Boilermakers help build world’s largest solar thermal facility

L-92 leads critical work at innovative Ivanpah Valley project

RISING FROM THE floor of California’s Mojave Desert, about 40 miles southwest of Las Vegas, the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System’s three 459-foot towers resemble missile launch pads. They are the most visible features of a 3,600-acre development that will use focused sunlight to turn water to steam and steam to electricity.

The $2.2 billion, 392-MW project is being built by BrightSource Energy and will provide power to PG&E and Southern California Edison. The U.S. Department of Energy has guaranteed about $1.4 billion for the project.

Boilermakers from Local 92 (Los Angeles) and sister locals, along with other crafts, are building the SEGS under a project labor agreement between Bechtel and the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California and the Building & Construction Trades Council of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

Scheduled for completion in 2013, the project reached the half-way mark this summer,
ISO conference keys on global labor issues, U.S. elections

Officers from AFL-CIO and CLC headline speaker list

DELEGATES FROM ACROSS North America gathered in Las Vegas August 14-16 for the Industrial Sector Operations (ISO) conference, the Brotherhood’s largest educational event for members working in non-construction industries. It was the third such event and the second to be held at Caesars Palace.

Global labor issues and the U.S. national elections on November 6 were hot topics for many speakers during the plenary sessions.

Breakout meetings and caucuses gave members the opportunity to focus on industry-specific presentations led by International Reps and other staff, government officials, labor attorneys, benefit consultants, and labor officials from various organizations.

Delegates also took time to visit vendor booths offering goods and services for local lodges and their members.

Shuler cites AFL-CIO initiatives

WITH ORGANIZED LABOR facing multiple challenges, AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler discussed several initiatives being put forth by the federation. She explained the Next Up program, which seeks to bring young people into the Labor Movement and to prepare them for leadership roles.

“We have an aging workforce, and it’s a problem,” she said. “Many young people today don’t think of the trades
as a career alternative. These are good union jobs. We have a responsibility to reach out and show that.”

She said the federation is encouraging unions to develop young worker groups as part of the solution to getting other generations involved.

Another problem, Shuler noted, is the public’s perception of labor. She said the general population does not associate unions with hard work, fairness, the American dream, and other middle class values.

“These are values we stand for. We should own that. But after 30 years of negative attacks, [the public’s] ears are closed.”

Shuler previewed a television spot created by the AFL-CIO that seeks to connect these values with unions.

Yussuff describes Canadian labor struggles

AMERICA ISN’T ALONE when it comes to labor difficulties in North America, Hassan Yussuff said in his speech to the ISO conference. As Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Labour Congress, Yussuff promotes organized labor at both the provincial and federal government levels. He said tough financial times, job losses, and pressure from far-right politicians are hurting workers in Canada, too.

“In Canada, we’re seeing precarious jobs, just as in the United States — low paying, short-term, and casual jobs with no benefits and no union protection. In Ontario, the opposition conservative party under Tim Hudak has decided now we are the enemy of the province. If he’s elected [Ontario’s premier], he wants to bring the same kind of right-to-work laws being seen in many parts of the United States.

“Over the years, American unions have often looked at Canada for stronger labor laws, social programs and a more union-friendly political climate,” Yussuff added. “But employers on the right-wing in Canada have looked to the United States” for strategies to weaken labor unions.

Yussuff roundly criticized multinational firms like Caterpillar that make huge profits but still demand take-backs from their union employees.

“We have to fight to get some democracy back in the trade regime, whether it’s the United States or Canada or around the world. Corporations have too much power in their hands and workers too little. We have to change this equation.”

IP Jones lashes out at “rashly antiunion” GOP

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT Newton B. Jones condemned the Republican Party’s shift to the far right and its “rashly antiunion” positions. He noted that moderate Republicans, including those like Rep. Steve LaTourette (Ohio 4th), whom the Boilermakers have supported, are leaving Congress in disgust over the sharply partisan nature of the GOP.

He added, “This is a dangerous time for America. The far right is seeking to dismantle government, to undo the legal protections of labor unions, and to weaken Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. That is the price we will pay under a Romney-Ryan administration.”

Jones also addressed the negative effects of free trade, outsourcing, and multinational corporations on workers around the world.

“Globalization has not fulfilled its promise of opportunity for workers,” he said. “Instead, it has given corporations an easier path to exploit them, to ignore environmental concerns, and to neglect the health and safety of employees.” He stressed that strong global alliances are needed to combat exploitation.

Global union leaders cite advances

TWO LEADERS FROM global unions offered their perspectives on labor developments worldwide. Manfred Warda, General Secretary of the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers Unions (ICEM), spoke about a new development that combines three global unions, including the ICEM, into one. The new IndustriAll global union boasts 50 million members in 140 countries.

Warda praised the Boilermakers union for its role in support-ing the ICEM and for taking leadership positions in the new IndustriAll federation. IP Jones chairs the Materials Sector and serves on the executive council.

IndustriAll ushers in “a new era of global solidarity,” Warda said. “I think we can all feel better prepared than before to challenge the power of multinational companies and to confront the policies driven by national governments and global institutions.”

Phee Jung-sun, director of IndustriALL’s Electricity and Cement, Glass, and Ceramic Sector, spoke about the progress being made in establishing regional and global union networks. He also warned of worker exploitation in countries such as China and India, where employers are increasingly using contract workers to perform the same work as permanent employees but at a much lower pay scale and without any type of benefits.

Jung-sun said contract, or precarious, workers account for 50 per-cent of employees in many Asian industries today.

UK union leader blasts “socialism for the rich”

MANUEL CORTES, General Secretary for the TSSA, a United Kingdom-based trade union for the transport and travel industries in the UK and Ireland, told the conference that the rich come out ahead no matter what happens to the economy.

He said that when a factory is shut down, workers are told “you cannot buck the market . . . the jobs will inevitably go. But when it came to the financial sector, we bailed it out. It was our taxes that actually saved the financial industry. For the first time in history, we have socialism for the rich. For the first time in history, we foot the bill for the losses, but they continue to take the profits.”

Cortes said that because so much debt has been incurred bailing out the financial market, workers are being told there is not enough money for schools and infrastructure.

“The crisis that was made in Wall Street, in the city of London, and in financial markets across the globe is a crisis that working people are now having to pay a very high price for,” he noted. “We are not strong enough as a movement [to resist the rich]. It has fallen on our shoulders to try and turn that around. It’s us. Nobody else is going to do it for us.”
H2H Canada fundraising tops $700,000 mark

Boilermakers recognized for achievements

A FUNDRAISER HELD in Toronto May 23 pushed building trades funding for the Helmets to Hardhats (H2H) program over the $700,000 mark, and the Boilermakers union received recognition for helping to launch the program.

Associate Minister of National Defence Julian Fantino presented an award to International Vice President Joe Maloney for the role he played in establishing H2H in Canada. The program was formally kicked off Jan. 6 at the Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) union hall, with Prime Minister Stephen Harper announcing the national government’s support. Maloney also spearheaded the U.S. and the Boilermakers union received recognition for helping to launch the program.

Fantino presented an award to International Vice President Joe Maloney for the role he played in establishing H2H in Canada. The program was formally kicked off Jan. 6 at the Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) union hall, with Prime Minister Stephen Harper announcing the national government’s support. Maloney also spearheaded the U.S. and the Boilermakers union received recognition for helping to launch the program.

More than 1,100 people attended the fundraising event. IVP Maloney summed up the purpose of the H2H program, stating, “The bottom line here is we are offering these brave men and women who protect our freedoms and democracy career opportunities. This is just the right thing to do.”

“IVП, left, receives an award of excellence from Associate Minister of National Defence Julian Fantino.

EXCLUSIVE USE OF NMA SOARS TO $8.7 BILLION

Revised National Maintenance Agreement is easier to use

CLIENTS IN THE energy, automotive and manufacturing sectors requested that more than $8.7 billion in industrial maintenance and construction projects be completed solely under the terms of the National Maintenance Agreement (NMA) last year — more than double the value of exclusive project requests in 2010, say the group’s administrators.

Created in 1971, the NMA is one of the most popular and widely respected project labor agreements in the country. It is administered by the National Maintenance Agreements Policy Committee, Inc. (NMAPC), a 28-member deliberative body made up of an equal number of representatives from labor (14 international building trades unions) and management (union contractor firms).

Billions of dollars of work is completed under the NMA each year, because the program offers a straightforward set of uniform terms and conditions as well as a great deal of scheduling flexibility and a built-in rapid response dispute resolution process via the committee. Clients — the end users of the services provided by union contractors and craft workers — can utilize the NMA on their industrial projects, regardless of size or duration, or for select portions of projects.

However, a rapidly growing number of clients are deciding that the NMA should be utilized for all aspects of their large, complex projects from start to finish. Many of these “yellow card” projects, as they are known in the industry, take several years to complete, cost billions of dollars and employ thousands of union workers, creating significant benefits for local and regional economies.

