



The Boilermaker Reporter

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

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Union holds first-ever Industrial Sector conference



Delegates make on-the-spot telephone calls to their congressional representatives in Washington, D.C., during a presentation by Bridget Martin, Director of Political Affairs.

200 delegates attend from across United States and Canada

NEARLY 200 MEMBERS representing 101 U.S. and Canadian Boilermaker lodges gathered in Kansas City, Mo., July 21-23 to attend the very first Industrial Sector conference. The event, which took place at the Hilton Airport Hotel, included plenary meetings for all participants as

well as 41 break-out sessions that focused on specific industries.

Forty-eight guest speakers and Boilermaker presenters addressed the delegates on a wide range of topics, from safety to conducting an audit, to grievances and arbitration. Vendors such as the Brotherhood Bank, the Union Sportsmen's Alliance, and Biden & Caveney (a benefits company), set up displays and passed out information.

The conference featured presentations from government officials representing the Department of Labor, the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, and the National Labor Relations Board. Also taking part were attorneys from Blake & Uhlig, the Boilermaker National Funds office, and International staff.

"This conference was incredibly successful," said Jim Pressley, Executive Director - Industrial

See IS CONFERENCE page 2

Local 73's Matteau wins Canadian apprentice contest

Title is first for Halifax, Nova Scotia, lodge

FOR THE FIRST time in the 16-year history of the Canadian apprenticeship competition, a candidate from Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) has won first place. Jason Matteau, 33, took the top spot in a field of seven graduate apprentices from across Canada. The announcement came during the June 18 awards banquet held in Oakville, Ontario, near Local 128 (Toronto). "Local 73 — we got it!" exclaimed a jubilant Matteau, as he accepted the trophy.

The event also scored another first. It was the first time a local



Local 73's Jason Matteau accepts the first-place trophy from Industry Award of Excellence winner Fabian Tompkins, I., with Canadian National Apprentice Coordinator Grant Jacobs at right.

See COMPETITION, page 12

IS CONFERENCE

continued from page 1

Sector Operations. "Since it was our first such event, we were anticipating about 100 participants. We doubled that number, and we ended up using three hotels to accommodate the delegates. There was a wealth of information and expertise available to the participants. The feedback we've received has been very positive."

Pressley added, "One of the things we are pleased with is just how attentive our members were at the break-outs. The attendance was excellent at every session. Our members clearly came to learn."

Conference reflects IBB restructuring

THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR conference reflects a new organizational model for the Brotherhood. In the past, industrial lodges generally interacted within their own industries — ship-building and marine; cement, lime and gypsum; stove and metal; railroad; forging; boiler shop; and manufacturing. Now all of those industries are covered under the same service and support structure, with a department dedicated specifically to those lodges — the Industrial Sector Services Department. International Vice President Warren Fairley represents the interests of the Industrial Sector on the International Executive Council.



Intl. Vice Pres. Warren Fairley discusses his role as an advocate for Industrial Sector lodges.

"My role is kind of unique," said Fairley. "I am an advocate for all Industrial Sector lodges — no matter where they are located. I work in close coordination with the regional International Vice Presidents, who oversee the lodges in their respective geographic areas. We take a cooperative approach to address the needs of the IS lodges."

Construction lodges, which hold their own annual conference, have also been brought under one organizational structure — Construction Sector Operations (CSO) — which is headed by Kyle Evenson, Executive Director. The Construction Division, National Transient Division, and Non-Destructive Testing Division now receive services and support through CSO.

Intl. Pres. Newton Jones said the Industrial Sector conference "pre-



Intl. Pres. Newton Jones addresses the first-ever Industrial Sector conference July 21.

sented an opportunity to train together, to share experiences, and to build camaraderie across industries." He added, "I believe our members in non-construction Boilermaker industries are excited to belong under one umbrella, with a new sense of direction."

Jones recalled how mergers over past decades brought together unions with diverse backgrounds, noting that each new merger partner was "plugged in" to the Boilermaker organization in a way that was functional and appropriate at the time. However, as industries continue to evolve, the Brotherhood must adapt as well, he said. Referring both to the Industrial Sector and the Construction Sector, Jones said, "Now all the common interests have come together."

Leadership reports on state of the union

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR DELEGATES heard from International leadership on topics ranging from the Brotherhood's finances to legislation of vital importance to Boilermaker members. IP Jones explained that despite the economic downturn the Brotherhood remains strong.

"We're still operating quite well during a period when the economy is down, our investments are down, and we're not seeing the investment income that we would normally see and have seen in the past," he said. "This year we're on track for about a \$1 million increase in the budget. We remain very excited about the future of this organization."

Intl. Sec.-Treas. Bill Creeden reported that the Brotherhood had finished the best year ever at the end of fiscal year 2008 (June 30 of last year) — before world economies headed into a steep recession later that fall. "We are still in good shape," he said. The most recent financial report shows a net worth of \$69 million. The union also retains an ownership in the Brotherhood Bank worth approximately \$20 million.

Creeden noted that membership was up slightly from a year ago (as of June 2009), standing at 63,411. "That's a little more than what we had at the end of the November 2008 elections, so there will not be a contingency increase under 12.2.3 of the Constitution in January [of 2010]." The Boilermaker Constitution requires a per

capita increase if membership drops below the previous fiscal year's level.

IP Jones also highlighted some of the critical legislation that the Brotherhood is backing in Washington, D.C., including a national energy policy, health care reform, and the Employee Free Choice Act.

"We're very much involved in the energy debate going on in Congress," he said. "Abe Breehey, Director of Legislative Affairs, has been spectacular in helping to fashion a bill that will work for this organization. We're focused on maintaining the use of coal through cleaner coal technologies. It's very important to this organization. You're talking about \$180 billion in investments in clean coal technology over the next decade or thereabout."

Government presentations draw strong interest

MEMBERS INTERESTED IN information about federal programs took advantage of opportunities offered by presenters from the Department of Labor (DOL), the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), and other agencies.

Patricia Preston, assistant district director for the DOL's Wage and Hour Division, spoke about recent changes to the Family and Medical Leave Act. Fran Gray, lead benefits advisor with



Glenn Tarkowski, director of mediation services for the FMCS Minneapolis Sub-region, explains how his agency works to resolve labor-management disputes.



Fran Gray, lead benefits advisor with the DOL's Employee Benefits Security Administration, brings members up to speed on the changes to COBRA.



Patricia Preston, left, with the Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division, discusses the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) with delegates following a presentation.

the Boilermaker Reporter

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Newton B. Jones, International President and Editor-in-Chief

William T. Creeden, Intl. Secretary-Treasurer

International Vice Presidents

Lawrence McManamon, Great Lakes
Sean Murphy, Northeast
Sam May, Southeast
Tom Baca, Western States
Joe Maloney, Western Canada
Ed Power, Eastern Canada
Warren Fairley, Industrial Sector (at-Large)

Editorial staff

Donald Caswell, Managing Editor
Carol Almond, Asst. to the Managing Editor
Mike Linderer, Writer and Editor
Mary Echols, Publications Specialist

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mechols@boilermakers.org
The Boilermaker Reporter
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A prize-winning newspaper



Nearly 200 delegates from Industrial Sector lodges across the United States and Canada attend the conference in Kansas City, Mo.



Daniel Hubbel, director of the NLRB's Region 17, describes how and when to file unfair labor practice (ULP) charges.



Phillip Boleyn, track safety inspector for the Federal Railroad Administration in Kansas City, discusses safety practices and policies with members in the railroad industry.



Jim Pressley, ED-ISO, makes a point during one of the 41 break-out sessions.

the DOL's Employee Benefits Security Administration, brought members up to speed on the changes to COBRA. Michael Stabler, regional solicitor for the DOL's Region VII, spoke about donning and doffing (changing into and out of work clothes) issues. Glenn Tarkowski, director of mediation services for the FMCS Minneapolis Sub-region, explained services offered by his agency. And Daniel Hubbel, director of the NLRB's Region 17, described how and when to file unfair labor practice (ULP) charges.

Other speakers represented the Federal Railroad Administration, the DOL's Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Program, the Railroad Retirement Board, the Mine Safety and Health Administration, health insurance providers, and the Special Emergency Response Team.

Members report on conference experiences

FEEDBACK FORMS COMPLETED by conference participants showed an enthusiastic response and an overall approval rating of more than 90 percent. The event was not without a few glitches, though. Due to the large number of speakers and presenters, some members reported that additional time was needed to go into more detail on key topics. Others

thought longer breaks were needed between sessions.

"We are taking all of the participants' suggestions and concerns seriously," said ED-ISO Pressley, "and we'll be making refinements and improvements for the next conference. We expect next year's event will be even better."

Bridget Martin, Director of Political Affairs, said she was extremely pleased by the high-level of participation in fund raising for the Campaign Assistance Fund (CAF), the Boilermakers' political action committee. "Participants at the IS conference generated more than \$4,000," she said. "That's the largest single amount contributed at any conference I can recall."

The conference also set a record in sign-ups for the Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA), an outdoor club just for union members, which is affiliated with the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership. "We had nearly half of all conference participants join the USA," said Nate Whiteman, the group's national recruitment coordinator. "As a percentage, it was the highest sign-up we've ever had at a national event."

The International has already begun developing plans for next year's conference, which will be held at a location yet to be confirmed. □



Michael Stabler, regional solicitor for the DOL's Region VII, speaks about donning and doffing and the Fair Labor Standards Act.



IVP/IS Warren Fairley explains the problems Boilermaker locals are having with Lafarge, the world's largest cement company, to the ICEM executive committee in Geneva, Switzerland, June 23.

IEC members attend ICEM executive meeting

Boilermakers draw attention to problems with Lafarge, learn how ICEM works

IN JUNE, MEMBERS of the Boilermakers' International Executive Council (IEC) and staff attended an executive meeting of the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions (ICEM) in Geneva, Switzerland. Just as the AFL-CIO unites U.S. trade unions in order to wield more power against U.S. corporations, ICEM unites industrial unions worldwide in order to be more effective in dealing with multinational corporations. Currently, ICEM includes more than 460 industrial trade unions which collectively represent more than 20 million workers in 132 countries.

Boilermaker International officers attended the executive meeting so they could better understand how the ICEM works and how we might use the power of those 20 million workers more effectively. They also took a message to the meeting: In the United States, Lafarge, the world's largest cement company, is not abiding by the ICEM Global Framework Agreement it signed in 2005.

ICEM's Global Framework Agreements (GFAs) encourage multinational corporations to adhere to high standards on trade union rights; health, safety and environmental practices; and quality of work principles across a company's entire global operations. By signing a GFA, the company agrees to maintain these standards even where they are not required by a country's laws. The GFA Lafarge

signed with ICEM included, among other things, a promise to adhere to high labor rights standards in every country where it does business. But in the United States, at least, Lafarge has not kept their end of the bargain.

IVP/IS Warren Fairley made the Brotherhood's case. The ICEM executive was receptive, and Boilermaker IP Newton Jones expects the ICEM Materials Sector Committee to take action against Lafarge at their November meeting. "With a show of worldwide solidarity, we may succeed in halting Lafarge's union-busting activities," he said. IP Jones chairs the Materials Sector Committee, which includes unions in the cement, ceramics, and glass industries.

President Jones asked IEC members to attend the June meeting in order to show our union's resolve to be strong against a tough opponent, but he also wanted them to see firsthand how an international confederation operates and to learn what U.S. unions are up against. What they learned was sometimes disturbing.

"It was eye-opening," IVP Tom Baca said after the meeting, "to hear delegates from several countries — including some third-world countries — tell us how bad they felt about the weak labor laws in the United States."

Attending the ICEM meeting were IP Jones; IST William Creeden; IVPs Larry McManamon (Great Lakes), Sam May (Southeast), Ed Power (Eastern Canada), Fairley (Industrial Sector), and Baca (Western States); ED-ISO/D-AAIP James A. Pressley; and D-CED/SAIP Donald Caswell. □

District Lodge D11 holds conference

Cement lodges discuss steward certification, bylaws, and revenue reporting

CEMENT DISTRICT LODGE D11 held its annual conference for training and information sharing July 7-9 in Kimberly, British Columbia, for union leaders representing the district's 13 affiliated lodges.

Meeting topics included the Canadian Steward Certificate Level 2 Program, conducted by Intl. Rep Richard MacIntosh, and local lodge bylaws and revenue summary reports, presented by instructors from the International's Industrial Sector Services Department (ISSD) — Tracy Buck, Jackie Judy, and Gary Powers. On July 9, Bus. Mgr. Rob Lauzon and ABM Kevin Forsyth discussed general business for the district lodge.

"We meet each year to share information and to form policies that are good for all of our affiliated lodges," Lauzon reported. "This conference has proven to be a great opportunity to train local lodge leaders so we can improve service to our members."

Formed in 1984 when the Cement, Lime, Gypsum, and Allied Workers Union merged with the Boilermak-

ers, District Lodge D11 represents about 900 members in the cement, wall board, and quarrying industries. Affiliated lodges include, in Alberta, Locals D331 (Exshaw), D345 (Calgary), and D359 and D513 (both in Edmonton); in British Columbia, Locals D277 (Bamberton), D385 and D400 (both in Vancouver), D479 (Invermere), D486 (New Westminster), and D503 (Kamloops); and in Manitoba, Locals D274 and D505 (both in Winnipeg), and D575 (Moosehorn).

Local lodge leaders attending the July conference included Claude Bibeau, Cyril Jennings, George Lister, and Kevin Mathews (Local D331); Stuart Bilodeau, Larry Blazeiko, and Glen Rosseker (Local D359); Gregg Dunning and Richard Smith (Local D385); Fred Mayer (Local D479); Steve Holt, Bill Hunt, Harpareet Kalirai, Dave McMillan, and Jeffrey Riad (Local D486); Murray Adolph, Francis Alec, Shawn Becker, and Steve Robinson (Local D503); Joe Diberardino, Michael Rezko, and Kevin Sheptycki (Local D513).

For more information on Cement District Lodge D11, please visit www.boilermaker.ca, click on "Lodges" (in menu bar at far right), then choose "Cement Division – West" (from the lodge listing at left). □



Local leaders from seven affiliated lodges attend the annual conference of Cement District Lodge D11, July 7-9, in Kimberly, British Columbia.

Reporter wins ILCA awards

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR Communications Association (ILCA) has announced the winners of its 2009 Labor Media Contest for publications issued in 2008, selecting *the Boilermaker Reporter* for the following awards:

- First award for best informational graphic;
- Third award for best publication;
- Third award for best series of articles;
- Third award for best organizing story; and
- Honorable mention for best photo essay.





Contact your senators!
Demand a cap-and-trade bill with job protections.

We need an energy bill that protects jobs as well as the environment

ONE WAY OR another, the federal government will soon begin acting on the issue of global warming. Either an energy bill with a cap-and-trade program to lower greenhouse gases will pass Congress and be signed by President Obama, or the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will begin using its regulatory authority to lower emissions.

A recent U.S. Supreme Court decision gave EPA the authority to regulate carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions under the Clean Air Act if Congress fails to pass legislation, and the agency has opened the door to their involvement by issuing a finding that greenhouse gases endanger the public health and welfare by contributing to climate change.

Boilermaker Director of Legislative Affairs Abe Breehey says we can't afford to leave such a complex and far-reaching problem to the EPA. The Clean Air Act was written over 30 years ago to address local and regional pollution problems. Using it to address global warming could cause significant economic harm and would be unlikely to accomplish much environmental good.

"We absolutely need an energy bill that contains a workable cap-and-



"Doing nothing is not an option.

*With the right provisions,
 the energy bill can significantly
 reduce greenhouse emissions
 without wrecking the economy,
 and create thousands of
 Boilermaker jobs building new
 pollution control technology."*

— Abe Breehey, Boilermaker
 Director of Legislative Affairs

trade program," he explains. "That is the fastest, most cost-efficient way to lower CO₂ emissions. But our domestic efforts must be coupled with a global strategy. If we insist that U.S. businesses lower their emissions, then we must also insist that our global partners and competitors make a comparable effort."

Breehey favors an "international reserve allowance" that would adjust the price of energy-intensive imports to account for carbon content, in effect imposing a "carbon tariff" on imports from countries that don't lower their emissions. The House energy bill contains such a provision.

Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman agrees. In his daily blog, he explained that "there's perfectly sound economics behind border adjustments related to cap-and-trade. . . If you only impose restrictions on greenhouse gas emissions from domestic sources, you give consumers no incentive to avoid purchasing products that cause emissions in other countries."

He went on to say that carbon tariffs would probably be allowed under current trade law, because they would level the playing field, but not give any one country an unfair advantage.

Support for this approach also came from 10 senators who wrote a letter to President Obama August 6 supporting measures to ensure a strong U.S. manufacturing sector. They named four possibilities: providing short-term assistance to trade-exposed industries; making trade agreements address manufacturing competitiveness; holding countries accountable for emissions reduction; and investing in energy efficiency and clean technology.

