

THE REPORTER

The official publication of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers & Helpers, AFL-CIO

JAN - MAR 2012

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UNITY
PROGRESS & PROTECTION



TWO BOILERMAKERS HELP DIRECT A TUBE SECTION LIFT. Photo courtesy of MOST/Martin Public Relations

Canadian shipyards set to boom

Canadian PM announces \$35 billion shipbuilding program

WORKERS ACROSS CANADA are hailing Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper's announcement of a \$35 billion shipbuilding program under the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy. Contracts totaling \$33 billion will go to shipyards on the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. The remaining \$2 billion has yet to be allocated. Among those who stand to benefit are members of Local 191 (Victoria, British Columbia) and Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia).

In October 2011, the Canadian federal government awarded a \$25 billion contract for combat ships to Irving Shipyards in Halifax and selected Seaspan Marine in Victoria as one of two Canadian suppliers for an \$8 billion contract to construct non-combat vessels. The NSPS construction program is projected to create more than 15,000 direct and indirect jobs for Canadian workers.

In support of the program, Eastern Canada International Vice President

► see CANADIAN SHIPS, PG. 3

Boilermakers help build first U.S. ultra-supercritical unit

Cutting-edge Turk Plant uses less coal and water, reduces emissions

THE FIRST-EVER commercially-deployed, ultra-supercritical power generation unit in the United States is under construction in southwest Arkansas — and Boilermakers are playing a leading role in the project.

The \$2.1 billion, 600-MW J. W. Turk Jr. Plant will feature the latest environmental controls, according to majority owner Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO),

an American Electric Power (AEP) operating company.

Local 69 (Little Rock, Ark.) has jurisdiction over the project, which employed 350 Boilermakers at its peak, including members from across the United States. More than 1.1 million Boilermaker man-hours have been worked since the project began in 2008. Boilermaker involvement is scheduled to conclude this spring, and the start-up operation is slated for the fourth quarter of this year.

► see TURK PROJECT, PG.10



A LOCAL 191-built Canadian Coast Guard ship at the Victoria shipyard.

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Canada launches Helmets to Hardhats



CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER (standing at center with glasses and red tie), joins with Canadian military veterans and Boilermakers for a group photo at the Local 146 Training Centre in Edmonton, Alberta, after announcing Canada's participation in the Helmets to Hardhats program. Two places to Harper's right is Joe Maloney, IVP-Western Canada. Behind Maloney's left shoulder is Robert Blakely, Director of the Canadian Building Trades.

Program places military veterans in construction jobs

CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER Stephen Harper, along with provincial and local politicians, joined with Boilermakers and military veterans at the Local 146 Training Centre in Edmonton, Alberta, January 6 to kick off Canada's new Helmets to Hardhats (H2H) program. The program is a government, labor, and business partnership designed to recruit transitioning military veterans into construction jobs through the Canadian Building Trades.

Harper said, "The government of Canada is committed to supporting our veterans. In terms of transitions, Helmets to Hardhats will be a natural fit for many military veterans, allowing them to take advantage of a new set of civilian

opportunities that build on the set of skills they acquired while in uniform."

IVP Joe Maloney spearheaded Canada's H2H program. He was also the chief architect of the groundbreaking U.S. H2H program, which began in 2003 during his service as Secretary-Treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO. He currently serves as Chairman of the Canadian Executive Board of the Canadian Building Trades.

"This venture is good for the military and good for our trades," Maloney said. "We look forward to continuing our working relationship with the government of Canada. The government... has really stepped up to the plate for Canada's construction industry."

Robert Blakely, Director of Canadian Affairs for the Building and

Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, stated, "The Canadian Building Trades are pro oil sands, ship building, and pipeline; these will be projects that will create work for the returning veterans."

In addition to IVP Maloney, Boilermaker leaders attending the event included L-146 BM-ST Arnie Stadnick; L-146 ABM Len Jacobs; AIP-CSO Cory Channon; IR Norm Ross; IR Richard MacIntosh; DNT (Canada) Grant Jacobs; and Jason McInnis, National Director of Health & Safety (Canada).

Stadnick praised Maloney for his role in bringing the event to a Boilermaker site and added, "We at Local 146 were proud to facilitate the launch of the H2H program and to welcome the Prime Minister to our learning centre. All in all, it was a great day for the Boilermakers, the Building

Trades, and the union movement as a whole."

Others attending the event were Russ Girling, President and CEO of TransCanada; Lance Yearling, Director of the Canadian Quality Control Council; and Greg Weadick, Canadian Minister of Advanced Education & Technology.

The Canadian H2H program will receive \$1 million in financial support from TransCanada as well as matching donations from the federal government and the Province of Alberta in the amount of \$150,000. The Building Trades and their contractors are collaborating to provide high-quality equipment, state-of-the-art training, and upgraded facilities throughout Canada. The program is set to begin in the spring of 2012. ■

THE REPORTER

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\$14 billion Plant Vogtle gets green light for reactors

NRC approves first licenses since 1978

THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY Commission (NRC) on Feb. 9 approved the first licenses to build nuclear reactors in the United States in more than 30 years — and much of the skilled labor involved will go to union Boilermakers.

The \$14 billion project will add two new 1,100 MW Westinghouse AP1000 reactors (units 3 and 4) at the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Plant Vogtle) in eastern Georgia. The plant's existing reactors (units 1 and 2), which produce 1,200 MW of electricity each, began operating in the late 1980s.

A consortium of utilities led by Atlanta-based Southern Company owns the facility.

Local 26 (Savannah, Ga.) has jurisdiction for the project, which has also drawn traveling members from across the country. "We have about 130 Boilermakers on the project right now," said L-26 BM-ST Jeffrey Hughes. "We'll be working on this for the next five years and should have 200-300 members employed at the project's peak."



BOILERMAKERS WELD some of the 58 steel plates that will form the Vogtle unit 3 containment vessel bottom head. *Courtesy Southern Company, all rights reserved*

John Fultz, Assistant Director for Construction Sector Operations, said Boilermakers began working at the

site in July of 2010 on unit 3. "This is Boilermaker work," he said. "And it requires Boilermaker skills in rig-

ging and welding." He estimated that 100,000 man-hours have been

► see VOGTLE, PG. 4

CANADIAN SHIPS

Continued from page 1

Ed Power and Western Canada International Vice President Joe Maloney issued a joint statement, saying, "The IBB wishes to commend the federal government on the selection process and congratulate Irving Shipbuilding Inc. and Seaspan Marine for their success. The Canadian Navy has an honored history in defending Canada overseas and at home, and we Boilermakers are proud to build, upgrade, maintain, and prepare ships for the women and men that serve us all."

Seaspan has won the right to build up to nine non-combat vessels, 80 percent of which will be constructed at the Seaspan yard in Vancouver, British Columbia. Local 191 will perform finishing work on the vessels and will need to bring in new members to handle the increased workload, according to BM-ST Jim Fitzpatrick.

Concurrently, L-191 members will upgrade five Canadian Navy frigates over a five-year period. Each upgrade could require 18 months to complete. Approximately 90-120 Boilermakers per ship will be required, with a six-month overlap between ships.

"This is tremendous news for all of our members and their families for the next 20 to 25 years of steady work," said Fitzpatrick. He expects to grow

the membership by at least 100 members over the next year in response to the anticipated work demand.

On the east coast, Irving Shipbuilding's \$25 billion contract to build new combat vessels for the Canadian Navy over the next 20 years will involve subsidiary Woodside Industries, which employs members of L-73. BM-ST Kevin Chaisson said, "Lodge 73 is looking forward to working with

Irving Shipbuilding to achieve their goals to build these ships on time and on budget."

International Rep Richard MacIntosh, president of the Federal Government Dockyard & Trades Labor Liaison Committee and newly-appointed member of the British Columbia Shipbuilding & Repair Workforce Table Communique, noted that Boilermakers have a long

history in the shipbuilding industry across Canada. "Boilermakers have built naval fighting ships during both world wars. Our members have also built some of the finest tugboats, ferries, and Coast Guard ships. We can be proud of that heritage and proud to play a part in fulfilling the shipbuilding goals under the NSPS going forward." ■



THREE SHIPS OF THE CANADIAN ROYAL NAVY on maneuvers in the Gulf of Oman.

VOGTLE

Continued from page 3

worked to date without any OSHA recordables or lost-time accidents.

Hughes said about 70 Boilermakers now on the job are employed by the Shaw Group (the prime contractor), erecting the modular assembly building (MAB) for unit 3; another 60 are employed by Chicago Bridge & Iron constructing the containment vessel for the new unit. According to Hughes, some of the MAB sections will be 70-feet tall. After they are erected, they will be rolled into place. The containment vessel will also be rigged and moved into its final position. Boilermakers will perform foundation work for the steam generators and reactors as well.

Hughes described the project as “a stepping stone for the next 20 to 30 years.” He added, “It is an opportunity to set the standard for the future.”

Southern CEO Thomas Fanning said of the NCR licensing approval, “This is a monumental accomplishment for Southern Company, Georgia Power, our partners, and the nuclear industry. The project is on track, and our targets related to cost and schedule are achievable.”

Part of the financing arrangement for the Vogtle project is \$8.3 billion in Department of Energy loan guarantees, first announced by President Obama on Feb. 16, 2010. Such guarantees were authorized under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to “avoid, reduce, or sequester” greenhouse gas emissions. ■



L-26 MEMBER JOHN TAYLOR strikes the first arc on the unit 3 containment vessel. Courtesy CBI, all rights reserved



UPPER SECTION OF VOGTLE UNIT 3 containment vessel lower head, fastened to assembly and welding stand. Courtesy Southern Company, all rights reserved

Construction lodges meet in Toronto



BOILERMAKER LEADERS in the Canadian construction industry met Jan. 24-25 in Toronto to address various project and manpower issues. International Vice Presidents Joe Maloney and Ed Power led discussions about filling job orders with qualified Boilermakers, recruitment initiatives, and the status of the national online dispatch system. General (ret.) Rick Hillier also addressed the group, explaining how organizational and leadership lessons from the military relate to the construction industry.

