiums, deductibles, and copays, while limiting benefits.

Recently The New York Times reported that the annual out-of-pocket costs for employees of large companies have more than doubled since 1998. Employers have seen similar rises.

The Kaiser/HRET survey of employer-sponsored health benefits reports that average insurance premiums have risen from $6,438 in 2000 to $9,068 in 2003. The average percentage paid by workers has risen nearly 50 percent, from $1,619 to $2,412. Employers are paying 38 percent more — $6,656 compared to $4,819 in 2000.

Consumers report avoiding necessary health care because they cannot afford the deductibles and copays. And many employers have stopped providing health care insurance and many households have dropped their elective coverage. More than 15 percent of Americans now have no health care insurance — 43.6 million people.

Boilermakers Health & Welfare Fund can’t escape the trend

Statistics for all workers represented by the Boilermakers union are not available, but those covered by the Boilermakers Health & Welfare Fund are feeling the pain of higher costs for medical care.

Rapidly rising expenditures caused the board of trustees to announce changes in three of their plans, including increases in deductibles, higher self-pay contributions, and higher copays for prescription drugs.

Though in line with other funds, these increases are difficult to bear in an economy that offers no new jobs.

CLARIFICATION

A statement in an article on Americans buying prescription drugs from Canada that ran in the Jul-Sep Reporter wrongly implied that Canadians do not pay out-of-pocket for drugs. They do. The only difference between the U.S. and Canada is that the Canadian government takes an active role in keeping drug costs down by negotiating prices with pharmaceutical firms.

The benefit 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 children & parents of Boilermaker members.
Call: 1-800-848-6466

Education Services
Get expert advice on scholarships and other funding sources for college and job skills training.
Call: 1-877-881-1022

Personal Loans
Credit-qualified members are eligible for loans for a variety of uses.
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 #6723700

Budget: 1-800-455-2848
BDNAV816100

Union-Made Checks
Call: 1-888-864-6625

Flower Service
Call: 1-888-667-7779

North American Van Lines
Call: 1-800-524-5533

Get expert advice on scholarships and other funding sources for college and job skills training.

For more information on these programs and other member-only benefits, go to www.unionplus.org

*Retired members are eligible. Some programs are not available to members outside the continental United States, and not all programs are available in all states.

Phone 1-800-452-9425 for clarification of eligibility.

Prescription Savings and more

Significant Savings on Your Family’s Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Prescription Drugs and Other Health Care Services

Union members, retirees, and their families get substantial savings on prescriptions and more.

Enroll in the Union Plus Health Savings Program and you can save an average of 17 percent at over 29,000 retail pharmacies. Even greater savings when you use the programs mail order service.

With a free 30-day trial enrollment period, you’ve got nothing to lose.

Call and start saving today on prescriptions, vision care, foot and ankle care, hearing care, and diabetic supplies.

www.unionplus.org

1-800-228-3532

Monday-Friday, 9 am – 6 pm (ET) Se habla Espanol

Health Savings
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**

40 Int'l. Thoureus, Thadeus T. 6,000.00
40 Int'l. Guyon, John R. 6,000.00
40 NTL. Koeber, Ovrille E. 6,000.00
40 NTL. Nava, Joseph 6,000.00
40 NTL. Shaw, Frank 6,000.00
40 Shue Sr., John D. 6,000.00
5 Chasse, Felix 6,000.00
5 Andersson, Oda D. 6,000.00
5 Brazell, Byron I. 6,000.00
6 Smith, Howard 6,000.00
7 Danks, Dale 6,000.00
8 Powers, Louis E. 6,000.00
9 Nelson, Clint E. 6,000.00
10 Bidlingmaier, Clifford 6,000.00
13 Beasley, J. Carl 6,000.00
13 Coppage, Derrell E. 6,000.00
15 Keesler, Joseph 6,000.00
15 Robertson Jr., Dyke G. 6,000.00
15 Robertson Jr., Dyke G. 6,000.00
13 Smith, Charles 6,000.00
13 Eschmann, Paul 6,000.00
15 Levy, Lawrence 6,000.00
18 Van Hest, George 6,000.00
20 Cibotti, Joseph W. 6,000.00
22 Keefe, William A. 6,000.00
24 Schmid, William 6,000.00
26 Jensen, Glen D. 6,000.00
26 Whitehead, Glen D. 6,000.00
26 Whitehead, Glen D. 6,000.00
129 Jernigan, Glen D. 6,000.00
129 Wilcocks, Ron 6,000.00
531 Gibbons, Charles F. 6,000.00
505 Carter, Fred A. 6,000.00
505 Carter, Fred A. 6,000.00