In 2011, the value of projects worked under the NMA yellow card designation totaled $8.7 billion, more than double the value of yellow card projects in 2010 ($4.3 billion). In addition, the combined value of yellow card projects in 2010 and 2011 — $13 billion — is more than three times the combined value of the previous three years. Between 2007 and 2009, just over $4 billion in work was completed under the yellow card designation.

“It’s gratifying to see so many clients achieve the maximum benefit from the program by opting for yellow card projects,” said Steve Lindauer, NMAPC Impartial Secretary and CEO. “The huge growth in yellow card use in 2011 is proof that the NMA is quickly becoming the ‘agreement of choice’ in the industrial maintenance and construction industries.”

“WE ARE OFFERING THESE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN... CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. THIS IS JUST THE RIGHT THING TO DO.”

— JOE MALONEY, IVP WESTERN CANADA

ED COLLINS was recognized as an example of how military veterans can transition into the construction trades.

“I was doing a lot of work in the military, and as soon as I could, I went through the apprenticeship, earned his Red Seal accreditation, and today works in the nuclear power industry. "It goes wherever you go."

The new Boilermaker Magazine is available now online. It goes wherever you go.

Interactive content, video, and resources to keep you informed with the latest news and multimedia for your phone, tablet or computer.

Check it out at www.boilermakers.org

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If I become the president of the United States, I will curb the practice we have in this country of giving union bosses an unfair advantage in contracting. One of the first things I will do, actually on day one, is I will end the government favoritism toward unions and contracting on federal contracts, and end project labor agreements, and I will fight to repeal Davis-Bacon. I also of course will make sure that workers have the right to a secret ballot, and I will fight for right-to-work laws.”

MITT ROMNEY, Feb. 23, 2012

address to the Associated Builders and Contractors
Boilermakers target Ryan at Las Vegas rally

Billionaire-owned casino hosts GOP fundraiser

DOZENS OF BOILERMAKERS joined with hundreds of other union members August 15 in front of the Venetian hotel and casino in Las Vegas to protest Mitt Romney’s selection of Paul Ryan as his running mate for the White House.

Ryan was in Las Vegas for an apparent fundraising event with the Venetian’s owner, billionaire and GOP mega-donor Sheldon Adelson.

Braving triple-digit heat, union members marched along the sidewalk carrying signs and chanting slogans. While Ryan never made an appearance at the rally, labor’s presence caught the attention of visitors along the crowded Strip as well as the local media. The Las Vegas Sun ran a photo of Political Affairs Director Bridget Martin and quotes from both Martin and Legislative Affairs Director Cecile Conroy in its morning edition the following day.

Most of the Boilermakers attending the rally were in town for the Industrial Sector Operations conference. About a dozen Local 92 (Los Angeles) members drove to the event after getting off work at the Ivanpah solar power plant project about an hour away.

The largest turnout came from the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), which was in town for its convention. The Southern Nevada Building and Construction Trades Council was also well represented.

The Romney-Ryan ticket is openly anti-labor. Romney’s choice of Ryan as a running mate is especially alarming, as he has developed an economic austerity plan that calls for, among other things, converting Medicare into a voucher program that would have serious cost implications for seniors. Organized labor has a strong presence in Las Vegas, where hotel and casino workers (except for Adelson’s Venetian) have unionized.

The Boilermakers’ Conroy told the Sun, “I think Romney and Ryan can expect a lot more of this [opposition] in union towns.”

The Labor Movement is rightly concerned by the Supreme Court decision in Citizens United that opened the gates to unlimited corporate donations for so-called “political speech.” The fear is that corporations can easily outspend competing interests and therefore sway elections. Many are supporting a constitutional amendment to overturn the decision.

ALABAMA
7th Terri Sewell (D)
5th Karen Bass (D)
2nd Amish Bera (D)+
7th Madeleine Dean (D)
4th Jack Uppal (D)+
5th Mike Thompson (D)
6th Doris Matsui (D)
2nd Jared Huffman (D)*
3rd John Garamendi (D)
7th Amish Bera (D)+
9th Jerry McNerney (D)
10th Jose Hernandez (D)+
11th George Miller (D)
12th Nancy Pelosi (D)
13th Barbara Lee (D)
14th Jackie Speier (D)
15th Pete Stark (D)
16th Jim Costa (D)
17th Mike Honda (D)
18th Anna Eshoo (D)
19th Zoe Lofgren (D)
20th Sam Farr (D)
22nd Otto Lee (D)+
23rd Terry Phillips (D)+
24th Lois Capps (D)
25th Lee Rogers (D)+
26th Julia Brownley (D)*
27th Judy Chu (D)
28th Adam Schiff (D)
29th Tony Cardenas (D)*
30th Brad Sherman (D)
32nd Grace Napolitano (D)
33rd Henry Waxman (D)
34th Xavier Becerra (D)
35th Joe Baca (D)
36th Raul Ruiz (D)+
37th Karen Bass (D)
38th Linda Sanchez (D)
39th Alan Lowenthal (D)*
40th Lucille Roybal-Allard (D)
41st Mark Takano (D)*
43rd Maxine Waters (D)
44th Janice Hahn (D)
45th SuhKee Kang (D)+
46th Loretta Sanchez (D)
47th Alan Lowenthal (D)*
49th Jerry Tetelman (D)+
50th Duncan Hunter (R)
51st Juan Vargas (D)*
52nd Scott Peters (D)+
53rd Susan Davis (D)

COLORADO
1st Diana DeGette (D)
2nd Jared Polis (D)
3rd salvatore pace (D)+
4th Brandon Shaffer (D)+
6th Joe Miklosi (D)
7th Ed Perlmutter (D)

CONNECTICUT
S2 Chris Murphy (D)+
1st John Larson (D)
2nd Joe Courtney (D)
3rd Rosa DeLauro (D)
4th Jim Himes (D)
5th Christopher Donovan (D)

DELAWARE
1st John Carney (D)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1st Eleanor Holmes Norton (D)

FLORIDA
S2 Bill Nelson (D)
5th Corrine Brown (D)
6th Heather Bean (D)+
9th Alan Grayson (D)*
10th Valdez Demings (D)+
13th Jessica Ehrlich (D)+
14th Kathy Castor (D)
16th Keith Fitzgerald (D)+
18th Patrick Murphy (D)+
19th James Roach (D)*
20th Alcee Hastings (D)
21st Ted Deutch (D)
22nd Lois Frankel (D)*

ILLINOIS
1st Bobby Rush (D)
2nd Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D)
3rd Daniel Lipinski (D)
4th Luis Gutierrez (D)
5th Mike Quigley (D)
6th Leslie Cookogle (D)+
7th Danny Davis (D)
8th Tammy Duckworth (D)+
9th Jan Schakowsky (D)
10th Bradley Schneider (D)+
11th Bill Foster (D)+
12th William Enyart (D)+
13th David Gill (D)+
14th Dennis Anderson (D)+
17th Cheri Bustos (D)+
18th Steve Waterworth (D)+
INDIANA
Senate  Joe Donnelly (D)*  1st  Peter Visclosky (D)  2nd  Brendan Mullen (D)*  3rd  Kevin Boyd (D)+  4th  Tara Nelson (D)+  5th  Scott Reske (D)*  6th  Bradley Boukout (D)*  7th  Andre Carson (D)  8th  Dave Crooks (D)+  9th  Shellie Yoder (D)+

IOWA
1st  Bruce Braley (D)  2nd  Dave Loebeck (D)  3rd  Leonard Boswell (D)  4th  Christie Vi sack (D)+

KENTUCKY
3rd  John Yarmuth (D)  4th  William R. “Bill” Adkins (D)*  6th  Seth Chandler (D)

LOUISIANA
2nd  Cedric Richmond (D)

MAINE
1st  Chellie Pingree (D)  2nd  Mike Michaud (D)

MARYLAND
Senate  Ben Cardin (D)  2nd  Dutch Ruppersberger (D)  3rd  John Sarbanes (D)  4th  Donna Edwards (D)  5th  Steny Hoyer (D)  7th  Elijah Cummings (D)  12th  Chris Van Hollen (D)

MASSACHUSETTS
Senate  Elizabeth Warren (D)+  1st  Richard Neal (D)  2nd  James McGovern (D)  3rd  Nicki Tsongas (D)  4th  Joseph Kennedy III (D)*  5th  Edward Markey (D)  6th  John Tierney (D)  7th  Michael Capuano (D)  8th  Steve Lynch (D)  9th  Bill Keating (D)

MICHIGAN
Senate  Debbie Stabenow (D)  1st  Gary McCotter (D)+  3rd  Steve Petitka (D)  5th  Daniel Kildee (D)*  9th  Sander Levin (D)  11th  Candice Miller (R)  11th  Syed Taj (D)*  12th  John Dingell (D)  13th  John Conyers (D)  14th  Gary Peters (D)

MINNESOTA
Senate  Amy Klobuchar (D)  1st  Tim Walz (D)  2nd  Mike Obermueller (D)+  3rd  Barnes (D)+  4th  Betty McCollum (D)  5th  Keith Ellison (D)  6th  Jim Graves (D)  7th  Collin Peterson (D)  8th  Rick Nolan (D)+