"Doing nothing is not an option," Breehey says. "With the right provisions, the energy bill can significantly reduce greenhouse emissions without wrecking the economy, and create thousands of Boilermaker jobs building new pollution control technology. But no one in Congress will understand our position unless we explain it to them."

Call your senators today to demand action on cap-and-trade legislation with job protections for American workers. Contact information for senators and representatives can easily be found at www.boilermakers.org. Click on Resources, Political Action/LEAP, Elected Officials. □

Boilermakers rally for health care reform



MORE THAN TWO dozen Boilermakers took part in a rally for health care reform on Capitol Hill June 25. They joined thousands of activists from across the country — including many representing labor unions — in demanding that Congress fix the broken health care system. President Barack Obama has proposed major revisions in order to contain cost and make health care available to all Americans.

Representing the Boilermakers were Local 13 (Philadelphia), Local 45 (Richmond, Va.), and Local 85 (Toledo, Ohio). □

Top Left : Representing Local 13 are, l. to r., Mike Impagliazzo, lodge president; Jim Banford, BM-ST; and Bill Bradley, trustee.

Bottom Left: Local 45 BM-ST Frank Hartsoe (back row, far left) and President Wilbur Brown (front row, third from right) join other L-45 members in urging health care reform.

Below Right: Local 85 members display their "calling card" near the capitol.





NEWS

AT A GLANCE

And now your local news... brought to you from India

AMERICANS GROWING WEARY of seeing their jobs off-shored now have another indignity to endure — reading “local” newspapers that are written in India. The *Labor Letter* reports that a small California community newspaper, *Pasadena Now*, dumped seven local reporters and hired six replacements in India. The foreign reporters cover city hall meetings via live video streaming and make extensive use of press releases and the Internet. And it’s not just small newspapers going this route. The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* moved its ad preparation work to India, eliminating 11 American workers — most of them over the age of 50.



Quebec imposes labor contract on Wal-Mart

THERE’S FINALLY A chink in the armor of mighty Wal-Mart, the world’s largest retailer with more than two million employees and 7,870 stores worldwide. In July, eight employees in the tire and lube department at the Wal-Mart in Gatineau, Quebec, became the only group of workers in North America that is party to a labor contract with

the company. Wal-Mart didn’t exactly agree to the deal — the Quebec Labor Relations Board imposed the contract after negotiations collapsed. The unit, part of the United Food and Commercial Workers Canada, had organized in 2005. The new contract calls for starting wages to increase from \$8.40 to \$10.89 an hour.

It remains to be seen how long the union’s success will last. Wal-Mart is notorious for taking extreme measures to keep unions out, including eliminating job positions and closing down stores.

What is a worker’s life worth?

THE AVERAGE PENALTY for a worker killed on the job is \$11,300, the AFL-CIO’s director of health and safety told a House panel in Washington, D.C., earlier this year. Peg Seminario, testifying before the Education and Labor Committee, said that workplace safety and health laws carry such minimal penalties that many employers simply ignore them. She said the maximum penalty for a serious violation that injures or kills workers is \$7,000, and \$70,000 for willful and repeated violations.

Seminario concluded: “The entire OSHA penalty policy and formulas should be reviewed and revamped. The agency should use its full statutory authority to impose meaningful penalties for serious, willful, and repeat violations of the law, particularly in cases involving worker deaths.”



Want a better vacation? Join a union.

WHEN IT COMES to paid leave, the United States lags far behind other industrial nations. In fact, America is the only industrialized country in the world without a mandatory minimum for paid time off. According to the Economic Policy Institute (EPI), Europeans enjoy a 20-day minimum paid leave, although some countries have even higher requirements. In the United States, 27 million workers — one out of four — receive zero paid time off: no paid vacation, no paid holidays. Some politicians are trying to change that. The Paid Vacation Act, H.R. 2564, sponsored by Alan Grayson (D-8th Fla.) would require at least one week of annual vacation to be paid by employers with more than 100 employees.

Meanwhile, unions in the United States once again lead the way in securing benefits for workers. The EPI cites a study of the entire American workforce that shows that after 25 years, union members receive 26.6 percent more paid vacation weeks than non-union workers. □

Minimum wage hits \$7.25

Studies show increases are good for economy, don’t cause job losses

THE FEDERAL MINIMUM wage jumped 70 cents July 24 — to \$7.25 per hour. It was the third and final 70-cent raise in a three-step hike passed by Congress in 2007. For 10 years the rate had stagnated at \$5.15 an hour, until new Democratic majorities in the U.S. House and Senate pushed the increase through. The hike bumped the rate to \$5.85 in 2007 and \$6.55 in 2008.

An estimated 10 million workers in 31 states will benefit from the hike. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia already have minimum wage rates at \$7.25 an hour or higher, so workers there will not be affected. California and Massachusetts, for example, have minimum wage rates of \$8; the state of Washington’s is \$8.55.

Raising the minimum wage has long been a sore spot with corporate lobbyists, who claim such increases cause job losses. However, studies indicate that’s not true. A 2006 study involving more than 650 economists — including five Nobel laureates — found that raising the minimum wage “significantly improves the lives of low-income workers and their families, without the adverse effects critics have claimed.”

According to the Economic Policy Institute’s *Minimum Wage Issue Guide*:

- The average minimum wage worker brings home more than half of his or her family’s weekly earnings;
- 76 percent of workers whose wages will be raised by the minimum wage increase are adults;
- 63 percent of workers who will benefit from an increase to \$7.25 are women; and
- A disproportionate share of minorities will benefit from a minimum wage increase. African-Americans represent 11 percent of the total workforce, but are 18 percent of the workers affected by an increase. Similarly, 14 percent of the total workforce is Hispanic, but Hispanics are 19 percent affected by an increase.

The EPI also projects that increasing the minimum wage to \$7.25 an hour will stimulate the economy, boosting consumer spending by \$5.5 billion over the next 12 months. Even with an individual earning the current \$7.25 in a standard work year, that person would earn \$14,500 — slightly below the federal poverty level for a family of two.

The minimum wage first became law in 1938 as part of the Fair Labor Standards Act, when Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt promoted the measure as part of his plan to end the Great Depression. The initial rate was set at 25 cents an hour. □



Boilermakers to host USA shoot in Kansas City

EVENT WILL RAISE MONEY FOR UNION-ONLY HUNTING AND FISHING

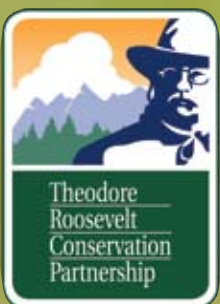


UNION MEMBERS CAN test their shooting skills in friendly competition at the first annual Midwest Union Sportsmen’s Alliance (USA) Sporting Clays Shoot in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 23. The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers is hosting the event, which will be held at the Saddle and Sirloin Club.

Participants can take part as individual shooters, shooting teams, or event sponsors. Instruction is available for first-time shooters.

“The Brotherhood is proud to be a part of this effort,” said Intl. Sec.-Treas. Bill Creeden, who is co-chair for the event (Intl. Pres. Newton Jones is chair). “All proceeds go to support the USA and the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, whose mission is to guarantee all of us a place to hunt and fish,” said Creeden.

For event details, including a registration form, visit the Boilermakers’ Web site at www.boilermakers.org



MOST conducts project management training



Twenty attend course in Kansas City

TWENTY CONSTRUCTION Boilermakers from 15 lodges attended the MOST (Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training) trust's project management program in Kansas City, Mo., July 26-31. The week-long course "provides instruction on how to manage projects in a business-like manner and make decisions that positively impact project goals and provide an overall benefit to the owner, the contractor, the Boilermakers union, and other union crafts," said Roger Erickson, MOST safety representative.

Attending the course were, front row, l. to r.: Bridget Connors, MOST safety rep; Marty Cochran, Local 110 (Hattiesburg, Miss.); Preston Penick, Local 13 (Philadelphia); Scott Campbell, Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.); Roman Roulst, Local 502 (Tacoma, Wash.); Chris Strickland, Local 582 (Baton Rouge, La.); Robert Porter, Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.); and Lewis Slade Jr., Local 154 (Pittsburgh). Second row, l. to r.: Jarvis Ranager, Local 110; Patrick Collins, Local 92 (Los Angeles); Kenneth A. Burk, Local 85 (Toledo, Ohio); Greg Devereux, Local 83; James Mora, Local 92; Scott Locke, Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio); Jason Cutsinger, Local 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.); Wayne Vickers, Local 112 (Mobile, Ala.); and Roger Erickson, MOST safety rep. Third row, l. to r.: Dale "Skipper" Branscum, AIP/D-CDS; Gerry Klimo, instructor; Michael Stinnett, Local 454 (Chattanooga, Tenn.); Jonathan Mongold, Local 45 (Richmond, Va.); Michael Petraglia, Local 154; Chris Morrell, Local 647 (Minneapolis); Ryan Stauffer, Local 13; and Chuck Connor, instructor. □

Check out our Web site!

Got a question? Go to www.boilermakers.org for the answer!

THE BOILERMAKERS' WEB SITE is the information highway our members travel most to find out the latest in union news. Just log onto www.boilermakers.org to

- Read news stories
- View back issues of *the Boilermaker Reporter*
- Learn about safety and health issues
- Check on training programs
- Become politically active
- Find out about Union Plus benefits
- Visit sites for Boilermaker trust funds and local lodges
- E-mail other members (under Resources)
- Learn about the union's structure, leadership, and much, much more.

If you view this article on the Web site, clicking on each of these bulleted items will automatically link you to that page.



WIN

A NASCAR WEEKEND

**Join the USA by October 16th
And You Could Win:**

- * Airfare & lodging
- * 2 tickets to Fall '09 TMS weekend
- * VIP passes to Beretta Private Suite
- * Pit passes
- * U.S. made Beretta Shotgun

TOTAL PRIZE VALUE \$6,000+

All active USA members automatically entered in drawing

Visit www.UNIONSPORTSMEN.ORG FOR DETAILS

Letters to the Editor

Davis family takes pride in Boilermaker heritage

THE DAVIS FAMILY is proud to carry the title "Boilermaker" for generation after generation. My grandfather, Ernie L. Davis, was a member of Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.). His son, Larry G. Davis Sr., was a member of Local 26 (Savannah, Ga.), and five of his six children are Boilermakers: Mark A. Davis, Local 107 (Milwaukee,

Wis.); Larry G. Davis Jr., Local 26; Jeffrey L. Davis, Local 26; Kathleen Davis Raynor, Local 455 (Sheffield, Ala.); and Loretta G. Hellenguard, Local 11 (Helena, Mont.). My father also has three grandchildren who are apprentice Boilermakers.

We have uncles and cousins who are Boilermakers as well.

JEFFREY L. DAVIS, LOCAL 26
Savannah, Ga.

L-28 BM-ST thanks Flynn for service

I WOULD LIKE to express my gratitude to Robert W. Flynn Sr. for his dedication to Boilermakers Local 28 [Newark, N.J.] and all its members. Bob retired the end of May after 28 years of service as recording secretary.

I'm pretty sure that he has worked at every Boilermaker discipline. He has also been a foreman, general foreman,

and shop steward. Bob was appointed as an assistant business agent in 2001 and served in that position with three business managers. I believe that he long ago earned the respect of his union brothers and sisters, along with the contractors and clients. I am honored to have worked with a man like Robert W. Flynn Sr. My words cannot do him justice.

EDWARD P. LATACZ II, L-28 BM-ST
Bayonne, N.J.

STEWARDS SOURCEBOOK

Conducting an Investigation

GRIEVANCES ARE WON and lost based on how well they are investigated. A thorough investigation gives you the tools you need to build a strong argument. Every grievance is different, so every investigation will lead you in different directions, but employing a few basic strategies can improve your investigations and thereby improve your chances of winning.

STEWARDS OFTEN ASK how much they should investigate. The answer is that you really need to look at anything and everything that management might use in the grievance meeting. Even in a relatively simple grievance, it can take some time to request and review company records or track down and interview witnesses, so you will need to start your investigation promptly — as soon as you realize you may have a grievance.

Start with the basics:

Who was involved?

What happened?

Where exactly did it happen?

When did it happen?

Why might it be considered a grievance?

Investigate your grievance before you file it. Merely talking to the member and the supervisor does not give you the information you need to file a grievance. The grievant's and the supervisor's accounts will usually differ significantly as to the facts of the case as well as their interpretation. Investigating will give you a clearer picture of what actually happened.

Filing before investigating can clog the grievance system with frivolous or unsupported cases. Not only are you wasting the company's time, you are wasting your own time. Soon your credibility is gone, making it far less likely the company will work with you to resolve a case.

Begin with the grievant. Spend enough time interviewing the grievant to get a clear picture of his or her complaint. Ask lots of questions and assume nothing. If he says, "I was late getting to my station," ask "How late?" If he says, "The supervisor has always let us do it that way in the past," ask, "What about the previous supervisor? What about supervisors on other shifts?"

Interview the supervisor. In most grievance procedures, your first contact with the supervisor is not part of the grievance process. You are only learning the facts of the case, not arguing the merits of the grievance. Sometimes the supervisor (or you) might offer a simple solution that solves the problem without your having to file and argue a grievance, but don't count on that. Get the facts from the supervisor's perspective, and write them down so the company can't later invent new facts.

Plan your investigation. It's a good idea to stop here and think about all of the additional information you will need in order to go forward. Planning helps ensure you do a thorough job. It is no fun to lose a grievance simply because you forgot to look into one

key issue. Pay special attention to any facts that are in dispute. Wherever possible, figure out what is most likely to have actually happened.

Make a list of the things you need to learn and where you might get that information. You may need to look at company documents such as attendance reports, shift handover notes, incident reports, minutes of team meetings, e-mails, letters, and training records. Always request company documents in writing, so you have evidence if the records aren't forthcoming.

If the grievance is based on an incident, such as misbehavior on the job, you'll need to interview anyone who may have seen or heard the incident, or who has other knowledge of what happened. You may also need to visit the site so you can visualize how things must have occurred — maybe even draw a sketch or take a photo of the area.

How to interview witnesses

WITNESSES ARE OFTEN the best evidence we have of who was involved, what happened, and where and when it happened. Unfortunately, people's memories fade quickly, and the longer you wait to interview them, the less likely you are to get accurate answers to your questions.

We all believe we have excellent memories, but thousands of psychological experiments have demonstrated that is not the case. We begin forgetting an event as soon as it ends, and our minds often rearrange the facts. Sometimes our minds mix later events with our memory of the earlier event. In addition, each person remembers different facts, and it is rare that any two witnesses will remember a complex event in exactly the same way.

That is why it is so important to **try to get to the bottom of every disagreement you have with management as to the facts of the case.** There is no reason to believe that what the supervisor remembers seeing is any closer to what actually happened than what your member remembers (and vice versa).

It is a good idea to draw up a list of questions beforehand. Ask each witness all of the questions, regardless of their response. When you question them, you can run down the list until you have an answer to each question. If necessary, go back to an earlier question for clarification or to elicit an answer that was not forthcoming. And of course, write down everything.

You should encourage witnesses to give details, but be sure to use open-ended questions to avoid leading the witness. Ask, *What was he wearing?* Not, *Was he wearing a sweatshirt?*

When you've finished the interview, it is a good idea to have the witness read your notes and sign them to indicate they are accurate. The witness can make changes to what you've written, if he or she sees something not quite right, but always make sure they initial these changes before signing.

Some stewards have witnesses write out their own statements, and then they go back over the written statement and ask questions for clarification. Both methods have good points as well as bad ones. Many people are better at speaking than writing; in addition, you can ask questions for clarification as you go. On the other hand, writing down the statement will force the witness to get to the point quickly — a problem some people have when speaking.

When using witnesses, numbers do count. If only one witness backs up your member's account while five remember something very close to what the supervisor says happened, it may indicate management's case is stronger. And vice versa, of course.

Advise witnesses that their statements and responses to questions may be made available to the employee and to management, and that they may be called to give testimony at a hearing.