**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**

6 Somers, Nick 6,000.00
6 Surget, Edward J. 6,000.00
6 Smidt, Adam 4,500.00
6 Tanner, Paul F. 3,000.00
6 Tinberg, George A. 3,000.00
6 Keller, Robert A. 987.50
6 Glos, Donald E. 6,000.00
6 Grossi, August 6,000.00
6 Powers, Louis E. 6,000.00
6 Sandoval, Deciderio 6,000.00
6 Shields, Donald L. 6,000.00
6 Stevens, Boyd A. 6,000.00
6 Black, Dean R. 6,000.00
6 Costigan, John F. 6,000.00
6 Darragh, Steven R. 6,000.00
6 Flannery, Gregory 6,000.00
6 Uzialko, Anthony J. 6,000.00
6 Beasley, J. Carl 6,000.00
6 Chance, Charles W. 6,000.00
6 Parrish, Gene 6,000.00
6 Robertson, Dyke G. 6,000.00
6 Wasdin, Joseph L. 6,000.00
6 Barker, Fred A. 6,000.00
6 Ehren, Charles S. 6,000.00
6 Hubbard, James D. 6,000.00
6 Donald, Eric D. 6,000.00
6 Lehmeck, Lyle E. 6,000.00
6 Morgan, Fred 6,000.00
6 Parker, Ray G. 6,000.00
6 Vavak, Christopher 6,000.00
6 Brown, John H. 6,000.00
6 Kraus, Jonathan 1,502.96
6 Leaty Sr., John J. 5,000.00
6 Lukan, Julius 507.88
6 Quinn, Thomas J. 6,000.00
6 Cibotti, Joseph W. 6,000.00
6 Farr, John P. 6,000.00
6 Garrity, Charles L. 6,000.00
6 Schmidt, William A. 6,000.00
6 Lowe, Willie L. 6,000.00
6 Maxwell, Gene E. 6,000.00
6 Pennington, Robert 6,000.00
6 Sledge, Harold E. 6,000.00
6 Allard, Jacob H. 6,000.00
6 Gallegos, Oscar M. 6,000.00
6 Jones, Larry Wayne 6,000.00
6 Ladfargue Sr., L. W. 6,000.00
6 McQueen, Charles F. 6,000.00
6 Strickland, Edwin A. 6,000.00
6 Young, Harry A. 6,000.00
6 Surber, Charles W. 6,000.00
6 Dean, John J. 6,000.00
6 Byrd, Braxton 6,000.00
6 Wooten, Jeff L. 6,000.00
6 Armstrong, Dennis 6,000.00
6 Barney Sr., Robert L. 6,000.00
6 Brown, Robert R. 6,000.00
6 Coleman, Arthur W. 6,000.00
6 Dunaway, Charles R. 6,000.00
6 Matthews, Cardell 6,000.00
6 Deader, DeMar L. 6,000.00
6 Nichols, Wilbur L. 6,000.00
6 Parmelee, Stan 6,000.00
6 Phillips, Earl L. 6,000.00
6 Rinehart, Orville P. 6,000.00
6 Roby, Gerald V. 6,000.00
6 Schuler, W. Frank 6,000.00
6 Aldorf, Angus Elene 6,000.00
6 Chambers, Alton O. 6,000.00
6 Wall, Arthur L. 6,000.00
6 Allen, Claude I. 6,000.00
6 Eastridge Sr., Charles 6,000.00
6 Kibbloom, Rick E. 5,197.00
6 Mendoza, Cardell 6,000.00
6 Moore, Leroy A. 6,000.00
6 Post, Jack D. 6,000.00
6 Ricketts, Louis J. 6,000.00
6 Tillotson, Rodney E. 6,000.00
6 Weizenkamp, Alan 2,430.75
6 Canale, Jack D. 491.23
6 Wilson, Francs 6,000.00
6 Hayden, John E. 6,000.00
6 Aguilar, Magdaleno 6,000.00
6 Barry Jr., John A. 6,000.00
6 Dennis, Kenneth R. 6,000.00
6 Devor, James C. 6,000.00
6 Floy, Lewis R. 6,000.00
6 George, Harold E. 6,000.00
6 Kragn, William 6,000.00
6 Kuecer, Clarence 2,000.00
6 Larson, Wayne B. 6,000.00
6 Maddock, Gail C. 6,000.00
6 Martinez, Charles 6,000.00
6 Meyers, Roy 6,000.00
6 Nicuci, L. C. “Red” 6,000.00
6 Ramirez, Antonio G. 6,000.00
6 Sargent, Delbert D. 6,000.00
6 Thompson, Ricky H. 6,000.00
6 Winery, Henry C. 6,000.00
6 Willingham, Johnny 6,000.00
6 Barkers, Robert A. 6,000.00
6 Casados, Mike P. 6,000.00
6 Steele, Larry F. 6,000.00
6 Barnett, William B. 6,000.00
6 Clemans, Robert G. 6,000.00
6 Comstock, Gardner L. 6,000.00
6 Favaro, Aldo 6,000.00
6 Gladstone, Wallace J. 6,000.00
6 Hedman, Lester 6,000.00
6 Jackson, Edgar R. 6,000.00
6 Johnson, Myron W. 6,000.00
6 Kim, James S. 6,000.00
6 Kimberlin, Dan H. 6,000.00
6 LaFontaine, Frank 6,000.00
6 McKillop, Victor E. 6,000.00
6 Milligan, James P. 6,000.00
6 Morrissey, James E. 6,000.00
6 Ogdon, Ford D. 6,000.00
6 Patterson, Richard A. 6,000.00
6 Pederson, Charles P. 6,000.00
6 Slotnick, Bernard M. 6,000.00
6 Stanley, Gary W. 6,000.00
6 Stokes, Donald R. 13,250.45
6 Thomas, Ellin G. 6,000.00
6 White, John H. 6,000.00
6 Zersen, Laslo 6,000.00
6 Ellis, Marvin L. 1,500.00
6 Flatt, Willie C. 1,500.00
6 Horton, Colon F. 1,500.00
6 Kundance, Edward J. 1,500.00
6 Malloy, John T. 1,500.00
6 Shepard, Russell G. 1,500.00
6 Collins, Martin H. 1,500.00
6 Cross, Daniel J. 980.00

