Boilermakers refurbish world’s most powerful electrical device

The Z Machine is 300 times hotter than the sun and produces X-ray power 80 times the world’s entire electrical output

MEMBERS OF THE National Transient Lodge (NTL) and Local 4 (Page, Ariz.) are working on the world’s most powerful electrical device — the Z Machine. Located at the Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, N.M., the Z Machine is a pulsed power accelerator, able to create X-ray power output of nearly 290 trillion watts, or 80 times the entire world’s output of electricity, for short periods of time. Pulsed power is a term used to describe a process in which power is steadily accumulated, then rapidly released, resulting in the output of a large amount of instantaneous power.

The Sandia lab uses large capacitors that are charged over a period of time with electricity, which is then released in 100 billionths of a second. That 100-nanosecond burst of power is enormous. Temperatures at the machine’s core have reached 3.2 million degrees Fahrenheit, which is an estimated 300 times greater than temperatures on the surface of the sun.

Originally built in 1985, the device is used to study the physics involved in fusion reactions and the properties of matter at high temperatures and densities. In June 2005, the laboratory hired a Boilermaker to work on the Z Machine. The strike began March 8 and ended four weeks later on April 4. Eighty percent of the 6,000 workers (about 4,800) belong to one of the 15 unions that represent workers at Ingalls. On average, only 200 of the 6,000 hourly workers in this right-to-work state chose to cross the picket line. By a vote margin of 60 to 40 percent, union workers accepted a three-year contract and employees returned to work on April 5. About 1,900 of those shipyard workers belong to Boilermakers Local 693. Full production was expected to resume April 10.
Construction conference eyes tech enhancements

Speakers announce better access to financial, recruiting information

NEW WAYS OF getting job-related information into the hands of construction Boilermakers and lodge leaders highlighted the Construction Division conference at Marco Island, Fla., March 5-9. Among the technology improvements discussed were a new Web site for the Boilermaker National Funds, direct deposit of member paycheck checks, and an Internet-based travel card and recruiting system.

The conference also focused on manpower and recruitment needs, referral rule changes, opportunities for work in the boiler and industry jurisdictional issues, training, and the status of the national funds.

National Funds moves ahead with strategic plan

CURTIS G. BARNHILL, EXECUTIVE administrator of the Boilermaker National Funds, announced that operational changes are under way as part of the Funds office strategic plan. He said work has been completed on the first phase of a Web site designed to offer participants convenient access to Funds information. The site — www.bnfc.com — includes links to health care provider directories. Barnhill said that in the future members will be able to access their annuity accounts via the Internet.

Other components of the strategic plan include setting up a new customer service department, adding staff, and modernizing computer and phone systems. Barnhill said the changes are aimed at “faster, more accurate claims processing.”

Len Beauchamp, associate executive administrator for the Boilermaker National Funds, reported that the health and welfare fund is seeing higher contributions for the first time in five years. He noted, “We are about the fifth or sixth largest in the industry, but the numbers aren’t as high as they once were.”

Barnhill said that direct deposit, members would receive their weekly earnings faster, that money would be available through ATMs or online, and that the BB&T would offer debit card accounts. Members would be free to use their bank of choice for the direct deposit service.

Newton Jones told the conference that International headquarters uses the system, at considerable savings. He added that, because the Brotherhood has substantial ownership in the BB&T, switching to direct deposit would also benefit the union’s overall financial strength.

Canadians kick off online travel card and recruiting

WESTERN CANADA IVP Joe Maloney and Eastern Canada IVP Ed Power announced implementation of an innovative system to register member travel cards and recruit new members online. The travel card capability enables members to stay current on referral lists without having to physically travel to another local.

As a recruiting tool, the system allows applicants to enter and update their resumes, Maloney noted. “A business manager can use the system to review applications, which are classified by welders, mechanics, and apprentices,” he said.

Barnhill said that although the system has been strengthened after improvements made last year.

Direct deposit could help with payroll issues

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT Newton Jones and Boilermaker Bank & Trust President Cal Roberts discussed an initiative to set up direct deposit of paycheck checks to the BB&T. Jones said the current system is antiquated and that most industries have already moved to direct deposit. “The process of delivering checks to the work site is cumbersome and costly for the contractors,” he said, “and our members often pay large fees to cash their checks, or they have problems getting them cashed.”

Roberts said that with direct deposit, members would receive their weekly earnings faster, that money would be available through ATMs or online, and that the BB&T would offer debit card accounts. Members would be free to use their bank of choice for the direct deposit service.

Jones said direct deposit is good for all parties involved. He said that International headquarters uses the system, at considerable savings. He added that, because the Brotherhood has substantial ownership in the BB&T, switching to direct deposit would also benefit the union’s overall financial strength.

Thousands express interest in Alberta oil sands jobs

RICARDO BALDINO, PRESIDENT of the Brazilian labor union, STICC, spoke before the Construction Division conference March 5 about a new initiative to put union welders from his country to work in Alberta, alongside members of Boilermakers Local 146 (Edmonton). Local 146 needs additional workers to help man the immense oil sands projects in the province, along with other construction and maintenance jobs.

Qualified welders are in short supply because of the ramp-up in heavy industrial projects coupled with the retirement of baby boom workers, both in Canada and the United States. Speaking in Portuguese (Brazil’s national language) through an interpreter, Baldino said, “Six thousand Brazilian welders have already applied. This is a first step toward an international labor movement where labor can truly participate in the benefits of a global economy.”

Baldino thanked the Boilermakers union and the leadership of Local 146 for spearheading the effort to bring in skilled workers from Brazil.

IP Newton Jones told the conference, “The International is very supportive of this effort.” He added that Local 146 had also reached out to Great Britain, which faces its own skilled labor shortage.

Western Canada IVP Joe Maloney stressed the necessity of such arrangements, stating, “Right now there’s about $50-100 billion in construction activity going on in heavy industrial areas of Alberta. There are about 4,000 Boilermakers in the local right now, and they’re maxed out work-wise.” Maloney praised Warren Fraleigh and ABM Morgan Fedak for developing and pursuing the concept. “Instead of losing further market share to nonunion competitors, they came up with this idea to reach out to the international community, and they went right to the unions. So it’s union to union. These guys (Fraleigh and Fedak) have done a tremendous job putting this thing together.”

Fraleigh told Baldino, “We look forward to having your members come to Alberta and share in our prosperity. These are times right now — with the manpower supply being what it is — that we have to think outside the box. If we are successful, and we believe we will, it could possibly form the basis of a best practice for many of the unions in North America, and indeed worldwide.”
Local S8 ratifies contract at Willow Lake Mine

Members can be proud of four-year agreement that was two years in the making

WHAT BEGAN in Feb. 2005 as early negotiations, finally ended some 25 months later with ratification of a four-year agreement for members of Local S8 (Equality, Ill.) at the Willow Lake Mine.

The contract with the Peabody Energy-owned mine in Harrisburg, Ill., expired Oct. 18, 2006. Despite a 175-to-1 vote to take strike action if necessary, the strike option was never utilized. Instead, members were able to secure an agreement, effective April 16, 2007, to April 15, 2011.

The new agreement increases hourly wages in each contract year: $1.00 in year one, $0.75 in year two, and $0.55 in years three and four. The contract also includes retroactive pay to Oct. 17, 2006; a wage incentive bonus program; portal-to-portal pay (the time a worker spends on the employer’s property), as well as dining and doffing pay (the time required to change into and out of work clothing); a 401(k) plan in which the company will match employee contributions dollar-for-dollar, with a minimum contribution of $125 and a maximum of $175 per month; improved health care (no employee co-pay); a safety bonus; a new floating holiday; a birthday bonus; and additional paid personal time off; and a $200 per week sickness and accident benefit.

Solidarity is the key to success

RETIRED LOCAL S1978 President Mike Murphy was hired as a consultant to assist the Local S8 members when the contract expired last October.

“When I came on board, Local S8 had been involved in contract negotiations sessions since Feb. 2005,” Murphy explained. At one time, this Southern Illinois coal basin had a rich union tradition in the mining community. Several years ago, mining took a nosedive in this area and, along with it, the benefits that had been acquired over many years of hard work.

According to Murphy, Local S8 members were working under a sub-standard contract for the mining indu-

see WILLOW LAKE page 16
Strikers at Fox Valley Forge want a union contract and a better future.

Fox Valley Forge strikers want a union

Community support keeps union hopes alive

“ESTAMOS UNIDOS,” JOSE Luis Alcala told a freelance video journalist on the sidewalk outside Fox Valley Forge while his fellow workers picketed behind him. “We are united. And I believe the company will give up, because we are united.”

Alcala is a committeeman for a group of 50 forge employees whose struggle illustrates how important unions are to immigrants, as well as how far some companies will go to keep unions out.

The strikers are all immigrants — or the children of immigrants — from a single town in Mexico. They and their parents have been moving to Aurora, Ill., to work for Fox Valley for more than 40 years. In that time the company has prospered, but workers’ wages have not kept pace. In Sept. 2005, the workers elected, by a vote of 62-2, to be represented by Boilermakers Local 1600.

But since then, the company has stalled their efforts to get a collective bargaining agreement. The main sticking point appears to be wages. Though Fox Valley wages have not kept pace with inflation for the past 20 years and are now far below the industry average, the company continues to resist meaningful increases. Local 1600 President Jerry Hughes described their wages as “not very much more than you could earn at a fast food restaurant.”

In March 2007, after meeting with the company more than 25 times and making very little progress, the workers voted to strike. It is a risky move. A long strike could devastate families already barely getting by on Fox Valley’s substandard wages. But the Fox Valley workers are “solid in their determination,” according to International Rep Howard Cole, who has been assisting them.

They also enjoy tremendous support from the Aurora community. Because they all come from the same town in Mexico, they are especially tight-knit and look out for each other. And many Aurora community groups have come to their aid, including the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Fundacion de Defensa Comunitaria, and the West Suburbs Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.

Other unions have also lent support, including Letter Carriers #219, Laborers #681, the Aurora Police Department, and Chicago District Council #289. And a picket-line rally in April drew aldermen from three Aurora wards — Stephanie Kifowit, Abby Schuller, and Juli Garza.

The company appears equally determined. Though their production has been curtailed, they have been hiring a few workers each day from a temp agency, at a rate of $16.50 an hour — more than the strikers were earning when they walked out.

“The Fox Valley Forge strikers deserve our support,” says IR Cole. “They want to become Boilermaker members. Theirs is a struggle for a union contract, with union benefits.”

“We are determined to keep the pressure on,” says Juli Garza.

“Strikers want a union,” says a picket sign. But to remain strong, these workers need support. You can help by sending a donation to their strike fund.

Strike ends continued from page 1

Warren Fairley, director of the Boilermakers’ Shipbuilding Division, said, “I expected a close vote, and we got one, but I think members will be satisfied with the result. We didn’t get everything we had hoped for, but we got more improvements than we’ve seen in a while.” Union leaders had recommended ratification, he said, even though they were unable to achieve some of the gains that members sought.

Philip Teel, president of Northrop Grumman Ship Systems, stated: “We are pleased that the contract was ratified, and we stand ready to get back to full production.”

Contract highlights include the following:

• 15.2 percent wage increase (9.2 percent immediately, then three percent in each of the following two years of the contract);
• Shift premiums of 80 cents an hour; and
• Attendance bonuses with the potential to earn an additional $1,040 annually;
• Cost-of-living allowances in the second and third year of the contract;
• Fixed health care premiums capped at $194 in the third year of the contract; and
• Five percent added to the retirement multiplier (from 65 percent to 70 percent); and
• Increases in vacation and holidays.

Ingalls is a subsidiary of the Northrop Grumman Corporation and part of the corporation’s Ship Systems Sector. In operation continuously since 1938, Ingalls is a commercial and naval shipyard. Union members have built luxury cruise liners, cargo vessels, container ships, and tankers for commercial use, and assault ships, cruisers, destroyers, submarine tenders, ammunition ships, and nuclear submarines for the U.S. Navy. Local 693 has represented workers at the shipyard since it was chartered in 1939.

Unions throw wedding for L-693 member

Wedding moves to picket line when Ingalls’ workers go on strike

LOCAL 693 MEMBER Kenneth Hill (Pas-cagoulo, Miss.) voted “yes” to strike, then said “I do” on the picket line.