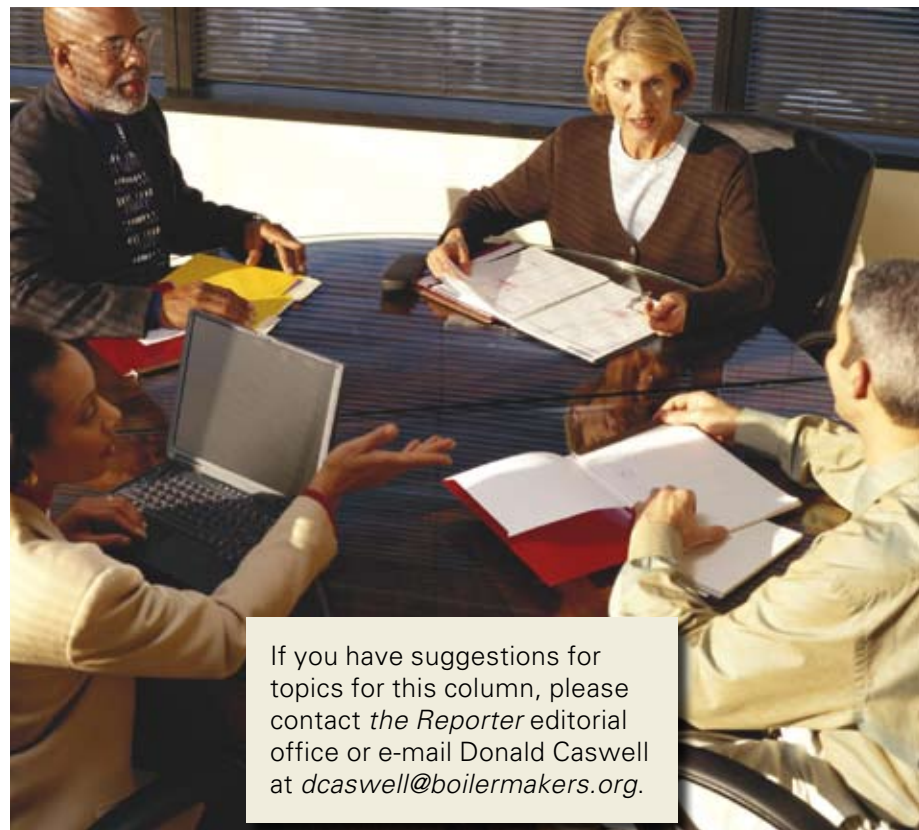
Good investigators keep digging

WHEN YOU HAVE covered these basic questions, try to imagine what management will say about the case so you can begin formulating your response. Look for areas in your argument where the facts are weak and

try to find back-up evidence. Perhaps you could only find one person who will testify to seeing your grievant at work during the time he is accused of being AWOL, and she was pretty far away. Can you find a witness that places your grievant far away from the scene just before the incident took place? Can you demonstrate that he performed a task on the job during that time period?

The more information you get, the more likely you are to uncover a detail that will unlock the case. Many stewards have stories about how asking one more question or looking just a little bit deeper into the issue at hand ended up turning a grievance around. For example, a college teacher was fired for alleged sexual harassment of a student. There were no witnesses, and the professor denied everything, but the student was a credible witness who gave many convincing details regarding their affair. She even told how on a certain day the teacher had driven to her apartment and demanded entry.

But the union attorney believed the teacher, and just to be thorough, he did some more investigation. That's when he learned that during the time the professor was supposed to have driven to her house, the city was being hit by a terrible storm, and the police had blocked the roads. To make the drive as she had claimed, he would have had to go through the police barricade on a night when the police had advised against all travel. This hole in the claimant's case made her testimony less credible, and the arbitrator reduced the discharge. □



If you have suggestions for topics for this column, please contact the Reporter editorial office or e-mail Donald Caswell at dcaswell@boilermakers.org.

Local lodge leaders attend summer training institute

Courses cover wide range of union-related topics

FIFTY-ONE LOCAL lodge leaders attended classes at the 52nd annual Summer Training Institute at the University of Wisconsin's School for Workers held July 26 through August 7, 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 1958. They are an integral part of the Brotherhood's training and leadership development program. This year, the courses were held at the Pyle Center on the UW-Madison campus.

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 elections, 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. The advanced class also heard from David Newby, president of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO.

As with previous institutes, members took advantage of their time together to share experiences from across the spectrum of Boilermaker industries and occupations: from building naval ships to coal mining, from forging aerospace products to building cranes, from field construction to dismantling nuclear submarines, and from fabricating piping and industrial tanks to maintaining military aircraft.

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 and 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 and Education Department; Bridget Martin, Director of Political Affairs; Cecile Conroy, Assistant Director of the Department of Government Affairs; Mark Garrett, Safety and Health Specialist; and Mike Linderer, writer and editor in the Communication and Education Department.

Members attending the 2009 basic course included Daniel DeCarlo, Local 7 (Buffalo, N.Y.); Cynthia Escobar, Local D46 (Santa Cruz, Calif.); Kevin Wilson, Local 57 (Portsmouth, Va.); Clayton Knepp III, Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.); Joshua Gettino and Jay Long, Local 84 (Paola, Kan.); Steve Maupin, Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio); Robert Mika, Local 290 (Bremerton, Wash.); Susan Dunn, Justin Kohut, Rebecca Smith, and Christopher Stock-

well, Local 344 (Ridgecrest, Calif.); Jason McKinley and Mike McMillin, Local 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.); Gregory Hay, Jeremy Mahrenholz, and Joey Pennington, Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.); Kurt Alef and Dave Kaczowski, Local 443 (Manitowoc, Wis.); Mark Heimbecher and Jeremy Walls, Local 449 (Sturgeon Bay, Wis.); Terry Bailey, Local 656 (Chattanooga, Tenn.); Tom Grun, Mark Nason, Reynold Nelson, John Semrau, and Cindy Swette, Local 696 (Marinette, Wis.); John Jackson, Sean Momberg, David Roberts, and Jerod Romanowski, Local 1509 (Cudahy, Wis.); Jim Grosse, Local 1600

(St. Charles, Ill.); and Terry McFall and Norman Underwood, Local 1626 (Champaign, Ill.).

Members attending the 2009 advanced course included Daniel Bradley, Keith Clayton, and Ronnie Pinkston, Local S8 (Equality, Ill.); John Kosinski, Local 290; Sean Burgess, Joshua Conrad, and Robert Lampkin Jr., Local 344; Earl Babb, Local 656; Ed Doyen, Wayne Johnson, William Lockhart, and Cindy Swette, Local 696; Duane Larson, Charles Sandor, and Daniel Seng, Local 1509; and Scott Deaville, Local 1626. □



Members in the advanced class work through an exercise in communication skills.



REGIONAL APPRENTICE COMPETITIONS

Northeast & Great Lakes



Northeast Area contestants include, l. to r., James Raab, Local 7 (Buffalo, N.Y.); Stephen Raleigh, Local 13 (Philadelphia); Patrick O'Halloran, Local 28 (Newark, N.J.); Anthony Gesuale, Local 154 (Pittsburgh); Eric Buskey Sr., Local 5 Zone 197 (Albany, N.Y.); and Michael Toth, Local 237 (Hartford, Conn.).

THE NORTHEAST AND Great Lakes areas held their 23rd annual joint graduate apprentice competitions May 4-8 at Local 5 Zone 197 (Albany, N.Y.). The top two finishers in each contest will represent their areas in the national contest in Kansas City, Kan., Sept. 27-Oct. 1.

Toth and Buskey win Northeast

MICHAEL TOTH OF Local 237 (Hartford, Conn.) and Eric Buskey Sr. of Local 5 Zone 197 placed first and second, respectively, in the Northeast Area Apprentice Committee's (NEAAC) John J. Harrington Apprentice of the Year competition.

Also competing were James Raab, Local 7 (Buffalo, N.Y.); Stephen Raleigh, Local 13 (Philadelphia); Patrick O'Halloran, Local 28 (Newark, N.J.); and Anthony Gesuale, Local 154 (Pittsburgh). The contestants were later honored at their area's semi-annual meeting July 15 in Rehoboth Beach, Del.

Union judges for the NEAAC contest were Jerry Couser, L-197 retired BM; Jack Doherty, L-28 apprentice coordinator; Ernie Dorsey, retired L-193 BM-ST (Baltimore); David Dupuis, retired NEAAC coordinator; Mark Felschow, L-7 welding instructor; Nick Gushue, L-13 welding instructor; Bob Heine, IR-ISO; James Horkay, L-154 retiree; and L-154 welding instructors Ray Orsi Jr., Rocco Puglin, and Michael Stanton.

Contractor judges included John Cammuso, Babcock Power Inc., and Matthew Schmitt, Simakas Brothers Co.

"For over 20 years we have been bringing together the best apprentices

our area can produce," said NEAAC co-coordinator Jason Dupuis. "Each year we continue to be amazed by the skill level, dedication, and professionalism of our apprentices. This year was certainly no exception."

Vodraska and Woods win Great Lakes

MATTHEW VODRASKA OF Local 744 (Cleveland) and Ryan Woods of Local 27 (St. Louis) placed first and second, respectively, in the Great Lakes Area Boilermaker Apprentice Program (GLABAP) competition.

Also competing were Noel Springhart, Local 1 (Chicago); Wayne Hayes, Local 60 (Peoria, Ill.); Jeffrey Rose, Local 107 (Milwaukee, Wis.); Josue Fuentes, Local 169 (Detroit); Matt Smith, Local 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.); Timothy Esparza, Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.); and Brady Blotske, Local 647 (Minneapolis).

Union judges included Bob Schwartz, L-1 business agent; Mike Card, L-169 business agent; and Mark Lester, L-27 training instructor. Contractor judges included Shane Gordon, RMF Nooter, and Don Placko, Hayes Mechanical.

According to co-coordinators Lawrence McManamon Jr. and Mark Gustafson, the 2009 GLABAP competition was their area's largest competition yet, with nine lodges sending contestants. To honor the outstanding apprentices, the GLABAP held its 15th annual Robert McDonough, John Mooney, and John Nooter Awards Banquet on the Odyssey cruise ship, located on Chicago's Navy pier, June 10. □



Great Lakes Area contestants include, front row, l. to r.: Matt Smith, Local 363; Brady Blotske, Local 647; Noel Springhart, Local 1; and Wayne Hayes, Local 60. Back row, l. to r.: Ryan Woods, Local 27 (runner-up); Jeffrey Rose, Local 107; Timothy Esparza, Local 374; Josue Fuentes, Local 169; and Matthew Vodraska, Local 744 (winner).

Southeast Area contestants pictured at right include, front row, l. to r.: John Weldon, L-108; Thomas Tucker, L-69 (winner); Adam Sosebee, L-454; Steffon Hendrieth, L-199; Woody English, L-83; James Eubanks, L-110; and Jason Brown, L-45 (runner-up). Back row, l. to r.: Gregory Wilburn, L-105; Marc Dingee, L-40; James Nunley, L-263; Matthew Josephson, L-687; Kevin Miller, L-26; Quinn Hatton, L-455; Danny Vanscoy II, L-667; Randall Copeland, L-433, and John Baierlein, L-193.

Western States



Western States Area contestants include, l. to r.: Michelle Kee, Local 4; Justin Ketzenberg, Local 502; Carlin Yazzie, Local 627; Louis Arguello, Local 92; David Hoogendoorn, Local 549 (runner-up); Kirk Hampton, Local 500; Bradley Green, Local 11; David Merrill, Local 101; and Luke Lafley, Local 242 (winner).

Lafley and Hoogendoorn win Western States

LUKE LAFLEY OF Local 242 (Spokane, Wash.) won the James F. Precht Award as the top apprentice in the 22nd annual Western States Area Outstanding Graduate Apprentice Competition held May 10-14 at Local 549 (Pittsburg, Calif.). Local 549's David Hoogendoorn placed second. Both will represent the Western States at the national contest in Kansas City, Kan., Sept. 27-Oct. 1.

Nine construction lodges participated in this year's event. Other graduate apprentices competing included Michelle Kee, Local 4 (Page, Ariz.); Justin Ketzenberg, Local 502 (Tacoma, Wash.); Carlin Yazzie, Local 627 (Phoenix); Louis Arguello, Local 92 (Los Angeles); Kirk Hampton, Local 500 (Salem, Ore.); Bradley Green, Local 11

(Helena, Mont.); and David Merrill, Local 101 (Denver).

Local 4's Michelle Kee is this year's winner of the Greg Streblow Scholastic Award. Local Lodges 4 and 11 received the Don Laceyfield Local of the Year Award.

The competition was organized by the Western States Apprenticeship staff with assistance from L-549 BM-ST Frank Seecret, L-549 apprentice coordinator Johnny Gallon and instructor Michael Genosick, and members of the Local 549 office staff.

Union judges included L-549 retirees Otis Edwards and John Riccobuono, and L-627 retiree David Barndollar. Contractor judges included Ken Null, Babcock & Wilcox; David Gleason, Contractors Cargo; and Daryl Cram, PMI. □

Southeast

Tucker and Brown win Southeast

FOR THE FIRST time, a Local 69 (Little Rock, Ark.) member has won the Paul D. Wedge Memorial Award for the Outstanding Graduate Apprentice of the Southeast Area. Thomas Tucker took the top honor at the Southeast Area Joint Apprentice Committee's (SAJAC) event held July 27-30 at Local 199's Michael C. Peterson Training Center in Jacksonville, Fla. Jason Brown, Local 45 (Richmond, Va.), was runner-up.

Winning the 41st annual competition entitles Tucker and Brown to compete both individually and as a team in the national contest Sept. 27-Oct. 1.

Other graduate apprentices competing were Kevin Miller, Local 26 (Savannah, Ga.); Marc Dingee, Local 40 (Elizabethown, Ky.); Woody English, Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.); Gregory Wilburn, Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio); John Weldon, Local 108 (Birmingham, Ala.); James Eubanks, Local 110 (Hattiesburg, Miss.); John Baierlein, Local 193 (Baltimore); Steffon Hendrieth, Local 199; James Nunley, Local 263 (Memphis, Tenn.); Randall Copeland,

Local 433 (Tampa, Fla.); Adam Sosebee, Local 454 (Chattanooga, Tenn.); Quinn Hatton, Local 455 (Sheffield, Ala.); Danny Vanscoy II, Local 667 (Charleston, W.Va.); and Matthew Josephson, Local 687 (Charleston Heights, S.C.).

Union judges included AIP Dennis King, Intl. Reps William "Dusty" Garmon and Steve Speed, and retired Intl. Reps Barry Edwards and Bill Elrod. Contractor judges included Bob Righter of AP Com Power, Chuck Harvey of B&W Const., Kelly Lykins and Scott Szeghi of Enerfab, and Randal James of M&D Const. SAJAC Coordinator Mike McCluskey served as testing coordinator and Robert Simmons, a retired business manager of Operators Local 673, operated the tugger for the candidates.

SAJAC Director Michael Peterson said the competition provides a great opportunity to see how well the apprentice graduates apply the skills they've been taught to real work situations. "It's always a pleasure watching these new journeymen work," he said. "Boilermakers always rise to the occasion when called upon and always do their best. That's all we've ever expected out of any contestant, just their best." □





Local 667 graduates its first Helmets to Hardhats apprentices

Eight military veterans become journeyman Boilermakers

LOCAL LODGE 667 (Charleston, W.Va.) graduated its first apprenticeship class with eight members indentured from Helmets to Hardhats, a national program that connects former military personnel with career opportunities in the building and construction trades.

The February graduates include Tom Abbott, Aaron Bradley, Dewey Greear, Chad Pinkerman, Anthony Reynolds, Jake Samples, Alan Staats, and Joshua Whitecotton.

Craig Phillips, apprentice coordinator for Local 667, believes the military played an important role in the development of these new journeyman Boilermakers.

"Their military lifestyles proved to be a great advantage when it came to performing a job task as instructed, showing up for work on a regular

basis, and having very strong work ethics," Phillips said. "Throughout the 6,000 hours of on-the-job training and 576 hours of classroom and shop training, these men showed determination and dedication. They came to the local training center on their own time with journeyman Boilermakers who were willing to help them with their welding skills."

When first indentured, these individuals had no real idea of what a Boilermaker is, or what being a Boilermaker would mean to them, Phillips said. Most had no maintenance skills and had never struck an arc with a welding machine. But by the end of the program, all eight had become certified tube welders with multiple contractors, and one was also certified in plate welding.

"These apprentices started as individuals with no union work experience," Phillips said, "but I am proud to report that they are now graduate, skilled journeyman Boilermakers." □



L-667 graduate apprentices from the Helmets to Hardhats program include, l. to r.: front row, Aaron Bradley, Anthony Reynolds, Dewey Greear, and Tom Abbott; back row, L-667 BM-ST George Pinkerman, Alan Staats, Chad Pinkerman, Joshua Whitecotton, Jake Samples, and L-667 Apprentice Coordinator Craig Phillips.

Boilermakers march for Free Choice in Little Rock

NEARLY TWO DOZEN members of Local 69 (Little Rock, Ark.) and other Boilermaker locals joined about 500 union members and supporters in a march on the Arkansas state capitol in July to urge support for the Employee Free Choice Act. The legislation would make it easier for workers to form unions, letting them decide whether or not to conduct secret ballot elections — instead of the employer making that decision. It would also stiffen the penalties for employers who illegally fire or intimidate workers during organizing drives, as well as provide mediation and arbitration, if needed, to secure a first contract between the parties.