**continued on page 15**
IN MEMORIAM

THOMAS CHASTAIN

Thomas Chastain, 55

INTL REP. THOMAS CHASTAIN passed away on December 13 at his home in Copperhill, Tenn.


He became Tennessee's most decorated Vietnam veteran, receiving the National Defense Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal, the Army Commendations Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

At Local 856, Chastain served first as union steward from 1970 through 1978, and then as vice president of the lodge from 1978 to 1984. In 1984, his members elected him lodge president. He served until 1986, when then-International President Charles W. Jones appointed him International representative, serving under then-International Vice President Henry Hardin in the Southeast section.

Chastain completed the Harvard University Trade Union Program in 1992. He served as president of the Tennessee Employment Relations Research Association last year.

Chastain is survived by his wife, Debra, and children, Trent and Adriana.

Richard Lester, 69


In 1986, he and other investors started Great Lakes Industrial Contracting. Lester served as president.

When the company was sold and renamed RMF Industrial Contracting, Lester remained as president until his 1998 retirement.

Lester also served as chairman of Local 85’s training and educational fund, trustee for their supplemental welfare plan, and local coordinator for the Boilermakers’ Great Lakes area stewardship program. He was a member of Local 85’s committees for joint referral rules and savings plans.

Richard Lester

RMF Industrial Contracting

IN DEATH

DEATH BENEFITS

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 14

479 Shoulders, Fred 6,000.00
487 Bisel, Bernard A. 6,000.00
487 Schunke, Harold R. 6,000.00
500 Rollo, John D. 6,000.00
500 Burkhamer, Timothy 12,053.76
502 Hendrickson, John C. 6,000.00
540 Lyerly, Kenneth H. 6,000.00
540 Snow, Zool E. 6,000.00
549 Hosea, William C. 6,000.00
549 Baty, William H. 6,000.00
549 Bell, Hardy H. 6,000.00
549 Blacklock, Leonard J. 6,000.00
549 Horner, Raymond L. 6,000.00
549 McDowell, Stanford 6,000.00
549 Miller Jr., Jack 5,699.47
549 Morris, Fred 6,000.00
549 Nichols, Warren R. 6,000.00
549 Phillips, Obeny L. 6,000.00
549 Postelle, Kenneth L. 6,000.00
549 Rodriguez, Donald 6,000.00
549 Tallent, Ralph 6,000.00
549 Willard, Cecil D. 6,000.00
568 McClintock, Clayton 87.01
568 Templin, Thomas N. 6,000.00
574 Simoulidis, George 6,000.00
577 Crump, James C. 6,000.00
582 Baggett, Jake F. 6,000.00
582 Coon, William J. 6,000.00
582 Ross, Alton E. 6,000.00
582 Stewart, Charles 6,000.00
582 Taylor, Charles H. 6,000.00
582 Carlson, Roy E. 6,000.00
587 Biddell, James E. 6,000.00
587 Bristol, John N. 6,000.00
587 Collier, Henry G. 6,000.00
587 Fontenot, Otis 6,000.00
587 Ghoslon, Fred D. 6,000.00
587 Lebouef, Abraham 6,000.00
587 McQuerry, Enel R. 6,000.00
587 Sanders, Johnnie 6,000.00
587 Smith, Astor A. 6,000.00
