L-7’s Bogue wins national apprentice competition

L-502’s Nordstrom places second; Northeast contestants take team honors

GRADUATE APPRENTICE Michael Bogue, Local 7 (Buffalo, N.Y.), won first place at the 23rd annual Boilermakers’ National Outstanding Apprenticeship Competition, held Sept. 26-30 at Local 7’s training center in Orchard Park. Western States apprentice C. Eric Nordstrom, Local 502 (with offices in Puyallup, Wash.), took second. Team honors went to Bogue and Jeffrey Nasta, Local 5 Zone S

Pressley elected Industrial Sector IVP

Warren Fairley continues to serve as IVP for Southeast Section

BY A MAJORITY vote of the International Executive Council (IEC), James A. Pressley has been elected International Vice President-at-Large, Industrial Sector Operations (ISO), effective Oct. 28.

In his new role, IVP Pressley will support the regional IVPs in their servicing of lodges with members in non-construction industries (shipbuilding, railroad, cement, stove, metal, mining, boiler shop, forging, and manufacturing). Pressley’s role as ISO Executive Director has been elevated to an IVP position. He will also retain his position as Director of Administrative Affairs of the International President.

IVP Warren Fairley, who will remain IVP for the Southeast Section, explained, “Jim Pressley is uniquely qualified to represent industrial sector lodges. This change ensures that both the Southeast Section and lodges in the Industrial Sec-

L-502’s Nordstrom places second; Northeast contestants take team honors

see BNAP, PG. 11

see PRESSLEY, PG. 4

Union Plus helps L-60 member enjoy Survivor experience

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

L-580 apprentice wins welding contests

L-128 member enjoys Survivor experience

L-7’s Bogue shows his enthusiasm after being named the top U.S. Boilermaker graduate apprentice for 2010.
MOST announces marketing initiative

NATIONAL TRIPARTITE ALLIANCE partners attending the annual conference in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Oct. 10-15, celebrated a quarter century of cooperation and progress. Citing the milestone in his opening remarks, Intl. Pres. Newton B. Jones asked, “What other labor/contractor/owner relationship can you point to that has endured so long and accomplished so much?” He said the tripartite gathering “is more than an annual meeting; it is a relationship that is clearly in our best interests.”

MOST Administrator Bill Palmisano noted that the tripartite relationship held a special significance to the late International President Emeritus Charles W. Jones, who passed away April 5, 2010, after more than half a century of service. “There are many of us in this room today, including myself, because of him. He was the architect of MOST [a labor-management trust fund] which has set the standard for the construction industry. He knew the significance of this annual meeting with his Boilermakers, his contractors, and his owners — the tripartite,” Palmisano led the conference in a moment of silence for “C.W.” and presented a video tribute in his honor.

As the conference unfolded, participants heard presentations across industrial sectors and more than half a century of service. The Boilermaker Delivery System, industry best practices, and other areas. Consultant Brad Bradford, chairman of the MOST Marketing Committee, introduced a new marketing initiative. He stressed that while MOST has long led the industry in programs that cut cost for owners and contractors, and enhance the skills of tradesmen, those programs have not received the exposure they deserve.

Bradford presented promotional video clips that include testimonials from Boilermakers, contractors, and owners about the benefits of MOST programs. Produced in conjunction with Martin Public Relations, the video is part of a strategy that also will include Web site development, promotional CDs, and print materials.

Boilermakers shine in largest coal plant project

PETER DEQUATTRO, president and chief executive officer of Prairie State Generating Co., presented a virtual tour of the largest coal plant currently being built in the United States. The $5 billion Prairie State Energy Campus, located in southern Illinois, about 50 miles east of St. Louis, is being constructed atop a new coal mine and includes two supercritical 800-MW units with advanced environmental systems.

Now about 50 percent complete, the project is being managed by Bechtel Power Corp. and is being constructed with 100 percent union labor. Signatory contractors Babcock and Wilcox, Sterling Boiler, and Fisher Tank, are employing a total of nearly 1,000 Boilermakers at peak work.

from Local 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.) and other lodges across the country. Boilermakers are projected to work about five million man-hours on the job constructing air quality control equipment, SCRs, dry precipitators, wet precipitators, wet scrubbers, and tanks.

DeQuattro said Boilermakers “have been the key to our success on this project. The scope of work being executed by the Boilermakers is big, it’s important, and it’s critical path.”

Boilermakers will perform about 70,000 tube welds, complete numerous heavy lifts, and construct over eight million gallons of tank capacity during the project.

Nuclear power in North America still faces hurdles

WHILE DOZENS OF nuclear power plants are being built around the world, prospects for a nuclear resurgence in the United States and Canada remain dim, according to Duncan Hawthorne, president and CEO of Bruce Power, and a frequent speaker at Boilermaker tripartite conferences.

Hawthorne noted two recent announcements, one in the United States and the other in Canada, that highlight the obstacles to nuclear energy expansion in North America. In Maryland, Constellation Energy announced it would suspend efforts to secure nearly $8 billion in federal loan guarantees for a new unit at Calvert Cliffs after failing to reach agreement with the Department of Energy on loan fees. And in New Brunswick, the $1.4 billion refurbishing of NB Power’s Point Lepreau nuclear power plant has been pushed back for technical reasons.

Ballooning project costs, schedule overruns, and public opposition to nuclear energy remain major hurdles to new plant construction. Despite those concerns, Hawthorne said that worldwide “there is a massive amount of the population with no access to electricity,” and many countries are considering nuclear energy, especially in India and China. He said China is currently completing an average of one coal-fired unit a week and four nuclear plants a year.

Expertise and leadership in nuclear energy “is … moving away from North America,” he stated.

EPA official discusses new air standards

ROB BRENNER, an official with the Environmental Protection Agency, discussed new air standards that will affect the electric utility industry as well as factories and refineries that use industrial boilers. Brenner is the director of policy and analysis for the EPA’s Office of Air and Radiations.

Bruce Power’s Duncan Hawthorne reports on the status of nuclear power.
“What other labor/contractor/owner relationship can you point to that has endured so long and accomplished so much?” — IP Newton B. Jones

Brenner said the Industrial Boiler MACT rule is slated to be finalized this winter. MACT stands for maximum achievable control technology. “These new regulations are going to require that major categories of stationary pollution sources — not just utility boilers, but also industrial boilers in other factories and refineries — [will] need to become cleaner.” Brenner added, “What these rules require is that for the large oil and coal and some of the biomass boilers, they have to put on the same high-quality controls that many facilities already have.”

Other air pollution rules being developed by the EPA will deal with industrial solid waste incineration, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide pollution that crosses state lines (known as the Transport Rule), and a rule on stationary pollution sources — not just utility boilers, but also industrial boilers in other factories and refineries — [will] need to become cleaner.”

Brenner added, “What these rules require is that for the large oil and coal and some of the biomass boilers, they have to put on the same high-quality controls that many facilities already have.”

Other air pollution rules being developed by the EPA will deal with industrial solid waste incineration, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide pollution that crosses state lines (known as the Transport Rule), and a rule on hazardous air pollutants such as mercury, arsenic, and dioxin.

Brenner stressed that the Clean Air Act of 1970 and its amendments have achieved impressive results in public health, “preventing tens of thousands of premature deaths each year” while accounting for “trillions of dollars in health benefits for our country.” He said that despite predictions of widespread industry failures due to compliance requirements, the act has actually stimulated technology development and job creation since its inception. “The total benefit of the Clean Air Act amounts to more than 40 times the cost of regulation,” he said.

IP Jones gives update on MOST Boilermaker Delivery System

MODERNIZING REFERRAL RULES and implementing the MOST Boilermaker Delivery System (BDS) were the focus of a presentation by Intl. Pres. Jones. The two topics go hand-in-hand. Before the Internet-based delivery system can go live, long-standing rules about how construction Boilermakers are referred to jobs must be updated. That work is nearing completion. Initial training on the BDS has already begun, and instructional videos for lodges and contractors are being developed.

Jones said the BDS has the potential to rival Common Arc and MOST safety programs in its ability to save contractors and owners money and elevate productivity. The BDS “will create greater efficiency because it is an online system . . . and information will be stored in one place,” he said.

The Web-based computer system will store member qualifications, job status, and other information. It will allow members to access and update their information and to indicate their availability and work preferences. It will enable contractors to post online job calls and will allow locals to more efficiently dispatch members to jobs. It will also provide efficient access to travelers. Jones estimated that, as a group, travelers will save more than $1 million each year in costs associated with traveling to different lodges in order to place their names on work lists. The BDS will allow travelers to post themselves to as many work lists as they wish in a matter of minutes from anywhere there is access to the Internet.

Jones said substantial cost savings are expected from a stiffer, more uniform penalty system. Member status — including placement on penalty lists — will be available to lodges and the International instantly. This capability and related referral rule changes are expected to virtually eliminate job-hopping and reduce chronic absenteeism.

Jones said the updated referral rules will also require that those on the primary work list maintain MOST certifications and complete skill updates within specific timeframes.

“The BDS is intended to build a better Boilermaker, build a better system for us to be able to track and understand how we’re doing,” he said. “We’ll have realtime reports available for Boilermakers nationwide.”

Jobs, hours “will come back,” says NACBE’s Bell

NACBE PRESIDENT WENDELL Bell (vice chairman and CEO of Enerfab), encouraged conference participants to think back about the progress the national tripartite alliance has made over two and a half decades and to look forward to a time beyond the current economic downturn and the current industry uncertainty.

Bell spoke about the importance of collaboration among the Boilermakers union, contractors, and owners, describing how that collaboration has led to such impressive MOST programs as Common Arc, drug testing, and safety training. “This is a time to catch our breath,” he said, “and to make the necessary changes for the future.” He cited referral rule modernization and the new Boilermaker Delivery System as the kind of changes that will prepare the alliance partners for a revival of the industry.

“When we come out the other side of this current economy, it will get better,” he said, “We will get [energy policy] legislation. The hours will come back. The jobs will come back.”

Industry expert urges adoption of best practices

WAYNE CREW, DIRECTOR of the Construction Industry Institute (CII) at the Cockrell School of Engineering, University of Texas at Austin, explained his organization’s efforts to improve the delivery of capital facilities. CII is a consortium of

IBB helps host 2nd KC area USA clays shoot

Event raises $72,000 for hunting and fishing

NEARLY 150 UNION members, contractors, and sponsors came together Oct. 1 for the second annual Union Sportsmen’s Alliance (USA) Kansas City area sporting clays shoot, held this year at the Powder Creek Shooting Park in Lenexa, Kan.

Hosted by the Boilermakers union, BBS Benefit Solutions, and J. Weldon Granger, the event raised more than $72,000. The funds will help build the USA and support its mission to expand and improve hunting and fishing access and habitat.

Two IBB teams fared well. Local 101 (Denver) BM-ST Tim Ruth, D-CRS Gary Evenson, retired IVP Joe Stinger, and Blake & Uhlig’s Joe Moreland won first place in Lewis Class A competition. IP Newton Jones, IVP Warren Fairley, IST Bill Creeden, and ED-CDS Kyle Evenson placed third.