MISSISSIPPI
Senate  Albert N. Gore Jr. (D)+  1st  Brad Morris (D)+  2nd  Bennie Thompson (D)  4th  Michael Herrington (D)+

MISSOURI
G  Jay Nixon (D)  AG  Chris Koster (D)  SS  Jason Kander (D)+  T  Clint Zweifel (D)  Senator  Claire McCaskill (D)  1st  William Lacy Clay Jr. (D)  4th  Teresa Hensley (D)+  5th  Emanuel Cleaver (D)  8th  Jo Ann Emerson (R)

MONTANA
Gov.  Steve Bullock (D)*  AG  Pam Bucy (D)  SS  Linda McCluskey (D)  A  Monica Lindeen (D)  Senate  Jon Tester (D)  1st  Kim Gianell (D)

NEBRASKA
Senate  Bob Kerrey (D)  2nd  John Ewing (D)+

NEVADA
Senate  Shelley Berkley (D)+  1st  Dina Titus (D)  3rd  John Oceguera (D)+  4th  Steve Horsford (D)*

NEW HAMPSHIRE
1st  Carol Shea-Porter (D)+  2nd  Ann Kuster (D)+  16th  Betty Sutton (D)

NEW JERSEY
Senate  Robert Menendez (D)  1st  Rob Andrews (D)  2nd  Frank LoBiondo (R)  3rd  Ron Ryan (R)  4th  Chris Smith (R)  6th  Frank Pallone (D)  7th  Leonard Lance (R)  8th  Albio Sires (D)  9th  Bill Pascrell (D)  10th  Donald Payne Jr. (D)*  11th  John Arvanites (D)+  12th  Rush Holt (D)

NEW MEXICO
Senate  Martin Heinrich (D)*  1st  Michelle Lujan Grisham (D)*  2nd  Evelyn Madrid Erhard (D)+  3rd  Ben Ray Lujan (D)

NEW YORK
1st  Kristen Gillibrand (D)  1st  Tim Bishop (D)  2nd  Pete King (R)  3rd  Steve Israel (D)  4th  Carolyn McCarthy (D)  5th  Gregory Meeks (D)  6th  Grace Meng (D)*  7th  Nydia Velazquez (D)  8th  Hakeem Jeffries (D)*  9th  Yvette Clarke (D)  10th  Jerold Nadler (D)  11th  Michael Grimm (R)  12th  Carolyn Maloney (D)  13th  Charles Rangel (D)  14th  Joseph Crowley (D)  15th  Jose Serrano (D)  16th  Eliot Engel (D)  17th  Nita Lowey (D)  18th  Sean Maloney (D)  19th  Julian Schruppern (D)+  20th  Paul Tonko (D)  21st  Bill Owens (D)  22nd  Dan Lamb (D)  23rd  Nate Shingawa (D)+  24th  Daniel Maffeii (D)+  25th  Louise Slaughter (D)  26th  Brian Higgins (D)  27th  Kathy Hochul (D)

NORTH CAROLINA
G  Walter Dalton (D)*  LG  Linda Coleman (D)  AG  Roy Cooper (D)  SS  Elaine Marshall (D)  T  Janet Cowell (D)  A  Beth Wood (D)  SS  June Atkinson (D)  CI  Wayne Goodwin (D)  1st  G.K. Butterfield (D)  7th  Mike McIntyre (D)  8th  Larry Kissell (D)

NORTH DAKOTA
G  Ryan Taylor (D)+  T  Ross Hughens (D)+  A  Scott Kelch (D)  SB  Brad Croft (D)+  CI  Thomas Potter (D)+  Senate  Heidi Heitkamp (D)*  1st  Pam Galleson (D)+

OHIO
Senate  Sherrod Brown (D)  3rd  Joyce Beatty (D)*  4th  Jim Slone (D)+  5th  Angola Zimmern (D)+  6th  Charlie Wilson (D)+  7th  Joyce Healy Abrams (D)+  9th  Marcy Kaptur (D)  10th  Sharon Neuhardt (D)+  11th  Marcia Fudge (D)  12th  James Rense (D)  13th  Tim Ryan (D)  15th  Patrick Lang (D)+  16th  Betty Sutton (D)

OKLAHOMA
2nd  Rob Wallace (D)*

OREGON
SS  Kate Brown (D)  T  Ted Wheeler (D)  LC  Brad Avakian (D)  1st  Suzanne Bonamici (D)  3rd  Earl Blumenauer (D)  4th  Peter DeFazio (D)  5th  Kurt Schrader (D)

PENNSYLVANIA
T  Robert McCord (D)  A  Eugene DesPasquale (D)  Senate  Bob Casey (D)  1st  Bob Brady (D)  2nd  Chaka Fattah (D)  4th  Harry Perkinson (D)  6th  Charles Dumas (D)+  6th  Manan Trivedi (D)+  8th  Kathryn Bookvar (D)+  10th  Phil Sciollo (D)+  11th  Gene Stilp (D)+  12th  Mark Critz (D)  13th  Allyson Schwartz (D)  14th  Mike Doyle (D)  15th  Richard Daugherty (D)+  16th  Aryanna Strader (D)+  17th  Matthew Cartwright (D)+  18th  Tim Murphy (R)

RHODE ISLAND
Senate  Sheldon Whitehouse (D)  1st  David Cicilline (D)*  2nd  James Langevin (D)

SOUTH CAROLINA
1st  Bobbie Rose (D)  6th  James Clyburn (D)  7th  Gloria Timbu (D)*

TENNESSEE
4th  Eric Stewart (D)+  5th  Jim Cooper (D)  9th  Steve Cohen (D)

TEXAS
Senate  Paul Sadler (D)*  7th  James Cargas (D)+  8th  Neil Burns (D)+  9th  Al Green (D)  14th  Nicholas Lampson (D)+  15th  Ruben Hinojosa (D)  18th  Sheila Jackson Lee (D)  20th  Joaquin Castro (D)*  23rd  Pete Gallego (D)+  29th  Gene Green (D)  30th  Eddie Bernice Johnson (D)  33rd  Marc Veasey (D)*  35th  Lloyd Doggett (D)

UTAH
G  Peter Cook (D)+  LG  Vincent Ramirez (D)+  AG  Dee Smith (D)+  Senate  Scott Howell 1st  Donna McAleece (D)+  2nd  Jay Seegmiller (D)*

VERMONT
G  Peter Shumlin (D)  Senate  Bernie Sanders (I)  1st  Peter Welch (D)

VIRGINIA
Senate  Tim Kaine (D)*  1st  Adam Cook (D)+  2nd  Paul Hirschbiel (D)+  3rd  Robert Scott (D)  4th  Sharron Ward (D)  5th  John Douglas (D)+  6th  Andy Schookauer (D)+  7th  Wayne Powell (D)+

WASHINGTON
9th  Anthony Flamevonte (D)+  10th  Kristin Cabral (D)+  11th  Larry Connolly (D)*

WISCONSIN
LG  Mahlon Mitchell (D)+  Senate  Tammy Baldwin (D)+  1st  Rob Zerban (D)+  2nd  Mark Pocan (D)  3rd  Ron Kind (D)  4th  Gwen Moore (D)  7th  Patricke Keelme (D)*  8th  James Wall (D)+

KEY
+ CHALLENGER  * OPEN SEAT  A AUDITOR  AG ATTORNEY GENERAL  AL AT-LARGE  CA COM OF AGRICULTURE  CI COM OF INSURANCE  CM COMPTROLLER  CN CONTROLLER  G GOVERNOR  LC LABOR COMMISSIONER  LB LAND COMMISSIONER  LG LEGISLATIVE BODY  S SENATE  SP SUP OF PUBLIC IN  SS SECRETARY OF STATE  T TREASURER  SE SUP OF EDUCATION
Canadian apprenticeship contest makes history

Two members of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) shared the first-ever team honors in the Canadian Boilermaker Apprenticeship Competition held at the New Brunswick Community College in Moncton June 24-28. Neil Bennett and Clayton Chiurka placed first in a field of seven teams from across the nation. The duo also won individual honors as top Boilermaker graduate apprentices — Bennett for 2011, Chiurka for 2012.

It was the 18th competition and the first to be held under the new biennial format, which pairs each lodge’s top graduate apprentices from consecutive years. Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) hosted the 2012 event. The next competition will be held in 2014 in Vancouver, British Columbia, for the top apprentices of 2013 and 2014.

“I couldn’t be happier with the way our new format worked,” said Grant Jacobs, Canadian Director of National Training and Apprenticeship. “We set a new footprint for future competitions with the new team structure.”

Contestants try on commemorative jackets during a reception. Kneeling, l. to r., Alexandre LaPalme-Lajeunesse, L-271; Joe Beauchamp, L-128; and Sean Walsh, L-203. Standing, l. to r., Ross Thompson, L-359; Brian Loos, L-359; Justin Bricic, L-73; Nathalie Delisle, L-271; Cory Malakoff, L-555; Roger McGuire, L-555; Paul Salisbury, L-128; James Mason, L-203; Dixon Lewis, L-73; Clayton Chiurka, L-146; and Neil Bennett, L-146.