In the photo above, IVP Maloney, Gen. Hillier, and IVP Power are seated together beginning third from left. Also attending were, from L-73, Kevin Chaisson, Derrick Carey, Danny Dezaide, and Eugene Leblanc; from L-271, Michel Trepanier and Richard Duchene; from

L-128, Jim Watson, Kyle Groulx, Dalas Santavy, Blair Allin, and Mike Janson; from L-146, Arnie Stadnick, j'Amey Holroyd, John Gras, Dave Ralph, and Len Jacobs; from Local 359, Phil Halley, Jon Forster, Al Dingwall, and Al Bennett; from L-555, Emile Gareau and Darrell Paton; from the Boilermakers' Canadian National Training, Grant Jacobs and Jonathan White; from the International, Kyle Evenson, Cory Channon, Jim Tinney, Kent Oliver, Richard MacIntosh, Guy Villemure, and Rob Lauzon. Also attending were Jason McIness, Canadian National Director for Safety & Health, and Jim Beauchamp, Canadian Recruitment Coordinator.

Non-union PMSI contractors to 'pay their dues'

Boilermakers once targeted firm for organizing; high-rolling owners may now face prison for tax crimes

A NOTORIOUS NON-UNION contractor and his former wife pled guilty last December to tax crimes involving \$180 million in income from their power plant refurbishing business. Richard and Jolene Engel will pay their dues to society when sentenced at the Santa Ana, Calif., Central Justice Center Aug. 3, 2012.

The Engels reportedly lived a lavish, high-society lifestyle in Orange County, Calif., paid for by their privately-held company, which sometimes failed to perform contracted work and bounced payroll checks.

Beginning in the early 1990s, the Boilermakers union had sought to organize construction projects run by Powerplant Specialists, Inc. (PSI), a privately-held construction company that was owned by the Engels.

By the mid-1990s, IST Bill Creeden, then Assistant Director of Organizing, had assigned brothers Kyle and Gary Evenson to implement the *Fight Back* strategy against PSI. The goal was to place union Boilermakers on nonunion construction sites in order to conduct organizing efforts from within.

(Kyle is now Executive Director of Construction Sector Operations; Gary is AIP-Director of Construction Organizing Services.)

"PSI was kicking our tails on the West Coast," Gary recalled. "They recruited three of our top Boilermaker hands. Kyle and I filled out applications and tested at one of their job sites in Los Angeles and were hired on, as were other Boilermakers."

Gary quickly rose to become a foreman, general foreman, and finally superintendent. While on a PSI project in Tampa Fla., the Evensons put *Fight Back* into high gear. They drove the Boilermaker motor home to the job site, encouraged workers to join the union, and promoted union projects.

When PSI fired the Evensons for their organizing efforts, the union filed unfair labor practice charges, and the brothers picketed the Tampa job site. They later returned to Los Angeles to continue their *Fight Back* efforts. By then, the Evenson brothers stood out like neon signs that flashed "TROUBLE" for nonunion contractors, especially at PSI. Gary recalled filling a bus with about 50 well-qualified union Boilermakers and showing up at a PSI jobsite to apply for work. To the Boilermakers' surprise, they were treated to coffee and donuts and promised jobs.

"But they didn't hire a single one of us," Gary recalled. "So we filed unfair labor practice charges for refusal to hire."

Faced with NLRB judgments and hefty fines for bouncing payroll checks, PSI filed for bankruptcy. But that wasn't the end of the story. The Engels re-launched the company in 1998 under a slightly different name — Powerplant Maintenance Services, Inc. (PMSI), based out of Costa Mesa, Calif.

In 2001, the Orange County District Attorney's Office began investigating the company for possible fraud related to unpaid workers. Their investigation



BROTHERS KYLE (LEFT) AND GARY EVENSON attempted to organize construction projects run by the Engels during the early 1990s under the Boilermakers' *Fight Back* program.

focused on a maintenance project at AES Corporation's Huntington Beach, Calif., power plant. The contract, signed in October 2000, called for completing the project within 90 days. In less than a year, PMSI received nearly \$100 million from AES, but instead of paying subcontractors, workers, and creditors, the Engels diverted much of the money for personal luxury items including a Bentley, a Lear jet, and jewelry, according to the DA.

The DA's office found that between 1998 and 2001, the company had gross revenues of \$180 million. The office determined that Richard Engel filed false tax returns during that time. He reported a 2001 income of \$144,231 even though he was receiving millions of dollars from PMSI.

Engel pled guilty to four felony counts of failing to file tax returns for his corporation, three felony counts of filing false personal tax returns, and one felony count of failing to file a personal return. He also admitted to a "sentence enhancing" charge of fraud in excess of \$500,000 for causing a loss in excess of \$1 million. He faces a sentence of up to 12 years and eight months in prison.

Jolene Engel also failed to file personal income tax returns despite receiving a salary from PMSI, \$8.5 million in 2000 for her stock in the company and approximately \$3.7 million in 2001. She pled guilty to one felony count of failure to file tax returns for her corporation and one felony count of failing to provide material information in a tax return. She faces up to five years and eight months in state prison.

Each of the Engels will also be required to pay taxes and restitution totaling \$3.2 million. ■

ABOUT *Fight Back*...

THE *FIGHT BACK* organizing strategy was developed in 1980 by Boilermaker leaders Charles W. Jones, Connie Mobley, and Barry Edwards to combat the growth of nonunion contractors in the boiler construction and maintenance industry. The strategy involves volunteer organizers who take jobs on nonunion construction projects. Firing organizers or refusing to hire them — even though they are qualified and available to do the work — has led to unfair labor practice charges for violating the National Labor Relations Act.

International President Newton B. Jones was instrumental in *Fight Back*, first as an organizer and later as Director of Organizing and Communications. He became the program's chief architect, developing and implementing approaches that had never before been tried.

Over the years, *Fight Back* has tested and helped establish case law. One key precedent was established when the National Labor Relations Board determined that voluntary organizers have special protection under the law.

Like IP Newton Jones, IST Bill Creeden also worked as a *Fight Back* organizer and later oversaw the effort as Director of Organizing. Others serving in various International leadership roles today also carried the *Fight Back* strategy forward.

The Brotherhood's innovative organizing approach has recovered millions of dollars for union members — including a record-breaking \$12 million Fluor Daniel settlement in 2009.

THE MOST COMMON ARC PROGRAM:

Providing common sense to the industry.

One of the main benefits to the Owners and Contractors who hire Boilermakers is the MOST Common Arc Program. This program, developed in 1988, eliminates redundant testing on the job site and has reduced costs associated with welder certification by 95%.

But the benefits of the MOST Common Arc Program are not limited to Owners and Contractors. *Boilermaker members who become certified through Common Arc increase their work opportunity.*

"The MOST Common Arc Program has made me more marketable to our Contractors," said Kenneth Cash, Local 101. "I have been able to obtain work directly due to already having my welding certifications through Common Arc."

The advantage of pre-certification not only results in time savings, but also an increase in quality.

"The MOST Common Arc Program is essential to our trade because it assures Contractors that we as Boilermakers are capable of performing welding operations up to today's stringent quality control standards," says Ron Myers, Local 193.

From an Owners' perspective, adhering to controls is vital to the success of a project. *At the Prairie State Generating Company, the "overall weld reject rate was less than 2 percent for the entire project and they completed 70,000 tube welds without a leak,"* according to Ashlie Kuehn, Prairie State Generating Co.

For Contractors the value of the program is just as important. Mike DeSimone, Regional Operations Manager, Babcock & Wilcox Construction Co., has personally witnessed the benefit of Common Arc to the industry. "In the old days we had to test the welder each time

he came out on the job site," DeSimone said. "Common Arc saves the Owners and the Contractors millions of dollars and it's been a very good program for all of us."

Most important to the Boilermaker member is the personal time and cost savings the program provides. No longer does a Boilermaker need to travel to a job site and take numerous weld tests prior to work.

Throughout the years, Common Arc has eliminated costs previously paid by Contractors and Owners, ensuring an efficient and rapid return to operation. Additionally, the program continually reduces weld test redundancy that improves bottom line profitability for Owners and Contractors.

Whether you are an Owner, Contractor or Boilermaker member, the MOST Common Arc Program is a true benefit with a proven record of reducing redundancies in both time and money.



"I believe Common Arc is a really good thing for Boilermakers. Sometimes you don't have to drive cross

country to test for Contractors or a make-or-break test."

- Willie Craft, Local 101



"I have got a lot of jobs because of Common Arc. Contractors want welders that can walk right in and go

to work. It is really good for emergency jobs where you don't have time to take a weld test."

- John Waldvogel, Local 1



"I am a welding instructor and have helped a lot of people and have watched the talent of welders

improve over the years. Contractors do not have to test in emergency situations because the welder comes pre-certified."

- Cranford Kemp, Local 199

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Canadian jobs initiative targets U.S. Boilermakers

Effort matches manpower needs with lagging U.S. work

THE GROWING NEED for skilled manpower in Canada — particularly in the Alberta oil sands region — along with lagging work in some areas of the United States, has spawned a new Boilermaker recruitment program to address the situation.

Since last fall, Jim Beauchamp, coordinator for the BCA/IBB Boilermaker Recruitment Initiative, has been traveling to U.S. construction lodges to present seminars about available work opportunities. Members receive information about registration procedures, jobsite requirements, wages and benefits, and immigration and entry requirements. The goal is to enable Boilermakers to work freely between the two countries and implement a database system where Canadian dispatchers can find U.S. workers with appropriate qualifications.

Says Beauchamp, “We need the manpower in Canada, so it’s a win-win situation — good for contractors, membership, and the [Boilermaker] organization.”

Mark Keffeler, BM-ST for L-242 (Spokane, Wash.) said several L-242 members succeeded in landing jobs at an Alberta oil sands processing plant after attending a seminar and adding their names to the Canadian database.

“The experience exceeded their expectations in safety, procedure, and ease of travel,” he said.

Beauchamp said he has given seminars at roughly half of the U.S. construction locals and is continuing the effort.

“It’s going to take as long as it takes, but the overall vision is to inform locals of upcoming work in Canada, and connect Canadian dispatchers to workers in the U.S.” he said.

U.S. construction Boilermakers wishing to sign up for recruitment should visit the Canadian website at www.boilermaker.ca. ■



BOILERMAKERS AT WORK in Canadian oil sands region.