587 Snell, Walter L. 6,000.00
587 Tims, Joseph 6,000.00
587 Washkevich, Peter 6,000.00
587 Whitton, Harold C. 6,000.00
590 Butts, Edna L. 6,000.00
590 Waid, Ivan L. 6,000.00
590 Banks, Bob M. 6,000.00
590 Bullett, Namon 6,000.00
590 Fisher, Joseph C. 6,000.00
590 Knox, George R. 6,000.00
590 Hayes, Charles W. 6,000.00
590 Jacquez, Leno 3,191.38
590 McCorkle, Charles H. 6,000.00
590 Morris, Wesley W. 6,000.00
590 Page, Johnny Thomas 6,000.00
590 Perez, Raymond M. 2,000.00
590 Wormstad, Mike J. 6,000.00
590 Breitling Jr., Albert G. 6,000.00
590 Hilla, Eric J. 1,004.12
590 Holcomb, Richard 6,000.00
590 Jensen, Cyril K. 6,000.00
590 Levy, Lawrence O. 6,000.00
590 Santi, Eino W. 6,000.00
590 Unger, Carl W. 6,000.00
591 Grant, James F. 6,000.00
591 Russell, Lloyd H. 6,000.00
591 Ventresco, Benedetto 6,000.00
591 Breid, Charles O. 6,000.00
591 Boyer, Clarence E. 6,000.00
591 Brown, Robert C. 6,000.00
597 Cheuvront, James A. 6,000.00
597 Erickson, Norman C. 6,000.00
597 Heablen, William 6,000.00
597 Jarrell, Kerrel H. 6,000.00
597 Keefer, John A. 15,000.00
597 Nance, Michael J. 923.10
597 Oliver, William K. 6,000.00
597 Shaefer, Robert Lee 6,000.00
597 Smith, E. W. 6,000.00
597 Stonestreet, Garel D. 34.88
597 Jones, Herbert 6,000.00
597 Karhues, Ewald J. 6,000.00
597 Adams, Roy 6,000.00
597 Bennett, David W. 6,000.00
597 Tinkler, Charles W. 6,000.00
597 Judy, Willard N. 6,000.00
597 Summerefld, Robert 6,000.00
597 Whittemore, Robert 6,000.00
597 Cuebas, Melton J. 6,000.00
597 Barner, Oscar P. 6,000.00
597 Anderson, Clarence 6,000.00
598 Cione, Vernon F. 6,000.00
598 Remington, Gary D. 6,000.00
598 Tingles, Jeff H. 211.28
598 Coates, Robert O. 6,000.00

802 Grazier, William T. 6,000.00
802 Hallof, John P. 6,000.00
802 Johnson, Phillip E. 6,000.00
802 Macak, Stanley 6,000.00
802 Reardon, John J. 6,000.00
802 Zablowicz, Edwin J. 6,000.00
1230 Crane, Jesse L. 6,000.00
1234 Moren, George 6,000.00
1234 Tran, Jan 6,000.00
1240 Ireland, Paul H. 1,500.00
1240 Olsen, Rose 6,000.00
1509 Moren, Arnold R. 6,000.00
1509 Michals, Marvyl M. 6,000.00
1509 Owen, Warren C. 6,000.00
1509 Walter, Delbert E. 6,000.00
1240 Ireland, Paul H. 4,500.00
1600 Marstadt, Leo J. 6,000.00
1600 Tanner, James S. 6,000.00
1600 DeFord, Howard W. 6,000.00
1600 Hawkins, Willis L. 6,000.00
1600 Journell, Allen 6,000.00
1999 Ridley, Ricket C. 2,313.29
2000 Campbell, Clarence 1,287.03

Mail form to:
753 State Avenue, Suite 565
Kansas City, KS 66101

(Allow five weeks for change of address.)
It’s up to you — register and vote

Political action can protect our jobs, but only if we vote — and you can’t vote unless you register

When I see what has happened to working families in the United States since George W. Bush became president, I am reminded of one of his own sound bites: “Shock and awe.” I am shocked and awed by how much damage this president has done to the lives of working families in fewer than three years in office.

