Local 614 members build submarine in record time

THANKS TO THE efforts of Local 614 members (Groton, Conn.), the U.S. Navy christened its newest Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine, the New Hampshire, on June 21, a date that coincided with the 220th anniversary of New Hampshire’s statehood.

The fifth Virginia class to be built, she was completed months ahead of schedule at General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton, Conn.

The submarine was christened by Cheryl McGainess, a resident of Portsmouth, N.H. Her husband, Tom, died on Sept. 11, 2001, in the attacks on the World Trade Center. He was a co-pilot of American Airlines Flight 11.

The christening marked the third time the U.S. Navy has named a ship after the state of New Hampshire. The newest New Hampshire is the first Virginia-

NASSCO workers ratify first agreement, settle lawsuit

Local 1998-represented employees recoup nearly $14 million for lost meal and break periods

AFTER 16 YEARS without a labor contract, 2,300 employees of General Dynamics’ NASSCO Shipyard in San Diego, Calif. — represented by Boilermakers Local 1998 — have ratified an agreement with the company. Workers approved the contract June 14 by unanimous vote. They also settled a lawsuit with NASSCO worth millions.

NASSCO (National Steel and Shipbuilding Company) designs, builds, and repairs auxiliary ships for the U.S. Navy and tankers covered under the Jones Act. More than a-decade-and-a-half ago, production and maintenance employees there formed an independent union — the Shipyard Workers Union. The union merged with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers in 2003, becoming Local 1998.

The new agreement and the lawsuit settlement came after intense negotiations between the company and the union this summer. Warren Fairley, International Vice President – Industrial Sector, said it was clear that NASSCO wished to resolve the lawsuit that had been filed in December 2004. The lawsuit arose over the company’s failure to provide employees with meal and rest periods in accordance with California law. The union documented over three years of violations.

Under the settlement, the shipyard workers will share cash payments totaling $13.9 million. They will also receive an increase in pension benefits worth $5.2 million.

As the settlement was reached, the two sides also agreed to a five-year contract that gains fundamental union rights as well as significant wage improvements for NASSCO employees. Wages will be increased in each of the five years of the agreement, and all members will receive signing bonuses. In addition, the company will provide for paid shop-stewards (including chief shop stewards), two full-time union health and safety reps, union dues check-off, a grievance and arbitration procedure with binding arbitration,
Project will be biggest private investment in Indiana history

AFTER YEARS of planning, engineering, and permitting, a $3.8 billion refinery modernization and expansion project is gearing up along Lake Michigan in Whiting, Ind. — and Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.) will be part of it.

The Whiting facility, owned by British Petroleum (BP), is the largest refinery in the Midwest and the fourth largest in the United States. The massive, multi-year project will allow the refinery to process additional heavy crude oil from Canada.

“It’s a go!” L-374 BM-ST Paul Maday said recently. “All the permits are in, and BP’s headquarters in Great Britain has released the funds.”

Maday said the work will involve a lot of new technology to process the class ship to be built in 72 months, down from 96. “That’s a savings of $8 million, and in man-hours alone,” reports Local 614 Bus. Mgr. Frank Ward.

The newest Hampshire is also the first submarine of its class to be placed in the water at 99 percent completion. The 7,800-ton ship was built under a teaming arrangement between General Dynamics Electric Boat and Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding in Newport News, Va. She is 337 feet in length, has a beam of 34 feet, and can operate at more than 25 knots submerged.

The New Hampshire’s improved stealth, sophisticated surveillance capabilities, and special warfare enhancements will enable it to meet the Navy’s multi-mission requirements. It is scheduled to be commissioned October 25 at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine.

UNIONS PLAY ROLE IN ‘Tall Ships’ Festival

Boilermakers help build infrastructure for five-day Tacoma event

BOILERMAKERS WERE among the army of union volunteers whose efforts were essential to the opening of “Tall Ships Tacoma 2008” held July 3-7 at the Thea Foss Waterway.

Boilermakers joined plumbers, bricklayers, cement masons, millwrights, iron and sheet metal workers, painters, laborers, and many other skilled craftsmen in building infrastructure to accommodate the few hundred thousand visitors expected at the event. Longshore members helped each ship to an orderly mooring. In all, over one million dollars in labor was donated to the event, reports Tall Ships Tacoma Board President Joe Jadwin.

More than 400,000 people attended the five-day event, which featured over 30 ships in a race from Victoria, British Columbia. While in the Tacoma bay area, the ships offered tours, mock cannon battles, and even a chance to sail.

Pictured above: The U.S. Coast Guard’s Eagle, a floating classroom since 1946, participates in the Parade of Sails, July 3 along Foss Waterway in Tacoma, Wash. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by Kelly Parker)
Why union-hating ABC loves John McCain

Construction group applauds McCain’s efforts to gut labor unions

ASSOCIATED BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS (ABC) couldn’t wait to endorse John McCain. In fact, the group’s chairman, Bill Fairchild, bragged in a political brochure: “ABC was the first business group to endorse presidential candidate John McCain. That’s because [he] best represents the …values of ABC.”

Just what are the values of this organization? Stamping out unions wherever they can; getting rid of worker protections; doing away with Davis-Bacon (prevailing wage) and project labor agreements; promoting right-to-work (a law that aims to shut down unions); further weakening of OSHA; dumping health care costs on workers; and more tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans.

Few organizations are as openly hostile to unions as ABC. That’s why the group’s support for McCain should send a chill up the spine of every union member in America. ABC wants McCain in the Oval Office because McCain’s anti-union agenda closely matches its own.

In its political brochure, ABC lists some of McCain’s key positions:

- John McCain believes the Davis-Bacon Act should be repealed.
- “John McCain opposes…Project Labor Agreements.”
- “John McCain believes that …(OSHA) policies must…not overburden American employers.”

The brochure goes on to praise McCain for opposing the Employee Free Choice Act, a bill that would level the playing field for workers who want to join unions. It also notes McCain’s support for corporate tax rollbacks (at a time when America is already $10 trillion in debt).

ABC’s avid support of John McCain is a warning to all American workers — and to union workers in particular. One of the most anti-union groups in America is pushing to get John McCain elected. Everything unions have struggled to win for their members, over generations, is on the line in November.
**ELECTION 2008**

**BOILERMAKERS RECOMMEND CANDIDATES**

Informed union voters can make a big difference Nov. 4

The candidates for House of Representatives are listed by congressional district. Endorsements are also included for statewide elections.

**Presidential Endorsements**

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<th>State</th>
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**Candidate Information**

Candidates for the House of Representatives are listed by congressional district. Endorsements are also included for statewide elections. Races where no candidate earned our endorsements have been left off the list.

**Key**

- Challenging: Indicates candidate is running against someone already holding office (an incumbent)
- Open: Indicates an open seat (no incumbent is already holding office)
- *Challenger: Indicates candidate is running against someone already holding office (an incumbent)

We know that how you vote is a personal decision. And we respect that decision. We also know that working families will make a huge difference in these elections — just as we did in 2004, when many pro-worker candidates were voted into Congress and to state and local offices across the nation.

The union’s source of strength in the political arena is an informed union member who registers and votes. Please make your vote count in 2008!

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**Note:**

-Italic: Indicates a candidate is running against someone already holding office (an incumbent)
- Italics: Indicates an open seat (no incumbent is already holding office)
Agents for big corporations and foreign interests hold key positions

AS VOTERS CONSIDER which presidential candidate will best represent their interests, they may want to examine how lobbyists influence the two campaigns.

In the past, Sen. Barack Obama has distanced himself from the influence of lobbyists — going so far as to refuse to accept any campaign donations from them. "I couldn’t even buy a bumper sticker from the Obama Web site," said Bridget Martin, Director of Government Affairs at a registered lobbyist for the Boilermakers.

Sen. John McCain has made no such pledge. He not only takes campaign donations from lobbyists, but he also staffs his campaign with them (more donations from lobbyists, but he also pledge). He not only takes campaign donations from lobbyists for the Boilermakers.

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A few of the more notable McCain staffs are:

- John Green — His firm lobbed for European Aeronautic Defense & Space, the French company that was awarded a $35 billion Air Force tanker contract that should have gone to the American firm, Boeing.
- Phil Gramm — The former Texas senator-turned-lobbyist received campaign contributions from Enron while in office — and assisted with favorable energy industry deregulation in return. Enron collapsed in 2002, costing the firm’s employees and investors their pensions and savings. Gramm, who once lobbied for a huge financial firm, was tapped by McCain as an advisor for his 2008 election bid. Gramm made headlines recently for comments that many Americans found insulting. He called America “a nation of whiners” and said the recession was “metaphorical” rather than an economic crisis.
- Charlie Black — His firm lobbed for former dictators Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines and Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire.

The list of lobbyists on McCain’s staff goes on. Big insurance companies, big financial companies, big drug companies, big oil firms, and other enormously rich and powerful interests have a direct connection to the McCain campaign. Labor unions and average Americans do not.

Sen. John McCain has made no such indication the reason why you can't choose to vote by absentee ballot simply because you anticipate being out of town on November 4, you can choose to vote by absentee ballot. Some states require that you indicate the reason why you can’t make it to the polls on Election Day; others allow you to vote by absentee ballot simply because you choose to do so.

Check with your local election office to find out how your state handles early voting requirements. For more information, go to the Boilermakers’ Web site (www.boilermakers.org) and click on Resources, then Political Action/LEAP, or contact the Boilermakers’ Government Affairs Office at 703-560-1493.

Sen. Barack Obama, in contrast, has indicated his willingness to be held accountable.

"You can vote on November 4th, or you can vote by absentee ballot if you anticipate being out of town. And being too busy or out of town on Election Day is not a valid reason to refuse to vote,“ Sen. Obama said.

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Remember, you can vote before Election Day.

WITH SO MUCH riding on the upcoming elections, working families can’t afford to skip a vote. And being too busy or out of town on Election Day is no excuse.

Most states allow you to vote early simply by going to the elections office and filling out a ballot. If you anticipate being out of town on November 4, you can choose to vote by absentee ballot. Some states require that you indicate the reason why you can’t make it to the polls on Election Day; others allow you to vote by absentee ballot simply because you choose to do so.

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As election nears, union urges members to sign up — and vote!

MILLIONS OF VOTERS fail to vote in every national election, forfeiting their best opportunity to influence the future of this country. Unfortunately, many nonvoters are Boilermaker members.

A state-by-state examination of voter registration rolls recently showed fewer than 54 percent of Boilermakers had registered. That’s a full 10 points below the percentage of eligible voters who cast ballots in the 2004 elections.