Appreciated Advertising achieved the team highest overall score, while Don Campbell of Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 518 took home the trophy for the highest individual score.

“Thanks to the hard work and commitment of the Boilermakers and all of our generous sponsors, the USA Kansas City area shoot was even better than last year’s event,” said USA Executive Director Fred Myers.

see TRIPARTITE, PG. 5
Boilermakers appear in Helmets to Hardhats video

Members of L-5 and L-199 take part in promotional film

A VIDEO PRODUCED by Helmets to Hardhats includes segments with military veterans who became Boilermakers through the H2H program. First shown at the Building and Construction Trades Department conference, the 12-minute film is an inspiring account of how the program helps veterans transition from military service to the civilian work force by connecting them with career opportunities in the construction trades.

To produce the film, regional directors from H2H worked closely with various BCTD-affiliated councils and lodges, among them Boilermaker Locals 199 (Jacksonville, Fla.) and 5 (New York). Filming for the L-5 segment was done at the lodge offices and training facility. Footage featuring Local 199 members was shot at the St. John’s River Power Park during an outage.

Local 199’s Jonathan Russell, Danny Thomas, Dewey Doak, and Steve Vietze, appear in the film. Among those appearing from Local 5 are BM-ST Tom Klein; apprentice Dominic DelSignore, L-5 Zone 197 (Albany, N.Y.); and welding instructor Harry Hamilton.

Russell is one of several Boilermakers who have a speaking part in the film. He describes the benefits of being a Boilermaker, noting, “I have a wife and I have five kids. Every hour I work I’m putting money in my pension and annuity. When I’m old and I can’t do it for them anymore, I’m still going to have that money rolling in. I’ll still be able to be there for them. It’s a sense of security.”

A number of IBB field construction lodges participate in the H2H program, which was established in 2003 by then-BCTD Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Maloney (now Boilermaker International Vice President for Western Canada).

Over the past three years, Boilermaker lodges have placed nearly 300 veterans in apprenticeships, according to H2H Manager of Communications Tad Kicielinski.

To watch the video online, visit www.boilermakers.org and follow the link in the story or enter the YouTube address: http://www.youtube.com/user/H2HVideoPage

Photos: L. to r. L-199 members Jonathan Russell, Danny Thomas (with Russell in background), and Dewey Doak; and L-5 Zone 197’s Dominic DelSignore.

“Every hour I work I’m putting money in my pension and annuity. When I’m old and I can’t do it for [my family] anymore, I’m still going to have that money rolling in.” — Jonathan Russell, veteran and L-199 member

Pressley elected IVP

Continued from page 1

Pressley will continue to be well represented on the IEC, and is consistent with the directive we got from the 2006 Consolidated Convention to reduce costs.”

Warren Fairley will also continue to serve as Executive Assistant to the International President. IVPs Fairley and Pressley will share the roles of liaison with the Metal Trades Department and other AFL-CIO affiliate structures and the Boilermakers’ representative with the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine, and General Workers’ Unions (ICEM), as these roles continue to evolve.

Mississippi River District Lodge 5 swears in officers

IVP-SE WARREN FAIRLEY, c., prepares to swear in newly-elected officers of Mississippi River District Lodge 5 during the district’s third convention, held in Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 23-25. Founded in 2002, District Lodge 5 includes Locals 37 (New Orleans), 69 (Little Rock, Ark.), 110 (Hattiesburg, Miss.), and 582 (Baton Rouge, La.).

The new officers include, l. to r., VP Danny Blackwell (L-582); Pres. Justin Havard (L-110); trustees Thomas Tucker (L-69), Frank Brown (L-69), and Richard Moity (L-37); and District BM-ES David Hegeman (L-37).

AS PRESIDENT of L-900 (Barberton, OH) in 1990, Jim Pressley rallies his local’s members in a Fight Back solidarity campaign.

Pressley began his Boilermaker career in 1962, when he joined Local 900 (Barberton, Ohio), a boiler manufacturing lodge. He served in various lodge leadership positions and was elected president in 1988.

From 1994 until 2006, Pressley served as International Rep for the Great Lakes region. He was appointed Assistant to the Director of Research and Collective Bargaining Services Department in 2005 and promoted to Director in 2006.

In 2007, he was named Director of the newly-formed Industrial Sector Services Department. The following year, he was appointed Executive Director of Industrial Sector Operations and Director of Administrative Affairs of the International President. “Jim’s long service to the Brotherhood has been exemplary,” said International President Newton B. Jones. “I am confident that his extensive leadership experience with our industrial lodges — in particular his work as Executive Director of Industrial Sector Operations — will serve our members well as he assumes the duties of International Vice President-at-Large for this sector.”
ELECTION ANALYSIS:

What the elections mean for Boilermaker construction work

Much of recent work for Construction Division Boilermakers has been driven by provisions in and amendments to the Clean Air Act of 1970 (CAA). In the 1990s and 2000s, thousands of U.S. construction Boilermakers worked on SCRs, scrubbers, baghouses, and other technology made necessary by that law.

Future work will also be driven by the CAA as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) strives to establish maximum achievable control technology (MACT) in all industrial facilities burning oil, coal, and biomass fuels. EPA efforts to regulate emissions of greenhouse gases under the CAA (required by a Supreme Court decision in 2007) may also bring a great deal of work to Boilermakers, but the path to those jobs is not yet clear.

MACT rules for Hazardous Air Pollutants (not including CO2) are expected to be finalized this winter. They will require a wide range of industrial facilities to install high-quality pollution control equipment, promising a great deal of work for Boilermakers over the next 4-5 years. Efforts to reduce CO2 emissions are expected to stimulate technology development and job creation as well, because heavy emitters will need to install carbon capture and storage technology. The Department of Energy has projected that developing and deploying CCS could generate over one million job-years of work over the next 10 years. However, whether this technology will get the support necessary from the split Congress is anyone’s guess.

Senate Republican Minority Leader Mitch McConnell says one area Democrats and Republicans may be able to find common ground on is “clean coal.” But if the incoming crop of “Tea Party” Republicans are successful in blocking expenditures for CCS research or are able to strip the EPA of regulatory authority over greenhouse gases — as some have proposed — the resulting uncertainty in energy markets will continue to stall new plant construction.

On the bright side, Boilermakers Legislative Director Abe Breehey said that FutureGen2 and other CCS demonstration projects funded by the Recovery Act would continue to go forward. He also suggested that Senator Rockefeller’s proposed bill to fund 10 to 20 small-scale commercial CCS projects could be viable.

State regulators are also expected to lower resistance to new power plant construction, but continuing uncertainty over greenhouse gases might force them to encourage the use of natural gas rather than coal.

TRIPARTITE

Continued from page 3

Owners, contractors, and academia formed in 1983. The group conducts research on construction productivity, identifies and measures best practices, and disseminates information to its members.

Crew presented a sample of CIH’s findings in the area of safety to illustrate how best practices impact project performance, drawing on data from CIH member projects and other information. As might be expected, those findings revealed significant safety advantages where best practices are employed. Embracing best practices at the corporate level also enhanced project performance, he noted.

Crew urged conference participants to prepare for the time when the construction industry will “rise out of the ashes” of the current economic downturn. He asked, “What culture are we going to create, and what practices are we going to implement — those things that will improve our costs, our schedule, our quality, our predictability? Best practices work. I challenge our leaders to make this industry strong again.”

Erickson stresses utilization of MOST programs

Common Arc Executive Director John Erickson reviewed the creation of MOST in 1989 and its development through the years. He reminded conference participants that MOST’s early focus was on dealing with two main issues: welder testing costs and drug abuse. Now MOST boasts a robust set of 17 programs that deal with numerous industry challenges.

Erickson said the investment of time and money in MOST programs has produced impressive results and urged contractors to take advantage of the cost-saving opportunities. He reported that in 2009 alone, these programs were credited with avoiding 2,200 lost-time injuries, saving the industry nearly $400 million in direct and indirect costs. In the same year, Common Arc saved the industry over $230 million in redundant welder testing costs. Using MOST programs can save over $2.5 million on a 200,000-man-hour project and improve production by 2.7 percent, he added.

Erickson encouraged owners and contractors to take a more hands-on approach to dealing with absenteeism and improvements to value-added activities on the job. “The Boilermaker, I am sure, stands ready to work with you on absenteeism, to work with you on value-added aspects. And when you take a look at the dollars that can be saved by working together on those two very important tasks, I think we’re missing the boat if we don’t do something about it.”

Speakers address other issues

Conference participants heard from speakers on a range of other topics, including key legislation, Boilermaker history preservation, and regional tripartite meetings.

Abe Breehey, Director of Legislative Affairs/SAIP, discussed issues impacting the construction industry. He said the recession, regulatory uncertainty, and political instability have caused owners to delay new projects. “Progress [in Washington] has been pretty limited. It’s hard to find the right coalitions of Democrats and Republicans to cut a deal on just about anything these days.” He said the defining issue for Boilermakers and the construction industry was the “collapse of the Kerry-Lieberman and sometimes Lindsay Graham” comprehensive energy and climate bill. (Graham initially supported the bill but later backed away from it.) According to Breehey, health care reform, along with the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf, doomed the passage of a comprehensive energy bill in 2010.

Charles A. Jones, Director of the Boilermaker History Preservation Department (BHPD), presented a documentary about union Boilermakers. The film, which was completed last year and has been shown at other conferences, describes the role boilermakers played during the Industrial Revolution and how union Boilermakers have contributed to the growth and prosperity of the United States and Canada in more modern times. The BHDP is actively engaged in preserving artifacts, photos, and other materials and also assists local lodges in setting up historical displays at their sites.

Area tripartite alliances provided summaries of their 2010 meetings. Making the presentations were, for the Northeast, IVP Sean Murphy; for Eastern Canada, IVP Ed Power; for the Ohio Valley, IR Marty Stanton; for the Upper Midwest and Gateway, IR Tony Palmisano; for the Great Lakes, IR Pat Stefancin; and for the Western States, IR Jim Cooksey.

NLRB to compound interest daily on back pay

New policy increases penalty for offending employers

Things just got a little tougher for employers who violate labor law and mistreat their employees. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), which has become more labor-friendly thanks to recent President Obama appointments, has announced that interest on back pay and other monetary awards will now be compounded on a daily basis rather than annually or quarterly.

This is an important change. Daily compounding will mean more interest is tacked on when an employer loses an unfair labor practice (ULP) case and is required to pay an employee for lost wages and benefits. The move strengthens the “make whole” provision of the National Labor Relations Act.

The board’s decision was reached unanimously in Kentucky River Medical Center, 356 NLRB No. 8. In that case, the employer unlawfully suspended a worker pending an investigation of her union activity. The NLRB said it would apply the policy change retroactively to that case and to all other pending cases “in whatever stage, given the absence of any manifest injustice in doing so.”

The NLRB’s policy change highlights the importance of electing a president who supports organized labor. President Obama’s appointees to federal agencies continue to level the playing field for workers, who have long been neglected by previous, anti-union administrations.
After midterm successes, GOP faces hurdles

Unions brace for anti-labor shift in federal and state-level governments

FRESH FROM THEIR historic victories in the U.S. House, as well as gains in the U.S. Senate and state offices, the GOP appears determined to pursue an anti-worker, anti-labor agenda. Their “to-do list” is extensive: repeal health care reform, kill pro-labor legislation, slash government jobs, dismantle business regulations, pass more free trade laws, and place a Republican in the White House in 2012, among other objectives.

