



# the Boilermaker Reporter

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

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## 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 McGuinness, 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-

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The *New Hampshire* is moored to the pier at the General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard before her christening June 21. (U.S. Navy photo by John Narewski, courtesy of navy.mil.)

## 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, Interna-

tional 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,

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BP's Whiting, Ind., refinery is the fourth largest in the nation. (Photo courtesy of BP)

## L-374 readies for \$3.8 billion refinery job

### 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

See WHITING, page 14



## 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 infra-

structure to accommodate the few hundred thousand visitors expected at the event. Longshore members helped each ship to an orderly moorage. 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 canon 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)

## NASSCO

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and broader involvement in evaluations and new hire orientations.

"This settlement and agreement place the Boilermakers union and members of Local 1998 in a position to build a strong, viable local lodge," said International President Newton B. Jones. "It has been a long time coming, but the perseverance of these workers has paid off, and now they will truly be able to enjoy the benefits of union membership. This is a proud day for these members, Local 1998 President Bobby Godinez, and the International officers and staff who have worked so hard over the years on behalf of the NASSCO workers."

### Focus turns to organizing

WITH A CONTRACT in place and the lawsuit settled, the local is actively building its membership using the in-plant organizing program. Developed in response to so-called right-to-work laws, the program can be used at any location where a union security clause does not exist. These clauses require union membership as a condition of employment. General Dynamics' NASSCO shipyard does not have one.

## SUBMARINE

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class ship to be built in 72 months, down from 84. "That's a savings of \$8 million in man-hours alone," reports Local 614 Bus. Mgr. Frank Ward.

The newest *New 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.

"This program is effective because rank-and-file union members meet nonmembers face-to-face and explain the benefits of belonging to the union," said John Chapman, International Rep and General Organizer. "That's what Local 1998 members are doing right now at the NASSCO shipyard."

Chapman said union members are meeting with nonmembers during their lunch breaks and after work. "The new member sign-ups have been substantial. In some weeks, we are running at 75 to 100 new members," he said.

Local 1998 is also seeking additional units. On September 8, about two dozen gantry crane operators voted overwhelmingly to join the lodge. "It took some hard work," said Chapman, "but we succeeded in getting the company to sign off on a stipulated election agreement."

"The crane operators are a small group but an important one," said President Godinez. "They are responsible for moving ship sections from one production stage to another. We now represent a total of five bargaining units and about 70 percent of all production workers at the shipyard." □

Since the 1980s, the U.S. Navy fleet has shrunk from nearly 600 ships to about 280, but the Navy is not building at the replacement rate, so it will shrink even further. This year Congress funded nine ships, which is the best in a while, but below the replacement rate, which is about 10 per year.

"The decline in the number of ships being built combined with advances in technology and some work going non-union has caused a traumatic decline in our membership," Ward said. "We are at 10 percent of what we've been."

But Ward is hopeful that membership numbers will rise in the next couple of years when pending legislation to increase to two ships per year becomes effective.

Local 614 has represented workers at the shipyard since it was chartered in 1944. □



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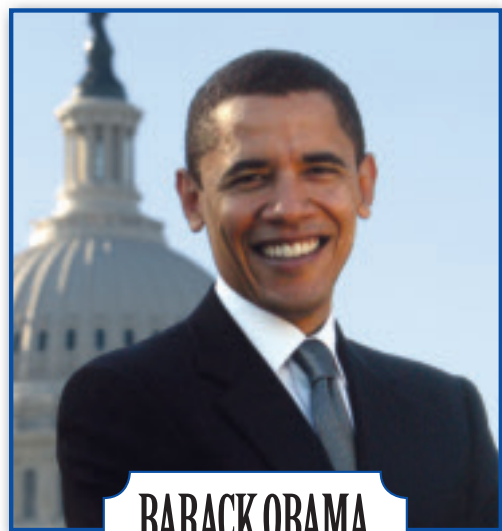


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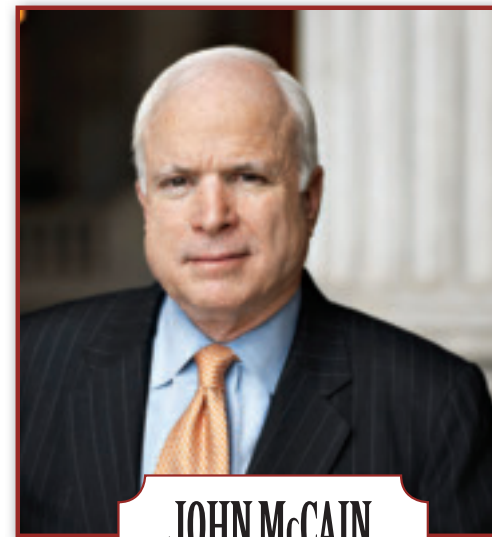


# Two candidates. Two radically different approaches to the issues of our time. One opportunity to stop the assault on workers and their families.



BARACK OBAMA

## NOVEMBER 4, 2008 OBAMA vs. MCCAIN HOW WILL YOU USE YOUR VOTE ?



JOHN MCCAIN

### 98 PERCENT LIFETIME AFL-CIO VOTING RECORD

**Proposes Health Care For All.** Obama's health care plan would provide affordable, high-quality coverage for all and would guarantee coverage for those who change jobs or have pre-existing medical conditions. (Campaign Web site; Obama speech in Iowa City, Iowa, 5/29/07)

**Opposes Unfair Trade Deals.** Obama wants to close corporate tax loopholes so we don't reward corporations for sending our jobs overseas and only enter trade agreements with strong labor protections. He voted against the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) and supports extending Trade Adjustment Assistance to help workers (including many Boilermakers) who lose their jobs due to bad trade deals. (Obama speech at Building Trades Conference, 4/15/08; Cleveland Democratic Debate, NBC, 2/26/08; S. 1307, Vote 170, 6/30/05; Obama remarks, Raleigh, N.C., 6/9/08; Obama for America Web site)

**Protects Our Retirement.** Obama will protect Social Security from benefit cuts and will not raise the retirement age. He voted against benefit cuts in the U.S. Senate and strongly opposes privatization. He also wants to give seniors making less than \$50,000 a tax cut. (*Quad-City Times*, 9/21/07; S.C.R. 18, Vote 49, 3/15/05; S.Amdt. 144 to S.C.R. 18, Vote 47, 3/15/05)

**Protects Union Wages and Jobs.** "We need to make sure workers building America's infrastructure are making the prevailing wage and getting the benefits they deserve," Obama said. He voted against a proposal to strip prevailing wage requirements from bridge construction projects. He also believes "the government uses project labor agreements to encourage completion of projects on time and on budget." (S.Amdt. 2844 to H.R. 3074, Vote 334, 9/12/07; Obama speech to Building Trades Conference, 4/15/08)

**Supports Employee Free Choice Act.** Obama co-sponsored and voted for the Employee Free Choice Act, which would restore workers' freedom to form unions and bargain for better wages, benefits, and working conditions without employer harassment. Obama says, "It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when" the bill will be passed. (H.R. 800, Vote 227, 6/26/07; *Chicago Tribune*, 3/4/07)

### 17 PERCENT LIFETIME AFL-CIO VOTING RECORD

**Places Insurance Companies Over Working Families.** McCain wants to tax our health care benefits and push workers into the private market where insurance companies can charge whatever they want and refuse to cover people with pre-existing conditions like cancer. He also plans to give the top 10 health insurance companies \$1.9 billion in tax breaks. (*Health08.org*, Forum, 10/31/07; *Los Angeles Times*, 11/20/07; Center for American Progress, 4/9/08)

**Thinks NAFTA Was 'A Good Idea.'** McCain voted for the North America Free Trade Agreement and said, "I know NAFTA was a good idea." He has repeatedly voted for unfair trade deals and supported tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas. He also voted to weaken and waive Buy American laws that keep jobs here at home. (*Des Moines Register* and *www.BigThink.com* interview, 11/07; H.R. 3450, Vote 395, 11/20/93; H.R. 4444, Vote 251, 9/19/00; S. 1637, Vote 83, 5/5/04; S. 2400, Vote 135, 6/22/04; S. 1050, Vote 191, 5/21/03)

**Wants To Privatize Social Security.** McCain said he is "totally in favor" of risky personal savings accounts. He strongly supported President Bush's efforts to privatize Social Security and has voted for similar measures multiple times. His chief economic aide also has said McCain will not rule out raising the retirement age or reducing cost-of-living adjustments. (*Wall Street Journal*, 3/3/08; S.C.R. 83, Vote 68, 3/16/06; S.Amdt. 489 to S.C.R. 21, Vote 89, 3/22/07; S.C.R. 86, Vote 56, 4/1/98; S.C.R. 86, Vote 77, 4/1/98)

**Would Dump Prevailing Wage and Project Labor Agreements.** McCain wants to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act (prevailing wage) and eliminate project labor agreements. These protections are essential to construction Boilermakers and others in the building trades, as they protect wage rates and ensure projects paid for with taxpayer money are done right. (Associated Builders and Contractors PAC)

**Strongly Opposes Employee Free Choice Act.** McCain said he is "strongly opposed" to this important effort to level the playing field for workers trying to form unions. He voted against the Employee Free Choice Act, which would help save the middle class, and for a national "right-to-work" for less law that would attempt to eliminate unions altogether. (*Congressional Record*, page S8389, 6/26/07; H.R. 800, Vote 227, 6/26/07; S. 1788 Vote 188, 7/10/96)

## 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 LISTED on these two pages have been selected by the leadership of the local lodges in their areas, along with the International Government Affairs Department, as those who will best support working families.

We endorse candidates only after they have undergone close scrutiny. To earn our endorsement,

a candidate must show a willingness to work with us — not by their statements, but by their actions. They must vote the way we need them to vote on key issues before Congress, and they must sit down with us to solve problems we are having in their district or state.

Please examine this list. If you do not understand why we are supporting a particular candidate, ask your local lodge leaders or the Government Affairs Department for clarification.