JIM BEAUCHAMP, center, conducts a Canadian work seminar at Local 13 (Philadelphia). Members of Local 28 (Newark, N.J.) and Local 193 (Baltimore) also attended.

Rail members ratify six-year agreement

Obama emergency board intercedes after talks stall

BY A VOTE of more than two to one, Boilermaker freight rail workers ratified a new National Railroad Agreement Jan. 4. The agreement provides 20.1 percent (compounded) wage increases over six years, applied retroactively beginning July 1, 2010, and a one percent signing bonus. In addition, changes requiring employees to contribute more to the health insurance plan will be implemented incrementally.

Boilermaker rail members and 10 other freight rail unions bargain collectively with the National Carriers’

Conference Committee (NCCC), which includes CSX, Norfolk Southern, BNSF, Kansas City Southern, Soo Line, Union Pacific and other railroads.

Negotiations between the parties had dragged on for nearly two years until a deadlock was reached late last fall, triggering the possibility of a strike or lockout. To prevent economic disruption in the event of a nationwide rail work stoppage, President Obama issued an executive order on Oct. 6, 2011, establishing Presidential Emergency Board 243. He named five arbitrators/mediators to serve on the board. PEBs are autho-

rized under Section 10 of the Railway Labor Act and provide a 30-day window during which no work stoppages are allowed. The board conducted hearings with the parties and issued a report with non-binding recommendations on Nov. 5, 2011.

Director of Railroad Services Danny Hamilton said the PEB played a vital role in bringing the two sides into agreement.

“Overall, it’s a good contract,” he said, “and the wage increases are beyond what we anticipated. The outcome of this contract settlement demonstrates that the Railway Labor Act works the way it’s supposed to.”

Wage increases for the first five years of the agreement will be implemented each July 1, beginning retroactively in 2010, as follows: 2 percent, 2.5 percent, 4.3 percent, 3.0 percent, and 3.8 percent. In the sixth year of the agreement, a 3.0 percent increase will become effective Jan. 1, 2015.

“I’m a little disappointed in the PEB’s health care plan recommendations,” Hamilton continued, “although it’s still a very good plan.” He noted that the PEB agreed with the rail carriers’ proposal to raise employee participation in insurance costs; however, the board did allow the changes to be spread over a number of years. ■



PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA has shown strong support for unions and American consumers. Here he announces the nomination of former Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray, right, as the first director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. *Official White House photo*

Brotherhood endorses Obama for reelection

IN A UNANIMOUS vote, the Boilermakers Executive Council proudly endorsed President Barack Obama for re-election March 9th. The Brotherhood will now begin an extensive mobilization to help ensure President Obama wins in November.

"President Obama has demonstrated his leadership in the fight to restore a strong middle class and a strong economy," said International President Newton B. Jones. "We need leaders who share our deep commitment to make sure everyone has a fair chance to achieve the American Dream. President Obama has proven that he stands with us in this effort."

This election is a choice between very different visions for our country, Jones said. When President Obama took office, he inherited an economy on the verge of collapse. Over the past three years, he has proposed and fought for legislation — in the face of an implacable Congress — that has worked to stabilize the economy, save jobs, and prevent cuts to vital services upon which many Americans depend. In addition, he inherited two ongoing wars and diminished U.S. international influence. On both fronts, President Obama has demonstrated that he is willing and able to make hard decisions — whether saving the U.S. auto industry or bringing our troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan.

By contrast, the GOP candidates, including former governor Mitt Romney, are promoting a radically different view of America. These candidates stand with those who would strip workers of a voice in the workplace, denying workers the right to organize and bargain collectively. GOP presidential contenders oppose Davis-Bacon prevailing wage laws and Project Labor Agreements. They seek to weaken Medicare, repeal healthcare legislation, and reduce unemployment insurance. They support tax plans that don't ask the wealthiest Americans to pay their fair share.

As the Brotherhood stated in its 2008 endorsement, the union unequivocally believes that President Obama represents our nation's best opportunity to advance our leadership standing in the world community and skillfully manage our ongoing economic recovery.

President Obama's campaign director, Jim Messina, remarked, "We're proud to receive the support of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, and we're excited to start working with them as we reelect the president. President Obama has always fought for America's workers, and he always will."

The AFL-CIO announced its endorsement of Obama on March 13th. ▣

Rep. Higgins to receive first Abe Breehey award

U.S. congressman had strong ties with late IBB legislative director

U.S. CONGRESSMAN BRIAN Higgins (D-NY 27th) will become the first recipient of the Abe Breehey Legislator of the Year award in recognition of his tireless efforts on behalf of working families. International President Newton B. Jones will present the award April 25th, during the 44th annual LEAP conference in Washington, D.C.

IP Jones said the award carries added meaning for Boilermakers. "It embodies the spirit and determination of our late legislative director, Abe Breehey, who inspired us all with his boundless dedication to our members. It is fitting that Congressman Higgins, a long-time friend of Abe's, and someone who shares the same passion for labor, will be the first recipient."

Higgins and Breehey became good friends when the two men served together in the state capital of Albany, said Political Director Bridget Martin. "Higgins was a member of the New York State Assembly and Abe a legislative aide. They remained friends after coming to D.C. The day after Abe's untimely death from brain cancer on



REP. BRIAN HIGGINS (D-NY 12TH)

April 14, 2011, at age 34, Congressman Higgins rose to honor him in the U.S. House of Representatives. Higgins' moving testimonial was read into the Congressional Record."

Martin described Higgins as a strong labor advocate with a 100 percent labor voting record. "He has actively supported union priorities such as project labor agreements and Davis-Bacon prevailing wage rates, while opposing unfair trade agreements. He offers an eloquent voice for fairness, justice, and opportunity for every American.

"Abe would be proud of our choice for this year's award." ▣

Boilermaker wins labor activist award

L-549 member honored for political efforts

LOBBYING, PRECINCT walking, and phone banking to elect labor-friendly candidates are all in a day's work for Local 549 (Pittsburg, Calif.) member Wilmer Ellis. A Boilermaker of 34 years, Ellis has been selected by the Contra Costa County Central Labor Council and Building & Construction Trades Council for the Labor Activist of the Year Award.

Ellis attributes his political achievements in part to his predecessor, IVP Tom Baca, originally a member of L-549. "We sat down and talked about how the lodge needed to be more politically active and how to create a political powerhouse," he recalls.



LABOR ACTIVIST WILMER ELLIS and his wife, Juanita, during a LEAP conference.

LEAP HIGHLIGHTS KEY ISSUES FOR 2012

Gridlocked Congress, elections challenge conference delegates

WHEN THE LEAP conference convenes in Washington, D.C., in late April, delegates will strive to get their message across to a Congress mired in GOP obstructionism. Making this situation even more complex is the fact that 2012 is an election year for the presidency, the U.S. House, and one third of the Senate — as well as numerous state and local positions. Clearly, lawmakers will be distracted by re-election campaigns.

Boilermakers will not be deterred from pursuing our key issues, however. Just the opposite. Now is the time for delegates to remind lawmakers that

unions play a vital role in elections — both in terms of campaign funding and get-out-the-vote efforts. Many of those in Congress are there because unions made a decisive difference in their elections. And some will rise or fall in November 2012 based on labor's involvement.

Unions and their members are not very happy with those candidates who received our backing during past elections but have failed to champion our issues sufficiently, particularly on matters such as unfair trade and Employee Free Choice. It will be important to let lawmakers know what we expect of them in return for our support as well as to thank them for their backing on working-family issues they did support.

The war being waged by the far right against unions gives added urgency to our lobbying efforts as well as our involvement in elections this year. Should antiunion forces gain more political power this year, the consequences would be grave for all workers.

Some of the key issues we will address are discussed below. Other issues along with specific legislative and policy proposals will come into sharper focus in the coming weeks and months.

As always, the Department of Government Affairs welcomes member recommendations as we prepare for the LEAP conference and the start of a new congressional session.



PROTECTING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONSTRUCTION DIVISION BOILERMAKERS

WITH NO COMPREHENSIVE energy and climate policy emerging from Congress in the near future, we must look to the various rules recently proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency that affect coal-fired power plants. Traditionally, EPA regulations have been a source of significant work for construction Boilermakers. However, some of these new regulations may potentially force the closing of more coal-fired power plants than EPA anticipates.

To help avoid unnecessary or premature plant closings, the Boilermakers support a bipartisan bill sponsored by Senator Manchin (WV) and Senator Coats (IN) that will harmonize the compliance dates for two new rules — CSAPR (Cross-State or Transport Rule) and Utility MACT (maximum achievable control technology) — in order to maximize time for retrofits. And while no legislation currently addresses carbon capture and storage (CCS), we will continue to promote federal investment in advanced coal technologies which hold the potential for significant employment opportunities for Boilermakers.



PROMOTING OUR NATION'S SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRIAL BASE

DESPITE POLICIES ON the books calling for a 313-ship Navy, the U.S. fleet and shipbuilding industrial base continues to decline. Our shipyards are facing challenges and threats unlike any in recent history, especially in the face of potentially devastating defense budget cuts starting in 2013 — cuts which may force the Navy to maintain a fleet of less than 300 ships. Yet, Congress persists in allowing the Navy to continue its misguided policy of leasing foreign-built vessels.

In addition, we must deliver a clear message supporting the Jones Act, which reserves our domestic waterborne commerce to vessels owned and crewed by nationals and built domestically.

We will continue our efforts to promote sound policies that support our nation's shipbuilding industry, both in the defense and commercial areas, and increase employment opportunities for shipbuilding sector Boilermakers.



PRESERVING THE SAFETY NET

SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS SUCH as Social Security, Medicare, and Unemployment Insurance must not be used as bargaining chips for further budget cuts. As in the past, the Boilermakers union will strongly oppose any attempts to "privatize," even partially, or otherwise undermine these programs.

With so many Americans out of work — and with the wealth gap grotesquely wide — it is imperative that we preserve these program, which are literally a lifeline for many seniors, the poor, and the middle class.