How much of their agenda can actually be accomplished remains to be seen, but organized labor and its allies are bracing for a protracted battle. The power shift will stymie most pro-labor initiatives in Congress as well as in many state governments.

Things may not go easily for the GOP either, however. As the GOP’s post-election euphoria begins to wear off, the party will have to face its own set of challenges. And a frustrated and angry electorate will be watching closely.

Will GOP lead or obstruct?

AMERICANS ARE FED up with partisan bickering and gridlock. They demand real progress that moves the country forward, creates jobs, and revives the economy. During the past two years, Republicans have sat on the sidelines while Democratic majorities in the House and Senate, along with President Obama, did the heavy lifting to avoid a complete economic meltdown and finally address our broken health care system. Now that the GOP holds the majority in the House and the Senate, the question is, will they lead or obstruct?

Recent comments by prominent Republicans in Congress show that the GOP has little interest in working with Democrats to solve the nation’s problems.

In an interview with the National Journal, Mitch McConnell, the Senate Republican leader from Kentucky, said, “The single most important thing we want to achieve is for President Obama to be a one-term president.”

Speaking on Sean Hannity’s radio show, John Boehner (R-OH 8th), the incoming speaker of the house, asserted, “We will not compromise.” And Sen. Jim Demint (R-OH), a leading voice for the Tea Party movement, told the National Journal, “Right now in the Senate there’s really not a Democrat we can work with.”

Such naked partisanship points to further gridlock. At a time when the nation is suffering from an economy that is slow to heal and many Americans are hurting, this is exactly what the electorate does not want to hear.

GOP risks overreaching

PROMPTED BY THE Tea Party and other hard-line conservatives, GOP objectives have swung sharply to the right, with the centerpiece being the repeal of health care reform. Sen. McConnell has indicated how he and his party plan to approach the issue, telling the Heritage Foundation, “We can — and should — propose and vote on straight repeal, repeatedly.”

But the problem for Republicans is they don’t have a plan for replac ing the current legislation with something better; they just want to start over. Attempting to undo health care reform without a clear path forward may further expose the GOP’s lack of leadership in fixing a broken system. And even if they were successful in getting a bill through Congress repealing reform, a presidential veto would be virtually certain.

Other GOP objectives could have dangerous consequences for the party as well:

• Downsizing the government will cost thousands of workers their jobs, adding to the unemployment rolls at a time when we are struggling to create jobs.
• Dismantling business regulations will remind voters of the lack of leadership in fixing a broken system. And even if they were successful in getting a bill through Congress repealing reform, a presidential veto would be virtually certain.

GOP leaders claim they understand that voters did not give them a mandate. Indeed, exit polls on Election Day showed 52 percent of voters rated the party unfavorably (53 percent rated the Democratic Party unfavorably). Should the GOP overreach, they could encounter a substantial voter backlash in 2012.

Labor’s legislative goals take a hit

AN EARLY CASUALTY of the midterm elections is legislation sought by the Boilermakers and the broader labor movement. With a new majority in the House, Republicans can effectively prevent legislation they don’t like from being considered.

A comprehensive energy bill with a cap and trade provision appears to be dead for the foreseeable future. Labor and many of our business partners in the construction industry favor cap and trade as a way to address climate change by placing a cost on carbon emissions and allowing companies to buy and sell carbon credits. The approach would have promoted new efficiencies and allowed those emitting carbon to reduce their footprint over time. The legislation was passed in the Democratic House but stalled in the Senate.

Opponents of the bill demonized cap and trade but offered no alternatives to reducing carbon emissions.

“The election was utterly devastating for those who believe we need to address climate change in a serious way,” said Abe Breehey, the Boilermakers’ Director of Legislative Affairs. “Moderate coal-state Democrats who worked to assemble some important compromises were wiped out.” Breehey also predicted that the GOP House will attempt to “ham-string the EPA’s ability to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.”

The Employee Free Choice Act will also be quashed by the GOP-controlled House. Republicans and business groups have strenuously resisted the measure, which would have made the process of forming a union simpler and fairer to workers.

Any other legislation that favors labor unions is not likely to be introduced for the next several years, at least.

Trouble brews at state level

AT THE STATE level, the situation for labor and its allies is also daunting. Republicans now control 54 state chambers to the Democrats’ 40, with one chamber tied. Results are still pending in some races. However, in 20 states Republicans now have across-the-board control of both chambers and the governorship. Unions can expect tough new battles against so-called “Right to Work” and “Paycheck Protection” legislation.

Republican governors now outnumber their Democratic counterparts, and many states draw the pro-labor candidates, especially in key presidential battleground states such as Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Established GOP leadership in these states could create an important advantage for the Republican presidential candidate in 2012 as well as for those seeking state office or running for the U.S. Congress.

Another big concern for labor is congressional redistricting, the process in which states draw the political boundaries for their voters. Governors play an important role in how the process is handled. Should new congressional maps be drawn to favor the party in power (gerrymandering), opposing candidates at both the state and federal levels could be left at a substantial disadvantage in the 2012 elections.

Writing in the National Journal, political analyst Charlie Cook sized it up this way: “Republicans will have unilateral control of the remapping process in states with 190 congressional districts while Democrats will have control over no more than 75, depending on the outcome of some closely-contested chambers. Additionally, Democrats will be down to holding just 38 percent of the state legislative seats nationwide, the lowest number since 1956. This is the seed corn for the future; this is where congressional and statewide candidates come from."

As elections go, Democrats received quite a thrashing. But one thing seems certain as the 112th Congress convenes in January and the midterm results play out — the electorate is growing impatient. They’ll expect compromise and progress. If the GOP continues veering hard to the right, it may find it has landed in the proverbial ditch. Again.

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LEAP NEWS

Trouble brews at state level

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Build your case on good evidence

WHETHER YOU’RE TRYING to convince someone in management or an arbitrator, your grievance argument is only as strong as your evidence. Fine oratory has its place, but rarely is anyone swayed by logic alone. They want evidence. Your job as a steward is to find that evidence wherever your grievance investigation takes you.

There are many kinds of evidence: eyewitness statements, documents, photographs and videotapes, and many other things. Any of these forms may be direct evidence or circumstantial evidence. Direct evidence points directly to a specific fact or conclusion. Circumstantial evidence only suggests a conclusion.

For example, a time-stamped video of a worker arriving at his work station at 7:45 a.m. is direct evidence that he arrived in that location at that time. It is also direct evidence for the logical conclusion that he wasn’t somewhere else at that time.

If you use that video to argue he was late to work because start time is 7:30 a.m., the evidence is circumstantial. It suggests he arrived late, but there may be an explanation for why he wasn’t at his work station. Maybe he arrived on time but had legitimate business somewhere else on his way to his work station. To prove a case using circumstantial evidence, you generally need more evidence than one item.

Some people believe you can’t prove anything with circumstantial evidence, but you can. You simply need enough circumstantial evidence that only one logical conclusion can be drawn from it. For example, if I leave my dog alone in the house and come home to a puddle and a pile, I don’t need the direct evidence of DNA to know what happened.

Collecting evidence

KEEP IN MIND that everything you learn about the grievance you are investigating is (potentially, at least) evidence. From the moment someone comes to you with a complaint or problem, you should take notes. Those notes not only help you begin to figure out how to handle the grievance, but you may be able to use them as evidence, too.

If you always take notes, you will develop a record of what you saw, what you heard, and what you were told. Your notes tell a story that may help you win your argument. But in order to use them as evidence, you need to make sure they fully document your investigation.

Each time you write something down, date it. Put down the time as well, if that seems important. Indicate where you are and the names of everyone present.

When you interview the grievant or witnesses, you won’t be able to write down every word a person says. Write a summary of the main facts. Then show your notes to the interviewee and ask if they want to add anything. Don’t erase anything, but add any necessary points.

When possible, have your grievant and any witnesses you interview write down in their own words how events transpired and sign the document. Some people don’t like to go on record this way, in which case you may want to write down what they’ve said and have them sign your version.

Every conversation with management is an opportunity to collect evidence as well as to get a glimpse of what their argument will be. In your first meeting, don’t take a stance. Just ask them to explain what happened and how they plan to handle it. Ask follow-up questions, if needed, but don’t argue your position. You want to learn what evidence they have and how they plan to argue the case.

If you believe you’ll need company documents to process the grievance, you can let management know at this meeting what you need. But follow up your verbal request with a letter. Refusal by management to supply information pertaining to your handling of a grievance is an unfair labor practice (ULP) that the NLRB nearly always investigates, but you will need evidence that you tried to get those documents in order to win your ULP.

Good evidence versus bad

NOT ALL EVIDENCE is equal. Whether it is direct evidence or circumstantial, to be convincing, evidence must be related to the case and must have the potential to prove the point it is used to make.

For example, if the company intends to prove John was drinking on the job, evidence that the week before he was arrested for drunk driving is not related to the case. What he did a week before has nothing to do with what he did Friday. The evidence is “immaterial.”

On the other hand, evidence that there were empty beer cans near his work station after Joe left work on Friday only relates to their charge, it also has the potential to be used to show he was drinking on the job; that is, it is “relevant.”

Still, the empty cans are circumstantial — they only suggest that someone was drinking near there. The company would need more evidence — such as testimony that Joe smelled of alcohol and a photo of him bringing a six-pack-sized paper bag onto the property. That still might not be enough, but Joe’s starting to look pretty guilty.

Evidence requires one more element to be fully convincing: it must be perceived to be reliable. In Joe’s case, the company’s alcohol-smell witness would be crucial. If his story changed each time he told it, or if he had a long-standing grudge with Joe, you might be able to cast doubt on his testimony.

Likewise, the reliability of that photo could be questioned. Does it clearly show Joe’s face? Is it time-and-date-stamped? Does Joe have a reasonable explanation for what he brought to work that was the size of a six-pack?

In general, business documents are considered to be reliable, but you need to examine all such items carefully before basing your argument on them. Sometimes documents are altered, and often people present the wrong documents to make their case. For example, an assignment list kept by the supervisor was used as evidence a specific worker was in a specific location, but the case dissolved when workers from the floor testified that workers were often re-assigned during the day, but the assignment list was not changed. In another case, a worker claimed to have a doctor’s note that he was ill on the day he was out, but it turned out to be only a note from a nurse that he had visited the clinic, with no reference to illness or injury.

YOUR SUCCESS in handling a grievance will depend largely on the quality (and in the case of circumstantial evidence, the quantity) of the evidence you gather. Arm yourself with “good” evidence.
Members from six Canadian locals attend steward training

FIFTY-ONE MEMBERS from six lodges attended a stewards program in Canada during the first half of this year.

On Jan. 19, Local 359 held a training program at its Burnaby, British Columbia, union hall and another program the following day on Vancouver Island. Participants included Robert Barber, Al Bennett, Robert Brugge, Ben Gogol, Larry Greenwood, Chris Hoskins, Hayden Huntley, Robert Maeschalck, Egon Mauer, Hilary Peach, Rob Raj, Jason Swetlikoff, and Dan Steele.

