



The Boilermaker Reporter

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The Official Publication of the
International Brotherhood of
Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders,
Blacksmiths, Forgers,
and Helpers, AFL-CIO

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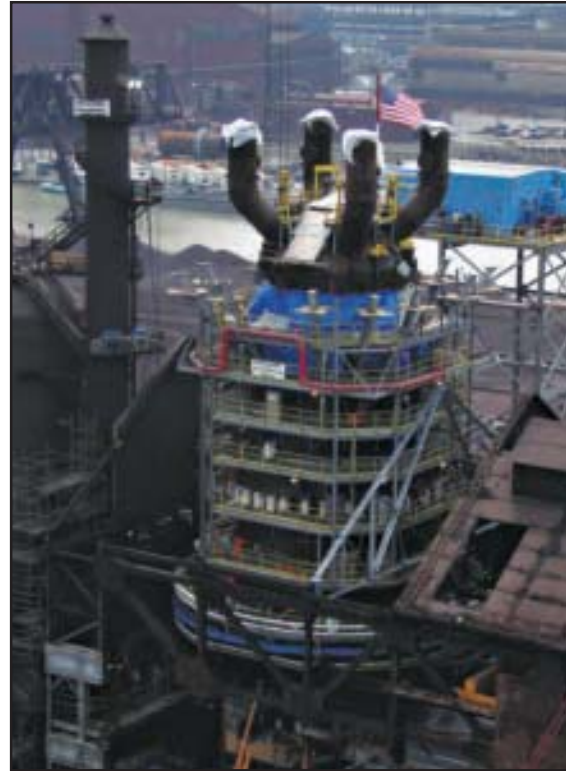


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L-169 members tear down, rebuild blast furnace in under 100 days



Crews work 1.4 million man-hours with no serious injuries

ABOUT 250 BOILERMAKERS — members of Local 169 (Detroit) and travelers from other Boilermaker lodges — set a new standard for steelmakers worldwide when they removed and replaced a “C” blast furnace in record-setting time.

According to Marty Mulcahy of *the Building Tradesman*, “steelmakers from around the world were watching this project, wondering if an entire 59-year-old blast furnace could be dismantled and then replaced during the ambitious time-frame. The answer was ‘yes’: Fire was put in the belly of the replacement furnace on Oct. 17, three days ahead of schedule.”

Working with other union building trades members, Boilermakers did a complete tear-down and re-build of the blast furnace, which included building the stove and dust collector.

“Boilermakers rose to the occasion and brought the job in three days early,” said L-169 BM-ST Anthony Jacobs. “I was extremely happy with our apprentices’ performance on the job. They worked 97 12-hour days straight and were a major factor in the success of this job.”

Working around the clock, the “C” blast furnace at SeverStal North America’s Ford Rouge site in Dearborn, Mich., was completed on budget, and ahead of the 100-day schedule. Over 1.4 million man-hours were worked with no serious injuries.

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A new blast furnace comes together in Dearborn Mich. The owner, SeverStal, describes it as “the most efficient and productive blast furnace in the world.”

Ohio locals rally for Obama

Candidate visits National Gypsum plant

IN THE RUN-UP to the Ohio Democratic primary March 4, Boilermaker locals launched a coordinated effort to support Sen. Barack Obama in his hotly-contested race for the presidency.

Local 85 (Toledo), Local 105 (Chillicothe), and Local 744 (Cleveland) held union hall rallies, inviting members to learn more about the candidate. Boilermakers also attended a rally at the Cleveland Convention Center, and they advertised their support at various sites with helium blimps, Obama signs, and bright yellow T-shirts. Local D416 (Lorain) members saw Obama up close when he visited the National Gypsum Co. plant where they work.

The intense activity of these locals followed on the heels of the International Executive Council’s Feb. 20 announcement that it is endorsing Obama for president. (See related story on page 2.)

Local 85 BM-ST Fred Keith Jr., accompanied by retiree Glen Gruetter, volunteered to drive the Boilermaker bus, emblazoned with pro-Obama signage, from city to city to support Boilermaker activities. “We got to shake hands with Senator Obama and ask him questions,” Keith said. “After talking with him, I think his heart is with working-class people. Never in my 30 years as a Boilermaker have I seen anybody



Sen. Barack Obama takes part in a town hall-style meeting at the Lorain, Ohio, National Gypsum plant, where Local D416 members are employed.



IEC Backs Barack
see page 2

put on a primary like this. People just gravitate to this guy.”

Local 105 Pres. Wyndham Sparling said representatives of Obama’s campaign traveled to his lodge, where about 45 members assembled to hear the formal endorsement message and ask questions about Obama’s positions. “It went really well,” he said, “despite the bad weather.”

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Sen. Barack Obama addresses employees of National Gypsum Co. in Lorain, Ohio, Feb. 24, four days after being endorsed by the Boilermakers.

IEC backs Barack

Endorsement is unanimous

THE INTERNATIONAL Brotherhood of Boilermakers threw its weight behind Barack Obama's presidential bid Feb. 20, announcing its official endorsement of the Illinois senator as he campaigned in Ohio two weeks before the primary there.

IP Newton B. Jones said the International Executive Council unanimously endorsed Obama because of "his exceptionally strong stance for working people." Jones acknowledged other candidates — especially Sens. John Edwards, Joseph Biden, Christopher Dodd, and Hillary Clinton, and Gov. Bill Richardson — whose campaigns have also appealed to the middle class. "Clearly, we have been offered the finest field of superbly qualified candidates...but one stands out now: Barack Obama."

"Barack Obama has shown the energy and vision to unite Americans, jumpstart our economy, and put working people first again."

— IP Newton B. Jones

Barack Obama's plan to create jobs and grow our economy

- ★ End tax incentives that reward companies for moving jobs overseas
- ★ Commit to clean coal-fired power generation
- ★ Invest \$210 billion to rebuild infrastructure
- ★ Expand unemployment benefits
- ★ Provide tax cut for working families
- ★ Make affordable health care coverage available to all Americans

Ontario unions ratchet up political involvement

Local 128, other trades help elect working-family candidates

STEPPE-UP POLITICAL involvement by the Ontario Construction Trades Council in recent years has made a big difference in provincial government, says Jim Tinney, Local 128 (Ontario) BM-ST. That difference can be seen in the last two elections in which pro-labor candidates from the Ontario Liberal Party have won and sustained clear majorities.

The Liberal Party swept into control of the government in 2003 and maintained their majority in the October 2007 elections, thanks in part to the Working Families campaign, a coalition of construction trade unions and other organizations. Patrick Dillon, business manager of the Ontario Construction Trades Council and a spokesman for Working Families, calls the coalition "an independent non-partisan organization raising awareness about issues that are important to families."

In the last provincial election, Working Families launched a vigorous and successful advertising program and Web site that reminded voters of the harm done to working families when Ontario Progressive Conservatives (PCs) with a right-wing agenda held the majority. Although political analysts predicted the PCs might take back the majority from the Liberal Party, the Working Families campaign helped make sure that didn't happen. Using targeted advertising in key ridings (legislative districts), Working Families convinced voters to reject PC leader John Tory's bid to become Ontario's premier and head of a Conservative majority.

"Local 128, as part of the construction trades council and the Working Families campaign, has helped educate our members and other voters about what's at stake in provincial elections," says Tinney. The campaign

has a great Web site — www.working-families.ca — and the ads run by the group have been compelling, he notes.

Tinney says Local 128 members contribute up to two cents an hour for political education. "It works much like LEAP (Legislative Education Action Program) does in the United States." In addition, Local 128 members donate money that goes to help pro-union candidates run for office.

Funding the Working Families campaign has been one key to the Ontario Building Trades political success against the right wing's agenda, according to Dillon, the council's business manager. "We hired professionals to do polling and handle the communications. That was the big difference. And Boilermakers were certainly a good part of that effort. We're pretty proud of what we've done." □

The truth about Sen. John McCain

JOHN MCCAIN is a war hero with a reputation as a man of integrity. Some say he is a straight-shooter who will be a welcome change from Pres. Bush. Don't be fooled.

In his positions, McCain is almost indistinguishable from George W. Bush. Since Bush took office, McCain has voted with the president 89 percent of the time. After voters made it clear in 2006 that they were fed up with Bush's direction for the nation, his support rose to 95 percent.

On Iraq, health care, taxes, job creation, free-trade, and the economy, he is virtually identical to President Bush. And recently he damaged his claim to integrity by trying to make an end run around his own campaign finance laws.

Visit www.McCainrevealed.com to learn the truth about the candidate who admits he doesn't understand economics but assures us the economy is not in a recession.



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LEAP names 2008 legislative issues

Delegates to lobby Congress on matters vital to Boilermaker families

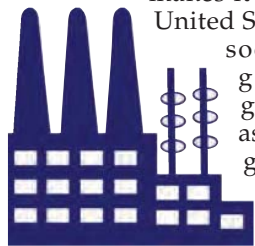
BOILERMAKER DELEGATES will make their voices heard on Capitol Hill during the 40th annual LEAP conference April 20-24, as they press legislators on issues vital to the future of our jobs and our families.

Meeting with congressmen and aides in their House and Senate offices, delegates will focus on climate change, trade, immigration, and shipbuilding. These are issues the Boilermakers' Government Affairs Department has determined to be the most urgent at this time. GAD will provide detailed briefings to the delegates before they begin their lobbying efforts.

The 2008 legislative issues are summarized below.

Climate change

MOUNTING SCIENTIFIC evidence makes it clear that the United States must act soon to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with global climate change. The threat of global warming affects



our livelihoods and our health — not only in North America but in societies around the world.

Congress should respond by enacting a comprehensive, economy-wide, cap-and-trade program. Such a program has been used in the United States to control sulfur dioxide emissions (a primary cause of acid rain), and it has been largely successful, achieving a 41 percent reduction since the mid-1990s.

Under cap-and-trade, our government would set a limit or "cap" on how much greenhouse gases industries may release. Companies within these industries would be allotted so many emission credits. Those that perform under the cap could "bank" their credits or

sell them to firms exceeding the cap. This approach limits the total amount of emissions, rewards companies who stay under the cap, and provides an incentive to those above the cap to perform better. It allows companies that have trouble meeting the cap to transition to newer technology rather than requiring an abrupt change that could put them out of business, resulting in job loss and economic disruption. The cap could be adjusted periodically to encourage additional reductions.

Legislation to create a cap-and-trade program must provide for energy diversity — wind, solar, nuclear, fossil fuel, and other power sources. It must also ensure investment in low-carbon technology and accelerated deployment of advanced coal technologies using carbon capture and sequestration (separating carbon dioxide from coal and storing it rather than releasing it into the atmosphere). Additionally, we must pursue international action and cooperation to reduce emissions. It is a global problem, and every country must participate in the solution.

Finally, we must ensure that any efforts to reduce carbon emissions do not result in unreasonable increases in energy costs, widespread fuel switching to more expensive natural gas, or unmanageable impacts to the economy.

China policy, Colombia FTA, enhanced TAA

FOR TOO LONG, the administration has failed to act on China's unfair trade practices. China manipulates its currency against the dollar to gain an unfair competitive advantage, pushing the U.S. trade deficit ever higher. We support the remedies contained in the Ryan-Hunter Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act (H.R. 2942). We also support additional solutions to the difficulties faced by U.S. workers and manufacturers. Congress must act to level the

playing field against China's artificially-cheap exports to the United States.

Also, Congress must make clear to the administration that it will not approve the recently negotiated trade agreement with Colombia. Colombia is the most dangerous country in the world for trade unionists, according to the International Labor Organization. Last year, nearly 200 Colombians were killed because of trade union activities. The United States must ensure that our trading partners are committed to respecting worker rights, and reject any new job-killing trade agreements.

In addition, Congress must improve the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act (TAA), a law that helps workers who have lost their jobs due to trade agreements. The House of Representatives took a strong stand by passing the Trade and Globalization Assistance Act (TGA). This act expands TAA by providing training and other resources to those impacted by "globalization." TAA currently limits assistance to a narrow group of workers — those directly affected by free-trade pacts. TGA recognizes that many workers are impacted by the global economy, even if not as a direct result of a trade agreement.

TGA also extends assistance to service workers, where TAA is restricted to workers who produce a physical product. Unfortunately, some senators and the administration have stood in the way of the 60 votes necessary to move forward on this important issue.

Immigration

THE H-2B VISA system enables U.S. employers to fill their temporary needs for seasonal, peak load, or intermittent labor shortages, but this system also needs to accommodate short-term labor needs in the building and construction industry. It should authorize joint labor-management organizations and building trades

unions to sponsor temporary admission of trained, skilled workers from abroad using an accelerated process.

Changes to the U.S. H-2B visa program would help ensure that the admission of foreign workers does not undermine U.S. labor standards. It would ensure the availability of skilled, well-trained Boilermakers to meet domestic needs. And it would avoid delays in scheduled power plant maintenance that would deny work opportunities to U.S. Boilermakers.

Shipbuilding

THE JONES ACT has encouraged a strong U.S. commercial shipbuilding industry since its passage in 1920. It requires that



vessels carrying cargo between U.S. ports be built and maintained in the United States. This requirement supports good shipbuilding jobs. It also ensures that our industrial base maintains the skilled workers necessary to build vessels to defend our nation.

However, some U.S. commercial shipbuilders — with approval from the U.S. Coast Guard — have undermined the Jones Act by pre-fabricating and assembling major components offshore, with just final assembly performed in U.S. shipyards.

Congress must call on the administration to preserve the integrity of the Jones Act and protect this vital industry.

In addition, the administration continues the misguided practice of entering into long-term leases of foreign-built ships. These activities deny employment opportunities to U.S. shipbuilders and undermine our shipbuilding industrial base. The Congressional Appropriations Committee should restrict federal funding for any leases of foreign-built ships to no longer than two years. And it should provide advance funding to procure American ships to replace those currently under lease agreements. □

OBAMA

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Local 744 BM-ST Patrick Gallagher said, "I was a Hillary supporter until I heard about the IEC's endorsement. Now I'm on board with Obama." Gallagher said about 90 members and some guests attended the Local 744 rally. "I was surprised at the cross-section of people that came out to support him."

About 50 members of Local D416 joined in welcoming Obama Feb. 24 to the National Gypsum Co. plant in Lorain, Ohio, where they manufacture wallboard. An estimated 120 plant employees and guests attended a town hall-style meeting at the facility. Obama toured the plant before delivering a brief speech and answering questions. Speaking in an unheated warehouse amidst mountainous stacks of wallboard and a thicket of reporters, Obama focused on trade and health care issues.

"One million jobs have been lost because of NAFTA, including nearly 50,000 jobs here in Ohio," he said. Obama stressed his support of the Patriot Employer Act that he said would "end tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas and give those tax breaks to companies that create good jobs with decent wages here in America."

"If we're honest with ourselves, we'll acknowledge that we can't stop globalization in its tracks, and some of these jobs are not going to be coming back," he said. "But what I refuse to accept is that we have to stand idly by while workers watch their jobs get shipped overseas."

Shannon Brett, Assistant to the Director of Government Affairs, said Obama's message appears to resonate with many Ohioans because it emphasizes the plight of manufacturing workers in the United States. Ohio has been hit especially hard by job losses and the recent economic downturn. In 2005, Ford Motor Co. closed its Lorain plant, which had employed more than 1,700 workers.

IP Newton B. Jones praised Obama for his support of American workers. "Barack Obama ... stands with those who are the heart and soul of our great country," he said, "those who clock in early and often work late, those who build and maintain our industries and our infrastructure ... among them, Boilermaker members. Our members are grateful for his efforts in opposing unfair trade deals and his proposal to reward employers who retain and create good jobs here at home. That's the kind of leadership we need right now." □



Local 85 retiree Glen Gruetter, r., and BM-ST Fred Keith Jr. listen as Sen. Barack Obama talks about NAFTA and job losses during a meeting at the National Gypsum plant in Lorain, Ohio.

Dying pines signal global warming has arrived

THE SIZE OF A GRAIN of rice, the female mountain pine beetle is able to slip through the crevices in the bark of lodgepole, ponderosa, scots, and limber pine trees and lay her eggs. In about two weeks, the eggs hatch, releasing white larva that tunnel into the phloem of the tree, the part that transports nutrients from the roots to the limbs. They feed on the phloem through the winter, pupate in late spring, and then the mature beetles attack another tree.

Within weeks after a heavy beetle attack begins, the phloem is damaged enough to cut off the flow of nutrients and water, starving the tree. Once a tree is infested with beetles, nothing practical can be done to save it.

During the early stages of an outbreak, attacks are limited to trees already stressed by injury, fire damage, overcrowding, root disease, or old age. But as beetles become more established and numerous, they begin attacking all large trees in the area. Their natural enemies — mostly woodpeckers and clerid beetles — are able to slow their advance, but cold weather has been the biggest factor in limiting their damage. A severe freeze in late fall will kill the larvae when they are most vulnerable; one in late spring can kill them in the pupal stage. During the middle of winter, temperatures must be at least 30 degrees below zero (Fahrenheit) for five days to kill the larva burrowed deep under the bark.



One of the many faces of climate change.

This is the first in a series of articles about global warming and its impact on Boilermakers and the world at large. Future articles will address the causes and possible consequences of this threat and what we as a union can do to help ensure sensible solutions. More information is available at www.boilermakers.org.

of climate change — mile after mile of dead and dying pine forests.

Global warming is not some remote threat decades in the future. It is here now, and the consequences are already disturbing. Forestry experts project the mountain pine beetle will have killed 80 percent of mature pines in B.C. by the year 2013. It takes 70 years for pine trees to mature in these forests, which may never return to their past glory.

Slowing climate change requires a global effort

WHAT IS HAPPENING to the pine forests of B.C. gives us a peek into the future. A warming climate brings unexpected consequences. Some areas will become dryer; others will see increased rainfall. Some of the plants and animals that now flourish will begin struggling to survive and may become extinct. Others will thrive and expand into areas where they do not live at present.

The economic consequences of these changes will be enormous, but they may not follow a simple path. For now, the B.C. timber industry is booming. The wood in the dead trees is still usable, and forestry officials have increased limits so the trees can be harvested before they rot. Sawmills in many timber towns are working around the clock to process the lumber and ship it to builders or turn it into fuel pellets for power plants.

But one day what many loggers call “beetlewood” will be gone. So will most of the pine trees in forests that have been a valuable source of building lumber for more than a hundred years. Young trees may eventually replace them, but that will literally take a lifetime — 70 years.

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Forestry officials estimate pine beetles have killed half the mature lodgepole pines in British Columbia. (Photo courtesy B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range)

In the 1990s, following a series of mild winters, pine beetle infestations in the British Columbia interior began expanding dramatically. By 2006, the *Washington Post* was reporting that they had infested 21 million acres in British Columbia (B.C.), killing 411 million cubic feet of trees — double the annual take by all loggers in Canada.

When climatologists talk about expected devastation from global warming, they like to show maps that depict the coastline after melting ice-caps have raised the sea level 3, 10, 20, or even 50 feet. But aerial and satellite photographs of western Canadian forests already depict the grim reality

Boilermakers attend UN climate change conference



(L. to r.), IVPs Sam May and Larry McManamon, DC-ETS Donald Caswell, AD-DGA Abraham Breehey, and IVP Warren Fairley attend the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Denpasar, Indonesia.