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 elected to 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!**

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

\*Challenger: Indicates candidate is running against someone already holding office (an incumbent)  
*Italics:* Open: Indicates an open seat (no incumbent is running for re-election)

**PRESIDENT**

BARACK OBAMA (D)

**ALABAMA**

2nd Bobby Bright, Sr. (D)  
5th Parker Griffith (D)  
7th Artur Davis (D)

**ALASKA**

Senator Mark Begich (D)\*  
1st Don Young (R)

**ARIZONA**

1st Ann Kirkpatrick (D)  
2nd John Thrasher (D)\*  
3rd Bob Lord (D)\*  
4th Ed Pastor (D)  
5th Harry Mitchell (D)  
7th Raul Grijalva (D)  
8th Gabrielle Giffords (D)

**ARKANSAS**

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1st Marion Berry (D)  
2nd Vic Snyder (D)  
4th Mike Ross (D)

**CALIFORNIA**

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3rd William Durston (D)\*  
4th Charles Brown (D)  
5th Doris Matsui (D)  
6th Lynn Woolsey (D)  
7th George Miller (D)  
8th Nancy Pelosi (D)  
9th Barbara Lee (D)  
10th Ellen Tauscher (D)  
11th Jerry McNerney (D)  
12th Jackie Speier (D)  
13th Pete Stark (D)  
14th Anna Eshoo (D)  
15th Mike Honda (D)  
16th Zoe Lofgren (D)  
17th Sam Farr (D)  
18th Dennis Cardoza (D)  
20th Jim Costa (D)  
21st Larry Johnson (D)\*  
23rd Lois Capps (D)  
26th Russ Warner (D)\*  
27th Brad Sherman (D)  
28th Howard Berman (D)  
29th Adam Schiff (D)  
30th Henry Waxman (D)  
31st Xavier Becerra (D)  
32nd Hilda Solis (D)  
33rd Diane Watson  
34th Lucille Roybal-Allard (D)  
35th Maxine Waters (D)  
36th Jane Harman (D)  
37th Laura Richardson (D)  
38th Grace Napolitano (D)  
39th Linda Sanchez (D)  
40th Christina Avalos (D)\*  
42nd Edwin Chau (D)\*  
43rd Joe Baca (D)  
44th Bill Hendrick (D)\*  
45th Julie Bornstein (D)\*  
46th Debbie Cook (D)\*  
47th Loretta Sanchez (D)  
48th Steve Young (D)\*  
49th Robert Hamilton (D)\*  
50th Nick Leibham (D)\*

51st Bob Filner (D)  
52nd Duncan Hunter (R)  
53rd Susan Davis (D)

**COLORADO**

Senator Mark Udall (D)  
1st Diana DeGette (D)  
2nd Joan Fitz-Gerald (D)  
3rd John Salazar (D)  
4th Betsy Markey (D)\*  
5th Hal Bidlack (D)\*  
6th Wil Armstrong (R)  
7th Ed Perlmutter

**CONNECTICUT**

1st John Larson (D)  
2nd Joe Courtney (D)  
3rd Rosa DeLauro (D)  
4th Jim Himes (D)\*  
5th Chris Murphy (D)

**DELAWARE**

Senator Joe Biden (D)

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

1st Eleanor Holmes Norton (D)

**FLORIDA**

1st James Bryan (D)\*  
3rd Corrine Brown (D)  
4th Jay McGovern (D)\*  
6th Tim Cunha (D)\*  
9th John Dicks (D)\*  
11th Kathy Castor (D)  
13th Christine Jennings (D)\*  
16th Tim Mahoney (D)  
17th Kendrick Meek (D)  
18th Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R)  
19th Robert Wexler (D)  
20th Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D)  
21st Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R)  
22nd Ron Klein (D)  
23rd Alcee Hastings (D)  
24th Suzanne Kosmas (D)\*  
25th Mario Diaz-Balart (R)

**GEORGIA**

Senator Rand Knight (D)\*  
1st Bill Gillespie (D)\*  
2nd Sanford Bishop (D)  
3rd Stephen Camp (D)\*  
4th Hank Johnson (D)  
5th John Lewis (D)  
6th Bill Jones (D)\*  
7th Doug Heckman (D)\*  
8th Jim Marshall (D)  
10th Bobby Saxon (D)\*  
11th Bud Gammon (D)\*  
12th John Barrow (D)  
13th David Scott (D)

**HAWAII**

1st Neil Abercrombie (D)  
2nd Mazie Hirono (D)

**IDAHO**

Senator Larry LaRocco (D)  
1st Walt Minnick (D)\*

**ILLINOIS**

Senator Richard Durbin (D)  
1st Bobby Rush (D)  
2nd Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D)

3rd Daniel Lipinski (D)  
4th Luis Gutierrez (D)  
5th Rahm Emanuel (D)  
6th Jill Morgenthau (D)\*  
7th Danny Davis (D)  
8th Melissa Bean (D)  
9th Jan Schakowsky (D)  
10th Dan Seals (D)\*  
11th Debbie Halvorson (D)  
12th Jerry Costello (D)  
13th Scott Harper (D)\*  
14th Bill Foster (D)  
15th Tim Johnson (R)  
16th Robert Abboud (D)\*  
17th Phil Hare (D)  
19th John Shimkus (R)

**INDIANA**

Governor Jill Long Thompson (D)\*  
1st Peter Visclosky (D)  
2nd Joe Donnelly (D)  
3rd Michael Montagano (D)\*  
7th Andre Carson (D)  
8th Brad Ellsworth (D)  
9th Baron Hill (D)

**IOWA**

Senator Tom Harkin (D)  
1st Bruce Braley (D)  
2nd David Loebsack (D)  
3rd Leonard Boswell (D)  
5th Rob Hübner (D)\*

**KANSAS**

2nd Nancy Boyda (D)  
3rd Dennis Moore (D)

**KENTUCKY**

Senator Bruce Lunsford (D)\*  
2nd David Boswell (D)  
3rd John Yarmuth (D)  
4th Geoff Davis (R)  
6th Ben Chandler (D)

**LOUISIANA**

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2nd William Jefferson (D)  
3rd Charlie Melancon (D)  
4th Paul Carmouche (D)  
6th Don Cazayoux (D)\*

**MAINE**

Senator Tom Allen (D)\*  
1st Chellie Pingree (D)  
2nd Mike Michaud (D)

**MARYLAND**

1st Frank Kratovil (D)  
2nd Dutch Ruppersberger (D)  
3rd John Sarbanes (D)  
4th Donna Edwards (D)  
5th Steny Hoyer (D)  
7th Elijah Cummings (D)  
8th Chris Van Hollen (D)

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Senator John Kerry (D)  
1st John Olver (D)  
2nd Richard Neal (D)  
3rd James McGovern (D)  
4th Barney Frank (D)  
5th Niki Tsongas (D)  
6th John Tierney (D)

7th Ed Markey (D)  
8th Michael Capuano (D)  
9th Steve Lynch (D)  
10th Bill Delahunt (D)

**MICHIGAN**

Senator Carl Levin (D)  
1st Bart Stupak (D)  
2nd Peter Hoekstra (R)  
5th Dale Kildee (D)  
7th Mark Schauer (D)\*  
9th Gary Peters (D)\*  
10th Candice Miller (R)  
12th Sander Levin (D)  
13th Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D)  
14th John Conyers (D)  
15th John Dingell (D)

**MINNESOTA**

Senator Al Franken (D)\*  
1st Tim Walz (D)  
2nd Steve Sarvi (D)\*  
3rd Ashwin Madaia (D)\*  
4th Betty McCollum (D)  
5th Keith Ellison (D)  
6th Elwyn Tinklenberg (D)\*  
7th Colin Peterson (D)  
8th James Oberstar (D)

**MISSISSIPPI**

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Senator Erik Fleming (D)\*  
1st Travis Childers (D)  
2nd Bennie Thompson (D)  
4th Gene Taylor (D)

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2nd Mike Garman (D)\*  
3rd Russ Carnahan (D)  
4th Ike Skelton (D)  
5th Emanuel Cleaver (D)  
6th Kay Barnes (D)\*  
8th Jo Ann Emerson (R)

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Senator Max Baucus (D)

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2nd Jim Esch (D)\*

**NEVADA**

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3rd John Porter (R)

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Governor John Lynch (D)  
Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D)\*  
1st Carol Shea-Porter (D)  
2nd Paul Hodes (D)

**NEW JERSEY**

Senator Frank Lautenberg (D)  
2nd Frank LoBiondo (R)  
3rd John Adler (D)  
4th Chris Smith (R)  
5th Dennis Shulman (D)\*  
6th Frank Pallone (D)  
7th Linda Stender (D)



# Lobbyists influence McCain’s campaign

## 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.

From the outset, 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 and 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 than 100, according to *sourcewatch.org*). A few of the more notable McCain staffers are:

John Green — His firm lobbied 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 now lobbies 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 “mental” rather than real.

Charlie Black — His firm lobbied 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.

Source: TPM Muckraker

## Obama online store opens

BARACK OBAMA campaign material — customized for Boilermakers — is now available for purchase at the new Boilermakers for Obama 2008 Political Online Store. There you’ll find “Boilermakers for Obama” T-shirts, buttons, bumper stickers, lapel stickers, and other support material for the upcoming election.

On your first visit to the Boilermakers for Obama 2008 Political Online Store, you will need to set up a new account (Web store login). Type LEAP in the Access Code field. When you finish, click on “New Order” to start your first purchase. Visit the store at <http://obamastore.boilermakers.org>.



When placing an order, please note that under Federal Election Law, union treasury funds CANNOT BE USED to purchase the items listed above.

The store also offers worksite flyers, which may be purchased in bulk. Union treasury funds MAY BE USED to purchase the flyers, as the purpose of these items is membership education. (Worksite flyers can be customized at [www.workingfamielstoolkit.com](http://www.workingfamielstoolkit.com).)

If you have questions, contact Beverly Waters at the Department of Government Affairs: 703-560-1493, [bwaters@boilermakers.org](mailto:bwaters@boilermakers.org).

8th	Bill Pascrell (D)
9th	Steve Rothman (D)
10th	Donald Payne (D)
12th	Rush Holt (D)
13th	Albio Sires (D)

### NEW MEXICO

Senator	Tom Udall (D)
1st	Martin Heinrich (D)
2nd	Harry Teague (D)
3rd	Ben Lujan (D)

### NEW YORK

1st	Tim Bishop (D)
2nd	Steve Israel (D)
4th	Carolyn McCarthy (D)
5th	Gary Ackerman (D)
6th	Greg Meeks (D)
7th	Joe Crowley (D)
8th	Jerry Nadler (D)
9th	Anthony Weiner (D)
10th	Ed Towns (D)
11th	Yvette Clarke (D)
13th	Mike McMahon (D)
14th	Carolyn Maloney (D)
15th	Charles Rangel (D)
16th	Jose Serrano (D)
17th	Elliot Engel (D)
18th	Nita Lowey (D)
19th	John Hall (D)
20th	Kirsten Gillibrand (D)
22nd	Maurice Hinchey (D)
23rd	John McHugh (R)
24th	Michael Arcuri (D)
25th	Dan Maffei (D)
26th	Jon Powers (D)
27th	Brian Higgins (D)

28th	Louise Slaughter (D)
29th	Eric Massa (D)*

### NORTH CAROLINA

Governor	Bev Purdue (D)*
Senator	Kay Hagan (D)
1st	G.K. Butterfield (D)
2nd	Bob Etheridge (D)
4th	David Price (D)
7th	Mike McIntyre (D)
8th	Larry Kissell (D)*
11th	Heath Shuler (D)
12th	Melvin Watt (D)
13th	Brad Miller (D)

### NORTH DAKOTA

Governor	Tim Mathern (D)*
1st	Earl Pomeroy (D)

### OHIO

1st	Steve Driehaus (D)*
2nd	Victoria Wells Wulsin (D)*
3rd	Jane Mitakides (D)*
4th	Mike Carroll (D)*
6th	Charlie Wilson (D)
7th	Sharen Schwartz Neuhardt (D)
8th	Nick Von Stein (D)*
9th	Marcy Kaptur (D)
10th	Dennis Kucinich (D)
11th	Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D)
12th	David Robinson (D)*
13th	Betty Sutton (D)
14th	Steve LaTourette (R)
15th	Mary Jo Kilroy (D)
16th	John Boccieri (D)
17th	Tim Ryan (D)
18th	Zach Space (D)



## 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.

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](http://www.boilermakers.org)) and click on Resources, then Political Action/LEAP, or contact the Boilermakers’ Government Affairs Office at 703-560-1493.