On Feb. 4, Local 555 held a training class at its new hall in East St. Paul, Manitoba. Members attending included Jason Blackledge, Dean Bull, Brian Connelly, Jim Donnelly, Joel Gauthier, Anthony Genovey, Cameron Oswald, Patrick Pires, Garry Schunemann, Les Smith, and Tony Stark.

Members of three Nova Scotia lodges attended steward training on March 27 at the Halifax Delta Hotel: from Local 73 (Halifax), Doug Samson and Scott Wolfe; from Local D324 (Havelock), Brian Burgess, Scott Carson, and Jason Dempsey; and from Local D579 (Lantz), Darren Brant, Glen Cantfell, Clint Isenor Jr., Trevor Isenor, Laurie E. Preepere, Rod Rush too, and Christopher L. White. The following Local 73 members attended both the March 27 steward training and a program on jurisdiction the next day: Patrick Beam, Alain Benoit, Nicolas Brideau, Stephen Chisholm, Denis LeBlanc, Kirk MacLeod, Dale Matte, David Noel, and Greg Royles.

On June 9, Local 128 hosted a basic steward class in Port Elgin, Ontario. Participating were Ronnie Collier, Kenneth Kilday Jr., Mike McCabe Jr., Stirling Munn, Luke Sovie, and Craig Walker.

Boilermakers attend new train-the-trainer course

Class meets new OSHA requirements for crane signaling

APPRENTICE COORDINATORS and instructors from three Boilermaker lodges attended a Sept. 29 train-the-trainer course on qualification requirements for signal persons in OSHA’s new Subpart CC – cranes and derricks in construction.

Apprentice coordinators Darren Lindlee of Local 60 (Peoria, Ill.) and Rick Wilson of Local 107 (Milwaukee), along with apprentice instructors Duane Shue and Bob Stewart of Local 1 (Chicago), attended the class offered by the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE).

The new OSHA rule, which replaces the standard that was established in 1971, went into effect Nov. 8. A signal person is now required on a job site when the point of operation is not in full view of the crane or derrick operator. A signal person is also required when equipment is traveling and the operator’s view in the direction of travel is obstructed.

Recognizing the importance of crane signaling, the IUOE worked with the Chicagoland Construction Safety Council to develop the signal person safety training program.

MOST (Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training), a joint labor-management trust, offers a supplementary rigging program with a training module dedicated to cranes. This module satisfies the basic signal training requirements of the new OSHA standard.

For more information on this or other MOST programs, visit their Web site at www.mostprograms.com or call 1-913-281-5036.
NORTHEAST & GREAT LAKES
THE NORTHEAST AND Great Lakes areas held their 24th annual joint graduate apprentice competitions May 17-20 at Local 5 Zone 197 (Albany, N.Y.). The top two finishers in each contest represented their areas in the national contest in Buffalo, N.Y., Sept. 26-30.

Nasto and Bogue win Northeast
JEFFREY NASTA of Local 5 Zone 5 (New York) and Michael Bogue of Local 7 (Buffalo, N.Y.) placed first and second, respectively, in the Northeast Area Apprentice Committee’s (NEAAC) John J. Harrington Apprentice of the Year competition.

Also competing were Ryan Taylor, Local 5 Zone 175 (Osweego, N.Y.); Russell Young, Local 5 Zone 197; Joseph Phillips, Local 13 (Philadelphia); Gary Smith, Local 28 (Newark, N.J.); Brian Scolamiero, Local 29 (Boston); Daniel Gilmore, Local 154 (Pittsburgh); and Christopher O’Neill, Local 237 (Hartford, Conn.). The contestants were later honored at their area’s semi-annual meeting July 14 in Rehoboth Beach, Del.

Union judges for the NEAAC contest were Jerry Couser, retired L-197 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 welder; Nick Gushue, L-13 welding instructor; Bob Heine, IR-ISO; James Horkay, L-154 retiree; Phil Horberger, retired L-197 instructor; Jack Johnsdrow, L-29 ABM; Jack O’Halloran, L-28 instructor; and L-154 welding instructors Ray Orsi Jr., Bob Pandori (retired), and Michael Stanton.

Contractor judges included John Cammuso, Babcock Power Inc.; Ben Straub and Matthew Schmitt, Simakas Brothers Co.; and Larry Ross (retired), NAES Power Contractors.

Jason Dupuis, NEACC co-coordinator, said 2010 marked the first time in the contest history for the Northeast and Great Lakes areas to have a combined total of 18 contestants. “It was a large, yet strong group, and the highest-scoring candidates were separated by just a few points,” he said.

“We hoped our winner and runner-up would perform flawlessly as they represented our area at the national competition, and we weren’t disappointed,” Bogue said. Bogue earned the top award as national apprentice of the year, and he and Nasta earned team honors at the national contest.

Sancho and Frost win Great Lakes
KEVIN SANCHO of Local 169 (Detroit) and Orry Frost of Local 647 (Minneapolis) placed first and second, respectively, in the Great Lakes Area Boilermaker Apprentice Program (GLABAP) competition.

Also competing were Luke Henrikson, Local 1 (Chicago); Ben Doty, Local 60 (Peoria, Ill.); Tim Barker, Local 85 (Toledo, Ohio); John Lem erand, Local 107 (Milwaukee); Eric Wells, Local 363 (East St. Louis, Ill.); Donald Throckmartin, Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.); and Larry Bean II, Local 744 (Cleveland).

Union judges included Local 1 business agent Bob Schwartz and Local 169 business agent Mike Card. Contractor judges included Tony Parasiliti of RMF Nooter, and Don Placco of Hayes Mechanical.

According to co-coordinators Lawrence McManamon Jr. and Mark Gustafson, the 2010 GLABAP competition matched last year’s record-setting number of contestants, with nine lodges sending candidates. Combined with the Northeast Area, it was their largest competition yet.

To honor the outstanding apprentices, the GLABAP held its 16th annual Robert J. McDonough, John T. Mooney, and John H. Nooter Awards Banquet on the Odyssey cruise ship, located on Chicago’s Navy pier, June 9.

WESTERN STATES

Norstrom and Phillips win Western States
ERIC NORDSTROM of Local 502 (with offices in Puyallup, Wash.) won the James F. Precht Award as the top apprentice in the 23rd annual Western States Area Outstanding Graduate Apprentice Competition held May 16-20 at Local 502. Denver Local 101’s Dylan Phillips placed second. Both represented the Western States at the national contest in Buffalo, N.Y., Sept. 26-30, with Nordstrom placing second.

Eight construction lodges participated in this year’s event. Also competing were Andy Kinsel, Local 4 (Page, Ariz.); Richard Whideman, Local 11 (Helena, Mont.); Lawrence Calde ron, Local 92 (Los Angeles); David McCurdy, Local 242 (Spokane, Wash.); Wade Cudmore, Local 500 (Salem, Ore.); and Craig Lane, Local 627 (Phoenix).

Local 627’s Nelvin Dickson is this year’s winner of the Greg Streblov Scholastic Award. Local Lodge 101 received the Don Lacefield Local of the Year Award.

The competition was organized by the Western States Apprentice- ship staff with assistance from L-502 staff members.

Union judges included L-502 retirees Steve Ludwig, Wayne Shutt, and Ralph Weaver. Contractor judges included Ted Unsworth from AP&F, Pat Bergham from CBI, and Robert Pike from PSF.

Western States Coordinator Colin Keisling said the judges “contributed greatly by lending their time, knowledge, and expertise to the test scoring.” He commended L-502 BM Randy Robbins, instructors Dale Mason and Joe Plattner, and their office staff for their help throughout the competition.

A group photo of the Western States Area contestants was not available for publication.

SOUTHEAST

Jordan and Russell win Southeast
BILLY C. JORDAN, a Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) member, won the Paul D. Wedge Memorial Award for the Outstanding Graduate Apprentice of the Southeast Area.

Jordan took the top honor at the Southeast Area Joint Apprentice Committee’s (SAJAC) event held July 19-22 at Local 40’s training cen-
Local 580 apprentice tests his welding skills

Jared Cloutier earns silver and gold medals in Canadian contests

JARED CLOUTIER, 22, a third-year apprentice out of Local 580 (Halifax, Nova Scotia), has been testing his welding skills in provincial and national contests, earning a gold medal at the Nova Scotia Skill Competition on April 29 and a silver medal at the Canadian Skills Competition in Waterloo, Ontario, May 21-22.

“Jared is a very mature apprentice,” reports L-580 BM-ST Yves Fournier. “He’s got tremendous skill in the trade, he’s very observant of the senior welders, and everyone in our work center enjoys working with him.”

Local 580 members are very proud of Jared, said L-580 Pres. Bob Fish. “To my knowledge, he is the only apprentice from Local 580 to compete in the skills competitions and have the success he achieved.”

According to Cloutier, the competitions were “very stressful, but it was enjoyable meeting welders from all across Canada.”

The provincial competition, held at the Nova Scotia Community College – Akerley campus in Dartmouth, included welding projects on aluminum, stainless steel, and mild steel, with time limits ranging from 90 minutes to three hours.

The national competition included one participant from each Canadian province and territory. The test projects used the same materials and welding procedures as the provincial contest, but with longer time limits due to the more complex drawing requirements.

International Vice President for Eastern Canada Edward Power said, “Local 580 has a proud history of hard-working trades people, and Jared Cloutier’s gold and silver medals are a fine example of this.” He said Local 580 members should also take a bit of credit for Jared’s medals because of “the magnificent example they provide to the apprentices.”

The contests were sponsored by Skills Canada, a national, not-for-profit organization that works with employers, labour unions, and governments to promote skilled trades and technology careers among Canadian youth.

Chartered in 1927, Local 580 represents workers at commercial and federal shipyards.

SIX GRADUATE APPRENTICES from two Florida lodges — L-199 in Jacksonville and L-433 in Tampa — were among nearly 100 building trade workers honored June 4 in Jacksonville for completing their respective apprenticeship programs. Sponsored by the Jacksonville General Apprenticeship Association, the event drew 500 union members and guests.

“This was a much-needed and deserved act of recognition for these craftspeople, who have successfully completed such demanding programs,” said Carl Ferguson, L-199 BM-ST. “The success of these apprentices reflects directly on the tremendous dedication and knowledge of their instructors as well as the Director of the Southeast Area Joint Apprenticeship Committee. SAJAC Director Mike Peterson has piloted the program from a 1960’s-type of curriculum to a 21st century, cutting-edge, education tool for the Boilermakers.”

During the ceremonies, the JGAA cited L-199 graduate apprentice Jonathan Russell as the Boilermakers’ “Outstanding Apprentice of the Year.” As a runner-up in the Southeast Area’s recent “Paul Wedge” apprentice contest, Russell competed in the Boilermakers’ national competition in Buffalo, NY., Sep. 26-30.

REGIONAL APPRENTICE COMPETITIONS

Continued from previous page

Mike McCluskey served as testing coordinator, and Local 40 Vice Pres. Calvin Minton operated the tugger for the candidates.