ELLIS

Continued from previous page

As political affairs director, Ellis manages all political activities for L-549 and is actively involved in electing candidates at the federal, state, and local levels. He attends LEAP every year and has built long-standing relationships on Capitol Hill.

Ellis told the *Martinez Gazette*, "I do what it takes to get labor-friendly candidates elected. It's important to stop the outsourcing of jobs, to hold unions strong and protect the workers who... carry the whole country on our backs."

Dale Bilyeu, BM-ST of L-549 says of Ellis, "He takes the political situation very seriously, and works hard to make a difference." □

YOUR VOTE.



YOUR VOICE.

REGISTER TO VOTE. YOUR VOTE, YOUR VOICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

http://boilermaker.capwiz.com/election/register_vote

TURK PLANT

Continued from page 1

Total construction jobs numbered 1,850 at the height of the project. The plant is expected to employ 110 full-time workers and provide electricity to customers in Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas.

Shaw Constructors, Inc. is prime contractor for the project. Babcock & Wilcox received the contract to supply and install the steam generator and air quality controls systems, with Alstom Power, Inc. supplying the turbine/generator and boiler feedwater pump turbine.

Project includes extensive work scope, presents many challenges

WITH B&W HANDLING much of the construction effort, Boilermakers faced a substantial workload with demanding deadlines. The B&W scope of work included the boiler, selective catalytic reduction equipment, dry scrubber, baghouse, fans, flues/ducts, pulverizers and piping. Through September of 2011, members had completed nearly 26,000 pressure-part welds, with a repair rate of just 1.17 percent.

Where practical, major components were assembled on the ground and rigged for lifting into the proper position. Erecting the Benson spiral furnace presented special challenges, as welders attached tube panels in a three-dimensional fashion, working downward to a saw-tooth tub at the furnace base.

"We met every deadline we had," said Rodney Allison, who worked on the plant for two years before becoming business manager and secretary-treasurer for Local 69. Allison said manning the job was a bit tricky because of opposition to the project by environmental groups. The opposition created legal delays which idled workers, but AEP and SWEPCO ultimately resolved the issues, and Boilermaker crews did their part to stay on schedule throughout the project.

In addition to environmental obstacles, the project faced severe weather impediments, including record rain in 2010 and record heat in 2011. "The heat was really bad," said Allison. "I believe it was about 125 degrees on the outside of the ductwork on some days last year, and heat exhaustion became a problem. The year before, we were rained or iced out for several days. That made it hard on the men."

AERIAL VIEW OF THE J.W. TURK PLANT. Photo courtesy of AEP/B&W.



AIR HEATERS are pictured in the foreground. At top is the extensive lay-down yard.



MEMBERS WORK from suspended scaffolding in the boiler area.

Plant design offers numerous advantages

THE ULTRA-SUPERCRITICAL (USC) design of Turk Plant allows higher temperatures and pressures than can be handled by conventional power plants. This is achieved in part by using chrome- and nickel-based super alloys in the steam generator, steam turbine and piping systems.

In a presentation to the MOST Tripartite Conference in Myrtle Beach, S.C., last fall, AEP representatives Tom Householder and Chris Beam, and B&W's Jeff Hines discussed how the Turk Plant will use less resources and cut emissions. Householder is AEP's Managing Director of Labor Relations; Chris Beam is Managing Director of Projects & Construction. Beam estimated that compared with conventional coal-fired plants of similar output, the Turk Plant will use 180,000 tons less coal per year, 1,600 tons less lime, and 14,000 tons less total ash. The facility will also use 1 million gallons less water per day.

Beam said environmental emissions will be much lower as well: 320,000 tons less carbon dioxide, 150,000 tons less SO₂, 100 tons less NO_x, and 25 tons less filterable particulate matter.

Beam said he was very impressed with the quality of the workforce, particularly the Boilermakers' 1.17 percent weld reject rate.

Householder noted, "The Boilermakers, with programs such as MOST and Common Arc, and many other training programs, provided AEP the trained workforce with the skill sets needed to complete this project safely, on schedule and within budget targets."

Householder added, "Although we view the Boilermakers' work on the project as a success, we can't be satisfied, because we did not attain our goal of zero jobsite injuries. However, B&W's overall OSHA recordable injury rate at Turk was 0.81, which is in the top 25 percent — an excellent achievement." ■

All photos unless otherwise noted are courtesy of MOST/Martin Public Relations.



BOILERMAKERS perform one of the many high-pressure, heavy-wall boiler welds at the Turk project.

Boilermakers build tube liners for Ohio River hydro plant



BOILERMAKERS MAKE A LIFT inside the 10-story cofferdam that parallels the river. All photos courtesy of National Steel Erection, Inc.

\$416 million project will generate renewable energy

ABOUT TWO DOZEN Boilermakers are working under National Transient Division articles of agreement to build draft tube liners for the \$416 million, 84-MW Cannelton Hydroelectric Plant near Hawesville, Ky.

National Steel Erection, Inc. (NSE) has the contract for the liners. Each is 30 feet in diameter and 60 feet long. Their function is to direct water from the Ohio River through turbines, turning generators to produce electricity. The project adjoins the existing Cannelton Locks and Dam.

Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) has jurisdiction for the Boilermaker work. Walsh Construction is the prime contractor. American Municipal Power, an Ohio-based non-profit wholesaler, is the owner/operator.

"There haven't been many hydro projects in the last 30 years," said Mike Autry, BM-ST for L-40. "Our members working under the NTD agreement have experience in this kind of work, because it's much like building a tank, except that the tubes are constructed horizontally rather than vertically."

NSE Project Manager Travis Thompson said each of the three draft tube liners arrived at the site as 20 knock-down pieces. Boilermakers assembled the pieces into six sections. A total of 18 sections were transported on multi-axle trailers to the bottom of a 10-story cofferdam. Boilermakers then lifted each section

"We can't say enough good things about the Boilermakers working at the Cannelton hydroelectric power project."

— Travis Thompson, Project Manager, NSE

into position before welding it into place. According to Thompson, the upstream-most section was the most difficult to fit because of its machine-flanged surface and critical alignment requirements.

NSE and the Boilermaker crews completed the fabrication and rigging work in just 16 weeks — far ahead of schedule. The first phase of draft tube liner welding will be completed

in mid-February. The entire project is scheduled for completion in 2014.

"We can't say enough good things about the Boilermakers working at the Cannelton hydroelectric power project," Thompson said. "Their conscientious regard for quality and safety while constantly making production rates has helped make this a great project for National Steel Erection, Inc."

Thompson noted that three other AMP hydro projects are under way along the Ohio River. NSE and Local 40 will begin assembling draft tube liners this spring at AMP's Meldahl Station, at Foster, Ky. Cofferdam work began at the Smithland, Ky., dam in 2010 and at the Willow Island, W.Va., dam in 2011. Contracts for the power plant work on those two jobs have not yet been let. ▣



WATER FROM THE OHIO RIVER will rush into the hydro tube liners, turning the power plant's three turbines.

L-40 takes pride in environmental work



MEMBERS INSTALL CONTROL SYSTEMS AT KENTUCKY POWER STATION

A CREW FROM LOCAL 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.) celebrates their work on East Kentucky Power's John Sherman Cooper Station in Somerset, Ky., by displaying a banner made specifically for the project.

BM-ST Mike Autry said at peak about 170 Boilermakers worked on the job, which involved installation of a bag house, dry scrubber, air heater, and SCR. The project, performed by Enerfab, began in August 2010 and is scheduled for completion in June of 2012.



L-363 (EAST ST. LOUIS) MEMBER JEREMY DYE makes a weld on the outside of adjoining tube liner sections at the Cannelton hydroelectric power project.

NAES thanks L-154 for environmental work

NAES POWER CONTRACTORS would like to express our gratitude to you [L-154 BM Ray Ventrone], [L-154 President] John Hughes, and all of the Boilermakers on site that helped NAES PC complete a very successful project at the GenOn Conemaugh Power Plant. Both the ductwork modification and the ESP [electrostatic precipitator] projects were large in size and ran simultaneously, requiring a great deal of man-power, coordination, and leadership. The projects were completed on time and with no poor quality issues.

Our staff included supervisors Chris Darnell and Mike Vojna out of Local 154 and from NAES John Crawford, Kipp Contrael, Matt Lee, John Kunkle, and Kurt Kitzman. They did an outstanding job in supervising the men and providing leadership to accomplish the necessary tasks.

Again, thank you, your staff, and the Local 154 Boilermakers for a job well done.

BILL FURMAN
Director of Operations
NAES Power Contractors

NAES Power Contractors, Inc. is a subsidiary of NAES specializing in construction, maintenance and refurbishment projects that support the energy sector in North America.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

BNAP builds cutting-edge training program

Internet-based instruction offers big advantages

BOILERMAKER APPRENTICES will soon gain a whole new training experience through an Internet-based program called the BNAP Online Interactive Training System. The system is under development by the Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Program (BNAP) in conjunction with the Construction Sector Operations Division and the Kelly Learning Group. It will include an updated and standardized version of BNAP's core curriculum.