### OKLAHOMA

Senator	Andrew Rick (D)*
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### OREGON

Senator	Jeff Merkley (D)*
1st	David Wu (D)
3rd	Earl Blumenauer (D)
4th	Peter DeFazio (D)
5th	Kurt Schrader (D)

### PENNSYLVANIA

1st	Robert Brady (D)
2nd	Chaka Fattah (D)
3rd	Phil English (R)
4th	Jason Altmire (D)
7th	Joe Sestak (D)
8th	Patrick Murphy (D)
10th	Chris Carney (D)
11th	Paul Kanjorski (D)
12th	John Murtha (D)
13th	Allyson Schwartz (D)
14th	Mike Doyle (D)
15th	Sam Bennett (D)*
17th	Tim Holden (D)
18th	Tim Murphy (R)

### RHODE ISLAND

Senator	Jack Reed (D)
1st	Patrick Kennedy (D)
2nd	Jim Langevin (D)

### SOUTH CAROLINA

2nd	Joe Wilson (R)
5th	John Spratt (D)
6th	James Clyburn (D)

### SOUTH DAKOTA

Senator	Tim Johnson (D)
1st	Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D)

### TENNESSEE

4th	Lincoln Davis (D)
5th	Jim Cooper (D)
6th	Bart Gordon (D)
8th	John Tanner (D)
9th	Steve Cohen (D)

### TEXAS

Senator	Rick Noriega (D)*
9th	Al Green (D)
10th	Larry Joe Doherty (D)*
15th	Ruben Hinojosa (D)
16th	Silvestre Reyes (D)
17th	Chet Edwards (D)
18th	Sheila Jackson Lee (D)
20th	Charlie Gonzalez (D)
22nd	Nick Lampson (D)
23rd	Ciro Rodriguez (D)

25th	Lloyd Doggett (D)
27th	Solomon Ortiz (D)
28th	Henry Cuellar (D)
29th	Gene Green (D)
30th	Eddie Bernice Johnson (D)

### UTAH

Governor	Bob Springmeyer (D)*
2nd	Jim Matheson (D)

### VERMONT

Governor	Gaye Symington (D)*
1st	Peter Welch (D)

### VIRGINIA

Senator	Mark Warner (D)
2nd	Glenn Nye (D)*
3rd	Robert Scott (D)
8th	Jim Moran (D)
9th	Rick Boucher (D)
10th	Judy Feder (D)*
11th	Gerry Connolly (D)*

### WASHINGTON

Governor	Christine Gregoire (D)
1st	Jay Inslee (D)
2nd	Rick Larsen (D)
3rd	Brian Baird (D)
4th	George Fearing (D)*
6th	Norm Dicks (D)
7th	Jim McDermott (D)
8th	Darcy Burner (D)
9th	Adam Smith (D)

### WEST VIRGINIA

Governor	Joe Manchin (D)
Attorney General	Darrell McGraw
Secretary of State	Joe Delong
Treasurer	John Perdue
Auditor	Glen Gainer
Senator	Jay Rockefeller (D)
1st	Alan Mollohan (D)
2nd	Anne Barth (D)*
3rd	Nick Rahall (D)

### WISCONSIN

1st	Paul Ryan (R)
2nd	Tammy Baldwin (D)
3rd	Ron Kind (D)
4th	Gwen Moore (D)
7th	David Obey (D)
8th	Steve Kagen (D)

### WYOMING

Senator	Nick Carter (D)*
1st	Gary Trauner (D)



# You can't vote if you aren't registered

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.

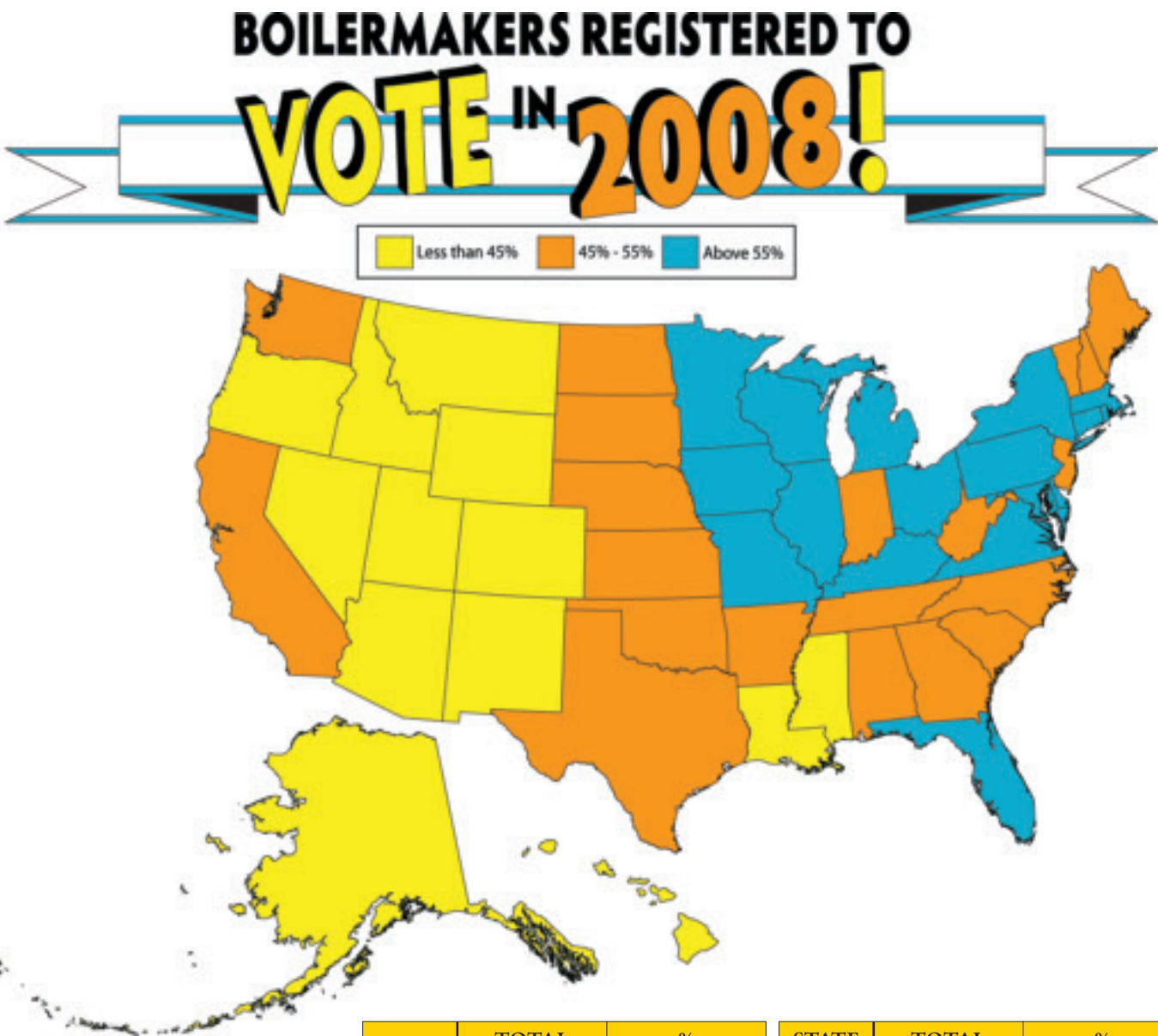
A state-by-state examination of voter registration rolls recently showed fewer than 54 percent of Boilermakers had registered. That's a full 10 points below the percentage of eligible voters who cast ballots in the 2004 elections.

"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."

STATE	TOTAL MEMBERS	% REGISTERED TO VOTE	STATE	TOTAL MEMBERS	% REGISTERED TO VOTE
AK	75	27	MT	592	32
AL	1722	45	NC	445	49
AR	520	46	ND	255	51
AZ	686	26	NE	372	48
CA	2400	47	NH	279	52
CO	198	36	NJ	1020	55
CT	586	60	NM	144	32
DE	231	60	NV	129	36
FL	994	59	NY	1259	56
GA	1085	49	OH	3469	58
HI	214	46	OK	617	45
IA	564	63	OR	470	41
ID	120	37	PA	4243	61
IL	4866	57	RI	123	57
IN	2809	55	SC	231	46
KS	864	54	SD	92	47
KY	1950	63	TN	2313	55
LA	1336	44	TX	1248	50
MA	746	60	UT	197	42
MD	604	60	VA	1203	57
ME	259	45	VT	37	46
MI	1846	70	WA	2147	49
MN	1045	59	WI	2657	61
MO	1881	59	WV	1552	48
MS	1584	39	WY	373	39

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

— L-85 BM-ST Fred Keith Jr.

If you need to register or re-register, you can do so quickly and easily ONLINE! You can find a link to voter registration and other 2008 Election information on the front page of our Web site. Look for this button:







## 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 caucus. 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 atten-

tion, 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. □



**See page 5 or go to our Web site for more details about how to get "Boilermakers for Obama" T-shirts and other campaign support materials online.**

## L-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. □

# Boilermaker introduces Obama at Montana rally



**Local D239 Sec.-Treas. (and Three Forks Mayor) Gene Townsend introduces Sen. Barack Obama in Bozeman, Mont., May 19. (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 presiden-

tial 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. Mick 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 real 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 opponents attack Employee Free Choice Act

## TV ads distort purpose of legislation

ONE OF THE most important pieces of labor legislation in decades has come under attack by business special interest groups. The Employee Free Choice Act is designed to make it easier for workers to organize. But the special interest groups have put up \$160 million to stop it.

In television ads and press releases, anti-union forces are distorting the purpose of the act, making false claims and trying to scare workers. Their goal is clear: Keep things the way they are, so employers can continue to prevent workers from joining unions.

## Workers find it hard to form a union

WORKERS FACE TOUGH obstacles when they try to organize these days. Employers use a variety of tactics — both legal and illegal — to keep unions out. They hire union-busting consultants, delay the organizing process through legal maneuvers, harass and intimidate employees, and fire key union supporters. Even when workers endure this process and vote a union in, employers often refuse to bargain in good faith. Frustrated and worn down, unable to get their first contract, some-

times workers give up their efforts to form a union.

How do employers get away with these tactics? Simply put, the penalties they face are mild. Even when they break the law and fire workers for exercising their legal rights to organize, the penalty is to reinstate the employees and give them back pay. For the employer, it becomes just another cost of doing business — money worth paying, in their view, if they can threaten and intimidate their workers and kill their desire for a union.

The biggest obstacle to organizing is the current election process. Employers often choose not to recognize voluntarily their workers' desire for union representation. Instead, they demand a secret ballot election through the National Labor Relations Board. Employers can then stall, object, appeal, and otherwise drag out the process. This gives them plenty of time to campaign against the union and coerce employees into giving up the effort.