He and Sonya McGuffin were married March 23 on the picket line outside the main gate of Northrop Grumman’s Ingalls shipyard, where Hill works as a welder.

On strike since March 8, the couple wanted to marry but didn’t have the money. Word spread and soon donations came pouring in. The bride’s dress was donated by members of one of the unions on strike at the shipyard. The groom’s tuxedo was donated by The Formal Affair in Gautier. Another union member baked the wedding cake and served champagne after the ceremony. More strikers donated food and money to pay for the ceremony.

Hill said the wedding on the picket line symbolized the solidarity of the unions. He also said he wanted to show the company how serious he was about the strike by sharing one of the most important moments in his life — his wedding — with his union family. He told the Mississippi Press, “We did it because the union is our family. We are all one.”

The strike lasted four weeks and Hill is now back at work, making plans to take his bride on a belated honeymoon to Daytona Beach, Fla.
Over 30 representatives of 13 lodges participate in the MBIC-TVIC joint training.

**MBIC and TVIC offer joint training**

**Increasing days, adding outside instructors improves program**

FOR THE SECOND year in a row, the Midwest Boilermakers Industrial Council (MBIC) and Tennessee Volun-
ted Industrial Council (TVIC) joined forces to offer training for local lodge officers in Kokomo, Ind. This year, they expanded their training program, bringing in two instructors from the University of Wisconsin School for

**Workers (SFW) for nearly three full days of training.**

Thirty-two participants learned about collective bargaining and admin-
istering the contract from SFW profes-
sors David Nace and Michael Childers.

The following locals sent members to the training session: MBIC Locals M-7, M-68, M-300, M-301, S-20, S-202, S-1978, 1240, and 1620; and TVIC Locals D-180, L-290, S-254, and S-272.

Participants included Mark Babcock, Donald Baize, Tim Beckner, Rita Ben-
nett, Fred Birkhold, Ricky Blanchard, Marc Bogenschutz, Don Brazell, Cas-
andra Brown, David Cheschire, William Cowan, Todd Detro, Darrin Fawver, Philip Fox, Tim Griffiths, David Hicks, Jim Hicks, Mendy Hoffman, Duane Hollman, Corena Koch, Mike Land-
ess, Clint Lane, Phillip Manley, Mario McKeever, James McMillon, Preston Miracle, Randy Pratt, Ivy Schulkers, Greg Tyler, Joe Wetzel, Barry Wilson, and Paul Yatsko.

**Railroad members will vote on national contract**

**Tentative agreement boosts wages, caps health care premiums**

AFTER 29 MONTHS of contract nego-
tiations, the Rail Labor Bargaining
Coalition (RLBC) and the freight rail-
roads have reached a tentative agree-
ment for a five-year contract. The
RLBC provides collective bargaining services for 80,000 union railroad work-
ers — about half of all railroad work-
ers in the United States. Seven unions comprise the RLBC, including the Boil-
ermakers, Brotherhood of Railroad Sig-
almen, International Brotherhood of Engineers, Sheet Metal Workers Inter-
national Association, National Confer-
icence of Firemen and Oilers, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, and American Train Dispatchers Association. The railroad employers include CSX, Norfolk Southern, Kan-
sas City Southern, Burlington Northern-
en/Santa Fe, Union Pacific, and other smaller carriers.

Alan Scheer, director of Railroad
Division Services for the Boilermakers, said bargaining began in early 2005 and
quickly reached an impasse over wages, health care, and work rule demands.

“The railroads wanted our members to begin paying a third of the health insur-
ance premiums. They also demanded work rule changes that would have allowed them to expand subcontract-
ing, undercut seniority rights, elimi-
nate restrictions on work schedules and rest days, and other changes that would have negatively impacted our members.”

Once an impasse was declared, the Federal Mediation Board became
involved in the negotiations. Twenty-
two months later, the two sides finally
came to terms. The unions will receive wage increases in each of the five years of the agreement — 2.5 percent in 2005;
3 percent in 2006 and 2007, 4 percent in 2008, and 4.5 percent in 2009. The increases are retroactive to July 1, 2005.

The agreement also caps health insurance costs members pay at 15 per-
cent of the total premium beginning Jan. 1, 2008, and at 15 percent or $200 — whichever is greater — on Jan. 1, 2009.

Additionally, the railroads withdrew all of their demands for work rule changes.

“We definitely will recommend acceptance of this agreement,” Scheer said.

“It was the best deal we could get. Health and welfare was a huge issue for us, as it is for all industries.

We really needed those caps.”

Scheer said the union would mail copies of the tentative agreement to their memberships sometime in May.
LEAP delegates find new energy, hope on Capitol Hill

Changing unfair trade laws gains momentum

THE ATMOSPHERE IN Washington, D.C., crackles with an electric charge these days. It’s as if 12 years of frustration and oppression under an anti-worker Congress — and eight years under an anti-worker administration — have been pushed aside and a new current of energy and hope has surged in.

An enthusiastic Bridget Martin, director of the government affairs department, put it this way: “We kicked some serious butt!” Her remark came as she addressed the 39th annual conference of the Legislative Education Action Program (LEAP) just a short distance from Capitol Hill.

She was referring, of course, to the new Democratic majorities in the U.S. House and Senate. Those majorities have the opportunity to change the legislative priorities in favor of working families, families that have suffered from stagnant wages, job loss, and other ills for more than a decade. And many in Congress seem to have awakened to a fresh respect for unions, thanks to organized labor’s impressive — and successful — get-out-the-vote effort that swept numerous free traders out of office and fair traders in.

Boilermaker delegates from across the country heard from presidential candidate and former senator John Edwards. They listened to guest speakers from Congress and lobbied congressmen on Capitol Hill. They learned of unfair trade. They received an update from International President Newton, who changed his schedule so he could address the LEAP conference, stressed his middle-class roots and allegiance to organized labor.

“My dad never went to college; he worked in cotton mills all his life,” Edwards said. He added that when people worry about losing “good” manufacturing jobs, they tend “to forget that those weren’t good jobs before unions existed. It was organized labor that turned those into good jobs.”

Edwards said the middle class is in serious trouble. “We’ve got to strengthen the eroding middle class. It’s the heart and soul of what America is supposed to be. And the middle class is made up of working men and women like you, like the people you represent. People like my mother and my father, the family I come from.”

Edwards, who ran a poverty center at the University of North Carolina the last few years, told Boilermakers, “The greatest anti-poverty movement in American history is the organized labor movement.” He said labor laws must be changed so unions have a real chance. “We ought to put the law behind working people, not on the side of multi-national corporations. We need serious labor law reform to make it easy to organize workers.”

In reference to the Employee Free Choice Act, which would require union recognition if a simple majority of workers sign cards (rather than requiring an NLRB election), Edwards commented: “Now the way I look at it is if someone can sign their name to join the Republican Party, any worker in America ought to be able to sign a card and join a union.”

Edwards said he is proud that he is the only candidate of either party to offer “a very specific, substantive, truly universal health care plan, so that everyone in America would have health care coverage.” His plan would require that employers either cover their employees or pay into a fund to provide coverage. Americans would have the option of having private insurance, subsidized by the government, or government insurance similar to the current Medicare program.

The former senator urged delegates to listen carefully to what other candidates say about unions. “When they’re not talking to unions, do they ever use the word ‘union?’ Do they ever talk about organizing? When they’re speaking to a Chamber of Commerce somewhere in America, do you think the word ‘union’ comes out of their mouths? I’m telling you what we need in America is leaders who say the same thing to the world that they say to you.

“Whatever happens, including when I’m occupying the White House, I will stand with you. And I won’t stand with you reluctantly. I will stand with you proudly.” — John Edwards, presidential candidate and former U.S. senator

“Whatever happens, including when I’m occupying the White House, I will stand with you. And I won’t stand with you reluctantly. I will stand with you proudly. Because what you are doing every single day is what unions have done for my family. My mother and father have health care today because of unions — [it is] the only reason they have health care.”

Republican congressman seeks labor’s advice

REPRESENTATIVE TIMOTHY Murphy (R-18th PA) spoke to LEAP delegates about the special relationship he has with Boilermakers Local 154 (Pittsburgh) and other local unions in his district as well as with international unions. Murphy said he stays in touch with unions in his district through a labor advisory board. Moreover, he sponsors an annual event in which all labor leaders in the district are invited to meet with him and other members of Congress.

“We have a great dialogue and a great exchange,” he said. “It’s of great value when you sit down at a table with six or eight elected members of Congress and say, ‘Let’s talk plainly about how issues affect our locals.’” Murphy said he is the only member of Congress who sponsors such an event, and he strongly urges other congressmen and local unions to do something similar.

Thanks to the labor advisory board, says Murphy, he looks at issues not only on a global level but also on a local level, where workers are impacted. “It is because of that [perspective],” he said, “that we work with other congressional members and support the Employee Free Choice Act and things that involve Davis-Bacon, prevailing wage, and health care.” Murphy was one of only 13 Republicans voting in favor of the Employee Free Choice Act.

The congressman made it clear that he understands and appreciates the role of organized labor in our economy, stating: “We need the growth of jobs here in our nation and the quality assurance that comes from well-trained, quality apprentices and journeymen to make sure the job is done right the first time. The best use of taxpayer dollars is to make sure the job is done right the first time. The best assurance I’ve ever seen of that is in the building trades.”

Whatever happens, including when I’m occupying the White House, I will stand with you. And I won’t stand with you reluctantly. I will stand with you proudly. Because what you are doing every single day is what unions have done for my family. My mother and father have health care today because of unions — [it is] the only reason they have health care.” — Rep. Timothy Murphy (R-18th PA)
“Nothing in my experience as a labor lawyer was more frustrating than watching employers use tactics beyond belief to prevent unions from organizing.” — Rep. Betty Sutton (D-13th OH)

bitterness between parties, and that it is difficult for a member on one side of the aisle to be friends with a member on the other. He said congressmen tell him privately that they hunger for a statesman — a leader who has a vision for the country. He explained that many members of Congress today “think like a business,” worrying only about the next quarter’s profit. “Politicians are caught in the same game now. All they see is the next election.”

Barrett says congressmen are susceptible to believing a common myth: “Wife Beater Bar is so important that I am exempt from the ordinary responsibilities of life.” He then explained that the reality is, “The ripple of your absence will only be felt in one place — your home. Washington will not skip a beat when you are gone. That构成了 congressmen’s real relationship with their constituents.”

Barrett encourages Boilermakers to find common interests — such as a hobby — and use those interests to break down the game face and begin a real relationship.

Engel takes home Legislative of the Year Award

ONE OF THE Boilermakers’ best friends in Congress, Eliot Engel (D-17th NY), received a warm welcome from delegates as he was presented the Legislator of the Year Award. IP Newton Jones made the presentation following remarks by the congressman.

Engel told the conference, “I am truly honored to speak before the Boilermakers,” and noted that he comes from a union family. His father was a Steelworker and he himself was a unionized laborer. He said he was also proud to have a 100 percent AFL-CIO voting record.

Engel, along with Rep. Joe Wilson (R-2nd SC) introduced the first-ever Boilermaker bill in Congress last year, seeking to exempt Boilermakers from annual limits on H-2B visas. The legislation is important because it would help Canadian members enter the United States temporarily when needed to supplement U.S. Boilermakers performing outage work. Currently,..
LEAP Conference
continued from page 7

there are caps on how many workers from other countries may enter the U.S. each year, and those caps could prevent Canadian Boilermakers from doing so at a critical time.

Engel told LEAP delegates he was also proud to help lead the charge against an effort by the National Labor Relations Board that would expand the definition of supervisors. This action would deny union membership to thousands of skilled workers who sometimes instruct their co-workers.

Engel also was a co-sponsor and strong advocate for the Employee Free Choice Act, which passed the House earlier this year.

Activist details ‘free’ trade dangers

LORI WALLACH, DIRECTOR of Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch, told delegates that so-called free trade threatens not only manufacturing employees but the construction trades as well. Since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was signed in 1993, and the World Trade Organization (WTO) was formed in 1994, three million American manufacturing jobs have been lost, she said. And, if left unchecked, proposed free trade agreements (FTAs) with Panama, Peru, Colombia, and Korea, could harm the trades as well.