“Democratic elections are the greatest hope working families have,” IP Newton B. Jones told the Reporter. “If we vote with our full strength, we can help determine who runs this country for the next few years. But you can’t vote if you aren’t registered. We need to get our members registered and then get them to the polls in November.”

Director of Government Affairs Bridget Martin said, “I encourage every member to register to vote — even if you think you already are. A lot of people who think they are registered actually aren’t,” she explained. “In some states, failing to vote in two elections is enough to get you removed from the voter rolls. Others lose their registration by moving and forgetting to register at their new address.”

There is no penalty for registering again. The election office simply notes you are already on the rolls.

“Re-registering ensures your vote will be counted,” Martin said.  

L-85 registers voters

LOCAL 85 (Toledo, Ohio) recently joined other building trades in Lima, Ohio, in an effort to get people registered to vote. The event coincided with the opening of Sen. Barack Obama’s election headquarters in Lima. L-85 BM-ST Fred Keith Jr. said the unions helped sign up 300 voters. In the photo above, union members take time during registration efforts to chat with Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland (left). Left to right are Boilermaker retiree Glen Gruetter (in “Boilermakers for Obama” T-shirt); Tony Hammond, president of the Lima Building Trades; Keith; and L-85 Boilermaker Jack Miller, the general foreman at a local chemical plant and city councilman in the village of Shawnee, Ohio. “At every union meeting, I’m pushing voter registration,” said Keith. “People are fed up with the way things are, and we need everybody to vote this November.”

“People are fed up with the way things are, and we need everybody to vote this November.”

— L-85 BM-ST Fred Keith Jr.
Boilermaker introduces Obama at Montana rally

L-29’s McHugh serves as Maine delegate

Retiree, daughter get involved for Obama

CALLING THE 2008 presidential election “the most important in my adult life,” Local 29 (Boston) retiree Jimmy McHugh, pictured above left with Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL), is doing his part to get Sen. Barack Obama elected. McHugh, 59, of Mexico, Maine, retired last year as a construction Boilermaker. On Feb. 10, he and his wife, Brenda, and daughter, Lydia, represented their town at a regional Democratic convention. McHugh and his daughter went on to serve as delegates to the state Democratic convention in Augusta May 31 through June 2, where the pair cast their votes for Obama.

“I was originally for Senator John Edwards,” McHugh said, “but now I’m for Obama. I’m reading his books. He seems like he’s the real thing. He’s legit.”

Before attending the convention, McHugh requested some “Boilermakers for Obama” T-shirts from the Government Affairs Department. The bright yellow shirts drew a lot of attention, he said. “When the convention’s keynote speaker, Senator Dick Durbin, saw me wearing the T-shirt at a labor brunch, he made a bee-line straight for me. He was very gracious, and we had a good discussion.”

McHugh is continuing to campaign for Obama, making phone calls and canvassing neighborhoods. “We’re trying to unite the Hillary [Clinton] supporters behind Obama,” he said. ♦

DH-449’s Demmin meets Obama

Lodge officer raises shipbuilding, Iraq issues

NEWLY-ELECTED LOCAL 449 President Warren Demmin enjoyed a backstage meeting with Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama June 12 after the Illinois senator addressed a town hall meeting at Kaukauna High School in Wisconsin.

“I asked him about the Jones Act,” Demmin said, “and discussed how it affects Boilermakers working in the shipyards.” Local 449 members are employed at Bay Shipbuilding in Sturgeon Bay, Wis., which builds and repairs tankers, dredgers, and material handling equipment.

“Senator Obama said as president he would seek stiff penalties for companies that take American work overseas,” Demmin recalled. “We also talked about the war in Iraq. ‘I’m a 12-year veteran of the Navy and served in Desert Storm and Desert Shield. I told him I’m proud to stand in support of bringing my brothers and sisters home from Iraq.’

Demmin said the town hall meeting gave him an excellent opportunity to network with other politicians, too, including Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle, state assemblymen and senators, and U.S. congressmen from Wisconsin.

“I was able to discuss the issues we face at Bay Shipbuilding. I also spoke with them about supporting our sister local at Kewaunee, Wisconsin — Local 487, which was then on strike at Kewaunee Fabrications. ♦

Local D239 Sec.-Treas. (and Three Forks Mayor) Gene Townsend introduces Sen. Barack Obama in Bozeman, Mont., May 18. (Courtesy of Belgrade News)

D239 secretary-treasurer is also local mayor

GENE TOWNSEND, Local D239’s secretary-treasurer and long-time mayor of Three Forks, Mont., got a rare privilege May 19 when he introduced Sen. Barack Obama at a rally held in nearby Bozeman, on the Montana State University campus.

Located in Three Forks, Local D239 is a cement lodge representing workers-employed by Holcim and by Rio Tinto Minerals. Townsend, 57, a 35-year Local D239 member, works as a boiler operator at Rio Tinto, which manufactures industrial talc. He is also the longest-running mayor in the state of Montana, with 23 years in office.

Townsend said he still doesn’t know for sure why the Obama campaign tapped him to introduce the senator, although his tenure as mayor may have been a factor. He said he didn’t have time to be nervous. “The Obama campaign called on Friday [May 16], just three days before the rally, and asked if my wife, Pat, and I would attend as VIP guests. Then on Sunday afternoon someone from his staff called and asked if I would introduce the senator. I didn’t even know if I could get off work.”

But with an invitation like that, a coworker gladly traded shifts so Townsend could attend.

Townsend said he has spoken to many groups as mayor of Three Forks and as vice president for the state AFL-CIO federation, but addressing a capacity crowd at the Montana State University campus — and introducing the leading Democratic presidential candidate — was something else. “There was a hell of a lot more people than has ever been at the city council,” he quipped.

Townsend kept his speech short. “I talked about Three Forks, that it had some tough times when the Milwaukee Railroad pulled out, and that the people had hung together and... were probably a little tougher, and that [Obama] is the right man for the job. I also talked about my Boilermaker background.”

The Townsends spent some time backstage with Obama and his campaign staff. “The first thing Obama did was include my wife, asking her to join us. He was just a normal guy. One of his people told me, ‘What you see back here is exactly how [Obama] is all the time.’”

Townsend, who recently became a grandfather, added, “Maybe someday I’ll get to tell her [his granddaughter] I got to introduce the president of the United States.”

Local D239 Pres. Dick McGuire said his local, although small in number (a little over 100 members), has a history of political activism. “At times, our local has donated more money to the state AFL-CIO legislative fund than any other local in the state.” He added that another member, Tom Hyndman, is a mayor, too, in nearby Twin Bridges.

Regarding Townsend’s speech in Bozeman, McGuire said, “Our members were really proud of the job Gene did. He represented our local and our community very well.” ♦

Elements of this story provided, with permission, by Andy Malby, managing editor, Belgrade News
**LABOR’S FIGHT for the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) gives workers the freedom to organize without the threat of intimidation, threats, and violence from anti-union forces. One of the most important pieces of legislation to ever leave Congress will be debated this year in both chambers. The Employee Free Choice Act aims to reverse the trend of employers using various tactics to prevent workers from forming a union and make the process for organizing fair and free.**

**3. Increase penalties for employers who break the law.** The act would raise the ante for employers who are discriminating and/or faking to freeze these workers back pay. It would also provide for civil fines up to $20,000 for violating workers’ legal rights to join a union and bargain collectively. In addition, workers would be given the same right that employers enjoy to stop immediately any activity that is found to be illegal through a court order (injunctive relief).

**Union members should support the Act**

**WHY SHOULD BOILERMAKERS or any other union member care about this act? Think about where unions are today. In the 1950s, unions represented 35 percent of the workforce. Today unions are at 12 percent (only eight percent of the private sector). Fewer union members mean less clout for workers. As unions shrink, so does the middle class. Union wages and benefits raise the standards for all workers. Weakner unions mean all workers suffer — those who are organized and those who are not.**

A study by Peter D. Hart Research Associates showed that about 60 million American workers who do not have unions would like to belong to one. The Employee Free Choice Act would give a longawaited chance to organizing.

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**3. Increase penalties for employers who break the law.** The act would raise the ante for employers who are discriminating and/or faking to freeze these workers back pay. It would also provide for civil fines up to $20,000 for violating workers’ legal rights to join a union and bargain collectively. In addition, workers would be given the same right that employers enjoy to stop immediately any activity that is found to be illegal through a court order (injunctive relief).

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Global Warming: The problem is clear, the solution isn’t

IN LATE 2007, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), comprising thousands of scientists from around the world, published its fourth assessment on climate change, warning the nations of the world that evidence of global warming is “unequivocal” and that “the balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate.”

For that many scientists to agree on such a strong statement requires thousands of measurements, studies, and experiments. It should surprise no one that the scientists of the IPCC have edged slowly toward this pronouncement over the past 20 years as the evidence mounted.

In 1990 they said it could be.” In 1996, they said “evidence suggests.” By 2001 they had seen “new and stronger evidence.” In 2005 they were saying it was “sufficiently clear to justify nations taking prompt action.” And in 2006 they admitted that “risks are more serious than previously thought.” Now it is “unequivocal.”

Although some skeptics remain — particularly outside the scientific community — a growing consensus in government and industry recognizes the need for action.

Pres. George W. Bush’s own science advisor, Dr. John Marburger, went on record saying, “[Global warming exists, and we have to do something about it, and what we have to do about it is reduce carbon dioxide.”

Throughout the Boilermakers union, this news has not been received happily. Nearly all our members make a living in industries that contribute to atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHG), most notably coal-fired electric power plants, refineries, and cement kilns.

They rightly question whether reducing carbon emissions means doing away with their jobs. And they are not alone. For past decades, the main argument against taking action on carbon emissions has been the negative effect these actions would have on the economy.

But the same IPCC report that describes the problem also gives hope that carbon emissions can be reduced without wreaking economic havoc. Tucked deeply in that report is the statement that there is “much evidence” that reductions in GHG levels can be achieved at “relatively low costs.”

“Deployment of a portfolio of technologies currently available or expected to be commercially available in decades.”

Among those technologies is carbon capture and storage (CCS), which will allow future generations to continue burning coal and other fossil fuels. CCS captures the carbon dioxide (CO2) before it leaves the boiler (or whatever is producing it) and stores it somewhere deep underground, where it becomes the atmosphere. Wide deployment of CCS technology would allow power plants to meet the rapidly growing demand for electric power while reducing GHG emissions.