"Along the way to the capitol, we stopped by the office of Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.)," said L-69 BM-ST Frank Brown. "In the past, Sen. Lincoln has supported and co-sponsored union bills, but she is currently undecided on Free Choice. She was not present when we arrived, but [I understand that] she has met with several national labor leaders in recent weeks, and she indicated that she shares their goals."

Brown said one of the themes of the march was, "Workers rights are civil



Apprentices and apprentice instructors from L-69 and other area lodges take part in a march in Little Rock, Ark., for the Employee Free Choice Act. Behind them is Little Rock Central High School, site of an infamous civil rights incident in 1957 in which the state's governor kept black students from entering the then all-white school.

rights." It was fitting, he said, that participants gathered at Little Rock Central High School prior to the event. "The school has been a hub of civil-rights activity in Arkansas. It became internationally known on Sept. 2, 1957, when Gov. Orval Faubus sent Arkansas National Guardsmen to prevent nine black students from entering the all-white school. Those nine students,

now known as the 'Little Rock Nine,' should have had a choice — and workers should have a choice also."

Joining Brown in the march were, also from L-69, apprentice instructors Donnie Jones, Clay Rice, and Thomas "Tommy" Tucker, and apprentices Barrett Adams, Chris Bales, Zack Carmack, Roy Garrett, Jason Johnson, Seth Johnson, Johnathan Lindsey, Kevin

Luna, David Maxwell, Kurtis Neal, Bill Pearson, Quincey Powell, John Rego, and Jerry Walter. Attending from other locals were apprentice instructor Clyde Brown, Local 263 (Memphis, Tenn.); apprentice Chris Harris, L-37 (New Orleans); and apprentices John Brookbank and Trevor Porter, both of L-592 (Tulsa, Okla.). □



L-60 apprentices graduate

THE OFFICERS AND members of Local 60 (Peoria, Ill.) offer their congratulations to the March 2009 graduate apprentices. Pictured at left are: l. to r., front row: Kristopher Hahn, Lonnie Imel, Douglass Pratt, Nathan Pribble, and Kelly List. Back row: Jason Pribble, William Embree, William Herman, Sidney Dove, Wayne Hayes, and Jon Tortat.

COMPETITION

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lodge (Local 128) has conducted the competition at its own facilities. All other contests have been held at colleges where Boilermaker apprentices receive their technical training and Boilermaker instructors serve on staff.

Other contestants competing in the event were graduate apprentices Jean Blanchard, Local 271 (Montreal, Quebec); Greg Cameron, Local 128; Geoffrey Moore, Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta); Garrett Parthenay, Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba); Dan Praught, Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia); and Kenneth Simms, Local 203 (St. John's, Newfoundland).

Industry award goes to Tompkins

THE RICK ALBRIGHT-Sandy MacDonald Industry Award of Excellence, which recognizes contributions to apprentices and the Boilermaker industry, went to Fabian Tompkins. A retired Local 128 member with 44 years of service, Tompkins began his career in 1966 as a helper sweeping floors and went on to earn his welding tickets and build tanks. He later served as a general superintendent, and for the last 10 years has been employed with union contractor Black & McDonald. Local 128 BM-ST Jim Watson made the award presentation. Tompkins is deeply involved with the apprentice resource committee for the Eastern Canada Tripartite. His son and daughter, as well as a nephew, are all members of Local 128.

Tompkins recalled the days before Canadian locals had formal apprenticeship programs: "There was nothing wrong with the way we did things at the time, but today is different. We're moving forward. Technology has changed. It takes a lot of training to get our members pre-

pared to do the jobs at hand." He said the annual apprentice competition is "one hell of a challenge," and that all contestants should consider themselves winners for the honor of being selected by their locals to compete.

Western Canada IVP Joe Maloney spoke at the banquet on behalf of Intl. Pres. Newton B. Jones and the entire International Executive Council. (Eastern Canada IVP Ed Power was unable to attend the banquet due to official duties out of the country.) Maloney echoed Tompkins' comments to the contestants, telling them, "You should be very proud of your accomplishments to make it here tonight." He spoke of the tremendous opportunities awaiting the contestants, urging them to "always remember that your careers started right here, with the apprenticeship program. Be the best you can be."

Matteau describes challenges

MATTEAU, WHO RESIDES with his wife and 9-year-old son in the New Brunswick village of Petit-Rocher, said the first challenge he faced when informed that he had been asked to represent Local 73 was finding time to prepare.

"I was working night shift for Irving Oil," he said. "I've been there for two years, as a welder at an LNG (liquefied natural gas plant)."

Another concern, he noted, was that Local 73 had sent well-qualified apprentice graduates to the competition in years past, "and they were good guys and didn't win. Believe me, the pressure was there! I guarantee that I worked very hard [for the first-place finish]."

Matteau credited his father, Normand, a retired member of Local 73 and 35-year Boilermaker, for his influence in "bringing me to the trade. I also want to thank especially my teacher, Marcel Losier [instructor, New Brunswick College] and my training coordinator, Eugene LeBlanc."

Local 128 gets kudos for facility, hard work

CONTESTANTS AT THE competition found Local 128's new training facility much to their liking. "Everything you needed was there — and all the tools were new," said Matteau. "And they did just a great job with the preparation."

Canadian National Training Coordinator Grant Jacobs agreed. "The staff of Local 128 and Ed Hoffmann, the instructor at Humber College, were exceptional this year," he said. Jacobs recalled that Jim Tinney, the former Local 128 business manager and secretary-treasurer, approached him right after the new hall and training center opened to request that the lodge be considered as a host site. "I'm proud to say that with the commitment of Local 128 Business Manager Jim Watson, that we pulled it off."

Local 128's hall and 6,000-sq.-ft. training center were completed in 2007. Much of the facility has been equipped with advanced tools and systems courtesy of a \$1.4 million grant from the Canadian Federal and Ontario Provincial governments.

This year's test coordinators were Ed Hoffmann, Humber College, and Ed Frerotte, Local 128.

Judges from the technical colleges included Ken Bachand, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology; Jim Beauchamp, Red River College, Winnipeg; and Marcel Losier, New Brunswick Community College.

Union judges included Mike Bayens, L-146; Al Bennett, Local 359; Darrell Bray, Local 555; Bill Healey, Local 203; and Ted Stark, Local 555.

Employer judges included Styve Dumouchel, Lorneville Mechanical; Kim Jones, B&W; Richard Leblanc, Kamtech Services; and Ron Takacs, Alstom Canada.

Alternate judges were Marty Albright of Alstom Canada and Dave Ralph of Local 146. □

COMPETITION MEASURES KNOWLEDGE, PRACTICAL SKILLS

EACH YEAR, THE apprentice competition tests journeyman tradecraft. The contest begins with a six-hour written exam that includes about 300 multiple-choice questions drawn from the apprentice training curriculum, the Boilermaker Constitution, and local lodge bylaws. Curriculum-related content includes such topics as cutting and welding; hand and power tools; construction materials; metallurgy; blueprint reading; layout and fitting; math; rigging; and boilers, heat exchangers, furnaces, and tanks.

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

In all four practical tests, judges grade for safety performance as well as completion of the project specifications.



Finished hoppers await the judges' inspection.

"It takes a lot of training to get our members prepared to do the jobs at hand." — Fabian Tompkins



Contestants in the 2009 Canadian Apprenticeship Competition include, l. to r., Jason Matteau, L-73 (winner); Greg Cameron, L-128; Kenneth Simms, L-203; Geoffrey Moore, L-146; Garrett Parthenay, L-555; Jean Blanchard, L-271; and Dan Praught, L-359.

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 horizontal position. Candidates were required to cut a double bevel in each set. The contestants also were required to cut a lifting lug from steel plate.



L-146's Geoffrey Moore cuts a lifting lug.



L-73's Jason Matteau (this year's winner), inspects a weld joining two coupons.

In the waterwall exercise, the apprentices cut and removed a bad section of tube, prepared the wall stub ends, and prepared and installed a 14-in. 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.) Specifications called for a 1/8-in. gap at the top of the pup and a 3/32-in. gap at the bottom.



Kenneth Simms, L-203, lays out components for a small hopper.

The hopper test challenged contestants to build a small hopper, measuring 3'8" x 2'10" x 1'10", from 3/16-in. plate steel. The design included 45-degree flanges. Hopper components had to be laid out on a 4 x 8 sheet of 3/16-in. plate steel, cut, and welded together. Material waste and completion time were factored into the grading.



Jean Blanchard, L-271, mills one end of a replacement pup in the waterwall exercise.



Dan Praught grinds waterwall membrane before fitting a replacement pup.



Garrett Parthenay, L-555, uses a tube beveller on a stub end during the waterwall test.



Greg Cameron, L-128, signals a tugger operator during the rigging exercise.

The rigging exercise required contestants to lift a 10,000-lb. heat exchanger to the first level of the rigging platform and drift the load for placement onto the structure. The test required using two tuggers and rigging blocks and snatch blocks. Contestants acted as the lead rigger. They gave directions to their "crew" (including volunteer apprentices from Local 128 and the lodge's health and safety instructor, Blair Allin), planned and set up the lift, inspected the condition of all rigging tools and equipment, set up a safe work perimeter, and calculated lift loads and sling angles.

Union mortgage assistance keeps home fires burning for L-154 member

Funds help Ralph Polite survive long wait for disability claim approval

RALPH POLITE, of Lisbon, Ohio, wasn't ready to stop working yet. The second-generation member of Pittsburgh Local 154 was planning to work for three more years to reach his well-deserved retirement. But when severe degenerative osteoarthritis in his left knee made work impossible, Polite was forced to file for disability. And when the approval of his disability claim took almost a year, and finances were getting tight, he took action to protect his home and his family with the Union Plus Mortgage Assistance Program.

"The bills just kept on coming," is how Polite describes the 10-month wait to get his disability claim approved. "The system worked okay, but it took a while, and that was making things hard for my family."

But Polite, who has been a Boilermaker since 1978, is a man who knows his union benefits. He had read about the Mortgage Assistance Program in *the Boilermaker Reporter*, and that's why he chose the Union Plus Mortgage Program through Chase, to refinance his home.

"Chase was very competitive," Polite says, "and I really liked the added benefits and protection I get as a union member. There's always a chance of injury, so it just made sense to have mortgage assistance if I needed it."

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a unique feature for Union Plus Mortgage holders that can cover your mortgage payments in the event of a layoff, disability, strike, or lockout. The program offers interest-free loans and grants to union members, as well as their parents and children, who have had a Union Plus Mortgage for more than a year. Since its inception, more than \$4.8 million in assistance has been provided, often making the difference to help families keep their homes during a difficult time.

While Polite waited for disability, the six months of assistance from Union Plus helped him meet his other financial obligations and hold onto his home. Then, once his disability claim was approved, he set about immediately to repay the interest-free loan, to make sure funds would be available to other union members who need them.

Today Polite is recovering from the second of two knee surgeries. He's still dealing with a loss of motion, but at least the pain is gone. He's very grateful for the loyal support of his union brothers and sisters in Local 154 who stood by him and took up collections to help him make ends meet. And he's thankful for the mortgage assistance that was there for him when he needed it.



L-154 member Ralph Polite got an interest-free loan through Union Plus while waiting for approval of his disability claim.

"I want to thank [Union Plus] for the help we got during some tough times," says Polite. "I hope you'll let other union members know that this program was there for me, and it can be there for them as well."

The Union Plus Mortgage Program offers a full range of mortgage products for union members and their parents and children. Union Plus Mortgages are guaranteed to be held through Chase for the life of the mortgage. To learn more, call 1-800-848-6466 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, or visit UnionPlus.org/Mortgage to find a local office near you.

If you have had a Union Plus mortgage, credit card, or insurance policy for at least a year and are facing financial difficulty, help may be available through the Union SAFE program. Visit UnionPlus.org/UnionSAFE for more information on layoff, disability, education, and hospital care grants available to Union Plus program participants. If you're worried you might lose your home, whether you have a union mortgage or not, call the Union Plus Save My Home Hotline at 1-866-490-5361 any time day or night.

Union Privilege was founded by the AFL-CIO in 1986 to develop and manage the Union Plus benefits program using the combined buying power of America's union members to obtain top-quality goods and services at competitive prices. In addition to a money-saving credit card, the Union Plus programs include free and discounted legal services, education services, discounted health services, a home-buying program, travel and recreation discounts, and much more. To learn more, visit www.UnionPlus.org. □

L-105 retiree receives military honor

Veterans group inducts Roscoe Cartwright into hall of fame

RETIRED LOCAL 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio) member Roscoe Cartwright Jr., 66, was inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor for his service during the war in Vietnam. The induction ceremony took place May 1 at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus.

Cartwright worked for 27 years as a Boilermaker, retiring in 1999. He served two combat tours in Vietnam between 1965 and 1970, first as a helicopter door gunner and later as a captain commanding F Troop, 17th Cavalry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade. His decorations include two Bronze Star Medals, two Purple Hearts, the Combat Infantry Badge, 14 Air Medals, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Cross of Gallantry.

While leading F Troop in 1970, Capt. Cartwright earned a Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device (for valor) for removing wounded crewmen from a tank hit by a rocket-propelled grenade while under hostile fire. Cartwright suffered serious wounds when the tank exploded but still led his men in a successful assault on North Vietnamese Army positions.

"The induction brought back some memories, and it put me in touch with guys that I had served with," said Cartwright, who has traveled back to Vietnam twice, in 1998 and 2007, to make peace with the past.



L-105 retiree Roscoe Cartwright

"The first trip was rough," he said. "We went back to the village where my unit was nearly overrun." Cartwright and his wife, Deborah, who reside in New Richmond, Ohio, send money to the village each year to help care for its residents.

"That's the kind of guy Roscoe is," said L-105 BM-ST Van Stephens. "I've known him for over 30 years and was aware that he served in the military, but it wasn't until he was inducted into the Military Hall of Fame for Valor that I learned of his heroism. The leadership qualities he showed in the military were also apparent in his work as a Boilermaker and his involvement with the union. He is an outstanding person and an outstanding member. Whether he was serving as a union steward, a general foreman, or a supervisor, he always treated people very well." □

Witz family marks three generations of Local 107 Boilermakers



THREE MEMBERS OF the Witz family recently celebrated their multi-generational membership in Local 107 (Milwaukee). Jeremy Witz, left, is a graduate apprentice; 80-year-old Ramon (Ramie) Witz Sr., is retired with a 50-year service pin; and Ramon (Ramie) Witz Jr., right, is an active member with 31 years of service. Ramie Jr. also has two brothers — Jim and Glenn (with 25 and 19 years of service, respectively) — who are active members of the lodge. Local 107 is a shop and construction lodge chartered in 1954.

L-28 members install ICE at Princeton

New economizers are part of university's energy conservation project

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 28 (Newark, N.J.) working for new Boilermaker contractor AB&P Mechanical completed a waste heat recovery system in July as part of an energy conservation project at Princeton University.

According to Michael Phillips, manager of construction operations for the general contractor Tozour-Trane, the Boilermakers installed three indirect contact economizers (ICE) to increase the thermal efficiency of the university's boilers. Each ICE weighed in excess of 25,000 pounds and had to be placed in a space with less than a few inches of clearance. During the four-month job, the crew also fabricated and installed the breeching between the ICE and the existing flue gas ducts, and three very large dampers.



Working for AB&P Mechanical are Local 28 members, l. to r., Jason Verge (foreman), Chris Smith, Mike Plaia, and Chris Torrell.

"Jason Verge, foreman, and his team — Chris Torrell, Mike Plaia, and Chris Smith — demonstrated excellent workmanship and cooperation with the university's operating personnel, the other contractors, and myself," Phillips reported. "I commend them for their professional workmanship and skill. They showed careful attention to detail and sensitivity to the schedule . . . working together made this a very successful and safe installation. Timely visits and interest [by L-28 business agent James R. Chew Jr.] in this very important project helped us to be successful."

Chew reports that the university's small package boilers were equipped with the economizer units to increase each unit's efficiency. "Prior to this job, the general contractor did not know what a Boilermaker was," Chew said. "It seems these members performed well and have won the confidence of both of these new contractors." □



Local 28 members set one of three economizers into place at Princeton University in Princeton, N.J.

L-454's Littlejohn has doctor daughter, lawyer son



JAYNE LITTLEJOHN (second from left), daughter of Ross Littlejohn of Local 454, Chattanooga, Tenn. (second from right), and his wife, Ellen (at left), graduated from Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia with a Doctor of Medicine degree May 22. Her brother, Dylan (at right), is an attorney practicing law in Atlanta. Ms. Littlejohn began her internship in internal medicine in June at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital located in Philadelphia. Ross Littlejohn retired in 2007 after 30 years of service and resides with his wife in LaFayette, Ga.