SAJAC Director Michael Peterson expressed his pride in the performance of Southeast Area apprentices. “Contestants from SAJAC have won national honors three out of the last four years,” he said.

This was the second time the annual event has been held at Local 40 facilities. The lodge also hosted a barbecue dinner for the contestants, judges, trustees, other attendees, and their families with a Bluegrass band playing during the festivities.

“SAJAC wishes to thank the members, officers, and staff of Local 40 for the invitation and gracious hospitality they showed everyone,” said Peterson. “This would not have been the success that it was without the hard work and dedication of Business Manager Ray Parrott, Mike Autrey, Dwain Smith, Calvin Minton, and the Local 40 staff. Local 40 members should be proud. Local 40 has one of the best, well thought-out training centers in the U.S.”

JGAA honors L-199, L-433 graduate apprentices

GRADUATE APPRENTICES RECEIVE RECOGNITION at a JGAA event in Jacksonville, Fla., June 4. L to r: L-199 BM-ST Carl Ferguson; L-199 apprentice instructor Eric Olson; L-433 graduate apprentices Mark Gorgis, Shawn P. Collins, and Patricia Green; L-199 graduate apprentice Paul Topel (kneeling).
BNAP
Continued from page 1

(St. Louis, Mo.), representing the Northeast Area.

The event was the first to be held outside the national training center in Kansas City, Kan. The NTC facility was closed earlier this year as part of a restructuring program. Under the new format, local training facilities in the United States will host the event on a two-year rotation. Local 7 will sponsor the event again in 2011.

Results of the four-day national competition were announced at an awards banquet held Sept. 30 at Salvatore’s Restaurant in Depew, N.Y.

Other graduate apprentices competing this year were, from the Western States Area, Dylan Phillips, Local 101 (Denver); from the Great Lakes Area, Kevin Sancho, Local 169 (Detroit), and Orry Frost Jr., Local 647 (Minneapolis); and from the Southeast Area, Billy Jordan, Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.), and Jonathan Russell, Local 199 (Jacksonville, Fla.).

All eight contestants earned their way to the national event by winning the top spot in their local lodge competition and finishing in one of the top two positions in their area competition.

Apprentices compete in four areas

BNAP LEAD INSTRUCTOR John Standish said the 2010 competition covered four areas: classroom, rigging, Boilermaker skills, and welding. Contestants could earn a maximum of 300 points in each area.

The classroom work included a 10-hour written exam on Boilermaker history and organization, OSHA safety rules, and on-the-job training issues.

In the team rigging test, contestants set up and performed a water wall panel lift using a tagger and hydraulic crane. The exercise involved calculating the mechanical advantage to be employed and reeving blocks accordingly. Contestants were required to move the panel horizontally into position near the steel structure, rig it for a vertical lift over the top of the structure, and set it into position with hanger rods at the appropriate elevation and orientation.

Candidates were also judged on safety and hand-signaling.

Apprentices competed in five areas in the Boilermaker skills section. These included tube rolling, layout and fabrication, boiler component identification, tool identification and use, and CPR. The layout and fabrication exercise was especially challenging. Contestants were given two hours to craft a transitional hopper. Using a single sheet of plate steel, the teams were required to lay out the project, cut out the hopper pieces, and fit them together using the GMAW process. The top of the hopper included a square flange, the bottom a round flange. Layout was critical, as waste steel had to be kept to a minimum. The teams also had to precisely locate and prepare the bolt holes on each flange.

In the welding section, judges evaluated the contestants’ skills in tube welding, plate welding, burning, stud welding, arc gouging, and safety.

The apprentices were given five hours to remove and replace a failed tube from a water wall section using the buddy welding system. They measured and cut out the bad tube and replaced it with a 12-inch pup using GTAW and SAW techniques. Judges assessed measuring skills, quality of cuts, beveling, and membrane welding. Welds were tested by X-ray for conformance to ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) standards, with points deducted for any weld failures.

Judges for the 2010 competition were, from the Southeast Area, Stephen Speed, SAIP, and Randall James of M&D Power Constructors; from the Western States, Dean Hurt, Local 627 (Phoenix) instructor and Ted Unsworth, AP&F Construction; from the Great Lakes Area, Robert Schwartz, asst. bus. mgr. for Local 1 (Chicago), and Larry McCafrey, Industrial Construction; from the Northeast Area, Michael Stanton, Local 154 (Pittsburgh) chief welding instructor, and Dennis Melkon, Migrant Corp.; and from the National Transient Division, George Deem, Fisher Tank Company, and Larry Chunn, Delta Nooter.

William Erold, retired AIP, served as the test administrator.

Banquet honors contestants, supporters

THE RESULTS OF the 2010 competition were announced during the awards banquet held on the final day of the event. The banquet honored all of the contestants and acknowledged those who promote the Boilermaker apprenticeship program throughout the year.

JPV Sean Murphy, BNAP chairman, opened the program by praising the contestants for their hard work and dedication. “You exemplify the finest traditions of our craft,” he said. Murphy also presented Local 7 BM-ST Joe Brown with an award acknowledging the lodge’s effort in hosting the competition.

BNAP Coordinator Pat Smith recognized all those who participated in the event and who support the apprenticeship program throughout the year, including judges and test administrators, BNAP board members, national training staff, and Local 7 training staff. He called this year’s contestants “the cream of the crop,” adding, “You are the pride of the organization right now. I know [International] President Jones is proud of you, the Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Committee is proud of you, and I am personally proud of you.”

Standish said he was pleased with how well the competition went. “This was the first one away from the national training center in Kansas City, and it went smoothly. I can’t say enough about the effort Joe Brown and Local 7 put into the event. The local’s apprentice coordinator, Mark Felschow, did a heck of a job getting everything ready, and there were plenty of volunteers from the lodge. I think the new format is going to work out just fine for us.”

SAIP Marty Spencer said Operating Engineers Local 17 of Lakeview, N.Y., deserved special thanks for supplying the crane and operators for the rigging exercise at no cost to BNAP or Local 7. “Their involvement added a new dimension to the signaling portion of the exercise,” he said.

“It’s been a tough road to get here”

PARTICIPANTS IN apprenticeship competitions typically spend many hours preparing for the events, hitting the books and reviewing practical skills and knowledge gained on the job. For Michael Bogue, preparation included giving up two jobs to prepare for the regional contest and then the national event.

“It’s been a tough road to get here,” he said, “but a lot of people, including my wife and daughter, have helped make this happen.” He praised his family for supporting him during nights studying at home and frequent trips to the union hall to practice.

A native of the Buffalo area, Bogue, now 40, began his career as a union carpenter. He became interested in becoming a Boilermaker while helping to renovate Local 7’s union hall. After his father-in-law, Patrick Lyons, retired as the lodge’s BM-ST, Bogue entered the apprenticeship program at the lodge.

Becoming a Boilermaker was a great move, he said. “These are a great bunch of guys.” He praised his fellow contestants as “a tough bunch” of competitors.
Top Row, l. to r.:
LOCAL 502'S C. ERIC NORDSTROM
(this year’s runner-up) demonstrates his reeving skills.

JEFFREY NASTA, LOCAL 5 ZONE 5,
burns out a tube during the tube rolling test.

At Right:
L-7’S MICHAEL BOGUE (this year’s winner) mills one end of a 12-inch pup during the water wall exercise.

Below, l. to r.:
BILLY JORDAN, LOCAL 40, cuts out a hopper segment in the layout and fabrication exercise.

JUDGES, l. to r., Larry Chunn, Dean Hurt, and George Deem inspect a finished hopper project.
Top row, l. to r.:

LOCAL 199'S JONATHAN RUSSELL cuts out a bad tube section during the water wall exercise.

KEVIN SANCHO, LOCAL 169, prepares to lift a water wall panel during the rigging test.

Below, l. to r.:

DYLAN PHILLIPS, LOCAL 101, prepares a tube end during the tube rolling exercise.

ORRY FROST JR., LOCAL 647, uses arc gouging to separate a pipe section from a steel plate.
Local 5 shop builds modular condensers for New York City's Astoria plant

Lodge wins work previously done nonunion

Boilermakers accustomed to building HRSG condensers in the field are seeing much of that work lost to modular construction performed by nonunion labor. But members of Local 5 Zone 197 (Albany, N.Y.) recently demonstrated that they are perfectly capable of assembling condensers offsite for transport to the project site.

Over an 18-month period, 70 Boilermakers employed by Megrant Corp. built 24 280-ton, air-cooled condenser modules for the Astoria Energy project in New York City, near La Guardia Airport. The shop crews worked shifts of six 10s and brought the project in ahead of schedule, on budget, and without a single lost-time injury.

Located in the Borough of Queens, the Astoria Energy project is a combined-cycle facility comprised of two power blocks. Each power block includes two gas-fired combustion turbines, a steam turbine, and two HRSGs (heat recovery system generators), with a total output of approximately 550 megawatts. The first power block became operational in 2005; the second is expected to come on line in 2011. The Astoria project has been heralded as one of the cleanest and most efficient energy plants in the nation.

L-5 BM-ST Tom Klein said condenser work in the first phase was performed nonunion at a facility in Virginia, but in phase II, Boilermaker signatory contractor Megrant Corp. won the bid. “With the help of [International Vice President] Sean Murphy, [Assistant Director for Construction Sector Operations] John Fultz, and [IR] Tony Smarra, we negotiated a project labor agreement with Megrant so 100 percent of the condenser work would be done by Boilermakers,” Klein said.

The condensers were assembled at Megrant’s shop in Albany, N.Y., along the Hudson River, with components fabricated by GEA Power Cooling Inc. Once assembled, the modules were rolled onto barges, which traveled about 150 miles down the Hudson, past the Statue of Liberty, and up the East River to the Astoria project site.

The shop work also involved assembling 2,000 feet of 10- and 25-ft.-dia. duct, including elbows, fittings, and valves.

Megrant President Sam Mirian said assembly of the air-cooled condensers was initially slated to go to a Mexican company and that all other major systems for the Astoria Energy project were built offshore. He said the biggest challenge in building the condensers was making sure everyone worked safely on a project near water that also required working at heights and involved extensive rigging and welding.

Employees came in from all over the country, and many had never worked as a union Boilermaker. After joining Local 5, the new hands received extensive safety and equipment training from L-5 supervisors.

Mirian said the crews performed superbly. “There were zero failures on the welds, and we had no mechanical failures of any kind. Quality control was excellent. Productivity was phenomenal.”

Klein said he was proud of the performance by Local 5 members on the Astoria Energy project, and pleased to recover some of the work that is typically lost to nonunion workers when modular construction methods are used.

As the condenser modules were barged to the project site, they carried large banners proclaiming “A New York State product by union Boilermakers for Megrant in partnership with GEA.”

Local 5 is a construction, railroad, shipbuilding, and shop lodge chartered in 1962.
Union Plus mortgage assistance helps out a brother in need

L-60’s Stroud uses program to hold things together during long bout with unemployment, disability

BILLY STROUD, a member of Local 60 (Peoria, Ill.), joined the IBB in 2002, after working 37 years as an Ironworker. A 26-year homeowner, Stroud had been through recessions and dealt with workplace injuries and had always come out on top, paying his bills each month and saving money his whole life. But going nearly two years without work was almost too much for him. In fact, Stroud isn’t sure he would have been able to keep his home if he hadn’t been able to tap into the assistance his IBB Union Plus Mortgage program provided.