Since Bush took the oath of office, our nation has lost more than three million jobs. That’s over 2,700 jobs lost every day of the week — two jobs a minute. Bush has the worst job-creation record of any president since Herbert Hoover.

Millions more will lose their jobs if Bush’s Free Trade Area of the Americas goes through. It will expand NAFTA to cover all of North and South America.

And it isn’t just jobs that workers have lost under Bush. Millions have lost their health care insurance because Bush will not do anything about rising health care costs and insurance premiums.

Millions of workers’ pensions have been devastated by corporate abuses that the White House ignores. The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation says more than half of the 32,500 company-sponsored pensions are underfunded to the tune of $400 billion, threatening the retirement income of 44 million workers.

Eight million workers will lose their overtime pay because of Bush’s rule changes. Both houses of Congress voted to stop them, but Bush vowed to veto the labor appropriations bill if it protects overtime pay for workers.

Hundreds of thousands of federal workers have lost their right to union representation because Bush convinced a terrorized Congress that union workers threaten national security. Millions more have lost their voice in the Department of Labor because Bush packed the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs, and other key positions with anti-worker zealots.

Millions of workers have lost federal safety protections because Bush has cut funding for enforcement of federal safety laws, preferring to allow companies to regulate themselves.

Millions of retirees will eventually lose their guaranteed Medicare coverage if Bush’s prescription drug benefit plan becomes law. It includes provisions that turn Medicare over to private insurance companies in 2010.

And our federal budget lost $3 trillion when he passed his tax cuts for the rich on the backs of the middle class.

The only way to stop Bush is to vote him out of office in 2004

This last is the worst loss of all, because it threatens not just today’s workers, but tomorrow’s workers: our children. Over the next 10 years, the Bush tax cuts will add $2.3 trillion to our national debt. And that is the best case scenario, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Even as Congress slashes spending on much-needed programs such as college grants, public health care, and construction of housing for military families, the debt continues to grow.

Our nation cannot afford another four years of George W. Bush. We must vote him out of office in 2004.

And we can do it, if all working families register and vote.

Working people outnumber the wealthy. Corporations employ more hourly wage workers than managers. More Americans work for a living and rely on their wages to pay their bills than live off investments or own businesses.

No matter how you stack it, workers have a clear advantage when it comes to sheer numbers of votes.

If all working families vote for candidates who will look out for our interests, we can have a powerful impact on the laws that come out of Washington and our state legislatures.

But if you’re not registered, you can’t vote, and a recent survey of all Boilermakers shows that thousands of our members are not registered to vote.

Voting is a responsibility to your community, not just a right

The numbers are discouraging. In at least eight states, fewer than one in three members is registered to vote. With participation that low, we cannot influence elections.

Only 10 states can boast that more than half of their Boilermaker members are registered to vote. That’s not good enough. We need all our members registered in every state.

Living in a democracy means taking responsibility for the government we live under. Our votes determine who makes the laws, who enforces them, and who judges whether they are being created and enforced according to the rights granted in the Constitution.

Union members take more responsibility on their jobs than most other workers. We are the ones who stand up together and demand a fair deal from the boss, who sit down and negotiate the terms under which we work.

We need to stand up and be counted on election day, too. We need to take responsibility for who is in the White House, who is in Congress, and who holds all those local seats that affect our lives every day.

Over the next few weeks, I will send a letter to every member explaining why I believe we should be an important part of this next election and explaining how you can help. I urge you to read that letter carefully and take appropriate action.

If you think your vote makes no difference, think about this: Florida’s official count in 2000 gave Bush that state — and the presidency — by only 537 votes.

Now, only 29 percent of Florida’s Boilermakers are registered to vote.

Would the outcome of the election have been different if all of them had been registered and took their families with them to the polls?

We will never know.

But when the winner of the fourth largest state in the nation is decided by fewer than 1,000 votes, I have to believe that a strong showing by our members and their families can make a world of difference for American working families. And for the future of America. Register and vote.

A MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS

Newton B. Jones
International President

Based on state voter registration records; compiled by the AFL-CIO Political Affairs Department