The danger for U.S. construction workers, Wallach warned, is that governments signing on to FTAs agree to abide by all the laws and regulations in the trade agreements — even if the laws of those countries say something different. And if there is a conflict, a foreign tribunal meets in secret to decide the issue. Thus, if Davis-Bacon or federal procurement laws conflict with the FTAs, the U.S. could be faced with having to change those laws or pay trade penalties until the laws are changed.

Wallach also explained that the proposed FTAs would permit foreign companies to bid on highway, bridge, energy, and other construction projects and bring their own work forces into the U.S. to do the work. Obviously, this would create unfair competition for U.S. workers. In addition, foreign employers who fail to comply with U.S. laws controlling safety, health, environmental, or other protections, could circumvent U.S. courts and plead their case directly to a foreign tribunal, Wallach noted.

Fortunately, said Wallach, new majorities in Congress should be able to fix the worst parts of the proposed agreements (initial talks with Peru and Panama have already been completed).

Wallach, who has appeared as a trade commentator on CNN, ABC, C-SPAN, and other media, also slammed fast track as a complete failure.

Fast track enables a president to negotiate trade deals and then send them to Congress for an up or down vote. Congress cannot negotiate any provisions of a fast track deal — it can only approve or reject the deal. Often these trade deals contain provisions that hurt American workers and infringe upon our laws as a sovereign nation, yet Congress has passed them anyway. Fast track deals have led to a widening economic gap between the rich and the middle and lower classes in the U.S., and have not helped poorer workers in developing countries, as fast track supporters claimed would happen.

“What our problem is here,” said Wallach, “is not fair trade per se. The question is: Under what rules? We have a whole set of trade rules now that have been written under a system that lets 500 big corporations, including a bunch of non-U.S. corporations, act as the official U.S. trade advisors. So is it shocking that we end up with crappy trade agreements? No! If we change the rules, and write them to our benefit, we can change the outcome.”

“‘Our union is on a good track’

IP NEWTON B. JONES updated delegates about where the Boilermakers union is headed. “Our union is on a good track,” he stated, citing the highly productive consolidated convention last year, in which delegates approved measures to strengthen the union’s finances and operations.

Jones briefly covered other topics, including the health of the national funds; a proposed new development site for the new Boilermakers’ office complex (about 15 miles west of the current headquarters); possible changes to the construction Boilermakers’ referral rules; a construction Boilermakers’ direct deposit initiative; the new Canadian travel card program; and the status of shipbuilding contracts.

He reported that the International Executive Council decided not to endorse a candidate for the U.S. presidency at this time, because candidates are still announcing. “But there is going to come a time when we need to make an endorsement or sit back, and I don’t think we’re the kind of organization that sits back,” he said. “We need to poll our membership and do some surveys.”

In a poignant moment, Government Affairs Department (GAD) Director Bridget Martin asked IP Jones to take back home to IP Emeritus C.W. Jones an award from the GAD in honor of his 65 years of service to the Boilermakers union. She then presented IP Newton Jones with his own award.

Conference wraps up, but work continues

BY THE END of the LEAP conference, delegates were concluding meetings with their congressmen on Capitol Hill (see related story on page 10) and heading back to their respective locals to share information with their lodge members.

Of course the work of the government affairs department and the local lodge legislative committees does not end once the conference is over. With the U.S. presidential race already heating up, the Boilermakers union will be evaluating candidates and considering who best will represent our interests — with the hope of a new direction for America in 2008.

“We have a whole set of trade rules now that have been written under a system that lets 500 big corporations... act as the official U.S. trade advisors.”

— Lori Wallach, director of Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch
**Lodge panelists describe political activity**

*Activists share insights into fund raising, campaigning*

FOUR BOILERMAKERS WHO are involved in their local lodge political action efforts shared their experiences with LEAP delegates by serving on a best practices panel March 11. The purpose of the panel was to pass on what works best and to identify challenges that must be overcome.

Mike Ventrone, vice president for Local 154 (Pittsburgh), said his lodge first got involved in CAF in 1993 under then BM-SM Michael Murphy. CAF stands for Campaign Assistance Fund, which is a voluntary fund-raising effort to support pro-worker candidates. No money can be drawn from dues or the lodge treasury for this purpose.

Ventrone said the lodge’s early efforts included a semi-annual $10 payroll deduction authorized voluntarily by the members. “Effective August 1, 2000, our participation reached a far greater level,” Ventrone stated. “When Local 154 Business Manager Raymond Ventronne negotiated a provision into our joint bargaining agreement which provided for a five-cent-per-hour paid employee contribution.” Since then, Local 154 has reached a voluntary participation level of 8 percent — just three non-participating members out of 1,500.

Local 154 was the top local lodge for CAF contributions in 2006, raising $58,421.

Panelist Len Gunderson, IR and president of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio), said his lodge became active in CAF and LEAP in 1999, and its bargaining unit members have access to payroll deduction forms for CAF. He had high praise for the International’s and the lodge’s efforts in supporting the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA). The lodge began supporting CAF by passing a resolution and having a delegate present at LEAP meetings. The lodge implemented a voluntary five-cents-per-hour check-off. In 2006, Local 29 raised $15,693 for CAF.

Panelist Joe Birolini, assistant business manager for Local 29 (Boston), said his lodge supported CAF. “We take this information home, and what we do at our local is we pass it on to our members and we get our apprentices involved and make sure they are registered to vote. Then we bring them into the office and put them on the International [LEAP] Web site. We ask them to send in a check on an issue that’s important to them. Then we take the membership and ask them to get involved in a campaign. There’s nothing like phone banking and getting involved in a national campaign to get your membership ready to go.”

Sparling described how his local catered a function for the Women’s Democratic Society in his area and met with the wife of senatorial candidate Sherrod Brown. He also talked about going on the campaign trail for Brown and Ted Strickland, who ran for governor in 2006. Both men won their races.

“None of these things would have been possible if it wasn’t for this conference and the people here [at LEAP],” Sparling said.

Panelist Joe Birolini, assistant business manager for Local 29 (Boston), said his lodge began supporting CAF by passing the hat at union meetings, but because many members don’t attend these meetings, the lodge implemented a voluntary five-cents-per-hour check-off. In 2006, Local 29 raised $515,693 for CAF.

Birolini said when his lodge passes out check-off forms at each new job site, one question that often comes up is, “What have the politicians done for us?” He related a story he shares with those members about how a pro-union congressman, the late Joe Moakley of Massachusetts, intervened on a massive Boston Harbor project that ultimately generated more than 60 Local 29 jobs and 50 NTL jobs for up to 15 months.

“Work in question — constructing dredges for sludge treatment — had initially gone to an out-of-state non-union company. It was only because Local 29 had a political ally in Joe Moakley, who then served as chair of the Rules Committee, that the local won the work.”

“Not only did it generate revenue for our members,” Birolini recalled, “But it also generated revenue for our great organization, it generated revenue for our local, and it generated revenue for CAF. Make no mistake; had it not been for CAF and LEAP, we would not have turned this job around. I look at CAF as an investment in the future.”

Panelist Len Gunderson, IR for the Great Lakes Section, also discussed objections that are often heard when asking for CAF or LEF donations. He praised the work of Bridget Martin and her staff, saying, “We are under serious attack. Your CAF and senators — yes, you can write letters and, yes, they may respond, but they will not directly give you the money you need without their [the government affairs department’s] services.”

Gunderson cautioned Boilermaker members to recognize that many election issues — abortion, gun rights, and gay rights, for example — are issues that are meant to distract voters from the real, job-related, meat and potatoes issues. A LEAP delegate from the floor supported Gunderson by noting that even though conservatives controlled Congress for 12 years, there was no serious effort to repeal Social Security. He asked how Wade or to make any other fundamental changes to hot button issues.

What the current administration is really about, Gunderson stated, is destroying or weakening programs like Social Security, Medicare, and OSHA. “They work to elect men and women who are willing to [defend and improve these programs].”

Gunderson went on to call for a renewed effort by local lodges to educate and reorganize their members so they understand all the obligations of belonging to a union — not just paying dues, but actively participating in union activities, including LEF and CAF.

---

**Four issues top LEAP agenda**

*Delegates focus on Free Choice Act, climate change, trade, and shipbuilding*

WHEN DELEGATES TO the annual LEAP conference visited their elected representatives this past March, they had a lot on their minds. But four issues were seen as especially important: the Employee Free Choice Act, climate change legislation, a new model for national defense, and U.S. shipbuilding. All of these issues are vital to Boilermaker jobs or to the ability of unions to compete in a global economy.

Here is a brief overview.

**Employee Free Choice Act**

A BIG REASON organized labor has been criticized is because the current system for forming unions is broken. Many employers insist that a secret election is the fairest way to determine if a union will represent employees. Then they coerce their employees into voting against a union. They often fire employees who lead organizing efforts. And they bring in union-breaking consultants who use dirty tricks to keep unions out.

Even when workers succeed in forming a union, their employer may drag out negotiations for a first contract until workers lose interest and the union is decertified.

These are problems the Employee Free Choice Act seeks to correct. The EFCA would permit workers to form their own union without having a secret ballot. All that workers need to create a union is to have a majority of the proposed bargaining unit sign authorization cards, which must be validated by the National Labor Relations Board.

**Climate change legislation**

CLIMATE CHANGE POSES an enormous challenge around the globe. It also presents a tremendous opportunity for Boilermakers in North America as the demand for pollution control measures and new energy technologies creates more jobs.

The Brotherhood supports the National Commission on Energy Policy’s “slow, stop, and reverse” proposal as a sensible first step in dealing with the problem. Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee, plans to introduce legislation based on the NCEP proposal. The bill would also encourage Bingaman’s legislation. The legislation calls for lowering our dependence on foreign oil by ramping up the use of renewable energy, investing more in biomass fuels, and offering incentives to companies that develop renewable energy sources and households that use them.

**A new model for fair trade**

THE BOILERMAKERS UNION believes the current U.S. trade policy is broken and has contributed not only to a staggering $754 billion trade deficit but to the loss of millions of American manufacturing jobs.

The fast track approach to trade deals — in which the president negotiates the agreement and Congress can only vote up or down vote, without any changes — must be replaced. We need a better negotiating and legislative process for trade.

While trade agreements must have enforceable protections of worker rights, not only in the U.S., but in all countries where we have trade agreements.

**U.S. shipbuilding and the defense industrial base**

FOR DECADES, THE Jones Act has fostered a competitive U.S. shipbuilding industry and job creation for thousands of U.S. workers. The Act states that ships engaging in coastwise trade — from one U.S. port to another, rather than engaging in international shipping — must meet several conditions. First, major structural components must be built in the United States; second, the ship must be assembled entirely in this country. The Act is intended to protect American shipbuilding capabilities, which are vital especially in times of war and other national emergencies.

However, recent decisions by the U.S. Coast Guard violate the spirit — if not the letter — of the “build American” requirements by allowing manufacturing of major components of a significant assembly of Jones Act vessels offshore.

Boilermaker delegates at the LEAP conference provided legislators with educational materials and recommendations about the Coast Guard’s poor performance in enforcing the “build American” requirements. At the urging of our union, 30 members of Congress are sending a letter to the Coast Guard criticizing its actions.
Some delegates visit a dozen or more congressmen.

IN THE BUSYLING U.S. House and Senate office buildings, more than 100 Boilermakers — some alone, but most in groups of three or four — hurry to their appointments with congressmen as part of the 2007 Legislative Education Action Program (LEAP) conference. Some of the delegates are first-timers, others are old hands. It is important work, and Boilermakers take it seriously. Before the meetings, delegates study talking points selected by the government affairs department. These are issues considered to be vital to the welfare of the Boilermakers union and its members. This year, the delegates focus on the Employee Free Choice Act, climate change legislation, U.S. shipbuilding, and fair trade. When meeting with congressmen, delegates explain why these issues are important to Boilermakers and attempt to build support.

Boyd meeting shows hectic pace

CONGRESSMEN OFTEN WORK under incredibly tight schedules, shuttling between their offices and the Capitol. In the office of first-term congresswoman Nancy Boyda (D-KS at-large), three delegates await her return from a House vote: Ron Carlborg and Keith Goughwell, the ironworkers and recording secretary of D93 (Humboldt, Kan.), and John Seward, a business representative with Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.). Rep. Boyda arrives nearly out of breath and ducks into a nearby room. She returns munching a granola bar, and offers a snack to the delegation.