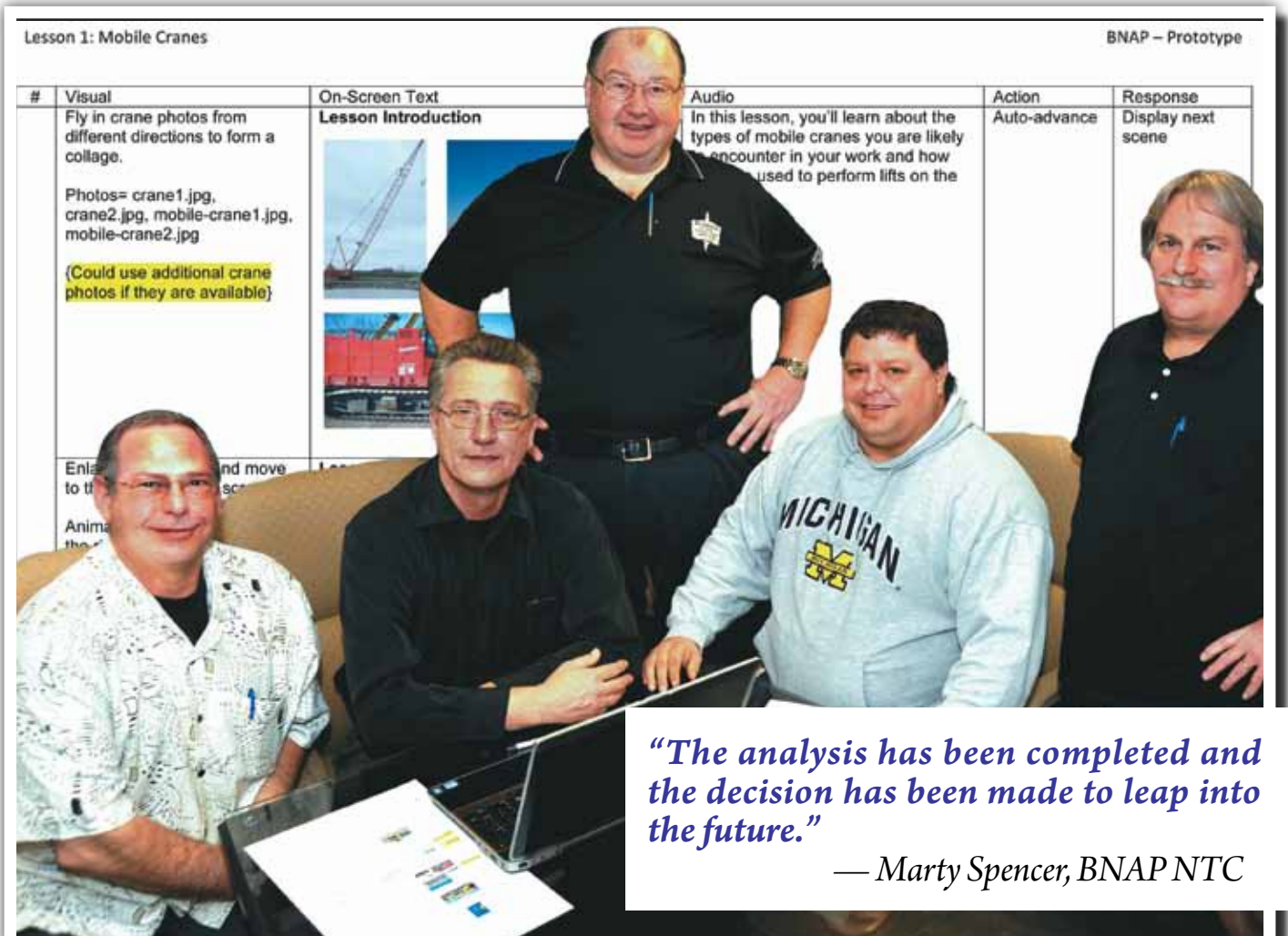
The BNAP Online Interactive Training System is nothing short of revolutionary, says BNAP National Coordinator Marty Spencer. "We are about to embark on an adventure into a whole new approach to classroom training. This is cutting-edge, Internet-based technology. It will make students want to learn and see what comes next instead of being forced to learn."

Spencer says the system is interactive, so apprentices will be able to view and respond to situations presented in video and other formats. The system will allow for self-paced as well as trainer-led instruction. Both methods will use the same material, but the system will offer options as to how the classroom lessons will be presented.

"'Seat time' is built right in by implementing interactive exercises, required reading, and required viewing," says Spencer. "Local lodges with huge geographic work jurisdictions can opt for the student-driven method; locals that are more geographically concentrated may choose to implement the instructor-guided version, the student-driven method, or both. Another benefit with this online version is that it allows traveling apprentices an opportunity to complete their classroom lessons while working on the road."

Individual unit testing will be done online for both the classroom lessons and the Related Studies Lessons. To submit a completed test, an apprentice will simply hit the program's "send" button. Tests will be received and graded automatically. To protect the integrity of the testing process, apprentices will be required to take periodic performance-based tests at the training center in front of an instructor.

"This is cutting-edge, Internet-based technology. It will make students want to learn and see what comes next instead of being forced to learn."



"The analysis has been completed and the decision has been made to leap into the future."

— Marty Spencer, BNAP NTC

BNAP STAFF MEMBERS work on story-boarding a video segment of the BNAP Online Interactive Training System. L. to r., trainer Dave Vallacqua, lead instructor John Standish, BNAP National Coordinator Marty Spencer (standing), trainer Terry Collins, and trainer Mark Branscum.

In addition to the new online system for classroom training, all 48 Related Studies Independent Lessons are being updated to reflect industry changes and advancements, according to Spencer. He says first-year classroom lessons will be ready to roll out this summer.

The BNAP Board of Trustees has sanctioned the development of an additional module that will define expectations and set the tone for the entire program.

An initial train-the-trainer session is planned for May of this year. Classroom instructors planning to teach the new curriculum must complete the trainer course. Instructors will be re-trained every other year.

Spencer credited IP Newton B. Jones for spearheading the new training approach. "He felt it was time to examine the way construction Boilermaker apprentices are being trained and how their learning is evaluated. The analysis has been completed and the decision has been made to leap into the future." ■

Canadian members complete Field Supervisor Program

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 146, Edmonton, Alberta, and Local 73, Halifax, Nova Scotia, completed the two-day Field Supervisor Training Program earlier this year. (See photos at bottom of next page.) The program emphasizes supervisor roles and responsibilities, leadership skills, and communication techniques.

Grant Jacobs, Canadian National Director of Apprenticeship and Education, explained that the purpose of the program is to develop confidence and effectiveness in field supervisors. "Contractors who have previously sent supervisors for the training have expressed a commitment to encourage their future supervisors to participate. The course compliments on-the-job experience with a greater awareness of the business aspects of construction and the administration responsibilities of a supervisor."

L-146 members attended training at the lodge's training center March 31 and April 1. Kneeling l. to r., Floris Venter, Jonathan White (Assistant National Training Coordinator), Grant Jacobs, Len Croken, and Brenda Hunter. Standing Willem Verwoert, Jonathon Hunking, Steve Carlsen, Atef Abdelhai, Tom Pheasey, Murat Demircioglu, and Richard Maksymic.

Local 73 members attended the training in Moncton, New Brunswick, April 6 and 7. First row, l. to r., Jonathan White and Grant Jacobs. Second row: Derrick Middleton, Steve Theriault, Brian Theriault, Allan Chapman, Eric Le Bouthillier, and Ricky Gauvin. Third row: Marcel Losier, Clint MacKay, Roderick A. MacDonald, Onile Theriault, Jean Marc Poirier, Randy Simpson, Tyler Graham, and Claude Vienneau.



**MARK
YOUR
CALENDARS!**

**August
14-16**

This conference will provide important information on labor issues specific to ISO industry areas. Lodge leaders in the industrial sector are strongly encouraged to attend.

This is the largest Boilermaker educational event available to ISO members.

- ✓ *Speakers on key issues impacting unions everywhere*
- ✓ *Workshops for local lodge officers*
- ✓ *Opportunities to meet members working in your geographic region and industry*
- ✓ *Advance conference registration is recommended. Don't miss the July 13 registration cut-off.*

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ONLINE**

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MOST PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING, JAN. 15-20, KANSAS CITY, MO.

Construction Boilermakers expand project management skills

Twenty attend MOST training session

MEMBERS FROM A dozen local lodges met in Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 15-20 to expand their skills under the MOST Project Management Training Program. MOST (Mobilization, Optimization, Stabilization, and Training) is a pioneering labor-management trust fund designed to address issues in the construction industry through innovative programs and collaboration.

The Project Management Training Program was developed jointly by MOST, the Boilermakers union, and the National Tripartite Committee. Its goal is to teach Boilermakers how to manage projects in a business-like manner, make decisions

that positively impact project goals, and provide an overall benefit to the owner, contractor, and union. This is the 12th such course to be presented since it was established in 2004.

Construction Division Director Skipper Branscum, Pittsburgh Local 154 retiree Gerry Klimo, and Madison Industrial's Mark Schneider taught the course.

MOST Safety Representative Bridget Connors said the course "is very beneficial for Boilermakers wanting to go to the next level."

Attendees pictured include, l. to r., front row: James Taylor, L-242 (Spokane, Wash.); Jimmy Manion, L-27 (St. Louis); Travis Colvin, L-83 (Kansas City, Mo.); Eugene Gill, L-27; Jordin Birst, L-647 (Min-

neapolis); Bridget Connors; and Skipper Branscum.

Second row: Nick Tokarz, L-374 (Hammond, Ind.); Brian Gattis, L-263 (Memphis, Tenn.); Shannon Kellogg, L-83; Jimmy Hall, L-154; Mike Angstadt, L-13 (Philadelphia); Robert Shackleton, L-374; Neal Davis, L-242; Scott Burke, L-29 (Boston); Adam Huntsman, L-744 (Cleveland); and Brian Dowden, L-374.

Back row: Gerry Klimo; Brian Loftus, MOST Safety Representative; Jason Meadors, L-27; James Rigglesman, L-45 (Richmond, Va.); Michael McPherson, L-154; Arlin Thody, L-83; Ronald Baker, L-502 (Tacoma, Wash.); and Mark Schneider. ■



L-146 MEMBERS attend field supervisory leadership training at the lodge's training center March 31 and April 1.



L-73 MEMBERS attend field supervisory leadership training in Moncton, New Brunswick, April 6 and 7.

Boilermaker bags bull moose

L-237's Dupuis stars in Brotherhood Outdoors episode

JASON DUPUIS, co-coordinator for the Northeast Area Apprentice Program and a third-generation Boilermaker from Local 237 (East Hartford, Conn.) spent five days last October doing what many outdoorsmen only dream of — hunting moose and other big game in Alberta, Canada with a professional guide.

The opportunity came courtesy of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA) TV show "Brotherhood Outdoors." The show celebrates union sportsmen and women as they join host Tom Ackerman for hunting and fishing adventures Across North America.

Dupuis said he was "extremely surprised and happy" to learn that he'd been picked for an episode. He had applied for a place on the show in April 2011, and was selected in early July.

Ironically, he took along the same rifle his dad had used in the early 1970s to kill his first moose, a Remington 742. "The rifle had been stored in Dad's gun safe since 1973 and had not been used since then," Dupuis recalled.