## Employee Free Choice Act strengthens worker rights, stiffens employer penalties

TO CORRECT THESE problems and put teeth into labor laws, members of Congress created the Employee Free Choice Act. The act passed the House

in 2008, but Republicans blocked a vote on the measure in the Senate. Organized labor has made passing the bill its number one priority for 2009.

## Here's what the Employee Free Choice Act would do:

**1. Allow workers to form a union through majority sign-up.** If a majority of workers show they want a union by signing authorization cards, the employer would be required to recognize the union. If workers choose to settle the matter by secret ballot, they are free to do so. (Attack ads by business special interest groups falsely claim that workers would lose the right to secret ballot elections.) This change would take the decision about whether to hold NLRB elections out of the hands of the employer and put it in the hands of workers.

**2. Allow workers or employers to request mediation.** Under the act, employers would no longer be able to drag out the effort for a first contract in hopes of killing the union. If the parties cannot reach agreement after 90 days of bargaining, either the workers or the employer may request mediation. If an agreement is not reached after 30 days of mediation, both sides must submit to binding arbitration.

**3. Increase penalties for employers who break the law.** The act would raise the ante for workers who are discriminatorily fired to three times their 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. Weaker 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 go a long way to granting these workers that opportunity.

Television ads against the Employee Free Choice Act aim to fool workers into believing the act would be bad for them. But these ads are paid for by groups that oppose unions, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Right to Work (for less) Committee.

If the Employee Free Choice Act becomes law, unions would regain some of their former strength, and so would the middle class. □

# Fired welder wanted a union

## SIS Northwest breaks law to keep workers from organizing

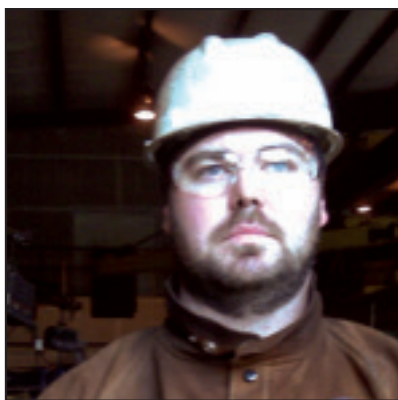
BRIAN OPLAND LIKED his job at SIS Northwest, a custom steel fabricator 70 miles north of Seattle. He had friends there, the wages were good, and he enjoyed his work as a welder.

But things turned ugly for Opland this February, when the employer learned that he and other workers wanted to join a union. While the pay was decent at SIS Northwest, the company didn't pay overtime for weekends or extra hours on shifts. And it didn't pay anything toward family medical insurance. A father of three young children, 30-year-old Opland could not afford \$1,000 a month out-of-pocket to cover his wife and kids.

Opland contacted Local 104 in Seattle and encouraged other workers to attend organizing meetings. Unfortunately, SIS Northwest reacted the way many U.S. companies do. It hired a consultant, harassed pro-union employees, stalled the process, and appealed the election. And it went after Brian Opland.

"My attendance record was really good," said Opland, "but the company claimed I was coming in late. They made me sign a statement that if I was even one minute late, I would be fired. They also said they would produce witnesses who would state that I punched another worker. Of course, that never happened. It was a company setup."

"They've used about every tactic imaginable to prevent these workers from having a union," said Local 104 Business Rep Tim Kessler, who is handling the organizing drive for the lodge.



Brian Opland

Kessler said SIS Northwest fired Opland after he testified in support of the union during two National Labor Relations Board hearings.

Soon after the firing, Local 104 filed an unfair labor practice (ULP) charge against the company. While the charge was being considered, workers at SIS Northwest voted to join the union. The company appealed the election twice, and lost both appeals.

"This says a lot about these workers' desire to have a union," Kessler noted. "After all the company has done, these guys still voted the union in. Now our focus is to negotiate a first contract."

While Opland waited for the NLRB to decide his case, he needed to support his family. He found a job with a union contractor through Local 104.

The NLRB then reached its decision on the ULP charge. It ordered SIS Northwest to reinstate Opland and pay his back wages. Concerned that the harassment would continue and that he would always have to watch his back, Opland waived his right to return to his old job.

As part of the NLRB's decision, the company was also required to post a

statement that it would refrain from intimidating its employees and interfering with their legal rights to organize and support the union.

"I hope those guys get a good contract," Opland said of the workers at SIS Northwest. "My only question is: What's the company's punishment? I got fired wrongfully. They broke the law. All they had to do was pay three-weeks' back pay."

Although it is illegal, firing employees who engage in organizing activities is not uncommon. A study by Dr. Kate Bronfenbrenner of Cornell University revealed that one out of four employers involved in union organizing drives fire union supporters. Hostile, aggressive actions by employers have risen over the past three decades, and federal labor laws have failed to stop or even slow them.

Dave Bunch, International Rep and General Organizer, who is assisting Local 104 in organizing SIS Northwest, says many workers who already belong to a union are not aware of just how difficult it is today to organize. "Employers know they can subvert the election process and discourage employees from voting for a union. The penalties they face are minimal — even when they break the law."

"Opland's case is exactly why all union members should support the Employee Free Choice Act," Bunch continued. "Workers should not have to endure intimidation and threats, or lose their jobs, simply for exercising their legal rights to join a union. Canadian workers have laws similar to the Employee Free Choice Act, and those laws work well — for workers as well as employers." □

## How employers fight organizing

**25%** illegally fire at least one worker for union activity during organizing campaigns

**75%** hire consultants or union busters

**78%** force employees to attend one-on-one meetings against the union with their own supervisor

**92%** force employees to attend mandatory closed-door meetings against the union

**51%** threaten to close the plant if the union wins the election

**1%** actually close the plant after a successful union election

Source: Dr. Kate Bronfenbrenner, Director of Labor Education and Research, Cornell University; [www.EmployeeFreeChoiceAct.org](http://www.EmployeeFreeChoiceAct.org)



# 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 link between human activities (primarily the burning of fossil fuels) and rising worldwide temperatures can be stated with "very high confidence."

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, "[G]lobal 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, oil refineries, and cement kilns. They rightly question whether reducing carbon emissions means doing away with their jobs. And they are not alone. For the past decade, 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 through the "deployment of a portfolio of technologies either currently available or expected to be commercialized in coming 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 (CO<sub>2</sub>) before it leaves the boiler (or whatever is producing it) and stores it somewhere so it never reaches the atmosphere. Wide deployment of CCS technology would allow power plants to meet the rapidly growing demand for electric power while reducing GHG emissions.

## Every technology brings challenges

SOME GLIB CRITICS of fossil fuels make reducing GHG seem easy. They advocate wind, solar, nuclear, 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 naïve.



**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 has its drawbacks. Solar cells and wind turbines require large tracts of land. Nuclear power generators not only take a long time to build, but they have their own safety issues, not the least of which is the disposal of spent nuclear fuel. Hydropower is perhaps the most renewable of all energy sources. As long as rain and snow fill rivers, hydro units can generate electricity. But the dams needed for hydropower interfere with other uses we have for rivers — transportation and fishing, among them.

In the meantime, the United States has enough coal to meet our power generation needs for over 200 years — if we can find a way to burn it without emitting large quantities of CO<sub>2</sub>. As the IPCC study suggested, the technology to do so is already available or soon should be.

In an article they wrote for *The Encyclopedia of Energy* in 2004, Howard Herzog and Dan Golomb outlined several approaches to CCS. At that time, non-hydro renewable sources of energy met less than one percent of the worldwide demand. Coal provided over 85 percent of all primary energy, and the authors believed it would be the "dominant source" of energy "for the rest of the century."

Their article discusses the three categories of CCS technology — flue gas separation, oxy-fuel combustion, and pre-combustion separation. Each method brings its own challenges.

**"We think green means green. 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



Flue gas separation and CO<sub>2</sub> capture are already being used at more than a dozen facilities worldwide. Typically, the flue gas is bubbled through a solvent that removes the CO<sub>2</sub>, 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 CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O (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 CO<sub>2</sub> before combustion, 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 CO<sub>2</sub>. To reduce global warming, CO<sub>2</sub> must be stored underground for perhaps thousands of years. Keeping the cost of storage low, including the cost of transportation to the site, will be a priority, as will eliminating the risk of accidents. Sudden leaks of large quantities of CO<sub>2</sub> 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 reduce atmospheric GHG levels.

Proposed storage locations are numerous — depleted oil and gas 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 liquid CO<sub>2</sub> could be pumped there with no ill effect.

All of these solutions bear costs and would, therefore, raise the price of electricity. Thus, companies are reluctant to invest money into developing them, though interest is rising. A cap-and-trade system for reducing carbon emissions could provide a vehicle to encourage more investment in CCS technology research.

In the United States, resistance to addressing GHG is waning. Forward-thinking companies realize that the cost of doing nothing may be far greater than the cost of tackling the problem now. As Jeffrey Immelt, CEO for General Electric put it, "We think green means green. This is a time period where environmental improvement is going to lead toward profitability. This is not a hobby to make people feel good." □

## 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 harm. 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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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 Breehey

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 2004.

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 so 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 Haakonson, Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia); and Vincent LeBlond, Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia).

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 partici-

pate 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 planners 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 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 Alstom Canada.

Local 555 BM-ST Dallas Rogers said Florell "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



Local 146's David Pinault, I., 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.)

## 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 read-

ing; 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 vertical uphand position. Candidates were required to cut a 30-degree bevel on one of the coupons in each set. The

# 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 IVP for Western Canada, and Alexander "Sandy" MacDonald, retired IVP 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 Alstom Canada, became the first recipient of the renamed award (see related story on this page).

Eastern Canada IVP Ed Power presided over the name change during the awards banquet June 25, held at the Fairmont Hotel in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Power paid tribute to Whan for his long involvement with apprentices and his service as president and later business manager of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta), International Rep, International Vice President, and International Secretary-Treasurer.

"Don did so much for the apprentices and apprenticeship training program through the years," Power said. "Others have come along afterward who also have contributed a lot of time and effort. It is appropriate that we recognize them as well."

Power praised Albright and MacDonald, noting that they came up through the ranks as Boilermakers — Albright in Local 146, MacDonald in Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia). Both men held positions in their local lodges before serving as International Reps and later International Vice Presidents. "Both Rick and Sandy sat on the National Training Fund for many years," Power said. "It's a real honor to have their names placed on the award."



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





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 prepared 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 Holryod, 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 instruc-

tor with 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 Friedrich 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 capitol. The venerable Friedrich Center, site of previous institutes, is being converted to college dorms.

The basic course addressed contract administration, labor and IBB 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 IBB history, building the union and membership mobilization, and framing and delivering the message. The advanced class 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 making cement to 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 S8 (Equality, Ill.); Ken Hawley, Local 11 (Helena, Mont.); Brent Mitzner 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 (Pascagoula, 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 1509 (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. □





# Construction BMs train in Kansas City

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

"We had an excellent group that stayed focused the entire week on 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 introduced to 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.



New business managers from the U.S. and Canada attend training in Kansas City July 27-31.