L-146 pair captures first team event, first female Boilermaker competes

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The contest also marked the first time a female Boilermaker has reached national-level apprentice competition in Canada or the United States. (See sidebar story on Local 271’s Nathalie Delisle.)

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“I couldn’t be happier with the way our new format worked,” said Grant Jacobs, Canadian Director of National Training and Apprenticeship. “We set a new footprint for future competitions with the new team structure.”

L-146’s Clayton Chiurka, second from left, and Neil Bennett pose with the newly-created team trophy. At far left is Grant Jacobs, Canadian Director of National Training and Apprenticeship. At far right is Bruce Ashton, recipient of the 2012 Industry Achievement Award. Chiurka and Bennett also won top individual awards for 2012 and 2011, respectively.
Jacobs announced the winners during a banquet June 28 at the Delta Beausejour Hotel in Moncton. The winner of the 2012 Industry Achievement Award, Bruce Ashton, also received recognition, with International Vice President for Eastern Canada Ed Power presenting a trophy for Ashton's contributions to apprenticeship and the construction industry. Ashton retired in 2004 after serving as national coordinator for the Boilermaker National Training Trust Fund in Canada. He is a co-author of the trade reference, “IPT’s Metal Trades & Welding Handbook,” which has over 250,000 copies in circulation.

Also competing in the event were Justin Brkic and Dixon Lewis, Local 73 (Saint John, New Brunswick); James Mason and Sean Walsh, Local 203 (St. John’s, Newfoundland); Joe Beauchamp and Paul Salisbury, Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario); Nathalie Delisle and Alexandre LaPalme-Lajeunesse, Local 271 (Montreal, Quebec); Brian Loos and Ross Thompson, Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia); and Kory Malakoff and Roger McGuire, Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba).

Delisle is first female to compete at national level

Nathalie Delisle, a member of Local 271 (Montreal, Quebec), raised the bar for women Boilermakers this summer by becoming the first female in North America to compete in a national Boilermaker apprentice competition. Delisle won her local lodge competition in 2012 and went on to represent L-271 at the Canadian national event in Moncton, New Brunswick, June 22-26. She was joined by teammate Alexandre LaPalme-Lajeunesse, who won the local competition in 2011.

Delisle attributes her aptitude for the Boilermaker trade to her father, who introduced her to hard work at an early age. The second of four girls, she is accustomed to working with her hands. “I did my first oil change at age six,” she said. “I also shoveled the driveway and helped out with the plumbing.”

At age 16, she began doing summer work at a mine where her father was employed, in Val d’Or, Quebec. Years later, she moved near Montreal to study architecture. That goal changed when Delisle met her future husband, L-271 member Dave Morin, who was then an apprentice. With his encouragement, she applied for and was accepted into the apprenticeship program.

Today, Delisle says she is happy with her decision. “I love the variety of jobs that come with being a Boilermaker. I specialize in welding, but I also enjoy the challenges of rigging and fitting.”

Delisle has the added challenge of raising a family, a task she shares with her husband. As much as possible, she tries to work close to home. Her last job before the competition was a refinery shutdown for Suncor. Juggling hours on the job with time making school lunches and driving kids to activities makes for long days, she says. “You make it work, but you don’t know how you did it when it’s over. Shutdowns are ideal, because I work five or six months and then I am off for six months with my family.”

Delisle is one of eight women out of 800 members in her local. She credits the lodge for supporting female Boilermakers in a craft traditionally dominated by men.

Delisle says the national competition offered her a chance to feel validated as a Boilermaker and to learn things from fellow graduate apprentices. “You have to trust your partner on the job and learn to compromise. You can’t always have it your way. I believe when you meet people there is reason. You have something to learn from them.”
Contestants vie in written and practical tests

THE COMPETITION GOT underway June 24 with a written exam lasting up to six hours. The test covered the common-core, in-school training curriculum as well as questions on the Boilermaker Constitution and bylaws.

On June 25, the event shifted to three days of practical tests, with contestants competing in five areas: rigging, welding, layout and fitting, tube rolling and waterwall repair, and tube assembly.

In the rigging exercise, contestants worked in teams to lift a 10,500-lb. heat exchanger and move it through a maze of concrete barriers. While one team member directed the lift using hand signals to a crane operator, the other contestant controlled the movement of the load manually. The signalman was not allowed to touch the load at any time and was required to keep it within the barriers and no more than 18 inches off the ground. The exercise required the team to rotate the heat exchanger 180 degrees, with team members switching roles and reversing course to the point of origin.

Rigging judge Jim Beauchamp, an instructor at Red River College in Manitoba, said communication skills were essential between team members to avoid over-correcting by the load handler.

In the welding test, contestants joined 3/4-inch steel plate coupons using both horizontal and flat welds. The candidates also marked up and cut out a lifting lug from 1-inch plate without using the straight edge of the plate as one of the lug’s three sides. The exercise required contestants to cut a 2-inch hole into the lug and a 45-degree bevel on one side — without finishing the edges with a grinder.

“Everything was cut by hand,” said welding judge Darrel Bray, business rep for Locals 555/128 in Thunder Bay. “We wanted to see how well they could cut and how much slag was left behind.”

Bray said the welding part of the exercise simulated the same type of joint that might be used to connect a tank floor and tank shell.

The layout and fitting team event required contestants to cut out and assemble a hopper with flanged openings. The exercise involved measuring and cutting components from a single sheet of 4-ft. x 8-ft. steel plate and welding the pieces together to specification.

“The whole idea is to minimize the amount of wasted material by properly nesting the required pieces,” said judge Ken Bachand, an instructor at the Northern Alberta Institute for Northern Appprentice Contest

Continued from previous page

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“The whole idea is to minimize the amount of wasted material by properly nesting the required pieces,” said judge Ken Bachand, an instructor at the Northern Alberta Institute for Northern Appprenticeship
of Technology in Edmonton. “They had to do some math and put all those things together that they learned throughout their apprenticeship. I think the biggest challenge was to set up the correct formulas so they got the right measurements for their slant heights.”

In the waterwall and tube rolling event, contestants performed tasks related to boiler construction and repair.

Working as a team, they cut and removed a damaged tube section and replaced it with a short tube (commonly called a “pup” or “Dutchman”).

“The exercise mimics real-life boiler work, with one person on the fire side of the waterwall and one person on the other side,” said judge Marcel Losier, a Local 73 member and construction supervisor with B&W. “It is something we do in almost every emergency where there’s a blow-out on a tube.”

The tube rolling portion of the exercise required contestants, competing individually, to expand a tube into a mock tube sheet using the appropriate rolling equipment.

“They have to use the proper formula to expand the tube to the percentage that we give them, with the specified flaring,” Losier said.

The final event challenged the communication and collaboration skills of the contestants. The seven teams assembled in the college gymnasium in a heart-pounding race to assemble a plastic tubular structure to specifications. Local 146’s Bennett and Chiurka scored the best time, just seconds ahead of several other teams.

Other judges scoring the individual exercises were Ed Hoffmann, instructor, Humber College; Evan Renaerts, construction manager, CIMS British Columbia; Ray Reed, instructor, British Columbia Institute of Technology; Gerry Zurburg, shop superintendent, Cessco, Alberta; Al Bennett, training coordinator, Local 359; Gabriel Beaulieu, superintendent, Descimco, Quebec; Allan Belter, training coordinator, Local 146; Joe Flynn, training coordinator, Local 203; and alternates Marty Albright, director of Labour Relations EH&S, Alstom Canada; and Dave Ralph, training coordinator, Local 146.

Test coordinators included Marc Leblanc, an instructor with New Brunswick Community College, and Jonathan White, assistant national training coordinator for Canada.
with about 180 Boilermakers and a total of 2,100 craftsmen working at peak manpower.

L-92 BM-ST Mark Thomas explained that each tower supports a boiler with the water tube walls on the exterior — opposite of how boilers are constructed in coal- and oil-fired power plants. This is because the energy source comes from the outside. Concentric circles of mirrors called “heliostats” are being installed to reflect sunlight onto the boiler tube walls, heating them to about 1,000 degrees F. to create superheated steam. The steam will travel to the base of the structure to turn turbines and generate power.

About 173,000 10.5-ft. x 7.5-ft. heliostats will be set on pylons and controlled electronically, moving independently for optimum positioning as they track the movement of the sun.

Thomas said Boilermakers are responsible for the boiler work as well as erecting water storage tanks and the air-cooled condenser units that recover water from spent steam. Workers must cope daily with the extreme desert heat, not to mention the potential for a chance encounter with local wildlife.

“Heat exhaustion is a serious safety concern, and our members take the necessary precautions,” Thomas said. “There’s also a risk from rattlesnakes, including the ‘Mojave Green,’ an extremely venomous and aggressive species.”

Concerns about wildlife and habitat have presented challenges for BrightSource as well. Despite being a renewable energy project, Ivanpah has met resistance from environmental groups. The company spent an estimated $2 million for biologists to relocate endangered desert tortoises and will be required to build a fence around the facility to keep wildlife out.