FIVE BOILERMAKERS joined a delegation of trade unionists from around the world last December at the 13th United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Denpasar, Indonesia. These conferences allow the nations of the world to develop mechanisms for addressing global warming and the consequences of climate change.

Dozens of unions belonging to the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), representing over 160 million workers worldwide, sent del-

egates to the conference. International Vice Presidents Larry McManamon (Great Lakes), Sam May (Southeast), and Warren Fairley (Industrial Sector), Director of Communication Donald Caswell, and Assistant Director of Government Affairs Abraham Breehey attended for the Boilermakers.

Through participation in the conference, the unions of ITUC are working to ensure that governments do not use climate change as another excuse to oppress workers.

Boilermakers engage in international climate change debate

A special report from Abe Breehey
Assistant Director for Government Affairs

Bali, Indonesia, December 2007: How important is the issue of climate change to the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers? Well, let's just say that no other issue would have pulled International Vice President Sam May away from South Pittsburg, Tenn., on the eve of the high school football state championship. But IVP May joined me and three other Boilermakers to participate in the climate change meetings taking place in Bali. [International Vice Presidents Larry McManamon (Great Lakes) and Warren Fairley (Industrial Sector), and Director of Communication Donald Caswell also attended.] We are proud to join with trade unionists from around the world and add our voice to the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).

Members of the International Executive Council recognize that we must be active participants in developing a fair global framework to address climate change. For the past century, our craft has been involved in constructing infrastructure we now know has contributed substantially to the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change. For the next century,

our craft will be essential to deploying the new technology now available to reduce the carbon emissions associated with energy generation and industrial processes.

The carbon footprint of the United States and other developed nations has been a major cause of global warming. However, evidence indicates China surpassed the United States as the leading source of greenhouse gas emissions earlier this year. Effective mitigation action must include the involvement of all major emitters, so many of us from the United States decided to attend a side event related to China, India, and Brazil.

Effective global action will require investments far beyond the paltry sums dedicated to climate change mitigation thus far. Both China and India continue to invest in power generation technology that is dirty, inefficient, and decades old simply because it's the cheapest option available. Unprecedented levels of international investment will be required to expand the new, more efficient energy technology around the world. The technology is available now, but its development and deployment needs to be accelerated, and that requires investment — both public and private. The union

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Health kit helps Canadian members inform doctors

Booklet advises doctors about hazards associated with the trade

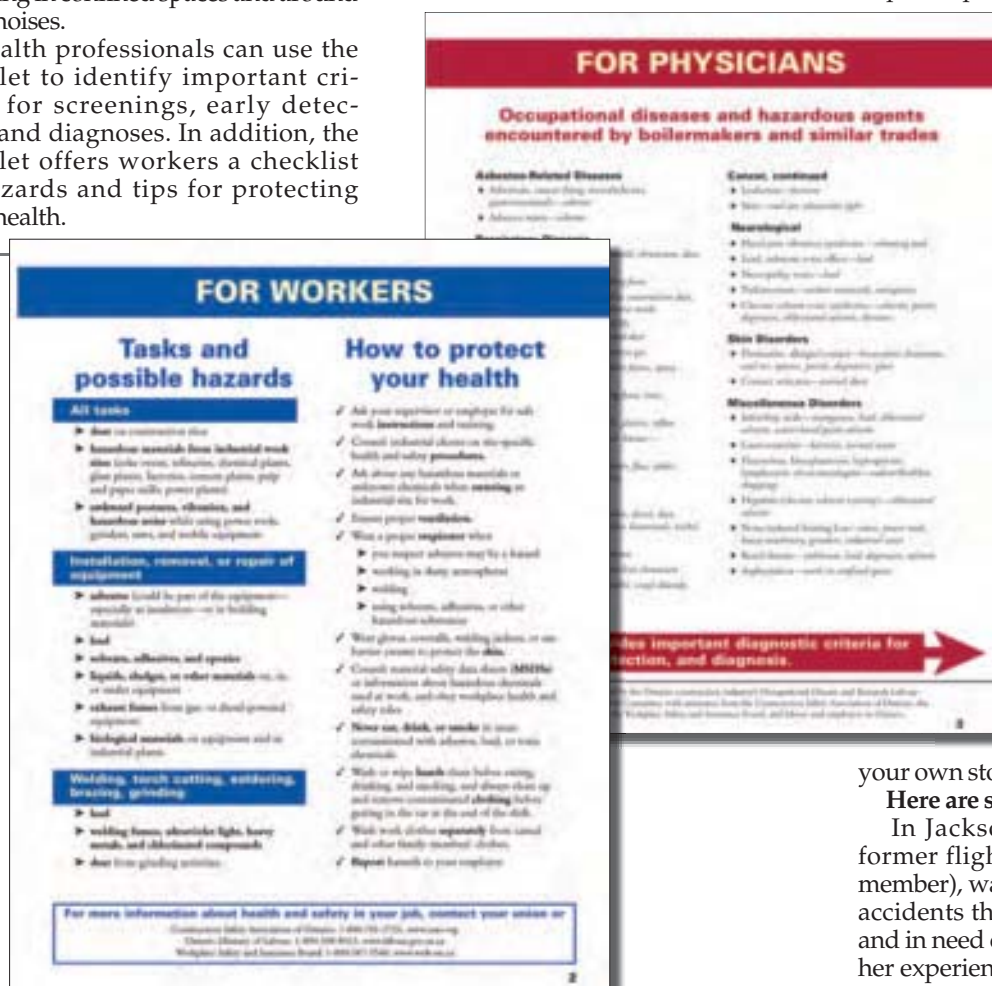
CANADIAN BOILERMAKERS working in the construction industry now have access to a toolkit that informs medical practitioners about the occupational diseases and hazards associated with their jobs.

The four-page booklet lists diseases connected with asbestos, heavy metals, fibers, chemicals, dust, fumes, coal tar, solvents, animal wastes, and other substances that may be encountered in the trade. It also lists disorders caused by working in confined spaces and around loud noises.

Health professionals can use the booklet to identify important criteria for screenings, early detection, and diagnoses. In addition, the booklet offers workers a checklist of hazards and tips for protecting their health.

Boilermaker Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario), Boilermaker employers in Ontario, and other groups assisted with the booklet, which was prepared by the Ontario construction industry's Occupational Disease and Research Labour-Management Health and Safety Committee.

Jason McInnis, the Canadian National Director of Health and Safety for the Boilermakers, encourages members to take a copy of the booklet with them when seeing a doctor. To view or print the booklet, visit www.boilermaker.ca/safety.htm and select the appropriate PDF file. □



America's health care system is killing us

by Mike Hall
Reprinted from the AFL-CIO blog of January 28, 2008

MORE THAN 13,000 people around the country have participated in the AFL-CIO/Working America 2008 Health Care for America Survey, and more than 3,900 have submitted their own personal stories since the survey was launched.

The survey offers a unique opportunity for working families to make our voices heard on the cost of health insurance, quality of health care, access to prescription drugs, and the gamut of health care problems we all face—and impress upon candidates for the White House, Congress, and all public offices just how important health care is as a voting issue in 2008.

The survey results will be given to presidential, congressional, state, and local candidates to ensure candidates at every level understand what working families are experiencing.

Along with specific questions on affordability and quality, experiences with insurance companies, hospitals and doctors, and suggested remedies, the survey gives you the chance to tell

your own story.

Here are some samples.

In Jacksonville, Fla., Pamela, a former flight attendant (AFA-CWA member), was the victim of two traffic accidents that have left her disabled and in need of spinal surgery. She says her experience has shown her today's insurers are there to make a profit off your illness. They make promises and don't deliver on coverage. "Poverty is my friend now. I have no money for the medical costs because of two horrible accidents that were no fault of my own. The insurance companies basically leave you on your own. All they care about is the money."

From Los Angeles, Teri writes how the health care system, especially insurers, failed both her mother and first husband. Her mother's insurer greatly reduced her coverage and dropped her because "she made too many claims." By the time an attorney forced the insurance company to pay for cancer treatment, her mother had died. Meanwhile, Teri's husband had a family history of heart disease, so their insurance provider forced him to sign a waiver forgoing heart-related claims.

"He started having fainting spells and dizziness. Being a nurse, I was worried that indeed he may have a cardio issue. They turned him away, stating he was too young to fit any cardio profiles. Six weeks later, he dropped dead of a massive coronary."

Bill in Washington teaches at a community college and prays he doesn't get seriously ill until he is eligible for Medicare:

"I now find myself at age 58 without health insurance. Any plan that I might choose to purchase outright carries an impossible deductible and a premium that is 70-80 percent of my mortgage payment. So now I avoid preventative treatment and pray that I never get seriously ill. My only hope is the incoming Democratic presidency and congressional enactment of a universal health care bill, or hold on for eight years until I'm Medicare eligible. Or take my college degrees, certifications, and 25 years of professional experience to another country."

Many union members have submitted comments similar to those of Andrew, a plumber and pipe fitter (UA) in Minnesota:

"I'm one of the fortunate ones who has good insurance through my union affiliation."

In Wisconsin, electrical worker (IBEW) Charles echoes that sentiment:

"I am currently going through cancer and have one more chemo to go. Thank God I joined a union some years back to be able to cover most of the costs associated with the illness. If I hadn't, I'm sure it would be a matter of bankruptcy. While working nonunion, I had a bruised heel, and the medical costs almost sent me there." □

For more information on the online health care survey or to learn about other issues affecting U.S. workers, visit the AFL-CIO blog at <http://blog.aflcio.org/>.

PINES

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Climate change is a global phenomenon, but the effects will be felt locally. Individuals, industries, and governments will be hard pressed to respond in time.

Whatever mitigation efforts nations undertake will have enormous economic and social consequences. Government policies will drive technological efforts to slow the warming. Those policies can make or break industries — and geographic regions.

We cannot afford to put all our faith in any one technology — nuclear, solar, wind, fossil fuels, or whatever else comes along. International President Newton B. Jones has said, "It is a mistake to ignore our 200 to 300 years of coal reserves as a source of energy; we must find a way to use it safely."

Projects are already underway to explore how to sequester and store the carbon dioxide that results from burning coal and other fossil fuels.

Developing this technology may be an economical way to reduce emissions.

But even as we battle global warming locally, we can never forget that it is a global phenomenon that requires a global solution. New technologies must find their way to other countries that produce high levels of emissions, such as China and India. Only truly global effort will achieve the reductions necessary. □

6 Facts about Global Warming

The Bad News

1. Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have risen 30% since the start of the Industrial Revolution.
2. Temperatures have risen 1.2 degrees Fahrenheit since the Industrial Revolution.
3. There is abundant evidence that the two are intimately connected.

The Good News

1. It takes a long time for an ice sheet a mile deep to melt.
2. We already have technology that can reduce emissions.
3. We are fully capable of developing newer technology that does an even better job.



Recruiting program adds 500 workers in first year

MOST initiative helps contractors meet manpower challenge

"THERE ARE LOTS of people out there who would like to work for our signatory contractors. They just have to be asked."

That assessment by Gary Evenson, AIP-Director-Construction Recruitment Services, sums up the purpose of the MOST recruitment program. Its aim is to find qualified nonunion welders and riggers, and connect them with Boilermaker locals and signatory contractors.

Manpower availability is a primary mission of MOST, which stands for Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training. Created as a Taft-Hartley trust, the organization serves the interest of both the contractors and the Boilermakers union.

With a construction boom under way in heavy industry, nearly two million new craft workers will be needed in the United States in the next 10 years — yet the pool of skilled workers continues to shrink as baby boomers retire. MOST hopes to attract qualified nonunion workers to fill gaps where needed. Succeeding in this mission will help signatory contractors keep, and perhaps expand, their market share. It will also give locals an opportunity to evaluate potential new members — and grow their lodges.

Evenson, who spent more than a dozen years as a Boilermaker *Fight Back* organizer and led the formation of Local 4 in Page, Ariz., began directing the recruitment effort August 1. He oversees five recruiters, one in each of the five U.S. geographical jurisdictions of the International Vice Presidents. Evenson compiled figures through Nov. 20, 2007, showing that recruiters brought in about 500 nonunion craftsmen who went to work for signatory contractors. More than 2,000 workers have been added to the MOST reserve system database.

"Most of the credit for our recruitment success goes to [MOST Administrator] Bill Palmisano and the recruiters," says Evenson. "Bill got this program off the ground in November 2006. The numbers we're talking about would add up to a good-size Boilermaker construction lodge." MOST recruiters include Roman F. Alaniz Jr., Central States; Christopher Hegeman, Southeast Area; Brian Loftus, Great Lakes; and C. Anthony Smarra, Northeast Area. The recruiting slot for the Western States is in the process of being filled.

Evenson says it takes a special kind of person to be a recruiter. "You have to be comfortable meeting strangers, and not everybody can do that." MOST recruiters explain the advantages of working for Boilermaker signatory contractors. Sometimes this can be a challenge, says Evenson. "There are some nonunion contractors who actually pay a higher daily rate and per diem than our union contractors, but they don't offer benefits. Union contractors blow them out of the water when you con-

sider the whole package — rate, per diem, and benefits."

Still, many younger workers like the idea of maximizing what's on the paycheck and don't think ahead to the importance of health care coverage and a good pension.

"When I was younger," Evenson recalls, "I was one of those guys who said just put the money for pension and health care on the paycheck. Boy, am I glad the older guys didn't listen to me. When you're 20, you think you're going to live forever. By the time you're in your 30s and have a family and children, health and welfare becomes a lot more important to you."

"I tell these young guys, 'What you're doing now is creating a road for life. You can make it a smooth ride, with

"I tell these young guys, 'What you're doing now is creating a road for life. You can make it a smooth ride, with your pension and health care taken care of, or a bumpy ride, without benefits.'"

— Gary Evenson, AIP-Director-Construction Recruitment Services



Working on the manpower shortage are, l. to r., Roman Alaniz Jr., L-74 (Houston), recruiter for the Central States; Gary Evenson, AIP-Director-Construction Recruitment Services; Christopher Hegeman, L-37 (New Orleans), recruiter for the Southeast; Bill Palmisano, MOST Administrator; and Anthony Smarra, Local 154 (Pittsburgh), recruiter for the Northeast. Not pictured is Brian Loftus, L-744 (Cleveland), recruiter for the Great Lakes.

your pension and health care taken care of, or a bumpy ride, without benefits. Believe me, when you're 35 you're going to say that the big old bald guy was right."

Ideally, the recruitment program brings in welders, riggers, and other qualified workers who have completed an apprentice program and have practical experience. Some recruits come directly from welding schools though. Locals may choose to provide recruits with safety and welding training; they may also enroll them in a Boilermaker apprenticeship.

One strategy to find recruits is to run local advertising about upcoming Common Arc testing at a local lodge. Nonunion workers who attend have an opportunity to be tested in various welding techniques and certified by signatory contractors. "Local 4 held Common Arc tests in January, and

13 contractors were present," Evenson said. "Some two dozen nonunion workers participated, and most of them received certifications. We always have a good turnout and a high pass rate."

Involvement by the lodges is crucial says MOST's Palmisano. "It's really a joint effort among the recruiters, MOST, and the lodges. MOST's job is to find qualified people who do the kind of work we do. These people go into our reserve system." Locals have the opportunity to draw on the reserve system when there are manpower shortages. They also have the opportunity to offer recruits union membership.

"Our recruiting effort is only a little over a year old," says Palmisano, "but it's been quite successful." □

"MOST's job is to find qualified people who do the kind of work we do."

— Bill Palmisano, MOST Administrator

Students join L-11 members at job site

Demand for skilled workers allows for interesting classroom project

NINE MEMBERS OF a welding class left the UM-Helena College of Technology last year to get some hands-on experience by working side-by-side with members of Local 11 (Helena, Mont.) at the Colstrip 3 Power Plant.

The students worked eight weeks, helping the Boilermakers complete repair work on a boiler and perform routine maintenance work during a scheduled shutdown at the facility.

Usually one or two students have participated in past years during the shutdown, but never as many as nine, said UM welding instructor Tim Harris in an interview conducted by John Harrington of the *Helena Independent Record*.

"We've built good relations with Boilermakers Local 11 in East Helena," Harris said. "They're in serious need of people and the students were interested in what they do. It's a wonderful time for a person to make an excellent living in the trades now."

And Harris' students are well prepared. He has nearly 20 students who took part in a standardized test administered by Tetra Tech and the American Welding Society, and the entire class earned a perfect score.

According to Local 11 BM-ST John Roeber, three of these students have joined the Boilermakers' apprenticeship program and two of these students earned certification in tube welding on their very first job.

Roeber estimates that about 12 Local 11 members have attended UM-Helena College of Technology, including graduate apprentice Leo Seitz, who represented Local 11 in the Boilermakers' national apprenticeship competition in Kansas City last fall.

"The members of Local 11 know where the future for the organization is," Roeber said. □



L-146 creates WorkSmart program

Training exposes students to Boilermaker and welding trades

HOW DO YOU know if you're cut out to be a Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) Boilermaker? Answering that question became a lot easier for prospective members last year when the lodge launched a new program called WorkSmart.

The two-week pre-apprentice/pre-employment program exposes students to industry environments, safety issues, and workplace culture in the Boilermaker trade. WorkSmart combines theory and hands-on skills that will prepare students for gainful employment in the Boilermaker trade.

People not currently indentured in the apprenticeship program who think they may want to become a Boilermaker can enroll for the class after completing the local's Apprentice Recruitment Information Seminar. The three-hour seminar describes the Boilermaker trade, job expectations, union philosophy, and the dispatch system. At the end of the seminar, the lodge invites attendees to complete an apprenticeship program application, a questionnaire, and an aptitude exam. The local's apprentice selection committee then reviews all applications, and successful applicants can attend the WorkSmart Program.

Local 146 offered its first two-week WorkSmart course in October 2007. The lodge conducts the classes once a month and limits registrants to 12 per class.

"We like to keep the classes small so we can have the maximum amount of instructor/student interaction," explained L-146 Apprentice Administrator j'Amey Holroyd. "We want to facilitate the learning as effectively as possible while maintaining beginner safety and confidence."

The local conducts the classes at its training center, located on the same property as the L-146 administration and dispatch building in Edmonton. John Fletcher, pre-apprenticeship coordinator and instructor, and Ron Jacobs, instructor, teach the program. Jason Carroll serves as an alternate/back-up instructor.

Classroom lecture makes up 50 percent of the course outline and allows for multiple guest speakers (apprenticeship coordinators, dispatcher, business manager, and trades people). The curriculum includes such topics as rigging concepts, measuring, materials, trade-related components, workplace culture, substance abuse prevention, financial planning, and identifying jobsite hazards.

The other half of the program provides practical, hands-on experience in the areas of flame cutting, electric arc welding, common industry tools, rigging and hoisting, outdoor work



Hands-on training at the Local 146 WorkSmart program includes learning how to safely set up and use oxy-acetylene cutting equipment.