Business managers attending the training were Casey Tibbs, Local 4 (Page, Ariz.); Tom Klein, Local 5 (New York); John Roeber, Local 11 (Helena, Mont.); Edward Latacz, Local 28 (Newark, N.J.);

Tom Saccoach, Local 29 (Boston); Gary Lusk, Local 60 (Peoria, Ill.); Frank Brown, Local 69 (Little Rock, Ark.); Kevin Chaisson, 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 Keffeler, Local 242 (Spokane, Wash.);

Phil Halley, Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia); Richard Eller, Local 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.); Darin McCarthy, Local 500 (Portland, Ore.); Frank Secreet, Local 549 (Pittsburg, Calif.); Dallas Rogers, Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba); Danny Blackwell, Local 582 (Baton Rouge, La.); Bernard Hilla, Local 647 (Minneapolis); and Shon Almond, NTL (Maumee, Ohio). □

## STEWARD SOURCEBOOK

## The Steward's Duty to Inform and Educate

EDUCATING YOUR MEMBERS may not be the first responsibility that comes to mind when you think of your duties as a steward, but that activity is the one that promises to reap you the most rewards.

Well-educated members understand your position in the union and in their lives. They know when to come to you with a problem and what kinds of problems you can help them with.

Well-educated members understand the collective bargaining agreement well enough to recognize possible contract violations and bring them to your attention promptly. They know that the earlier you identify an area of disagreement with the company and begin talking to them about it, the more likely you are to reach a quick resolution of the problem.

Well-informed members know what their local lodge has accomplished for them in the recent past, what they are working on right now, and what the members and leadership hope to gain in the future. When members are aware of the many ways the lodge is working to make things better for them, they feel a sense of belonging and empowerment. When you need your members to stand behind you, they are more likely to do so if they know how you and the lodge have been standing up for them.

Stewards should look for ways to work education into their daily contacts with members. One good idea is to come up with a different bit of wisdom every week and do your best to pass it along to everyone you represent.

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."

Or pass along a contract interpretation they might not be aware of: "A holiday is coming up, so keep in mind you get paid for it if you work the last workday on your schedule before the holiday and the first after the holiday. The language was unclear, but that's how we agreed to interpret it. Don't stretch the weekend another day and expect to get paid."

Or enlighten them on an activity of the union they may not be aware of: "We're having a mortgage specialist at the next meeting to tell us how to figure out when it's a good time to refinance."

### Use a variety of educational approaches

WHEN YOU'RE EXPLAINING a difficult topic, you probably want to talk to a person one-on-one. Complex topics often require a great deal of back-and-forth discussion between the steward and the member, as the member asks questions to try to understand what you are explaining. Emotionally-difficult topics require the intimacy of a private conversation as well. But if you only talk to members one-on-one, you'll spend a lot of time getting the word out.

When the topic allows you to do so, find ways to address your members in small groups. For example, if you're simply relaying some relatively simple information to them and you're not likely to get into a long discussion, you can pull a small group together on your break or lunchtime. Most people take breaks and eat in groups anyway, so all you have to do is stop by and give them the information: "The company is still bugging us on that health care co-pay. They want to open the contract to negotiate an increase because costs have gone up so much this year. We think this can wait until the end of the contract next year. We may need your support if we need to take some action."

And don't forget the effectiveness of putting words on paper. A well-written handout or flyer can sum up a complex issue in a few bulleted points. The advantage of having your material in writing is that a person's memory may fade or change, but the written word doesn't.

### 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](mailto:dcaswell@boilermakers.org). The editors also welcome nominations for Star Steward recognition.



# 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 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." □



This Local 647 crew is retrofitting Unit 3 at the Boswell Energy Center in Cohasset, Minn.



## KUDOS

### Turbosonic praises Local 92 for scrubber work

I RECENTLY did a job in Wilmington, Calif., at Conoco Phillips installing a wet scrubber system. Nooter Construction was the contractor.

Throughout the years, unions have left a bad taste in my mouth, but dealing with these Boilermakers I found a new appreciation for the professionalism these guys have, especially Alvin Manning, Patrick Talburt, Santiago Ramirez, Jose Huizar, Margarito Ibarra, Angel Ruiz, and Herman Alfaro [all members of Local 92, Los Angeles].

I told these men the importance of final alignment for the critical components. Not only did I never have to tell them again, but the quality was far beyond any job I have ever been on in my 15 years of experience.

I hope to be able to work with these craftsmen again on future projects.

SHANE SPOO  
field service manager  
TurboSonic Inc.  
Waterloo, Ontario

### 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 lower slope 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. GALIS  
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 (syncrude). Syncrude 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 friendlies," 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 lockout/tagout, materials 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 NTC instructor David Vallacqua volunteered to be part of the cast. Vallacqua played the role of a heat stress victim. High humidity and temperatures had the 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 pumper 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 appre-

ciate 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.

Videographer Stewart Turner of On Location Video films a MOST safety video at the Boilermaker National Training Center July 28. Assistant Sharon Murray watches the action.



## 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 1247 (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 16 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, unfair 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](http://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 toxin 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 not to bring contaminants home with them," said Mark Garrett, the Boilermakers' health and safety specialist. "Wearing proper gloves and decontaminating work clothes is essential."





# Union Tank Car closes



Company officials join Local 524 members in front of the last tank built at Union Tank Car in East Chicago, Ind. L-524's Rick Welton (last row at left in blue-plaid jacket) used a wireless transmitter to take this photo.

## Local 524 members are out of work

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."

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 Boilermaker 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.* □

# 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 accommodations for patients and their families who must travel to St. John's for cancer treatment.

"I want to thank our members for their help in raising \$50,000 for such a worthy cause," said Local 203 BM-ST Tom Walsh. "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. □

# 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. □



Apprentice Ryan Kilgour stands in front of the Local 105 union hall.



Local 203 officers and staff present a \$50,000 check to Rose Daley (far right) of the Daffodil Place Campaign. L. to r., BM-ST Tom Walsh, Darlene Ryan, Heather Greely, and Pres. Bill Healey.



## L-69's White thanks members after crash

**Boilermakers raise \$3,000 within 36 hours of accident**

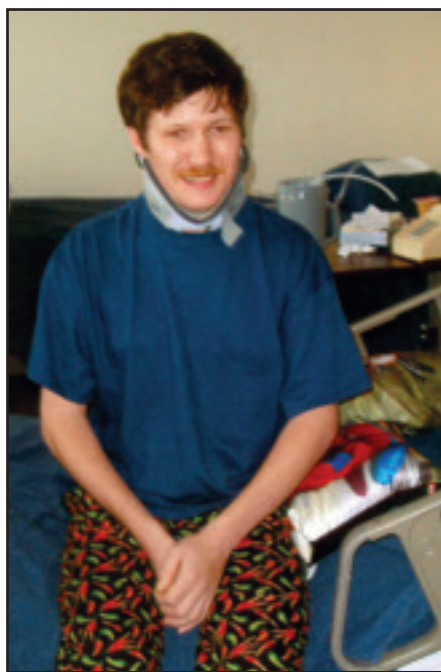
COREY WHITE, A nine-year member of Local 69 (Little Rock, Ark.) is glad to be alive today and thankful to his union brothers and sisters for seeing him through a horrendous accident last year.

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.**

"I was 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-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 appli-



**Discovery Channel's "How It's Made" films Local 5's Zone 175 members making vertical steam boilers for a show to be aired in the spring of 2009.**

cations 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. □

## 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.

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



**David Woodard, Thersa Myrick, and Terry Burk (l. to r.) accept a Can Do Spirit Award for their organizing efforts at Magic Aire.**

## 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.



**Representing Local 34 in a union softball tournament are, l. to r., Jeff Matzek, Rob Farwell, Darren Robinson, Ken Nelson, Anthony DaPrato, Roger Jackson, Dan Quinlan (coach), and Bryan Johnson. Not pictured are Justin McGilton and Laborer Daryl Johnson.**



# BOILERMAKER SCHOLARSHIP

## Winners

### 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 (Wampum, Pa.), earned the top scholarship award of \$3,000. An artist, Stephanie won Best of Show 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 Carlow 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.

**Allyson Graff**, daughter of Allan Graff, niece of Ken Graff, and granddaughter of Bill Graff, 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 the 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 13 (Philadelphia) and **Lauren Ward**, daughter of Ed Ward, Local Lodge 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) 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 plans to continue her studies this fall at Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn., once she completes a mission trip to Costa Rica this summer.

### Committee selects 32 \$1,000 award winners

THE COMMITTEE ALSO selected the following 32 scholarship winners to receive a \$1,000 grant.

**Steven 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 D414 (Pryor, Okla.), will be attending the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., where he plans to study meteorology.

**Ashley Bourgois**, daughter of Thomas Bourgois, 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 Mon-

tana 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 D79 (Demopolis, Ala.), plans to attend Troy University in Alabama.

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

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

**Monroe Griffin**, son of James Griffin, Local Lodge 197 (Albany, N.Y.), will be attending Wofford 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 Klintworth**, daughter of Susan Klintworth, 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 Lamblich**, daughter of Keith Lamblich, Local Lodge 726 (Owensboro, Ky.), will be attending Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky.

**Jessica Lee**, daughter of James Lee II, Local Lodge 290 (Bremerton, Wash.), has

### \$3,000 Scholarship Winner



Stephanie Wirtz  
Daughter of James Wirtz  
L-D173

### \$1,500 Scholarship Winners



Sean Goheen  
Son of Robert Goheen  
L-13



Lauren Ward  
Daughter of Ed Ward  
L-40

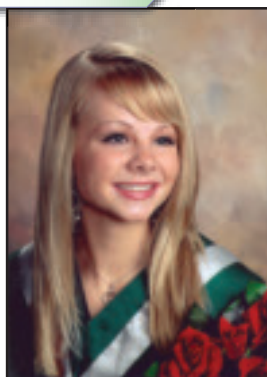
### \$2,000 Scholarship Winners



Aimee Bouffard  
Daughter of Paul Bouffard  
L-128



Kevin Boutilier  
Son of Paul Boutilier  
L-580



Allyson Graff  
Daughter of Allan Graff  
L-359



Michelle Maillet  
Daughter of Joseph Maillet  
L-73



Megan Miller  
Daughter of William Miller  
L-203



# \$1,000 Scholarship Winners



Steven Ambrose  
Son of Steve Ambrose  
L-7



Michael Bates  
Son of Bryce Bates  
L-D414



Ashley Bourgois  
Daughter of Thomas Bourgois  
L-647



Kellee Dunn  
Daughter of Steven Dunn  
L-169



Michelle Fane  
Daughter of Daniel Fane  
L-D81



Andrew Flowers  
Son of Marvin Flowers  
L-D79



Kristy Fons  
Daughter of Thomas Fons  
L-1509



Monroe Griffin  
Son of James Griffin  
L-197



Patrick Hanrahan  
Son of Timothy Hanrahan  
L-744



Daniel Hartsoe  
Son of M. Frank Hartsoe  
L-45



Nicole Jerome  
Daughter of Michael Jerome  
L-647



Kristen Kitzman  
Daughter of Kurt Kitzman  
L-154



Susan Klintworth  
Daughter of Susan Klintworth  
L-906



Meghan Lambrich  
Daughter of Keith Lambrich  
L-726



Nicole Leveillee  
Daughter of Roger Leveillee  
L-29



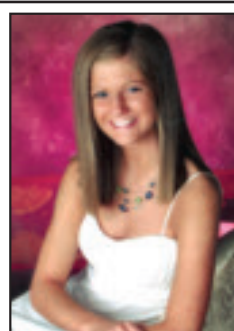
Marie Livesey  
Daughter of Brian Livesey  
L-28



Aleece Phillips  
Daughter of John Phillips  
L-4



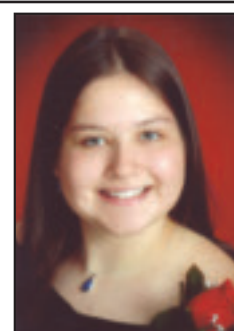
Rebecca Rafferty  
Daughter of Carl Rafferty  
L-500



Cassandra Robinson  
Daughter of Robert Cornelson  
L-744



Ryan Sprowl  
Son of Mark Sprowl  
L-154



Marie Stupnikov  
Daughter of William Stupnikov  
L-5



Jerrod Tidwell  
Son of Mark Tidwell  
L-455



Ashley Unzicker  
Daughter of Dallas Unzicker  
L-158



Sarah Voelker  
Daughter of Keith Voelker  
L-443



Emilee Waldron  
Stepdaughter of Gregory Peelman  
L-374



Ryan Worton  
Son of Barry Worton  
L-28

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 Phillips**, 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 phar-

macist. She will be attending Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore.