L-374's Bell is a boilermaker by trade, alma mater

New Purdue graduate earns three job offers with job experience and MET degree

FOR ANDY BELL, a May graduate of the mechanical engineering technology program at Purdue University's College of Technology in W. Lafayette, Ind., being a Boilermaker is more than just rooting for Purdue on game day — it's a way of life.

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

Bell, who earned a bachelor's degree at the school, has been employed as a professional Boilermaker — working mainly in the power industry — since he was 19. A member of Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.), Bell followed in the footsteps of his father, Pat, who was a Boilermaker out of Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.). However, at age 21, Andy decided that he wanted to take a slightly different path.

"A lot of my friends attended Purdue, so I started thinking about it myself," he said. "I've always enjoyed engineering, so I thought the MET program would be right for me."

Bell, a 2002 graduate of Milan (Ind.) High School, began the MET program at the College of Technology at Columbus. After a year, he transferred to the West Lafayette campus. He said he briefly considered studying mechanical engineering, but decided that the emphasis on applying engineering knowledge to real-world situations made him a perfect fit for MET.

While attending college, he continued his work as a Boilermaker. As a member of Local 374, he has worked in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Illinois. He also is a skilled tube welder with more than 6,000 hours of experience, which gives him an edge in the job market.

"Welding is a critical part of being a good Boilermaker, but you have to be a jack-of-all trades to be a good Boilermaker," he said. "There are not many people from other crafts that can be a Boilermaker, but Boilermakers often work in other crafts when their skills are needed. We are highly skilled in

what we do, and we are a proud of that. That is what I love about being a Boilermaker. One day you might be welding something together, and another day you're working with the second-largest crane in the U.S., making huge lifts."

Bell said the life of a Boilermaker can be difficult, and working conditions can be dangerous, hot, and dirty.

"We often work long hours, through holidays and weekends, around the clock, and have to be ready to go when a boiler comes off line, wherever it might be," Bell said.

But all of his hard work is paying off. Right after graduation, Bell started a job with BMW Constructors Inc. in Munster, Ind., where he is in charge of quality control and project engineering for three NIPSCO plants in northern Indiana.

Bell said that thanks to his MET degree, he had no trouble finding a job after graduation. In fact, the offer from BMW Constructors was among three that he received.

"The power industry is becoming very regulated, with new standards for emissions, clean air, and environmental laws," he said. "Because of the complex issues involved, power companies are wanting employees with more education. BMW liked that I had a lot of hands-on experience, but they wouldn't have hired me without a bachelor's degree."

Even in his new job capacity, Bell will remain a Boilermaker and hopes "to become more involved with the local now that school is over." □

Story source: Kim Medaris, Purdue Marketing and Media



Local 374's Andy Bell put himself through school working as a boilermaker.

International announces scholarship winners

Twenty-six Boilermaker dependents earn awards totaling \$50,000

THE BOILERMAKERS' International Executive Council scholarship committee announced the winners of its 2009 scholarship program April 14. A total of \$50,000 was awarded to 26 scholarship recipients: \$38,000 to United States students and \$12,000 to Canadian students.

The one-year grants included one \$5,000 award, two \$3,500 awards, seven \$2,000 awards, and 16 \$1,500 awards. The committee chose recipients from a pool of 140 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: "Name the biggest challenge facing unions in the next 10 years."

HEATHER HAMILTON, daughter of John Hamilton, Local Lodge 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.),



earned the top scholarship award of \$5,000. A member of the National Honor Society and recipient of the Silver Medallion Award, Heather also worked part-time at the Madison

County Agriculture Auction and two area golf courses while going to high school. She plans to study agriculture at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Ill.

Two Boilermaker dependents selected to receive \$3,500 grants

KIERAN CARLISLE, son of John Carlisle Jr. and grandson of John Carlisle, both members of Local Lodge 13 (Philadelphia), plans to attend the Pennsylvania State University College of Engineering, working

toward a degree in architectural engineering. Kieran is an accomplished drummer, playing four years with his high school jazz band. He served three years as captain of the school's drum line that earned two district band awards and two drum line championships.

WHITNEY RICE, daughter of David Rice, Local Lodge 51 (Indianapolis), has been accepted into the Hutton Honors College at Indiana University, where she plans to complete her undergraduate degree in speech and hearing sciences, and then pursue a master's degree in speech pathology.



Seven scholarship applicants were selected to receive \$2,000 awards

ANNELIESE CHASE, daughter of Roy Chase, Local Lodge 146 (Edmonton, Alberta), a graduate of Ascension Collegiate, will attend Memorial University of Newfoundland.



SARAH DENSMORE, daughter of Robert Wade Densmore, Local Lodge 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia), will attend St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia.



STEPHANIE GUAY, daughter of Marc Guay, Local Lodge 128 (Toronto, Ontario), is enrolled in the Child, Youth, and Family Studies Program at the University of Guelph in Ontario.



AREK HAUTALUOMA, son of John Hautaluoma, Local Lodge 191 (Victoria, British Columbia), will work this fall then attend Camosun College next spring, where he will major in journalism.



MATTHEW MILNE, son of Bradley Milne, Local Lodge D385 (Vancouver, British Columbia), plans to attend McGill University in Quebec.



SARA WIGGINTON, daughter of Mark Wigginton, Local Lodge D595 (Kosmosdale, Ky.), was the Bethlehem High School's 2009 Valedictorian, student council president, varsity soccer captain, and most

valuable player. She will attend Western Kentucky University and major in biology.



RYAN YEH, son of John Yeh, Local Lodge 146, will be attending Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.



Committee selects 16 \$1,500 award winners

THE COMMITTEE ALSO selected the following 16 scholarship winners to receive a \$1,500 grant.

NATALIA ALVAREZ, daughter of Edgar Alvarez, Local Lodge 1255 (Chicago), will be attending Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.



She hopes to become a biomedical engineer and work in research to improve the lives of handicapped people.

ANDREW BARNETT, son of Robert Barnett, Local Lodge 684 (Norfolk, Va.), will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering at Kettering University in Flint, Mich.



LISA BARRETT, daughter of William Barrett, Local Lodge 13, will major in biology at the University of Michigan. A member of the Pennsylvania Governor's School of Excellence, she plans to study animal behavior in the wild.



ALEXANDRA BRANDT, daughter of Mark Brandt, Local Lodge 1509 (Cudahy, Wis.), plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and eventually enter medical school to become a physician.



HEATHER CARMITCHEL, daughter of Charles Carmitchel, Local Lodge 83 (Kansas City, Mo.), was a member of the Basehor-Linwood High School's Gold Honor Roll for four years. She was selected as a Kansas Honor Scholar and a Governor's Scholar and plans to study architecture at the Kansas State University in Manhattan.



JAMIE ENGBRECHT, daughter of Michael Engbrecht, Local Lodge 647 (Minneapolis), will attend St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minn.



RYAN ESTEP, son of Walter Estep, Local Lodge D408 (Dundee, Mich.), will major in computer engineering at the University of Toledo.



SHANA JO HARRISON, daughter of Benjamin Harrison, Local Lodge 60 (Peoria, Ill.), is enrolled at the College of Business at the University of Illinois in Urbana, where she plans to major in marketing and eventually go on to law school.



NICHOLE LETIZIA, daughter of Lawrence Letizia, Local Lodge 28 (Newark, N.J.), will study architecture at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. A National Honor Society member, Nichole earned varsity letters in cross country and in both indoor and outdoor track.



MARNEY MASON, daughter of Dale Mason, Local Lodge 502 (Tacoma, Wash.), received the Washington State Honors Award, the President's Education Award for Educational Excellence, and was named the Rotary Club's student of the year and the Edmonds School District marketing student of the year. She will attend Seattle University.



KORI MOORE, daughter of Hilton Moore Jr., Local Lodge D397 (Foreman, Ark.), will be attending Northeast Texas Community College in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Kori was valedictorian, president of the National Honor Society and student council, senior class vice president, and captain of the cheerleading squad.



KALEIGH NAMIOTKA, daughter of Larry Namiotka, Local Lodge 13, finished second in her senior class, and was selected as one of the top 25 best all-around area high school students by the *Scranton Times-Tribune*. She plans to study pre-med at Villanova University in Villanova, Pa.



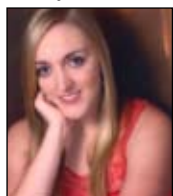
SCHOLARSHIPS

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JESSICA NEDDOW, daughter of Lance Neddow, Local Lodge 169 (Detroit), is planning to study general engineering at the Michigan Technological University this fall.



KRISTIN PERRY, daughter of Paul Perry, Local Lodge 584 (Tuscaloosa, Ala.), has been accepted in the Bachelor of Architecture program at Mississippi State University.



PATRICIA PETERS, step-daughter of Thomas Vallon, Local Lodge 558 (Windsor, Conn.), will attend Boston University.



AMANDA YOUNG, daughter of Donald Young, Local Lodge 667 (Charleston, W.Va.), plans to major in music education at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va. A recognized member of the All Area and All County Band for four years, Amanda hopes to become a college music professor.



IEC scholarship program

SINCE 1988, WHEN the International began the scholarship program, the Boilermakers union has awarded a total of \$826,000 to 396 children and dependents of Boilermaker members. Serving on the 2009 IEC scholarship committee were Intl. Vice Presidents Ed Power (chairman), Tom Baca, and Larry McManamon, assisted by attorney Joe Moreland, representing the law firm of Blake & Uhlig. (D-ISO Gary Prochnow served in place of IVP Baca, who was unable to attend.) 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 fourth year to serve on the scholarship committee; my second 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 2010 scholarship program so we can maximize our opportunity to help our students continue their education." □

Other scholarship winners

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).

Brittany Burd, step-daughter of Local 105 member Gregory Stephens, and Tristan Rumfield, step-daughter of Local 105 member Jeremy Grubb, were each selected from five applicants for a \$2,000 award from Local 105, Chillicothe, Ohio.

Ryan Yeh, son of Local 146 member John Yeh, was selected as a \$2,000 award recipient, and Erin Baker, daughter of Local 146 member Kenneth Baker, was chosen as a \$1,000 scholarship winner from 10 applicants to the Local 146 scholarship program in Edmonton, Alberta.

Both Ryan and Erin were also selected to receive a \$1,000 grant from the CFL.

Local 13 awards 28 grants totaling \$224,000

LOCAL LODGE 13, Philadelphia, announces the winners of 28 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 two \$3,000 grants

LOCAL LODGE 83, Kansas City, Mo., announces the winners of two \$3,000 scholarship awards to dependents of Local 83 members who participated in the local's annual competition. (See photo below.)

The winners were selected by members of the local's Special Funds Committee. Receiving a \$3,000 grant were Halley Marie Collins, daughter of L-83 member Michael Collins; and Heather Elaine Carmitchel, daughter of L-83 member Charles Carmitchel. Halley plans to attend Kansas University in Lawrence, Kan.; Heather will be going to Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kan.

Local 108 awards scholarship



Heather Eubanks accepts a scholarship award from L-108 BM-ST Ronnie Dexter (c.) and Recording Secretary Timothy Simmons.

LOCAL LODGE 108, Birmingham, Ala., has awarded a \$2,000 grant to Heather Nicole Eubanks, daughter of L-108 member Benny Eubanks.

This is the third year the local has issued a scholarship award. Local 108 BM-ST Ronnie Dexter says Recording Secretary Timothy Simmons was instrumental in setting up the lodge's scholarship fund.



Local 83 presents \$3,000 scholarship awards to Halley Collins (third from left) and Heather Carmitchel (second from right). Also pictured are, front row, l. to r.: Sherrie Collins, Michael Collins, Charles Carmitchel, and L-83 BM-ST Randy Cruse. Back row, second from left, L-83 President Larry Horseman, and Special Funds Committee members, from l. to r., Dave Leimer, Scot Albertson, and Joe Lewandowski.

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 at www.boilermakers.org) 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.

To learn more about how to apply for a Boilermaker scholarship, check out our Web site: www.boilermakers.org



Kaiser Silica Trust announces deadlines for personal injury claims

Some claimants must file by Dec. 31, 2009

THE KAISER ALUMINUM & Chemical Corporation Silica Personal Injury Trust (the "Kaiser Silica Trust") has announced an outreach program to notify potential claimants about eligibility requirements and compensate those claimants who are eligible. As of Aug. 10, 2009, the trust was paying 75 percent of allowed claim values. The claim values (for five categories of diseases) range from \$2,500 to \$250,000.

To be eligible, claimants must meet the following two requirements: Have a silica-related disease that was first diagnosed on or after Feb. 12, 2002; and

- Worked in one or more of the specified industries (such as cement plants), for at least six months between 1951 and 1986 and been exposed to refractory products; OR
- Worked in industries or occupations not specified by the Kaiser Silica Trust for at least six months

between 1951 and 1986, but have proof of actual exposure to Kaiser refractory products.

The trust stresses that the *first diagnosis must have occurred on or after Feb. 12, 2002*. If a claimant's first diagnosis was on or before July 6, 2006, the claim must be submitted to the Kaiser Silica Trust by Dec. 31, 2009, or the claimant can contact the Kaiser Silica Trust by Dec. 31, 2009, to request up to a 180-day extension of the filing deadline. If the claimant's diagnosis was after July 6, 2006, the claim must be filed by the later of Dec. 31, 2009, or three years after the date of the first diagnosis.

Additional information is available by calling the Kaiser Silica Trust at 1-877-453-0150. To download a claim form, go to www.kaisersilica-trust.com. To request a claim form by mail, write to the Kaiser Silica Trust c/o Trust Services Inc., P.O. Box 1299, Greenville, Texas 75403-1299. Claims may be submitted to the Kaiser Silica Trust directly or with the assistance of legal counsel. □

Five locals win NMAPC Zero Injury Safety Awards

FIVE BOILERMAKER LOCALS have been awarded a total of six Zero Injury Safety Awards by the National Maintenance Agreements Policy Committee (NMAPC). These awards recognize the union, the contractor, and the customer equally for their contribution to world-class safety on projects worked under the National Maintenance Agreement.

The award winners are as follows:

Local 11, Helena, Mont.

Contractor: NewMech Companies Inc.
Owner: ExxonMobil
Project Name: Exchanger, Piping and Structural Steel Modifications
Plant: Billings Refinery, Billings, Mont.
Hours Worked: 55,794

Local 74, Houston, Texas

Contractor: APComPower Inc.
Owner: Lower Colorado River Authority
Project Name: Fayette Power Project
Plant: La Grange, Texas
Hours Worked: 65,766

Local 744, Cleveland, Ohio

Contractor: Enerfab Corporation
Owner: FirstEnergy Corp.
Project Name: Boiler Outage
Plant: Ashtabula Plant
Hours Worked: 79,422

Local 83, Kansas City, Mo.

Contractor: Enerfab Corporation
Owner: Associated Electric Cooperative Inc.
Project Name: Routine Maintenance
Plant: Thomas Hill Energy Center, Clifton Hill, Mo.
Hours Worked: 444,395

Local 154, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Contractor: Minnotte Contracting Corp.
Owner: Allegheny Energy Supply
Project Name: Scrubber Preparation/Balance Draft-Conversion
Plant: Hatfield's Ferry Generation Station, Masontown, PA
Hours Worked: 58,364

Local 154, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Contractor: Enerfab Corporation
Owner: FirstEnergy Corp.
Project Name: Outages and Maintenance
Plant: W.H. Sammis Plant
Hours Worked: 268,500



Local 128 offers safety training

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 128 (Toronto, Ontario) use the lodge's new rigging structure to complete a 16-hour construction safety association course on elevated work platforms. Ed Frerotte, training coordinator for Local 128, said the members took the course at their Burlington, Ontario, training center on July 13-14. Pictured, l. to r., are Greg O'Brien, Bernard Tomkins, Blair Allin (instructor), James Finley, Michael Murphy, Joel Prosic, and Chad Donald.

Worker deaths decline in 2007 to 5,657

Construction sector has largest number of fatal injuries, followed by transportation

WORKER FATALITIES FROM traumatic injuries on the job declined in 2007 from the previous year — 5,657 compared to 5,840 — according to an AFL-CIO report. Now in its 18th edition, "Death on the Job: the Toll of Neglect" provides national and state-by-state profiles of worker safety and health in the United States. It uses the latest data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), reporting that nearly 11,000 workers were injured or made ill each day in 2007, and 15 workers died each day. The report does not include deaths from occupational diseases, which claim the lives of an estimated 50,000 workers each year.

According to the report, highway crashes are the leading cause of workplace deaths, accounting for one-fourth of the fatal work injury total (1,414). The report also shows an increase in the number of fatalities by falls (847), assaults and violent acts (864), and workplace homicides (628).

While the number of deaths in construction decreased in 2007 (from 1,239 in 2006 to 1,204 in 2007), the construction sector still has the largest number of fatal work injuries of any industry, followed by transportation and warehousing (890).