Potential members learn safety precautions while setting up and working with a crane.

in Alberta, confined space entry, and working at heights.

Local 146 advertises the WorkSmart program at trade shows, through flyers and posters, in their newsletter *the Expander*, and through word of mouth by their members.

"Currently we have a 97 percent success rate in course completion," Holroyd reports. "We have set high standards for attitude, skill, and attendance during the two-week WorkSmart training. All individuals who have successfully completed the program are now in the process of becoming Local 146 apprentices and members."

For more information about the WorkSmart program, please contact the Local 146 Learning Center at 780-451-5999. □

"All individuals who have successfully completed the program are now in the process of becoming L-146 apprentices and members."

—j'Amey Holroyd, L-146, Apprentice Administrator



With the help of a manway mock-up, students learn bolting and blinding procedures.



Students of the L-146 WorkSmart program experience the physical demands required of a Boilermaker while working with nine-inch grinders.

L-193 forms recruiting committee

Group focuses on high schools, welding programs

LOCAL 193 (BALTIMORE) aims to put a spark in its recruiting efforts by going after those who already have an interest in welding — high school students in technical programs and those attending welding schools. The lodge formed a committee for that purpose last August.

L-193 BM-ST Ernie Dorsey said the lodge has recruited in those areas before but decided to raise its level of involvement to bolster its membership. "We're looking for people who are not only interested in becoming Boilermaker apprentices but who already have some background in the type of skills they will need," he said. "We are going out and meeting with instructors at Maryland schools — especially in the Baltimore area — and so far we've been very well received."



L-193 officers and volunteers have created a committee to seek new members who already have basic skills.

HAZMAT/radiological training available to railroad members

National Labor College hosts expenses-paid instruction

RAILROAD LODGES THAT wish to send a representative to the National Labor College's Rail Workers Hazardous Materials Training Program or the Radiological Transportation Train-the-Trainer Course should advise interested members to apply immediately (applicants may apply online at www.hazmatgmc.org). The NLC has posted its 2008-09 schedule for these courses, and space is limited.

All courses will be taught at the George Meany Campus in Silver Spring, Md. Travel, lodging, and meal costs are provided by a federal grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and support from the North American Railway Foundation. In addition, those attending the HAZMAT classes are eligible for a \$550 incentive if they are unable to secure regular pay from their railroad employer during class attendance.

The 2008-09 course schedules are as follows:

Rail Workers Hazardous Materials Training Program

Sept. 21-26, 2008
Nov. 9-14, 2008
Mar. 29-Apr. 3, 2009
May 3-8, 2009

Radiological Transportation Train-the-Trainer Course

Apr. 14-16, 2008
May 12-14, 2008

The hazardous materials training qualifies for three academic credits from the NLC. It addresses OSHA- and DOT-required procedures and different levels of response and worker protection in various areas: a hazardous materials emergency or release, weapons of mass destruction awareness, and the incident command system. It also includes components required to complete OSHA 10-hour outreach training. Training includes advanced classroom instruction, small group activities, intensive hands-on drills, and a simulated HAZMAT response in full safety gear.

The radiological class is the DOD-sponsored Modular Emergency Radiological Transportation (MERRTT) train-the-trainer course, which includes 16 hours of instruction. Interested rail workers may register online at www.hazmatgmc.org, or they may register by phone (301-439-2440) or fax (301-628-0165).

Printed applications may be mailed to: Hazmat Training Program, National Labor College, 10000 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20903. For more information, contact Carol Rodgers at croddgers@nlc.edu.

District D11 forms safety committee

Group will serve cement locals in Western Canada

SAFETY ISSUES FOR Western Canadian members working in the cement, wallboard, and quarrying industries will be the focus of a new committee created by Cement District Lodge D11. The committee held its first meeting Dec. 7 in Calgary.

District Lodge D11 includes 13 locals: in Alberta, lodges D331 (Exshaw), D345 (Calgary), and D359 and D513 (Edmonton); in British Columbia, lodges D277 (Bamberton), D385 and D400 (Vancouver), D479 (Invermere), D486 (New Westminster), and D503 (Kamloops); in Manitoba, lodges D505 and D274 (Winnipeg), and D575 (Moosehorn).

District Lodge D11 BM-ST Rob Lauzon said the Western Safety Committee will allow the various member lodges to share experiences and best practices related to health and safety and to make recommendations on developing future plans and strategies. The committee plans to meet two to three times each year.

Attending the first meeting were Lauzon; Jason McInnis, Canadian National Director of Health and Safety; Steve Wilson and Mike Weber, Local D277; Ed Gall and Stuart Bilodeau, Local D359; George Lister and Rick Peterson, Local D331; and John O'Connor, David Chicoyne, and Everett Jeffrey, Local D385. □

Employers must pay for safety gear

THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY and Health Administration published a final rule Nov. 14 clarifying how much of an employee's personal protective equipment (PPE) must be paid for by the employer. With few exceptions, the rule requires employers to pay for nearly all PPE workers need on the job. Exceptions include ordinary safety-toed footwear, prescription safety eyewear, and clothing and weather-related gear.

The rule takes effect in May 2008, nearly a decade after it was first proposed. "OSHA had to be sued by the AFL-CIO and the UFCW [United Food and Commercial Workers] to force them to adopt this standard," said Milan Racic, Boilermakers' safety and health specialist.

The delay has been blamed for unnecessary injuries and deaths. OSHA stated that the rule will prevent 21,000 occupational injuries each year. Edwin Foulke Jr., OSHA administrator, said the rule will cost employers an additional \$85 million per year, but will save them more than \$200 million in medical and insurance costs.

SAFETY CORNER



ASBESTOS

ONE OF THE MOST hazardous substances we might encounter in the workplace, asbestos has been used for centuries because of its excellent fire resistance and insulating properties. Asbestos has been used widely in construction, shipbuilding, and boiler manufacture because of its availability, low production cost, and high tensile strength. Boilermakers are likely to encounter asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in a variety of settings — on the job and in their own homes.

Asbestos appears as a fiber. But what looks like a single fiber is actually thousands of fibers, each of which can be divided even further into microscopic fibers. When ACM is disturbed, these microscopic fibers can become airborne and enter a person's lungs without being noticed.

In the lungs, asbestos may cause asbestosis, lung cancer, or mesothelioma — all of which can be fatal. Because the symptoms of these diseases may not appear for 15-40 years, workers sometimes convince themselves they can work around asbestos without taking precautions. Don't be lulled into complacency by that macho fellow worker who says he has worked with asbestos for 20 years and never gotten ill. He may be in for a terrible surprise in a few more years.

Health hazards

HUNDREDS OF MEDICAL studies have shown that inhaling asbestos fibers may increase the risk of developing lung diseases.

Years ago, asbestos workers were often exposed to high concentrations of asbestos fibers with little or no protection. Today, asbestos workers follow specific work practices and wear protection to minimize the risk of exposure. Nonetheless, the following diseases continue to appear, suggesting that many workers are still not getting the proper protection for asbestos exposure.

ASBESTOSIS. Asbestos primarily damages the lungs. Once inhaled, asbestos-containing dust particles may reach tiny air sacs, where large cells called macrophages attempt to engulf the particles and "digest" them. When that is not successful, these cells deposit a coating on the fibers and begin forming scar tissue around them. When enough scar tissue is formed, asbestosis results.

Asbestosis reduces lung capacity, so the first symptom is usually shortness of breath. The greater the exposure, the more likely the disease is to develop, so asbestosis is most common among workers who have been exposed to high concentrations over a long period of time. All forms of asbestos can cause asbestosis, and the disease typically is not diagnosed until 15-30 years after exposure.

LUNG CANCER. Asbestos is one of many causes of lung cancer. Workers exposed to asbestos are five times as likely to develop lung cancer as workers never exposed. Cigarette smokers exposed to asbestos are 50 times as likely to develop asbestosis as nonsmokers who are not exposed.

The risk increases because cigarette smoke paralyzes the cilia — a hairlike lining

of the airways. Cilia capture dust and debris before they can enter the lungs, protecting the lungs from toxic substances. Paralyzed by cigarette smoke, the cilia are unable to stop asbestos fibers from reaching and harming the lungs.

MESOTHELIOMA is the most serious asbestos-associated disease. Fortunately, it is also the rarest. Mesothelioma is a cancer that can form in the chest or abdominal cavity. It spreads rapidly and is always fatal. The exact mechanism of this disease remains unknown, and some mesothelioma victims have had only limited exposure to asbestos. Mesothelioma may not develop for 30-40 years after initial exposure.

Where asbestos may be found

BECAUSE ACM MAY be found in a variety of locations and materials, many of the daily tasks Boilermakers perform can result in asbestos exposure if proper work practices are not followed. Before disturbing any unknown material or material that could contain asbestos, consult with your supervisor so qualified personnel can identify and administer the proper protocol.

The most common use for asbestos has been fireproofing. In construction, it was sprayed on steel beams, columns, and decking to prevent these structural members from warping or collapsing in a fire. It was also mixed with such materials as vermiculite, sand, cellulose fibers, gypsum, and calcium carbonate to form fireproofing materials.

When used for thermal insulation and condensation control, asbestos was

usually spray-applied, trowel-applied, or factory installed on or within equipment, vessels, pipes, boilers, and furnaces.

Additionally, asbestos was added to a variety of building materials to enhance strength. It is found in concrete and concrete-like products, siding and roofing shingles, wallboard, roofing, cladding, partitions, and pipes. Asbestos has also been added to asphalt, vinyl, and other materials to make such products as roofing felts, exterior siding, floor tile, joint compounds and adhesives, and gaskets. Many of these products are still in use today.

Because asbestos can appear in so many locations, workers must always be careful when undertaking any activity that can disturb a structural component. It isn't necessary to cut into the material to release asbestos into the air. ACM can be disturbed by attaching rigging components (slings, chain-falls, come-alongs) to pipes, beams, or other components insulated or fireproofed with ACM. Flange-breaking and removing valves, piping, or vessels insulated with ACM can also release asbestos.

In many industrial environments, pipes, beams, vessels, etc., were insulated or "fireproofed" with ACM. To prevent the release of asbestos fibers, these materials must remain intact and not be disturbed. If you find it necessary to access these areas, consult your supervisor and have the material identified and removed by qualified asbestos workers prior to beginning your work.

Canadian construction lodge leaders meet

Members discuss contracts, jurisdiction, safety, and training

CONSTRUCTION LODGE LEADERS from across Canada gathered for a two-day conference in Quebec City, Quebec, Sept. 11-12. Conducted by International Vice Presidents Joe Maloney and Ed Power, the meeting drew representatives of the following local lodges: Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia); Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario); Local 271 (Montreal, Quebec); Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia); and Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba).

Featured guest speaker was David Galvin, the new president of the Boilermaker Contractors' Association (BCA). The BCA, representing about 320 Boilermaker contractors, is the number one employer group for the Boilermakers union in Canada.

Galvin has 25 years experience in labour relations and human resources, including training, negotiating, and servicing industrial and construction agreements. He spoke about the importance of building a good reputation.

"The most important thing is our reputation — how we think about ourselves, how the client thinks about us, the contractors, and the union," Galvin said. "Status quo is not acceptable. There are others who want to do our work."

IVP Power discussed the success the Eastern Canada Tripartite has had in getting the union, contractors, and owners/clients working on solutions together.

IVP Maloney reviewed the Boilermakers' Web site (www.boilermaker.ca). He reported on the number of visits to the site and the travel card pool. Created to fulfill manpower requirements of contractors and clients across Canada, the travel card pool also lets members apply for jobs online. Instead of driving to a local lodge dispatch office and waiting there for a job assignment, a member can access the Web site and wait for the call from wherever they are presently located.

Other speakers included National Apprentice Coordinator Grant Jacobs and National Safety Director Jason McInnis. Jacobs presented a national training report and discussed training programs for supervisors, master riggers, and disaster response. McInnis reported on the national health and safety committee.

Attendees at the annual meeting also reviewed outlines for a new basic and level-two steward training program (presented by Intl. Rep. Richard MacIntosh), updates to the General President and National Maintenance Agreements, and jurisdictional matters. □

"The most important thing is our reputation — how we think about ourselves, how the client thinks about us, the contractors, and the union."

— David Galvin, president,
Boilermaker Contractors Association



Attending a Construction Division conference in Quebec City are, l. to r.: front row, IR Cory Channon, CD Dir. Skipper Branscum, IVPs Ed Power and Joe Maloney, L128 BM-ST Jim Tinney, L73 BM-ST JeanYves Poirier; back row, L271 trustee Michel Trepanier, Darrell Bray, Natl. Apprentice Coord. Grant Jacobs, Natl. Safety Dir. Jason McInnis, AIP Stan Petronski, IRs Kent Oliver and Norm Ross, L359 BM-ST Carl Ellsworth, IR Andre Fleury, L555 BM-ST Dallas Rogers, L359's Barry Pine, and L128's Jack Ahshe.

STEWARD SOURCEBOOK

COMPANY RULES 9 THINGS TO CONSIDER

OFTEN MEMBERS RUN into problems when they are accused of violating a company rule. Companies have broad powers to establish rules, as long as they don't conflict with the law or with the collective bargaining agreement. But nothing is automatic, and often the union can challenge a discipline stemming from a rule violation — or even the rule itself.

When a member comes to you with a rule-violation problem, here are some things to consider:

- ① **Is the rule applied evenly?** If the no-smoking ban is enforced on day shift, but not on night shift, the company has a problem. If Sam gets a three-day suspension for playing tag with a forklift, while Joe is fired for the same incident, you might be able to get Joe his job back if his work record is virtually identical to Sam's.
- ② **Are there extenuating circumstances?** Sometimes the age, past record, years of service, family problems, or other conditions make a good argument to reduce the punishment for a person who, admittedly, did break the rule.
- ③ **Were workers notified when the rule was established or changed?** Arbitrators generally agree that it is unreasonable to expect workers to adhere to a rule they don't know about. Did the company make an effort to let workers know of it? Did they notify workers of the penalties for violating it? Can the company produce a document showing that workers were notified?
- ④ **Is the rule understandable?** The rule should be clear and specific, not awkwardly worded or vague. "Excessive absences" means different things to different people. "Three days of absence within any continuous 12-month period without prior approval of the human resources office" is pretty clear.
- ⑤ **Does the rule cause undue hardship for some workers?** Allowing only a 20-minute lunch break could penalize workers who are a long walk from the lunchroom.
- ⑥ **Did management consult with the union before imposing or changing the rule?** Although some rules are not subject to mandatory bargaining, the union should always be notified and/or consulted before a new rule is set in place.
- ⑦ **Did management follow due process?** Most contracts call for some sort of process — usually verbal warnings followed by written warnings, suspension, and finally discharge. Even without that language in the contract, employers are often held responsible for counseling wayward employees or offering retraining if performance is an issue.

⑧ **Can management prove the worker actually broke the rule?** Hearsay evidence (Joe says he heard . . .) and circumstantial evidence are weak arguments for imposing discipline.

⑨ **Does the rule serve a practical purpose?** If a violation of the rule doesn't harm the company or any of its employees, why have the rule?

As with all grievances, stewards will need to do plenty of investigating before tackling a grievance involving an alleged violation of a company rule. You may need to request some company documents, such as the following:

- The company's written rules
- The company's evidence the member was notified of the rule
- Attendance records (for violations of attendance rules)
- Records of previous disciplinary actions based on violation of this rule.

Wherever your investigation takes you, the more information you have — on the alleged action, the rule itself, the grievant, and how the company has acted in the past — the more likely you are to resolve the grievance to the satisfaction of your member. □

The Steward Sourcebook is back. This column will be a regular feature in future issues of *the Boilermaker Reporter*. If you have suggestions for topics or would like to contribute an article for this column, please contact *the Reporter* editorial office or e-mail Donald Caswell at dcaswell@boilermakers.org. The editors also welcome nominations for Star Steward.

FURNACE

continued from p. 1

Graycor was the general contractor on the project, along with Metro Industrial, Power Process Piping, and Triangle Electric. At peak employment, over 1,000 hardhats were on the job.

SeverStal project manager Keith Kahl said, "Everyone in the industry is asking 'How did you do it?' About 10 or 12 people told us they couldn't believe the job done by this work force. The building trades did very well out here. They said we couldn't get it done in 100 days; we got it done early. It was an unprecedented job."

Andy Payne of Metro Industrial Contracting said, "This kind of schedule has never been successful before. I think we owe our success to good planning, proper scheduling and constructability, and the great efforts put forth by the building trades. If something didn't fit, the tradesmen made it fit. It was a real team effort, and from the very beginning, the people out here took pride in their work."

Getting the job done

UNION MEMBERS BEGAN to tear down the old blast furnace at the steel-making operation last June. It took about three weeks to dismantle the old "C" furnace, most of which dated back to the late 1940s. Only the old support columns were incorporated into the rebuilt furnace.

The new furnace is cleaner and more environmentally friendly. According to a SeverStal publication, engineering manager Dave Morris said the new furnace will "utilize state-of-the-art technologies that will make it the most efficient and productive blast furnace in the world." It is now producing over 4,500 tons of pig iron a day, twice what was expected at start up.

Morris said the new furnace has less polluting emissions, less operating costs, and increased production over the old furnace. Energy consumption



Here is part of the building trades and contracting crew (including members of Detroit Local 169) that set a new industry standard by installing a "C" blast furnace in less than 100 days at SeverStal North America's Ford Rouge site.

is also considerably less, he said, as the new furnace uses pulverized coal as fuel instead of costlier natural gas.

A blast furnace operates at about 2,800 degrees. It is the first step in removing impurities and producing steel from iron ore. Pig iron that is produced in a blast furnace is taken to a basic oxygen furnace, and then refined into a higher grade of steel.

Morris said dismantling the old furnace was probably the most complex aspect of the project. It was taken down in multiple components. The final phase of demolition was the removal of residual solidified iron in the furnace, called the "salamander." It was a block of iron 29 feet in diameter and four feet thick, weighing 450 tons. Dynamite was used to fracture the mass of iron.

Most of the new furnace sections were assembled on the ground in front

of the old furnace and then lifted into place. Some sections were assembled on a barge, floated to the plant's boat slip, and transported to the furnace. The largest pre-assembled section weighed 500 tons, making it one of the heaviest lifts in North America in 2007.

The project also involved constructing a new two-million-pound cast house, which was pre-assembled

nearby. It took one day to roll the structure into place next to the blast furnace.

The new furnace is part of a \$750 million expenditure by SeverStal to enhance its steelmaking operations. Steelmaking operations continued during construction, as SeverStal utilized its "B" blast furnace on site — which dates to 1921. □

Photos and Story Source: Marty Mulcahy, *the Building Tradesman*



Putting a wrench to an emissions duct hood at the SeverStal "C" blast furnace are L-169 members (l. to r.) Darryl Coch and Tom Hamilton.



L-169 member Terrence Coursey unravels a welding lead as it is lowered from the new SeverStal "C" blast furnace.