SOME GLIB CRITICS of fossil fuels make reducing GHG seem easy. They advocate wind, solar, and hydropower — even geothermal power — as alternatives to coal and oil. These are all proven power sources that can help reduce GHG. But relying on any one of them, or expecting the rapid development of all of them, to meet the demand for electricity over the next few decades is naive.

Flue gas separation and CO2 capture are already being used at more than a dozen facilities worldwide. Typically, the CO2 gas is bubbled through a solution that removes the CO2, which may then be compressed for storage. The process is expensive and uses a great deal of energy.

An alternative is to burn the fuel in pure oxygen, yielding CO2 and H2O (water vapor) as the only waste gases. Separating these through condensation is relatively easy. The difficult (and expensive) part is creating the pure oxygen from intake air. One hopeful note is that studies suggest these oxyfuel systems can be retrofitted to existing coal plants that burn pulverized coal (PC).

Coal gasification combined-cycle (IGCC) power plants can use a process that removes CO2 before combustion, then sending pure hydrogen to the turbine. A significant drawback is that electricity generated by PC plants is cheaper than that generated by IGCC plants.

A drawback for all methods of CCS is the question of long-term storage of CO2. To reduce global warming, CO2 must be stored underground for perhaps thousands of years. Keeping the carbon storage low, including the dams needed for transportation to the site, will be a priority, as will eliminating the risks of accidents. Suddenly large quantities of CO2 into the atmosphere will drive out the oxygen and kill any oxygen-breathing animals in the area. And slow leaks would frustrate our efforts to make the CO2 safe to store.

Proposed storage locations are numerous — depleted oil and gas reservoirs, huge reservoirs, unmineable coal seams, deep salt formations, and the ocean. Surprisingly, the ocean may be the most promising option. Surface ocean water is too saturated to absorb our current emissions through the natural process, but the deep waters are not. Scientists believe large quantities of CO2 could be pumped there with no ill effect.

All of these solutions bear costs and risks, but his is the price of electricity. Thus, companies are reluctant to invest money into developing them, though interest is rising. A carbon cap-and-trade program could allow emissions that could provide a vehicle to encourage more investment in CCS technologies.

In the United States, resistance to addressing GHG is growing. Forward-thinking companies realize that the cost of doing nothing may be far greater than the cost of tackling the problem. As Jeffrey Immelt, CEO for General Electric put it: “We believe it is better to get ahead of the curve. This is a time period where environmental improvement is going to lead toward profitability. This is not a hobby to make people feel good.”

Jeffrey Immelt, CEO, General Electric

Four Boilermaker lodges represent members who fabricate wind turbines, a green energy source. Local 19 (Philadelphia), Local 92 (Los Angeles), Local 104 (Seattle), and Local 656 (Chattanooga, Tenn.).

Every technology brings challenges

Global Warming: The problem is clear, the solution isn’t

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McCain’s stance on climate change will cost Boilermakers jobs

He wants to remove Davis-Bacon protections from bill that promises 50 years of Boilermaker work

REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL nominee John McCain issued a statement June 5 supporting the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act, a bill supported by the Boilermakers union, but first he wants to make one big change — remove all Davis-Bacon requirements.

Lieberman-Warner balances environmental concerns with possible economic damage. The Boilermakers support the bill because it creates incentives for electric power producers to build new facilities, while developing technology to reduce pollution. By establishing a cap-and-trade program for CO2, the bill opens the door to expanding various power sources including wind, solar, nuclear, and most important for Boilermakers, coal. And it specifies that all entities receiving grants to invest in carbon-reducing energy infrastructure projects must pay workers the local prevailing wage.

Boilermakers Assistant Director of Government Affairs Abe Breheny believes that a cap-and-trade program, once established, will “create the bulk of [construction Boilermaker] work for the next 50 years. This bill creates incentives for coal-fired power generation that includes technology to capture and store greenhouse gases. Installing this new technology will be tremendously labor intensive.” Experts estimate Lieberman-Warner will result in $800 billion in infrastructure investments between 2012 and 2050.

Senator McCain has been described as environmentally friendly, largely because of his statements on global warming. But his goal of repealing Davis-Bacon will harm the economic environment of U.S. construction workers. Even without repealing the law, if McCain succeeds in removing prevailing wage protections from efforts to address climate change, he will provide a means to lower wages throughout the industrial construction industry that will be with us for decades.

Although stating his support for the bill, he was not present to vote for it. The vote failed, and the bill has been withdrawn for now.
L-146’s Pinault wins Canadian apprentice contest

Event marks 15th year

DAVID PINAULT, 22, a Local 146 graduate apprentice, won the 2008 Canadian Boilermaker Apprenticeship Competition held at Red River College in Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 22-26. This year marked the 15th anniversary of the event.

Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Pinault moved to Edmonton, Alberta, in 1999, where he attended high school. Upon graduation, he completed the government-funded Trades 2000 program, which introduced participants to the construction trades. “I fell in love with the whole aspect of being a Boilermaker,” Pinault said. He became a member of Local 146 (Edmonton) in 2000.

Pinault said he expected the 2008 Apprenticeship Competition to be difficult—and it was. “It was three days of really hard work [following one day of written exams]. But everything in between was worth it. It’s been an opportunity of a lifetime. I made five friends [the other candidates] in the week I was there. To me, that’s more important than winning the competition. Just competing was such an honor for all of us.

Also competing were Gary Amos, Local 271 (Montreal, Quebec); Mike Beauchamp, Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario); Christopher Dufault, Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba); Cory Haakenson, Local 271 (Vancouver, British Columbia); and Vincent LeBlond, Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba); Cory LeBlanc, Local 271 (Montreal, Quebec); and Mike Prévost, Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario). LeBlond was the only international competitor.

Contestants earn the right to compete at the national contest by meeting selection criteria and receiving the approval of their local union committees. The candidates must demonstrate high achievement in their technical training and on-the-job skills. At some local unions, several candidates participated in a one-day pre-competition held at their local lodge training center or training college.

National Training Coordinator Grant Jacobs said the 2008 competition plans contacted past winners to see how they had fared. “In most cases, they are supervisors or have gone on to become instructors in one of the colleges, or have become an official in their lodges. “One thing they consistently said is that being involved and winning the competition was the biggest highlight of their careers.”

Ole Florell earns Award of Excellence

THIS YEAR’S AWARD of Excellence went to Ole Florell, who worked nearly 40 years in the construction Boilermaker industry as a member of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba). Florell began his career in 1956 in Flin Flon, Manitoba. He worked as a rigger, a fitter, and a foreman, rising to upper levels of supervision with B&W and Abstem Canada.

Florell’s award was committed to the development of apprentices,” whether working on the tools or in supervision. “You can see the influence Ole had by how many Boilermakers he helped that went on to distinguished levels of the trade — in supervision, upper management, the schools, and the union.”

In accepting the award, Florell, 78, recalled his Boilermaker heritage, noting that his grandfather and four uncles worked in Tacoma, Wash., during WWI building ships. “It’s a good thing they weren’t taking women in those days or I might have been working for my mother,” he quipped.

This is the first year the Award of Excellence has been named for former National Training Coordinator Grant Jacobs said the 2008 competition plans contacted past winners to see how they had fared. “In most cases, they are supervisors or have gone on to become instructors in one of the colleges, or have become an official in their lodges. “One thing they consistently said is that being involved and winning the competition was the biggest highlight of their careers.”

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Award of Excellence gets new name

Retired IVPs Albright, MacDonald named honorees

SINCE 1995 THE CANADIAN Boilermakers Apprenticeship Competition Award of Excellence has been named after Donald G. Whan. On June 25, the event retired Whan’s name. Two new honorees now share the title: Richard “Rick” Albright, retired IVF for Western Canada, and Alexander “Sandy” MacDonald, retired IVF for Eastern Canada.

The award, now officially known as the “Richard Albright – Sandy MacDonald Industry Award of Excellence,” is presented annually to a person who has substantially contributed to advancing Boilermaker apprentices and the apprenticeship training program. The physical award is a bronze sculpture of a boiler.

Ole Florell, a retired member of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) and a past supervisor with B&W and Abstem Canada, became the first recipient of the renamed award (see related story on this page).

Local 146’s David Pinault, l., accepts the 2008 Top Canadian Apprentice award from Award of Excellence Winner Ole Florell.

International Vice Presidents Richard Albright and Alexander MacDonald. (See related story below.)

Retired IVP Sandy MacDonald, l., receives congratulations from IVP Edward Power upon being named with retired IVP Rick Albright as honorees for the Award of Excellence.

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Competition tests skills

THE APPRENTICE COMPETITION tests journeyman tradecraft. The contest begins with a six-hour written exam that includes 350 multiple-choice questions drawn from the apprentice training curriculum, the Boilermaker Constitution, and local lodge bylaws. Curriculum-related content includes such topics as cutting and welding; hand and power tools; construction materials; metallurgy; blueprint reading; layout and fitting; math; rigging; and boilers, heat exchangers, furnaces, and tanks.

During the three days following the written exam, contestants compete in practical projects designed to test the application of their knowledge and skills, with a focus on welding, cutting, tube rolling, and rigging.

This year’s welding and cutting test required the contestants to weld two sets of coupons (small steel plates) — one in the flat position, the other in the upright uphand position. Candidates were required to use a 30-degree bevel on one of the coupons in each set. The
contestants also were required to cut a lifting lug from steel plate.

In the waterwall exercise, the apprentices cut and removed a bad section of tube, prepared the wall stub ends, and prepped and installed the wall tube replacement pup. A pup is a short piece of tube that is beveled on both ends to fit into the tube that has been cut.

The “mitered pipe installation” test challenged the apprentices to cut one end of a 16-inch-diameter pipe at a 45-degree angle and fit it into an elliptical hole cut in steel plate.

“This was a very good project for layout, especially with the size of the pipe,” said judge Marcel Losier of Local 73, an instructor at the New Brunswick Community College. “The pipe weighed maybe 100 pounds. The hardest part was making the ellipse.”

The rigging exercise also proved to be a challenge. The assignment required rotating a vessel 180 degrees, moving it laterally through an opening in structural steel, lifting it vertically through one end of the structure, then returning the vessel to its original position. Contestants acted as the lead rigger. They gave directions to their “crew” (trainers from Red River College), planned and set up the lift with the crane operator, inspected the condition of all rigging tools and equipment, set up a safe work perimeter, and calculated lift loads and sling angles.