“We want to thank you for voting in favor of the Employee Free Choice Act,” Goughwell tells the congresswoman, as the delegates begin working through each talking point. “I cosponsored that bill,” Boyda proudly replies.

Seward then addresses environmental issues and explains that new technology means cleaner-burning coal and less airborne particulate, not only from building new plants and doing retrofits, but from manufacturing boilers and components as well.

The delegates hit all of their points before thanking Boyda again and heading off to their next meeting. It is not uncommon for delegates to meet with a dozen congressmen or more during LEAP week.

“I got really reamed out...”

THE TRAPPINGS OF CONGRESSIONAL seniority are apparent in the office of 18-term Rep. Don Young (R-AK at-large). Young’s accommodations include a spacious main office adorned with trophy mounts of deer, elk, and antelope, an ornate rug and native Alaskan art. Delegates from Local 502 (Tacoma, Wash.) — BM-ST Randy Robbins, President Bruce Burge, and LEAP chairman Richard Jones — discuss issues with an aide while waiting for Young to return from the Capitol. Jones’ wife, Cheryl, also sits in.

After a few minutes, Young appears and shakes hands with the delegates before taking a seat behind his desk. He is a large, gruff politician who gets down to business quickly. Robbins thanks the congressman for his vote on the Employee Free Choice Act. “I got really reamed out for that one buddy!” Young replies, reminding the delegation that he was one of only 13 Republicans who supported the bill.

Young has taken labor’s side on other issues, too, voting against NAFTA and CAFTA. Listening intently as Burke discusses recent attacks on the Jones Act (which protects American shipbuilding), Young suddenly turns to his aide. “We will write a letter inquiring what is going on,” he says. “I’m one of the strongest supporters of the Jones Act.”

While Young has been an important advocate for issues such as the Jones Act and climate change issues, the topic of global climate change instantly raises his hackles. He launches into a discussion of historical glacial change and oil formation, making it clear that this is one area where he will take a position opposing the union’s stance.

Congressman races to vote

THE WASHINGTON STATE delegation crowds into the office of Rep. Dave Reichert (R-WA 8th). The corridor includes Local 502 (Tacoma), Local 104 (Seattle), and Local 290 (Bremerton).

Reichert returns after voting in the House but is quickly called back for another vote. Although he doesn’t have much time, Reichert stays to speak with the delegates. The minutes tick down rapidly as the Boilermakers make their points.

This [the Jones Act] is one that we can make a phone call on, Reichert says. “We’ll do something right away.”

One of Reichert’s aides returns every two minutes to report on how much time is left on the House vote. Finally, Reichert excuses himself and dashes down the hall on his way to the Capitol.

“We want no part of Colombia”

IN THE OFFICE of first-term congressman Phil Hare (D-IL 17th), a contingent from Illinois meets with Amanda Perez, senior legislative assistant for the congressman. The Illinois delegation includes Joe Brice, a retiree from Local 483 (Alton); Kevin Reatherford, secretary-treasurer; and Randall Ericson, a Boilermaker at large. One of their stops is the office of Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO 7th), who is serving his first term in Congress. However, Perlmutter is not in his office. He is in the next building, attending a Financial Services Committee meeting. Amazingly, Perlmutter’s legislative assistant, Alec Garrett, offers to escort the Fernandez family to where the congressman is meeting. After a brisk walk, the aide enters a meeting room and returns with Rep. Perlmutter. Standing in the busy hallway, Gary Fernandez and his two daughters get Perlmutter’s full attention. It is a lesson in civics that the young Fernandez ladies will long remember.

Boilermaker daughters lobby, too

AS GARY FERNANDEZ, a dispatcher for Local 101 (Denver), goes on his lobbying trips, he brings along some extra help: his daughters, Amanda, 16, and Shannon, 14. One of their stops is the office of Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO 7th), who is serving his first term in Congress. However, Perlmutter is not in his office. He is in the next building, attending a Financial Services Committee meeting. Amazingly, Perlmutter’s legislative assistant, Alec Garrett, offers to escort the Fernandez family to where the congressman is meeting. After a brisk walk, the aide enters a meeting room and returns with Rep. Perlmutter. Standing in the busy hallway, Gary Fernandez and his two daughters get Perlmutter’s full attention. It is a lesson in civics that the young Fernandez ladies will long remember.

Boilermakers lobby Capitol Hill

IN THE OFFICE of Rep. Candice Miller (R-MI 10th), a delegation from Local 169 (Detroit) talks with one of Miller’s aides, Sean Moran, about trade issues while waiting for the congresswoman to return from the Capitol. “Michigan is getting killed on these trade agreements,” Moran acknowledges.

The Local 169 contingent couldn’t agree more. It includes President Mike Card; business agents Jim Kajenberger and Bob Hutself; and PAC committee member Bill Wibby. Miller soon returns to her office, and the discussion turns to climate change.

“This [the Jones Act] is one that we can make a phone call on,” Reichert says. “We’ll do something right away.”

One of Reichert’s aides returns every two minutes to report on how much time is left on the House vote. Finally, Reichert excuses himself and dashes down the hall on his way to the Capitol.

“We want no part of Colombia”

IN THE OFFICE of first-term congressman Phil Hare (D-IL 17th), a contingent from Illinois meets with Amanda Perez, senior legislative assistant for the congressman. The Illinois delegation includes Joe Brice, a retiree from Local 483 (Alton); Kevin Reatherford, secretary-treasurer; and Randall Ericson, a Boilermaker at large. One of their stops is the office of Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO 7th), who is serving his first term in Congress. However, Perlmutter is not in his office. He is in the next building, attending a Financial Services Committee meeting. Amazingly, Perlmutter’s legislative assistant, Alec Garrett, offers to escort the Fernandez family to where the congressman is meeting. After a brisk walk, the aide enters a meeting room and returns with Rep. Perlmutter. Standing in the busy hallway, Gary Fernandez and his two daughters get Perlmutter’s full attention. It is a lesson in civics that the young Fernandez ladies will long remember.

Boilermakers lobby Capitol Hill

IN THE OFFICE of Rep. Candice Miller (R-MI 10th), a delegation from Local 169 (Detroit) talks with one of Miller’s aides, Sean Moran, about trade issues while waiting for the congresswoman to return from the Capitol. “Michigan is getting killed on these trade agreements,” Moran acknowledges.

The Local 169 contingent couldn’t agree more. It includes President Mike Card; business agents Jim Kajenberger and Bob Hutself; and PAC committee member Bill Wibby. Miller soon returns to her office, and the discussion turns to climate change.

“This [the Jones Act] is one that we can make a phone call on,” Reichert says. “We’ll do something right away.”

One of Reichert’s aides returns every two minutes to report on how much time is left on the House vote. Finally, Reichert excuses himself and dashes down the hall on his way to the Capitol.

“We want no part of Colombia”
Boilermakers receive awards for CAF, LEF support

Boilermakers who excelled at raising money for CAF and LEF in 2006 received recognition during the annual LEAP conference in Washington, D.C., March 13. International President Newton B. Jones presented crystal “capital dome” awards to vice-presidential sections and individual local lodges for exceptional performance.

CAF stands for Campaign Assistance Fund. It is the only way our union can contribute money to those running for political office. Because CAF is a political action committee (PAC) fund, donations to it are completely voluntary. CAF money cannot come from a lodge’s treasury or dues; it can only come from donations or fund-raising activities. And only active and retired Boilermakers, and their immediate families, may give.

The LEAP conference recognized the Northeast Section (IP Newton Jones and IVP Larry McManamon) with $142,930, with 143 locals out of 272 participating. Conference delegates raise money, too.

DELEGATES TO EACH LEAP conference get an up-close look at politics. One thing they quickly learn is the road to elected office carries a high price tag. Getting good pro-worker candidates in office — and keeping them there — requires all the financial help we can muster. And maintaining a strong Boilermaker presence on Capitol Hill also requires resources. With that understanding, delegates take the opportunity of making on-the-spot donations at each conference. This year, they raised $42,773 for CAF.

Allen Phillips, Local 455 (Sheffield, Ala.), contributed another $200, from the proceeds of his shirt sales. And some delegates made check presentations from their lodge CAF and LEF fund-raisers in person at the conference.

Nearly all of the locals forwarding large contributions have included a CAF payroll deduction in their contracts. Payroll deductions are the easiest way to raise money. Most people hardly notice a payroll deduction of $2 a week. Yet donating a couple of dollars a week to CAF can raise more than $100 over a year’s time.

And every dollar is put to good use, supporting pro-worker candidates. To learn how to begin contributing to CAF and how to include a voluntary CAF payroll check-off clause in a contract, call the government affairs department at 703-560-1493.

Boilermakers make contributions to:

- Legislative Education Action Program (LEAP) for legislative education
- Political Action Committee (PAC) for federal office

Because CAF is a political action committee, the board of directors at 703-560-1493.

CAF stands for Campaign Assistance Fund. It is the only way our union can contribute money to those running for political office. Because CAF is a political action committee (PAC) fund, donations to it are completely voluntary. CAF money cannot come from a lodge’s treasury or dues; it can only come from donations or fund-raising activities. And only active and retired Boilermakers, and their immediate families, may give.

CAF contributions have included a CAF payroll deduction per month from the lodge’s treasury. Of course, lodges may contribute more than that if they wish, and some lodges were contributing a higher amount before the constitutional change.

The award for the highest CAF contribution for a section in 2006 went to the Southeast (IP Larry McManamon), with $16,481 raised in 2006 compared to $5,065 in 2005. Great Lakes also won for most improved local, raising money for CAF and LEF in 2006.

Nearly all of the locals forwarding large contributions have included a CAF payroll deduction in their contracts. Payroll deductions are the easiest way to raise money. Most people hardly notice a payroll deduction of $2 a week. Yet donating a couple of dollars a week to CAF can raise more than $100 over a year’s time.

And every dollar is put to good use, supporting pro-worker candidates. To learn how to begin contributing to CAF and how to include a voluntary CAF payroll check-off clause in a contract, call the government affairs department at 703-560-1493.

Top 10 Local Lodge CAF and LEF Contributors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local 154 Pittsburgh</td>
<td>$58,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 105 Chillicothe, Ohio</td>
<td>$37,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 744 Cleveland</td>
<td>$32,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 13 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$24,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 193 Baltimore</td>
<td>$16,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 29 Boston</td>
<td>$15,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 5 New York</td>
<td>$14,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 108 Birmingham, Ala.</td>
<td>$11,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 1 Chicago</td>
<td>$10,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 92 Los Angeles</td>
<td>$8,656</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top 10 locals donating to CAF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local 105 Chillicothe, Ohio</td>
<td>$37,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 744 Cleveland</td>
<td>$32,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 13 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$24,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 193 Baltimore</td>
<td>$16,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 29 Boston</td>
<td>$15,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 5 New York</td>
<td>$14,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 108 Birmingham, Ala.</td>
<td>$11,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 1 Chicago</td>
<td>$10,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 92 Los Angeles</td>
<td>$8,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 40 Elizabethtown, Ky.</td>
<td>$11,815</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top 10 locals donating to LEF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local 105 Chillicothe, Ohio</td>
<td>$3,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 13 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$2,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 693 Pascagoula, Miss.</td>
<td>$1,701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 105 Chillicothe, Ohio</td>
<td>$1,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 105 Pres. Wyndham Sparling</td>
<td>$1,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local 455 Sheffield, Ala.</td>
<td>$1,223</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The NTL received the award for the most improved LEF contribution by a local. L. to r., IR Ronny Vanscoy, ABR Michael Dietrich, and IP Newton Jones.

The NTL received the award for the most improved LEF contribution by a local. L. to r., IR Ronny Vanscoy, ABR Michael Dietrich, and IP Newton Jones.

Local 744 receives the award for the highest CAF contribution per member. L. to r., IP Newton Jones, Patrick Lyon, Jim McManamon, and IVP Larry McManamon.

L-40’s William Link and Michael Autry (2nd and 3rd from left) accept award for highest LEF contribution by a local from IP Jones and IVP Sam May.