**Cassandra Robinson**, daughter of Robert Cornelson, 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 William Stupnikov, Local Lodge 5 (New York), will be attending Stony

Brook University in Stony Brook, N.Y.

**Jerrod 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 (Manitowoc, Wis.), 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.

**Michal 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 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).

**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 **Benjamin Pettipas**, son of Local 146 member Allan Pettipas, was chosen as a \$1,000 scholarship winner from four applicants to the Local 146 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. □



Katie Foster  
Daughter of Kenneth Foster  
L-146



Staci Sherman  
Daughter of Gordon Sherman  
L-D579

## 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.

## IEC scholarship program

SINCE 1988, WHEN the International began the scholarship program, the Boilermakers union has awarded a total of \$776,000 to 370 children and dependents of Boilermaker members. Serving on the 2008 IEC scholarship committee were Intl. Vice Presidents Ed Power (chairman), George Rogers, and Larry McManamon, assisted by attorney Joe Moreland, representing the legal firm of Blake & Uhlig. The committee spent days reviewing the applications and reading the student essays, and its

members were amazed by the caliber of the applicants.

"This is my third year to serve on the scholarship committee; my first as chairman," said IVP Power. "I can't begin to tell you how impressed I am by the scholarship applicants. These are some great kids with promising futures. I hope every lodge publicizes the 2009 scholarship program so we can maximize our opportunity to help our students continue their education." □

**"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

## FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN APPLY NOW! BOILERMAKER SCHOLARSHIPS



### BOILERMAKER

**SCHOLARSHIPS** are open to high school seniors who will be entering their first year of a two- or four-year academic program at a degree-granting, accredited college or university within one year of their high school graduation.

A dependent may be a son, daughter, legally-adopted child, or other dependent of an active, retired, disabled, or deceased member.

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

Applications for the 2009 awards will be available from your local lodge at the end of this year and will be accepted from January 1 to March 1, 2009. Applications postmarked after the March 1, 2009 deadline cannot be considered.

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

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

## Local 482 daughter wins Union Plus Scholarship

Alicia Hines is 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 afflicting 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 IBB 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.

Recipients 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



Alicia Hines, daughter of L-482 member Ernest Hines, is a recipient of a \$1,000 Union Plus Scholarship.

programs like these are more important than ever," said Leslie Tolf, 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](http://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](http://www.UnionPlus.org/Scholarships). □



## Locals 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, Connis H. Mercer, Donald E. Shumaker, Owen D. Simmons, C.E. Smith;

**50 YEARS** — Jerry C. Daugherty, Melvin Jeffords;

**45 YEARS** — James R. Lyons, James H. Spaulding, Robert R. Suttles;

**40 YEARS** — David H. Arnold, Perry L. Arnold, Vincent A. Bell, Roger D. Bratcher, Thomas W. Colvin, Alvin L. Dukes, Roy S. Gossett, Lonnie N. Guntharp, Joe W. Hopper, Garmon D. Kulmer, James Mannahan, Bobby H. Miller, Cecil L. Robinson, Dennis R. Ross;

**35 YEARS** — James E. Adkins Jr., Randolph Adkins, Joseph A. Angelone, Charles L. Bivens, Randall B. Boggs, Jimmy R. Bond, Robert D. Boyken, Richard W. Bratcher, Buster Clevenger, John K. Colegrove, Albert C. Colvin Jr., Daniel B. Criswell, Martin W. Drake, Delbert R. Duncan, Samuel H. Elliott, Joseph A. Gilles, Gregory B. Glidden, Gary D. Jackson, Francis J. Linton, Stephen Logsdon, Donald H. Mathis, Bruce W. Moore, Robert Murray, Marvin D. Prater, Ronald L. Renfrow, Michael F. Sharp, Terry T. Smith, Harold E. Tussey, David M. Ward, David E. Wilcox, Johnny D. Withrow, Edwin G. Woosley, Robert D. Young;

**30 YEARS** — Timothy W. Adkins, James E. Arnett, James D. Boggs, Steven S. Coons, Barry Coppage, James M. Dotson, David W. Embry, William M. Falin II, Rickey H. Fentress, Donnie D. Flener, Lanny G. Fowler, Michael W. Hardin, Billy R. Harper, Issac E. Helton III, Kenneth J. Jackson, Kenneth

W. Kays, Larry D. McGehee, Mike W. Neal, David K. Ogburn, Daniel R. Payton, James B. Rhoades, James E. Robertson, Louis J. Schanberger, Charles T. Smith, Boyd W. Suttles, Bobby W. Thomas, Paul R. Thomas, David W. Thurman, Danny E. Waggoner;

**25 YEARS** — Joel D. Daugherty, Jay A. Everett, Jeffrey L. Everly, Samuel G. Fulkerson, David W. Gossett, Robert E. Lee, William D. Logsdon, Joseph B. Mattingly, Brett A. Maupin, Donald L. McGuffin, Michael D. Mitchell, Byron K. Roberts, Todd S. Robinson, Clinton R. Sears, Don E. Thomas, Tony R. Young;

**20 YEARS** — Stephen C. Blissit, Rick Bridgmon, Jondal T. Burden Jr., Brett D. Denson, David R. Harlan, Jimmy D. Harris, Harry C. Hobdey Jr., Byron R. Maddox, Wyman L. Oller, Harold Glenn Riggs, Eric M. Ringstaff, Tommy Roach, Terry L. Welborn, Paul M. West; and

**15 YEARS** — Floyd C. Evans, Harold D. Gallion, Clay R. Harris, Jeffrey D. Harris, Jamie D. Holbrook, Benny D. Hopkins, Paul R. Johnson, Michael D. Lewis, Jerry McDavid, Lance Mercer, Calvin R. Minton, John A. Parsons, Mike Sexton, and Phillip D. Smith.



Marvin Lloyd Haines, L-92, 60-Year Mbr.

## 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.

Intl. 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.

Intl. Pres. C.W. Jones appointed Almond AIP in 1989, Field Director in 1994, and NTD Director in 1996. From 1999 until July 2008, Almond served as a trustee for the national pension, annuity, and health & welfare funds, and on the national apprenticeship committee.



Bill Almond, AIP and NTD Director, retires effective August 1.

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."

### 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;

**35 YEARS** — Richard C. Drolson, Norbert J. Frie, Leroy B. Goebel, Gary R. Holter, Arthur A. Kiffmeyer, Robert

A. Kleve, Gerald W. Konrad, Benedict P. Lapos, Jeffrey S. McPheeters, Paul S. Pendergast, Anthony J. Pilles Sr., Garry D. Ragle, Leslie G. Rinerson, Harlan C. Rost, Gary D. Strand;

**30 YEARS** — James Labrec Jr., Jay C. Marshall, Gordon A. Sykora, Mark H. Wynn;

**25 YEARS** — Oscar E. Anderson, Raymond Bliese;

**20 YEARS** — Roger L. Barron, Bennie W. Eide, Daniel J. Geurts, Bahram Nikrad, Randy D. Schmidt, Bruce W. Sundin; and

**15 YEARS** — Jerry D. Ballensky, Glenn A. Knutson, Jason A. Kuechle, Marco Pfeifer, David P. Ruby, James L. Wolf.

## 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 erector of tanks, pressure vessels, columns, and equipment for use in the food, grain, ethanol, hydrocarbon, 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.

Effective Dec. 14, 2006 to Dec. 14, 2010, for 149 members of Local D209, Speed, Ind., who make Portland cement at **Essroc**, a leading manufacturer of cement and concrete admixtures serving the cement and construction industries.

#### Local D314 — Daleville, Va.

Effective May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2011, for 85 members of Local D314, Daleville, Va., who work in the maintenance 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 make tanks at **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 L-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.**





### Money-Saving Programs for Members Only

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

**Union Plus Credit Card**  
Call: 1-800-522-4000

**Mortgage & Real Estate**  
Also open to children & parents of Boilermaker members.  
Call: 1-800-416-5786

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

**Personal Loans**  
Credit-qualified members are eligible for loans for a variety of uses.  
Call: 1-888-235-2759

**Legal Service**  
Discounted legal help — first 30 minutes are free.  
Call: 1-888-993-8886

**Life Insurance**  
For members, spouses, and children.  
Call: 1-800-393-0864

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

**Accident Insurance**  
Call: 1-800-393-0864

**Health Savings**  
Save on prescription medicines, hearing, dental, and vision care.  
Call: 1-877-570-4845

**Car Rental Discounts**  
Call and give the ID number:  
**Avis:** 1-800-698-5685  
AWD #B723700  
**Budget:** 1-800-455-2848  
BCD#V816100  
**Hertz:** 1-800-654-2200,  
CDP#205666

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

**AT & T Wireless Discounts**  
Visit: [www.UnionPlus.org/ATT](http://www.UnionPlus.org/ATT)

**Union Plus Moving Discount**  
Call: 1-800-234-1159

For information on these programs and other member-only benefits, go to [www.unionplus.org](http://www.unionplus.org)