L-40 revamps Marathon regenerator

Boilermakers work 80,000 man-hours with no recordables

WORKING FOR CONSTRUCTION Turnaround Services of Tulsa, Okla., members of Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) have completed a "head-off" plenum and cyclone rebuild at Marathon Petroleum's Catlettsburg, Ky., oil refinery. Together with travelers from other area Boilermaker lodges, they worked 80,000 man-hours with no recordable accidents.

The job employed about 140 Boilermakers: 80 from Local 40, 40 from the National Transient Lodge, and the rest from Locals 30 (Greensboro, N.C.), 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio), 199 (Jacksonville, Fla.), 667 (Charleston, W.Va.), and 906 (Donora, Pa.). The regenerator is used to clean up spent clay catalyst. A catalyst is used during the refining process to separate out coke during a reaction that changes gas oils into more useful types of oil. The regenerator burns

the coke from the catalyst so it may be reused.

The job began in April 2007 with the unloading and assembling of a Lampson 2,600-ton crane. The crane's boom was 340-ft. long and was loaded with 5.2 million pounds of counterweight.

"The actual shutdown began on Sept. 5, 2007, and finished Oct. 31, 2007; however, we still had a small crew at the site as late as Jan. 25 dismantling and loading out the big crane," reported L-40 ABM Michael Autry.

Some of the larger lifts at the job included removal of the regenerator head with the old plenum and cyclones that weighed 650 tons, and its replacement weighing 680 tons with rigging.

"I believe this shows the skills and dedication of Local 40 and NTL members who completed this work without a recordable injury," reported L-40 BM-ST Ray Parrott, "especially since the work involved a lot of high and heavy rigging, plus working seven days a week for an extended period." □



Local 40 members finalize the removal of the regenerator's old air grid at Marathon Petroleum.



Boilermakers prepare to lift the rebuilt regenerator head in Catlettsburg, Ky.

KUDOS

L-154 completes outage

BABCOCK & WILCOX CONSTRUCTION Co. Inc. (BWCC) would like to thank the management and members of Boilermakers Local 154 [Pittsburgh] for their excellent work and support in making the FirstEnergy Corp. Mansfield Unit 3 reheat replacement a successful outage. The outage was completed with no lost-time accidents and no recordable incidents because Local 154 and BWCC are committed to safety and incorporate safety into the daily work plans as a cooperative team effort.

Prior to the outage, FirstEnergy Corp., Local 154, and BWCC held numerous meetings to jointly review the schedule and manpower requirements. This enabled Local 154 to plan for the outage manpower needs. Mark Angle [L-154 Business Agent] and Mike Ventrone [L-154 Vice President] worked closely with BWCC and Larry Wargo [FirstEnergy Corp.] during the outage to address manpower requirements. Their communication and manpower status reports allowed BWCC to make efficient use of Boilermaker manpower on a daily basis.

The support BWCC received from Local 154 was a significant factor in the safe completion of this outage, ahead of schedule. The quality of work was outstanding, with a reject rate of only 1.5 percent out of approximately 8,900 reheat tube welds.

Local 154's assistance and professional approach is appreciated.

JOHN SCHUMACHER, eastern operations manager
Babcock & Wilcox Construction Co. Inc.

NTL members replace tank bottom



MEMBERS OF THE National Transient Lodge are replacing a tank bottom at the Sunoco Logistics refinery in Marcus Hook, Pa. Working for the Matrix Service Company, a Boilermaker contractor since 1985, the crew is also installing new shell fittings and a foam system (used to fight fires) in the 144-ft. gas tank. Pictured above are crew members Lewis Keifer, Seth Traver, Jeremy Kovalick, foreman Jeff Kovalick, and Jerry Davies.



L-687's Sibley teaches Afghans to weld

Apprentice serves with South Carolina National Guard

SPECIALIST THOMAS SIBLEY, a third-period apprentice with Local 687 (Charleston Heights, S.C.) didn't figure on putting his welding skills to much use when his National Guard unit shipped out to Afghanistan in May 2007. A communications specialist with the 218th Brigade Combat Team, Sibley handles video teleconferencing assignments, linking his unit to others around the world.

But an engineering commander discovered that Sibley, 35, also has skills that are in high demand in Kabul, the Afghan capital. "I'm a certified tube

welder," Sibley said. "I learned to weld at a vocational school and also at the Army's welding school. And I was an apprentice with Local 687 before my unit was called up."

The commander asked Sibley to teach local Afghan construction workers how to do specific welds for the U.S. military. "Their welding skills weren't up to par," Sibley said, "so I stepped in for a couple of weeks and showed them how to do horizontal and vertical welds using 7018 rods."

Sibley, who has served 11 years with the National Guard, said he plans to continue his apprenticeship with Local 687 when his unit returns to South Carolina, probably in May 2008. □

Apprentice Thomas Sibley, right, teaches an Afghan construction worker to weld in Kabul.



Above: Local 374's new rigging yard in Dale, Ind., is a 60-ft. by 80-ft. structure with three fixed tiers on one end and a removable structure on the other.

Left: After breaking ground for the local's new rigging yard last April, Local 374 journeymen and apprentices began erecting the steel frame.

Local 374 members complete rigging yard

New addition reinforces lodge's commitment to contractors, customers

MEMBERS OF LOCAL Lodge 374 have not one, but two high-tech training facilities. One is located by their lodge office in Hammond, Ind.; the other can be found about 300 miles south in Dale, Ind., where

members recently completed a new rigging yard.

The rigging yard will be used to train all Local 374 apprentices in multiple rigging classes. The 60-ft. by 80-ft. structure has tuggers and a snatch-block system, but still has enough room for mobile equipment. It has three fixed tiers on the west end, and a removable structure on the east

end that will be used to teach steel erection and dismantling.

Ground was broken for the Dale rigging yard last April by Sterling Boiler crews who performed the site and civil work, including the footings, piers, and flat work.

The structure was fabricated off-site and arrived in mid-July. Local 374 journeymen and apprentice volunteers

then erected the structure in 14 days, working in summer temperatures of over 100 degrees.

"This new addition to our training program will reinforce Local 374's commitment to our contractors and customers that our craft's goal is to be the leader of the Building Trades servicing heavy industry," said Local 374 BM-ST Paul Maday.

Boilermakers sell T-shirts to raise funds

Money helps two car accident victims, both L-359 members

WHEN SEPARATE CAR accidents left two Local 359 apprentices with life-changing injuries, their brother Boilermakers stepped forward to help, raising over \$6,000 through T-shirt and hooded sweatshirt sales.

Colin Anderson and Dave Braithwaite, both members of Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia), came up with the fund-raising idea after visiting one of the accident victims (Stu Wymer) in the hospital.

"When I saw what a great attitude this guy has, I made the decision to sell the T-shirts to help Jordon [Dycke] and Stu out," Anderson explained.

He and Braithwaite started to call other members to tell them about their idea, and immediately learned that Boilermakers will support Boilermakers. The interest resulted in three separate print runs for the apparel that boasts a design Anderson and Braithwaite created: a large cross with the words "West Coast Boilermakers" and "Lodge 359" printed across the back; and "Boilerhogs Lodge 359" printed in front, across the heart of the shirt.

As word got out about the fund raiser, some members began to take orders at their job sites for the shirts. Greg Piece sold shirts at the Trail smelter job, Rob Murray took orders at the Burrard Thermal Plant, and Wayne Letcher made sales at the Chevron job. Shaun Rohatyn also raised funds, donating proceeds from three separate card draws. Members of Vancouver Local D385 also participated in the sales, with Gregg Dunning and Chris Edmonds selling shirts at their Richmond Lafarge plant.

At the December 2007 union meeting, Anderson presented a \$3,250 check to Stu Wymer.

"I had no idea this fund raising was taking place," Wymer said. "I am just overwhelmed. It was around the house as I was growing up about 'the union is there to back each other up,' and this just proves it."

The next day, Anderson traveled to Duncan, British Columbia, to present another check to Jordon and his fiancé, Shanon, who plan to use the money for their wedding this summer.

Dycke deeply appreciates the fund-raising efforts. "Over the past six years I have learned so much and have had the time of my life. I will never forget all the good times; it is something I will keep for a lifetime," he said.

Local 359 Bus. Mgr. Carl Ellsworth said, "This administration thinks it is fantastic how the Boilermakers will rally around one of their own in a time of need."

Intl. Vice Pres. Joe Maloney is also proud of the Local 359 members who



Car accident victim Stu Wymer (l.) receives a check from L-359 fund-raiser Colin Anderson.

rallied together to assist these two young apprentices. "They are facing many challenges ahead," Maloney said, "but with the support and spirit of Local 359, I am confident of their future."

Anderson and Braithwaite are still taking orders for the T-shirts and "hoodies." They can be contacted at westcoastboilerhogs@hotmail.com. □



Car accident victim Jordon Dycke (c.) and his fiancé, Shanon, receive a check from L-359 fund-raiser Colin Anderson.



Pictured (l. to r.) with a check for \$8,270 are Dresden plant mgr. Dave Wozniak, L-17 steward Jim Bollin (Insulators), Deborah Trippiedi of Mom's Cookies, L-1 steward Brett Hamilton (Boilermakers), L-916 steward Rick Wren (Carpenters), L-75 steward Paul Colabuono (Laborers), job site rep Jim Carpenter (L-1, Boilermakers), L-176 steward Mike Barkley (IBEW), L-444 steward Paul Falasca (Ironworkers), L-597 steward Bob Polancic (Pipe Fitters), and Stone & Webster site mgr. Graham Cross.

Workers at nuclear outage dig deep for troops abroad

UNION CONSTRUCTION workers at Exelon's Dresden Nuclear Station near Chicago have collected more than \$8,000 for pre-paid phone cards and customized care packages for U.S. soldiers serving abroad.

The workers, employees of Stone & Webster Construction Inc., timed their donations to coincide with Veterans' Day (Nov. 11).

"Hundreds of our workers contributed to this worthy cause," said Stone & Webster site manager Graham Cross. "Management was greatly impressed with the selfless generosity displayed by our union employees." Stone & Webster also contributed toward the campaign.

The \$8,270 donation went to Mom's Cookies Inc. (Wilmington, Ill.), a public charity organization led by Deborah Trippiedi. Mom's Cookies provides direct aid in the form of phone cards,

individual care packages, holiday items, etc., to U.S. soldiers around the globe. "Our soldiers really appreciate being remembered by those of us at home, particularly at this time of the year. Everyone at Mom's Cookies is grateful to Stone & Webster and its union work force for remembering our troops abroad," Trippiedi said.

Over 135 Boilermakers are working on a refueling outage at the nuclear power plant. According to Local 1 (Chicago) Vice President Robert Schwartz, the Boilermakers are working in highly-radioactive areas under extreme conditions, performing maintenance and modification activities. "This is a combined effort with all Boilermakers working together, including travelers, to get the job done safely, on time, and with no problems," Schwartz reported. □

Local 60 awards scholarships

LOCAL 60 BM-ST Ed Hebert (Peoria, Ill.) has presented the local's third annual scholarship awards to relatives of Local 60 members. Receiving \$500 awards were Abbi Bosnich, daughter of Paul Bosnich; Tawni Bradley, daughter of Thomas Bradley; Kasey Cannon, granddaughter of David Cannon; Paul Guilliams, son of Paul Guilliams; Hannah and Jared Harrison, grandchildren of Eldon Harrison; Jared Hunt, son of Gary Hunt; Jaimie Jacobs, daughter of Don Jacobs; Michelle Lindee, wife of Darren Lindee; John Sondag, grandson of William Grayson; Clair Sack, daughter of Bruce Sack; and Christine Vincent, wife of Jeff Vincent.

Six L-73 dependents win scholarships



SIX DEPENDENTS OF Local 73 members (Halifax, Nova Scotia) are the lucky winners of a \$500 education award from the Halifax/Dartmouth Offshore Industry Education Awards Program.

Held in Toronto, Ontario, on Dec. 7, 2007, the annual drawing is conducted by the General Presidents' Maintenance Committee for Canada and is funded by Jacobs Industrial Services Ltd.

Seventeen names were randomly drawn from the names of 62 eligible applicants. Each winner received \$500, including six dependents of Local 73 members: Teri McComber, daughter of Kevin McComber; Katelyn Pelrine, daughter of Blaise Pelrine; Lindsay Myette, daughter of Willard Myette; Bronya Meharg, daughter of John Meharg; Karen Glenn, daughter of Myles Glen; and Britten Myette, daughter of Willard Myette.

L-154's Crawford wins bear hunt

Member's dream trip is televised on *Escape to the Wild*

TODD CRAWFORD, A member of Local 154 (Pittsburgh), loves to make people laugh, whether he is with friends or family, or creating an application video for *Escape to the Wild*, a TV show that surprises "hardworking" union members with the hunting or fishing trip of a lifetime.

Escape to the Wild is a union-sponsored program that evolved from a relationship between the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and a number of AFL-CIO-affiliated trade unions that recognized a majority of their members hunt, fish, and enjoy the outdoors. This same partnership led to the recently launched Union Sportsmen's Alliance, a hunting and fishing club for union members and their families.

When Crawford learned he could apply to win the trip of his dreams hunting black bear in Canada, he "took a shot in the dark" and sent an application video that included a segment in which he dressed in a ghillie suit (camouflage clothing designed to resemble heavy underbrush) near the forest's edge and scared the daylight out of his neighbor.

Crawford began hunting with his dad when he was 2 years old and always dreamed of hunting something larger than deer. He thought about hunting bear, "something that could hunt me back if it wanted to. It would be unbelievable," he said. With a son and daughter in college, such a hunt did not seem feasible. So when Crawford received a call on his cell and learned he was one of the candidates for a bear hunt, he nearly drove his truck off the road.

Crawford's dream hunt took him far north to Saskatchewan, where he discovered that hunting bear is a bit different than hunting deer. "I was kind of overwhelmed, since I was not experienced in judging the size of a bear very well," he said.

"The most important piece of advice my guide, John Woulfe, gave me was that if all the other bears around spook when another bear comes in sight... that's the bear you want."



L-154's Todd Crawford with the 300-pound bear he hunted on *Escape to the Wild*.

He and *Escape to the Wild* host Tom Ackerman saw six bears the first night but passed them up, waiting for a bigger bear that had been seen in the area.

Crawford knew the bear he wanted was headed toward him on the second night, when others in the area took off. "We saw a little bear climb 30 feet up a tree in about two seconds," said Crawford.

Successfully hunting a 300-pound black bear was definitely the highlight of Crawford's trip to Canada, but there was more to his experience than the hunt. "The people in Saskatchewan were so nice; it was unbelievable. That is going to stick with me forever. My thanks to the Woulfe family of Green Water Marean Lake Outfitters for taking me into their home and treating me like family."

For Crawford, who joined the Boilermakers union six years ago, hunting is more than just a passion; it has made him better at his job. "Sitting in a tree stand for five or six hours in freezing weather... or standing on the bank of my favorite strip pond when it's 90 degrees making a hundred casts... these things make it easier for me to do parts of my job like standing by the Ohio River in subzero weather hooking up structural steel or going into a boiler when it's well over 100 degrees to make a weld."

"It's truly an honor to host season two of *Escape to the Wild*," said host Tom Ackerman. The winners are hardworking Americans who share a love of the outdoors and have gone the extra mile in their community, at home, or on the job. Todd is an intense, focused, determined hunter and a fun-loving practical joker who understands the importance of keeping America's hunting and fishing heritage alive."

"I enjoy hunting with young sportsmen, especially my son, passing along what I know, answering their questions, giving them some of my tackle or an old arrow rest," Crawford said. "More of us need to spend time with any youngster who wants to learn. This is important not only to continue the traditions of sportsmanship, but it is also the union way of life."

Crawford's trip aired Jan. 25. To view other *Escape to the Wild* episodes, check your local television listings or go to verus.com. □



Bob Schwartz, Local 1 (Chicago) vice president and business agent, is now "Chief Schwartz."

Local 1 VP Schwartz named fire chief

Interest in fire fighting spans decades

AT LOCAL 1'S UNION hall in Chicago, Bob Schwartz is known as the lodge vice president, one of its business agents, and its training director. Sixty miles down the road, in the comfortable, small town of Shorewood, they have a new title for him — "chief."

Schwartz took on the title of fire chief for the Troy Fire Protection District — which serves Shorewood, unincorporated Troy Township, and parts of Kendall County, near Joliet — soon

after the death of Kerry Sheridan, who died in office (literally) after a half century as the district fire chief.

A 40-year Boilermaker, Schwartz grew up behind the original Troy Volunteer Fire Department "fire barn," according to the suburban Chicago *Herald News*. "As a youngster, when the siren would sound to summon the volunteers, he would be the first there and would open the doors, turn on the lights, and start the trucks for the firefighters," the newspaper reported.

According to Schwartz, it was Sheridan's wish that Schwartz succeed him as fire chief. "Nobody will ever fill his boots," Schwartz said, "but I will walk in his footprints."

Schwartz's enthusiasm for firefighting is surpassed only by his devotion to the Boilermakers and labor. "When you do something to help people, it feels good," he said. Referring to his role as Local 1 training director, he stated: "When you teach an apprentice and see him strike that arc and run a nice little bead, that's an awesome feeling."

Schwartz's service to his union also includes roles as labor co-chair for the Exelon GPA Powerhouse Area Committee and recording secretary of the Will-Grundy Building Trades Council. He has also served as a judge for the National Boilermaker Apprentice Competition as well as the Great Lakes and Northeast Area Apprentice of the Year Contest. In addition, he has represented Local 1 at three International Conventions, where he has served on the Rules Committee and as a sergeant at arms. □



Local 112 presents an award to United Way liaison Pat Rabbeitt. L. to r., J.M. Crane, H.M. Turner, Dennis King, W.E. McDaniel, Mrs. Rabbeitt, John Nolen, C.T. Brooks, Don J. Staples, H.E. Turner, and H.E. Turner Jr.

Local 112 honors United Way liaison

Members thank Pat Rabbeitt for her efforts following Hurricane Katrina

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 112 (Mobile, Ala.) presented an award to United Way liaison Pat Rabbeitt at their August meeting for her tireless and unwavering support following Hurricane Katrina.

"Pat is a member of the Communication Workers of America and is the AFL-CIO community services liaison for the United Way of Southwest Alabama," reported Curtis Brooks, BM-ST for Local 112. "Mrs. Rabbeitt served with the Boilermakers and was instrumental in providing Local 112 with the sources for distribution of supplies in order to meet the needs of the people who were devastated by Hurricane Katrina."

One of the costliest and deadliest hurricanes in U.S. history, Katrina hit the Gulf Coast in August 2005. Following the storm, the Boilermakers union secured work permits with Northrop-Grumman so they could deliver supplies into areas still under National Guard control. Mrs. Rabbeitt told them the United Way had supplies ready to deliver; however, the organization faced waiting periods of three to five days to enter disaster-stricken areas. Local 112 volunteers worked 10- and 12-hour days to load and drive trucks with Boilermaker supplies as well as supplies from United Way and other groups. In all, the members drove more than 35,000 miles and delivered over 225 tons of purchased and donated products — everything from baby food to mattresses.