Top LEF donors recognized

THE BOILERMAKERS Legislative Education Fund (LEF) pays for virtually all Boilermaker political education activities. This fund can make use of dues money, since the purpose of LEF is education. Convention delegates approved a constitutional change in 2006 that requires all U.S. lodges to contribute at least 25 cents per member per month from the lodge’s treasury. Of course, lodges may contribute more than that if they wish, and some lodges were contributing a higher amount before the constitutional change.

For the third time, Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) won the award for the highest contribution by a local, with $11,815. The award for most improved section went to the Great Lakes (IP Larry McManamon), with $16,481 raised in 2006, compared to $11,153 in 2005.

The NTL (Maumee, Ohio) won the award for most improved LEF contributions by a local, with $4,000 raised in 2006 compared to $0 in 2005.

CAF is a political action committee, the board of directors at 703-560-1493.

CAF stands for Campaign Assistance Fund. It is the only way our union can contribute money to those running for political office. Because CAF is a political action committee (PAC) fund, donations to it are completely voluntary. CAF money cannot come from a lodge’s treasury or dues; it can only come from donations or fund-raising activities. And only active and retired Boilermakers, and their immediate families, may give.

CAF contributions have included a CAF payroll deduction per month from the lodge’s treasury. Of course, lodges may contribute more than that if they wish, and some lodges were contributing a higher amount before the constitutional change.

The award for the highest LEF contribution for a section in 2006 went to the Southeast (IP Larry McManamon), with $16,481 raised in 2006 compared to $5,065 in 2005. Great Lakes also won for most improved section for CAF contributions.

Retirees contributed a total of $130,108 to CAF in 2006, including $124,559 from the National Pension Trust; $5,882 from the Officers & Employees Pension Plan; and $467 from a letter campaign. International staff and officers contributed another $41,803.

In all, Boilermakers donated $490,211 to CAF in 2006, with just 59 locals out of 272 participating.

In all, Boilermakers donated $490,211 to CAF in 2006, with just 59 locals out of 272 participating.

Stop BOILERMAKERS WHO EXCELS at raising money for CAF and LEF in 2006 received recognition during the annual LEAP conference in Washington, D.C., March 13. International President Newton B. Jones presented crystal “capital dome” awards to vice-presidential sections and individual local lodges for exceptional performance.

CAF stands for Campaign Assistance Fund. It is the only way our union can contribute money to those running for political office. Because CAF is a political action committee (PAC) fund, donations to it are completely voluntary. CAF money cannot come from a lodge’s treasury or dues; it can only come from donations or fund-raising activities. And only active and retired Boilermakers, and their immediate families, may give.

The LEAP conference recognized the Northeast Section (IP Newton Jones and IVP Larry McManamon) with $142,930, with 143 locals out of 272 participating. Conference delegates raise money, too.

DELEGATES TO EACH LEAP conference get an up-close look at politics. One thing they quickly learn is the road to elected office carries a high price tag. Getting good pro-worker candidates in office — and keeping them there — requires all the financial help we can muster. And maintaining a strong Boilermaker presence on Capitol Hill also requires resources. With that understanding, delegates take the opportunity of making on-the-spot donations at each conference. This year, they raised $42,773 for CAF.

Allen Phillips, Local 455 (Sheffield, Ala.), contributed another $200, from the proceeds of his shirt sales. And some delegates made check presentations from their lodge CAF and LEF fund-raisers in person at the conference.

In all, donations made during the conference totaled $20,879 for CAF and $7,830 for LEF.
Reception welcomes government officials, employer representatives, labor leaders

IT IS THE largest gala event hosted by the Brotherhood each year — the Legislative Education Action Program (LEAP) reception in Washington, D.C. At the event, Boilermaker delegates mingle with some of the most influential politicians on Capitol Hill as well as representatives from government agencies, employers, and leaders from various labor bodies.

Although the reception has the trappings of a formal social gathering, there is much more to it than that. Here, delegates have an opportunity to begin relationships — or build on existing ones — with legislators whose votes are needed to support Boilermaker issues. When delegates lobby in the halls of Congress, they do so in a business-like setting. The reception offers a much more relaxed atmosphere.

As congressional representatives arrive, they are announced, and delegates from their state or district meet them for photographs. Delegates then escort the representatives into the ballroom for refreshments and conversation.

Now in its 39th year, the LEAP conference has hosted many such receptions. The government affairs department handles the arrangements and sends out invitations. This year, one of the conference speakers, Dr. Tom Barrett, a leadership consultant to Congress, remarked on the LEAP reception’s impressive attendance: “That is a tremendous, fabulous turnout. That speaks well of you and the respect they [congressional representatives] have for you.”
members of Congress
Local 40 participates in joint training course

Boilermaker and Operating Engineer apprentices get valuable hands-on experience through mobile crane certification course

SIXTEEN APPRENTICES from Boilermakers Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) and three apprentices from Operating Engineers Local 181 (Boston, Ky.) participated in the first-ever joint Boilermaker/Operating Engineers apprenticeship program on Feb. 8.

Using the Operating Engineers’ mobile crane certification course as a training module, each signalman (boilermaker apprentice) had to direct a crane operator to move a 2,000-pound weight through a zig-zag pattern of balusters (supports). The exercise involved precise signaling, requiring that the weight not touch the balusters or the ground, and that it not be lifted higher than two feet. As visual aids, tennis balls were placed on top of each baluster. The balls were not to be knocked off by the weight. In addition, a two-foot chain was attached to the bottom of the weight. The participants had to make sure the end of the chain never left the ground during the exercise.

Boilermaker apprentices practiced on three courses with different types of rigs and different apprentice operators. “It was truly a great learning experience in realizing how different operators and rigs react to the signals given,” said L-40 instructor L. D. Smith.

In the afternoon session, Boilermaker apprentices operated a Manitowoc crane training simulator to experience exactly what the operator sees and feels inside the rig’s cab. To help learn boom deflection theory, they watched a Bucyrus Erie 50-ton crawler lift its 120-foot boom to the ground. They then toured the inside of a friction drum rig to gain a better understanding of how a friction crane operates.

“The Local 40 apprentices said this training exercise was one of the best hands-on experiences they have encountered during their 576 hours of classroom training,” said L-40 instructor Rick Hope. Hope and Smith join fellow Local 40 instructors Jeff Everly and Terry Barnes in thanking Junnie Pennington, the Operating Engineers Local 181 site manager/instructor — and his fourth-year apprenticeship class — for this joint training exercise. Plans are being made to continue this valuable and successful joint training experience in the future.

L-175 apprentice receives Bronze Star

Taylor uses his body to shield unprotected officers from exploding bomb

RYAN TAYLOR, 30, is now an apprentice working out of Local 175 in Oswego, N.Y., through the Helmets-2-Hardhats program. He is also an Army Reserve sergeant who returned last year from duty in Afghanistan, where he risked his life to save others. In January, he was awarded the Army’s fourth-highest combat award for bravery — the Bronze Star Medal with a “V” for valor. Taylor refused to accept the next-highest award, the Silver Star, as this medal was given to soldiers he had known who died in action.

On Feb. 22, 2006, just two days after Taylor’s 29th birthday, he and other members of his company were searching for roadside bombs in Afghanistan. The search team also included military police, Air Force, Army intelligence personnel, and Afghan national police officers. He and his company were providing security at a suspected remote-controlled bomb site. Taylor was in full protective battle gear, but near him stood members of the Afghan national police, wearing only flannel shirts. About 15 yards away, a bomb exploded. Taylor used his body to first shield the unprotected officer nearest him while simultaneously hurling himself and both officers in a ditch to ensure their safety.

“I debris hit me and not them. It probably would have killed them,” he said. Taylor sustained no serious injuries.

Taylor came home two months later to his wife, Andrea, and three children (the youngest was born while he was serving duty in Afghanistan).

The Bronze Star is now displayed with his 10 other medals at his parent’s house. When asked if he would go back and do it again, he doesn’t hesitate to mail a positive response. But he wants people to know one thing: “A lot of good guys don’t make it. They don’t come home. That’s what gets me, and I want people to remember that.”

L-40 apprentice James Roe flags the load through the crane certification course. (The chain attached to the bottom of the load cannot leave the ground during the exercise.)

Steven Kotyuk receives first Joshua A. Terando Apprentice of the Year Award

Local 1 names award for apprentice killed in Iraq

CHICAGO LOCAL 1 BM-ST John J. Skermont announces the presentation of the first annual Joshua A. Terando Apprentice of the Year Award to Steven Kotyuk. The annual award for the highest ranking Local 1 apprentice was named in honor of a Local 1 apprentice killed in action in Iraq.

Terando was a Local 1 sixth-period apprentice when he was recalled to active duty from the individual ready reserves to fight in Iraq. A sergeant in the Army Rangers, Terando was assigned to the elite Quick Reaction Force. According to L-1 VP Robert Schwartz, “Josh was assigned as a section leader because of his leadership excellence and great tactical mind. During one mission, he placed himself between a wounded soldier and enemy fire, disregarding his own safety to aid a wounded comrade.”

Just three weeks later, on Nov. 10, 2005, Terando was fatally struck by enemy gunfire while providing security for members of his platoon from the roof top of an old factory building.

“He represented everything that is good with humanity, and died protecting his fellow soldiers in an attempt to make the world a better place,” Schwartz said. “He was the leader of his class, and truly a hero for all of us.”

Local 1 BM-ST John J. Skermont presents the first annual Joshua A. Terando Apprentice of the Year Award to Steven Kotyuk. L. to r.: Robert Schwartz, vice president; Jerry Terando, L-60 retiree and Joshua’s dad; Kotyuk; John J. Benz, president; and Skermont.
Local 587 wins national NACBE safety award

Orange, Texas, lodge works without injury in 2006

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of Construction Boilermaker Employers (NACBE) presented its annual safety awards to the 2006 top-performing locals from the Boilermakers’ five U.S. vice-presidential areas March 5 during the annual Construction Division conference at Marco Island, Fla.

Local 587 (Orange, Texas), representing the South and Central area, took national honors with zero lost-time accidents, zero compensable injuries, and zero OSHA-recordable injuries.

Boilermakers recommend Missouri fire district for computer training grant

Kearney Fire Department receives $6,479 award

FIRE FIGHTERS IN the community of Kearney, Mo., just north of Kansas City, will receive some computer training modules courtesy of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. and a recommendation by IST Bill Creeden.

On March 16, the company presented the fire district with a $6,479 check through the Fireman’s Fund Heritage program. The program supports fire departments nationwide with grants calculated on the value of policies written by its agents. The international agent, Chris DeCaigny, president of the Union Insurance Group, applied for the grant and asked IST Creeden to recommend a deserving fire department. Creeden and DeCaigny were among those on hand to present the check.

Boilermakers recommend Missouri fire district for computer training grant

Kearney Fire Department receives $6,479 award

FIRE FIGHTERS IN the community of Kearney, Mo., just north of Kansas City, will receive some computer training modules courtesy of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. and a recommendation by IST Bill Creeden.

On March 16, the company presented the fire district with a $6,479 check through the Fireman’s Fund Heritage program. The program supports fire departments nationwide with grants calculated on the value of policies written by its agents. The international agent, Chris DeCaigny, president of the Union Insurance Group, applied for the grant and asked IST Creeden to recommend a deserving fire department. Creeden and DeCaigny were among those on hand to present the check.

Boilermakers recommend Missouri fire district for computer training grant

Kearney Fire Department receives $6,479 award

FIRE FIGHTERS IN the community of Kearney, Mo., just north of Kansas City, will receive some computer training modules courtesy of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. and a recommendation by IST Bill Creeden.

On March 16, the company presented the fire district with a $6,479 check through the Fireman’s Fund Heritage program. The program supports fire departments nationwide with grants calculated on the value of policies written by its agents. The international agent, Chris DeCaigny, president of the Union Insurance Group, applied for the grant and asked IST Creeden to recommend a deserving fire department. Creeden and DeCaigny were among those on hand to present the check.

Boilermakers recommend Missouri fire district for computer training grant

Kearney Fire Department receives $6,479 award

FIRE FIGHTERS IN the community of Kearney, Mo., just north of Kansas City, will receive some computer training modules courtesy of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. and a recommendation by IST Bill Creeden.