To view the 160-page report in its entirety, visit the AFL-CIO Web site at http://www.aflcio.org/issues/safety/memorial/upload/doj_2009.pdf. □

Boilermakers purchase bench at National Workers Memorial

In honor of our brothers and sisters who lost their lives through injuries or illnesses suffered on the job, we dedicate this bench, that they may never be forgotten ...

Inscription honors fallen members

BOILERMAKERS WHO HAVE died from injuries or illnesses suffered on the job will be remembered at the new National Workers Memorial to be constructed at the National Labor College (NLC) in Silver Spring, Md., this year.

In January, International President Newton B. Jones authorized the purchase of a granite bench, with the inscription: "In honor of our brothers and sisters who lost their lives through injuries or illnesses suffered on the job, we dedicate this bench, that they may never be forgotten, 1880-Present — Interna-

tional Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers, and Helpers."

Located in the center of the campus, the \$500,000 memorial will feature a plaza of bricks surrounded by granite benches and pavers. Bench sponsorships are intended for categories of workers, says the NLC. Individual bricks, pavers, and special markers may also be sponsored.

For more information on the memorial, including how to become a sponsor, visit the NLC Web site at www.nlc.edu/alumniCommunity/GivingToNLC/WorkersMemorial.html. □

Mount Vernon Joy Mining employees win TAA benefits

Eligible workers can now apply for assistance under the Trade Act thanks to efforts of 10 former co-workers

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 483 (Alton, Ill.) who worked for Joy Technologies Inc., d/b/a Joy Mining Machinery in Mount Vernon, Ill., are now eligible for government benefits under the Trade Act of 1974, thanks to the efforts of 10 former co-workers and two lawyers who worked on the case pro-bono (without compensation, for the public good).

"Since the plant closed in 2006, 10 former Joy employees have been fighting a battle against the Department of Labor to get these benefits," said L-483 Pres. Jerome Tobin. "If you don't know, the Department of Labor is not for the working man. We were turned down several times, and we almost gave up hope until two lawyers took on the case pro-bono."

Mel Schwechter and Emily Dephour of the New York law firm, Dewey & Leboeuf LLP, challenged the DOL and won benefits and services that help eligible workers get back to work.

"I'm glad we got it; this tells me the system will work. It's slow, but if you persevere you can win in the end," said Tobin.

The former employees of Joy Mining Machinery are now eligible for the following government programs: Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), which helps individuals get back to work with training benefits; Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA) — income support while participating in full-time training; or Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA), a wage subsidy of up to \$10,000 for older workers who accept re-employment at a lower wage and for whom retraining may not be appropriate.

Among the members who pursued the case was John Moore, who served as "point man" between the law firm and ex-employees who helped fight this case. "He never gave up and fought to the end," Tobin said of Moore.

Tobin, Moore, and Verlin Fritchley, who is serving as a peer counselor for the former Joy employees, are among the first to qualify for TRA cash benefits. Moore plans to use his money for his son's college expenses, Tobin will pay down some of his credit card debt, and Fritchley's benefits will go toward his retirement.

Eligible workers are now busy filling out the necessary paperwork to get the benefits. Over 175 members have signed up, and members should start receiving benefits within two

weeks. "The process is slow," says Tobin, "but not as slow as it took to win a favorable decision from the DOL."

Established by the Trade Act of 1974, the TAA program was designed to provide training, and in some cases financial assistance, to workers who lose their jobs because of a foreign trade agreement. The program was recently expanded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, better known as the "stimulus bill," to include workers who lose their jobs to countries that do not have a trade agreement with the United States (for example, China).

IR Bill Staggs, who was president of Local 483 when Joy Mining closed, said the awarding of TAA benefits is a great victory for the union members.

When the Mount Vernon plant closed in 2006, over 180 Local 483 members found themselves without a job. Staggs says that most of the members have since found other work, some in other shops, and some as field construction Boilermakers. But there are still too many who are out of work



Verlin Fritchley, Jerome P. Tobin, and John Moore, l. to r., are among the first to qualify for TRA benefits following the closing of Joy Mining Machinery in Mount Vernon, Ill.

or working at jobs for lower wages. "The training opportunities and services TAA provides will greatly benefit these members," Staggs said.

Joy Technologies manufactures deep mining equipment, machines that bore into coal seams or slice coal from the wall of a seam. Local 483 members at the company's Mount Vernon plant repaired those machines, which weighed up to 100 tons and cost millions of dollars.

The Mount Vernon facility also included Joy's "Brake and Clutch Center of Excellence," where brakes and clutches for these machines were repaired. The Boilermakers had represented workers there since 1978. □

New contract summaries

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

NTD/L-106 — Cincinnati

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2009 to May 31, 2012, administered by the National Transient Division for four members of Local 106 (Cincinnati) who perform steel plate fabrication at **Enerfab Inc.**

L-4 — Page, Ariz.

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010, for two members of Local 4 (Page, Ariz.) who work in the repair shop at **AP&F Construction** in North Salt Lake, Utah.

L-5 — New York

EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2010, for four members of Local 5 Zone 5 (New York) who work for **Quickway Metal Fabricators Inc.** in Monticello, N.Y.

L-13 — Philadelphia

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2009 to Feb. 28, 2012, for members of Local Lodge 13 (Philadelphia) who perform maintenance work at **Damson Boiler**, a small boiler installation & repair company.

L-D23 — Clinchfield, Ga.

EFFECTIVE APRIL 26, 2009 to Dec. 15, 2013, for 90 members of Local D23 (Clinchfield, Ga.) who make cement products and perform maintenance work at **Cemex SE.**

L-27 — St. Louis

EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 2009 to Jan. 1, 2012, for 10 members of Local 27 (St. Louis) who work for **Jones & Lockhart Welding Inc.**, a welding repair service specializing in carbon steel, aluminum, and stainless steel.

L-37 — New Orleans

EFFECTIVE APRIL 30, 2009 to April 30, 2010, for one member of Local 37 (New Orleans) who works for **Basell USA Inc.** in Westlake, La. Owned by Lyondell & Basell, the manufacturing facility makes polymers for various consumer products, such as dishwasher-safe plastics and fibers for indoor and outdoor carpets.

Effective Jan. 4, 2009 to Jan. 14, 2011, for 12 Local 37 members who work in production at **Citgo Petroleum Corp.**, a refinery manufacturer of high-quality transportation fuels, lubricants, and petrochemicals.

Effective April 13, 2009 to April 12, 2014, for seven L-37 members who work at **Firestone Polymer**, a supplier of synthetic rubber, thermoplastic elastomers, and impact modifiers to rubber, plastics, adhesive, and asphalt markets around the world.

Effective March 15, 2009 to March 15, 2012, for two L-37 members who work at the **W.R. Grace Refinery** in Sulphur, La.

L-D308 — Bowmansville

EFFECTIVE MAY 26, 2009 to May 31, 2012, for 42 members of Local D308 (Bowmansville, N.Y.) who work in production and maintenance at **Buffalo Crushed Stone**. Primary products include hot mix asphalt, crushed limestone, sand and gravel, as well as blast furnace slag.

L-D328 — Cheektowaga

EFFECTIVE MAY 16, 2009 to May 15, 2012, for 26 members of Local D328 (Cheektowaga, N.Y.) who work in production and maintenance at **Buffalo Crushed Stone**, the primary supplier of asphalt, cement, and stone products in Western New York and Western Pennsylvania.

L-D342 — Plattsburgh

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2009 to April 30, 2013, for 22 members of Local D342 (Plattsburgh, N.Y.) who work in maintenance at **Graymont Materials' Plattsburgh Quarry Division**, supplying construction aggregates, ready mix concrete, and asphalt to nearby Clinton County.

L-D480 — Charlevoix

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2009 to May 1, 2012, for 98 members of Local D480 (Charlevoix, Mich.) who work in production and maintenance at **St. Mary's Cement USA**, a leading manufacturer of cement and related construction products.

L-483 — Alton, Ill.

EFFECTIVE MAY 31, 2009 to May 31, 2012, for 11 members of Local 483 (Alton, Ill.) who work in production at **Diamond Plating**, chrome plating a variety of products, including chairs and barbeque grates.

L-D523 — Savannah

EFFECTIVE FEB. 29, 2009 to Feb. 28, 2011, for 17 members of Local D523 (Savannah, Ga.) who work in production and maintenance at the **Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Co.** in Sandersville, Ga.

L-549 — Pittsburg, Calif.

EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2010, for eight members of Local 549 (Pittsburg, Calif.) who work in production & maintenance at **Bay City Boiler Works** in San Francisco, and effective May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2012, for 10 Local 549 members who perform metal plating at **Industrial Plating** in San Carlos, Calif.

L-D575 — Moosehorn

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012, for 30 members of Local D575 (Moosehorn, Manitoba) who work in production and maintenance at **Graymont Inc.'s Faulkner lime plant**, located within two miles of the shore of Lake Manitoba. The plant has a

Locals award service pins

Local 1 — Chicago

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

35 YEARS – Richard S. Bartos.

Local 5 — New York

THOMAS KLEIN, BM-ST of Local 5, New York, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

Local 5 Zone 5 (New York)

35 YEARS – Charles Carroll, Dennis Froehlich, Marvin Gossage, Gerald Long; and

25 YEARS – Brian Connolly, Jon Walsh.

Local 5 Zone 175 (Oswego, N.Y.)

35 YEARS – John Colloca, John Oswald, James Waldron;

30 YEARS – Charles Archer, Dave Bartholomew, Mark Denny, Bob Ferguson, Don French, John Fultz;

25 YEARS – Gary Jones; and

15 YEARS – John Blauvelt, Ron Canale, Steve Cannady, Blaine Carusone, Francis Conzone, Gary Fultz, Rick Gilbert, Steve Griffin, James Harrington, Pete Harrington, Steve Isgar, Ralph Lobb, Greg Peterson, Tom Scruton, Jon Smith, Daniel Spink, Ted Sutton, Rick Visconti, Gary Willis, Kevin Wiltsie.

Local 5 Zone 197 (Albany, N.Y.)

35 YEARS – Frank Harper;

30 YEARS – Rick Boyer, Gerald Bruck, David Domanico, Michael Drinkwine, Tom Harper, Monroe Kennison, David Ketchovan, Jeffrey Ladau, Walter McKay, Thomas Newton, Robert Wappich;

25 YEARS – Scott Bentley, Robert Domanico, John Dott, Dave Flood, Kirk Gendron, John Greer, Michael Gregory, George Hastings, Claude Hebert, Wayne Vandervoort;

20 YEARS – Robert Adamczyk, Ron Charbonneau, Kevin Dunn, Shane Elliott, Edward Engel, John Evans, John Gustafson Jr., Joe Jankovic, William Jones, Phillip Koener, Jay Ruff, Doug Smith Jr., Mark Stewart, Glen Storm, David Teidman; and

15 YEARS – Carl (Scott) Brundige, James Clouse, Gordon Cochrane, Donald Cusson Jr., Daniel D’Angelo, David Goodrich, Michael Guzzo, Frank Harper, Newton Jaycox, Shawn Kolb, James Luke, Chris Parker, Wayne Skowfoe, Roman Tomasikiewicz.

Local 13 — Philadelphia

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

65 YEARS – Albert Dziedzina Sr., Jack Peifer;

60 YEARS – Joseph Reilly;

55 YEARS – Robert Rowe;

50 YEARS – Arthur Namiotka, Milton White;

45 YEARS – Stanley Goss;

40 YEARS – Carl Absher, James Dykes, David Evans, Thomas Hans, Vincent Kern, Joseph Malloy, Michael Mongelli, Joseph Sweitzer Sr., Arthur H. Wilson Sr.;

35 YEARS – Daniel Bailey Jr., Howard Birchmeier, John Cinousis, John Dambrowski, Michael DiCicco, Michael Gaughan, Thomas Golden, Robert Gresko, James Hall, William Jack, Lee MacKnight, John Mangiamele, Vincent Mangiamele Sr., Robert Melling, Joseph J. Potts Jr., Albert Ray, Nick Rieser, Charles Shields, Kenneth Sieklicki, James Sigovich, Peter Sliwka, Timothy P. Smith, Gaeton Spera Jr., Joseph St. John, Seldon Whyte, William Woolley Jr.;

30 YEARS – Daniel Ahern, William J. Barrett Jr., Richard Blitz, Thomas P. Coleman, Carmen Colicino Jr., Frank Doerr, Michael Dzwonek, Randy Everetts, Kevin Gaughan, Thomas Gaughan, Anthony Ingram, Michael Kamauff, Christopher Monahan, Patrick Mulligan, Richard Roos, Robert Sieklicki, Joseph Slavinski, Michael A. Smith, Joseph A. Smith, William St. John, Bruce Verbit, Steve Verbit, Michael J. Wozniak, Russell Zern, Thomas Zwiercan;

25 YEARS – Wayne Leister Jr., Joseph F. Smith Jr.;

20 YEARS – Robert Birchmeier, Anthony Ciferni Jr., James C. Coleman, James Gieder, Gary Gresko, Glenn Grosstephen, Clayton Hartman III, Steve Italiano, Edward Johnson, Kenneth Klinger, Mark Mangiamele, Brien Monahan, Randall Monahan Jr., Michael Redmond, Dennis Reiprish, Mark Strachan, Timothy Wiernusz, Timothy Wilson; and

15 YEARS – Thomas Bill, Thomas Green, David Kreis, Franklin MacKay, George McCook, Bernard Nowak III.

Local 40 — Elizabethtown

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

65 YEARS – Rudolph Qualls;

55 YEARS – William D. Walker;

45 YEARS – Gary B. Dorris, William L. Meredith, James R. Perry;

40 YEARS – Lindel R. Arnold, Herbert Blankenship, James W. Byassee, Hubert E. Calloway, Billy R. Cauley, Roy M. Day, James E. Donhoff, Wendell Embry, Hubert G. Fitzgerald, Russell H. Garrett, John R. Gipson, Craig L. Haney, Kenneth J. Jarrett, Jerry W. Jones, Guy L. Kost, Johnny Nasby, James L. Quesnell, Gerald D. Roark, Edward C. Striegel, James M. Sturgeon, John T. Suttles, Herbert R. Swift, Michael E. Tucker, Freddie R. Young;

35 YEARS – Dennis L. Bartley, David M. Bishop, Fred E. Duley, Robert W. Hoffman, Tony Madden, James T. Newman, James E. Patrick, Thomas R. Richardson, Eric Rittman, Troy L. Roark, Willis R. Rogers, Bruce W. Stinnett, Lanny R. Stinnett, F.C. Thompson, Trenton B. Vincent;

30 YEARS – Jimmy D. Arnold, Robert J. Brooks, William H. Bruner Jr., Roger D. Criswell, Todd M. Hardin, Gerald K. Jones, Stephen E. King, Roger P. Newton, Charles B. Patton, James E. Porter, Gerald W. Reed, Gerald D. Sloas, Michael A. Young;

25 YEARS – John M. Allison, Randy E. Bailey, Steven R. Carter, Joseph N. Demarsh, Benny R. Green, Joel O. Greer, Brian F. Head, Danny McCay;

20 YEARS – Jackie Banks, Elmer Burchett, Harold C. Bush, Jeanette Calloway, John S. Clevenger, Mark Coleman, Douglas Collins, Paul Crisp, Gernie Eldridge, Don Embry, Mark S. Embry, Michael Ferrell, Jeffrey Flaughter, Thomas Gollihue, George Grant, Ronald Lloyd, Mark McDavid, Donald Phillips, James Ratcliff, Keith Ratcliff, Robert Ratcliff, William Ratcliff, Johnny Tackett, Billy Joe Thomas Jr., David Warman, Charles Wathen, Bruce White; and

See SERVICE PINS, page 23

Contracts

Continued from p. 19

preheater-equipped rotary kiln which can produce both high-calcium quicklime and dolomitic lime.

L-587—Orange, Texas

EFFECTIVE FEB. 1, 2009 to Feb. 1, 2012, for 43 members of L-587 (Orange, Texas) who work in production at **Gulf Coast Machine & Supply Company (Gulfco)**, a forging & machine shop established in 1919.

L-647 — Minneapolis

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012, for one member of Local 647 (Minneapolis) who performs small boiler repair at the **Kenny Boiler & Manufacturing Co.** in St. Paul, Minn.

Effective July 17, 2009, the contract has been extended for L- 647 members at **Moorhead Machinery & Boiler**, a fabricating shop specializing in field mechanical maintenance, repair, renovation, and erection services to the power generation industry.