Stroud spent 18 months recovering from injury and illness, all without a paycheck. Then just as he was ready to get back to work, the slow economy hit, which left him out of work for another four months. “I wasn’t even drawing unemployment,” he says. “They were tough times.”

For the longest time Stroud couldn’t see the light at the end of the tunnel. But fortunately, just before the tough times hit, he’d had a very bright idea. In the process of refinancing his home he had seen a flyer about the IBB Union Plus Mortgage Program and thought, “I want in on this deal.”

IBB Union Plus Mortgage comes with a mortgage assistance program that can help cover mortgage payments in the event of unemployment, disability, strike, or lockout. The program offers no-interest loans and an affordable repayment schedule for union members who have had an IBB Union Plus Mortgage for more than a year. The first $1,000 of the assistance loan does not need to be repaid. Since its inception, this special union benefit program has provided more than $7 million in assistance to union members.

Stroud got assistance to cover his mortgage for three months, enough to get him through the worst of his situation. The application process was fast, he says, and so was the response from Union Plus. “Help came just in time,” he says.

“You never think you’ll need it, but it sure is good to have it,” says Stroud.

Stroud was finally able to return to work this past winter, but then suffered a shoulder injury. Only this time he’s collecting disability, and he says he can’t wait to return to work. ‘I’ve been down to the union hall, and they’re saying, ‘Hurry up and get back to work,’” he says. “That’s just what I want to do.”

The most important lesson Stroud learned during his hardship? “When times are tough you learn who your friends are,” he says. Like his buddy who drove 60 miles to lend Stroud the money to pay his electric bill. And like the mortgage assistance program, which helped keep Stroud in his home.

“I wouldn’t have been able to pay my mortgage without it,” he says. “It’s the greatest thing.”

To learn more about the IBB Union Plus Mortgage Program, call 1-800-848-6466 (8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. E.T. Mon – Fri; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. E.T. Sat). You may also visit UnionPlus.org to find out more information on this and the more than 50 other Union Plus programs available to IBB members.

Union Sportsmen’s Alliance awards boat, fishing day with Triton founder

THANKS TO HIS membership in the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance, Boilermaker Tim Smith (Local 13, Philadelphia) is the proud new owner of a U.S.-made Triton TR-18 bass boat with a union-made Mercury engine worth more than $22,000. The boat was a prize he earned through his membership with the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance. USA is a hunting, fishing, and conservation organization for union members, retirees, and their families.

Smith, who joined the Boilermakers union in 1974 and has been a member of Local 13 since 2008, is an avid fisherman. He had an application for USA on his desk for about a year, when his business agent suggested Smith just go ahead and join.

“You get a free knife, a magazine, and I figured what the heck,” Smith said. While it may have taken him a long time to join the USA, it took him no time at all for his membership to pay off. About six months after mailing the application, he received a call from the USA and was told he had won the boat.

Smith thought it was a joke until he looked at the USA Web site and saw a photo of a previous year’s winner. When he received a call from Intl. Pres. Newton Jones congratulating him on his good luck, he knew this was the real deal.

Part of his Triton boat prize package was an all-expense-paid trip to Tennessee to spend a day bass fishing with Triton founder and CEO Earl Bentz, who took some of the morning’s catch and cooked lunch for Smith at his cabin.

Smith is looking forward to getting his boat back home and into Pennsylvania rivers, where he will fish with his sons and union buddies.

For more information on the USA, visit their Web site at www. unionspor tsmen.org or call them toll-free at 1-877-USA-2211.
Father and son team address 500 union workers at New York construction site

GEORGE LONERGAN JR. is a 34-year member of Local 5 (New York), and a battalion chief for the New York Fire Department. He and his son, Brian, who has been a Local 5 member since 2002, participated in a memorial tribute to 9-11 with 500 union workers at a construction site at the New York Harbor in Astoria, N.Y., on Friday, Sept. 10. While George gave a stirring speech, Brian presented the colors atop a 300-ft. stack at the site.

The tribute recalled the Sept. 11, 2001, al-Qaeda suicide attacks on U.S. soil. The morning of the attack, George had put away his Boiler-maker tools at the Far Rockaway Powerhouse to go back to his other job as battalion chief. At the end of the day, he was one of the few chiefs to survive the rescue efforts. In all, the FDNY lost 22 chiefs, 343 firefighters, and many members of the rescue and hazmat squads as a result of the terrorist attack.

Following the attack, George worked for the fire department as a coordinator of construction worker tactics. For 23 days and nights, he worked with building trades members searching for survivors in the rubble.

“The overwhelming response by the union construction workers with their tools and equipment was vital to the rescue efforts,” George said. “Boilermakers joined the rescue with their steel-burning and rigging skills. Under my command, construction workers took on what was referred to as pile 1 — the World Trade Center South Tower and the Vista Hotel. The FDNY and people of New York should always remember the immediate call to action by these brave trades people.”

George’s son, Brian, a college student at the time, was surfing the morning of the attack. “It was a cloudless day and the waves were very high,” Brian recounted. “It was a great day to surf until I saw the heavy clouds of smoke coming from the trade center. I knew then that something terrible had happened.”

The event moved Brian so much that he now volunteers with his hometown fire department in Island Park, NY.

George’s 9-11 tribute follows:

L-5 members participate in 9-11 memorial

Today we stand together to honor and remember Our 4,000 fellow Americans who were murdered nine years ago. We remember the attack on the World Trade Center, Tower 1, Tower 2, the Pentagon, Flight 93 in Pennsylvania.

Today we stand together to honor and remember The 62 construction trades people who died. Many of them, stayed to help others: Boilermakers, Ironworkers, Electricians, Plumbers, Carpenters, Painters, Steam Fitters, Laborers, and Elevator Operators.

Let us remember and honor the two wire lathers on Flight 93 Who answered the call, “Let’s Roll,” and saved our nation’s capitol.

Today we stand together to honor and remember The thousands of American soldiers who have made the ultimate supreme sacrifice, The tens of thousands of American soldiers who are casualties, And we honor every one of their families.

Today we stand together to honor and remember The New York union construction workers who stopped their work, Picked up their tools, and walked to Ground Zero for the rescue effort.

Today we stand together to honor and remember The dozens of brothers and sisters who have died And the hundreds who suffer lung ailments from the toxic air.

Today we say, God bless you, God bless your families, God bless America.
L-687 apprentice serves second Afghanistan tour

Thomas Sibley’s communications job is critical and dangerous work

THOMAS SIBLEY, who joined Local 687 (Charleston, S.C.) as an apprentice in 2006, is serving his country in Afghanistan as part of his reserve unit. The Army sergeant is the communications specialist in his company, and his job is a vital one.

“I ensure open contact between the route clearance patrols and the command and control center,” Sibley said. He is responsible for an estimated two million dollars worth of communications equipment. “Without the service I provide, no one would be able to communicate either internally or externally,” he said. “The company commander could not pass instructions to the line, operators would not receive mission data, and the unit couldn’t call in medical support when an injury occurs.

In order to keep these transmissions from being intercepted, Sibley maintains and updates the encryption for all of his company’s radios. His support is a critical link that allows his unit to accomplish its mission.

Part of Sibley’s work is spent standing in the back of a Husky, operating a communication system. The Husky leads a patrol and holds only one driver. The vehicle is designed to take a direct blast, and given the force of the explosion, will shear off at the vehicle’s stress points. The “comms” are critical in that a great many of troops in Afghanistan are killed by secondary blasts. The Taliban has been setting multiple charges, hoping to hit one and then tripping the deadlier bombs when the rescue teams respond. Sibley’s job is to keep them talking when a crisis occurs.

These extreme conditions, coupled with being bivouacked far from dining, recreation, and work areas, further the stress of being away from family and friends. “It is tougher this time than during my last tour in Afghanistan,” said Sibley. “Because of the surge, things are scarcer, everything is more spread out, and we see more rocket attacks in Kandahar than I did in Kabul.”

All of these things make Sibley miss things most Americans don’t immediately appreciate. “I miss my family. I miss watching my son play basketball. I just look forward to enjoying the things at home that I took for granted before I left,” Sibley said.

Dust storms are constantly challenging Sibley to keep communications open between the line and command. But in spite of these conditions, Sibley remains vigilant in his role for Operation Enduring Freedom. “Like my father did when he served in Vietnam, I, too, want to serve and protect my country so that my son and the children at home can live free,” Sibley said.

When Sibley gets home, he will return to his position as a Local 687 apprentice, secure in the knowledge that he did his part to keep America safe.

L-580 honors fallen Canadian troops

Memorial by Steve Sweeney stands at Halifax dockyards

IN THE PLATE and boiler shop at the federal dockyards in Halifax, Nova Scotia, home to the Canadian navy’s Atlantic fleet, stands a Boilermaker-crafted monument to the nation’s military men and women who have died in Afghanistan. Built from a tool box, the memorial includes brass plates with the names of the fallen. Atop the memorial, a Canadian flag stands at half staff.

Local S80 member Steve Sweeney, now retired, designed and built the memorial. He was inspired by the sacrifices made by Canada’s soldiers, especially an incident that touched his own family. The Sweeney’s live in a home once owned by the father of Private Nathan Smith, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2002. Sweeney recalled what happened on the night they learned of Smith’s death.

“My son came downstairs and said he could not sleep because he was in Nathan’s room. I looked my son in the eyes and told him, ‘Go back to sleep. You’re sleeping in a hero’s room.’” His son slept the rest of the night.

On the very next day, Sweeney began work on the memorial. Sweeney retired on July 31 after 35 years of service. “On the day before I retired, I put up one more name [on the memorial], hoping it was the last one, number 151, of the brave young men and woman who have paid the ultimate price for us.”

Local S80 member Chrisanna Doyle has taken on the responsibility of keeping up the memorial, said the lodge’s president, Bob Fish. “I know Chrisanna will do a great job looking after this, the same as Steve did.”

Eastern Canada IVP Ed Power noted, “The monument Brother Sweeney has constructed is not only a testament to the brave Canadians who have died in Afghanistan, it is also a memorial of respect to the mothers and fathers who have lost a child due to the conflict there.”

Spouse of L-433’s DeMonaco receives national honor

Robin DeMonaco mentors child through Boys To Men program

ROBIN DEMONACO, WIFE of 30-year member Charlie DeMonaco (Local 433 — Tampa, Fla.), received the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) Outstanding Mentor Award April 7 in New Orleans. It was the fourth year the FYSB presented the award from the Administration for Children and Families, a branch of the Department of Health and Human Services, for its Mentoring Children of Prisoners program.

DeMonaco, who lives in Unicoi, Tenn., has been mentoring nine-year-old Katelyn Crowther for over three years through “Children of Promise,” a local Boys to Men program for children with parents in jail or prison.

Since Katelyn was six, she and DeMonaco have been on picnics, baked brownies and made crafts, visited the library, and enjoyed plenty of fun activities provided through Boys To Men, such as free trips to Doe River Gorge Camp in Hampton, Tenn.