Thomas noted that when completed, the Ivanpah SEGS will provide enough electricity to power about 140,000 homes. The company is also considering building additional solar/thermal projects in the general area.

“Boilermakers have excelled on this project in the face of intense heat, the remoteness of the job site, and environmental delays,” Thomas said. “Our weld acceptance rates through early September have been impressive: 99.5 percent on unit 1 and 100 percent on units 2 and 3.

“I want to especially recognize our main general foreman, Jim Haines; our general foremen on the towers, Gerald Bernard, Lalo Cervantes, Joe Alcorn, and night general foreman Kip John; our general foremen on the air-cooled condensers, Jimmy Holland and Dave Jorgensen; and our main steward, Bob Furnish. These men put their hearts and souls into this project to make the Boilermakers shine.

“Bechtel’s HR manager, Bob Regalado, and supervisors Darrel Rossen and Farran Allen have been exceptional to work with,” Thomas added. He also cited Bechtel night superintendent Charles Snow Jr., a Local 363 Boilermaker with 30-plus years of service, for his contributions to the project’s success.
IVANPAH

FAST FACTS

LOCATION: Mojave Desert, Calif.
OWNER: BrightSource Technology
TECHNOLOGY: Solar/Thermal
COST: $2.2 billion
OUTPUT: 392 megawatts
MIRRORS: 173,000
PEAK IBB JOBS: 180

UNIT 2 UNDER CONSTRUCTION
with air-cooled condenser system
in foreground.

Left to right, general foreman Dave Jorgensen, BM-ST Mark Thomas, IR Jim Cooksey, general foreman Gerald Bernard, and main steward Bob Furnish. Behind the men is the Ivanpah mountain range.
Local 28 member reigns as Canadian weightlifting champion

DALAS SANTAVY, A member of Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario), is by day a Boilermaker, by night a light-heavyweight lifter. His latest achievement, clinching the Canadian weightlifting title for the 5th time at the Canadian Senior Championship in La Prairie, Quebec on June 3, establishes him as one of the greatest lifters in his weight division.

Santavy’s total lift at the championship was 401 pounds (182 kilos).

Santavy credits the beginning of his career to his great-uncle, Joe Turcott, who began lifting back in the early ‘30s. But it was his father, Bob Santavy, a professional lifter himself, who inspired young Dalas to take his sport to the next level. “Dad was a lifter, so we would go lift in the gym together,” he recalls. His grandfather, Cyril Santavy, began the family’s proud Boilermaker legacy, with both Bob and Dalas carrying on the tradition to become second- and third-generation Boilermakers.

In addition to being a four-time Canadian overall champion, Santavy also holds the position of shop representative at L-128. He credits the union for supporting his involvement in weightlifting. “The Boilermakers sponsored me for the Canadian championships, and the world championships in Doha, Qatar,” he said. “They have been with me every step of the way.”

Santavy boasts an impressive list of achievements. He competed at the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia, and the Pan American Games in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil in 2007. Recounting the Sydney Commonwealth Games, one of his favorite experiences, Santavy says, “They were great hosts. We were rock stars the whole time we were there.”

He maintains a strict daily training regimen, even after working a 10-hour shift in the Boilermaker trade. The regimen includes three to four hours of conditioning and cardio exercises. “I finally found a balance,” says Dalas, of his hectic schedule.

Santavy is also an avid family man, with sons Broady and Noah set to follow in their dad’s weightlifting footsteps. Broady, 14, recently won silver at the Canadian Junior weightlifting championships. Noah, 13, is currently the reigning Ontario champion. Santavy’s younger son, Braedon, plays travel hockey for the Forest Predators.

When it comes to goal setting, Santavy favors a pragmatic approach. “Don’t kid yourself. It’s a lot of hard work, and there will be people constantly trying to rip you off your pedestal. You have to have a strong mind to burn through those obstacles.”

Santavy holds two current Ontario weightlifting records: the Junior Clean & Jerk, lifting 162.5 k at a bodyweight of 80 k, and the Overall Clean & Jerk, lifting 187 k at a bodyweight of 92 k.

Local 169 retiree crafts art with chainsaw

Wood carving takes Denkins around the world

A WOLFMAN PEEKING around a tree, an Indian brave lifting an eagle, a gnome surrounded by wildlife — these are some of the amazing creations of L-169 (Detroit) retiree Jim Denkins, an artist who brings ideas to life with a chainsaw and wood.

Denkins has competed around the world in exhibitions and is nationally known as one of the top chainsaw sculptors. Earlier this year, he entered his gnome scene, titled “Edge of the Forest,” in the 2012 Artprize competition in Grand Rapids, Mich. The competition offers a $200,000 first-place prize and is open to every type of art imaginable, from dance and singing to living statues, to wood carving. Winners are determined by a “people’s choice” vote.

“If any of our members happen to be in the Courtyard by Marriott at the downtown civic center, they can see my work, and I would appreciate their vote for my entry,” says Denkins, who retired in April after 38 years as a Boilermaker.

Denkins says he began carving gifts for family members some 25 years ago and discovered that he had a knack for life-like creations. After rough-cutting his art, hand tools are used for detail work. In addition to sculpting from wood, he also creates ice carvings.

More information about Denkins’ work can be found at www.denkins.net.
Custom plates help L-13 scholarship drive

Lodge fundraiser promotes union

BOILERMAKERS LIVING IN Pennsylvania can now purchase custom license plates that promote the Boilermakers union and the Local 13 (Philadelphia) scholarship fund. The lodge recently began receiving orders for the plates, which feature the Boilermaker seal, a unique five-digit number with BM (for Boilermakers), and the words “Intl Brotherhood of Boilermakers.”

L-13 member Tom Green, chairman of the Jeffrey C. Davis Scholarship Fund, said more than five dozen custom plates have been purchased thus far. Member Mike Musiano won a raffle for the plate with 00013BM, signifying the lodge number. Families of Boilermaker members are also eligible to purchase the plates, which are approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

The specialty organization license plates are available only through Local 13’s scholarship fund. A portion of the purchase price is tax deductible as a charitable contribution, said Green. The Local 13 scholarship fund provides vocational-technical scholarships and graduate school grants to dependent children of lodge members. Forms for purchasing the plates and answers to frequently asked questions are available on the lodge website at http://boilermakers13.org.

“All of us on the scholarship committee are very excited to be able to offer these license plates to the Boilermakers living in Pennsylvania,” Green said. “Now our members will be able to show their union pride whenever they get behind the wheel.”

Local 647 raises $9,000 for cancer center

BOILERMAKERS FROM LOCAL 647 in Mandan, N.D., presented a $9,000 check to the Bismarck, N.D., Cancer Center Foundation August 1. The donation came after the local completed its first annual charity golf scramble for the foundation July 28. The event, which was open to the public, drew 44 golfers and 27 business sponsors.

Representing the local in the photo at right are Assistant Business Manager Wendelin Piatz, sixth from left; Evan Pippenger, sixth from right; golf committee chairman Chad Bergstad, fifth from right; Boe Gilbert, fourth from right; Patti Olander, wife of member Arlyn Olander, third from right; Billie Jo Sailer, wife of member Troy Sailer, second from right; and Bob McKay, far right. Also serving on the golf committee but not pictured is Dana Seil.

Local 128 donates $30,000 to hospital

Gift supports nuclear medicine

A GIFT OF $30,000 from Boilermakers Local 128 (Toronto) will help upgrade software for imaging equipment at the Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital in Burlington, Ontario. The lodge presented the donation to hospital staff earlier this year. Kenny B. Kilday, the lodge’s chairman of trustees, coordinated the donation. Kilday’s younger sister, Janice, died of cancer last year. Pictured above with hospital staff, the L-128 executive board, and lodge office staff are BM-ST Jim Watson (at center) and Jim Tinney, Assistant Director — Construction Sector Operations, Canada (fourth from right). The lodge’s donation is memorialized by a plaque outside the nuclear medicine room.

Falling behind financially?

Union SAFE may be able to help.

If you’re having trouble making ends meet in this economy, Union SAFE may be able to help. We offer valuable benefits for members who participate in Union Plus programs including Union Plus Credit Card, Mortgage and Union Plus Insurance and who are facing economic hardship.

To find out how Union SAFE may be able to help, visit: UnionPlus.org/UnionSAFE
Giving is in Heron’s blood

L-13 retiree donates 210th pint

JIMMY HERON KNOWS something about the gift of life. The 65-year-old Local 13 (Philadelphia) retiree has donated just over 26 gallons of blood — 210 pints to be exact — over the last five decades. Imagine a 55-gallon barrel filled almost to the half-way mark, and you get a sense of just how much blood that is.

Heron says he has donated blood faithfully since the 1960s as a way to remember a friend from his youth who died in a drag racing accident. “Doctors said he bled out,” Heron recalls.