In all four practical tests, judges graded for safety performance as well as completion of the project specifications. This year’s test coordinators were Jim Beauchamp, head instructor, Red River College, and Bill Healy, L-203 (St. John’s, Newfoundland) business rep.

Assistant test coordinator was j’Amey Holroyd, L-146 training coordinator. Judges from the technical colleges included Marcel Losier, New Brunswick Community College; Ken Bachand, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology; Ed Hoffman, Humber College; and Guy Leveque of L-271, an instructor at the CFMA School of Information for the Metal Trades, Quebec.

Union judges included Mike Bayens, L-146 dispatcher; Darrell Bray, Local 128 business rep; Barry Pyne, L-359 business rep; and David Ralph, L-146 training coordinator.

Employer judges included Greg Blender, superintendent for Horton CBI; Kim Jones, superintendent for B&W; Rocky Matchett, supervisor for Sunny Corner Enterprises; and Chuck Strand, site superintendent for Alstom Canada.
Local lodge leaders attend summer training institute

Venue moves as university converts Friedrick Center to dorm

FORTY-SEVEN LOCAL lodge leaders attended classes at the 51st annual Summer Training Institute at the University of Wisconsin’s School for Workers held July 13-25 in Madison, Wis. Over a two-week period, the institute offered basic and advanced courses.

The Boilermakers have been holding these summer seminars at the School for Workers since 1957. They are an integral part of the Brotherhood’s training and leadership development program. This year, the courses were held at the Madison Concourse Hotel near the state capital. The venerable Friedrick Center, site of previous institutes, is being converted to college dorms.

The basic course addressed contract administration, labor and IBBC history, collective bargaining, membership mobilization, workers and the global economy, political action, safety and health, FMLA, communication skills, and the Boilermaker organization. Coursework for the advanced class is designed for those who have completed the basic training. Advanced participants study common sense economics, communication skills, problem solving and grievance handling, grievance arbitration, workers and the global economy, health care bargaining, labor and IBBC history, building the union and membership mobilization, and framing and delivering the message.

The advanced class was also heard from David Newby, president of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO. Newby spoke about the importance of the upcoming elections and how the AFL-CIO is mobilizing to elect pro-worker candidates.

As with previous institutes, members took advantage of their time together to share experiences from across the spectrum of Boilermaker industries: from coal mining to fabricating windmills, from field construction to manufacturing piston sleeves for automobiles, from shipbuilding to railroad work, and from maintaining aircraft for the U.S. Navy.

In addition to participating in a focused learning environment, members enjoyed opportunities to socialize after hours, build friendships, and explore the state capital city of Madison, home of the University of Wisconsin.

Institute instructors included professors from UW-Madison’s School for Workers. Boilermaker staff providing instruction included Donald Caswell, Director of the Communication, Education, and Training Services Department; Bridget Martin, Director of the Government Affairs Department (GAD); Shannon Brett, Assistant to the Director of GAD; and Mike Linderer, writer and editor in the Communication Department. Mark Garrett, safety and health specialist, also attended.

Members attending the 2008 Basic course included Mark Peponakis, Local 5 (New York); Daniel Bradley, Timothy Partain, and Ronnie Pinkston, Local 58 (Equality, Ill.); Ken Hawley, Local 11 (Helena, Mont.); Brent Mitzeer and Jon Smail, Local 84 (Paola, Kan.); Mark Thomas, Local 92 (Los Angeles); Phillip Baldwin and Timothy Simmons, Local 108 (Birmingham, Ala.); Sean Burgess, Jessie Cain, Joshua Conrad, and Robert Lampkin, Local 344 (Ridgecrest, Calif.); Terry Ferguson, James Gilbert, Jeffrey Lock, and James Masterson, Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.); Jim Shine, Local 502 (Tacoma, Wash.); Buddy Berry, Local 584 (Birmingham, Ala.); Kory Olson, Local 647 (Minneapolis); Jason Halsey, Local 599 (Billings, Mont.); Earl Babb and Edgar Pierce, Local 656 (Chattanooga, Tenn.); Brian Leverrett, Local 679 (Chattanooga, Tenn.); LaMarcus McCants and Anthony McGee, Local 693 (Passacagoula, Miss.); Edward Doyen, Frank Kesti, and William Lockhart, Local 696 (Marinette, Wis.); Terry Gutwald and Al Meadowcraft, Local 905 (Wilmington, N.C.); Duane Larson, Charles Sandor, Daniel Seng, and Kenneth Webber, Local 1309 (Cudahy, Wis.); and Andres Contreras, Local 1600 (Aurora, Ill.).

Members attending the 2008 Advanced course included Charles Hancock and Matthew Suneson, Local 29 (Boston); Chris Inez, Local 344; Phil Halley, Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia); Dan Luhmann and Francis Richardson, Local 650 (Lake City, Minn.); John Massey and Raymond Royal, Local 656; Peter Siedlecki, Local 696; and Jesus Fernandez, Local 1600. Research Assistant Tracy Buck also attended.
The Steward’s Duty to Inform and Educate

Tell them about a grievance you just resolved (whether you won or lost) and explain how they can avoid that problem: “Joe just got taken off suspension for leaving early. He had permission to leave, but he failed to notify his supervisor. Don’t make that mistake.”

When discussing the progress of a complex issue, you could make the committee’s evidence and nothing on which to make a strong argument.

Keep members informed on negotiations, grievances

Members ALWAYS WANT new information about the progress on grievances you are handling and contract negotiations. Keeping them well-informed can help you avoid divisive rumors and misunderstandings.

When discussing the progress of a grievance, be sure to explain fully not only what is happening, but why. The mere fact that the company rejected your most recent argument doesn’t help the member understand the process and what you are up against. Explain why it was rejected and, perhaps, explain what you’ll do next. Likewise, when you win, explain why. Members who only learn you’ve won, but don’t know what arguments you made and what evidence you presented, may expect you to win their next grievance, even though they give you no good evidence and nothing on which to make a strong argument.

Members should be kept informed of the bargaining committee’s progress in negotiations, but you need to be sure to pass along only what the committee wants you to communicate, and nothing more. In the give-and-take of negotiating, many possibilities may get mentioned, but until both sides agree, they are just ideas. If you prematurely get members worked up — whether positively or negatively — about an issue, you could make the committee’s job much harder.

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 recognition.

EDUCATING YOUR MEMBERS

The Steward’s Sourcebook

NEARLY TWO DOZEN U.S. and Canadian business managers gathered in Kansas City City, Mo., July 27-31 for a new officer training. The event was hosted by Construction Division Services (CDS) in conjunction with the Education and Training Services Department.

“The event was a highly successful one that stayed true to the curriculum we developed for new business managers,” said CDS Director Skipper Branscum. “Our goal was to introduce these leaders to the various programs and resources that are available to help them succeed.”

The business managers learned about the structure of the International union and related organizations, including the national funds office, the Boilermaker National Apprentice Program, MOST, Common Arc, and the Brotherhood Bank. They had the opportunity to meet headquarters’ staff and learn about support services available through the International. They were also given a tour of the nuts and bolts of running a local lodge: legal and financial requirements, the Constitution and lodge bylaws, craft jurisdictions, communication skills, time management, and other topics.

Business managers attending the training were Casey Tibbs, Local 4 (Page, Ariz.); Tom Klein, Local 5 (New York); John Roeker, Local 11 (Helena, Mont.); Edward Latacz, Local 28 (Newark, N.J.); Tom Sacco, Local 29 (Boston); Gary Lusk, Local 60 (Peoria, Ill.); Frank Brown, Local 69 (Little Rock, Ark.); Kevin Chairson, Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia); Randy Cruse, Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.); Tim Ruth, Local 101 (Denver); Ronnie Dexter, Local 108 (Birmingham, Ala.); Jim Watson, Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario); Michael Herd, Local 193 (Baltimore); Mark Kefeler, Local 242 (Spokane, Wash.); Phil Halley, Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia); Richard Eller, Local 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.); Darin McCarthy, Local 549 (Pittsburgh, Calif.); Dallas Rogers, Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba); Danny Blackwell, Local 582 (Baton Rouge, La.); Bernard Hill, Local 647 (Minneapolis); and Shon Almond, NTL (Maumee, Ohio).
Local 647 retrofits Boswell’s Unit 3

Project includes SCR, baghouse, and tons of duct work

LOCAL 647 MEMBERS (Minneapolis) are working through some harsh temperatures to retrofit Unit 3 at Minnesota Power’s Boswell Energy Center near Grand Rapids.

The project — part of Minnesota Power’s plan to reduce air emissions — started last winter with members working several days running in temperatures as low as 25 degrees below zero.

The work has continued into the summer months, with temperatures reaching the high nineties.

Working for the Jamar Company, the Boilermaker crew has lost very few days owing to weather, despite the harsh conditions, keeping the job on schedule.

The retrofit includes fabrication and installation of a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) unit, which reduces nitrogen oxide emissions. The Boswell Energy Center is a coal-fired generating station.

Local 647 is also installing a new baghouse (a filtration system) and several tons of duct work on the northern Minnesota project. The large duct work makes up the inlet and outlet of the SCR.

It runs from the existing air heater to the new baghouse, from the baghouse to the SCR, and makes up the inlet and outlet of the SCR.

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It runs from the existing air heater to the new baghouse, from the baghouse to the induced draft (ID) fans, and from the ID fans to the new absorber and existing stack.

Using a Liebherr 1800, 1,000-ton crane, members are lifting the SCR in four sections. Each section weighs as much as 120 tons and has to be lifted 138 feet high and 187 feet away from the center pin of the large crane.

Other lifts include 300 catalyst modules that each weigh about 3,000 pounds and have to be installed inside the SCR.

So far the members have worked over 77,000 man-hours with no lost-time injuries.

Not only is the Jamar Co. pleased with the Boilermakers’ work, says field superintendent Bob Larson, a retired L-647 member, but Minnesota Power has noticed the crew’s progress.

“Minnesota Power is very pleased with the quantity and quality of the Boilermakers’ work on this project,” said power plant spokesman Tom Coughlin. The energy center plans to retrofit another unit soon, promising Local 647 members employment for some time.

“If I were still working in the field, this is a job I would like to be on,” said L-647 BM-ST Bernard Hilla. “It’s a great job for us in a beautiful part of the country. Our members will be there for at least another 18 months of steady work.”

MC Mechanical Corp. congratulates L-667

ON BEHALF OF the MC Mechanical Corp. (a subsidiary of Minnotte Contracting), I would like to congratulate you, your staff, and members of Local 667 (Charleston, W.Va.) on an outstanding spring outage at the Allegheny Energy Fort Martin Power Station. The outage included waterwall and mix pass panel replacement, a complete blowdown/replacement, and extensive boiler and duct work stiffening for a balanced draft conversion.