Things happened rapidly after Dupuis' arrival in the Alberta village of Caroline, the staging point for the hunt. On the first day, guide Chad Lenz was calling a moose in nearby woods, when a large bull approached from behind. Dupuis, Lenz and Ackerman repositioned themselves, but they were forced to adjust their position again so the film crew could get a clear angle.

"There are no re-dos when you're filming a TV show like this," Dupuis



DUPUIS, L., AND GUIDE CHAD LENZ with a massive 1,600-lb. moose.

said. "You have to wait for a signal from the camera crew."

As soon as the crew was ready, Dupuis squeezed off a shot that dropped the big bull. "He was an absolute monster," he said. A thrilled Dupuis later posed with the moose, which, at 1,600 pounds, weighed more than eight times the typical whitetail deer he hunted back in Connecticut.

Dupuis figured his hunt was over on the very first day, but his guide had a surprise. "He provided me with tags for a wolf, a black bear, and a mule deer," Dupuis said. That generosity extended the hunting trip,



JASON DUPUIS, r., stands with Brotherhood Outdoors host Tom Ackerman during Dupuis' October 2011 moose hunt in Alberta.

and Dupuis went on to take a nice mule deer.

"It was an absolutely wonderful experience," said Dupuis. The hospitality was great, the scenery was beautiful. I couldn't have asked for anything better."

Dupuis said he would encourage other Boilermakers to apply for an episode of Brotherhood Outdoors. "The odds of being selected are a lot better than you might think."

Learn more about the USA at www.unionsportsmen.org. ■

Some information for this article was provided by Jennifer Rice of Fox Valley Labor News.



Cashdollar wins USA photo of the week



LOCAL 687 (MORTON, ILL) MEMBER ANDY Cashdollar, who is also a member of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA), took home a Buck Knife in the USA's photo of the week contest for this nice pike he caught in August on Lake Kabetogama in Northern Minnesota.

Membership in the USA — the only union-dedicated outdoor organization — is free for all active and retired Boilermakers. To join the USA or to submit a photo for your chance to win, visit www.unionsportsmen.org.



LOCALS AWARD SERVICE PINS

Local 1 • Chicago

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

60 YEARS Anthony Panozzo;

50 YEARS James Sullivan;

35 YEARS Kenneth J. Maloney; and

30 YEARS Edward H. Thomas

Local 40 • Elizabethtown, Ky

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

65 YEARS Robert L. Anderson, John J. Janowick;

60 YEARS Billy C. Allcock, Charles W. Cline, Charles E. Maupin, Lloyd A. Remington, Jesse L. Sims Jr., John M. Story;

55 YEARS Stanley D. Combs, Charles W. Davis, James M. Dorris, Alfred L. Reed, Walter L. Wilcox, Orville Woodcock;

50 YEARS Joseph F. Cecil, Ernest T. Coons, Daniel F. Everett, Conard C. Hall, Larry Heady, James R. Henley, Moses Johnson, Lonnie V. Mithcell, Donnie L. Ortkiese, Edward J. Roberts, Edwin L. Thompson, James B. Thompson;

45 YEARS Clyde L. Atwood, William M. Brown, William C. Burgan, Daniel A. Frantz, Jesses A. Horsley, Robert O. Horsley, Tommy O. Hurst, Lemar Jones, Odell Keown, Mack A. McStoots, Willis D. Milburn, Danny L. Mitchell, James W. Parish, Harold L. Puckett, Larry G. Rose, Jerry Smith, Larry D. Smith, Paul Ralph Thomas, Joseph L. Vornholt;

40 YEARS Robert L. Beasley, Lyonel O. Beatty, Danny J. Calloway, Thomas A. Chandler, Lyle J. Clevenger, Ivan G. Coomes, C. M. Divine, Lowell T. Elliott, Howard Feller, Royce G. Greene, Charles W. Greenwell, Robert E. Gregory, Russell L. Gregory, Paul Hill, Eugene L. Hines, Tommy O. Hurst, Quincy Hutchinson, Joseph L. Jackson, Lowell F. Jackson, John V. Kitchen Jr., Phillip M. Lemaster, Thomas O. McClain, John D. McCulloch, Harry J. McDavid, Philip J. McDavid, Melvin V. McDowell, Mack A. McStoots, Larry C. Mercer, Roger L. Mitchell, Michael W. Neihoff, Roland A. Payne, Jerry Pendley, Kenneth R. Ratcliff, Robert S. Reeves, Robert R. Riggle, William B. Roberts Jr., James R. Salmon, George W. Savage, Wayne L. Scott,

Leland J. Sexton, Ricky L. Summers, Charles D. Thomas, Trenton B. Vincent, Robert L. Walls, Marvin L. Williams, Barry K. Young, Harry E. Young;

35 YEARS Terry L. Barnes, John S. Barrett, Donald K. Burnett, William S. Burton, Solomon T. Carroll II, James M. Carter, Danny D. Cartwright, James E. Cauley, Michael D. Chambers, James I. Crump, Larry W. Decker, Joseph C. Edge, J. R. Elrod, Richard G. Forden, Anthony L. Fortney, Robert E. Gay, Henry A. Hilburn, Richard A. Hope, Casper D. Hosick, James C. Howell, Ricky T. Hurter, James W. Keeling, William E. Kessel, Raul G. Lara, Bob Marshall, Bobby R. McKinley, Raymond Mercer, Hubert M. Meredith, Joseph W. Medley, Larry M. Napier, Chrisman O'Banion, C. A. Poole, Leonard R. Portman, Jeffrey T. Reedy, Mack G. Rose, Dannie E. Smith, Harold P. Smith, George C. Stevens, Roger D. Story, Roy A. Streble, Earl W. Summers, Earl Sutton, Carl R. Swenney, Paul R. Thomas, Frank J. Trovato, Bernice R. Underwood, James W. Walters, John E. Warren, Thomas H. Warren, Randall W. Webster, Clifford H. Wedding;

30 YEARS Leonard E. Bayes, Steve L. Boggess, William A. Bowlds, Joseph E. Combs, John H. Coons, Timothy B. Embry, David A. Engle, William D. Faith, Joel O. Greer, Troy L. Hammers, Tommy D. Hunt, David L. Koger, Wendell O. Lee, Douglas E. Master-son, Marvin L. Moore, Ricky A. Presley, Charles E. Shephard, Dwight E. Thompson, Charles L. Vincent, Edward T. Ward;

25 YEARS Rob N. Arnett, Barry J. Elliott, Michael G. Ferrell, George M. Grant, James E. Hall, Danny James, Michael G. Johnson, David L. Koger, Bernice M. Millard, Scott A. Napper, Charles J. Wathen, Jimmy D. Young;

20 YEARS Walter B. Anderson III, Stephen D. Arndell, George E. Austin, Michael W. Autry, Marshall S. Bratcher, David C. Craig, William D. Croxton, Larry E. Davis, James M. Franklin, Kenenth M. Glasscock, Darin P. Green Sr., Wesley S. Harris, Jason C. Hodges, Paul A. Hoppe, Cecil Hurley, Dewey H. Keown, Michael J. Jackson, Victor A. Johnson Jr., David L. Laffoon, Scott A. Layne, Edward L. Nokes Jr.,

Greggory H. Phelps, David A. Rager, James K. Rager, L. D. Ransom, Mark S. Ringstaff, James E. Roy Jr., Kevin R. Seagraves, Kevin D. Sears, Davis O. Sisco, Paul A. Sloas, Mark S. Smiley, Curtis L. Tien, Jerry W. Vincent, Robert A. Vincent, Jeffrey D. Wilcox, Carl R. Williams, James S. Yonts; and

15 YEARS Charles R. Albright, Paul R. Arnold, Jeremy D. Autry, Keith Alan Biddle, Christopher D. Bond, Danny Aaron Fowler, James D. Fraley, James M. Franklin, Robert C. Greenwell, Jeffery M. Greer, Kevin E. Griffith, James M. Halterman, Anthony L. Harper, Robert W. Hoffman Jr., Dustin B. Mathews, David W. Richerson, David Shawn Thurman, Michael E. Tussey, Michael J. Vincent, Ronald Chad Webster, Jamie L. Willis.

Local 85 • Toledo, Ohio

FRED E. KEITH JR., BM-ST of Local 85, Toledo, Ohio, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

35 YEARS Gary Apling, John Colvin, Jim Connin, Tom Denman, Dewayne Forster, James Gerken, Jack Hardy, Tom Miller, Tim Myers, Larry Molnar, Brad Robinson, Jeff Tefft, Bob Varga, Bob Wasserman, Jack Winston;

30 YEARS Jack Miller Jr.;

25 YEARS Bob Clapsaddle, George Coker Jr., Noel Dawson, Scott Decker, Dave Dilorenzo, Don McGranahan, Dan Roughton, Chris Lentz;

20 YEARS Gabe Escareno, Dan Knitz; and

15 YEARS James Avery Jr., Chris Coker Dave Corrado, Jeff Cross, Bill Patterson, Tim Taylor, George Vasvery, John White, Tim Whitmore.

Local 242 • Spokane, Wash.

MARK KEFFELER, BM-ST of Local 242, Spokane, Wash., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

30 YEARS Mark Keffeler, Randy Rogers; and

20 YEARS Dave King, Greg Lansing, Joe Perry, Fred Rumsey.

Local 433 • Tampa, Fla.