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

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

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

NTL	Berry, Lawrence	45	Miller, James A.	128	Myette, Clarence R.	531	Bennett, Troy L.
NTL	Burgess, Earl	72	Bishop, Jesse W.	128	Nippard, Dorman B.	531	Rodgers, Richard D.
NTL	Gianaris, Daniel E.	72	Catlin, Ronald E.	128	Rieder, Eugene	531	Scuddy, Billy G.
NTL	Holloway, Glen R.	72	Jones, James L.	128	Thompson, Arthur	549	Alvarez, Jesse
NTL	Jackson, William K.	72	Katona, John C.	132	Mansky, John J.	549	Bradford, Winfred L.
NTL	Maxey, Harry C.	72	Lanford, Chester K.	146	Horban, Joseph W.	549	Butts, Bland E.
NTL	Miller, Joseph D.	72	Wilson, Charles A.	146	Hughes, Thomas	549	Johnson Jr., James
NTL	Prater, William R.	72	Wood, George W.	146	Karlson, Leonard R.	574	Carusone, Stefano
NTL	Rick, Michael L.	73	Allain, Omer	146	Metchewais, Blair B.	582	Gance, G.J.
NTL	Scott, Garry L.	73	Farrell, Leland J.	154	Boring, Gary W.	587	Chauvin, Earl A.
NTL	Strubler, William J.	73	Goguen, Paul	154	Guaetta, Carmen	587	Dumas, Baron T.
1	Marzilli, Ronald L.	73	Hardy, Roderic N.	154	Mobley, Travis R.	587	Murray, Albert A.
1	Welsh, Patrick J.	73	Pitre, Rheal	154	Rolison, James R.	592	Worley, Earl R.
4	Tom, Harry	74	Bain, James L.	159	Deets, Earl C.	614	Marshall, Richard A.
5	Bourn, Frank	83	Baker, Teddy J.	169	Wimmer, Frank W.	627	Gutierrez, Robert O.
5	Turnbull, Raymond	83	Breeden, Corey M.	193	Hawley, Ronald C.	627	Saole, Vainuu F.
6	Bartha, Charles	83	Dunaway, Larry W.	193	Johnson Jr., Ivan L.	636	Sullivan, Francis C.
6	Becker, Hollis E.	83	Dunkelberger, Rob	199	Thomas, Marshal	647	Shilts, Gordon D.
6	Davis, William L.	83	Kite, George L.	237	Hammill, Thomas P.	667	Barnette, Shelly L.
6	DelRosario, Jose R.	83	Koehly, John A.	242	Lee, Charles D.	667	Bennett, Samuel L.
6	Dunn, Charles E.	83	Robinson, Winton D.	271	Taylor, Gary	667	Boswell, Milton M.
6	Hulsey, Rex R.	83	Stimpson, Terry E.	290	Carey, S.P.	667	Deem, Darrell
6	Jolly, Raymond E.	85	Diemer, Dale F.	D351	Clavier, August	667	Kirk, James R.
6	Mataele, Tomasi	92	Babich, John R.	363	Sikora, Edward P.	667	Ludwig, Homer C.
7	Jenkins, Robert C.	92	Brownlow, Bertie A.	D366	Silveira, Gilbert D.	667	Withers, Richard H.
7	Przybyl, Ronald E.	92	Distefano, August V.	374	Bartow, Raymond A.	697	Rondorf, Dale W.
11	Cote, Leonard L.	92	Green, Harvey N.	374	Brumfield Jr., Harvey	729	Oglesby, William C.
D12	Ferroni, Alfred	92	Marinucci, William	374	Davis, Thomas L.	744	Freshley, Kenneth L.
13	Mertz, Clayton	101	Fish Jr., William	374	Hook, William A.	802	Marchina, George
13	Spera, Steven F.	101	Gannon, Phillip	374	Huffman, Earl D.	802	Ostan, David E.
19	Deshields, Warren S.	104	Frombach, Terrence	374	Serapin, Anthony J.	903	Chandler, Mark J.
26	Fisher, Roy W.	104	Hawkinson, Arthur	374	Shoemaker, David E.	1081	Nonno, Frank A.
26	Lane Jr., William G.	104	McKimson, Robert J.	374	Turner, Danny L.	1162	Albrecht, Harlan R.
26	Moore, Quinton A.	104	McNutt, Donald J.	449	Dietrich, Orville A.	1509	Blaize, Harold L.
26	Stockdill, Robert P.	104	Sanderson, Floyd R.	454	Barbee, Thea D.	1509	Braeger, Carl K.
D27	Lewis, Floyd	104	Spangler, Harry W.	454	Smith, Robert A.	1509	Friske, Norman H.
28	Ferrari, Louis	104	Voss, Harold E.	454	Travis, Chas T.	1509	Lien, Thelmer M.
30	Piner, Edward E.	105	Crabtree, Frank N.	455	Harper, James T.	1509	Thomas, Thomas
37	Arthur, Albert R.	107	Vertz, Floyd J.	470	Branch, Willie	1592	Barna, John
37	Raiford, Melvin S.	124	Piquette, Robert E.	483	Simmons, Maynard	1603	Kohl, Larry
37	Vede, Kirby J.	128	Geddes, William	487	Selner, Leonard A.	1668	Thompson, Wayne
40	Daniels, Robert E.	128	Lafontaine, Maurice	502	Johnson, Robert S.		
40	Southerland, Billy R.	128	Manojlovic, Momir	D508	Fleischmann, Ken		

DEATH BENEFITS				IF YOU HAVE NOT yet been furnished this information, contact your local lodge, secure the beneficiary forms, complete the required information and forward to the Administrative Office of the Pension Fund, 754 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 522, Kansas City, KS 66101, at the earliest possible date. NOTE: These additional death benefits can only be derived for members who worked under a collective bargaining agreement with an employer contributing to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust.			
LODGE, NAME & BENEFIT							
	1	Latuszek, Frank F.	6,000.00				
	1	Stoner, Lawrence L.	6,000.00				
	6	Bartha, Charles	6,000.00				
	6	Becker, Hollis E.	6,000.00				
	6	Davis, William L.	6,000.00				
	6	DelRosario, Jose R.	6,000.00				
	6	Fowler, Ben H.	6,000.00				
	6	Gomez, Damian S.	6,000.00				
	6	Haines, Harold L.	6,000.00				
	6	Lococo, Santo F.	6,000.00				
	6	Martinez, Robert C.	6,000.00				
	6	Nelson, Charles A.	6,000.00				
	6	Nisewaner, Peter B.	6,000.00				
	6	Privett, Edward Ray	6,000.00				
Intl.		Bechtholdt, Henry	\$6,000.00				
Intl.		Clavier, August	6,000.00				
NTL		Felps, Jerry G.	6,000.00				
NTL		Genseal, Robert J.	15,000.00				
NTL		Jones, Laura T.	4,500.00				
NTL		McCan, Samuel O.	6,000.00				
NTL		McElroy, Theodore	6,000.00				
NTL		Simpson, Troy L.	6,000.00				
NTL		Stinson, Jesse L.	6,000.00				
1		Drake, John	6,000.00				
1		Finley, Robert J.	6,000.00				
1		Johnson, William V.	6,000.00				
	6	Sandoval, Jerome C.	6,000.00				
	6	Thomas, Charles E.	6,000.00				
	6	Wentzel, William E.	6,000.00				
	7	Broecker, Donald C.	3,000.00				
	7	Jenkins, Robert C.	6,000.00				
	7	Leising, Gerard	6,000.00				
	13	Sell, Gerald W.	6,000.00				
	19	Thompson, William	678.05				
	26	Mimbs, Herdron	6,000.00				
	27	Anderson, Robert W.	6,000.00				

See DEATH BENEFITS, page 23

### Moving? Tell us where . . .

Name

New Address

City

State or Province

Zip

Local Lodge No.

Register No.