Over the years, he has made sure to donate almost without fail, every few months. “You can only donate whole blood once every 56 days,” he says. “I make a note on the calendar when the Red Cross bloodmobile is in town. The Red Cross people are good. There is no pain. A nurse told me when I give blood it’s just like turning on a spigot. I fill the bag right up. I feel great afterwards.”

A 45-year member, Heron is thankful for his career as a Boilermaker and continues to be involved in the L-13 PAC and neighborhood politics. “This trade took me beyond my wildest dreams. I got to see a lot of the country while making a decent wage. I got to send my kids to college, thanks in part to scholarships through Local 13. And I got to work with people who had extraordinary skills but were down to earth and always ready to help you.”

Jimmie Heron has certainly done his part to help others, sharing over 26 gallons of his own blood.

Local 359’s Hood raises $1,340 for hospice

LOCAL 359 MEMBER Robert Hood and his family recently participated in a hiking event that raised $1,340 for the Sunshine Coast Hospice Society in Sechelt, British Columbia. He is pictured above, at left, presenting the check to Ali Khan, president of the Society. “I have seen several of my Brothers and Sisters pass due to cancers and other terminal illnesses at a young age,” Hood said. “Hearing about them going into hospice and palliative care units for their remaining days made me want to go out and make some sort of difference.” Hood and his family set a goal of raising $1,000, but thanks to the generosity of Local 359 members, family members, and friends, they surpassed that mark by more than 30 percent.
International announces scholarship winners

Thirty-two Boilermaker dependents earn awards totaling $50,000

THE BOILERMAKERS’ International Executive Council scholarship committee announced the winners of its 2012 scholarship program this past April. The committee awarded $50,000 to 32 scholarship recipients, with $38,000 being allocated to U.S. applicants and $12,000 to applicants from Canada.

The one-year grants included three $3,000 awards, 12 $2,000 awards, and 17 $1,000 awards. The committee selected scholarship recipients from among a pool of 155 Boilermaker dependents in their senior year of high school. Applicants were judged based on their academic achievements, leadership skills, participation in extracurricular activities, and performance on a 300-500 word essay.

Three receive top awards totaling $9,000

OSCAR ANTHONY FUENTES, son of Rafael Fuentes, Local 5 (Floral Park, New York), earned one of the top scholarship awards of $3,000. A recipient of numerous academic awards, Oscar also devotes many hours to supporting his school and community through volunteer work. He is a member of the Science Honor Society, French Honor Society, and National Honor Society. A first-generation college student, Oscar is heading to Brown University to pursue a degree in biomedical engineering.

KATIEMAE AMBER WHITE, daughter of Gerald White Jr., Local Lodge 920 (Portsmouth, New Hampshire), also earned honors with a top scholarship award of $3,000. Katie was the Boilermaker Scholarship winner.

SHANE RAYMOND WHITSON, son of Warren Whitson, Local 502 (Puyallup, Wash.), earned a scholarship award of $3,000. Shane is involved nationally with the Youth Leadership Action Council, was elected secretary of his National Honor Society, and participated in the Tacoma-area Upward Bound program. With almost 500 hours of community service so far, he has been an active public speaker and plans to continue as a peer educator in college. He will pursue a major in public policy with a minor in Mandarin Chinese at Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon, and eventually would like to enter a career in law or government.

Twelve applicants receive $2,000 awards

TYSON LEO COSTA, son of Edgar Costa, Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia), will enter the University of British Columbia as a Chancellor’s Scholar, graduating with a 4.0 for all his high school years. He is an active member of his community and enjoys extra curricular activities including soccer, curling, and both snow and water skiing. He plans to study applied science and engineering in the fall.

DANIEL PATRICK GAUGHAN, son of Thomas Gaughan, Local 13 (Philadelphia), participated in basketball and volleyball, won several math awards, and served as captain of the “Mathletes” team. As part of the Archdiocesan Scholar Program, Daniel took college-level courses in addition to his high school curriculum. He plans to study electrical engineering in college at Drexel University.

KATHLEEN JOY GRIFFIN, daughter of Steven Griffin, Local 5 (Floral Park, New York), received four Presidential Achievement Awards during high school, played junior varsity soccer and varsity basketball, and is active in band and her local church. She enjoys working with young children and plans to major in nursing with a specialty in neonatal care at Alfred State College.

MERCEDES ANGEL JOHN, daughter of Kip John, Local 92 (Los Angeles), graduated as a 4.0 student. She was president of her National Honor Society as well as editor of the school newspaper and active community member. The daughter of a second-generation Boilermaker, Mercedes looks forward to attending Brigham Young University to major in elementary education.

SHANNON ELIZABETH MCDONALD, daughter of John McDonald, Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta), has been an honor student since 7th grade and is active in yoga and swimming. Shannon plans to attend the University of Calgary to major in biological science with a specialty in zoology, eventually earning her doctorate degree.

(continued next page)
Scholarships

Continued from page 17

Bachelor of Arts in English, eventually aspiring to become a high school English teacher.

Kristina Anne Murphy, daughter of Paul Murphy, Lodge 203 (St. John’s, Newfoundland), received the Ambassador Award for Academic Excellence and Extracurricular Achievement, as well as first-class honors upon completion at the Royal Conservatory of Music. Active as student council vice-president, Kristina also participates in numerous community service groups and plays multiple sports. Kristina would like to translate her enthusiasm for working with children and helping others into a career in child psychology, pediatric medicine, or education. She will be attending Memorial University this fall.

Marissa Amy Philippe, daughter of Rene Philippe, Local 128 (Toronto, Ontario), is a Génies en herbe prize-winner for vocabulary and literature, as well as other high academic and athletic achievements during her high school years. Marissa will be studying pre-med at the University of Ottawa, eventually planning to become a doctor in neonatal or maternal-fetal medicine.

Brianna Nicole Reed, daughter of William Reed, Local 28 (Newark, New Jersey), has achieved honor roll and superintendent’s list status throughout her high school years. Active in softball, she also works with the Mantua Township Child Care program. Brianna will attend Temple University this fall to pursue a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

Rachael Lynne Welch, daughter of James Welch, Local 453 (Knoxville, Tenn.), was nominated for Student of the Year for two consecutive years and was also on the honor roll of her high school from 2009-2011. She has participated in numerous extracurricular activities such as the senior play and Beta Club and was president of the Science Club. Rachael graduated 4th in her class and plans to pursue a career in pharmaceutical development after acquiring a degree in biology from Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee.

Sara Ann Zahorchat, daughter of Thomas Zahorchat, Local 154 (Pittsburgh), will attend the University of Pittsburgh to major in civil and environmental engineering. Her passion for the environment resulted in a certificate of merit for excellence in math and science from the Society of Women Engineers, as well as awards in the Greater Pittsburgh Student Voices Civics Fair and Southwestern Pennsylvania Science Bowls. She has achieved high honors throughout her school years, and was captain of her tennis squad during her senior season.

Committee selects 17 $1,000 winners

Ciara Paige Anderson, daughter of Walter Anderson III, Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.), has achieved honor roll and perfect attendance awards for all four years of high school. Ciara was also active in Spanish Club, Key Club and WISE (Women in Science and Engineering). She will be attending the University of Cincinnati, majoring in neuroscience with a concentration in neuropsychology.

Bailey Anne Box, daughter of James Box, Local 455 (Sheffield, Ala.), was a member of the National Honor Society and was chosen as an Early Scholar at University of North Alabama. She has participated in many high school activities including cheerleading, Spanish Club, Anchor Club, student council, and HOSA (Health Organization Students of America). Bailey will study biology as a pre-med student at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

Lucas Aaron Carmitchel, son of Charles Carmitchel, Local 83 (Kansas City, Mo.), achieved gold honor roll in high school and participated in music and drama productions. He volunteers at a local hospital every week and hopes to help those less fortunate in a program such as Doctors Without Borders. He will be pursuing a career as a physician, attending Johnson County Community College as an undergraduate this fall.

Wade Robert Catt, son of Barry Catt, Local 374 (Hammond, Ind.), will be studying telecommunications at Ball State University, with a minor in English. Wade was named news editor for his school newspaper and also garnered a top award for his short film, “To a Dream Deferred.” Active in both service and athletic clubs throughout high school, Wade has accumulated over 200 hours of volunteer service, including producing videos for fundraising and education.

Autumn Ciara Clevenger, daughter of David Clevenger, Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Ky.), received numerous academic and school recognition awards, including election as president of the French Honor Society, History Student of the Year, and Distinguished Scholar (since 2004). Ciara is an active FFA member as Leadership Committee Chair, and also participates in 4-H. She is enrolled at Morehead State University, where she intends to study medicine and eventually become a cardiologist.

Nathaniel Andrew Gonzalez, son of Jacqueline Reinhardt, Local S185 (Belleville, Ill.), is an Eagle Scout as well as leader of his local scout troop for the past three years. Active in school athletics, Nate has achieved seven scholar-athlete awards for academic excellence, an MVP award for cross-country, and served as captain of his team during his senior year. He will attend SWIC community college before moving to a four-year university to study biology and neuroscience, hoping to enter the field of medical research in order to treat Alzheimer’s and ADHD patients.