On March 16, the company presented the fire district with a $6,479 check through the Fireman’s Fund Heritage program. The program supports fire departments nationwide with grants calculated on the value of policies written by its agents. The international agent, Chris DeCaigny, president of the Union Insurance Group, applied for the grant and asked IST Creeden to recommend a deserving fire department. Creeden and DeCaigny were among those on hand to present the check.

Boilermakers recommend Missouri fire district for computer training grant

Kearney Fire Department receives $6,479 award

FIRE FIGHTERS IN the community of Kearney, Mo., just north of Kansas City, will receive some computer training modules courtesy of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. and a recommendation by IST Bill Creeden.

On March 16, the company presented the fire district with a $6,479 check through the Fireman’s Fund Heritage program. The program supports fire departments nationwide with grants calculated on the value of policies written by its agents. The international agent, Chris DeCaigny, president of the Union Insurance Group, applied for the grant and asked IST Creeden to recommend a deserving fire department. Creeden and DeCaigny were among those on hand to present the check.

Boilermakers recommend Missouri fire district for computer training grant

Kearney Fire Department receives $6,479 award

FIRE FIGHTERS IN the community of Kearney, Mo., just north of Kansas City, will receive some computer training modules courtesy of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. and a recommendation by IST Bill Creeden.

On March 16, the company presented the fire district with a $6,479 check through the Fireman’s Fund Heritage program. The program supports fire departments nationwide with grants calculated on the value of policies written by its agents. The international agent, Chris DeCaigny, president of the Union Insurance Group, applied for the grant and asked IST Creeden to recommend a deserving fire department. Creeden and DeCaigny were among those on hand to present the check.

Boilermakers recommend Missouri fire district for computer training grant

Kearney Fire Department receives $6,479 award

FIRE FIGHTERS IN the community of Kearney, Mo., just north of Kansas City, will receive some computer training modules courtesy of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co. and a recommendation by IST Bill Creeden.

On March 16, the company presented the fire district with a $6,479 check through the Fireman’s Fund Heritage program. The program supports fire departments nationwide with grants calculated on the value of policies written by its agents. The international agent, Chris DeCaigny, president of the Union Insurance Group, applied for the grant and asked IST Creeden to recommend a deserving fire department. Creeden and DeCaigny were among those on hand to present the check.
Z Machine

continued from page 1

ermaker contractor, CBI Services Inc. (one of only three union contractors at the nonunion site), to increase precision for high quality data and shot capacity. CBI’s responsibility included detail engineering, procurement, fabrication, and field installation of the redesigned Z Machine’s structural components.

After demolition, all that remained of the tank were the floor and wall. When new construction began, Boilermakers cored over 700 holes in the tank floor (varying from 7/8 inch to 1 3/4 inches in diameter), and cut nearly 50 large rectangular sections (the greatest size equaling six-feet, eight-inches square) from the floor. These holes and cuts were part of the refurbishing plan for the additional structural reinforcement to the base of the tank, as well as to tie the tank floor to the substructure. In the past, Z Machine operators had watched the entire tank (filled with water, oil, and hardware) jump off its base during operation. Boilermakers also strengthened the substructure with I-beams to account for the seismic loading of the tank during operation.

Once the substructure and tank floor modifications were complete, NTL and Local 4 members erected a new oil/water separation wall. This wall is supported by an HSS tube steel base ring that required 54 field-machined leveling base plates.

Installation of the panels was critical. Eighteen 3.5-ton panels had to be installed to within a 1/8 inch tolerance in elevation and orientation. The panels measured 16 feet in height and eight feet in width. Each panel had two 6.5-foot diameter flanges that had to line up with each other to within 1/8 inch. Boilermakers held these tight tolerances by establishing a welding sequence that maintained uniform weld shrinkage throughout the entire circumference. They monitored wall movement by setting up a total station (a device that determines angles and distances from the instrument to points to be surveyed in the exact center of the tank). To maintain each panel’s orientation, the Boilermakers used turnbuckles, angle irons, and wedges during the welding process. As a result, they observed a total of only three-fourths inch in wall diameter shrinkage.

The oil/water wall had the most stringent construction tolerances of this project. Other new construction included a post and beam H-frame structure around the tank circumference, 36 I-beams that supported pulse power equipment, a new center mezzanine, and an elevated walkway and platform system.

Members installed 260 tons of steel using the building’s 20-ton overhead crane. They put in nearly 4,200 linear feet of stainless steel weld metal and 4,500 linear feet of carbon steel weld metal. Approximately 90 percent of the stainless weld seams were fluid contained welds that required 100 percent Liquid Penetrant (PT) and 100 percent vacuum box (VT) examination. Odd weld seam configurations required a designing and building roughly 25 different vacuum box chambers for testing.

AIP Gary Evenson, who serves as Local 4’s assistant to the trustee, said: “With the cooperation between CBI acting project manager John Baer, the NTL, and the Sandia Lab, we were able to complete this project to everyone’s satisfaction. Boilermakers don’t get to work on projects like the Z Machine every day. We are very proud of the Local 4 members who were dispatched in support of this job.”

NTL BM-ST Wil Hinojosa was also grateful for the support he received from CBI Services, Sandia Lab, and Local 4. “The successful completion of this project is an example of what can be accomplished when all three entities — the owner, the employer, and labor — work together and pull in the same direction,” he said.

The Sandia National Laboratory is a multi-program facility operated by the Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin company, for the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration. Sandia researchers hope to continue the recent success of the Z Machine’s high-yield peacetime fusion. The improvements at Sandia will help support our national weapons program as well as provide research toward possible high-yield peacetime fusion.

Above: Members use a total station (in tank center) to monitor wall movement as they rebuild the Z Machine at the Sandia National Laboratory.

“Th...
Local 30 members work on projects for Seattle-based PSF

Boilermakers erect four absorber vessels of North Carolina steam station

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 30, Greensboro, N.C., have been working on several projects in their home state for Seattle-based PSF Industries Inc. Their work for PSF is near completion at the Belews Creek Steam Station in Belews Creek, N.C., where they are erecting four 317 LMN absorber vessels for a flue gas desulphurization project.

According to PSF project manager Tim Schwartz, who is a member of Local 502 (Tacoma, Wash.), the job is over half-way done and is on schedule. He says the members have a great safety record and perform quality work.

“We have received great support and cooperation from Local 30 Business Manager Chuck Chapman,” Schwartz said. He wants to recognize the efforts of the Boilermaker leadership team, as well as the crew, for these projects: Rick Cowell (L-502); Harlan Hinkston (L-30); Adrian Hemby (L-30); Cody Hollinger (L-30); Bill Forbach (L-549, Pittsburg, Calif.); and Grant Metz (L-11, Helena, Mont.). “This is our second of three or four consecutive projects in North Carolina, and the teamwork with the local has been, and will continue to be, our key to joint success.”

The projects are being performed under a special Market Recovery Contract negotiated by PSF’s Stan Miller, NTD Director Bill Almond, and L-30 BM-ST Chapman. “Even though the contract allows employment of 50 percent NTL Boilermakers, Schwartz chose to employ nearly 100 percent Local 30 Boilermakers,” Chapman said. “Schwartz has been good to work with and is very understanding about the importance of this work for Local 30 members. I want to thank our members who are working these projects for their exceptional performance and support of our home lodge.”

Local 242 builds giant eggs in Washington

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 242 (Spokane, Wash.) are working with CBI Services Inc. to build two 2.8-million-gallon, egg-shaped digesters — one of the most efficient and cost-effective anaerobic systems for sludge treatment. Their shape and liquid mixing system help reduce scum, grit build-ups, and dead zones. When completed at the end of the summer, the 89-foot-wide digesters will stand 112-feet tall along the banks of the Spokane River at the Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility. Pictured above, l. to r., are: front row, Neal Davis, John Hess, Frank Maravilla, and Justin Reardon; and back row, Jeff Weger, Jeff Voss, Dan Thiessen, Kevin Beaumann, Bob Bergan, Alex Burnov, Aaron Dirks, James Dennis, and Mark Keffeler.

KUDOS

L-128 at Timmins Kiddmet

WE WOULD LIKE to thank and commend the Boilermaker crew that Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario) dispatched to the Timmins Kiddmet site last spring.

Day after day, without exception, this group of Boilermakers produced an excellent quality of work. Their cooperative attitude, friendly manner, and willingness to work left behind a very good impression.

The dedication and professionalism shown by this group under some very difficult situations earned the respect of all who observed.

According to our Falconbridge contact on site, “This was the best crew we’ve ever seen working on our site — safety, skill, and attitude wise.”

We believe that this customer now realizes the benefit in using a union contractor for this sort of work, and they recognize the benefit that Alstom and the Boilermakers brought to their site. What else can be said other than we appreciate the efforts of all the Boilermakers involved on this contract, it was a pleasure to work with these people and we thank all of you for your excellent work.

LARRY STE. CROIX, construction supervisor
BRUCE NAIM, project manager
MARTY ALBRIGHT, EHS labour relations manager

“This was the best crew we’ve ever seen working on our site — safety, skill, and attitude wise.”
L-483 makes seven-year pact at Wood River

Ten unions agree to contract extension; company makes plans for $1 billion expansion

OIL WORKERS AT THE Wood River Refinery in Roxana, Ill., achieved a milestone this March when all 10 unions agreed to a seven-year contract extension with the owner, Conoco-Phillips.

“I can’t tell you how unheard of this is,” said Intl. Rep. Bill Staggs, referring to the contract’s long length. He said most contracts in the refining industry are for only three years.

Staggs was president of Local 483, Alton, Ill., during most of the negotiations. When he became an IR, Jerome Tobin was elected president of Local 483, just one of the 10 unions that together represent over 500 of the 800 workers at the refinery.

Tobin was able to participate in the negotiations as they neared completion. He reported that the contract extension was signed March 12.

“It [the extension] becomes effective June 1, 2007, and will run through May 31, 2014,” Tobin said. “And it includes a pay raise of 3.7 percent in the first year alone.” Wage increases in the remaining contract years will be based on the national average of other U.S. refineries.

Jay Hawley, human resources manager of Conoco-Phillips, praised the agreement, calling it “outstanding.” He commented that when he first started at the refinery, he heard that working with the unions might be tough; but, he said, “It’s been a pleasure.”

“The contract length creates long-term job security for the workers,” Staggs added, “and frees up the company to concentrate on its expansion plan.”

Conoco is the second-largest refiner in the United States, and its Roxana plant is the 10th-largest in the nation. They currently produce 306,000 barrels of refined petroleum products per day and plan to increase the daily production by 100,000 barrels through an expansion at the Roxana location. Conoco will invest $1 billion at the 2,500-acre plant over a period of years. They are planning to convert their production to refining heavy Canadian crude oil through a venture they are entering with Encana, a Canadian corporation.

Rep. Dan Beiser in a display of solidarity following the signing of a seven-year contract extension at the Conoco-Phillips refinery in Roxana, Ill.

New contract summaries

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

Local M3 — Cleveland
Effective Jan. 2, 2007 to Jan. 4, 2009, for 20 members of Local M3, Cleveland, who work at the Kelly Plating Co.

Local 5 — New York

Local 19 — Philadelphia

Local D50 — Catskill, N.Y.
Effective Jan. 1, 2007 to Dec. 31, 2009, for 114 members of Local D50, Catskill, N.Y., who work in the production, maintenance, and clerical departments at St. Lawrence Cement, a leading producer and supplier of products and services to the construction industry, including cement, concrete, aggregates, and construction.

Local 104 — Seattle
Effective Dec. 1, 2006 to Dec. 1, 2009, for six members of Local 104, Seattle, who work at Ace Galvanizing, a hot dip galvanizer serving the Pacific Northwest and Alaska; effective July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2009, for six Local 104 members who perform small vessel repairs at Fishing Vessel Owners Marine Ways; effective Nov. 1, 2006 to Oct. 31, 2007, for two Local 104 members who perform ship repair in the Marine Division of Lincoln Industrial Corp., and effective July 31, 2006 to July 31, 2009, for 20 Local 104 members who work at Walashek Industrial & Marine, the largest provider of services to marine propulsion boilers in the United States.