Hobart develops new welding rod

Grateful for L-108 support, company names rod the Boilermaker 8018 B2

LOCAL 108 BOILERMAKERS (Birmingham, Ala.) played a key role in the development of a new alloy welding rod designed specifically for use in the power generation industry. The new rod comes in a shorter length: 12 inches instead of the standard 14. The shorter length allows the welder to burn the rod without bending it to reach restrictive areas. Too often when a rod is bent, part of the rod is discarded, leading to unnecessary waste.



The shorter length of the new Boilermaker 8018 B2 welding rod lets a welder work in tight spots with less rod waste.

The new rod offers low spatter and X-ray clear welds. It is also easy to burn, so even the newest apprentice can produce journeyman-level results, says Bruce Morrett, product manager for Hobart Brothers, the company that worked with Local 108 to develop the rod. He says Hobart plans to develop a series of rods designed for — and named after — the Boilermakers.

The idea for the new welding rod came about when the Southern Company — a utility company supplying electricity to customers in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi — called in construction specialist Dale Breckenridge of Airgas to review the problems Southern Company was having with the 14-inch rods at its plant in Gadsden, Ala.

With 900 locations in 48 states, Airgas is the largest distributor of welding equipment in North America. After a quick review, Breckenridge contacted Hobart Brothers, a manufacturer and distributor of welding equipment and accessories located in Troy, Ohio.

Hobart sent its district manager, Bob Wiscombe, to study the problem. Wiscombe found the existing rods had inadequate qualities and were causing porosity — the passage of gas or liquid through pores or interstices. He concluded that a new rod should be developed — one designed primarily for tube welding, that would provide a wider amp range and be easy to start and restart.

Hobart then contacted Local 108 for their help in developing the rod. Local 108 Bus. Mgr. Charlie Gamble and L-108 welding instructors Bob Henson and Joel Miller extensively tested rods throughout the development process. Engineers worked through 31 different formulas before arriving at the final product.

After nearly 12 months, the final testing was performed at Local 108's training facility, where the final product was appropriately named the Boilermaker 8018 B2.

Gamble, Henson, and Miller performed the final testing on Oct. 17. Observers included Southern Company's craft labor specialist Shawn Curtis; Alabama Power's welding engineers Marty Sims and Andy Godley; Airgas reps Breckenridge and Frank Sartain; and Hobart reps Wiscombe, Morrett, Mike Arrington, and Hao Guo.

Sartain, who serves as regional vice president for Airgas, described the welding rod's development as "a joint effort all the way. We've taken a tripartite [maker, supplier, user] approach to create and perfect this pressure rod."

Morrett, product manager for Hobart, is excited about the new rod's potential sales. "We're gonna kick out the competition," he said.

Godley, a welding engineer for Alabama Power, was impressed by the rod's potential use. "The less-experienced welders need something they can work with, and this is it," he said.

As business manager for Local 108, Gamble is grateful for being allowed input in a product that will make the Boilermaker even more efficient on the job. "This rod in a Boilermaker stinger will equal a good weld," he said. "You want to be pleasantly surprised when you light up a rod; that's what will sell it." □



Participating in the final testing of a new welding rod are, l. to r., Hobart product mgr. Bruce Morrett, Hobart welding tech Brian Simpson, Hobart dist. mgr. Bob Wiscombe, L-108 welding instructors Joel Miller and Bob Henson, Hobart R&D engineer Hao Guo, and L-108 welding instructor Mikell Robinson.



Hobart product mgr. Bruce Morrett gets a close-up look at tube welding.



Top apprentices earn recognition at the Local 146 anniversary celebration. L. to r. are Sheena Binette (2nd-year welder), Brent Toohey (3rd-year Blmkr.), Ricky Sens (entry-level Blmkr.), and Jarediah Bradley (3rd-year welder).

Local 146 celebrates 60 years

Members honor apprentices, long-term service

MORE THAN 500 people gathered at the Delta Inn South Jan. 26 to commemorate the 1948 chartering of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta). Members and their families as well as industry representatives from the owner, contractor, and union communities enjoyed a dinner and musical celebration.

Cessco Engineering and Fabrication, the first shop signatory to Local 146, under the name of Sparling Davis, hosted the bar during the reception in honor of their 60-year relationship with Local 146. To help visualize the lodge's rich history, two jumbo screens displayed photos so members could reminisce and remember "the

good old days." Pins recognizing long-term membership were presented to 207 members, and special recognition was given to 44 graduate apprentices.

Local 146 BM-ST Warren Fraleigh acknowledged the honorees for their hard work. "Your efforts have not been in vain. As a direct result of your contributions, there is a brilliant future ahead for Local 146," he said. Fraleigh also recognized the spouses and family members for their support and the sacrifices they make on behalf of the members who have to work away from home.

Following the dinner and awards, the Rum Brothers, a Vegas cabaret-type show, provided music and laughs for the attendees.

NEWS at a GLANCE

More U.S. workers go union

AMERICAN UNIONS SAW the biggest jump in membership in nearly 30 years in 2007, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported. A total of 311,000 workers joined or organized unions, raising the total of all union members to 15.7 million. The health care sector accounted for the largest increase — 142,000 members.

The construction industry pulled in 96,000, raising union density in that sector from 13.0 percent in 2006 to 13.9 percent last year. Manufacturing, however, continued to bleed, losing 287,000 more jobs, 93,000 of them union positions. Women accounted for two-thirds of the 2007 union growth and now make up 44 percent of all union members, a new record.

Foreign labor costs on rise

A NEW REPORT shows the average hourly compensation costs for manufacturing workers in 33 foreign economies increased to 82 percent of what U.S. companies paid in 2006, up from 79 percent in 2005.

No future for FutureGen?

FUTUREGEN, A PUBLIC-PRIVATE alliance that declared last December it would build "the world's first coal-fueled, near-zero emissions power plant," has run out of fuel itself. On Jan. 30, the U.S. Department of Energy announced it was pulling out of the project, taking with it \$1.3 billion in federal funding. The decision leaves the dozen private energy companies that had partnered with DOE with insufficient funds to proceed. The project was to have been located in Mattoon, Ill.

DOE says its decision was based on escalating project costs and doubts about the commercial viability of the project, which would have used integrated gasification and combined cycle (IGCC) technology to convert coal into a gas and remove impurities. The Illinois congressional delegation has vowed to fight the DOE decision.

Welders may lose smell

WELDERS WORKING IN confined spaces without adequate ventilation may lose their sense of smell, according to a new study by the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

The study's author, Richard Doty, PhD, gave "scratch and sniff" tests to 43 professional welders. Nearly 90 percent of the welders scored lower than a control group of non-welders. The sniff tests revealed that three welders had lost their sense of smell completely. Blood tests showed that 40 percent of the welders had

abnormally high levels of manganese (Mn). Interestingly, those with the highest Mn levels "smelled better" than those with the lowest.

Judge balks at Delphi bonuses

HOW BIG SHOULD your bonus be for leading your corporation into bankruptcy? Executives at Delphi Corp., the world's second-largest auto supplier that filed Chapter 11 in 2005, proposed \$87 million for 500 of their top managers as part of the company's reorganization plan.

The United Auto Workers and other unions representing Delphi workers protested vehemently, having suffered through plant closings, job cuts, and slashed wages and benefits. A bankruptcy judge said he would approve the reorganization plan provided the execs reduced their bonuses to \$16.5 million.

Perhaps the judge should have fined them rather than giving them any reward at all?

9/11 still claiming lives

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS who worked at Ground Zero following the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York continue to die from illnesses they contracted at the site, according to the *Public Employees Press*, a publication of AFSCME District Council 37. EMTs and other first responders breathed toxic air, laden with asbestos and fumes from burning chemicals, dust, and human bodies. Some EMT victims are developing respiratory illnesses and cancer and are dying in their early 40s.

Stimulate this!

AS THE WHITE House and Congress debated how much money citizens should receive to stimulate the slumping economy, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke offered this bit of wisdom: "You'd hope that [consumers] would spend it on things that are domestically produced so that the spending power doesn't go elsewhere."

CNN's Lou Dobbs, writing about the economy on Jan. 23, offered this bit of wisdom in response: "Just what would you have us spend it on? The truth is that consumers spend most of their money on foreign imports, and any stimulus package probably would be stimulating foreign economies rather than our own."

Dobbs may be right, but perhaps consumers should consider quality U.S. products made by Boilermakers, such as McGregor golf clubs, a Whirlpool refrigerator, or a Conn-Selmer band instrument. □

attend the afternoon side event hosted by Environment Defense regarding the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act, featuring the staff from the offices of Senators Joe Lieberman, John Warner, Tom Carper, Larry Craig, and Representatives Henry Waxman and James Sensenbrenner.

For a few hours, the conference room at the Grand Hyatt Bali looked more like the Russell Senate Office Building, as representatives from a wide range of U.S. stakeholders gathered to hear from the assembled congressional staffers. The union movement was well represented, as two of the half-dozen or so questions fielded by the panel came from our delegation. But the world is indeed watching, and the international participants in attendance were anxious

L-28's Devlin chosen mayor of Wall, N.J.

Lodge's legislative director becomes first Democrat to hold top township office

NOTCH ANOTHER POLITICAL first for John Devlin of Local 28 (Newark, N.J.). The lodge's legislative director now holds the title of mayor of Wall, N.J. He is the first Democratic mayor in the history of the township, which was established in 1851. The community is a traditional Republican stronghold.

The township committee unanimously selected Devlin mayor Jan. 2. In Wall, the municipal government forms each January, with the five-person committee selecting one of its members to serve as mayor for a one-year term.

Devlin first broke new ground in 2005 when he became the only Democrat ever elected to a second term on the committee, having previously served from 2001 to 2003.

Local 28's legislative committee is known for being active in local politics. In addition to Devlin's role as mayor of Wall, Jay Brophy serves on the Gloucester City, N.J., council, and Woody Dooley recently completed a term on the Westville, N.J., council.



L-28's John Devlin, mayor of Wall, N.J.

Local S8 reaches out to community

Members participate in food drive, fund-raisers

MEMBERS OF LOCAL S8 (Equality, Ill.) spent their Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays helping others.

They held a Thanksgiving food drive, organized by steward Tony Young. Members donated canned goods, potatoes, sugar, flour, stuffing, and all the supplies a family would need to prepare a Thanksgiving meal. Local S8 donated an additional \$300 to buy canned goods, and the Big Ridge Company, a Local S8 employer, provided turkeys and bread. In all, the members prepared 54 food baskets for distribution by area churches and WADI, a local food pantry. They also donated another five truckloads of canned goods to WADI.

For Christmas, they continued the spirit of giving by participating in two local programs: Share Your Blessings and Shop with a Cop. Many Local S8 members elected to have \$25 withheld from their checks for these programs. The Big Ridge Company matched the amount raised by its employees, and Local S8 donated \$1,500. Together they raised \$15,000 for each of the programs.



Local S8 and the Big Ridge Co. donate \$15,000 to the Shop With a Cop Program: l. to r., front row, Todd Cavender and Nathan Moore of the Harrisburg Police Officers Assoc. Local 152, and L-S8 steward Tony Young; back row, Rickie Phillips and Terry Ward of the Big Ridge Co., and L-S8 Pres. Greg Fort.



Local S8 and the Big Ridge Co. donate \$15,000 to the Share Your Blessings Program: l. to r., Rickie Phillips, Marzel Scates, Nicki Bishop, Katie Gulick, and Terry Ward of Big Ridge, and L-S8 Pres. Greg Fort and steward Tony Young.

DEBATE

continued from p. 4

movement must do more to push our governments and private industries to make it happen, and America must lead the effort. Half-measures simply won't cut it. The choice is abundantly clear: Pay now, or we will indeed pay quite dearly later.

Even on an international stage, the old adage holds true: All politics is local. It's nearly certain the breakthroughs necessary for U.S. participation in the next round of global commitments won't happen. However, it is highly likely that Congress will enact a domestic greenhouse gas reduction program soon. So, it made the most sense for many of us from the United States to

to get some answers to the million-dollar question: What exactly is the United States going to do about this?

One issue that received significant attention and is a key priority of the labor movement is a provision in the Lieberman-Warner bill borrowed from New Mexico Democratic Sen. Jeff Bingaman's legislation endorsed by the AFL-CIO and some affiliate unions. This provision would require that once a domestic program is in place, importers of carbon-intensive goods from any major emitting nation that has not taken comparable action must hold "carbon allowances" to cover the emissions

related to their production. The goal is to prevent so-called "leakage" of carbon emissions — taking U.S. jobs to foreign countries with lower manufacturing cost because they haven't done their part to limit greenhouse gas emissions. That other nation likely already enjoys a significant trade advantage over our nation because it is an egregious worker's rights violator and manipulates its currency. David Macintosh, on Sen. Lieberman's staff, deserves credit for his defense of this provision in response to a question suggesting it is merely U.S. "protectionism." □

Locals award service pins

Local 1 — Chicago

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

- 40 YEARS** – Robert Maus;
- 35 YEARS** – Donald Kitchen; and
- 30 YEARS** – Daniel Berg, Timothy Craddock, Darrall Halsey, Frank Koteles, Jeffrey Murphy, Michael Murphy, Robert Papineau, and James Shue.

Local 7 — Buffalo, N.Y.

JOSEPH BROWN, BM-ST of Local 7, Buffalo, N.Y., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

- 65 YEARS** – E. Choyne;
- 60 YEARS** – W. Walsh;
- 55 YEARS** – E. Principe;
- 50 YEARS** – R. Dobson, R. Shannon, J.T. Stocklosa;
- 40 YEARS** – R. Angstadt, G. Collins, L. Gabriel, F. Grasso, J. Kirchmeyer, J. Linn, M.C. Maciejewski, J. Nadler, E. Parker, R.V. Persico, G. Siuta, C. Walsh;
- 35 YEARS** – J. Battaglia, R. Brushingham, J.T. Motak Sr., C.A. Mulhollan, C.E. Mulhollan, D. Vogt;
- 30 YEARS** – M. Mann; and
- 25 YEARS** – J. Papaiz.

Local 13 — Philadelphia

JAMES BANFORD, BM-ST of Local 13, Philadelphia, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

- 55 YEARS** – James Banford Sr., James A. Benjamin, Robert Finn Sr., James Murphy, Arnold Suter;
- 50 YEARS** – Peter P. Mulligan;
- 45 YEARS** – Cimino, Charles Focht;
- 40 YEARS** – Roy Murray, Frank Seiverd, Daniel Stroka, George Tobin;
- 35 YEARS** – Robert Barben, Ronald J. Bensinger, Carl Bergen, Edward Bergen, Thomas Bergen, Kim Bingamin, William Boston, Robert J. Davies Jr., William H. Dent, Ralph Deputy, Frank Dercole, Dennis DiEmidio, Larry Dillmore, Edward Dreher, Richard Engelman, Charles Fink, Robert Finn Jr., Richard Frederick, Merlin Freeman, Michael Mongelli, William Morgan Jr., John O'Malley, David Orcutt, Richard Parker, Thomas Reddington, Michael Reed, Jack Rhodes, Robert Roshon, John Rowley, Michael Starling, James

Stone, William Sweeney Jr., Richard Wallauer, Donald Walters;

- 30 YEARS** – Earl Attix, Joseph Bartolacci, John Carroll, Robert Carrow, Leon Ciferni, Roger Davis, Walter C. Davis Jr., Alan Layaou, Andrew Long III, Michael Mangan, Gary Montgomery, Avery Shetzler, Herb Slaughter, Dennis Smith, Steven Sweeney, Alex Tallick, Mark Wilson, John Wyatt;
- 25 YEARS** – Frank Bendel, Richard Blitz, David Burnette, Joseph Carlisle, Joseph Clark, William Drobiniski, William Ellsworth Jr., Juri Ervin, Thomas Fink;
- 20 YEARS** – David Anderson, James Ciferni, Robert Cryder Jr., Michael (Dan) Hartman, Roy Montross; and
- 15 YEARS** – Thomas Bray, Clarence Butcher III, Darrin Clark, Kris Coole, Robert Goheen, Clay Hartman III, Al Pale, Scott Werkheiser, and Art Wilson Jr.

Local 37 — New Orleans

DAVID HEGEMAN, BM-ST of Local 37, New Orleans, reports presentation of membership pins to the following retirees:

- 60 YEARS** – Hilton Billiot;
- 50 YEARS** – Dominic Cannino, Russell Cannino, Peter Greco, Gene LeBlanc, Paul Nicolosi, Felix Ruiz;
- 45 YEARS** – Phillip Ramos;
- 40 YEARS** – Leroy Dinett, Thomas Garrity, Roger Lee, Edward Madonna, Arthur Newby, Tony Nicolosi, Warren Roberts, Thomas Townsend, Emile Trudeau, Doug Watson;
- 35 YEARS** – Stanley Dupuy, Marcos Lopez, Yockey Patcheco, Melvin Pichon, Joe Pittman Jr., Thomas Thibodeaux, Raymond Zitzman;
- 30 YEARS** – Sam Davis, Carl Duty, Louis Giluso, Charles Goldston, Allen Malley, Charles Morgan, Kenneth Thompson; and
- 25 YEARS** – Lester Alfonso, Larry Chapoton, Shelton McMillan.

Local 60 — Peoria, Ill.

ED HEBERT, BM-ST of Local 60, Peoria, Ill., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

- 60 YEARS** – Rudy Kovacevic;
- 50 YEARS** – Rondell Barnes, Dave Cannon, O'Neil Roberts, Charlie Shonkwiler;



L-146 50-year pin recipients, l. to r.: Teddy Arsenault, Paul Banville, Danilo Cocquio, Henry Gusse, William McMeakan, Orest Olineck, Anne Parnitsky accepting for Alex Parnitsky, Andrew Uchal, Jan Pedersen, and Werner Schulz.



L-146 45-year pin recipient Erwin Keith.



L-146 55-year pin recipient Paul Waseylenko.



L-146 40-year pin recipients: l. to r.: Dennis Morrill, Keith Morris, Roland Labossiere, Garry Fiala, Kris Bremec Sr., Joe Cholach, and Stan Wiebe.

- 40 YEARS** – Lyle Ball, Rich Chabez, Bill Crim, Jack Dobbins, Gene Ebert, Monte Emmons, Mike George, Kenny Laws, Dave Lindee, Rick Luncsford, Gil Ridley, Jim Scobell, Russ Webber, Stan Wolfe;
- 35 YEARS** – Don Bozarth, Carl Johnson, Mike Jones, Bob Miskell;
- 30 YEARS** – Don Abel, Don Barbour, Tom Bradley, Rick Bradshaw, Tom Bussey, Larry Couch, Bud Crawford,

- Dale DeRose, Dan Fischer, Denny Granger, Dwain Harrison, Ed Hebert, Mel Hill, John Mason, Jim Mooney, Mike Mooney, Kim Moore, Tony Reese, John Rogers, Ron Ross, Bruce Sack, Buz Sawyer, Larry Schaab, Bob Sears, Dale Staples, Bud Tarpley, Dave Vescogni, Jeff Vincent, Jeff Wallace, Willie Watkins, Eddy Weatherford, Dave Weber, Scott Wilson, Randy Wright, Bob Yates;

See next page



L-146 35-year pin recipients, l. to r.: Chris McEwen, David Pruss, Dennis Druar, and William Keay.