The DeMonacos, Katelyn, and Katelyn’s father, Joseph, flew to New Orleans to accept the award. It was the first time the Crowthers had ever flown or been on vacation. While in New Orleans, they took in the sites, flown or been on vacation. While in New Orleans, they took in the sites, including an airboat ride. FYSB funded the trip.

Charlie DeMonaco was glad to accompany his wife and the Crowthers to New Orleans. “I’m glad I got to go along and be a friend and advisor for Joseph, who is the sole caregiver for his daughter. I can only imagine how difficult it must be to raise a little girl by yourself. Thank God for a program like this that can break cycles and change lives. It’s changed all of our lives.”

NATIONAL MENTOR AWARD WINNER ROBIN DEMONACO enjoys an airboat ride with mentee, Katelyn Crowther. Also pictured are Katelyn’s father, Joseph (front), and Robin’s husband, Charlie, a member of Local 433.

SERGEANT THOMAS SIBLEY checks a communication system on the back of a Husky. His driver, SPC Husbands, is pictured in the background.

RETIRED LOCAL 580 MEMBER STEVE SWEENEY stands beside the Canadian troop memorial he created at the Halifax, Nova Scotia, dockyards.
L-128 member serves as “Survivor Nicaragua” crew member

Four-month job makes lasting impression on 2nd-year apprentice Lucas Faganely

LUCAS FAGANELY, a second-year apprentice out of Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario), spent this past summer as a member of what he calls, “the craziest television adventure crew in the world.”

Faganely was selected to be a member of the “DreamTeam” for the hit TV show, “Survivor Nicaragua.” Now in its 11th season, “Survivor” is a competitive reality series aired on CBS.

“If anyone really knows me, they know that I am certainly not afraid to hide my love for [this] television series. Since the beginning, I have been attracted to the crazy people, extreme locations, and magnificently-built challenges,” Faganely reported.

His adventure started nearly two years ago when he saw a video on YouTube explaining what the DreamTeam does as part of the TV show’s crew.

“I was instantly drawn,” Faganely said. “The video explained that this group of about 20 members helps to build and test challenges before the contestants have to do them — they are basically entry-level production assistants. As an athlete, I really couldn’t think of a better job!”

Faganely submitted a letter to the show’s main office in Los Angeles, explaining why he wanted to be a crew member. He outlined that as a Boilermaker apprentice, he was used to working long, hard days in conditions that even a “Survivor” contestant would think was uncomfortable. He also explained how he would be an asset because of his trade and welding skills.

About 12 months later, he got a call telling him to be on a plane May 24th for Central America, where he was to live, play, and work for the next four months.

“It’s hard to really put into words just how great of a job this was,” Faganely explained. “We basically played massively-designed and constructed games all day so that the bosses and cameramen could get an idea of what the contestants would do.”

As a member of the DreamTeam, Faganely also lent a hand to the art department by sanding, painting, smoothing, or doing whatever they needed.

“Fortunately for me — and on the first day — I discovered the welding shop,” Faganely continued. “There are massive quantities [of stuff] on the show that are welded or fabricated from steel. I was instantly put to use.”

“I have to say, it is extremely exciting to see your own props and designs on national TV,” Faganely said. “My ‘Survivor’ experience was something that I will never forget for the rest of my life. I learned a lot of things about TV, construction, and even myself. I made friends with people who got me prepared — like my apprentice instructors and foremen who whipped me into shape.”

Boilermakers raise money for Shriners

WORKERS AT THE Prairie State Energy Campus in Washington County, Ill., participated in a fund-raiser Oct. 8 for Shriners Hospitals for Children. The workers donated over $5,300 in response to the Shriners’ annual “Paper Crusade.”

St. Louis Local 27 member Jeff Casson works for Bechtel at the site, under the jurisdiction of Local 363 (E. St. Louis, Ill.). He and his father and brother, L-27 retirees David Sr. and David Jr., are members of the Belleville Shriners Group that solicited donations at two of the Energy Campus entrances by distributing bulletins about Shriners hospitals.

The Shriners depend on the generosity of others to support their mission of caring for children. “We thank all the union craft men and women, and supervision [for their support],” said Lee Owens, president of the Belleville Shriners Club and a retired union meat cutter.

Over 3,500 members of the building trades, including nearly 1,000 Boilermakers, are working at the Energy Campus on the largest coal-fired power plant currently being built in the United States. (For more information on this work site, see comments by Prairie State Generating Co.’s Peter DeQuattro, on page 2, column 2.)

Local 29’s Arsenault climbs Mt. Washington 100 times

TWENTY YEARS AGO, Peter Arsenault, a member of Local 29 (Boston), was a bit indifferent about the idea of climbing New Hampshire’s Mount Washington. But in 1990, at the urging of a co-worker, he made his first ascent and successfully reached the summit.

That one climb was all it took for Arsenault to fall in love with the mountain. Over the next two decades, he went on to scale the mountain repeatedly, and earlier this year he notched his 100th climb.

At 6,288 feet, Mt. Washington is the tallest peak in the northeastern United States. It is known for its unpredictable and violent weather and once held the world record for directly-measured, surface wind speed at 231 miles an hour.

Arsenault says he prefers climbing in the winter. “It’s easier on your body, because it’s so rocky [when the ground is not snow-covered]. And it’s more beautiful; you can see clearly for miles.”

Now 54, Arsenault, who lives in Waterboro, Maine, has also led hiking groups over the years. He invites anyone who may be interested in hiking with him to get in touch at arsenault8835@gmail.com.
Canadian locals hold supervisor training

TWO CANADIAN LOCALS held a two-day field supervisor leadership training program this summer, drawing nearly 30 participants who are interested in furthering their skills. Local 73 (St. John’s, New Brunswick) hosted the course on July 28-29; Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) held the course on August 19-20.

“The need for this type of industry-focused training was highlighted at this year’s Eastern Canadian Tripartite Conference,” said Grant Jacobs, National Director of Apprenticeship and Education. “Many of the contractors and owners who represent workers in the construction industry.”

Jacobs said the program emphasizes people skills and communication techniques, with the objective of developing a field supervisor’s confidence and effectiveness. “These skills enable the union and the contractors to provide a higher level of service to Boilermaker clients.”

Local 60 sponsors training to keep competitive edge

COMPLETING A SERIES OF RIGGING CLASSES are L-60 members, l. to r.: Ruben Garza, Rich Rentch, instructor Darren Lindee, Doug Eiben, Bruce Steffan, Ira Greenwall, Josh Black, David Strickler, Ed Whithby, Gary Morrison, John Ward, Joe Grennan, Justin Howlett, Tracy Roots, Kurk Jonaway, David Bend, Clarence Fargher, Brian Dodge, Scott Gould, Chris McFarland, Carl Beattie, and Billy Stroud.

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 60 (Peoria, Ill.) have completed four supplemental rigging classes administered by MOST (Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training), a joint labor trust fund established in June 1989 by the Boilermakers union and the National Association of Construction Boilermaker Employers.

According to Local 60 instructor Darren Lindee, “These classes [completed in July] will ensure our members continue to bring the necessary skills and expertise to the owners and contractors who employ union labor, proving that we are their best resource for a trained work force.”

Chartered in 1901, Local 60 represents workers in the construction industry.
L-M18 — Buffalo, N.Y.
Effective May 8, 2010 to May 3, 2013, for six members of Local M18 (Buffalo, N.Y.) who manufacture decontamination and sterilization equipment for Getinge Sourcing LLC in Rochester, N.Y. Products include washers/disinfectors, warming cabinets, sterilizers, and scrub sinks used in the health care industry.

L-M24 — Kokomo, Ind.
Effective Jan. 26, 2010 to Jan. 31, 2011, for 13 members of Local M24 (Kokomo, Ind.) who work at Williamson Polishing & Plating Co. Inc. in Indianapolis. Williamson has been serving the central Indiana area in the polishing and plating industry for over 70 years. Local M24 members perform the following finishes: black oxide, brass, bright tin, bronze, cadmium, copper, decorative chrome, hard chrome, nickel, silver, tin, zinc, and zinc phosphate.

L-37 — New Orleans
Effective Aug. 1, 2010 to Dec. 31, 2012, for eight members of Local 37 (New Orleans) who repair ships at Buck Kreihs Marine Repair LLC. Local 37 members service all classes of vessels — from small tugs to full-size ocean-going ships — performing services from minor voyage repairs to major conversions.

L-M67 — Los Angeles
Effective May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011, for 68 members of Local M67 (Los Angeles) who produce pistons and piston rings at the Pacific Piston Ring Co. in Culver City, Calif.

L-146 — Edmonton, Alberta
Effective Jan. 1, 2010 to Dec. 31, 2012, for 10 members of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) who fabricate heater packages and vertical and horizontal separators at Larsen & D’Amico Mfg. Ltd.

L-151 — Erie, Pa.

L-158 — Peoria, Ill.
Effective July 26, 2010 to Sept. 13, 2012, for 463 members of Local 158 (Peoria, Ill.) who work at Komatsu America Corp’s Peoria Manufacturing Operation (Mining Division). Local 158 members build large (up to 360-ton payload), off-road mining trucks for mining applications around the world. They also support mining equipment produced at other Komatsu facilities, such as bulldozers, excavators, and wheel loaders.

L-S228 — Santa Fe Springs, Calif.
Effective Nov. 1, 2010 to Oct. 31, 2011, for 13 members of Local S228 (Santa Fe Springs, Calif.) who apply porcelain and ceramic finishes to metal items, primarily for commercial and consumer appliances at Holiday Porcelain in Santa Fe Springs, Calif.

L-D274 — Winnipeg, Manitoba
Effective July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2014, for five members of Local D274 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) who make cement products at Lafarge Canada Inc.

L-344 — Ridgecrest, Calif.
Effective June 21, 2010 to Aug. 1, 2014, for eight members of Local 344 (Ridgecrest, Calif.) who work as full-time and part-time vacation control I and vacation control II employees for Lockheed Martin Information Systems & Global Services-Readiness and Stability Operations at the naval base in China Lake, Calif.

L-1603 — Alliance, Ohio
Effective March 19, 2010 to July 31, 2013, for 41 members of Local 1603 (Alliance, Ohio) who manufacture iron and steel forgings at T&W Forge Inc.

Union Plus Scholarship Applications Now Available
Application deadline Jan. 31, 2011, for $150,000 in awards
Applications are available for the 2011 Union Plus Scholarship Program, which provides $150,000 in scholarships to union members, their spouses and dependents.
To download the application, visit UnionPlus.org/Scholarships or send a postcard with your name, return address, telephone number and international union name to: Union Plus Education Foundation, c/o Union Privilege, P.O. Box 34800, Washington, DC 20043-4800.
The application deadline is Jan. 31, 2011.
Union members, their spouses and dependent children are eligible to apply for scholarships. You do not need to participate in a Union Plus program in order to be eligible.

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.
Local NEWS

LOCALS AWARD SERVICE PINS

Local 1 • Chicago
JOHN SKERMONT, BM-ST of Local 1, Chicago, reports the following membership pin presentations.
35 YEARS Edward Buruta Jr.; and
30 YEARS Michael J. Jasien.