At peak, we employed about 450 Boilermakers on this very congested work site. The project was completed on budget — and most importantly — with zero serious injuries. Due to the tremendous efforts of the field leadership from your local, our customer was able to resume power generation earlier than anticipated.

Thank you for your support this spring, and we look forward to continuing our work with Local 667.

Erik J. Galus
vice president — operations
MC Mechanical Corp.

WHITING

continued from p. 2

Canadian heavy crude and expand overall capacity. The project, which will be managed by Fluor, will include a new coker, crude distillation unit, and gas oil hydrotreater as well as new sulfur recovery facilities. Other work will include modernizing the refinery’s water treatment facilities and additional environmental improvements.

L-374 has performed outage work at the Whiting facility for years, Maday noted, but the capital improvements will require a substantial Boilermaker workforce beyond the usual maintenance jobs. “We’re looking at three-to-four years on the expansion project, with the possibility of additional capital improvements down the road,” he said.

About 400 skilled craftsmen (from various trades) are on the project now, according to BP, and the company anticipates several thousand before 2010. Maday said he expects to have 400-500 Boilermakers at the refinery, counting outage crews and those working on the capital project.

“It’s very exciting,” he said. “We’ve been watching this project for years now. The boost this is going to give to the local economy and the building trades is incredible.”

Boilermakers work on supply side, too

THE WHITING REFINERY modernization will enable the plant to process much more Canadian heavy crude.

An enormous amount of crude comes from the tar sands region of Alberta, where Boilermakers from Local 146 (Edmonton) work. Members there build and maintain facilities to extract heavy crude from a mixture of clay, sand, and water, then convert it into synthetic crude (syrn crude). Syr crude can be piped long distances to refineries in the United States, such as the one at Whiting.

“We’re going to be getting oil from friends,” Maday observed, referring to Canada. “That’s good for all of North America.”

The project will increase the refinery’s production of gasoline by 1.7 million gallons a day.
MOST creates new safety films

Videos are being custom made for Boilermaker trade

INSTRUCTORS WHO teach the OSHA 10-hour safety course can look forward to new videos that are being custom made for Boilermaker construction workers. MOST (Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training) has begun the process of producing 16 films that can be used to supplement classroom texts. The films will cover such topics as lookout/tagout, material-handling, confined space entry, and fall protection.

“For some time, we’ve been aware of the need to upgrade the films we’ve been using,” said Roger Erickson, MOST safety rep. “John Standish (the lead instructor at the National Training Center [NTC] in Kansas City, Kan.), had expressed his concern about the films being outdated, and we received similar feedback from members who completed the OSHA 10-hour course at local lodges.”

Erickson said the current films come from various sources, and many show workers in situations unrelated to Boilermaker field construction work, such as road construction or warehouse settings. Some of the films are still in VHS format. Erickson contacted other trades, contractors, and teaching facilities to find a better product, but nothing was available.

“We began discussing the possibility of making our own videos. John (Standish) recommended On Location Video, which has documented the national apprenticeship competition and did a Job Safety Analysis video for NACBE (National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers). MOST Administrator Bill Palmisano supported our effort, and the MOST board of trustees approved the project in February.”

For realism and to make the videos more relevant to construction boilermakers, they are being shot on locations such as the NTC and the Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) La Cygne coal-fired power plant in eastern Kansas. “Boilermakers who see these videos will be familiar with these types of settings,” said Erickson. “They may even recognize some of the people in the videos, since we use members and instructors to depict workers in various situations.”

During the July 28 video shoot at the NTC, several apprentices and NTI instructor David Vallacqua volunteered to be part of the cast. Vallacqua played the role of a heat stress victim. High humidity and temperatures had cast and film crew sweating, adding to the realism.

Erickson said MOST has been fortunate to have individuals and organizations help in producing the films. “We appreciate the support and cooperation we’ve had from the MOST trustees; NACBE; KCP&L; BNAP (the Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Program); and the Kansas City, Kan., Fire Department, which sent a pump and an ambulance to the NTC when we filmed there.

“I’m pretty excited about this project, and I think those who teach the OSHA 10-hour course — and the Boilermakers who take it — will appreciate the authenticity we’re trying to build into the videos.” MOST will own the copyright to the videos and will be able to duplicate and distribute them without restriction.

Pictured below from l. to r.: Apprentice Brenda Healey, Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.), responds to fellow apprentice Matthew “Scooter” Payne, Local 592 (Tulsa, Okla.), who plays the role of an injured worker.

EMTs from the Kansas City, Kan., Fire Department place David Vallacqua on a stretcher during filming for a MOST safety video. Vallacqua is an instructor at the Boilermakers National Training Center, where the film was shot.


SAFETY

GLAIC conducts safety training

Members from six affiliate lodges attend class

NEARLY 20 MEMBERS from six lodges attended a one-day program on safety and health at the AmeriHost Inn in Hammond, Ind., March 28.

Sponsored by the Great Lakes Area Industrial Council #1 (GLAIC), members from the following affiliated lodges sent representatives to the training: Local D81 (Dixon, Ill.), Local M94 (Elkhorn, Wis.), Local 524 (East Chicago, Ind.), Local 1427 (Chicago), Local 1509 (Cudahy, Wis.), and Local 1600 (St. Charles, Ill.).

Milan Racic, safety & health specialist for the Boilermakers union, conducted the training. He retired Aug. 1 after serving 36 years on staff.

“Milan was on vacation at the time. He not only conducted the training for us, but donated his per diem and mileage to the council,” reported Intl. Rep and GLAIC Bus. Rep Howard Cole. “It was his last official act for the GLAIC.”

At the March 28 training, Racic discussed OSHA, basic machine guarding, air limits on most common industrial chemicals, basic industrial toxicology, welding toxicology, the effects of manganese on the human body, and how to form effective joint safety and health committees.

Since the GLAIC was established in 1999, over 30 training sessions have been offered to members of its affiliated lodges. Topics include arbitration, collective bargaining, communications, conducting an audit, contract benefits, duties of an officer, the Family Medical Leave Act, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services, government reports, grievance procedures, health care, the International Constitution, local lodge bylaws, organizing, pensions, Robert’s Rules of Order, safety and health, sexual harassment, steward duties, time studies, union labor practices, and workman’s comp.

Members attend safety training sponsored by the Great Lakes Area Industrial Council #1.

OSHA guide targets cement

OSHA HAS RELEASED a new guidance document — “Preventing Skin Problems from Working with Portland Cement” — to educate employers and employees about ways to prevent skin-related injuries in cement-related industries. The Boilermakers International has distributed information about the guide to cement lodges. The document can also be viewed at www.osha.gov/dsg/guidance/cement-guidance.html.

Portland cement is a generic term used to describe a variety of building materials that have strong adhesive properties when mixed with water. Wet portland cement can damage the skin, because it is caustic and abrasive, and it absorbs moisture. It also contains trace amounts of hexavalent chromium, a toxic harmful to the skin. Portland cement is an ingredient in concrete, mortar, plaster, grout, stucco, and terrazzo.

“One of the best things our members can do is to bring contaminated home with them, said Mark Garrett, the Boilermakers’ health and safety specialist. “Wearing proper gloves and decontaminating work clothes is essential.”
Local 105’s Kilgour pulls woman from flaming car

Apprentice completes rescue seconds before car explodes

RYAN KILGOUR, A third-year apprentice out of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio), was on his way to Athens, Ohio, to play in a golf tournament May 3 with his buddy, Clint Potter, when they spotted white smoke. As they slowed down their car, they saw debris on the highway and then an overturned sports utility vehicle at the bottom of an embankment.

Potter dialed 911 as Kilgour raced down the hill. He could see a woman (42-year-old Dorothy Edwards) in the driver’s seat.

“When I was within 15 feet of the car, I could see that the whole bottom of the car was on fire,” Kilgour said. “Something must have hit the gas line.”

Kilgour acted quickly, unlatching the victim’s seatbelt and pulling her out of the vehicle.

“She was conscious, but she had no idea what was going on,” he said. “She was very confused and very groggy.” Her injuries did not appear to be serious, so Kilgour and another man who had spotted the wreck assisted the woman up the embankment and away from her burning vehicle.

“According to reports, no more than a minute or two after the rescue, the sports utility vehicle exploded and burst fully into flames,” said L-105 BM-ST Van Stephens. “Had she not been able to get out of the vehicle, it’s quite likely she would have died.

“Thanks to the bravery of these young men, Ms. Edwards was saved,” Stephens said.

Local 203 officers and staff present a $50,000 check to Rose Daley

Local 105’s Kilgour pulls woman from flaming car

In July, Intl. Rep Tony Palmisano and Gary Prochnow, Asst. Dir. of the Boilermakers’ Industrial Sector Services Dept., secured federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) benefits for Local 524 members. TAA offers extended unemployment insurance payments and training benefits. In some situations, TAA also provides income subsidies for those who get new jobs in similar occupations making less money.

Local 524 was chartered in 1974 to represent the employees of Union Tank Car, formerly known as the Graver Tank & Manufacturing Co. Inc. Prior to that, these workers had been represented by Boiler-maker Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.) since 1937.

Anyone with job opportunities for Local 524 members should contact Hounshell at 219-844-1503.

This article includes excerpts from the Post-Tribune. Reprinted with permission.

Union Tank Car closes

40 YEARS, 400 JOBS. That was the headline of a local newspaper story announcing the May 30th closing of Union Tank Car in East Chicago, Ind.

That’s 400 Boilermaker jobs — all members of Local Lodge 524.

L-524 Pres. Kelly Hounshell, a 27-year employee at the railroad car manufacturer, got word of the plant closing in March. A few months earlier the company cut production in half and laid-off 100 employees.

A company press release cited “a declining market for tank car sales” as the reason for the plant closing. But Hounshell blames the closing on the construction of two new plants in Louisiana and Texas where workers are not unionized.

Hounshell has been focusing on settling union affairs at the plant before hunting for a new job, but manufacturing jobs are few and far between.

“People are very concerned about their future,” Hounshell said. “Very few have found work.”

Local 524 members are out of work

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L-203 raises $50,000 for cancer facility

Daffodil Place to provide housing, support for patients and their families

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 203 (St. John’s, Newfoundland) raised $50,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society’s Daffodil Place, a 24-suite housing facility expected to open in 2009. The new facility will provide housing, support for patients and their families who must travel to St. John’s for cancer treatment.