Jordan Daniel Hannah, son of Larry Hannah, Local S7 (Belleville, Ill.), has received a number of academic awards including the Young Achiever’s Award and 2012 Illinois State Scholar. He placed first in both the WYSE (Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering) and FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) regional competitions his senior year. Also active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Boy Scouts of America, Jordan is an Eagle Scout and plans to pursue a degree in medicine at the University of Missouri/Columbia, specializing in sports medicine and orthopedics.

Casandra Brooke Johnson, daughter of David Johnson, Local 453 (Knoxville, Tenn.), is a high honors student featured in the National Science Scholars Yearbook. Also active in community service clubs at school and church, Casandra would like to become a pediatric doctor. She is attending East Tennessee State University studying biochemistry.

Paul David Krell, son of David Krell, Local 1073 (Cleveland), graduated with honors from Springfield High School in Akron, Ohio. He has participated in National Honor Society, Art Club, Spanish Club, music, and band throughout his high school years. Paul was named to the University of Akron dean’s list and has been admitted as a freshman to the Honors College there to major in corrosion engineering, with a minor in mathematics this fall.

Elisabeth Marie Leister, daughter of Wayne Leister, Local 13 (Philadelphia), was editor of her school newspaper, published several times on the National High School Journalism website. An honor roll student every year, Elisabeth also worked as a student counselor and ambassador. She will be attending the University of South Carolina to major in hospitality management and tourism.

James Allen Long Jr., son of James Long, Local 667 (Winfield, West Virginia), played soccer and was voted Defender of the Year. Also a member of Mu Alpha Theta, James was an honor student named to the Principal’s List. He will be attending Bethany College to study math education, eventually hoping to become a college math professor.
MEGAN MARIE MILLER, daughter of Robert Miller Jr., Local 193 (Baltimore, Md.), was listed on the Principal’s List and was a member of the National English Honor Society. She participated in community initiatives such as Relay for Life and Prevention Against Animal Testing. Megan plans to study veterinary medicine and will major in biology at Salisbury State University this fall.

JENNA MARIE PARKS, daughter of Peter Parks, Local 154 (Pittsburgh), is an honor graduate of North Hills High School. Jenna will attend the University of Pittsburgh this fall, focusing her studies on political science and pre-law.

KATELYN MARIE OELER, daughter of Robert Oeler, Local 154 (Pittsburgh), is a member of the National Honor Society and the Tri-M Music Honor Society. She was drum major for the school marching band and enjoyed singing in her school’s yearly high school musicals. She will attend the University of Pittsburgh to study actuarial science and earn a bachelor’s degree in mathematics.

SYDNEY ROSE RICHARDS, daughter of Paul Richards, Local S185 (Belleville, Ill.), plans to attend Loyola University in Chicago as a pre-med student. She was a recipient of the Illinois Principal’s Association Award and has been a member of the National Honor Society for two years. Active for many years in volleyball, she was also a member of student council and her church youth group.

MARRISA ANN WITHERUP, daughter of Shawn Witherup, Local 154 (Pittsburgh), will major in biology at the University of Pennsylvania/Edinboro this fall, planning to attend medical school and become a doctor. Marissa was a cheerleader and honor roll student during all four years in high school. A competitive dancer for seven years, she also volunteers as a camp counselor.

NATHAN ANDREW ZIMMERMAN, son of Carl Zimmerman, Local 984 (Meredosia, Ill.), is a member of the National Honor Society and has garnered numerous scholastic achievement awards including Illinois State Scholar 2012 and “Ready for College, Ready for Work” Senior Silver Award. Nathan will attend Illinois College to major in business administration and minor in communications, with intentions to achieve a master’s degree in business.

THE GOVERNORS OF LOCAL 13, LOCAL 83, LOCAL 105, LOCAL 108, LOCAL 146, OR CFL SCHOLARSHIP

DEPENDENTS OF LOCAL 13, LOCAL 83, LOCAL 105, LOCAL 108, LOCAL 146, OR CFL SCHOLARSHIP

LOCAL 83’S SPECIAL FUND AWARDS NINE $3,000 SCHOLARSHIPS

RECEIVING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS, BUT NOT PICTURED WERE DANIEL GRAHAM, son of Local 83 member Dave Graham. ALEXA TAFF, daughter of Local 83 member Kelly Lykins. DANIELLE JO HEMICH, daughter of Local 83 member Bill Hemich. STEPHANIE BROCKMAN, daughter of Local 83 member Kent Brockman, and CASSANDRA DENNIS, daughter of Local 83 member Mark Dennis.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A BOILERMAKER SCHOLARSHIP

BOILERMAKER SCHOLARSHIPS are open to high school seniors who will be entering their first year of a two- or four-year academic program at a degree-granting, accredited college or university within one year of their high school graduation and who are dependents of Boilermaker members in good standing. A dependent may be a son, daughter, legally-adopted child, or other dependent of an active, retired, disabled, or deceased member.

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

Applications for the 2013 awards will be available from your local lodge at the end of this year and will be accepted from January 1 to March 1, 2013. Applications postmarked after the March 1, 2013 deadline cannot be considered.

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

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

LOCAL 83 PRESENTED $3,000 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TO LUCAS CARMICHEL (second from left), CHAD CORNISH (fifth from left), SARAH MICHELLE DURHAM (center front), and EVAN MCKINLEY (front row, second from right). Also pictured are, l. to r.: Charles Carmitchel, L-83 Special Funds Committee chairman Frank King, Ron Corrissi, L-83 BM-57 Scott Albertson, Mary Cornish, Aimee Durham, Scott Durham, Julie McKinley, Shawn McKinley, L-83 Apprentice shop Coordinator Tom Burgess, L-83 President Tom Dye Jr., and Riley McKinlay.

NOTICE TO SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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

HOW TO APPLY FOR A LOCAL 13, LOCAL 83, LOCAL 105, LOCAL 108, LOCAL 146, OR CFL SCHOLARSHIP

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Local 27’s Casson dies in auto accident

DAVID E. CASSON SR., a retired Local 27 (St. Louis) business manager, died tragically earlier this year, along with a grandson, Joseph Casson, in an automobile accident in Illinois. The elder Casson had served as BM-ST for 18 years and as an International Rep for seven years prior to his retirement in 1994. He was active not only in organized labor but also in his church and community. He is survived by his wife, Frances "Jerri" nee Weatherly Casson, a daughter (Linda McGee) and five sons: David Jr., a retired L-27 member; Duane, an active L-502 member; Frank, a laborer, L-27 permit worker, and retired teacher; Rick, a member of Laborers Local 110; and Jeff, an active L-27 member. A sixth son, Bennie, also a member of L-27, preceded the elder Casson in death. Family members may be contacted through David Casson at dcassonjr@yahoo.com.

THE LATE DAVID E. CASSON SR.

30 Lambert, Carroll R.
30 Smith, John L.
37 Bass, Arlyn E.
37 Kemper, John A.
37 Mitchell, Daniel R.
40 Bohn, Eugene F.
40 Bratcher, Osco L.
40 Hackney, James H.
57 Johnson, Clarence M.
60 Jeggie, Darrell L.
69 Hammons, Edward A.
69 Whittaker, Nickie W.
72 Brezo, Dennis L.
72 Casterline, Richard D.
72 Shelton, Jerry O.
72 Traver, Harold R.
72 Weststein, Paul T.
74 Rivera, Jesse
83 Beard, Harvey L.
83 Drake, Charles B.
83 Lauffer, Charles S.
83 Rogers, Stephen G.
83 Rowden, Robert
83 Stirrat, James K.
83 Weaver, James T.
84 Baurle, Marvin W.
85 Dey, George W.
88 Coalson, John C.
89 Codrey, Thomas J.
89 Dressen, William D.
89 Fox, Frederick C.
90 Meza, William D.
90 Neal, Sterling A.
92 Pittman, Ronald
92 Gafa, Gary R.
92 Lopez, Anthony
92 Stegman, James
92 Compo, Cecil R.
94 Conn, Harold W.
94 Hamilton, Bill F.
94 Jared, Rodney
94 Moore, William E.
94 Newberry, E. D.
94 Norling, Robert L.
94 Picini, Terrence S.
94 Poling, Jeff
94 Sullivan, Dennis J.
94 Maupin, Donald James
94 Baragar, Robert J.
94 Hendrick, John W.
94 Smitherman, Clint E.
100 Havad, Sammie R.
112 Freeman, James H.
113 Smith, Mary L.
113 Tucknies, Alice J.
128 Audette, Rene J.
128 Brownson, Donald J.
128 Dalton, Kurt D.
128 Normandeau, Jean R.
128 Sharpe, Parker
128 Thiboutot, James G.
THE DEATH BENEFITS 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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continued page 22

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.
## In Memoriam

### Death Benefits

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### Additional Death Benefits

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*Additional Death Benefits Paid*
Being a foreman or supervisor exposes a Boilermaker to the business aspects of construction. This is not only extremely important to the Boilermakers, but also to the contractors and owner community, because it impacts their business as well.