Local 11 • Helena, Mont.
JOHN ROEBER, BM-ST of Local 11, Helena, Mont., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:
35 YEARS Ronald Hunziker, Tim Laedeke; and
30 YEARS Randy Camper, Thomas Macke, Jay Matthews, Robert Rule; and
20 YEARS David Mabry, Brad Makinen, Steven Pryor; and
15 YEARS Jeff Worden.

Local 40 • Elizabethtown, Ky.
RAY PARROTT, BM-ST of Local 40, Elizabethtown, Ky., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:
65 YEARS Edmond Alvey;
60 YEARS Robert Beasley;
45 YEARS Richard Mitchell;
40 YEARS Clyde Atwood, William Brown, Jimmy Trapp;
35 YEARS Paul Hill, Patrick Holbrook; and
30 YEARS Henry Hilburn, Richard Johnson, Byron Maddox;
25 YEARS David W. Bailey, Raymond Beasley, Timothy Boxley, Kerry Holbrook, Wendell Lee, Dwight Underwood, David Wilson;
20 YEARS James J. Bailey, Kevin Boggs, Sonny Burnett, George Burton, Billy Collins, Louis Etherton, Gerald Hope, Bernice Millard, Robert Stevens, Dwight Underwood, William Walters; and
15 YEARS Chris Church, Cecil Hurley, Randy Matheny, and Michael Vaught.

Moving?
LET US KNOW
YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS ONLINE AT WWW.BOILERMAKERS.ORG OR CALL US AT (913) 371-2640
Also please notify the secretary of your local lodge
ALLOW FIVE WEEKS FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Local 502 • Tacoma, Wash.
RANDY ROBBINS, BM-ST of Local 502, Tacoma, Wash., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:
45 YEARS Gunter Gervais, L.L. Rafferty, Jack Wehrli;
40 YEARS John Henry, Michael Mantei, Patrick Morse; and
35 YEARS Marvin Calkins, Robert D. Lewis, Joe Plattner, Tim Russ;
30 YEARS Jorge Blas, Bruce Burge, Jack Forbes, Richard Gregovich, Michael Hollinger, William Kinerk, Michael Knapp, Mickey Lappergard, John Pile, William Ruetter, Tom Segundo, Steve Shaw, Tim White, Charles Winston, Michael Woodruff; and
25 YEARS Michael Weaver; and
20 YEARS James Rhodes and Anthony Sprinkle.

Local 191 • Victoria, B.C.
JAMES FITZPATRICK, BM-ST of Local 191, Victoria, British Columbia, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:
55 YEARS Ken Burgoyne;
50 YEARS Tom McVie, Tom White; and
45 YEARS Michael Bacon, Leti Brobark, David Chisholm, Ian Kelly, Frank Lezetz, Nick Lupkosi, Terry Maragosis, Peter Saegebrecht;
40 YEARS Jim Morrison, Nirmal Shahi, Norm Smith; and
35 YEARS Del Anderson, Gary Callander, Ross McIrwaine, Ken Plante, Carey Schaub, Al Skinner, Brian Williams; and
30 YEARS Keith Aldous, Garth Ayrer, David DeFrance, Tony Den Otter, David Denton, Chris Edwards, Peter Gostasson, Ron Halpen, Zdzislaw Iwowski, Jim Isacson, Robert Johnton, Peter Kiernan, David Kirk, Emil Liska, Peter Maggiora, David McCormick, Vince McCormick, Bill Morrison, Hussen Mustafa, Jerry Nickel, Jose Pereira, Derrick Pocock, Neil Rasmussen, Steve Ray, Derek Robb, Terry Robertson, Terry Smith, Ken Snowsell, John Tyler, Bert Vanderveen, Reg Waggoner, Norm Wickett, Daryl Williams; and
25 YEARS Calvin Campbell, Brian Cathcart, Steve Collins, Glen Hepsting; and

Local 667 • Charleston, W.Va.
GEORGE PINKERMAN, BM-ST of Local 667, Charleston, W.Va., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:
60 YEARS Gilbert R. Lovejoy, Ray V. Lybolt, Gilmer E. Mosteller, Willbur L. Rhodes, Wendell H. Williams;
45 YEARS Emanuel M. Allstock, James W. Boswell, John M. Boswell, Paul W. Brown, Billy E. Dingess, Charles F. Eddy, James W. Elliott, Bobby E. Hyatt, Lowell T. Templeton; and

DARRELL MILLER, 74, is still working at the trade. In May he earned his 55-year membership pin from Local 27 (St. Louis). Born in 1936, Miller began his career at age 18, working five years at St. Louis Ship. He then became a helper at CBW Sheet & Iron Works. In 1963, he went to work for Continental Boiler (now known as Continental Fabricators Inc.), where he still works today at a burn table. Nicknamed “Hollywood” for his jet-black, slicked-back hair style that lasted him well into his 60s, “Miller is always good for a wild story with plenty of laughs,” reports job steward Scott Werner. “Even at the age of 74, Hollywood is still among the steadiest hands in the shop with a torch. Any plans to retire may come someday, but for now the work helps keep him young,” says Werner.
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.

ThE BOilErmaKEr rEpOrTEr

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.

IF YOU HAVE NOT yet been furnished this information, contact your local lodge, secure the beneficiaries forms, complete the required information, and forward to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust.

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See DEATH BENEFITS, page 23

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.
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<th>LODGE</th>
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<td>Persico, Angelo A.</td>
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<td>Ramirez, Hector C.</td>
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<td>Sammons Jr., Morris</td>
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<td>Showalter Sr., John P.</td>
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Labor progress is still possible, despite midterm results

Unions continue to have key friends in government

WHEN A SPLIT 112th Congress begins session in January — with the GOP in firm control of the House and Democrats holding a slim majority in the Senate — we can expect labor opponents to block key legislative initiatives backed by unions. The Employee Free Choice Act (H.R. 1409) will not go forward. Nor will the American Clean Energy and Security Act (H.R. 2454) or the Miner Safety and Health Act of 2010 (H.R. 5663).

These were some of our highest priorities. Free Choice would have given workers the ability to organize with much less interference and coercion from employers. A comprehensive energy bill would have promoted advances in clean technology, reducing emissions while creating an incredible amount of work for our construction members. And the Miner Act would have offered stronger protections for our coal mining members, who work under MSHA, and all workers covered by OSHA.

Unfortunately, these initiatives will be replaced with a flurry of anti-worker legislation at both the federal level and the state level, where labor-backed candidates also suffered major losses. Right to work (for less) and paycheck deception, as well as repeal of prevailing wage, project labor agreements, and public sector jobs, will be pushed by labor's opponents.

Although these are serious and troubling developments, workers can still hope to preserve recently won achievements and continue to make progress. Calls for repeal of the Affordable Care Act and Wall Street reforms are likely to fail. American workers will strongly resist handing over protections for workers with pre-existing conditions, extended coverage for children under the age of 26, and prescription drug assistance for seniors caught in the “donut hole.” And workers will not want to give up regulations designed to keep Wall Street from doing major harm to our economy in the future. GOP efforts to take these protections and benefits away from Americans will surely backfire.

Despite the midterm losses, organized labor continues to have valuable friends in Washington and at the state and local levels. What cannot be achieved through legislation may, in part, be accomplished through other means.

Pro-labor president sets tone for governance

SINCE HIS INAUGURATION on Jan. 20, 2009, President Barack Obama has been the driving force behind labor’s successes in Washington. Shortly after taking office, he set the tone for labor’s place in society, telling America, “I do not view the labor movement as part of the problem. To me, it’s part of the solution.”

Obama followed those words with action. He issued executive orders that promote project labor agreements, protect the jobs of current employees when federal contractors receive new contracts, and deny paying federal contractors for expenses related to their union-busting activities. Some of Obama’s executive orders reversed anti-union directives made by former President George W. Bush. Obama’s executive orders will remain in full force while he holds office.

Important not only for union members but for the entire country, Obama took bold steps to stabilize the economy through large-scale investments in infrastructure, unemployment benefits, and job preservation — even while his opponents offered no solutions and no support. Many thousands of good union jobs in the auto industry, law enforcement, education, and other areas survived because of those investments.

Obama’s continued championing of unions will remain critical to our success going forward.

Agency appointments will help labor

ONE OF THE key powers of a president is the ability to make appointments to federal agencies. Here again, Obama demonstrated his commitment to supporting working people by naming Hilda Solis to head the Department of Labor (DOL) and Craig Becker and Mark Pearce to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Solis has long been an advocate for worker issues; Becker and Pearce are labor lawyers who have practiced on the union side for years.

What these appointees bring to the federal government is an appreciation of the role that unions play in representing workers and the challenges that unions face when laws and policies are stacked against them. The DOL and NLRB have the ability to create new rules and set new policies to even out an unlevel playing field.

Businesses and their allies are keenly aware of how important agency appointments can be. Attorneys Illyse Schuman and Jay Sumner, writing for Littler, a management-side labor law firm, recently stated:

“...It is still possible for some of EFCA’s [Employee Free Choice Act] objectives and organized labor’s agenda to be implemented without congressional action through rulemaking and NLRB decisions…For example, [NLRB] member Pearce recently stated that he favors shorter election periods. The Board is also considering the use of electronic and Internet voting in representation elections…[and] recently announced changes that will bring about enhanced penalties for violations of the… NLRA [National Labor Relations Act].”

The Littler article also expressed concerns that the DOL could toughen reporting requirements on management when union-busting companies are brought in to disrupt union elections or help employers during lockouts — and that agencies may get tougher on safety and wage-and-hour enforcement.

Of course, Republican lawmakers and business groups continue to contest what they perceive as “excessive regulations” by the Obama administration. In the run-up to the midterm elections, U.S. Chamber of Commerce CEO Tom Donohue claimed, “The regulatory impact on the business community is pervasive, insidious, and needs to be exposed.”

With all due respect to Mr. Donohue, what needs to be exposed is businesses’ indifference to the safety and well-being of their employees — and in some cases their outright negligence. It is a legitimate function of government to protect workers from employer abuses. It is also a legitimate function of government to protect the American public from the excesses of Wall Street.

Labor is not about to give up

CONGRESS MAY WELL spend the next two years in gridlock, but we can expect the nation’s federal agencies to continue carrying out their responsibilities in support of the president’s labor and employment goals.

And although Republicans are making loud noises about repealing health care reform and undoing other legislative achievements under the Obama administration, it is not likely they will succeed to any large degree. The Affordable Care Act will no doubt be modified and perhaps improved. But Americans won’t want to lose important new benefits under the law.

Our union and the rest of organized labor will not give up on our legislative goals simply because the going got tougher.”

NEWTON B. JONES
International President

“...It is still possible for some of EFCA’s [Employee Free Choice Act] objectives and organized labor’s agenda to be implemented without congressional action through rulemaking and NLRB decisions…For example, [NLRB] member Pearce recently stated that he favors shorter election periods. The Board is also considering the use of electronic and Internet voting in representation elections…[and] recently announced changes that will bring about enhanced penalties for violations of the… NLRA [National Labor Relations Act].”