“We are very proud that the members of Local 203 came through to support Daffodil Place. Unions were built on the concept of people helping people. What better way to show we care than to support a great project that will have many benefits for not only our members, but for all of Newfoundland and Labrador,”

On July 3, Walsh presented the funds to Rose Daley for the Daffodil Place Campaign. So far $4.7 million has been raised for the facility, and construction is underway.

John Steele, chairperson of the Daffodil Place Campaign, applauded Local 203 for its efforts. “We are pleased that the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Union has made this very generous contribution to the Daffodil Place Campaign,” Steele said.

“This donation shows a commitment to improving lives of cancer patients throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.”

Local 203 raised the funds by selling raffle tickets for a chance to win cash prizes and a 2008 Honda ATV. The drawing took place June 15.
L-69’s White thanks members after crash

Boilermakers raise $3,000 within 36 hours of accident

COREY WHITE. A nine-year member of Local 69 (Little Rock, Ark.), is glad to be alive today and thankful to his union brothers and sisters for seeing him through a horrendous accident last year.

On May 30, 2007, Corey, 28, and his brother, Cliff, 35, were riding in Corey’s pickup truck when it was struck head-on by a logging truck near Hot Springs, Ark. The impact broke Corey’s neck and caused other major injuries. Cliff suffered severe injuries as well.

Medical staff expected a very long hospital stay for the two brothers. They were surprised when both were discharged after only three weeks and released from rehab after another two. Corey attributes his rapid recovery to the support of fellow Boilermakers, some of whom brought photographs of the wreckage to the two pulp and paper mills where Local 69 members were working at the time. Within 36 hours of the crash, Boilermakers raised $3,000 to help Corey and his family.

“You have to understand that we’re not a very big local,” Corey said.

“L-69’s Corey White sits on his
hospital bed in the weeks following
his accident.

“We were completely shocked that they would do this for me.”

The outpouring of concern for the two men “is what kept us going, what pulled us through,” Corey recalled.

Corey and Cliff continue what will likely be a long period of recovery. Corey has yet to return to work and is facing the prospect of additional operations to his spinal column.

Local 69 BM-ST Frank Brown said, “Our members really stepped up to the plate for Corey. That’s what Boilermakers do for each other.”

L-S200 members receive Can Do Spirit Awards for organizing

Efforts to build membership in a right-to-work state are rewarded

AT THE JULY meeting of Local Lodge S200 (Wichita Falls, Texas), three members earned recognition for their in-plant organizing efforts at Magic Aire.

Terry Burk, Thersa Myrick, and David Woodard each received a Can Do Spirit Award. The awards, part of the Boilermakers’ in-plant organizing program, were created to recognize the efforts of members who try to get their nonunion co-workers to join the union at facilities where the Boilermakers already have collective bargaining rights with the company.

Texas is one of 22 states that does not allow union security contract language. Many workers in these states refuse to join the union that represents them.

But a union can be much more effective if all the workers join the union. The Boilermakers in-plant organizing program uses monetary incentives to encourage members to organize their co-workers. Organizers who excel also receive the Can Do Spirit Award.

Lodge members interested in participating in the in-plant organizing program should contact Gary Prochnow at International headquarters.

L-5 members to be featured on TV show

“How It’s Made” films Zone 175 at Fulton Boiler Works

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 5’s Zone 175 (New York) will make their television debut next year on the TV show, “How It’s Made.” The show airs Fridays at 9 PM/EST and chronicles the fabrication of various industrial, commercial, and household products, featuring a narration of the process from conception to shipment.

On May 27, the show filmed the manufacturing of vertical steam boilers at Fulton Boiler Works in New York, where Local 5 members work. The episode is scheduled to air on the Discovery Channel and Science Channel in the spring of 2009.

The program will show boiler fabrication from beginning to end. Boilermakers will be featured at every step of production, from welding a series of heavy-walled, large-diameter flue pipes, to the certification of the boiler prior to shipment.

Additional filming took place at a concrete production plant where Fulton steam boilers are used during cold months to heat water used in mixing concrete. The military and a variety of industries also use the boilers for applications such as dry-cleaning, large-scale laundries, hospital sterilization, and food processing.

Chartered in 1939, Local 175 (Oswego) represented workers at Fulton’s New York facility since 1955. On June 30, 2008, the lodge merged with Local 5 (New York City). The members are now represented by a unit called Local 5 Zone 175.

Intl. Rep John Fultz, who served as business manager for Local 175 prior to the lodge consolidation, said Fulton Boiler Works is known world-wide for its boilers.

Local 34 wins BNSF softball tournament

Member’s deployment delays series for two years

NINE MEMBERS OF Local 34 (Topeka, Kan.), along with one member of the Laborer’s union, earned boasting rights following a friendly softball tournament among the unions employed at the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway Topeka Shops in May.

Originally scheduled for the fall of 2006, the tournament was put on hold when Local 34 member Ken Nelson was ordered to Iraq. Upon Nelson’s safe return, the tournament among members of Boilermaker Local 34, Machinist Local 378, Electrician Local 959, and Sheetmetal Worker Local 472 was held May 17, 2008.

Local 34 members won the series when Roger Jackson batted in Dan Quinlan in the bottom of the last inning of the final game, securing victory for the Boilermakers.

Another tournament is planned for this fall.
BOILERMAKER SCHOLARSHIPS

Forty-one Boilermaker dependents earn awards totaling $50,000

THE BOILERMAKERS’ International Executive Council scholarship committee announced the winners of its 2008 scholarship program April 25. A total of $50,000 was awarded to 41 scholarship recipients: $38,000 to United States students and $12,000 to Canadian students.

The one-year grants included one $3,000 award, six $2,000 awards, two $1,500 awards, and 32 $1,000 awards. The committee chose recipients from a pool of 160 applicants — all Boilermaker dependents in their senior year of high school. Winners were chosen based on their high academic achievement, leadership skills, participation in extra-curricular activities, and performance on a 300-500 word essay on this year’s topic: “What impact has growing up in a Boilermaker family had on your life thus far?”

Stephanie Wirtz, daughter of James Wirtz, Local Lodge D173 (Owensboro, Ky.), earned the top scholarship award of $3,000. An artist, Stephanie won first place at a local art display for one of her paintings, and the People’s Choice Award from among 700 exhibits at a show sponsored by Pittsburgh Technical Institute. She built her home computer, works part-time as a floral arranger, and plays guitar and soccer in her free time. She plans to study art at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

“I am both deeply honored and completely surprised to have been chosen as a recipient of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers scholarship,” Stephanie said. “I thoroughly appreciate this scholarship and will put it to a fantastic use.”

Six Boilermaker dependents were selected to receive $2,000 grants.

Aimee Bouffard, daughter of Paul Bouffard, Local Lodge 128 (Toronto, Ontario), plans to attend Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario.

Kevin Boutilier, son of Paul Boutilier, Local Lodge 580 (Halifax, Nova Scotia), plans to attend Dalhousie University in Halifax, where he will enter the co-op engineering program.

Allison Graf, daughter of Allan Graf, and granddaughter of Bill Graf, all members of Local Lodge 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia), hopes to work in the field of health and human services. She will be attending the University of Fraser Valley in British Columbia.

Michelle Maillet, daughter of Andre Maillet, Local Lodge 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia), will be pursuing her studies at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, where she hopes to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in the nursing program.

Megan Miller, daughter of William Miller Jr. and granddaughter of William Miller Sr., both members of Local Lodge 203 (St. John’s, Newfoundland), will be attending Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Kari Zyta, daughter of Donald Zyta, Local Lodge 680 (St. Catharines, Ontario), will be entering the nursing program at Brock University.

Sean Goheen, son of Robert Goheen, Local Lodge D797 (Wampum, Pa.), each earned a $1,500 scholarship.

Sean, hopeful of one day running for public office, will be attending Penn State University, where he will study political science.

Lauren Ward, daughter of Ed Ward, Local Lodge 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) each earned a $1,500 scholarship.

The committee chose recipients to receive $1,000 grants.

Kristy Fons, daughter of Thomas Fons, Local Lodge 1509 (Cudahy, Wis.), will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Daniel Hartsog, son of M. Frank Hartsog, Local Lodge 45 (Richmond, Va.), has been accepted at the University of Virginia School of Engineering.

Monroe Griffin, son of James Griffin, Local Lodge 397 (Albany, N.Y.), will be attending Wolford College, an independent liberal arts school located in Spartanburg, S.C.

Patrick Hanrahan, son of Timothy Hanrahan, Local Lodge 744 (Cleveland), plans to major in either sales or marketing at the Ohio University School of Business.

Nicole Jerome, daughter of Michael Jerome, Local Lodge 647, will be attending Rainy River Community College in International Falls, Minn.

Kristen Kitzman, daughter of Kurt Kitzman, Local Lodge 154 (Pittsburgh), will be entering the secondary education program at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pa., where she also plans to major in history.

Susan Klinkworth, daughter of Susan Klinkworth, Local Lodge 906 (Donora, Pa.), plans to major in early childhood education at Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio.

Bridget Knepp, daughter of Phillip Knepp, Local Lodge 13, plans to major in sociology and criminal justice at King’s College, a liberal arts Catholic college located in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Meghan Lambrecht, daughter of Keith Lambrecht, Local Lodge 626 (Cheswold, Del.), will be attending Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky.

Jessica Lee, daughter of James Lee II, Local Lodge 290 (Bremerton, Wash.), has been accepted to attend Troy University in Alabama.

Andrew Flowers, son of Marvin Flowers, Local Lodge D797 (Demopolis, Ala.), plans to attend Troy University in Alabama.

Michelle Fane, daughter of Daniel Fane, Local Lodge D81 (Dixon, Ill.), will be attending the University of Chicago.

The committee selected the following 32 scholarship winners to receive a $1,000 grant.

Stephanie Ambrose, son of Steve Ambrose, Local Lodge 7 (Buffalo, N.Y.), plans to study business at the University at Buffalo, the state university of New York.

Michael Bates, son of Bryce Bates, Local Lodge DM44 (Pryor, Okla.), will be attending the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., where he plans to study meteorology.

Ashley Bourgeois, daughter of Thomas Bourgeois, Local Lodge 647 (Minneapolis), has been accepted into the nursing program and the Theodore Roosevelt Honors Leadership program at Dickinson State University in North Dakota.