“Today’s jobsite foremen and field managers must lead with responsibility. We put them in charge and we’re entrusting them to get the job done and keep the site a safe workplace,” explains Brian Lofus, MOST safety representative. To help these site leaders succeed, MOST established the Leadership Program in 2006.

Stemming from the foremen’s training program, the MOST Leadership Program is a two-day course focusing on business-related experiences. These experiences, reviewed as case study scenarios, include situations pertaining to administrative responsibilities, personnel issues, safety and profitability.

A Boilermaker trainer and a contractor teach the program jointly and provide real insight to the full scope of a job site’s business structure. According to Lofus, contractor involvement is critical. “They teach us their side of the job site so we understand it. With the leadership program, we finally see what they have to go through to get a job. It helps us put things into perspective.”

Boilermakers participating in the two-day course are divided into small groups in which they test their skills by navigating through various case studies. Whether individually or as a group, trainees must determine the best solution and present it to the class. To further mimic a real scenario, course instructors add new information as participants present, forcing the class to think on their feet and react as leaders.

Lofus adds that program participation opens one’s eyes to the responsibilities of a foreman. “We’re not here to scare you, but there are a lot of issues a foreman or field manager can run into on the job. You have got to be prepared. It’s not just looking at how you’re going to handle a situation, but also thinking two moves ahead just in case you hit a wall. As trainers, we get them to keep thinking with the goal of planning ahead.”

“Being a foreman or field manager is a huge responsibility and isn’t for everyone,” said Lofus. “But for the guys who do want to step up and advance their careers, the MOST Leadership Program is a great teaching tool.”

The MOST Leadership Program is designed for young supervisors. Participants receive a certificate of completion to note the accomplishment. To learn more about the program or to see when the next session will be conducted, please visit www.MOSTPrograms.com.

“The Leadership Training was nice in that it gives the basic skills of how to deal with and understand different personalities and how they relate to the job.”
- Darrell Russell, Local 242

“The MOST Leadership Training Class has got to be one of the most informative classes you can take. It gives upcoming Boilermakers the tools needed to move to the next level in their careers.”
- Tom Dye, Local 83

“I found the MOST Leadership Training course to not only be an inspirational tool in developing my leadership abilities but also an invaluable resource that I have utilized every day as a journeyman Boilermaker, a foreman, and an apprentice instructor.”
- Jonathan Russell, Local 199

**MOST**
The Boilermaker Advantage

**Creating the Leaders of Tomorrow, Today.**

**The MOST Leadership Program.**
The MOST Leadership Program has been designed to provide Boilermaker Supervisors, Foremen and Field Managers with strategies and tools to manage and motivate field personnel safely and profitably.

Educates, Trains and Prepares for the job site foremen

Just one of the seventeen programs proven to add value. MOSTprograms.com
Romney win would damage our unions

Challenger places profit ahead of working people

AS THE NOVEMBER 6 general election nears, the United States faces a pivotal decision about its future. Do we elect a champion of working people or a champion of big business? It is a simple question, but the answer carries far-reaching implications.

If Barack Obama is reelected, workers and consumers will continue to be served by a president who seeks to balance the power and wealth of major corporations — and the richest one percent — with the needs and dreams of those who labor for a living. If Mitt Romney is elected, he will seek to push aside regulations, government oversight, and unions to allow big banks and big corporations to squeeze more profit out of their employees and the economy.

Seldom in the history of U.S. politics has there been such a striking contrast between two candidates.

Romney lays out plan to gut unions

ROMNEY’S ANTIUNION goals pose a major threat to the strength and future of organized labor in the United States. His public statements make clear the actions he would take going forward.

On Feb. 23, 2012, he addressed the Associated Builders and Contractors, a notoriously antiunion group, in Phoenix. Here’s what Romney told ABC:

“If I become the president of the United States, I will curb the practice we have in this country of giving union bosses an unfair advantage in contracting. One of the first things I will do, actually on day one, is I will end the government favoritism toward unions and contracting on federal contracts, and end project labor agreements, and I will fight to repeal Davis-Bacon. I also of course will make sure that workers have the right to a secret ballot, and I will fight for right-to-work laws.”

Think about it. On the very first day of his presidency, he would attack organized labor.

Prevailing wage laws and project labor agreements for federally-funded projects ensure that employers do not use public funds to enrich themselves while paying their employees less-than-competitive wages. And they ensure that the public gets real value for its investments by discouraging contractors from low-balling their bids and using a substandard, low-wage workforce.

Romney’s pledge to back “secret ballot” organizing elections is directed at union efforts to level the playing field through the Employee Free Choice Act. He prefers the current situation, where employers can drag out elections, hire union-busting consultants, and muscle their employees into voting against the union.

And his promise to promote right-to-work-for-less laws demonstrates the kind of labor-management landscape he envisions — one in which unions must struggle to hold their membership together while free-riders drain away union resources.

Corporations aren’t people

WITHOUT A DOUBT, Romney’s world view is business focused — so much so that he once remarked that “Corporations are people, too.” Of course, we understand that businesses are essential for our economy and jobs. The majority of Boilermakers depend on businesses for their livelihoods. And we work very well with most of those businesses, as evidenced by our tripartite relationships with contractors and owners.

But there is something fundamentally flawed about Romney’s priorities. Here is a man who founded and led Bain Capital, a company that in practice stripped away the assets of troubled companies and threw their employees out in the street. This is not simply a talking point. We can look to a steel mill in the Kansas City area, not far from the Brotherhood’s headquarters, where Bain left its mark. Bain sucked out millions in fees and profit from the company and forced it into bankruptcy. While Romney and his cohorts were adding to their wealth, 750 Steelworkers were losing their jobs, their healthcare, and a part of their pensions.

Corporations are not people. They are entities designed to provide owners and investors with wealth. Some corporations recognize the value of their employees in creating that wealth — and reward them justly — others don’t.

When Mitt Romney looked at the troubled auto industry, he declared that it should be allowed to go bankrupt. This course of action would have allowed GM and Chrysler to destroy their union contracts and start fresh without obligations to their union employees.

By contrast, President Obama made sure that not only would these companies survive, but their union employees would keep their jobs and their hard-earned benefits. Ryan plan puts safety net at risk

BY CHOOSING Rep. Paul Ryan as his vice-presidential running mate, Romney has made clear just how extreme he is willing to be as president.

Ryan’s infamous austerity budget plan is an affront to retirees, the middle class, and those who are economically most vulnerable among us. He would protect the wealthy through tax cuts. He would slash government revenues and reduce services. According to the Bipartisan Policy Center, Ryan’s tax plan would likely eliminate middle class and poor tax exemptions such as dependent and education tax credits and mortgage deduction credits.

Cuts in education, social services, transportation, and other areas would weaken our nation’s infrastructure and damage the economic safety net upon which many rely — at a time when our economy struggles to rebound from the recent recession.

Ryan’s goal of turning Medicare into a voucher program would force seniors to shop around for healthcare insurance at a time when many are on fixed incomes and can least afford sudden spikes in premiums and out-of-pocket costs.

These and other GOP schemes move our society toward a future of increased uncertainty and vulnerability. Democratic majorities in the U.S. House or Senate could block the worst parts of Ryan’s plan. However, it appears that the GOP will hold the House, and the slim Democratic majority in the Senate is at risk.

Will labor stand united against Romney?

GIVEN ROMNEY’S contempt for organized labor and his commitment to destroy labor and social protections, it would seem obvious that unions would rally around President Obama. After all, his record of supporting the Labor Movement has been strong. Early in his presidency, he issued an executive order promoting project labor agreements. He signed the Lilly Ledbetter Act to protect women in the workplace. Obama went on to beef up the Department of Labor and the National Labor Relations Board by appointing leaders who have been part of organized labor and understand its challenges. These and other changes have helped organized labor gain a fairer balance with employers.

Throughout his first term, Obama has been willing to stand up publicly for organized labor and take the heat for it from far-right Republicans and demagogues.

Yet it appears that some in the Union Movement have been distracted by empty claims by Romney’s camp that he can restore the economy through the same trickle-down policy that failed under previous GOP administrations. Others may have been distracted by baseless charges that President Obama will take away their guns. There is not now, nor has there ever been, any evidence of this.

We stand on the eve of a general election that can either strengthen organized labor or severely weaken it. Union strength has been built by over a century of struggle. Generations before us risked much and gave their all to build and preserve worker rights and protections. Will we give our sons and daughters the same measure of dedication and hope that our predecessors gave us? Or will we be remembered as the generation that did too little at a critical time in U.S. labor history?

The far-right’s attack on unions is an attack on all working people. Labor organizations from other countries are closely watching the U.S. elections, for what happens here will reverberate around the world.

“Will we be remembered as the generation that did too little at a critical time in U.S. labor history?”

http://capwiz.com/boilermaker

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JUL-SEP 2012

OUR MEMBERS

NewtBoilermaker reporter

the Boilermaker

http://www.boilermakers.org

NEWTON B. JONES
International President

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OUR MEMBERS

NewtBoilermaker reporter

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