L-146 30-year pin recipients: front, Robert Nimmon, Dan Leitch, Larrie Hermans, Paul Liimatainen, Barry Leicht, Thomas Kennedy, Al Huckabone; back, Vagn Sorensen, Gerald Desjardins, Edwin Pietsch, Harry Priebe, Paul Roy, Wade Sales, and Guy Waymen.

20 YEARS – Bill Goveia, Ed Goveia, Tom Goveia; and

15 YEARS – Dave Burress, and Bernard Martin.

Local 146 — Edmonton

WARREN FRALEIGH, BM-ST of Local 146, Edmonton, Alberta, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

55 YEARS – Paul Waseylenko;

50 YEARS – Teddy Arsenaault, Paul Banville, Danilo Cocquio, Henry Gusse, William McMeakan, Orest Olineck, Alex Parnitsky, Andrew Uchal, Jan Pedersen, and Werner Schulz;

45 YEARS – Erwin Keith;

40 YEARS – Kris Bremec Sr., Joe Cholach, Garry Fiala, Roland Labossiere, Dennis Morrill, Keith Morris, Stan Wiebe;

35 YEARS – Dennis Druar, William Keay, Chris McEwen, David Pruss;

30 YEARS – Gerald Desjardins, Larrie Hermans, Al Huckabone, Thomas Kennedy, Barry Leicht, Dan Leitch, Paul Liimatainen, Robert Nimmon, Edwin Pietsch, Harry Priebe, Paul Roy, Wade Sales, Vagn Sorensen, Guy Waymen; and

25 YEARS – Harry Alahn, Marvin Androschuk, Al Arcand, Jimmy Banville, Bert Bazinet, Tony Cooper, Richard Darda, Eric Day, Cameron Enzie, Boris Fistric, Len Freelove, Mike Gardner, Gaston Godbout, Manuel Guterrez Sr., William Hamilton, Jacob Hofer, Gary Hogue, Francis James, Robert Kuipers, Nathaniel Lake, Avelino Leal, Kerry Leicht, Mario Narzt, Leonard Poirer, Kevin Presisniuk, Stan Pulsford, Barry Robbins, Rob Robertson, Burhan Tasgun, Joe Torocsik, and George Ward.

Local 191 — Victoria

BILL MORRISON, BM-ST of Local 191, Victoria, British Columbia, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

55 YEARS – Gordon “Corky” Bryant, Howie East, Art Holland;

50 YEARS – Tom McCuaig;

45 YEARS – Frank Iszak, Ralph Thompson;

40 YEARS – Ken Hancock;

35 YEARS – Reo Curtis, Henry Flaata, Freeman McGaghey, Carl Saarikettu;

25 YEARS – Pat Carlson, Scott Cooper, Randy Defrane, Mark Dolny, Jim Fitzpatrick, Ken Francis, Jim Greer, Bruce Griffiths, Ken Hansen, George Hill, Denny Jarjmy, Rick Johl, Doug Jones, Judy Kujundzic, Gordon Lewis, Rod Lyle, Brian MacArthur, David Maxwell, Alan Morrison, Steve Patton, John Prentice, Terry Ptolemy, David Richardson, Karl Rohde, Les Sainsbury, Jamie Scroggie, Randy Thompson, Wilson Wong, Robert Woodford; and

20 YEARS – Gerry Chisholm, Trevor Hill, Glenn McGowan, Kelly Nell-estyn, and John Perry.

L-374 — Hammond, Ind.

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

60 YEARS – Orville Peckenpough, Virgil R. Plowman;



Local 37 retirees receive their membership pins at a Christmas party held for them at the lodge's new office in Slidell, La., on Dec. 14, 2007. L. to r.: front row, Yockey Patcheco, Edward Madonna, Peter Greco; 1st step, Charles Goldston, Roger Lee, Hilton Billiot, Allen Malley; 2nd step, Dominc Cannino, Marcos Lopez, Antione Dupuy; 3rd step, Russell Cannino, Charles Morgan, Louis Giluso, Doug Watson; on porch, Sam Davis, Joe Pittman Jr., Thomas Thibodeaux, Carl Duty, Tony Nicolosi, Paul Nicolosi, Arthur Newby, Shelton McMillan, Gene LeBlanc, Kenneth Thompson, Thomas Townsend, Stanley Dupuy, Larry Chapoton, Leroy Dinett, Phillip Ramos, Melvin Pichon, Felix Ruiz, Raymond Zitzman, Emile Trudeau, Lester Alfonso, Warren Roberts, Thomas Garrity, Jessie Carroll.



L-146 25-year pin recipients: front, Mike Gardner, Joe Torocsik, George Ward, Barry Robbins, Kevin Presisniuk, Stan Pulsford; second row, Nazia Husain accepting for Francis James, Leonard Poirer, Nathaniel Lake, Gaston Godbout, William Hamilton, Manuel Guterrez Sr.; third row: Rob Robertson, Mario Narzt, Kerry Leicht, Avelino Leal, Robert Kuipers, Gary Hogue, Jacob Hofer, Boris Fistric, Cameron Enzie; back row, Burhan Tasgun, Len Freelove, Tony Cooper, Richard Darda, Bert Bazinet, Harry Alahn, Marvin Androschuk, Al Arcand, Jimmy Banville, Eric Day.

50 YEARS – Kenneth D. Angotti, William H. Lynn;

40 YEARS – Ronald E. Angotti, Chelsea M. Atkinson, Anthony R. Basso, Charles Ensminger, Charles H. Kellems, Paul R. Phillips, Lawrence Sliwa, Kenneth C. Vincent, Charles W. Yatsko;

35 YEARS – James L. Butler, Harold G. Hacker, Stanley W. Harpenau, Vernie R. Harpenau, Albert J. Jones, Gerald W. Nelson, Johnny Bruce Plowman, Michael W. Schoettlin, Richard P. Traskell;

30 YEARS – George R. Dunlap, Kenneth P. Flamion, Edward Gervais, Bradford A. Goffinet, Thomas J. Hagedorn, Robert E. Hall, Douglas Howell, James R. Hubert, Kent M. LaGrange, Brian D. Lasher, Paul M. Maday, Paul E. Odom, William N. Pope, Randall G. Schafer, James A. Wilbur;

25 YEARS – David J. Batur, Brian C. Cardwell, Dennis M. Kirkland, Darrel W. Melton, Alan R. Meyer, John C. Neu, David Pennington, Gregory M. Plowman, Robert W. Schreiber, Raymond M. Stefni, Bruce E. Tarr;

20 YEARS – Joseph T. Greenwell, Charles R. Stinnett, Thomas M. Stodola; and

15 YEARS – James M. Anderson, Lil A. Deal, Gary C. Henderson, Richard E. Norris, Jeffrey L. Schneider, and Marc S. Scott.

L-D579—Lantz, Nova Scotia

GLEN CANTFELL, Secretary-Treasurer of Local D579, Lantz, Nova Scotia, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

30 YEARS – Kevin Ashley, Monson Ashley, Stephen Edgett, John Hines, Norman Hines, Perry Hines, Charles H. Isenor, Daniel Isenor, Dwayne Isenor, Hugh Isenor, Martin Isenor, Phillip Isenor, Gary McNeil, Barry Preeper, Laurie Preeper, Richard Preeper, Paul Ross, Robert Weagle, Barry Whidden;

20 YEARS – Barry Ashley, Bryden Ashley, Earle Ashley, Martin Ashley, Raymond Black, Jake Cantfell, James Duncan, Laurie Hines, Clinton Isenor, Peter Isenor, Victor Isenor, Jeff Mombourquette, Allen Parker, Gordon Sherman; and

15 YEARS – Alberto Acosta, Shawn Baltzer, Mike Campbell, Paulette Carroll, Rodney Isenor, Tony Isenor, Kevin Jodrey, Elizabeth Logan, Gerry MacDonnell, Tom Melanson, Timothy Singer, Donald White, and Tim White.

L-774 — Cleveland

PATRICK GALLAGHER, BM-ST of Local 744, Cleveland, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

60 YEARS – Richard G. Vanderwyst;

55 YEARS – Arthur Speece;



Local 374 BM-ST Paul Maday (r.) presents a 60-year membership pin to Virgil R. Plowman.

50 YEARS – James F. Conway, Wolfgang Galle, Joseph J. Perrotta Sr., Clifton Smith, Robert E. Wilson;

45 YEARS – Patrick Conway, William E. Daubner, Larry E. McCue;

40 YEARS – George Chutter, James E. Coachman Sr., Gary W. Emerson, Carl L. Gains, John M. McLarty, Gary G. Polk, Clarence E. Wilson; and

35 YEARS – Samuel C. Bayle III, Randall Burchett, Duane Perkins, & Eugene Starr. □

"The lack of an effective voice... has jeopardized labor's survival."

Phil Dine book says labor still relevant

Labor reporter assesses the decline of unions — and their chances for survival

PHIL DINE IS something of a rarity in journalistic circles. As a labor reporter for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, he has spent much of the last two decades covering organized labor. Most commercial newspapers across the country did away with labor reporters years ago — or at best have chosen to handle the labor beat as an add-on to a reporter's regular assignments.

That is precisely why Dine's new book, "State of the Unions: *How Labor Can Strengthen the Middle Class, Improve Our Economy, and Regain Political Influence*" (McGraw-Hill, 2007), deserves a close look by anyone who cares about labor unions. Dine is the real deal, a reporter who jumped into the trenches with organized labor, writing about its achievements as well as its failures, its champions as well as its culprits. He has documented the struggles of rank-and-file union members and their leadership at the local, regional, and national levels. And he has observed keenly the forces — internal as well as external — that threaten labor's existence. In the process, Dine has twice been nominated for Pulitzer Prize awards for labor coverage.

Who better to assess labor's decline and identify strategies for its survival?

Dine's assessment is grim. He writes: "A powerful labor movement that once moved workers into the middle class is now powerless to prevent people from falling out of it." This statement may be over-general, but it certainly applies to millions of workers — especially in the manufacturing sector — whose jobs have been shipped overseas.

Bad trade deals, hostile labor boards, and an indifferent, biased media all factor into labor's decline, Dine concedes. But labor itself is not without fault. In Dine's view, unions have not made their issues part of the American dialogue. "What's puzzling about labor's failure to deliver its message," he writes, "is that most people agree with almost all of its policy goals." He adds, "The lack of an effective voice has had three far-reaching consequences for labor: it has skewed public policies related to workers, the workplace, and union rights; it has created a vacuum in terms of public perception that allows labor's adversaries to define it in negative ways; and, as a result, it has jeopardized labor's survival."

Dine is particularly sensitive to labor's relationship with the media.

He describes a vicious cycle that works something like this: Unions don't trust the media, so they do not cooperate with reporters; reporters and editors respond by giving less coverage

to unions; this strengthens labor's belief that the media is biased, so unions cooperate even less than before — and get even less coverage.

Not surprisingly, Dine prescribes more proactive media relations, with more access to union



Philip M. Dine

leaders, as part of any solution to labor's woes.

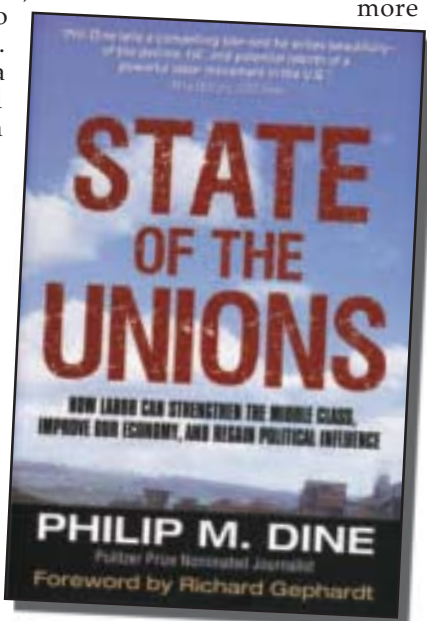
Dine uses two news stories he covered to illustrate fundamental labor strengths — strengths unions can draw upon to regain power. The first story describes how fire fighter locals throughout Iowa pulled an upset victory for underdog presidential

candidate John Kerry during the 2004 caucus. Dine says the fire fighters' discipline, unity, and organizational skills were responsible for producing an unexpected turnout for Kerry, surprising political pundits as well as the other candidates.

The second story describes how 900 poor black women employed by Delta Pride, a catfish farming operation in Mississippi, won better wages and working conditions from their all-white, anti-union employers. Dine attributes their success to the United Food and Commercial Workers' skillful use of a boycott, its ability to frame the issue for the media, and its decision to allow the women to make their case for fairness and justice from the bottom up — rather than from the union leadership down.

"If the labor movement does revitalize itself," Dine writes, "It won't be because its leaders have discovered a magic formula...it will be because labor is out telling its story in a way that captures imagination, evokes a sense of mission and achievement, and makes clear why a robust union movement is not only relevant but in the public interest."

Learn more about *State of the Unions* online at www.phildine.com. □



Breslin book is call to arms for union construction workers

Guide offers frank appraisal of what it takes for individuals to survive — and thrive — in a rapidly changing industry

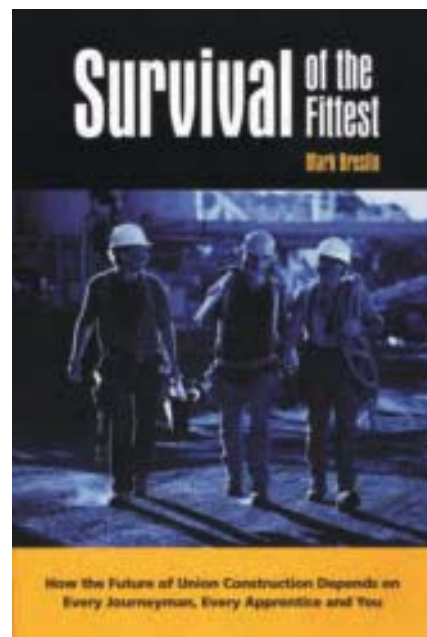
THE DAYS OF union dominance in the construction industry are long gone, observes Mark Breslin in his book, *Survival of the Fittest*. Labor's share of the construction marketplace has shriveled to a mere 15 percent of the available work. Not that long ago, the building trades dominated with an 85 percent share.

But Breslin isn't one to wring his hands or wistfully long for the old days. *Survival of the Fittest* instead offers practical, useful advice geared to the individual union member. His book is an everyday guide that should appeal to the newest apprentice as well as the most veteran journeyman.

Breslin writes in a conversational style that makes it easy to zoom through the book's 162 pages in a few hours. He covers the bases well in 16 quick-read chapters that address such topics as responsibility, commitment, attitude, money, and success. He devotes individual chapters to apprentices and foremen.

The essential theme running through the book is that for union construction to survive and recapture lost market share, individual union members must step forward and *prove everyday* they are the most skilled, most reliable, and hardest working employees available. They must demonstrate that their level of excellence justifies higher compensation than their nonunion counterparts. And they must become walking billboards for union excellence both on the job site and in the community.

In short, to survive in the 21st century construction industry, individual union workers must change, adapt, and be the "fittest" of all workers.



Breslin admits that change is hard for many people, but stresses there is no room for number two in construction. Only number one will thrive, and the benefits of being number one — higher wages, better benefits, and respect — will be worth the effort.

No stranger to the construction business, Breslin is a fourth-generation contractor turned consultant, author, and speaker. He has addressed numerous labor organizations in North America — including the Boilermakers' winter construction conference in 2006 and the tripartite conference in 2007.

The *Boilermaker Reporter* reviewed Breslin's earlier book, *Organize or Die* in the Jan-Mar 2007 issue (page 15).

Learn more about *Survival of the Fittest* and *Organize or Die* online at www.breslin.biz; by phone at 866-351-6275; or by writing to Mark Breslin, 2415 San Ramon Valley Blvd., #4-230, San Ramon, CA 94583. □

You must file a tax return to get your stimulus check

STARTING IN MAY, more than 130 million households will begin receiving economic stimulus payments of between \$300 to \$600 if single and \$600 to \$1,200 if married filing jointly. You are eligible if you have a valid Social Security number and at least \$3,000 of income in 2007, but you must file a 2007 income tax return to receive your check.

Millions of retirees, disabled veterans, and low-wage earners who ordinarily don't file income tax returns are eligible. If you are exempt from filing a return, file one for 2007 anyway. **Your rebate is calculated based on this return, and filing one is the only way you will receive it.**

If you owe no income taxes, the April 15 deadline is not important. But the sooner you send in your return, the sooner you get your check.

BEWARE OF SCAMS

E-MAIL AND TELEPHONE scams involving these checks have already begun to appear. Any phone call or e-mail claiming to be from the IRS is a scam artist trying to get you to reveal your personal information — Social Security number, bank account number, etc. — so they can steal your money.

The IRS will not contact you regarding your rebate. If they contact you regarding any other matter, they will do so through the post office. They do not send e-mails or make phone calls unless you phone them first, and they NEVER ask for bank account numbers or other personal information over the phone.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on the economic stimulus program and related scams, visit the IRS Web site — www.irs.gov — and click on the "Rebate Questions?" link.

ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORTS OF NATIONAL FUNDS

BOILERMAKER-BLACKSMITH NATIONAL PENSION TRUST

This is a summary of the annual report for the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust, Employer Identification Number 48-6168020, for Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2006.

The annual report has been filed with the Department of Labor, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Benefits under the plan are provided by trust and insurance. Plan expenses were \$537,725,811. These expenses included \$34,146,078 in administrative expenses and \$503,579,733 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

A total of 73,139 persons were participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$7,451,200,846 as of Dec. 31, 2006, compared to \$6,843,750,870 as of Jan. 1, 2006. During the plan year, the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of \$607,449,976.

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

The plan had total income of \$1,145,175,787. This includes employer contributions of \$223,302,264, gains of \$57,177,163 from the sale of assets, net earnings from investments of \$864,693,525, and other income of \$2,835.

MINIMUM FUNDING STANDARDS

An actuary's statement shows that enough money was contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

BOILERMAKERS NATIONAL HEALTH & WELFARE FUND

This is a summary of the annual report of the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund, Employer Identification Number 36-6090694, for the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2006. The annual report has been filed with the Department of Labor, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

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

INSURANCE INFORMATION

The plan has contracts with the Standard Insurance Company and Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to pay all disability, life, and accidental death and dismemberment claims. The total premiums paid for the plan year ending Dec. 31, 2006 were \$3,638,508.

Because the contract with the Standard Insurance Company is a so-called "experience-rated" contract, the premium costs are affected by, among other things, the number and size of claims. Of the total insurance premiums paid for the plan year ending Dec. 31, 2006, the premiums paid under this experience-rated contract were \$2,160,558 and the total of all benefit claims paid under this experience-rated contract during the plan year was \$2,039,317.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$233,801,050 as of Dec. 31, 2006, compared to \$148,843,341 as of Jan. 1, 2006. During the plan year, the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of \$84,957,709. This increase includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year, or the cost of assets acquired during the year.