Geary Crawford, son of Geary L. Crawford, Local Lodge D239 (Three Forks, Mont.), plans to attend Montana Tech of the University of Montana in Butte, Mont.

Kellee Dunn, daughter of Steven Dunn and granddaughter of Charles Dunn, both members of Local Lodge 169 (Detroit), will be attending the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Michelle Fane, daughter of Daniel Fane, Local Lodge D81 (Dixon, Ill.), will be attending the University of Chicago.

Andrew Flowers, son of Marvin Flowers, Local Lodge D797 (Demopolis, Ala.), plans to attend Troy University in Alabama.

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Jessica Lee, daughter of James Lee II, Local Lodge 290 (Bremerton, Wash.), has been accepted to attend Troy University in Alabama.
advised that she will be attending the University of Washington in Seattle.

Nicole Leveillee, daughter of Roger Leveillee, Local Lodge 29 (Boston), plans to attend the University of Connecticut.

Marie Livesey, daughter of Brian Livesey, Local Lodge 28 (Newark, N.J.), will be attending Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, where she plans to pursue a career in medicine. She is also the recipient of Stockton’s Provost Scholarship.

Jennifer Martin, daughter of Thomas Martin, Local Lodge 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio), plans to attend Capital University in Columbus, Ohio.

Ashlee O’Donnell, daughter of John O’Donnell, Local Lodge 154, has advised that she will be attending Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa.

Aleece Philips, daughter of John Phillips, Local Lodge 4 (Page, Ariz.), will be attending Drexel University College of Engineering in Philadelphia, Pa.

Rebecca Rafferty, daughter of Carl Rafferty, Local Lodge 500 (Salem, Ore.), hopes to become a pharmacist. She will be attending Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore.

Cassandra Robinson, daughter of Robert Cornelison, Local Lodge 744, will be studying pre-pharmacy at the University of Cincinnati.

Ryan Sprowl, son of Mark Sprowl, Local Lodge 154, will be majoring in visual communication design with a concentration in graphic design at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio.

Maria Stupnikov, daughter of Keith Stupnikov, Local Lodge 5 (New York), will be attending Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, N.Y.

Jerrold Tidwell, son of Mark Tidwell, Local Lodge 455 (Sheffield, Ala.), will be studying pre-pharmacy at Auburn University in Alabama.

Ashley Unzicker, daughter of Dallas Unzicker, Local Lodge 158 (Peoria, Ill.), also plans to study pre-pharmacy at Eureka College in Illinois.

Sarah Voelker, daughter of Keith Voelker, Local Lodge 443 (Mammoth, Ws.), plans to major in nursing at Marian University in Fond Du Lac, Wis.

Emilee Waldron, stepdaughter of Gregory Peelman, Local Lodge 374 (Hammond, Ind.), will major in pre-pharmacy at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind.

Michael Weikert, stepdaughter of Clinton “Tim” Swisher, Local Lodge 105, plans to attend Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

Ryan Worton, son of Barry Worton, Local Lodge 28, will be attending Rutgers School of Engineering in Piscataway, N.J.
Other scholarship winners

Local 13 awards 33 grants totaling $264,000

LOCAL LODGE 13, Philadelphia, announces the winners of 33 scholarship awards, each totaling $8,000, to dependents of Local 13 members who participated in the local’s annual competition. Winners were selected based on the results of a college aptitude test administered and graded by St. Joseph’s University. The grants will be awarded over a period of four years — $1,000 per semester for eight semesters. The Local 13 scholarship committee does not release names of scholarship winners for publication.

Local 83 awards eight grants totaling $18,000

LOCAL LODGE 83, Kansas City, Mo., announces the winners of five $3,000 and three $1,000 scholarship awards to dependents of Local 83 members who participated in the local’s annual competition.

The winners were selected by members of the local’s Special Funds Committee. Receiving a $3,000 grant were Devon Gorajewski, daughter of Gordon Gorajewski; Audrey White, daughter of Brad White; Shawn McKenzie, son of Jim McKenzie; Austin Sheil, son of Perrin D. Sheil; and Zachary Wenke, son of Ted Wenke. Tanner Seward, son of John Seward; Kody Morgan, son of Kraig Morgan; and Kelsey Dainty, daughter of George Dainty, each received a $1,000 grant.

IEC scholarship program

SINCE 1988, WHEN the International Executive Council (IEC) scholarship program was created by the Executive Council (IEC) scholarship committee and its mountains of application, the IEC has announced its selection of scholarship award recipients for two local lodges and the Canadian Federation of Labour (CFL).

Marcy Franks, daughter of Local 105 member Michael Franks, and Michal Weikert, stepdaughter of Local 105 member Clinton “Tim” Swisher, were each selected from six applicants for a $1,000 award from Local 105, Chillicothe, Ohio.

Katie Foster, daughter of Local 146 member Kenneth Foster, was selected as a $2,000 award recipient, and Benjammin Pettipas, son of Local 146 member Allan Pettipas, was chosen as a $1,000 scholarship winner from four applicants to the Local 106 scholarship program in Edmonton, Alberta.

Katie, as well as Staci Sherman, daughter of Gordon Sherman, Local Lodge D579 (Lantz, Nova Scotia), were also selected to receive a $1,000 grant from the CFL.

IEC scholarship program committee announces local, CFL winners

THE BOILERMAKERS’ International Executive Council (IEC) scholarship committee has announced its selection of scholarship award recipients for two local lodges and the Canadian Federation of Labour (CFL).

Local 482 daughter wins Union Plus Scholarship

Alicia Hines one of 108 winners representing 40 unions

Alicia HINES, daughter of Ernest K. Hines, a 10-year member of Local 482 (Wood River, Ill.), has been awarded a $1,000 scholarship from Union Plus. Alicia has been studying animals and veterinary health since high school, and now plans to pursue a graduate degree in biology. “I want to integrate the disciplines of public health, veterinary medicine, and ecology in a way that will lead to the development of prevention programs for diseases affecting both animals and humans,” she said.

That spirit of caring for others comes not only from her own family, but from the extended family she discovered while her father has been recovering from an illness. “We have an extensive group of friends who have been there for us every step of the way,” Alicia says. “The members of my father’s IBEW local have supported us and made our family a part of their own.”

Alicia is one of 108 students representing 40 unions that have been awarded a total of $150,000 in Union Plus Scholarships this year. The awards are granted to students attending a two-year college, four-year college, graduate school, or a recognized technical or trade school. Since 1992, Union Plus has awarded more than $2.4 million in scholarships to union families.

Recipient are selected based on academic ability, social awareness, financial need, and appreciation of labor. “With credit so tight, prices rising, and fewer loans available to students who want to attend college, scholarship programs like these are more important than ever,” said Leslie Foll, president of Union Privilege, the organization that administers the scholarship program.

Union Privilege offers an array of Union Plus benefits that save money for union members and their families. These include mortgage and finance benefits, education and insurance benefits, and even money-saving offers on health services and vacations. Please see page 22 of this issue, or visit www.UnionPlus.org to find out which programs are available to Boilermaker members and their families.

For information on Union Plus Scholarship eligibility and to receive a notification when the application is available for next year’s awards, visit www.UnionPlus.org/Scholarships.

How to apply for a L-13, L-83, L-105, L-146, or CFL scholarship

DEPENDENTS OF LOCAL 13 and Local 83 members who meet the eligibility requirements of the International Executive Council (IEC) Scholarship Program (listed above right) may also apply separately to Local 13 or Local 83 for their awards program.

Dependents of Local 105 and Local 146 members, who are eligible and apply for the Boilermakers IEC Scholarship, are also considered applicants to their respective local lodge award programs. Dependents of Canadian members who are eligible and apply for the Boilermakers IEC Scholarship are also considered applicants to the CFL scholarship program.

I can’t begin to tell you how impressed I am by the scholarship applicants. These are some great kids with promising futures.

— IVP Ed Power
Local award service pins

Local 40 — Elizabethtown
RAY PARROTT, BM-ST of Local 40, Elizabethtown, Ky., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

60 YEARS — Marvin F. Salsbury, Alfred B. Smith.
55 YEARS — David J. Bishop, Dennis H. Merck, Donal E. Shumaker, Owen D. Simmons, C.E. Smith.
50 YEARS — Jerry C. Daugherty, Merlin Jeffords.

Local 92 — Los Angeles
EDWARD MARQUEZ, BM-ST of Local 92, Los Angeles, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

60 YEARS — Marvin Lloyd Haines.

Local 647 — Minneapolis
BERNARD HILLA, BM-ST of Local 647, Minneapolis, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

60 YEARS — Harvey J. Keefe.
40 YEARS — Robert A. Peterson.
25 YEARS — Oscar E. Anderson, Raymond Bliese.
20 YEARS — Roger L. Barron, Bennie W. Eide, Daniel J. Geurts, Barb Nikrad, Randy D. Schmidt, Bruce W. Sundin; and
15 YEARS — Jerry D. Ballensky, Glenn S. Cheston, Mike W. Grcevich, Gary D. Holter, Arthur A. Kiffmeyer, Robert A. Kleve, Gerald W. Konrad, Benedict P. Lapos, Jeffrey S. McPhoeters, Paul S. Pendergast, Anthony J. Pilles Sr., Gary D. Ragle, Leslie G. Rinerson, Harlan C. Rost, Gary D. Strand; and

New contract summaries

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

National Transient Division/L-83
Effective July 11, 2008 to July 10, 2009, administered by the National Transient Division for members of Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.) who make custom insulation products at the Winbco Tank Company in Ottumwa, Iowa. In business since 1939, Winbco is a custom manufacturer and on site ector of tanks, pressure vessels, columns, and equipment for use in the food, grain, ethanol, hydroiodic, chemical, power, wastewater, fruit juice, and brewing industries.

National Cement Lodge
Effective June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2011, for 18 members of the National Cement Lodge who make custom insulation products at American Fibrex.

Local D209 — Speed, Ind.

Local D314 — Daleville, Va.
Effective May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2011, for 85 members of Local D314, Daleville, Va., who work in the manufacture and production of bulk and packaged Portland and masonry products at the Roanoke Cement Co.

Local 374 — Hammond, Ind.
Effective July 18, 2008 to July 17, 2011, for 32 members of Local 374, Hammond, Ind. (formerly members of the National Transient Lodge), who work at the Moon Fabricating Corp. in Kokomo, Ind. In business since 1923, Moon products include rubber-lined tank trucks, epoxy-lined mixing tanks, emission duct work, exhaust stacks, process tanks, and storage tanks.