Local 132 — Galveston, Texas
Effective Feb. 1, 2007 to Jan. 31, 2010, for 21 members of Local 132, Galveston, Texas, who make pressure vessels at Farmer’s Marine Copper Works Inc.

Local 146 — Edmonton, Alberta
Effective Nov. 28, 2006 to March 31, 2010, for 12 members of Local 146, Edmonton, Alberta, who work in fabrication at TIW Western Inc., a supplier of oil field steam generators and heat recovery steam generators.

Local 182 — Salt Lake City
Effective Jan. 12, 2007 to Dec. 31, 2009, for three members of Local 182, Salt Lake City, who fabricate steel pressure vessels, silos, bins, and hoppers at the Eaton Metal Products Co.

Local 199 — Jacksonville, Fla.

Local D328 — Cheektowaga, N.Y.

LaFarge North America is the largest diversified supplier of construction materials in the U.S. and Canada. They produce and sell cement, ready-mixed concrete, gypsum wallboard, aggregates, asphalt, and related products and services.

Local D361 — Nelson, Ariz.

Local 483 — Alton, Ill.
Effective Nov. 30, 2006 to Nov. 30, 2009, for eight members of Local 483, Alton, III., who fabricate metal at Accurate Fabricators in Granite City, Ill.; effective June 1, 2007 to May 31, 2014, for members at the Conoco-Phillips Wood River Refinery (see separate story above); effective Dec. 18, 2006 to Dec. 18, 2009, for 60 members who build conveyors for recycling, mixed solid waste, and scrap processing at the Hustler Conveyor Co. in O’Fallon, Mo.; and effective Jan. 3, 2007 to Jan. 3, 2008, for four members at Roney Machine Works Inc.

Local 725 — Springfield, Mass.
Effective Feb. 9, 2007 to Feb. 8, 2011, for members of Local 725, Springfield, Mass., who work in the forge division at Doncasters Inc., a manufacturer of precision components and assemblies for the aerospace, industrial gas turbine, specialist automotive, medical orthopaedic, and petrochemical markets.

Local 906 — Donora, Pa.
Effective Oct. 1, 2006 to Sept. 30, 2011, for 30 members of Local 906, Donora, Pa., who produce industrial waste water treatment systems at Aquatech International Corp.
Indiana school shares history with Boilermakers union

THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY in West Lafayette, Ind., is home to the "fighting Boilermakers." The first use of the term "Boilermaker" in connection with the Purdue football team was made in a newspaper report in 1891, and has stayed with the university to this date. It is a symbol of a tireless work ethic—a roll-up-your-sleeves, get-the-job-done attitude that remains true today.

In October 2006, Boilermaker Local Lodge 374, of Hammond, Ind., presented retiring university president Dr. Martin C. Jischke, with an honorary membership in the Boilermakers union.

During a brunch held before the Purdue-Wisconsin football game in Lafayette, Local Lodge 374 BM-ST Paul Maday made a presentation following a request by Robert Bowen, founder, chairman, and CEO of Bowen Engineering, who wanted to do something special for the outgoing president.

"To my knowledge, nothing like this has ever been done before between the university and our local union," Maday reported. "I was very excited to help create a bridge between our two great organizations.”

Local 647, Minneapolis

PAUL PENDERGAST, BM-ST of Local 647, Minneapolis, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

- Jeffery P. Lodermeier, 65 YEARS
- Bernard M. Christman, 50 YEARS
- Dellis D. Byland, 40 YEARS
- Teddy L. Haff, Devere Cooper, 35 YEARS
- James R. Field, Richard A. Brunkhorst, 30 YEARS
- Roy D. Bostick, Richard I. McPheeters, 25 YEARS
- Marvin E. Rogier, 20 YEARS
- Joseph Todd, 15 YEARS
- Jeffery P. Lodermeier, 10 YEARS
- Daniel E. Raggio, 10 YEARS
- Anthony Panozzo, 5 YEARS

Local 1, Chicago

JOHN SKERMONT, BM-ST of Local 1, Chicago, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

- Joseph W. Bradley Sr., 60 YEARS
- James L. Shaw, Ronald L. Young, 55 YEARS
- Marvin E. Rogier, 45 YEARS
- William L. DuFaultz Sr., 40 YEARS
- Michael H. Elder, Albert J. Jones, Gerald W. Nelson, 30 YEARS
- David Pennington, Gary C. Whitely, 20 YEARS
- Todd Joseph Greenwell, Bruce Kluck, Charles Stinnett, 15 YEARS
- Ronald J. Brian, Ricky W. Brown, Daniel E. Cooper, Lil A. Deal, Gary C. Henderson, Richard E. Norris, Jeffrey L. Schneider, Monnie D. Whiteley, 10 YEARS

Local Lodge 374 BM-ST Paul Maday (at podium) presents an honorary union membership to retiring Purdue University President Dr. Martin C. Jischke.

L-374, Hammond, Ind.

PAUL MADAY, Local 374 BM-ST, Hammond, Ind., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

- Joseph W. Bradley Sr., 60 YEARS
- Orville Peckenpaugh, 55 YEARS
- James L. Shaw, Ronald L. Young, 50 YEARS
- Marvin E. Rogier, 45 YEARS
- William L. DuFaultz Sr., 40 YEARS
- Michael H. Elder, Albert J. Jones, Gerald W. Nelson, 30 YEARS
- David Pennington, Gary C. Whitely, 20 YEARS
- Todd Joseph Greenwell, Bruce Kluck, Charles Stinnett, 15 YEARS
- Ronald J. Brian, Ricky W. Brown, Daniel E. Cooper, Lil A. Deal, Gary C. Henderson, Richard E. Norris, Jeffrey L. Schneider, Monnie D. Whiteley, 10 YEARS

Local 5’s Viafara runs with Boilermaker pride

Marathoner from Venezuela sees dream come true

"MAYBE ONE DAY we will go to New York City," Francisco Viafara told his wife and daughter in the mid 1980s. It was a dream he thought about often while working as a field welder in Venezuela, repairing sanitation tanks and pipelines. Viafara hoped to build a better life and have the free time to do some of the things he enjoyed, like running.

Twenty years later, Viafara says with glee, "My dream has come true!" Indeed it has. Last November, Viafara completed the ING New York City Marathon, a grueling 26-mile run, in slightly over four hours, good enough to place him near the upper third of 37,669 finishers. Not bad for a 47-year-old who began marathon training just eight months before the big race.

Viafara’s emigration to America in 1988 was a different kind of marathon, requiring determination, patience, and guts. Leaving South America and bringing his family to a new country, Viafara worked at various jobs until he could get certification with the American Welding Association and New York City. Local 5 noticed the Venezuelan’s high test scores and offered him an apprenticeship. Viafara eagerly accepted. Four years later, in 2003, he completed his instruction at the National Apprenticeship School in Kansas City, Kan. Local 5 BM-ST Jerry Connolly described Viafara as “an excellent journeyman welder and a good union man.”

As a journeyman, Viafara said he has found the free time he longed for to pursue other interests. “I’m improving my running,” he said, “thanks to the Boilermakers, who gave me a good job, so I have time for training.”

Viafara has brought down his one-mile average time from eight minutes in his first run to six minutes and 42 seconds in the New York City Marathon. And he doesn’t plan to stop there. He has now competed in nearly a dozen runs of various distances.

But his fondest racing memories so far have come from the New York City Marathon. “I remember running, wearing my Boilermaker shirt, and everybody yelling, ‘Go Boilermaker, go Boilermaker; you can do it!’ And then this guy comes running up [from further back in the pack] and points to my shirt and hugs me. He says, ‘I’ve been trying to reach you, I’m also a Boilermaker, from Canada.’ I was so happy.”

[Editor’s Note: The identity of the Canadian Boilermaker is unknown.]
Retired AIP Carey wins boat

Son recounts Boilermaker's struggles with illness

“THE GUY THAT won the boat last night was deserving and my hero,” wrote Scott Carey in a letter to the editor of On The Water magazine last fall. Scott was referring to his father, retired AIP William Carey, who had just won a 2006 Grady-White fishing boat in a raffle at the magazine’s Striper Cup Tournament.

A member of Local 29 (Boston), Bill Carey served as a Construction Division International rep and assistant to the International president. He retired on disability in 2003.

In his letter to the magazine, Scott recounted his father’s fight with bone and lung cancer — and how Bill never complained but struggled and beat those illnesses. When Bill was well enough, the father and son began fishing throughout Massachusetts as a way to spend time together. Scott wrote that they learned to fish “on the fly… picking up any piece of advice we could from magazines, television, and other fishermen.”

But Bill’s struggles were not over. “We found out my father had contracted congestive heart failure from the chemotherapy,” Scott said in his letter. “I can’t remember ever having so much anger and sorrow, thinking about a man who fought in Vietnam, beat cancer twice, was an amazing husband and father, and no matter what curve ball life threw at him, he showed us how to persevere without complaint.”

Only three percent of people receiving chemotherapy develop congestive heart failure, Scott was told, and he was angry and frustrated that his dad would have to fall into that category. But Bill didn’t see it that way. “My dad said, ‘Scott, you can choose to look at it the way you’re looking at it right now. I choose not to. I choose to look at the last eight years as a blessing to spend with you and the family that I couldn’t have had without the chemotherapy.’”

“I realized,” Scott concluded, “how right my father was and how lucky we truly are, just to speak to one another every day.”

Retired AIP Bill Carey gets a big hug from son Scott upon winning a new Grady-White fishing boat. — On the Water magazine


definition, earning a high school diploma while in the U.S. Army and later attending a community college and the George Meany Institute for Labor Studies. He also became a certified mediator. Stephens served as Local 57’s president from 1991 until 2003. He chaired the Tidewater, Va., Federal Employees Metal Trades Council for four terms and served as the council’s president for three terms.

J. Frank Stephens, center, shown here receiving his 25-year pin from L-57 President Wayne Jones, l., and L-57 Sec-Treas. William Pontious, retires after 27 years in the Brotherhood.

L-57’s Stephens retires

Former lodge president also chaired Norfolk shipyard metal trades council

J. FRANK STEPHENS, a former president of Local 57 (Portsmouth, Va.) and past chairman of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard Metal Trades Council, retired Feb. 1 after 27 years of membership in the Boilermakers. Stephens demonstrated a commitment to personal development, earning a high school diploma while in the U.S. Army and later attending a community college and the George Meany Institute for Labor Studies. He also became a certified mediator. Stephens served as Local 57’s president from 1991 until 2003. He chaired the Tidewater, Va., Federal Employees Metal Trades Council for four terms and served as the council’s president for three terms.

Pension board institutes retiree work rule

THE BOARD OF Trustees of the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust recently instituted a new Special Retiree Work Rule for the period of Mar. 1, 2007 through Feb. 29, 2008. The new rule will allow certain retirees to work up to 999.5 hours of covered benefit in those areas or locals in which a “Bona Fide Labor Shortage” has been declared.

Len Beaufchamp, associate executive administrator for the National Funds office, said all pensioners were sent a letter in March explaining the conditions under which retirees may work under the special rule. The mailing included a form which must be filled out by the pensioner.

For additional information, contact your local lodge or call the National Funds office at 866-342-6555 (toll free) or 913-342-2802 (local).

INTERESTED IN FORMING A NATIONAL RETIRED BOILERMAKERS ORGANIZATION? Group would have experience, stay involved politically

When Boilermakers retire, they take with them a wealth of experience, skills, and knowledge. Retired Local 30 (Greensboro, N.C.) member Richard Barber asks, “Why not put those attributes to good use for the benefit of the Brotherhood and all working families?”

Barber has begun exploring the possibility of forming a national retired Boilermakers organization to augment the work of local lodge retiree groups. He wants to measure the level of interest retirees may have in participating. The activities and organizational structure of such an organization have not yet been identified, but Barber believes staying involved politically would be one key component.

Any Boilermaker retiree, soon-to-be retiree, or existing local lodge retiree club interested in forming a national retiree organization may contact Barber at rbarberjr@carolina.rr.com.