JAMES BARNES JR., BM-ST of Local 433, Tampa, Fla., reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

45 YEARS George C. Gunter, Millard J. Parry, Robert Taylor; and

30 YEARS Charles F. Demonaco.

Local 647 • Minneapolis

LUKE A. VOIGT, BM-ST of Local 647, Minneapolis, reports presentation of membership pins to the following:

55 YEARS Gerald O. Stensland;

50 YEARS Rowland W. Ingalls, James T. Kinsella;

45 YEARS Stanley C. Diercks, Robert D. Knudtson, William G. Thurston;

40 YEARS Daniel H. DeLong, David R. Dopkins, James A. Frank, Marlan M. Hanson, Albert W. Kosok, Roger A. Lecheler, Michael L. Meier, Robert E. Newcomb, John M. Patraw, Dennis Sinz;

35 YEARS Phillip L. Bendickson, Adrian Haabala, Raymond J. Schabert, David P. Schwarz, Terry L. Stulz;

30 YEARS Patrick A. Wentland;

25 YEARS Bruce A. Banitt, Gary C. Bee, Sherman Bignell, Timothy Hynes, Steven R. Sampson;

20 YEARS Steven D. Brown, Curtis R. Brownell, Bruce G. Huber, Troy G. MacFarland, Walter R. Potter, Ross M. Quick, Jim Runnel, Randy J. Steele; and

15 YEARS Edward R. Gabbert, William J. Polchow, Troy M. Sailer, Jerry J. Traut, Jon M. Wikstrom, Carl F. Zwack.



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Also please notify the secretary of your local lodge

ALLOW FIVE WEEKS FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS





NEW CONTRACT SUMMARIES

A BRIEF LISTING OF RECENT AGREEMENTS SIGNED AND RATIFIED BY BOILERMAKER LOCAL LODGES

Local D92 - Bellefonte, Pa.

Effective June 1, 2011 to May 31, 2014, for 147 members of Local D92 (Bellefonte, Pa.) who work in maintenance and the production of lime at **Graymont Inc.** located in Pleasant Gap, Pa.

Local D324 - Havelock, New Brunswick

Effective Aug. 21, 2011 to Aug. 23, 2014, for 16 members of Local D324, Havelock, New Brunswick, who work at **Graymont Inc.**, producing quicklime, hydrated lime, precipitated calcium carbonate (PCC), limestone, construction stone, ready-mix concrete, Redi-Rock™, retaining walls, and asphalt.

Local D342 - Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Effective June 3, 2011 to June 2, 2015, for seven members of Local D342, Plattsburgh, N.Y., who produce asphalt and concrete at **Potsdam Stone & Concrete, a division of Graymont Materials.**

Local 449 - Sturgeon Bay, Wisc.

Effective Sep. 12, 2011 to Sep. 12, 2014 for 390 members of Local 449 (Sturgeon Bay, Wisc.) working for **Bay Shipbuilding Company, A subsidiary of Fincantieri Marine Group L.L.C.**, a commercial shipbuilding and repair facility.

Local D561 - Weeping Water, Neb.

Effective Sep. 1, 2011 to Sep. 1, 2016, for 36 members of Local D561, Weeping Water, Neb., who work at **Kerford Limestone Company** producing over two million tons of crushed limestone each year for use in asphalt and concrete.

Local 1247 - Chicago

Effective May 15, 2011 to May 14, 2014, for five members of Local 1247, Chicago, who perform metal plating at **James Precious Metals Plating Inc.**

A contract was also negotiated for 41 members of Local 1247 effective April 15, 2011 to April 15, 2012 working at **Midwest Rust Proof, Inc.** in Chicago. Midwest Rust Proof, Inc. provides industrial coating and metal finishing and plating services to the automotive, power tooling, telecommunication and appliance industries.

Local 1851 - Chicopee, Mass.

Effective Oct. 1, 2011 to Sep. 30, 2014 for 165 members of Local 1851 (Chicopee, Mass.) who produce golf balls at **Callaway Golf Ball Operations** in Chicopee, Mass.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF BOILERMAKERS 55TH SUMMER INSTITUTES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EXTENSION
MADISON, WISCONSIN
*A tradition of labor education
for Boilermaker leaders*
REGISTER NOW!

BASIC
JULY 15-20, 2012
ADVANCED
JULY 22-27, 2012

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE
AT LOCAL LODGES

REGISTRATION DEADLINES:
JUNE 15 FOR BASIC
JUNE 22 FOR ADVANCED

IN MEMORIAM

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

NTL	Miller, W. D.	85	Sentle, Charles J.	154	Webb, Charles L.	487	Buhr Jr., Anthony J.
NTL	Stanley, Douglas M.	92	Maynez, S. E.	175	Mosher, Thomas	549	Merino, Anibal V.
NTL	Webb, Coleman C.	101	Ramirez, Michael J.	182	Jarvis, Donald L.	568	Mcdaneld, David E.
1	Haavig, Edward J.	104	Arnot, Douglas G.	182	Vanzant, Douglas L.	587	Norwood, Marcus J.
6	Andrey, Donald E.	104	Carsen, Jim	193	Duggan, Francis X.	592	Mattison, Ronnie D.
6	Carter, Paul D.	104	Harstad, Joseph L.	193	Munn Jr., Carson F.	647	Schweikert, Charles A.
6	Losada, Hector E.	104	Larson, George J.	263	Chamness, Jimmy D.	647	Thurston, William G.
6	Whitman, Llewellyn B.	104	Miesner, Christie	271	Guilbert, Michel	656	Abernathy, Charles G.
26	Peavy, Willard C.	104	Newman, James O.	359	Gollan, Gilbert A.	656	Butler, Johnny R.
26	Webster, Mark	104	Sunburg, Robert	359	Landels, Lawrence B.	667	Blessing, William
28	Dixon, James	105	Coleman, Michael R.	359	Murphy, Terry F.	667	Hayes, James F.
29	Mcgrath, S. L.	105	Hammons, Eugene V.	363	Beasley, Billy C.	667	Turner, Willis L.
37	Moity, Richard I.	105	Morris, Jerry B.	363	Habermehl, George E.	684	Parson, Thurman B.
40	Beasley, Robert L.	110	Bragg, James E.	374	Bauer, Keith E.	687	Shealy, Robert W.
40	Bivens, Charles L.	110	Lindsay, Walter M.	433	Green, Peter L.	799	Remenar, Alex T.
40	Greene, Royce G.	112	Clifton, Tony L.	433	Quinn, James E.	1086	Childs, Miller L.
40	Renfrow, Ronald L.	117	Royse, Robert L.	443	Kittell, Ronald	1509	Jenks, Orval V.
73	Landry, Leonel	146	Pontes, Dean	449	Ellingson, Ronald E.	1603	Murphy, Tim E.
74	West, Roger D.	154	Carbaugh, John W.	453	Campbell, Hubert A.	1622	Popa Jr., John
79	Hewitt, Monte K.	154	Paulik, John C.	454	Hamer, Larry J.	D41	Frost, Richard
84	Spencer, Gary W.	154	Peery, John W.	454	Hill, John F.		

DEATH BENEFITS

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

If you have not yet been furnished this information, contact your local lodge, secure the beneficiary forms, complete the required information, and forward to the Administrative Office of the Pension Fund, 754 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 522, Kansas City, KS 66101, at the earliest possible date. NOTE: These additional death benefits can only be derived for members who worked under a collective bargaining agreement with an employer contributing to the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust.