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 activities. 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. □

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	Miles, Terry	45	Strickland, Rudolph	128	Mitchell, Herbert	433	Fernandez, Elpidio
1	Fulton, Herbert	60	Grant, Ray A.	128	Palmer, James	449	Jome, Franklin
1	Hoigard, Richard	60	Wade, Royall	132	Comeaux, James S.	453	Britton, J.D.
1	Latuszek, Frank	69	Malcom, Charles E.	146	Gowda, Mike	454	Justice, Calvin
1	Malec, Stanley	72	Simmons, James D.	146	Murguly, Leslie	486	Jernigan, Sherman
1	Stoner, L.	73	Fraser, Gerald	146	Roth, Philip	487	Berkovitz Jr., Walter L.
1	Strohecker, John	79	Henry, Lale	154	Edwards, Charles W.	487	Theys, Louis
5	Lacy, Richard M.	83	Davidson, Samuel	154	Gabriel, Richard	500	Coultas, Wayne
6	Banducci, Orlando	83	Pruitt, Hanley	154	Ray, Joseph	500	Manning, John W.
6	Sandoval, Tomas	85	Colvin Sr., Branch	154	Schriver, Paul J.	532	Mercer, Charles
7	Broecker, Donald	85	Irwin, Ralph E.	154	Wujs, John F.	549	Brown, Bazil
7	Harmon, George W.	92	Cowan, Charles	158	Kidd, Jesse	549	Jamison, Robert
7	Maciejewski, Michael	92	Dahl, William	169	Meldrum, Cletus G.	568	Kotas, Venzel
7	Mulhollan, Edwin L.	92	Lowenberg, Kenneth	169	Misho, John	582	Chemin, David
7	Vergien, Richard	92	Martin, Mickey	182	Thompson, Opal	582	McGraw, Charles E.
11	Posey, Howard B.	92	Reid, Kenneth	193	Gins Sr., Richard	582	Pierson, Alton J.
13	Dellapenna, Carmen	92	Stec, Louis	197	Tenenini, Edward	582	Sanders, Willie L.
13	Gaughan, Richard	101	Okon, Bernard	199	Nelson, Robert B.	610	Juniper, Jack
13	Holmes, John	104	Erickson, Carl	203	Fewer, Joseph	614	Tougas, Raymond
13	Napolitano, Niel	104	Smith, Rodney	242	Mankin, Robert	627	Guajardo, Gilbert
27	Bender, Jay C.	105	Davis, Earsel	359	Harbord, Walter	627	Mallam, Richard
27	Bosomworth, Orval	105	Sorrell, Willard	359	Morgan, William	647	Hummel, Conrad
27	Carter, Lester	107	Klein, Harry J.	363	Adkins, Wendell	656	Hall, Fermon
27	Dunn, Norman	108	Lewis, Thomas	363	Morgan, Robert E.	667	Gray, James
29	Beaupre, John R.	112	Davis, Roland Lee	363	Rea, Joen	679	Collett, Homer
29	Thompson, Robert	112	Johnson Sr., Douglas	374	Crowe, Harry	1509	Schuldt, John F.
37	Martinez, Trinity F.	112	Klug, Roland J.	374	Felty, Hugh	1603	Heestand, William
40	Coomer, Richard	128	Brann, Aloysiu	374	Rocks, Richard	1603	Wade, James S.
40	Ratcliff Jr., Raymond	128	Doktorchic, Steve	374	Shaw, James	1618	Pool, Willard Hollis
45	Stinson, Gerald	128	Jacobs, Robert	433	Barthle Sr., William	1637	Fitch, Casmer C.

DEATH BENEFITS

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

LODGE, NAME & BENEFIT			
BNF	Wands, Thomas L.	\$6,000.00	13 Surzinski, Joseph A.*
Intl.	Johnson, June A.	6,000.00	26 Davis, Jasper W.
NTL	Brazill, Billy	6,000.00	26 Hazelwood, Albert
NTL	Collier, Roger L.	6,000.00	26 Lovell, Van A.
NTL	Coulombe, Gerard R.	6,000.00	26 Smith, Olan
NTL	Davis, James D.	6,000.00	26 Smith, Redic F.
NTL	Graham, Daryl L.	6,000.00	27 Heitkoetter Jr., Henry
NTL	Kimble, Tony H.	6,000.00	27 Lamprecht, Neil F.
NTL	Legg, Lawrence D.*	3,000.00	27 Mathis, John
NTL	Manley, Leon R.	6,000.00	27 Ridenour, Glen G.
NTL	McBrayer, Charles	6,000.00	27 Seiler, Louis G.
NTL	Reeves, Kenneth*	3,011.41	28 Danks, Thomas C.
NTL	Rumsey, Adam P.	15,000.00	28 Vibbard, Oran R.
NTL	Trice, James	6,000.00	29 Petillo, Gavin S.
NTL	Ward, Paul L.*	3,000.00	29 Shaheen, Philip P.*
NTL	Wright, David	6,000.00	37 Gebhardt, Vivian R.
1	Duncan, Paul E.	6,000.00	37 Morgan, James C.
1	McKeighen, William	6,000.00	37 Walters, Robert F.
5	Gavigan, Willis R.	6,000.00	37 Wild Jr., Philip C.
5	O'Kane, James J.	6,000.00	40 Elliott, Samuel H.
6	Bachnick, William C.	6,000.00	40 Ratcliff, Raymond
6	Baron, Harvey N.	6,000.00	40 Ritchie, Barter
6	Cracraft, Russell E.	6,000.00	40 Suttles, Christopher
6	Golden, William R.	6,000.00	45 Leftwich, Vernon
6	Henderson, Charles	6,000.00	60 Hackman, Vernon F.
6	Hill, Samuel A.	6,000.00	60 Kirby, Francis L.
6	Kemper, Arthur J.	6,000.00	60 Murphy, William J.
6	Lamb, James J.	6,000.00	69 Edwards, Curtis L.
6	Maurins, A.*	4,000.00	72 Brumfiel, Duane
6	Nunn, Kenneth R.	6,000.00	72 Donaldson, Ralph
6	Pena, Fernando P.	6,000.00	72 Glisan, Fred V.
6	Richardson, Anthony	6,000.00	72 Hover, John V.
6	Senter, Edward T.	6,000.00	72 Locke, Timothy R.
6	Spears, Ralph I.	6,000.00	72 McCallum, Robert
7	Doty Sr., Charles E.	6,000.00	72 Mills, Marshall C.
7	Vergian, Richard C.*	2,400.00	72 Morgan, Harold H.
13	Graham, Dana M.	6,000.00	72 Pearse, Robert C.
13	MacMillan, Percy A.	6,000.00	72 Rosch, J.M.
13	Strachan, Ronald J.	6,000.00	72 Thompson, Arol E.
			72 Walters, Lloyd W.
			72 Weiss, Clarence T.

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.

72	Willbrandt, Adolph	6,000.00
74	Bennett, Calvin H.	6,000.00
74	Bliss, Danny H.	6,000.00
74	Holman, William S.	6,000.00
74	Lawyer, Raymond L.	6,000.00
74	Martin, C.J.	2,000.00
74	Smith, Dennis H.	6,000.00
74	Woods, Walter J.	6,000.00
79	LaVergne, Eguene	6,000.00
83	Case, Richard E.	10,353.02
83	Colibert, Roy M.	6,000.00
83	Day, Thomas R.	6,000.00
83	Jesse, Warren A.	6,000.00
83	Kite, George L.	6,000.00
83	Nagles, David	5,628.71
84	Stifter, Frank W.	6,000.00
85	Eberhart, Kelvin P.	6,000.00
85	Henderson, James G.	369.00
85	Zills, Davis R.	6,000.00
88	Brown, Frank A.	6,000.00
92	Estrada, Monse S.	6,000.00
92	Finale, Norberto Ruiz	6,000.00
92	Haddock, William N.	6,000.00
92	Harriman, Irl E.	6,000.00
92	Hubik, Edward A.	6,000.00
92	Kenny, Joseph G.	6,000.00
92	Millette, Gerald J.	6,000.00
92	Rodriguez, Augustine	6,000.00
92	Shepherd, Calvin V.	6,000.00
92	Todd, Lawrence D.*	6,000.00
92	Troxler, Hollis C.	3,000.00
92	Watson, Richard	6,000.00

See DEATH BENEFITS, page 22



Money-Saving Programs for Members Only

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

Accident Insurance
Call: 1-800-393-0864

AT & T Wireless Discounts
Call: 1-800-897-7046

Auto Insurance
Call: 1-888-294-9496

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

Education Services

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

Entertainment Discounts

Save on sporting events, theaters, movie tickets, rentals, theme parks
Call: 1-800-565-3712
ID #744387769

Health Savings

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

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

Mortgage

Also open to children & parents of Boilermaker members.
Call: 1-800-848-6466

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

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

Union Plus Moving Discount
For Allied Van Lines
Call: 1-800-871-8864

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

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

www.unionplus.org

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

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

Death Benefits

Continued from p. 21

101	Glosz, Vilmos	6,000.00
104	Allen, Harold R.	6,000.00
104	Barber, Ronald B.	6,000.00
104	Bauer, James M.	6,000.00
104	Brazil, Terry P.	6,000.00
104	Bro, Lee W.	6,000.00
104	Brown, David S.	6,000.00
104	Clark, Robert Edwin	6,000.00
104	Davies, Kenneth W.	6,000.00
104	Gablehouse, Roy C.	6,000.00
104	Goldsmith, Ronald*	3,000.00
104	Hamner, Richard C.	6,000.00
104	Jennings, James H.*	3,000.00
104	King, Vester A.	6,000.00
104	Kinzler, Donald R.	6,000.00
104	Lang, Lee F.	6,000.00
104	Lee, Will C.	6,000.00
104	Maricle, Millard	6,000.00
104	McCarter, Dean A.	6,000.00
104	McMullen, John C.*	1,000.00
104	Schultz, William J.	6,000.00
104	Swartz, John H.	6,000.00
104	Volkenand, Robert L.	6,000.00
104	Wallis, William Allen	6,000.00
104	Whitaker, Alfred E.	6,000.00
105	Applegate, Fred A.	6,000.00
105	Bressler, Donald W.	6,000.00
105	Gabbard, Gary W.	4,200.00
105	Gray, George W.	6,000.00
105	McKnight, Jesse O.	6,000.00
112	Brown Jr., Walter R.	6,000.00
112	Cholar Jr., Emil C.	6,000.00
112	Dees, Richard	6,000.00
112	Jones, Donald N.	6,000.00
112	Wall Jr., John A.	6,000.00
124	Persa, Leslie	6,000.00
132	Gonzales Sr., Ernest	6,000.00
132	Jackson Jr., Harry M.	6,000.00
132	Monan, Steven R.	6,000.00
132	Sutton, Ross	6,000.00
132	Wuensch, Raymond	6,000.00
154	Ezzi, Joseph R.	6,000.00

154	Freeman, Floyd J.	6,000.00
154	LeCompte, Marcel*	2,000.00
154	Michalisin, John	6,000.00
154	Patterson, Richard L.	6,000.00
154	Riggle, Leslie R.	6,000.00
154	Salciccioli, Franklin	6,000.00
154	Stevens, Jimmy E.	6,000.00
154	Tydeman, James F.	6,000.00
154	Undereiner, Lance A.	6,000.00
169	Betke, Bernard L.	6,000.00
169	Gerard, Clayton M.	6,000.00
169	McAlister, George W.	3,000.00
174	Nass, Robert D.	6,000.00
175	Oswald, Charles K.	6,000.00
177	Blahnik, John R.	6,000.00
177	Zittlow, Richard J.*	2,367.94
182	Arpin, Earl H.	6,000.00
182	Harris, Wayne D.	6,000.00
182	Heiner, William W.	6,000.00
182	Shaw, William	6,000.00
193	Comer, Marshall T.	6,000.00
193	Linsky, Joseph J.	6,000.00
195	Bodeen, Robert B.	6,000.00
199	Adams, Harold D.	6,000.00
199	Hillyard, Carl L.	6,000.00
199	McCoy, John	6,000.00
199	Williams, Wesley C.*	857.40
204	Akoni, Ernest	6,000.00
237	Kenyon, Bernard E.	6,000.00
237	Sheridan, William A.	6,000.00
242	Beaupre, Al J.	6,000.00
242	Cress, Ralph W.	6,000.00
263	Cook, Claude E.	6,000.00
263	Folts, Obie E.	6,000.00
300	Green, Harold A.	6,000.00
316	Day, James C.	6,000.00
338	Micek, Lucian L.	6,000.00
343	Acosta, William J.	6,000.00
358	Beachler, Victor W.	6,000.00
363	Thomas, Lawrence	6,000.00
374	Clark, Donald E.*	2,000.00
374	Dudek, Frank G.	6,000.00
374	Felty, Hugh G.	6,000.00
374	Lawrence, Donald E.	6,000.00
374	Pizzuto, Frank N.	6,000.00
374	Stephens, Glen L.	2,305.05

National funds administrator, archivist, passes away

THOMAS LUSK WANDS JR., 80, retired administrator of the Boilermakers' national funds office, former archivist for the Boilermakers union, and 54-year member of the National Transient Lodge, passed away June 21.

A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Wands owned the James Lusk Co. before beginning a career with the Boilermakers in 1955.

In 1960, Wands became the first administrator of the Boilermakers' national pension and health and welfare funds, a position he held until his retirement Dec. 31, 1985.



Thomas L. Wands Jr.
1929-2009

In 1991, the International union contracted with Wands to work as its national archivist. A third-generation member, Wands' family history with the union dates back to the early 1900s. Relying on his personal experience and his artistic abilities (Wands designed various logos for the International, including the union's official seal), he spent many hours researching records and the union's official publications to piece together the puzzle of artifacts he found in piles at the union's Kansas City headquarters.

During his term as archivist (1991-2004), Wands put together a museum-quality display depicting the union's history from the 19th century to the present day. That display can still be viewed at the National Archives building, located just one block west of International headquarters.

In 2003, Intl. Pres. C. W. Jones presented Wands with the Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor the International union bestows.

Wands is survived by his wife, Betty, Overland Park, Kan.; son and daughter-in-law, Hayden and Martina Wands of Naperville, Ill.; and two grandchildren, Brittany and Carter.

374	Whitham, Dennis R.	6,000.00	454	Elsea, James E.	6,000.00
433	Chelette, William L.	6,000.00	454	Jenkins, Robert E.	6,000.00
433	Lazo, Samuel R.	6,000.00	454	Kinsey, Shirley E.	4,000.00
433	Murphy, Bernard J.	6,000.00	454	Shaw, George L.	6,000.00
449	Draves, Donald E.	6,000.00	454	Smith, Richard D.	6,000.00
449	Hudson, John L.	6,000.00	454	Vance, William D.	6,000.00
449	Mauck, Cliff G.	6,000.00	455	Pittman, James R.	6,000.00
453	Childers, Gerald	6,000.00	455	Wade, O.H.	6,000.00
454	Cauble, Henry F.	6,000.00	469	Denkins, Floyd	6,000.00
454	Delbridge, Robert R.	3,000.00	D472	Schuetz, James D.	6,000.00
			487	Blahnik, Jacob D.*	3,000.00
			487	Finnel, Ronald J.	6,000.00
			487	Sealey, Larry W.	6,000.00
			500	Patraw, Harold R.	6,000.00
			502	Graham, Theodore	6,000.00
			502	Richmond, George	6,000.00
			502	Walsh, Richard V.	6,000.00
			502	Williamson, Frank*	4,000.00
			503	Johnson, R.C.	6,000.00
			531	Perry, Michael C.	6,000.00
			531	White, Lloyd Cletus	1,200.00
			549	Konklyn, Russell	6,000.00
			549	Morgan, Charles H.	6,000.00
			549	Tobin, Wayne L.	6,000.00
			568	Aldous, Gary C.	6,000.00
			568	Cleaver, Willard E.	6,000.00
			568	Denning, Dwight T.	6,000.00
			568	Eldred, John W.	6,000.00
			568	McCabe Jr., Louis T.	6,000.00
			568	Roseberry, Joseph	6,000.00
			574	Chicoine, Norman J.	6,000.00
			582	Braggs, Moses	6,000.00
			582	Brown, Sidney O.	6,000.00
			582	Dillon, Hershell D.	6,000.00
			582	Holder, Charles H.	6,000.00
			582	Richard, Verdun M.*	1,200.00
			582	Spedale, Charles L.	6,000.00
			583	Crowe, Bob G.	6,000.00
			583	Gilbert, Jessie C.	6,000.00
			587	Byrd, Lilly E.	6,000.00
			587	Doiron, Joseph I.	6,000.00
			587	Gums, Floyd W.	6,000.00
			587	Quast, Howard N.	6,000.00

Need financial help? Union SAFE benefits may be the answer.

Union Plus program helps with job loss, nonreimbursed hospital bills, college savings

WITH MANY FAMILIES in financial distress as a result of the sharp downturn in the U.S. economy, Union Plus is launching a program of new and enhanced benefits to assist eligible union members facing hardships.

The new benefits program, called Union SAFE — for Security, Assistance, and Financial Education — provides a wide array of benefits, including help for those suffering from layoffs, to soaring hospital costs, mortgage debt, and college savings.