Local 483 — Alton, Ill.
Effective May 8, 2008 to May 11, 2011, for eight members of Local 483, Alton, Ill., who work at the St. Louis Plating Co., offering custom chrome plating and polishing services for most motorcycle parts, including steel, aluminum, and zinc die casting.

Local 651 — Somerville, Mass.
Effective May 5, 2008 to May 1, 2011, for 165 members of Local Lodge 651, Somerville, Mass., who manufacture precision stainless steel components at the Westinghouse Electric Co. in Newington, N.H.

Local 727 — Owensboro, Ky.
Effective May 5, 2008 to May 3, 2010, for 35 members of Local 727, Owensboro, Ky., who produce polymer chemicals at Owensboro Specialties Polymers. OSP provides high barrier coatings to the flexible packaging and metal coating industries, as well as many other applications that require excellent barrier to moisture, gases, odors, flavors, grease, chemicals, etc.

Local 1247 — Chicago
Effective May 15, 2008 to May 24, 2011, for four members of Local 1247, Chicago, who perform metal plating at James Precious Metals Plating Inc.

AIP Bill Almond retires

National Transient Division Director calls end to 45-year career as ‘tankie’

AFTER A DISTINGUISHED 45-year career with the Boilermakers, AIP and Director of the National Transient Division (NTD) William J. Almond retired Aug. 1.

Int. Pres. Newton B. Jones called Almond “a highly-respected union leader who has contributed greatly to this Brotherhood.”

Almond began building tanks in 1963, working for PDM and CBI. He joined the Boilermakers in 1964 and maintained his membership while attending college. During his 20 years with CBI, Almond was a tank builder, foreman, supervisor, and labor relations manager.

Appointed International Rep. for the NTD in 1983, Almond headed the NTD’s organizing efforts.


Almond’s three sons — Shon, Brian, and Billy — have also worked as Boilermakers.

Almond told the Reporter, “It’s been an honor to serve the men and women in this industry and to have had great relationships with business managers, contractors, and the entire Boilermaker organization.”
The benefit programs listed below are available only to Boilermakers 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: 1-800-416-5766

**Education Services**
Get expert advice on funding sources for college and trade 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: 1-888-393-0864

**Life Insurance**
For members, spouses, and children.
Call: 1-888-283-8684

**Auto Insurance**
Call: 1-888-294-9496

**Accident Insurance**
Call: 1-888-993-8886

**Discounted legal help — first 30 minutes are free.**
Call: 1-888-235-2759

**Auto Insurance**
Call: 1-888-294-9496

**Accident Insurance**
Call: 1-888-993-8886

**Health Savings**
Save on prescription medicines, hearing, dental, and vision care.
Call: 1-888-455-2848

**Mortgage & Real Estate**
Call: 1-800-452-9425 for clarification of eligibility.

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**IN MEMORIAM**

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

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**DEATH BENEFITS**

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

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**LODGEx, NAME & BENEFIT**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LODGE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>BENEFIT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Latuszek, Frank F.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Stockner, Lawrence L.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Barbha, Charles</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Becker, Hollis E.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Davis, William L.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Fenley, Robert J.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Johnson, William V.</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Moving? Tell us where...**

**Mail form to:**

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

(Allow five weeks for change of address.)
Death Benefits
Continued from p. 22

of your labor organization.

contract. We urge all employees to participate and become part

similar jobs in the same industry. Strength in numbers is what

employees who are represented by a union typically receive

higher wages, better health care and pensions, fairness in the

employees are improved immeasurably when the union gains

The most important job right you can have is the right to collec-

tion of employment, to pay either monthly dues or fees to the

EMPLOYEES WORKING UNDER collective bargaining agree-

ments containing union security clauses are required to make

certain payments, which are authorized by law, represent

internal union administration, and matters related to these activi-

These dues and fees, which are authorized by law, represent

A NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES SUBJECT TO UNION SECURITY CLAUSES

Employees working under collective bargaining agree-

ments containing union security clauses are required to make

the following payments: If an objector

• to numerous other benefits available only to members, such

as those described above

In considering these matters, you should be aware that only

members have the following rights:

• to vote on the terms of your collective bargaining agreement;

• to participate in the development of contract proposals;

• to nominate and vote for local union officers;

• to attend international conventions as a delegate; and

• to participate in strike votes;

• to numerous other benefits available only to members, such as

those described above; and

• in the Union Plus programs described on pages 21-22.

It is clearly to your advantage to continue to be a full, active

member of your local union.

Only through unity and solidarity can we better our working conditions and reap benefits for ourselves and our families.
Many observers have concluded that, if elected, John McCain will continue the failed policies of the past eight years. They are right, but they don’t go far enough. He will actually make many of them far worse. For working families — including Boilermaker families — a McCain presidency would be a disaster.

McCain opposes everything this union stands for. He not only opposes increases to the minimum wage, he opposes the minimum wage itself and voted to abolish it. He opposes Davis-Bacon, a law that protects the wages of workers on federally-funded construction projects. He opposes the Jones Act, a law requiring that ships carrying goods or passengers from one U.S. port to another be built in the United States. He opposes “Buy American” laws.

He supports project labor agreements. He opposes union security. He opposes the Employee Free Choice Act, a law that gives workers who want to organize their place of employment a fighting chance. In fact, he opposes labor unions in every way and on every level. He says the right to organize and union amounts to “class warfare.”

McCain voted to block OSHA from implementing standards to protect workers from repetitive stress injuries. Now he says every OSHA regulation should be revisited to deter mining employers. He opposes the Employee Free Choice Act, a law that gives workers who want to organize their place of employment a fighting chance. In fact, he opposes labor unions in every way and on every level.

Throughout his campaign, he has claimed he will put more money in the hands of average Americans. But when he had the chance last year, he didn’t even bother to show up to vote for the stimulus package that sent rebate checks of $600 to $1,200 to middle-class working families.

McCain appears to have no idea what life is like for working families. Perhaps that is because he hasn’t “walked a mile” in our shoes. The son of a four-star admiral married an oil heiress, he has never had to struggle to make ends meet, never been laid off when the plant he worked at closed down, never had to do without medical care, and wouldn’t stretch to cover all his needs.

Now he is married to an heiress himself, the daughter of a successful beer company. That kind of wealth has to make a concerted effort to understand how someone who works for a living thinks, and John McCain has never made that effort.

Barack Obama understands the lives working families live. For part of his childhood, he was raised by a single parent. He learned early that working families must struggle to survive, and after he graduated from Harvard Law School, he turned down offers to work for large law firms to become a community organizer in a working-class neighborhood in Chicago, ravaged by the closing of a steel mill, its main employer.

Organizers are a curious breed. Whether organizing a labor union or a community, they succeed by inspiring people to work hard to improve their own position in life. A successful organizer does not create change on his own — the people he organizes are the ones who make change happen. In that Chicago community, Obama demonstrated he is a true leader, a person who can inspire others to follow him as he helps them unlock the doors to a better life.

An Obama presidency promises a world of change from the Bush administration of the past eight years — and in fact, from any administration in almost 50 years. Since no candidate John F. Kennedy has invigorated the nation’s economy, Barack Obama has, and no candidate since Franklin Roosevelt has been so committed to struggling against the injustices and economic hardships felt every day by working families.

Words of appreciation

BERNIE PIATZ’S NEARLY 40-year membership at Local 647 (Minneapolis) has been quite a journey. He was very well liked in this local and always took the time to explain and teach any apprentice willing to learn. We will miss his experience and knowledge and most of all the joking and poking fun congratulations to him on his retirement.

KEITH RADOMSKI (Skinner), WENDLIN PIATZ (Wendy), and ARIN D. CLARK (Local 647 Minneapolis, Minn.)

Family grateful to members for support

THE FAMILY OF Roberto Pearson wishes to thank Local 647 [Minneapolis] members and others throughout Minnesota and North Dakota for their cards, flowers, memorials, and support. We especially thank those who came to Roberto’s memorial service in Danbury, Wis., and appreciate the care shown during this very sad time.

Roberto was an excellent welder and loved being a Boilermaker. He was a proud, third-year apprentice when he died in a job site accident at the Big Stone Power Plant in May 26. He was only 24.

MARTY, JER, and ERICA PEARSON Parents and sister of Roberto Pearson Danbury, Wis.

Obama thanks Boilermakers

THANK YOU FOR the endorsement of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. It is an honor to have your support, and I am grateful to you (IP Newton B. Jones) and your members for devoting your time, effort, and hard work to our movement for change.

I am proud to stand with the IBB in our joint efforts to build an America that values the labor of every American and repays the Employee basic guarantees — wages that can raise a family, health care if we get sick, a strong Social Security, or the one who has voted to privatize Social Security and wants to raise the eligibility age for Medicare.

You can vote for the candidate who will cut taxes for working families, or you can vote for the candidate who will cut taxes for corporations and the wealthy.

The choice is yours

On ELECTION DAY, you will vote as your conscience dictates. Who do you support in this election and yours alone. I urge you to be a responsible voter — to study the candidates’ records, positions, and proposals in light of how they will affect you, your family, and the millions of other working families across the country. Information about the candidates and videos of them explaining their positions are available through our Web site, www.boilermakers.org. I urge you to read about the candidates and listen to McCain explain his positions, so you can see how out of touch he is with the world you and I live in.

When you do, I believe you will see that your choice is clear.

You can vote for the candidate who has refused to accept campaign donations from lobbyists, or the one who not only accepts their donations, but hires them to be his campaign advisors.

You can vote for the candidate who has vowed to end tax incentives for companies that move jobs overseas, or the one who proclaimed he “would negotiate a trade agreement with almost any country.”

You can vote for the candidate whose health care plan makes coverage affordable for every American, or the one who wants to tax the health care benefits you get from your employer.

You can vote for the candidate who believes workers need greater security for their pensions and a stronger Social Security, or the one who has voted to privatize Social Security and wants to raise the eligibility age for Medicare.

You can vote for the candidate who will cut taxes for middle-class Americans and retirees, or the one who has promised to cut taxes for corporations and the wealthy.

In other words, you can vote for Barack Obama, or you can vote for John McCain.

I hope you choose wisely. The nation’s future and your family’s future are riding on it. 

NOTE: An annotated version of this commentary with sources for all statements made here is available at www.boilermakers.org.

Newton B. Jones International President

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785-863-7703
FAX (913) 201-8504
E-mail: djs@boilermakers.org

Send a Letter to the Editor to:
The Boilermaker Reporter
753 State Ave. Suite 570
Kansas City, KS 66101-1500

Letters to the Editor

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