E-Mail Address

### 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

27	Oldham, George L.	6,000.00	92	Swantz, Howard P.	6,000.00	237	May, Richard J.	884.75	587	Owens, James S.	4,000.00
28	Burke Sr., William F.	11,000.00	92	Van Winkle, Silas W.	3,000.00	242	Krassin, A.D.	6,000.00	587	Rash, Charles H.	6,000.00
28	Grasso, Andrew H.	11,000.00	101	Dugan, William M.	6,000.00	242	Mankin, Robert P.	6,000.00	587	Smith, William D.	6,000.00
28	Rhein, Robert J.	6,000.00	104	Abrams, George J.	6,000.00	242	Wanous, Roger W.	3,000.00	587	White, Allen	6,000.00
28	Roe, Clarence M.	6,000.00	104	Eidsness, Thomas J.	6,000.00	263	Chaney, Timothy W.	15,000.00	590	Jones, Gene L.	6,000.00
29	Cirino, Samuel J.	6,000.00	104	Erickson, Carl Philip	6,000.00	316	Howell, Kenrick W.	6,000.00	590	Mitchell, Pearl B.	6,000.00
29	Green, Charles	6,000.00	104	Harrison, Fred Jay	2,000.00	358	Lucas, Murry	6,000.00	592	Johnson, Homer W.	6,000.00
37	Farr, Edward F.	6,000.00	104	Johnston, Albert F.	6,000.00	374	Brumfield Jr., Harvey	6,000.00	592	McCollum, Joseph P.	3,000.00
37	Raiford, Melvin S.	6,000.00	104	Keene, Kenneth M.	6,000.00	374	Crow, Harry J.	6,000.00	627	Carter, David A.	501.00
40	Cleary, Nicholas C.	6,000.00	104	Kenfield, Dennis L.	6,000.00	374	Huffman, Earl D.	3,000.00	627	Evans, Dennis L.	6,000.00
40	Daniels, Robert E.	967.50	104	Laigo, Benjamin A.	11,606.48	374	Mosca, Frank	6,000.00	627	Rymer, O.N.	6,000.00
40	Gracae, John P.	107.44	104	Mooney, Bob R.	6,000.00	374	Sampson, Melvin E.	6,000.00	627	Seifarh, Patrick A.	15,000.00
40	Hudgins Jr., Perry E.	6,000.00	104	Moretz, Fred A.	6,000.00	374	Serapin, Anthony J.	6,000.00	638	Ashman, Raymond	6,000.00
40	Lewis, Robert C.	6,000.00	104	Mun, Kun S.	6,000.00	374	Shaw, James L.	6,000.00	647	Engler, Raymond B.	6,000.00
40	Raymer, Jesse D.	6,000.00	104	Norheim, Arnold M.	6,000.00	374	Ulaskas, William C.	6,000.00	647	Majerus, Allen M.	6,000.00
45	Rogers Sr., Ronnie	6,000.00	104	Olson, Orwin C.	6,000.00	433	Devoy, Ronald L.	6,000.00	651	MacDowell, Dorothy	6,000.00
60	Shonkwiler, Charles	6,000.00	104	Payne, Kathryn	6,000.00	433	Jackson, Carl C.	6,000.00	667	Cote, Leonard L.	6,000.00
60	Wolfe Sr., Earl S.	6,000.00	104	Riddle, Lawrence	6,000.00	433	Miley, Gordon H.	6,000.00	667	Dodson, James L.	6,000.00
72	Alexander, Ferd F.	6,000.00	104	Schocko, Glen H.	6,000.00	449	Dietrich, Earl	6,000.00	667	King, William R.	6,000.00
72	Aszman, E.D.	6,000.00	104	Slye, Harry J.	6,000.00	449	Halverson, Elton S.	6,000.00	667	Kirk, James R.	6,000.00
72	Catlin, Ronald E.	6,000.00	104	Stewart, Donald J.	6,000.00	449	Karstaedt, Richard	6,000.00	667	Withers, Richard J.	6,000.00
72	Delgado, Nicolas P.	6,000.00	104	Straight, Herbert G.	6,000.00	449	Osborne, Earl R.	6,000.00	673	Deets, Earl C.	6,000.00
72	Dubay, Eugene J.	6,000.00	104	Van Dyk, Alvin	6,000.00	454	Evans, Charles F.	6,000.00	673	Wolensky Jr., Stephen	6,000.00
72	Farmer, Robert W.	6,000.00	104	Waugaman, William	6,000.00	455	Green, Gerald B.	6,000.00	679	Vann, Eugene C.	6,000.00
72	Hurd, Howard L.	6,000.00	104	Wong, Alfred Y.	3,000.00	455	Jones, Casey T.	6,000.00	696	Fifarek, Roger L.	6,000.00
72	Marble, Donald E.	6,000.00	105	Corde, Charles B.	15,000.00	455	Moore, Billy W.	6,000.00	696	Forsstrom, Goran	3,000.00
72	Ougheltree, Wallace	6,000.00	105	Crabtree, Frank N.	6,000.00	469	Branch, Willie	6,000.00	696	Longtine, Ward J.	2,000.00
72	Scholz, Gerhard	6,000.00	105	Detmer, Lyle W.	6,000.00	D472	Joseph, Louis	6,000.00	696	Majkrzak, Frank T.	6,000.00
72	Spence, Richard L.	6,000.00	105	Flaugher, William L.	1,921.50	500	Coultas, Wayne	3,000.00	697	Randall, Luke E.	8,051.09
74	Cornwall, Francis K.	6,000.00	107	Taylor, Cecil J.	4,000.00	500	Heidtke, Ray L.	6,000.00	744	Lavery, Douglas M.	4,476.78
74	Holstein, Harold L.	6,000.00	108	Hogg, Henry E.	6,000.00	500	Reese, Otto A.	2,259.00	744	McLarty, John M.	6,000.00
74	Lee, James H.	6,000.00	110	Hall, James L.	6,000.00	500	Roberts, Richard D.	6,000.00	744	Sawicki, Donlad S.	2,461.26
74	Orsak, Ernest	3,000.00	112	Moose, Harwell	6,000.00	502	Hallock, Daniel B.	6,000.00	802	Burgoon, William H.	6,000.00
74	Peterson, John A.	1,006.00	112	Noble Jr., J.W.	6,000.00	531	Bennett, Troy L.	6,000.00	802	Farrar, William L.	5,142.86
74	Smith, James Max	6,000.00	112	Russ, Adolph M.	6,000.00	531	White, James R.	6,000.00	802	Koziol, Albin B.	6,000.00
74	Tabor, Homer W.	6,000.00	117	Lundeen, Donald R.	6,000.00	531	Williams, Clyde	2,000.00	806	Rustark, Stella	6,000.00
74	White, John L.	6,000.00	132	Fichera, Joseph J.	6,000.00	549	Alvarez, Jesse	6,000.00	807	Kennedy, Reuben E.	6,000.00
83	Baker, Teddy Joe	6,000.00	132	Rowlett, Joseph N.	6,000.00	549	Bradford, Winferd	6,000.00	807	Lomano, Rosario S.	6,000.00
83	Johnson, Russell D.	400.00	154	Black, Elmer D.	6,000.00	549	Butts, Bland E.	2,000.00	807	Seither, Henry J.	6,000.00
83	Miller, Gary D.	6,000.00	154	Boring, Gary W.	6,000.00	549	Cataland, John J.	6,000.00	1086	Gibney Jr., John	6,000.00
83	Robinson, Winton D.	6,000.00	154	Geran, Joseph	6,000.00	549	Caughey, Samuel	6,000.00	1162	Albrecht, Harlan R.	6,000.00
84	Guilfoyle, Robert W.	6,000.00	154	Leddy, Thomas F.	6,000.00	549	Daigh, Richard L.	1,647.57	1234	Boyd, Roosevelt	6,000.00
84	Pretz, Ralph J.	6,000.00	154	McDowell, Michael	6,000.00	549	Klein, Richard W.	6,000.00	1234	Reaux, Lumas A.	6,000.00
85	Haeft, Robert C.	6,000.00	154	McKernan III, James	6,000.00	549	McCue, Stanley	6,000.00	1234	Santiago, Jose	6,000.00
85	Pettit, McHenry	3,000.00	169	Curtis, John W.	6,000.00	549	Murbach, Robert F.	6,000.00	1234	Walsh, Joseph M.	6,000.00
85	Roughton, Larry E.	6,000.00	169	Tishner, William M.	6,000.00	549	Runyan, John R.	6,000.00	1240	Dutton, Herman	4,000.00
92	Dahl, William E.	6,000.00	169	Wimmer, Frank	6,000.00	549	St. Louis, Howard	3,000.00	1240	Estes, Willie	6,000.00
92	Estrada, Rolando	6,000.00	169	Wojtowicz, Robert F.	2,015.42	568	Maskule, Michael	6,000.00	1248	Stelmach, Stanley	6,000.00
92	Hobbs, James L.	6,000.00	175	England, Harold W.	6,000.00	568	Mason, John J.	6,000.00	1509	Hauser, George R.	6,000.00
92	Lahman, David L.	15,000.00	177	Kielpikowski, Joe H.	4,000.00	582	Chemin, David E.	6,000.00	1509	Muszynski, Leo S.	6,000.00
92	Lopez, Juan F.	6,000.00	193	Johnson, Lennox A.	6,000.00	582	Sheffield, James T.	3,000.00	1509	Rudelich, Samuel J.	6,000.00
92	Phillips III, William	6,000.00	193	Norwood, Daryll	568.75	583	Alverson, John T.	6,000.00	1509	Wrobel, Helen	6,000.00
			193	Roberts, John I.	6,000.00	583	Broglin, Robert W.	6,000.00	1592	Barna, John	6,000.00
			202	Sorce, Phillip J.	6,000.00	584	Daigle, Ray R.	3,158.72	1600	Nelsen, Nels M.	4,000.00
			204	Kane, Raymond K.	6,000.00	587	Chauvin, Earl A.	6,000.00	1670	Rogers, Percy H.	3,000.00
			237	Jensen, Carl	233.97	587	Nichols, E.L.	6,000.00	2000	Williams, Kevin R.	3,530.40

A NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES SUBJECT TO UNION SECURITY CLAUSES

EMPLOYEES WORKING UNDER collective bargaining agreements containing union security clauses are required, as a condition of employment, to pay either monthly dues or fees to the union. This is their only obligation to the union, regardless of the wording of the clauses. Individuals who are members of the Boilermakers pay monthly dues. Individuals who are not members pay fees.

These dues and fees, which are authorized by law, represent your fair share of sustaining the broad range of programs offered by the Boilermakers in support of you and your fellow workers. The most important job right you can have is the right to collective bargaining. The working conditions of all bargaining unit employees are improved immeasurably when the union gains higher wages, better health care and pensions, fairness in the disciplinary system, overtime pay, vacations, and many other improvements in working conditions at the bargaining table.

Because they negotiate together through their union, employees who are represented by a union typically receive higher wages and better benefits than nonunion workers doing similar jobs in the same industry. Strength in numbers is what makes this possible. The stronger your union, the better your contract. We urge all employees to participate and become part of your labor organization.

An objecting nonmember who is subject to a union security clause has a legal right to file objections to funding expenditures which are not germane to the collective bargaining process. Fee-paying nonmembers who choose to file such objections should advise the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers in writing, in the form of a letter, signed by the objector, and sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, 753 State Ave., Suite 565, Kansas City, KS 66101. The letter must contain the objector's home address and local lodge number, if known.

Upon receipt of the objection, the International President shall provide a description of the procedures to be followed. This objection must be filed every year during the month of November, or within the first 30 days in which the objector is required to pay dues or fees to the union, or within 30 days after the objector becomes a nonmember.

Examples of expenditures germane to the collective bargaining process are those made for the negotiation, enforcement, and administration of collective bargaining agreements, meetings with employer and union representatives, proceedings on behalf of workers under the grievance procedure, arbitration proceedings, servicing the bargaining units that we represent, internal union administration, and matters related to these activi-

ties. Examples of expenditures not germane to the collective bargaining process are those made for political purposes, for general community service, for charitable activities, for non-worker related legislative activities, for members-only benefits, and for certain affiliation costs.

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;
- to participate in strike votes; and
- to numerous other benefits available only to members, such as those described above and in the Union Plus programs described on pages 21-23.

It is clearly to your advantage to continue to be a full, active member of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

Only through unity and solidarity can we better our working conditions and reap benefits for ourselves and our families. □



# McCain presidency would be disaster for working families

## McCain doesn't understand workers; Obama does

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 U.S. port be built in the United States. He opposes "Buy American" laws.

He opposes 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 a 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 determine whether it imposes a burden on employers.

He voted to use the Social Security surplus to pay off the national debt — one year after voting for the Bush tax cuts that added \$2 trillion to that debt. Now he proposes raising the minimum retirement age and reducing cost of living raises, but refuses to consider making high-income wage earners pay the same Social Security tax rate as low income wage earners.

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.

John 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 to 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 when his paycheck wouldn't stretch to cover all his needs.

Now he is married to an heiress himself, the daughter of a successful beer distributor. Their combined wealth is nearly \$100 million. I don't begrudge them their money, but I want you to understand why he cannot relate to the life you live. When a reporter asked him how many homes he and his wife own, he said he'd have one of his staff look into that and get back.

He couldn't remember how many houses he owned! A person with 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 does understand 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. No candidate since John F. Kennedy has invigorated the nation's

*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.*

youth as 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.

## The choice is yours

ON ELECTION DAY, you will vote as your conscience dictates. Who you support is your decision 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](http://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 give companies tax breaks for cre-



**Newton B. Jones**  
International President

ating jobs in the United States, or the one who said, "I firmly object to Buy American laws."

You can vote for the candidate who supports the Employee Free Choice Act, or the one who supports a national so-called "right-to-work" law that eliminates union security in collective bargaining agreements.

You can vote for a champion of the working people who knows how to work with unions, or the one who believes the right to unionize amounts to "class warfare."

You can vote for the candidate who promises a change from the failed policies of the Bush administration, or the one who has supported President Bush 89 percent of the time.

You can vote for the candidate who understands the struggles and needs of working families and has dedicated his life to helping us improve our lives, or the one who consistently opposes the laws that help working families.

You can vote for the candidate who has promised to 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](http://www.boilermakers.org).*

## Letters to the Editor

### 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  
ARLYN OLANDER, 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 May 26.  
He was only 24.

MARTY, JERI, 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 rewards it with a few basic guarantees — wages that can raise a family, health care if we get sick, a retirement that is dignified, working conditions that are safe.

We're in this together, and I appreciate all you're doing. Together, we will create the change we seek.

BARACK OBAMA  
Democratic presidential nominee

SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:  
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E-mail: [dcastwell@boilermakers.org](mailto:dcastwell@boilermakers.org)