These benefits include:

- Credit Counseling Services, budgeting advice, and no-fee debt management and bankruptcy counseling benefits.
- Hospital Care Grants of \$1,000 to help members who have been hit with large, unreimbursed hospital

expenses who participate in the Union Plus Credit Card, Mortgage, or UnionSecure Insurance programs.

- Job Loss Grants of \$250 for Union Plus Credit Card holders who have been recently laid off for more than 90 days.
- Mortgage Assistance to help Union Plus Mortgage holders who become unemployed, disabled, or go on strike make their mortgage payments.

In addition, the Union SAFE initiative expands and increases other Union Plus benefits, such as:

- Increasing the number of Union Plus Credit Card Disability Grants (which range from \$1,000 to \$2,000) available to cardholders who have experienced a significant loss of income within the past six months due to a recent disability that has kept them out of work for 90 days.

- Expanding availability of \$500 Disaster Relief Grants to participants in the Union Plus Credit Card, Mortgage, and UnionSecure Insurance programs.

More information and grant applications are available at www.UnionPlus.org/UnionSAFE.

- Union Privilege, founded by the AFL-CIO in 1986, develops and manages the Union Plus benefits program, which uses the combined buying power of America's union members to obtain top quality goods and services at competitive prices. In addition to a money-saving credit card, the Union Plus programs include free and discounted legal services, education services, discounted health services, a home buying program, travel and recreation discounts, and much more. **For more information, visit www.UnionPlus.org.**

Death Benefits

Continued from p. 22

587	Williams, Estoline	4,000.00
590	Norris, Kathleen	6,000.00
592	Braddy, Kenneth E.	6,000.00
592	Neighbors, Albert L.	6,000.00
627	Roper, Lewis W.	6,000.00
627	Yazzie, Russell	6,000.00
647	Boyd, Clarence H.	6,000.00
647	Donohue, James H.*	3,000.00
647	Flygare, Anthony J.	6,000.00
647	Howse, George Ed	6,000.00
647	Hunter, Rexford E.	6,000.00
647	Janisch, Alfred E.	6,000.00
647	Krenz, Vernon L.	6,000.00
647	Pederson, David G.	6,000.00
647	Ricker, Joseph	6,000.00
667	Gray, James O.	6,000.00
667	Greer, Toby P.	6,000.00
667	Harlow, Albert J.	6,000.00
667	Talbert, Gerald W.	634.95
673	Daniel Sr., William	6,000.00
679	Bryant, Roger	6,000.00
679	Epperson, M.R.	6,000.00
679	Marshall, William B.	6,000.00
687	Smith Sr., John H.	6,000.00
696	Garot, Phillip E.	6,000.00
696	McPherson, Ronald	6,000.00
697	Katzenberger, Glen	6,000.00
697	Panske, Reinhold	6,000.00
700	Schenkenfelder, James	6,000.00
716	DeRycke, Robert L.	6,000.00
744	Christie, Nicholas T.	6,000.00
744	Gains, Carl L.	6,000.00

744	Kalish, Joseph A.	6,000.00
744	McPeck Jr., Howard	6,000.00
744	Myers, Richard L.	6,000.00
744	White, Stewart	6,000.00
752	Daggett, Wayne E.	6,000.00
777	Padula, Andrew	6,000.00
802	Johnson, Phillip E.*	3,000.00
802	Katein, Frederick	6,000.00
802	Kosmider, John B.	6,000.00
802	Leinhauser, Francis	6,000.00
802	Stout, George H.*	3,000.00
802	Sullivan, Cleve C.	6,000.00
807	Rowlands, William	6,000.00
898	Shepherd, Ralph	6,000.00
1212	Elston, Willie D.	6,000.00
1234	Amella, Antonino*	3,000.00
1234	Maldonado, Jesus	6,000.00
1234	Nacinovich, John	6,000.00
1240	Slone, Ronnie E.*	1,143.68
1247	Woods Jr., Mike	6,000.00
1509	Czaplewski Jr., Ed	6,000.00
1509	Kabacinski, Michael	6,000.00
1509	Majewski, Stanley	6,000.00
1509	Michalski, Joseph	6,000.00
1509	Swenson, John E.	6,000.00
1570	Rurak, Edwin M.	6,000.00
1592	Schwenk, Richard	6,000.00
1603	Rininger, Dale V.	6,000.00
1603	Rome, Robert V.	6,000.00
1627	Ellerbee, James R.*	4,500.00
1637	Jones, Harold T.	6,000.00
1666	Barnett, Harold E.	6,000.00
1670	Aigars, Natalija	6,000.00
1670	Sands, Fred D.	6,000.00
1702	Voytko, Robert L.	3,000.00
2000	Hudgins, Norman	6,000.00

* Additional Death Benefits Paid

Service Pins

Continued from p. 20

15 YEARS – Ricky A. Baker, Chad J. Bowling, Christopher Bradford, James R. Bugg, Jimmy D. Burton, Michael E. Bush, Steven A. Collins, Timothy S. Cottingham, James E. Decker, Kelly G. Free, Greg J. Griswold, Randall B. Haggard, Richard W. Hunt, Dana P. Johnson, Danny Jones, Johnnie Kitchen III, Ralph Ratcliff, Mikeal R. Reed, Paul R. Sandusky, Larry Schroader, Kevin D. Sears, Paul B. Sisco, Timothy R. Smith, Thomas Swenney, Curtis L. Tien, Ryan Tussey, William Winstead.

Local 108 — Birmingham

DANNY ROMINE, ABM of Local 108, Birmingham, Ala., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

40 YEARS – Andrew L. Blackmon;

35 YEARS – Roger L. Blevins;

30 YEARS – Eulus C. Clemons Jr., Kenneth B. Eaves, Charles W. Ferguson III, Jim D. Finneran, Timothy J. Fowler, Andrew Lill;

25 YEARS – David W. Jones, Jeffrey D. McLarty; and

20 YEARS – Jeff F. Best, James M. Cates, Robert I. Gay, Johnny N. Gregory, Barry S. Grimmett, Michael H. Roberts, Curtis O. Vines, and Steven B. Winnett.

Local 374 — Hammond

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

50 YEARS – Leonard M. Faulkenberg, Melvin L. Wilderman;

45 YEARS – William D. Francis;

40 YEARS – Lynn E. Angermeir, Charles S. Beard, John S. Bednash, William V. Gidley, James M. Goffinet, Walter E. Pfingston, Robert L. Styka;

35 YEARS – James L. Anderson, Paul

UNION PLUS—Making auto ownership easier for union families

Auto Advantage

Now there's **one convenient resource** for buying, insuring and maintaining your vehicles!

Cars and trucks are major investments—and often major headaches—for working families. Now you can **cut your costs** and **ease the stress** with union member benefits designed to meet ALL of your vehicle needs. You'll get great customer service, reliable cost-comparisons and special savings. Check out the **exclusive deals** available to union members.

Hassle-free Buying

- Pre-negotiated pricing on most new and used vehicles
- Prices typically 2%-3% over dealer invoice on new cars
- Additional \$100 rebate on new union-assembled vehicles
- Expert advice throughout the buying process—from vehicle selection to final purchase
- Call **1-866-437-2336** to speak with a personal Vehicle Advisor

Quality Tires and Maintenance

Get discounted rates on auto repairs, service and tires from Goodyear Gemini as you support fellow union members!

- Save 5% on all Goodyear tires—many made by union workers
- Take 10% off other service and repairs

Affordable Insurance

Our unique insurance* with AIG offers:

- Average annual savings of \$346**
- Broad coverage for drivers with all levels of risk
- 24-Hour Roadside Assistance
- Comparison quotes to assure you the best deal
- Driver training grants for up to \$250 available from Union Plus for policy holders
- Call **1-800-294-9496** for more details and your free auto insurance quote

Full-service Motor Club

- Premier benefits at lower cost than AAA
- Covers member as a driver or a passenger in any vehicle
- Roadside assistance and service locksmith services provided by network of 40,000 independent providers
- Enroll today at **1-866-437-9274**

Union Plus

For more information, visit:
www.UnionPlus.org/Auto

Working on a scrubber project at the J.H. Miller Steam Plant in Quinton, Ala., June 11, Local 108 members receive membership pins representing 465 years of service during a party honoring retiring 34-year member Charles Ferguson III.

L. Crowel, Joseph A. Deom, John C. Knox Jr., Michael E. Moore, William Morris, Gerald Rust, Robert Symons;

30 YEARS – Stephen W. Carr, Randell E. Harrell, Fred Lalone, Alan A. Watkins, Harry E. Wiseman;

25 YEARS – James I. Nickels;

20 YEARS – Richard J. Allen, Rex B. Below, Ken S. Chmielowiec, Michael T. Helmick, George R. Kennedy,

Charles E. Marsh, Mario Sansone, Bradley N. Schrombeck, Gene B. Shealy; and

15 YEARS – Ronald A. Beverly, Steven Brumfield, Daniel M. Dengler, Terry W. Esparza, Douglas J. Ewell II, Terry L. Ferguson, Gary W. Grigsby, Jose Gutierrez, Nick Hodalj, John L. Rayichen, Jeffery R. Sandage, Richard C. Schulz, Gerald L. West. □

Moving? Tell us where . . .

Name

New Address

City

State or Province

Zip

Local Lodge No.

Register No.

E-Mail Address

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

Mail form to:

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Union

753 State Ave Ste 565

Kansas City KS 66101

(Allow five weeks for change of address.)

We can't let misinformation destroy health care reform

THROUGHOUT AUGUST, support for President Obama's health care plan began to fade slowly as criticism of the plan grew. That fading support is a disturbing development, because the plan many citizens oppose is a fiction, created by anti-reform groups.

A recent NBC News survey uncovered this perverse trend. When shown key components of Obama's reform plan and asked whether they would support such a plan, a majority of Americans said they would.

But when asked questions about what they *believe* is in his plan, majorities said it would provide free health care to illegal aliens, would use taxpayer dollars to pay for abortions, and would result in a government takeover of the health care system. Forty-five percent believe the plan allows government officials to decide when to stop providing medical care to the elderly.

None of these claims is true, according to numerous independent, nonpartisan fact-checkers who have studied the plan extensively. These features are not in the plan now and have never been in the plan.

These myths have been spread by a variety of anti-reform individuals and groups, often passed along by anonymous e-mails that move from computer to computer like a virus. The authors know that few people will read the 1,000-page health care bill, or the many variations that the House and Senate will create before it finally passes, so they distort what is in it — or resort to lying.

Independent analysts, not connected with either political party and not in the employ of insurance or drug companies, confirm that these features simply aren't in the bill.

But that hasn't stopped prominent public figures such as Sarah Palin from using the bill for their own ends. In interviews and on her Facebook page she has claimed that seniors and the disabled (like her Downs syndrome child) "will have to stand in front of Obama's death panel so his bureaucrats can decide . . . whether they are worthy of health care."

As *The St. Petersburg Times* stated when it examined her claim, "It's not clear where Palin, the former Republican governor of Alaska, came up with this idea." Nothing anywhere in any version of the bill or any of its amendments requires any panel to review any individual's claim to care.

Like other misinformers, she may be misunderstanding or misinterpreting a provision in the bill that allows Medicare to pay for end-of-life counseling — that is, counseling about wills, powers of attorney, living wills, and pain management. These *voluntary* counseling sessions give patients the ability to make their own decisions on vital issues that confront everyone facing that final door, rather than allowing others to make those decisions for them.

Yet despite the fact that this claim has been repudiated repeatedly in major media, the phrase "death panels" continues to crop up on television and in talk radio.

So does the term "socialized medicine." **The Obama plan is nothing like socialized medicine**, in which the

government provides all health care. It does not change health care delivery; it only changes how payments are made. And under his plan, most payments will continue to come through private insurance companies, as they do now. Yet those who want to stigmatize his proposal continue to use that term.

Actually, the Obama plan is similar to the system used in Switzerland, which requires everyone to buy insurance, doesn't allow discrimination based on medical history or pre-existing conditions, and gives lower-income citizens help in paying for their policies. Nobel-prize winning economist Paul Krugman pointed out this fact in *The New York Times*. He also reminded everyone that Switzerland is not socialist; it is the epicenter of capitalism.

The most recent distortion by naysayers is that passing health care reform will gut Medicare. Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele has been that party's point man on this issue. It is difficult to believe that the party that opposed Medicare when it was proposed and as recently as the 1990s hoped to "drown it in the bathtub" would now claim to be its champions, but that is politics for you.

Those who continue to spout this kind of nonsense should be ashamed. Their ignorance, lies, and distortions are fueling the anger displayed by some of the people attending health care town hall meetings. Debate is good. Discussion is good. But shouting down everyone who tries to speak and threatening those trying to conduct the meetings will not improve our health care system.

And we must improve on what we have now, because the current system is not working.

What Obama's health care reform *would* do

LET ME BE CLEAR: The Obama plan may not be perfect, but it is the only real proposal we have right now, and it accomplishes a great deal.

Here are some key features of the bill, as proposed:

- ◆ *It leaves employer-provided health care alone.*
- ◆ *It doesn't tax employer-provided benefits.*
- ◆ *It requires insurance companies to cover "pre-existing" conditions.*
- ◆ *It requires everyone to have some form of medical insurance and creates a "health care exchange" to help those who have trouble paying for it.*
- ◆ *The exchange will offer private insurance and a public option.*
- ◆ *The public option will provide competition for insurance companies, giving them an incentive to keep rates low.*
- ◆ *It increases efficiency by requiring electronic records that reduce duplication.*
- ◆ *It researches the most effective treatments.*

We have an opportunity to fix a faulty system.

Some of these features are especially appealing. Increased efficiency and competition from the public option are expected to lower costs. Requiring everyone to have some form of coverage will more equitably distribute the costs of care.

We *can* afford reform

A RECURRING COMPLAINT from those opposed to reforming health care is that it will cost a lot of money. They are right. But the current system costs a lot of money, as well. And if you think we can't afford to pay for health care for everyone, think again. We are *already* paying for it. We are just doing so in an inefficient way.

Under the current system, most Americans pay for their health care primarily through insurance. And nearly all of them get their health care insurance in one of five ways: through their employers, on their own, through Medicare, through Medicaid, or through the Veterans Administration.

But tens of millions are unable to get health care through one of these avenues. Without insurance, they often can't afford preventive care. They don't get routine exams or take medications to help manage their conditions, such as blood pressure pills.

And when they get sick, they tend to go to the emergency room, the most expensive and inefficient way of delivering routine care. The bill for those ER visits gets passed on to the rest of us, in the form of higher hospital, lab, and doctor bills, and most important, higher insurance premiums.

This inefficient system is driving costs up rapidly. Health insurance premiums are expected to double over the next 10 years. In contrast, if you get a four percent raise each of those 10 years, your income will go up less than 50 percent. How long before you can no longer afford to pay your premiums?

Without a way to keep costs from rising — to lower them, where possible — the system will continue to grow increasingly inefficient. As more people become unable to afford insurance, their health care costs will shift to those who still have insurance, driving costs higher and higher in an unending spiral.

That spiral is costing us jobs. Americans pay more for health care than workers in any other industrialized country, and that cost is added to everything we manufacture. We blame NAFTA and trade laws for our growing trade deficit, but the health care burden is also a significant factor. American car manufacturers pay far more *per car* for health care than automakers in Europe or Japan.

And the spiral is raising taxes as well. According to Congressional Budget Office economic projections, rising health care prices are projected



Newton B. Jones
International President

to be the major factor in all future federal budget shortfalls. When opponents suggest that health care reform will raise taxes, remind them that ignoring the health care problem will raise taxes, too.

Take action to protect your future

RISING HEALTH CARE costs are threatening our way of life. Hard-working Americans who get health care insurance from their employers should not see their co-pays and deductibles increase three times as fast as their wages. They should not have to take lower raises each year so the company can keep up with rising insurance premiums.

Hard-working Americans should not be denied coverage because they have a pre-existing medical condition, and the decision whether a person gets medical care should be left to the patient's physicians, not bureaucrats at insurance companies who get bonuses for denying coverage.

Without some fundamental change in the way we pay for medical care, these inequities will remain. President Obama's plan goes a long way toward eliminating them. It is not perfect, but **we can't wait for perfection**. We need improvement now.

The health care systems of other industrialized countries differ significantly, but they all have two things in common: they cover everyone, regardless of age, income, or pre-existing condition; and they provide high-quality care far cheaper than we do in the United States.

Obama's plan will move us in that direction. I urge you to contact your senators and representatives and let them know you want to seize this opportunity to improve health care.

We may not see another opportunity for a long time. □



To learn more about what is actually in the health care plan and how it will help working families, visit these Web sites:

www.afl-cio.org/issues/healthcare
www.whitehouse.gov/realitycheck