Retired AIP Bill Carey picks up his new Grady-White fishing boat. L. to r., Neal Larsson, Bill Carey, Scott Carey, and Don MacKenzie from Boats Inc. — On the Water magazine

Retired AIP Bill Carey gets a big hug from son Scott upon winning a new Grady-White fishing boat. — On the Water magazine
WITH DEEP SORROW the International Brotherhood records the death of these members as reported to the International Secretary-Treasurer's office, and extends its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>intl Antonioch, Mary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Alt, Vernon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Atchison, James</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Beauchamp, Billy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Bordon, Ralph</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Brewer, David</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Dicap, Robert</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Cale, Ollie</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Gleason, Robert</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Green, Edward</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Harlos, Jackie</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Johnson, Walter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL McIntyre, Charles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Peveto, Benny</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Satterfield, Betty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Strait, Charles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Trickle, Verlon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Walton, William</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Weiserding, Wallace</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Wellman, Luther</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL Werlow, Calvin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Goldman, Stephen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 King, James</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Safranek, Harry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Watson, Robert</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Bogay, Secconzeski</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Abuan, Renato</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Bower, Leon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Curry, Teddy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Devenerre, Peter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Faria, Manuel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 LaBella, Verdi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Mendoza, Victor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Nelson, Daniel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Newcom, Cash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Pearson, Warren</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Rand, L.L.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Rockett, Booker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Weiss, Robert</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Burckhalter, Milton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Kaczmarzyk, Norma</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See next page
Continued from p. 21

Also please notify the secretary of your local lodge.

304 Sullivan, Eugene 6,000.00
305 LeBlanc, Kerney 6,000.00
316 Henry, Beresford 4,499.00
358 Goodman, Kenneth 6,000.00
359 McNeur, Bertrand 6,000.00
363 Barrow, Clifford 6,000.00
366 Linn, Nolan 6,000.00
368 Sterling, Gerald 6,000.00
374 Acheson, M. J. 6,000.00
374 Bay Jr., John 6,000.00
374 Clapp, Charlie 6,000.00
374 Dempster, William 6,000.00
374 Desper, Guy 6,000.00
374 Grooms, Edwin 6,000.00
374 Kleeman, Ambrose 6,000.00
374 Lummo, Joseph 6,000.00
374 Peters, Marvin 6,000.00
374 Pillon, Jack 6,000.00
374 Reed, Denzil 6,000.00
374 Robbins, Richard 6,000.00
374 Rocks, Robert 6,000.00
374 Schumman, Albin 6,000.00
374 Woront, John 6,000.00
397 Duidne, Lawrence 6,000.00
397 Fish Jr., Jay 6,000.00
397 Dutschot, John 6,000.00
397 Zager, Anthony 6,000.00
433 Beinert, Joseph 6,000.00
433 Goumine, Ernest 6,000.00
433 Quick, Edgar 6,000.00
433 Rowell, Robert 6,000.00

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

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

Lodge, Name & Benefit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lodge</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Reisinger, Leonard</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Slayton, Charles W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Thomas, Stephen L.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Guintardo, Thomas W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Saffran, Harry W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Sharkey, Frank D.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Watson, Robert M.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTL</td>
<td>Wellman, Edward L.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burker, Steven A.</td>
<td>15,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abuan, Renato F.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anaya, Jorge H.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bower, Leon L.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fugit, Daryl G.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackson, Mildred</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Krebschmar, Karl</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mendoza, Victor M.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morgan, James H.*</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nelson, Daniel N.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Newcom, Cash R.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pearson, Warren G.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rand, L. L.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>So Relle, Alvin R.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warner, Charles E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weiss, Robert B.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wood, Noel D.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brekhurth, Milton</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gasiewicz, Martin</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Holland, James E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaczmarzek, Norman</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paszertz, Richard W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thompson, David R.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jadick, Alec</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mock, Richard F.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rose, Frederick E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rigler, Raymond</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stickley, Robert S.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yoder, John W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Swanson, Russell A.</td>
<td>141.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gilman, Charles F.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lacey, Ralph E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pipkin, Freddy L.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spell, Bertie E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Counts, James</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nelson, Martin D.</td>
<td>15,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Golvitz, John D.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harmer Jr., John A.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rankin, Richard</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satterfield, Betty J.</td>
<td>614.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IF YOU HAVE NOT yet been furnished this information, contact your local lodge, secure the beneficiary forms, complete the required information and forward to the Administrative Office of the Pension Fund, 794 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 522, Kansas City, KS 66101, at the earliest possible date. NOTE: These additional death benefits can only be derived for members who worked under a collective bargaining agreement with an employer contributing to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust.

Mail form to:

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Union
753 State Avenue, Suite 505
Kansas City, KS 66101

(Allow five weeks for change of address.)

See next page
Continued from p. 22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rawson, Gordon E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miranda, Jesse</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattes, Frank G.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arriola, Elzie</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varnado, Ellis E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitson, Lloyd M.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantrell, Orbie L.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Brian, R. Scottie D.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowser, Clay</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garvin, Earle E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graham Jr., Howard W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallwell, Louis J.</td>
<td>6,062.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes, Fred H.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klemetson, Melvin</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larson, Stanley H.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louttit, David G.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCulloch, Glen R.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mann, Melvin G.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell, David W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Meara Jr., Mark C.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parton, Raymond C.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawson, David Q.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satre, Melvin J.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOURS, RALPH J.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Jr., Howard W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIG, JOSEPH V.*</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Messer, Paul D.</td>
<td>2,040.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTIS, JAMES F.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OZETA, CHARLES A.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RULLMAN, EDWARD</td>
<td>882.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sadler, Shane L.</td>
<td>3,124.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitney, Lloyd M.</td>
<td>6,062.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper, Carl E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameren, Anthony J.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Brien, Gerard W.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantrell, Osbige Lee.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitson, Lloyd M.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODOR, EADLE*</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varnado, Ellis E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duett, Charles C.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Sr., Norman</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York, Becci C.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gustafson, Melvin C.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arriola, Elzie</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATTES, FRANK G.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miranda, Jesse</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rawson, Gordon E.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allman, Curtis T.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Around the clock, around the neighborhood, Union Plus benefits help you save every day.

You can save as much as $2600 a year with valuable Union Plus® savings programs and benefits. You can wake up in the morning and use a Union Plus discount at the vet, then go online and save on flowers and movie tickets. Before the day is done, you can save on major purchases like computers and vacations.

There are even programs to help with important things like out-of-pocket medical expenses and legal consultations. You’re not tied to just one store or even one type of product.

Union Plus helps you save on all kinds of things you use every day, from clothes to tires; and on big things, like helping your kids get to college.

---
*Additional Death Benefits Paid*
Secret agreements and fast-track voting do not inspire confidence

In May, the Democratic leadership in Congress and the White House announced that they had reached an historic agreement on trade. Democrats announced that they had won guarantees to protect labor rights in all future trade deals, starting with Peru, Panama, Colombia, and South Korea. The specific labor rights protected include the rights to organize, bargain collectively, as well as bans on the use of child labor and workplace discrimination.

But this single announcement does not allay our concerns regarding the trade policy of the current administration. Nor did the manner of this announcement give us great confidence that our issues will be promoted vigorously by the Democratic leadership.

The negotiations were conducted in near secrecy, and we still have not seen the full text of the trade agreement. Based on comments to the press, it may have a significant step forward, or merely a token gesture.

Congressman Charles Rangel, the Democratic chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, holds the first view. He told Lou Dobbs in an interview that the agreement means that “when they [U.S. negotiators] sit at that table, . . . they have to consider the impact that it's going to have on American jobs, American communities, and American industry.”

Meanwhile, U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Tom Donohue is reputed to be telling his audiences that “the labor provisions cannot be read to require compliance with [International Labor Organization] Conventions.”

Which is it? I believe that as long as the current administration is in power, Donohue’s position is more likely to prevail. The administration has repeatedly ignored trade violations by China. It seems unlikely they will be vigilant in enforcing provisions that they have fought on all levels until now.

And there is the matter of fast-track authorization, which continues to be the way trade agreements go through Congress. Fast-track limits the role Congress has in the acceptance of a trade agreement. As its name implies, votes are undertaken very quickly, with little time to debate the complexities of the agreement and its ramifications. When Congress votes, they are limited to a “yes” or a “no.” They cannot require changes to the agreement.

Trade agreements are typically long, complex documents full of provisions that really should be examined and discussed in public, not merely agreed to by negotiators in private. One reason we prefer true scrutiny by our elected representatives is that trade agreements often end up undermining laws passed by Congress, for example, “Buy American” laws. These laws require that certain items purchased with tax monies must be made in America. To us, that only seems reasonable.

But once a free-trade agreement is in place, all companies in any of the countries signatory to the agreement must be treated equally. In other words, “Buy America” laws would not apply to companies in those countries.

The negotiations are still negotiated in secret, fast-tracked through Congress, and promoted in the press weeks before the actual language of agreements is made public. Corporate representatives are at the bargaining table. Labor representatives are not. Those facts do not inspire trust among working people.

Letters to the Editor

L-45’s Hedrick’s family expresses appreciation

WE WOULD LIKE to say “thank you” to all the Boilermakers who expressed their love for Harold “Muggs” Hedrick [Local 45, Richmond, Va.]. There are no words that can fully express our sincere appreciation for the acts of kindness shown during this difficult time. Thanks to each and every one of you for your love and support.

Every act of kindness was greatly appreciated and will never be forgotten. Your thoughtfulness will always have a special place in our hearts.

The Harold “Muggs” Hedrick Family
Maysville, W.Va.

Widow of L-5 member touched by Ron Roberts’ tribute

IN THE OCT-DEC 2006 issue of the Reporter, there was a story about retiree Ron Roberts. He is a very special man who has created an awesome tribute to Boilermakers. The image in the paper [of his poem and accompanying photo] does not do it justice.

To honor my husband [Bill “Willy” Gibbons, a Local 5 (New York) member who passed away seven years ago], I contacted the artist and purchased a copy. When it arrived I was overwhelmed with tears. Every Boilermaker should have one — at the very least, every local office should have one on display. If you are a Boilermaker, have one in your life. When someone lost one from your life, urge you to contact Ron Roberts (robers2000@yahoo. com) and buy a copy. Be proud to own it, because it honors special men.

Susan Gibbons, 41-year wife of deceased member Willie Gibbons Fairless Hills, Pa.

L-85 family offers heartfelt thanks for kindness after loss

MY COUSIN, HOWARD CORNETT, a Boilermaker for 37 years [L-85, Toledo, Ohio], passed away suddenly on Oct. 3, 2006, after working a normal shift at the Monarch Powerhouse Coal Burner SCR tie-in outage. Howard’s family of Boilermakers includes a son, brother, uncle, nephews, and three cousins.

Local 85 members and travelers on that job stepped up and showed our family the amazing generosity of our trade. We remain in awe of the kindness and expression of sympathy given to us during this difficult time.

Our faith in the Boilermaker family has been strengthened and restored.

To send a heartfelt thanks to all of those who supported us.

MATTHEW CORNETT JR., Local 85
Oak Harbor, Ohio

Grahron expresses gratitude

MY WIFE SANDY passed away suddenly last November. The brothers and sisters employed by Graycor Industrial Constructors Inc. at Xcel Energy Inc. in Bayport, Minn., gave me a very sincere sympathy card and collection. I would like to publicly thank them and let them know how much that meant to me.

DON GAHRON, Local 197
Albany, N.Y.

"Grace Under Pressure" is a nonstop read

I JUST FINISHED reading “Grace Under Pressure.” From the time I picked it up, I couldn’t stop reading until I was finished. What a great history of not only the Boilermakers, but also the labor movement. This is information that every Boilermaker needs to know. Thank you to those who took the time to put this together for us and for future generations of Boilermakers.

JAMES VERMILYEA, Local 85
Toledo, Ohio

Wife of retired L-74 member says, “Thank God for the union”

THANK GOD FOR the union. My husband [Eugene Echols, a retired member of L-74 (Housten)], is 77 and the union took care of us and our children. I pray for the union always.

VIRGINIA ECHOLS
Fairfield, Texas

Got something to say?

WE WELCOME LETTERS of fewer than 150 words on topics of interest to our members and their families. We do not publish personal attacks on members or unsigned letters.

SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

The Boilermaker Reporter
753 State Ave. Suite 570
Kansas City KS 66101
FAX: (913) 281-8104
E-mail: danuwell@boilermakers.org

http://www.boilermakers.org

http://capwiz.com/boilermaker