During the plan year, the plan had total income of \$297,585,843 (including employer contributions of \$252,881,947, employee and retiree contributions of \$28,218,088, realized loss from the sale of assets of \$2,230,487, earnings from investments of \$13,736,533, and other income of \$4,979,762).

Plan expenses were \$212,628,134. These expenses included \$9,371,660 in administrative expenses and \$203,256,474 in benefits paid to or for participants and beneficiaries.

BOILERMAKERS NATIONAL ANNUITY TRUST

This is a summary of the annual report for the Boilermakers National Annuity Trust, Employer Identification Number 48-1029345, for Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2006. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, as

required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Benefits under the plan are provided from trust assets. Plan expenses were \$74,123,389. These expenses include \$4,569,528 in administrative expenses, \$67,925,081 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and other expenses of \$1,628,780. A total of 63,215 persons were participants in the plan at the end of the plan year.

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$974,673,761 as of Dec. 31, 2006, compared to \$856,723,454 as of Jan. 1, 2006. During the plan year, the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of \$117,950,307. This increase includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year, or the cost of assets acquired during the year.

The plan had total income of \$192,073,696 (including employer contributions of \$102,741,061, realized gains of \$5,670,495 from the sale of assets, earnings from investments of \$82,649,433, and other income of \$1,012,707).

FUNDING STANDARDS

Enough money was contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

YOU MAY REQUEST A COPY

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, for each of these funds on request. The items listed below are included in each report:

1. An accountant's report;
2. Financial information and information on payments to service providers;
3. Assets held for investment;
4. Transactions in excess of five percent of plan assets.

In addition, the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust summary annual report will include the following:

5. Insurance information, including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers;
6. Information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts; master trusts, or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates; and
7. Actuarial information regarding the funding of the plan.

The Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Fund summary report will include the following:

5. Insurance information, including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.

The Boilermakers National Annuity Trust summary report will include the following:

5. Information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts; master trusts, or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, of each of these reports, write or call the office of the plan executive administrator at 754 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS 66101-2766, phone — 1-866-342-6555 (913-342-6555 in the Kansas City area).

The charge to cover copying costs of the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust Summary Annual Report will be \$222.25 for the full annual report, or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

The charge to cover copying costs of the Boilermakers National Health & Welfare Fund Summary Annual Report will be \$21.25 for the full annual report, or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

The charge to cover copying costs of the Boilermakers National Annuity Trust Summary Annual Report will be \$41.75 for the full annual report, or 25 cents per page for any part thereof.

You also have the right to receive from the plan executive administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of each plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of each plan and accompanying notes, or both.

If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan executive administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report, because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual reports at the main office of the plan, 754 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS 66101-2766, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department of Labor should be addressed to: Public Disclosure Room, N1513, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.

FAQs about the Boilermakers National Funds**How do I apply for spousal death benefits and pension?**

WHEN A BOILERMAKER member passes away, a surviving spouse or the next of kin may have many questions and concerns about death benefits and the member's pension. The Boilermakers National Funds office makes it easy for survivors to apply for these benefits. Simply make one call to the Boilermakers National Funds Customer Care Center at 1-866-342-6555, Mon. through Fri. (8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST).

Be sure to have ready the following information: 1) name of the deceased, 2) date of death, 3) Social Security number of the deceased, and 4) name and address of the surviving spouse or next of kin.

The Customer Care Center will pass this information to representatives in each fund. These representatives will facilitate the death claim process for pension, annuity, and health and welfare. They will also handle applications for extended health insurance coverage for those eligible.



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.

Intl. Meyers, Virginia	5	Stagich, Richard	13	Czworkowski, A.	37	McKay, Thomas	
Intl. Simmons, Robert	5	Vega, William	13	Gushue, Charles	39	Lopez, Richard	
Intl. Smith Jr., Othal	6	Ahumada, Louis G.	13	Harrison, James	40	Denton, Charles	
Intl. Strandt, Patricia	6	Cave, Marvin	13	Marion, Omer	40	Heep, Z.L.	
Intl. Wilson, Valeria	6	Greubel, Theodore	13	Nugent, George	40	James, David	
NTL Babics, Alexander	6	Hanson, Raymond	13	Ordog, Sandor	40	Johnson, Vincent	
NTL Cast, Claude	6	Hart, Stanley	13	Richardson, Edward	40	Neville, James L.	
NTL Dunn, Gary	6	Henslee, Louis	13	Spence, James	40	Seals, John	
NTL Gant, Earnest	6	Johnston, William	13	VanWert, Patrick R.	45	Manry, Edwin	
NTL Harper, Gary	6	Martin, Donald	26	Coppage Sr., Arthur	45	Turner, Myrtus	
NTL Hendrick, Howard	6	Martin, Edgar	26	Kessler, Carl	60	Webber, Russell	
NTL Jennings, Okaw	6	McCutcheon, Luther	26	Young, Timothy	69	McIntire, Lawrence	
NTL Monnier, Kim	6	Mendonca, Manuel	26	Zittrouer, Herbert	69	Snyder, Jimmie	
NTL Parker, Daniel	6	Minero, Alfonso	27	Carroll, Jerry	72	Anderson, Walter M.	
NTL Ralph, James R.	6	Pereyra, Francisco	27	Tyner, Carol	72	Carr, Lester E.	
NTL Snyder, Fred	6	Picchi, Roger	28	Anderson, Wesley	72	DeMott, William	
NTL Valde, Alan E.	6	Quinones, Manuel	28	Beaver, William	72	Ehlers, Howard	
NTL Wayman, Kenneth	6	Reed, Henry	28	Bey, Rodleigh	72	Huber, Carl	
1 Anderson, Robert H.	6	Schaefer, Henry	28	Canellis, John	72	Hurner, Ernest F.	
1 Bezic, John	6	Smith Jr., Pete	28	Cushing, John	72	Markovich, Robert	
1 Carlson, Oke	6	Warner, Thomas	28	Green, Chester	72	McDonald, Ira	
1 Kman, Henry	6	Williams, S.E.	29	Brady, William	72	Smith, Pete	
1 Kolesky, Eugene	6	Winn, Durward	29	Brunstrom, Robert	72	Walsh, Robert	
1 Kruse, Bradley	7	Budzinski, Michael	29	Cahill, Albert	72	Weaver, Ralph P.	
1 Rayes, Sarkis	7	Holland, John	29	DeGregorio, Rocco	72	Wilder, Harold	
1 Williams, Robert	7	Johnson, Frank	29	Nason, Chad	74	Crowell, Clinton	
4 Black, Herman	7	St. Germaine, Dalton	29	Rice Jr., Ernest	74	Laughman, Larry	
5 Baltich, Daniel	10	Matson, Ronald	29	Varrecchione, F.	74	Morris, James	
5 Bancroft, William	13	Applegate, Jason	30	Smith, Wayne	74	Soliz Jr., Valdemar	
5 Forni, Fabio	13	Becroft, Harvey	37	Carroll, Fred	74	Trevino, Sergio	
5 Nostrom, Donald	13	Clark Jr., John	37	Cruz, Raymond	74	Welch, Brian	
					74	Welch, Eugene	
					79	Hoover, Allen	
					79	Roach, Warn	
					79	Sanders, William	
					83	Achord, Chris	
					83	Biondo Sr., Joseph	
					83	Calhoun, John	
					83	Clark, Danny	
					83	Clements, John	
					83	Coburn, Lowell A.	
					83	Griffith, James	
					83	Grimm, Leonard	
					83	Haase, Justin	
					83	Matkovich, Edward	
					83	Munsterman, Lyle	
					83	Neely, Bill	
					83	Pavey, Darrell	
					83	Shiple, Edward	
					83	Smith, Bobby	
					84	Williams, Ivan	
					85	Beyer, Donald	
					85	Moore, Dale	
					85	Schnabel, Edwin	
					88	Cropper, Barry H.	
					90	Takamoto, Paul	
					92	Bishop, Bill	
					92	Blaskowsky, Dwayne	
					92	Cassada, William	
					92	Davis, Paul D.	
					92	Dickerson, John D.	
					92	Dominguez, Edward	
					92	Echevarria, Thomas	
					92	Gillespie, Rex	
					92	Irvine, Robert	
					92	Jewell, Charles	
					92	Jones, Ava	
					92	Lujan, Manuel	
					92	Luna, Alfonso	
					92	Meador, Oliver	
					92	Montes, John	
					92	Nolan, George	
					92	Pierce, Joe	
					92	Rodriguez, Rudolfo	
					92	Romero, William	



Money-Saving Programs for Members Only

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

Union Plus Credit Card

Call: 1-800-522-4000

Mortgage & Real Estate

Also open to children & parents of Boilermaker members.

Call: 1-800-848-6466

Education Services

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

Call: 1-877-881-1022

Personal Loans

Credit-qualified members are eligible for loans for a variety of uses.

Call: 1-888-235-2759

Legal Service

Discounted legal help — first 30 minutes are free.

Call: 1-888-993-8886

Life Insurance

For members, spouses, and children.

Call: 1-800-393-0864

Auto Insurance

Call: 1-888-294-9496

Accident Insurance

Call: 1-800-393-0864

Health Savings

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

Call: 1-877-570-4845

Car Rental Discounts

Call and give the ID number:

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

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

Hertz: 1-800-654-2200,
CDP#205666

Union-Made Checks

Call: 1-888-864-6625

AT & T Wireless Discounts

Visit: www.UnionPlus.org/ATT

Union Plus Moving Discount

Call: 1-800-234-1159

For information on these programs and other member-only benefits, go to

www.unionplus.org

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

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

See IST Deaths page 23

UNION PLUS—Helping union families get more out of life

HomeBuyer Tools

Expert advice. Easy application. Specially designed for union families!

Buying a home can be one of the most expensive and complicated purchases you will make in a lifetime. That's why we're proud to offer our union members exclusive benefits and services designed to **cut your costs, ease your stress** and help you secure that home of your dreams!

Customized advice from expert counselors

How much you can afford to borrow? Which type of mortgage best suits your needs? When should you think about refinancing?

- Our specially trained mortgage counselors are standing by to answer all your questions, just a phone call away.
- Available during early-morning and evening hours, so you can call whenever it's most convenient.
- Walk through the entire process of buying, selling or refinancing a home.

Unique benefits for union families:

- Only program that can cover your mortgage payments when you're on strike, laid off or disabled.
- Parents and children of union members also eligible for Union Plus mortgages.
- Comprehensive home warranty plan available at no extra cost.
- Mortgage planning calculators and other useful tools at our online Home Finance Center.

Wide range of mortgages for union workers:

- Many affordable options, including FHA/VA loans.
- First-time buyer program.
- Unique opportunities for borrowers with "less than perfect" credit.

Affordable terms

- Competitive fixed and variable interest rates.
- Low down payments and fees.
- Closing bonus—\$350 toward your closing costs when you use both the real estate and mortgage portions of the program.

Easy application

- Call 1-800-848-6466
- Online: visit www.UnionPlus.org/Mortgage

For more information about all the benefits available through your union, visit www.UnionPlus.org/Mortgage

DEATH BENEFITS

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

LODGE, NAME & BENEFIT							
Intl. Meyers, Virginia A.	\$6,000.00	26	Funk, Arnold E.	883.63	85	Karns, John J.	15,000.00
NTL Bordner, Harry E.	6,000.00	26	Lundy Sr., Elmer Al	6,000.00	85	Moore, Dale E.	6,000.00
NTL Bushong, Boyd L.	3,000.00	26	Zittrouer, Herbert G.	6,000.00	85	Sanders, Robert	6,000.00
NTL Cast, Claude N.	6,000.00	27	Carroll, Jerry L.	6,000.00	88	Cropper, Barry H.	6,000.00
NTL Driffin, John	6,000.00	27	Mattingly, Joseph M.	6,000.00	88	Knott, Basil W.	6,000.00
NTL Dunn, Gary I.	6,000.00	27	Rushing, Edward F.	6,000.00	92	Bishop, Bill Lane	6,000.00
NTL Gant, Earnest O.	6,000.00	28	Beaver, William F.	6,000.00	92	Boner, Farrell O.	6,000.00
NTL Goodrich, Bruce E.	3,000.00	29	Varrecchione, F. A.	6,000.00	92	Davis, Paul D.	6,000.00
NTL Harper, Gary A.	6,000.00	37	Carroll, Fred W.	6,000.00	92	Dickerson, John D.	6,000.00
NTL Hendrick, Howard	6,000.00	37	Cook Sr., Joseph J.	6,000.00	92	Gillespie, Rex	6,000.00
NTL Jennings, Okaw O.	6,000.00	40	Denton, Charles D.	6,000.00	92	Hattabaugh, Sammie	6,000.00
NTL Keffer, Terry A.	5,884.38	40	Seals, John	6,000.00	92	Jewell, Charles B.	6,000.00
NTL Kirchoff, Gail W.	6,000.00	40	Thompson, Wm. H.	6,000.00	92	Meador, Oliver A.	6,000.00
NTL Nixon, Stuart J.	6,000.00	45	Spangler, Leroy	6,000.00	92	Montes, John M.	6,000.00
NTL Parker, Daniel L.	6,000.00	60	Ennis, Robert L.	6,000.00	92	Record, George S.	6,000.00
NTL Reeves, John W.	6,000.00	72	Anderson, Walter M.	6,000.00	92	Sheram, J.W.	6,000.00
NTL Wayman, Kenneth	2,400.00	72	Carr, Lester E.	6,000.00	96	Josh, Henry	6,000.00
NTL Williams, Larry D.	6,000.00	72	DeMott, William L.	6,000.00	101	Hall, Lawrence M.	6,000.00
1 Anderson, Robert H.	6,000.00	72	Ehlers, Howard W.	6,000.00	101	Sapp, Gady L.	6,000.00
1 Cheslak, Joseph W.	6,000.00	72	Nuttbrock, Hattie H.	6,000.00	104	Benaltabe, Samuel J.	8,000.00
5 Forni, Fabio	6,000.00	72	Weaver, Ralph P.	6,000.00	104	Bogue, Howard J.	6,000.00
5 Stagich, Richard L.	6,000.00	74	Crowell, Clinton	6,000.00	104	Cooper Jr., Leonard	6,000.00
6 Ahumada, Louis G.	6,000.00	74	Laughman, Larry D.	6,000.00	104	Hatch, Lester L.	6,000.00
6 Brown, Mary A.	6,000.00	74	Prine, Homer A.	6,000.00	104	Jones, Stephen R.	6,000.00
6 Cave, Marvin F.	6,000.00	74	Trevino, Sergio	3,261.25	104	Luxner, Charles A.	6,000.00
6 Cook, Harold E.	3,000.00	79	Roach, Warn M.	6,000.00	105	Back Sr., Andrew J.	6,000.00
6 Hanson, Raymond	6,000.00	83	Achord, Chris M.	2,094.40	106	Heuser, Clive W.	6,000.00
6 Hightower, Elmer*	4,000.00	83	Athon, Bradley G.	173.25	107	Hays, Bryant	644.30
6 Maurins, Arvids	2,000.00	83	Calhoun Sr., John W.	6,000.00	108	Guthrie, Jerry W.	77.25
6 Pereyra, Francisco	6,000.00	83	Castaneda, Stanley	6,000.00	108	Romine, Lewis T.	6,000.00
6 Stephens, Conrad	6,000.00	83	Coburn, Lowell A.	6,000.00	108	Williams, Bobby J.	6,000.00
6 Taylor, Leroy E.	6,000.00	83	Griblin, John W.	6,000.00	113	Nelms, Doyle D.	6,000.00
7 Budzinski, Michael	6,000.00	83	Grosskreutz, Walter	6,000.00	132	Walker, Dwayne L.	6,000.00
7 St. Germaine, Dalton	6,000.00	83	Matkovich, Edward	6,000.00	154	Beegle, Richard L.	6,000.00
13 Applegate, Jason*	5,000.00	83	McDaniel, Richard	5,222.35	154	Bey, Fred	6,000.00
13 Turner Jr., Ray*	4,000.00	83	Pavey Sr., Darrell D.	6,000.00	154	Litzinger, William E.	6,000.00
13 VanWert, Patrick R.	6,000.00	83	Shore, Samuel L.	6,000.00	154	Meehan Jr., William	6,000.00
		84	Cavinee, Oscar E.	6,000.00	154	Piszczor, Bernard F.	6,000.00
		85	Beyer, Donald F.	6,000.00	169	Decoteau, Louis E.	6,000.00
					169	Smith, Bennie R.	6,000.00
					169	Thompson, Henry	15,000.00
					169	Timchac, Jim	6,000.00
					169	Winn, James L.	6,000.00
					182	Black, Herman	14,992.78
					182	Leffler, Ellis D.	6,000.00
					199	Estes, James A.	6,000.00
					199	Hicks, Raymond L.	6,000.00
					204	Matas, Simeon B.	6,000.00
					204	Pua, Stephen L.	6,000.00
					242	Badda, Richard R.	6,000.00
					242	Batt, Reuben	6,000.00
					242	Butzlaff, Ferdinand	6,000.00
					242	Lambert III, James W.	3,000.00
					358	Babics, Alexander E.	6,000.00
					358	Jude, Henry J.	6,000.00
					358	Pong, Wayfun	6,000.00
					358	TroxteLL, Rufus L.	6,000.00
					363	DeMent, Roy M.	6,000.00
					363	Mikulait, James J.	4,000.00
					374	Baccino, Joseph D.	1,744.63
					374	Byers, Thomas R.	6,000.00
					374	Copeland, George F.	6,000.00
					374	Davis, Paul W.	6,000.00
					374	Hudson, Bobby G.*	1,200.00
					374	Jackson, Rudolph S.	6,000.00
					374	Law, Frank E.	5,289.93
					374	Lee, Kerry A.	6,000.00
					374	Monnier, Kim E.	14,429.84
					374	Peter, James A.	6,000.00
					374	Salakar, Shelley M.	6,000.00
					374	Sparks, Larry T.	6,000.00
					374	Witham, Thomas A.	843.63
					397	Sisco, Harold James	6,000.00
					433	Bromow, Leo	6,000.00
					433	Brooks, Carmel Joel	6,000.00
					433	Brown, Harold A.	6,000.00
					433	Cornett, Robert L.	6,000.00
					433	Gill, Edward J.	6,000.00
					433	Johnson, Gary N.	5,202.15
					433	Snyder, Fred M.	6,000.00
					433	Tidwell, Lawrence R.	6,000.00
					433	Ward, Cecil E.	6,000.00
					449	Burlo, Wallace J.	3,000.00
					449	Gomand, Lawrence	6,000.00
					449	Kasten, Herbert L.	7,000.00
					454	Phillips, George B.	6,000.00
					454	Quick, John L.	6,000.00
					455	Voss, Rayford D.	6,000.00
					487	Vanness, George A.	6,000.00
					500	Mitchell, Alton H.	6,000.00
					502	Crawford, Maurice	6,000.00
					502	Firth, Thomas Jessie	6,000.00
					518	Read, Richard A.	6,000.00
					549	Benson, Robert C.	6,000.00
					549	Johnson, Norvell T.	6,000.00
					549	Krause, Carl E.	6,000.00
					549	Lawson, Wallace W.	6,000.00
					549	Pugh, Jimmie D.	6,000.00
					549	Roddy, William L.	6,000.00
					577	Schonefeld, Clarence	6,000.00
					582	Stovall, Joe H.	6,000.00
					583	Williams, Andrew J.	6,000.00
					587	Boyd, H.W.	6,000.00
					587	Brown, Marvis	6,000.00
					587	Cox, Billy Joe	6,000.00
					587	Jones, Marvin C.	6,000.00
					587	Lewis, Gordon F.	6,000.00
					587	Stone, Dale H.	6,000.00
					592	Dunman Jr., David	6,000.00
					627	Barnett, William E.	6,000.00
					627	Beauvais, Carl D.	4,000.00
					627	Francis, Donald L.	6,000.00
					627	Grimes, Simon	4,500.00
					627	Hayes, James W.	6,000.00
					647	Hochstetler, Orby	6,000.00
					647	Larson, Irving H.	6,000.00
					647	Lundgren, C. Lester	6,000.00
					647	Reitan, Scott V.*	512.94
					647	Shape, William F.	6,000.00
					651	Snider, Almond J.	6,000.00
					667	Casto, Bernard L.	6,000.00
					667	Cunningham, Paige*	99.96
					667	Haynes, Louis G.	6,000.00
					667	Holmes, Aubrey	6,000.00
					667	Hudson, James L.	6,000.00
					667	Mitchell, Larry E.	6,000.00
					684	Reed Sr., Randy W.	6,000.00
					684	Wood Jr., Lawrence	6,000.00
					696	Fifarek, Michael C.	5,145.84
					696	Homa, Michael J.	6,000.00
					696	Mueller, George F.	6,000.00
					696	Vandenberg, Jon P.	4,907.32
					697	Burt, Louis E.	6,000.00
					697	Wenzel, Raymond J.	6,000.00
					744	Atwood, George J.	6,000.00
					744	Dudak, Michael	6,000.00
					744	Padavick, Carl P.	6,000.00
					752	Doucette, Earle F.	6,000.00
					802	Slawter, Sanford L.	6,000.00
					802	Turek, August M.*	800.00
					807	Martinez, Albert*	4,000.00
					1162	Konkel, Gregory J.	6,000.00
					1234	Sevcik, Frank J.	6,000.00
					1509	Augustynowicz, Ted	6,000.00
					1509	Pelkey, Robert J.	6,000.00
					1592	Moyer, Ralph H.	6,000.00
					1592	Schlosser, Frank S.	6,000.00
					1600	Johnson, Robert Lee	6,000.00
					1670	Popovich, John	6,000.00

* Additional Death Benefits Paid

SUMMER FUN

Summer is more enjoyable with Union Plus Entertainment Discounts because you can afford it.