LODGE	NAME	AMT	LODGE	NAME	AMT	LODGE	NAME	AMT	LODGE	NAME	AMT
BNF	McVeigh, Iona M.	\$6,000	60	Walk, Rodney E.	6,000	169	Wanerus, Carl C.	6,000	582	Young, Walter A.	6,000
INTL	Chiseri, Salvatore A.	6,000	69	Davis, Al	3,199	175	Oswald, Ralph I.	6,000	583	Russell, Dennis L.	6,000
INTL	Costello, Edith J.	4,500	72	Dunham, Robert L.	6,000	175	Potter, Terry L.*	6,000	584	Lindley, Thomas W.	6,000
INTL	Deichler, Robert	6,000	74	Blansett, Eddie D.	6,000	182	Albrethsen, Gordon	6,000	587	Benson, Albert R.*	6,000
INTL	Jarrett, James	6,000	74	Gardner, A. M.	6,000	182	Champion, Boyd J.	6,000	587	Broussard, James H.	6,000
INTL	Mason, William E.	6,000	74	Ingram, Clifford J.	6,000	182	Morgan III, John W.	6,000	587	Jackson, Thomas O.	6,000
INTL	Moran, Charles F.	6,000	74	Looper, Faghan O.	6,000	193	Spino, Frank	6,000	587	Offord, Jesse J.	3,000
NTL	Adams, David E.	6,000	79	East, Adam	6,000	197	Greer, William F.	6,000	592	Brown, Howard S.	6,000
NTL	Barker, Frank C.	6,000	83	Bobka Jr., Eli M.	6,000	199	Babinski, Frank P. *	2,000	592	David Jr., Louis L.	6,000
NTL	Borchers, Paul L.	6,000	83	Kampe, Robert H.	6,000	199	Bryan, Larry M.	6,000	592	Stuart Jr., Lewis	6,000
NTL	Brookshire, Royal G.	6,000	83	Metz, Jack	6,000	199	Johnson, Thomas A.	6,000	627	Brogdon, Lawrence O.	6,000
NTL	Brown, Lawrence L.	6,000	83	Pruitt, Gary L.	6,000	237	Rosengrant, Leon H.	6,000	627	Coday, Norvel	6,000
NTL	Cox, J. D.	6,000	85	Campbell, John Scott	6,000	242	Moss, James I.*	3,000	627	Goad, Pete T.*	6,000
NTL	Darnell, Troy L.	6,000	85	Underwood, Lorin	6,000	290	White, Douglas G.	6,000	636	Lehamn, Albert H.*	3,000
NTL	Davis, Dane K. *	2,000	92	Alvarez, Juan F. *	750	358	Wood, Raymond*	1,000	647	Abbott, Sidney L.	6,000
NTL	Frantz, Robert E.	6,000	92	Coleman, Frank W.*	6,000	363	Jann, Bobbie G.	4,111	647	Heck, Richard J.	6,000
NTL	Gordon, Locksley G.	6,000	92	Curry, Leroy	6,000	363	Noe, William*	3,000	647	Henderson, Robert G.*	6,000
NTL	Jackson, Raymond H.*	3,000	92	Harrell, Earl W.	6,000	374	Howes, James R.	6,000	647	Tiefenthaler, Larry D.*	3,000
NTL	Keim, James R.	6,000	92	Imperial, Jay T.*	6,000	374	Maugans, Patrick J.	6,000	679	Clark, Cecil A.	6,000
NTL	Lawson, Donald G.*	6,000	92	Wright, Burnard L.	6,000	374	Neyenhaus, Ralph A.	6,000	679	Wooten, Warnell	6,000
NTL	Loy, Dewey L.	6,000	101	Jamison, Michael R.	6,000	374	Rancich, Milan V.	6,000	687	Tiger, Anthony L.	6,000
NTL	Smith, Z. A.	6,000	101	Lawrens, William E.	6,000	374	Von Almen, Fred	6,000	696	Olson, Raymond A.	3,000
NTL	Walls, Robert L.	6,000	104	Cross, George E.	4,000	374	Warren, George C.	6,000	697	Tritz, Norman W.	6,000
NTL	Worbel, Stephen*	4,000	104	Hjalseth, Holger	6,000	374	Wright, Frank D.	6,000	709	Kaufman, Karl A.	4,000
1	Shanahan Jr., John J.	3,628	104	McNeil, Steven M.	6,000	433	Caraker, Edwin Gary	6,000	729	Winebarger Niles	6,000
5	Fraser, Roy O.	6,000	104	Michaelis, Hans	6,000	433	Davenport, Billy S.	6,000	744	Luonuansuu, Louis H.	6,000
5	Lonergan, James F.	6,000	104	Schmeizer, David W.	6,000	449	Schauer, Joseph L.*	6,000	749	Waller, Frank	6,000
6	Braget, Conald C.	6,000	104	Ulin, Kevin *	9,335	453	Denton, Eddie*	3,000	752	Somma, Victor A.	6,000
6	Jackson, John W.	3,000	104	Williams, Raleigh E.*	2,000	454	Delffs, Franklin D.*	6,000	802	Felton, Richard L.	6,000
6	Jones, Leonard M.	3,000	105	Davis, Bennie Lee	6,000	454	King, Bobby M.	6,000	802	Profitt, James W.*	6,000
6	Rojas, Nicolas R.	6,000	105	McIntosh Jr., Oscar	6,000	454	McMahan, John M.	3959	893	Benkert, Eugene R.	6,000
6	Thomas, Richard A.	6,000	106	Burton, Elmer E.	6,000	454	Tittsworth, George W.	6,000	906	Huey, Robert E.	6,000
6	Williams, Kenneth R.	6,000	110	Bond, Randy	15,000	454	Walker, James M.	6,000	1086	Richards, Obed	6,000
10	Boegel, Maurice J.	2,000	112	Lovelace, Herbert H.	6,000	455	Bennett, Clarence G.	6,000	1234	Gonzalez, Irma L.*	6,000
10	Musante, Attelio J.	3,000	113	Johnson, Frances A.	6,000	455	Hellums, Jack J.*	2400	1234	Les, Chester A.	6,000
13	Burton, Ronald L.	6,000	117	Kreminski, John F.	6,000	500	Alfano, Robert L.	2,000	1234	Thurman, W. A.	3,000
13	Woulk, Steve	15,000	132	King, Ester L.*	6,000	502	Cash, John W.	15,000	1509	Curry, Edward V.	6,000
26	Delk, Joseph L.	6,000	132	Kirk, Bruce W.*	13,753	502	Swanson, Patrick E.	6,000	1509	Zielinski, Edward J.	6,000
27	Brackney, Robert M.	6,000	132	Peck, James R.	6,000	531	Nemoede, Ronnie W.	6,000	1510	Duvall, Clifford E.	6,000
27	Green, Charles E.	6,000	132	Strimple, Alfred	6,000	531	Simpkins, Francis E.	6,000	1570	Rollins, Robert H.	6,000
27	Herrington, Leroy W.	6,000	154	Bey, Salahadin A.*	15,000	549	Black, Richard H.	6,000	1570	White Billy T.*	6,000
28	Boddingham, Joseph F.	11,000	154	Blaniar, Steve *	4,000	549	Carias, Carlos R.	6,000	1592	Mullin Sr., James I.	6,000
29	Wyche, Kenneth E.	6,000	154	Chiappino, August	6,000	549	Fletcher, Troy	6,000	1668	Camp, Kim S.	6,000
30	Lowe, James Carlton	6,000	154	Garritan, Michael J.*	6,000	549	Peterson, Merle J.*	6,000	1702	Lektorich, George W.	6,000
30	Smith, Elwood Jordan*	6,000	154	Hanna Sr., Richard D.	6,000	549	Wiederhold, Robert V.*	6,000	1999	Wardrick, Archie M.	6,000
37	Catalanotto, Jeffrey C.	15,000	154	McKinnon, Joseph M.*	6,000	568	Johnson, Van E.	6,000			
37	Parks, Jerry	6,000	154	Micle, Charles	6,000	568	Kent, Kenneth E.	6,000			
40	Dukes, Alvin L.	6,000	169	Baird, Lester G.	6,000	568	Oren, Gary A.	6,000			
40	Marsh, Jerry	6,000	169	Lindroth, Gary D.	6,000	582	Aultman, Harold C.	6,000			
45	Banty, Ronald W.	6,000	169	Stedman, Arthur J.	6,000	582	Melancon, Roy J.	6,000			
45	Dean, James E.	6,000	169	Visser, Delmar H.*	6,000	582	Nowell, Horace E.	6,000			

* Additional Death Benefits Paid



A MESSAGE TO
OUR MEMBERS

Debates highlight GOP's war against labor

Party candidates vie for
extremist mantle

THE GOP PRESIDENTIAL debates have illustrated just how far right the Republican Party has shifted — and the struggle that awaits organized labor should one of their candidates succeed in unseating President Obama in November.

As the candidates make their case for the Republican Party's nomination, they strain to wear the mantle of "most conservative" and most "anti-union." During this process, we have witnessed vicious attacks among the contenders. Any perception that a candidate has acted outside a strict, extreme-right orthodoxy has been met with condemnation and ridicule.

It is strange indeed that any of the remaining Republican candidates might not be conservative enough for the Grand Old Party. Mitt Romney made his fortune by stripping troubled companies of their assets and cutting jobs, leaving workers without the pensions and health care insurance promised to them. Rick Santorum's social conservatism threatens the rights of women on abortion and gays who seek equal rights. Newt Gingrich has often boasted about his "90 percent Conservative Union voting record" and the fact that he campaigned for Ronald Reagan and Jack Kemp. And Ron Paul has said he would all but eliminate the federal government and programs designed to help the most vulnerable among us.

It is clear that every remaining Republican candidate for the party's nomination has set his sights on dismantling labor unions, reducing the social safety net, and neutering government.

American voters have to ask themselves: Are these really the priorities we want our next president to hold? Do we want a leader who is dedicated to cutting Medicare, Social Security, and unemployment benefits while protecting the assets of the wealthy? Do we want a leader of the free world who is committed to destroying unions and repressing worker rights?

"Every remaining Republican candidate has set his sights on dismantling labor unions."

Party members express doubts
about GOP candidates

THERE APPEARS TO be unease among Independents and moderate Republicans about how extreme the Republican agenda has become.

But those who back the GOP's agenda don't seem comfortable with the leading candidates, either. Front-runners Romney and Santorum have received rather lackluster support. There has even been talk within the party of a brokered convention in August if none of the candidates can clinch the nomination before then. That would make it possible for a candidate who is not even running for the nomination at this time to enter the fray.

It is alarming that two of the names mentioned as favorites for a brokered convention are union-busting politicians Chris Christie, New Jersey's governor, and Mitch Daniels, governor of Indiana.

On Feb. 1 of this year, Daniels signed right-to-work legislation making Indiana the 23rd state to adopt this oppressive law and the first state to do so in a decade. Three weeks later, on Feb. 21, Christie signed a law denying public workers the right to negotiate over benefits for four years and forcing them to pay more for the benefits they have been promised. In announcing the move, Christie referred to his state as "a model for America."

It is a model alright — a model for the continued decline of the middle class and broken contracts once made in good faith.

To consider replacing extremist, antiunion candidates with other extremist, antiunion candidates reveals much about the rigid and dan-

gerous thinking of the Republican election machine.

Candidates support national
right-to-work law

ROMNEY, SANTORUM, AND Paul have all declared an open season on unions by taking a public pledge to push for a national right-to-work law. We all know what that means. Right-to-work undermines unions by allowing workers to opt out of joining the union or paying dues or fees, leaving their fellow workers who are union members to fund the union. By law, the union still must represent these free riders. Right-to-work thus creates friction between dues-paying members and free riders, and it diminishes the union's financial strength, which is essential to provide services. Unscrupulous employers can take advantage of any weakness in solidarity at the bargaining table.

Gingrich has said right-to-work should be left to the states (but he supports defunding the National Labor Relations Board, which would be even more debilitating to unions).

It is sickening to see the conservative presidential hopefuls squirm as extreme right power brokers push them even farther right. Santorum reportedly gave his pledge to support a national RTW law only after the National Right-to-Work Committee twisted his arm.

Romney flip-flopped on the public praise he gave unions years ago, when he chaired the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee and needed labor's help to fast-track highway improvements in advance of the games. He even signed a project labor agreement back then. Today Romney has no use for unions. Addressing a conference of the antiunion Associ-



NEWTON B. JONES
International President

ated Building Contractors held in Arizona recently, he stated:

"One of the first things I will do, actually on day one, is I will end the government's favoritism towards unions and contracting on federal projects. I will fight to repeal Davis-Bacon . . . and I will fight for right-to-work laws."

Whether Romney's past praise of unions was legitimate or just window dressing, one thing seems clear: he is now serving a far-right base, and that base will hold him to his promises.

Not "your father's GOP"

HISTORICALLY, UNIONS have been at odds with the Republican Party because their interest is in supporting big business rather than workers. Occasionally, we have been able to work with GOP politicians on issues where our interests have coincided.

But the far-right element in the party has so poisoned the well, that even occasional collaboration on specific issues appears doubtful. No matter who becomes the Republican presidential nominee, it is clear that the candidate will be expected to go to war against organized labor. The Chamber of Commerce will demand it. The Associated Building Contractors will demand it. And the National Right-to-Work Committee will demand it.

Republican President Dwight D. Eisenhower once said: "Workers have a right to organize into unions and to bargain collectively with their employers. And a strong, free labor movement is an invigorating and necessary part of our industrial society."

Eisenhower's sentiments would be considered heresy by today's radical right Republican Party. ■

"Eisenhower's sentiments would be considered heresy by today's radical right Republican Party."