You deserve a break - both from work and high entertainment costs. Union members can use Union Plus Entertainment Discounts - including movie ticket, video and theme park discounts to relax and enjoy the summer.

Theme Park Discounts

Save up to \$15 per ticket at theme parks across the country - including Adventure Island, Busch Gardens, Hershey Park, Paramount's Great America, SeaWorld, Six Flags and Universal Studio.*

DVD Rentals

Get discount DVD rentals at Blockbuster and Hollywood Video when you buy movie rental coupons in advance.

Major League Baseball

Save from \$3.75 to \$16 a ticket when you see your favorite team. Seats are limited.

Movie Theaters

Save up to 40% at national chains for those big summer blockbuster movies (most of which are made with union talent and technicians). You must buy a minimum of six to eight tickets in advance with each order.

Order tickets online at www.UnionPlus.org/Entertainment or call 1-800-565-3712, Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST and reference member ID number: 744387769. Also, learn more about Advantage points and start earning points toward free entertainment.

Start planning your fun today! Visit:

www.UnionPlus.org/Entertainment



IST-reported deaths

Continued from p. 21

92	Sheram, J.W.	146	Block, Gordon	359	Hadley, Lloyd	549	Krause, Carl
92	Stenberg, Walter	146	Bogle, Newton A.	359	Kang, Gurdial	549	Rowen, James
92	Tandy, Warren	146	Convery, James	359	Manning, Darrell	549	Sweetin, Lee
92	Webb Jr., Alfred	146	Emberg, Wallace	359	McKee, Joseph	568	Baxter, Fred
92	Webster, Virgil	146	Jesse, David	359	Petersen, Ernest	568	Sharbono, Billy
96	Josh, Henry	146	Laliberte, Alfred	359	Sonsalla, Horst	568	Spickler, James
101	DuCharme, Peter	146	Melville, Lorne	359	Volkmer, Karl R.	574	DiLieto, James
101	Hall, Lawrence	146	Ryan, Carmen	359	Wilson, Henry	582	Aguillard, Joseph
101	Hopkins, Bill	146	Samson, William	359	Winder, Robert E.	582	Hughes, J.C.
101	Karns, John	146	Savard, Roy	363	DuRocher, Lawrence	582	Kimble, Virgil
101	Sherratt, David	151	Banister Jr., William G.	363	Niepoetter, Dwain	582	Salsbury, Thomas
104	Brown, Keith	154	Beegle, Richard	374	Byers, Thomas	583	Jackson, Andrew
104	Cooper, Leonard	154	Bey, Fred	374	Davis, Paul W.	584	Thompson, Bobby
104	Crippen, Charles	154	Hurte Sr., Donald	374	Eger, Bernard	587	Boyd, H.W.
104	Cummins, Robert	154	Litzinger, William	374	Faulkenberg, Jeffrey	587	Cox, Billy
104	Hollis, Amos	154	Meehan Jr., William	374	Franks Jr., Chester	587	Grauke Jr., Robert
104	Jones, Stephen	154	Nicholas, Robert	374	Jackson, Rudolph	587	Kay, Buford
104	Lambert III, James	154	Parks, Thomas	374	Lindauer, Leroy	587	Masters, David
104	Longnecker, George	154	Piszczor, Bernard	374	Peter, James	587	Stone, Arnold
104	Ogden, Richard	158	Bandy, William	374	Pizzuto, John	587	Stone, Dale
104	Rutledge, Stanley	158	Glass, Earl W.	374	Russell, Richard	592	Hunter, Ernest
104	Taylor, Harold	158	Sheets, Louis	374	Salakar, Thomas	592	Wilson, Herbert
104	Tinker, Ben	159	Leeds, Elmer	374	Sparks, Larry	595	Hines, James
104	Truman, David	169	Card, Robert	D381	Roberts, S.	620	Street, Raymond
104	Tubbs, Robert	169	Decoteau, Louis E.	395	Grobar, Martin	627	Beauvais, Carl D.
104	Warren, Vergil	169	Marko, Raymond	397	Schuler, Harold	627	Chastain, Bennie
104	Winch, Gordon	169	Navarre, James	397	Sisco, Harold	627	Evenson, Orville
104	Witt, Edwin	169	Skowronski, Ronald	433	Bromow, Leo	627	Francis, Donald
105	Back Sr., Andrew	169	Timchac, James	433	Brooks, Carmel	627	Hayes, James W.
105	Elliott, Oreacle	169	Usher Jr., Richard	433	Brown, Harold	627	Johnson, Virgil
105	Hensley, Verlin	169	Winn, James L.	433	Calliccoat, Chad	627	Wilden, Ernest
105	Neal, Paul	D173	Babick, Stanley	433	Cornett, Robert	627	Yazzie, Farrell
105	Rutherford, Jeremy	175	Brown, Willard	433	Freeman, Floyd	638	Feri, Domenic
105	Thompson, James	182	Leffler, Ellis	433	Johnson, Gary	647	Bengston, Wesley
106	Heuser, Clive W.	S185	Hoffarth, Dale	433	Lambert, Edmond	647	Berthiaume, Dale
106	Jones, Arnold	S185	Wittmer, Michael L.	433	Lofley, Larry	647	Hochstetler, Orby
106	Wilson, Bennie	191	Thorne, Murray	433	Roberson, Calvin	647	Kallberg, James
108	Littles, Oliver	191	Wilson, George	433	Ward, Richard	647	Larson, Irving
108	Romine, Lewis	193	Scowden Sr., Walter	D435	Smith Jr., Everett	647	Lindenberger, Thomas
110	Eubanks, Franklin	199	Estes, James	449	Burlo, Wallace J.	647	Lundgren, C.L.
112	Bryan, William	199	Hicks, Raymond L.	449	Gomand, Lawrence	647	McCarty, Robert
112	Jordan, Alvin	199	Morris, Charles	449	Kasten, Herbert L.	647	McFarling, Donald
112	Landrum, Fredrick	203	Murphy, James	449	Rass, Clarence	647	Melbo, Carlisle
113	Bridges, Marion	204	Matas, Simeon	453	Byrd, Steven	647	Mitchener, Arvel
113	Nelms, Doyle	237	Crouch, Chester	454	Evans, James	647	Nepstad, Gerhard
113	Thomas, Sam	242	Badda, Richard	454	Johnson, T.C.	647	Reitan, Scott
124	Jones, James	242	Batt, Reuben	454	Killian, Benny	647	Seagraves, Lonie
128	Cope, Henry	242	Butzlaff, Ferdinand	454	Nicholson, Shawn	647	Sheldon, Marvin
128	Correia, Adelino	242	Clifford, Howard	454	Phillips, George	648	Reszetar, John S.
128	Deoliveira, Daniel	242	Forgey, George	454	Smelser, George	650	Brown, Roswell A.
128	Hunter, Edward	242	Hall, Lowell	455	Greet, Edwin	651	Black, James
128	Jansen, J.C.	263	Carleton, William	455	Townsel, Paul	651	Clarkin, Ina
128	Leppard, Allen	263	Douglas, James	455	Voss, Rayford D.	651	Tanner, Mary
128	McDonald, Roderic	271	Potvin, Dany	455	Woolley, Kelly	667	Casto, Bernard
128	Pacey, Joseph	271	Sampson, Ralph	500	Laverdure, Ernest	667	Culp, Kinsey
128	Tapp, Joseph	305	LeBlanc, Wilson	500	Warhurst, Michael	667	Holmes, Aubrey
132	Law, Frank	305	Prothro, R.A.	502	Camp, Vernon	667	Jarrell, Donald
132	Maybin, Elick	D314	Stingley, Gary L.	502	Firth, Thomas	667	Miller, George
146	Bagirkan, Nurcan	357	Mitchell, Chris	548	Mitchell, James P.	667	Mitchell, Larry
		358	Nemeth, Louis	549	Anthony, Marc	667	Swisher, Gary
		358	Piwinski, Anthony	549	Benson, Robert	667	Tackett, Christopher
		359	Cody, Rodney	549	Commesso, Joseph	680	Damiano, Michele
		359	Craig, David	549	Gossage, Thomas	696	Homa, Michael
		359	Fuchihara, Mike	549	Johnson, Norvell	696	Mueller, George
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						697	Burt, Louis
						697	Wenzel, Raymond
						729	Hancock, Michael
						744	Atwood, George
						744	Dudak, Michael
						744	Padavick Jr., Carl
						752	Doucette, Earle
						807	Martinez, Albert
						1162	Konkel, Gregory
						1247	Siefert, Harold
						1509	Pelkey, Robert
						1592	Messinger, George
						1600	Johnson, Robert L.
						1667	Gamble, Jimmy
						1667	Wooten, Maurice E. □

Moving? Tell us where...

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____

State or Province _____ Zip _____

Local Lodge No. _____ Register No. _____

E-Mail Address _____

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

Mail form to:

**International Brotherhood of
Boilermakers Union
753 State Avenue, Suite 565
Kansas City, KS 66101**

(Allow five weeks for change of address.)

Political action can change nation's course

IN FEBRUARY the Executive Council voted unanimously to endorse Senator Barack Obama for president of the United States. Our endorsement was not an easy decision. Many good candidates presented themselves. We studied them all and in the end determined that Obama is our best hope to unite our nation, jump-start the economy, and return the United States to its rightful place as not only the most powerful nation, but also the most respected nation.

Like our good friend John Edwards, we know that Obama will be a strong advocate for working families. His lifelong reputation for standing up for workers is built on the community organizing he did to help rebuild a neighborhood ravaged by the closing of a steel mill as much as it is by his work in the Illinois state legislature and as a U.S. senator. Hillary Clinton will support working families, too, but she will not be as good for Boilermakers as Obama. And although we respect John McCain for his service to our country, his voting record on issues that affect workers is terrible.

Throughout his campaign, Senator Obama has proposed workable solutions for many of the nation's most pronounced problems. He wants to relieve the economic pressure middle class families are feeling by giving them tax cuts. He wants to create jobs here at home by providing tax incentives for businesses. And he wants to end incentives for employers to ship jobs overseas. He will invest in U.S. manufacturing and create training programs for workers forced out of work by the Bush recession as well as young people just entering the workforce.

Our construction and cement-making Boilermakers will like his energy policies, which we believe serve the interest of Boilermakers better than do the policies of any other candidate. He proposes to lower our greenhouse gas emissions without destroying jobs by

Barack Obama is exciting voters as no candidate has done in decades.

supporting a cap-and-trade program, similar to the system successfully used to lower sulfur dioxide emissions. Senator Obama also understands the enormous impact that other industries have on global warming, and will create incentives to increase fuel economy standards and reduce deforestation and overgrazing.

Obama's proposal for health care reform would give every American access to a plan similar to what members of Congress enjoy — and at an affordable cost. All Americans would be covered, regardless of employment status, and everyone would have access to high-quality care. He will lower medical costs by modernizing the U.S. health care system, reducing administrative overhead, and increasing access to preventive health care.

Most of all, we are enthused by the effect Senator Obama's campaign is having on the voters. He is igniting voters — many of them young voters, new to the electoral process — with his passion for change that is sorely needed after seven years of Bush's misguided policies. Voters are going to the polls in record numbers. Election officials project the turnout for the primaries will be the highest in 40 years. Many states are buying more voting equipment, because they anticipate a record turnout in November as well.

Voter enthusiasm for the electoral process is a welcome change. A democracy only works when the citizens get involved, and Obama is involving citizens like no one has in decades. I urge every Boilermaker to get involved as well. Get registered to vote. We have

the opportunity to bring about real change in this election. But to do so, we must get involved in the process.

Make your vote an informed vote

WE IN THE EXECUTIVE Council recognize that not every Boilermaker member will agree with our endorsement. People are vastly different, and good people may disagree. We came to our decision after studying all of the candidates — not only the positions they outline in their speeches, but also the attitudes toward working people and unions they have demonstrated, and continue to demonstrate, through their actions and their accessibility.

I ask that all of you take the same care we did. A good citizen and union member has a responsibility to vote — but not just to vote blindly. Your responsibility is to cast an informed vote.

Senator Obama came into the national spotlight more recently than his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton, or the Republican candidate, John McCain. He is a new face, and many people know little about him. I knew little about him until he announced his candidacy. But the more I learned, the more I liked his positions as well as his attitude about our union and our members. I encourage you to learn all you can about him, too. Visit his campaign Web site — www.BarackObama.com — and read about him in future issues of *the Boilermaker Reporter* as well as on the Boilermaker Web site — www.boilermakers.org. Learn about the other candidates, too. You cannot make a fair comparison unless you learn about them all.

In the coming months, the Department of Government Affairs will be sending information to local lodges, placing stories in *the Reporter*, and publishing articles on our Web site not



Newton B. Jones
International President

only about presidential candidates but also about candidates for the House of Representatives, Senate, and governor.

Get informed, get active, and get to the polls. Make your vote count. The future of this union — indeed this nation — depends on it. □

A personal note on my recent loss

Dear Fellow Boilermakers:

I thought you should know that Susanne Marie Mitchell, my wife of 20 years and my love of 35 years, passed away February 19 after a year-long illness. She was brave throughout and battled her incurable disease with both dignity and humor.

Susanne was the center of our family. She was an extraordinary life partner and a wonderful mother. She lives on now in our two children, Cullen Mitchell and Shae Marie. And she will forever live in my heart.

Newton Jones

Anyone wishing to honor Susanne's memory can do so through a donation to Augie's Quest (www.augiesquest.com), the Muscular Dystrophy Association's research initiative seeking treatments and cures for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Letters to the Editor

Retiree thanks Executive Council for endorsing Obama

I WANT TO thank the Boilermaker Executive Council for announcing their endorsement of Barack Obama for president. I hope he makes good on his support for organized labor.

I started at the trade in October 1940 in Local 477 in a boiler shop, then to Local 483 at Shell Refinery in Wood River, Ill., and in 1950 to Local 363, where I retired in 1984. My working and retirement life has been much easier because I am a member of the Boilermakers.

JOHN THOMPSON, Local 363
Mt. Vernon, Ill.

SAJAC thanks contractors for donations

IN THE SIX years I have been involved with the Southeastern Area Joint Apprenticeship Committee (SAJAC), and the nearly 30 years I have been a

Boilermaker, it never ceases to amaze me, and pleasantly so, the spirit of volunteerism of our members.

Boilermakers are always willing to give of themselves in the form of teaching anyone willing to learn the tricks of the trade we take for granted as Boilermaker craftsmen.

Training is very expensive, and dollars for training are hard to come by. This being said, there are people and companies I would like to thank.

Dan McKinna (F&M Mafco Inc.) has been loaning SAJAC rigging equipment (including tuggers, chokers, and snatch blocks) for over three years. Jeff Howard (H&S Tool) and Tom Nolfi (Advanced Pneumatics Co.) have been loaning SAJAC milling and rolling motors, and selling us equipment at a discount for several years.

AP Com Power Inc. and B&W Construction Co. Inc. donated over \$10,000 worth of STEAM books and boiler schematics. Other contractors, who already contribute funds to SAJAC, have donated tools, equipment, con-

sumables, and enough steel to build a practice rigging platform. Dennis Klingman (Lincoln Electric) has made their training library available to us at no cost. And the list goes on.

All I can say is thank you to our vendors, equipment suppliers, and contractors for saving SAJAC tens of thousands of dollars that have been put to good use elsewhere for training.

MICHAEL PETERSON
SAJAC director

Retired L-104 BM-ST Anderson passes away; will be missed

RETIRED LOCAL 104 BM-ST Michael R. Anderson passed away March 18, 2007. Mike joined Local 104 [Seattle, Wash.] in Sept. 1974, and worked in shops, shipyards, and field construction jobs. In July 1987, Mike was elected BM-ST of Local 104; he resigned in 1999 due to health problems.

Mike was a trustee for the Boilermakers National Pension Trust, a chairman of the Boilermakers Apprenticeship and Training Trust, the head union trustee for the Northwest Metal Crafts Health Trust Fund, and a delegate and officer for the Puget Sound Metal Trades Council.

Mike dedicated his life to creating a better standard of living and working conditions for those he represented and his efforts are greatly appreciated. He was a kind-hearted, giving person who touched the lives of many. His presence is greatly missed.

GARY POWERS, L-104 BM-ST
Seattle, Wash.

Got something to say?

SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:
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